

The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

Second Sunday of Advent - December 5, 2021

Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - frrapaglia@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciulo

Fr. Soju Varghese

Principal

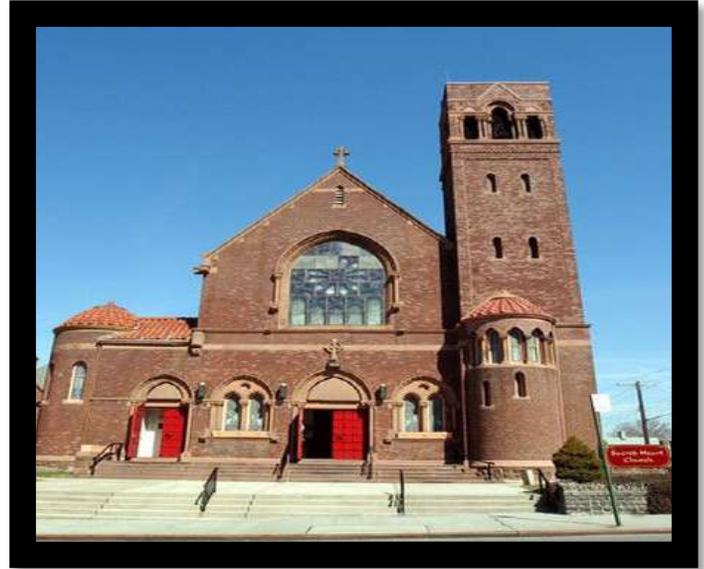
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

Coordinator of Religious Education

Mrs. Francine Rizzuto

Director of Music

Mr. Tom Czarnecki



Masses

The Lord's Day

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sundays 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM, 1:00 PM

Daily Mass 9:30 AM Monday-Saturday

Rosary 9 AM (Monday-Saturday)

Confessions

Saturdays - 4:00 to 4:45 PM, Any time upon request

Parish Registration

Please formalize your membership in our parish community by registering at the parish office. We sincerely welcome all new parishioners!

Handicapped Accessible

Office Hours - Sunday 10 AM - 3PM

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 10 AM - 5 PM

Church open daily until 5 PM (Sundays until 3 PM)

Novena Devotions: Mon & Wed (after daily Mass)

Pro Life Rosary: Tuesday 9 AM

Sick Calls

Anytime, please contact one of the priests at (718) 442-0058.

Baptism

Parents & Godparents should attend a meeting at 3 PM on the second Sunday of the month in the Rectory with Fr. Eric to initiate the Sacrament. For more information please see: www.sacredheartsi.org/worship/sacraments.

Marriages

Couples should contact the rectory at least 6 months before the wedding to arrange the time, banns, and Pre-Cana Conference.

Sponsor Certificate

If you have been asked to be a godparent for a Baptism or Confirmation attend the 9 AM Mass on Sunday and see Sister Barbara immediately after in the church vestibule. Please see the parish website under the Worship/Sacraments link for godparent guidelines.

Websites:

Church Website: - www.sacredheartsi.org

School Website: - www.sacredheartsschoolsi.org

Church

718-442-0058

Church Fax

718-816-8006

School

718-442-0347

School Fax

718-442-6978

C.C.D. Office

718-448-1536

DECEMBER 5, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

OPENING HYMN: ON JORDAN'S BANK

**ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY,
ANNOUNCES THAT LORD IS NIGH;
AWAKE AND HEarken FOR HE BRINGS
GLAD TIDINGS OF THE KING OF KINGS.**

THE CONFITEOR

I confess to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; and I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, and all the Angels and Saints, and you my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord Our God. Amen.

**KYRIE ELEISON
CHRISTE DEI ELEISON
KYRIE ELEISON**

READING 1 BAR 5: 1-9.

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship. Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the

glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6.



R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the LORD brought back the captives of Zion, we were like men dreaming. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them. The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad indeed.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the torrents in the southern desert. Those who sow in tears shall reap rejoicing.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Although they go forth weeping, carrying the seed to be sown, They shall come back rejoicing, carrying their sheaves.

R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

READING 2 PHIL 1: 4-6, 8-11.

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

ALLELUIA

LK 3:4, 6.



Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

GOSPEL

LK 3: 1-6.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah: *A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*



Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation He came down from Heaven (BOW) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and His kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: THE ADVENT OF OUR KING

**THE ADVENT OF OUR KING,
OUR THOUGHTS MUST NOW EMPLOY;
THEN LET US MEET HIM ON THE ROAD
WITH SONGS OF HOLY JOY!**

**THE COETERNAL SON,
A MAIDEN'S OFFSPRING SEE;
A SERVANT'S FORM CHRIST PUTTETH ON,
TO SET HIS PEOPLE FREE.**

**IN GLORY FROM HIS THRONE,
AGAIN CHRIST WILL DESCEND.
AND SUMMON ALL THAT ARE HIS OWN,
TO JOYS THAT NEVER END.**

A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Antonin Scalia (1934-2016), devout Catholic and U.S. Supreme Court justice (1986-2016), spoke of St. Thomas More (1478-1535), patron saint of lawyers. More died a martyr in 1535 for reluctance to recognize the tyrant King Henry VIII's unlawful divorce and remarriage, and his refusal to abide the king's tearing of the English Church from papal authority, declaring himself to be the sole head of the Church in England. The reason More died, says Scalia, "was, in the view of almost everyone at the time, a silly one. Many martyrs have died for refusing to deny Jesus Christ, or for spreading His Gospel, or for adhering to His clear moral teachings. In going to their death, they have had the comfort of knowing that their Christian predecessors, contemporaries, and successors would praise and approve their obstinacy. Thomas More, on the other hand, went to his death to support the proposition that only the Bishop of Rome could bind or loose the marriage of Henry VIII."

Hilaire Belloc, in a short essay on More entitled "The Witness to Abstract Truth," wrote: "After four hundred years we have to-day forgotten how the matter looked to the men of the early sixteenth century. The average Englishman had little concern with the quarrel between the Crown and Rome. It did not touch his life. The Mass went on just the same and all the splendour of religion; the monasteries were still in being everywhere, there was no interruption whatsoever. Most of the great bodies—all the bishops except Fisher—had yielded. They had not yielded with great reluctance but as a matter of course.... To the ordinary man of that day, anyone, especially a highly placed official, who stood out against the King's policy was a crank. In what he did, More was unsupported by intelligent society, by his friends, even by his own wife."

"Foolish and disproportionate indeed," says Scalia, who then quotes one biographer of More who said, "More died for a Papacy that, as far as men could see, was little else than a small Italian principedom ruled by some of the least reputable of the Renaissance princes." But, counters Scalia, More was going beyond what men could see and seeing with the eyes of faith. "He believed Christ's word that Peter was the Rock, and the Christian tradition that the Pope was the head of the Church. As low as the papacy had declined (one does not get much lower than Alexander VI, who reigned during More's lifetime), the Vicar of Christ alone—and not all the bishops of England—had the power to bind and to loose." Scalia's point in all of this is that to be a bonafide Christian, an authentic Catholic, we must accept that the world will view us, as it did St. Thomas More, to be foolish.

We Catholics don't think with the world. The world urges us to put self first, while the Church speaks of sacrifice and self-denial. The world says, "Religion is a waste of time. You can be a good person without it." The Founder of our Church says: *Unless you eat My Body and drink My Blood you will not have [eternal] life within you.* (John 6:53). The world says, "Get even with your enemies." The Church says, "Forgive." The world says, "Focus on this life only because there is nothing beyond." The Church says: *If for this life only we have hoped we are the*

most pitiable of people. (1 Corinthians 15:19). The world says, "If it feels good do it. There is no limit to what consenting adults can do in their bedrooms." The Church says: *Do not be deceived. Neither adulterers, nor fornicators, nor practicing homosexuals will enter the Kingdom of God.* (1 Corinthians 6:9). The world says, "If you want to imagine yourself this gender, or that gender, or the other gender, or no gender, we'll accommodate you. We'll even let small children decide these issues for themselves and then we'll assign the corresponding surgery to adjust (mutilate) their small bodies. Moreover, if anyone disagrees with us on this, we'll bully him into submission and refer to him or her as some kind of 'phobe' or bigot." The Church would call for compassion and sensitivity for those who experience gender confusion, and even for all, without exception—even our enemies, while at the same time reminding the world: *God created mankind in His image; in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.* (Genesis 1:27). Yes, authentic Christians seem a little out of place in the world—foolish—as was St. Thomas More. We accept that. After all: *Let no one deceive himself. If any one of you thinks himself wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may come to be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God.* (1 Corinthians 3:18).

The following was the prayer that St. Thomas More said in the Tower of London awaiting his execution for refusing to relinquish his Christian "foolishness":

"Give me the grace, Good Lord, to set the world at naught. To set the mind firmly on You and not to hang upon the words of men's mouths. To be content to be solitary. Not to long for worldly pleasures. Little by little utterly to cast off the world and rid my mind of all its business. Not to long to hear of earthly things, but that the hearing of worldly fancies may be displeasing to me. Gladly to be thinking of God, piteously to call for His help. To lean into the comfort of God. Busily to labor to love Him. To know my own vileness and wretchedness. To humble myself under the mighty hand of God. To bewail my sins and, for the purging of them, patiently to suffer adversity. Gladly to bear my purgatory here. To be joyful in tribulations. To walk the narrow way that leads to life. To have the last thing in remembrance. To have ever before my eyes my death that is ever at hand. To make death no stranger to me. To foresee and consider the everlasting fire of Hell. To pray for pardon before the Judge comes. To have continually in mind the passion that Christ suffered for me. For His benefits unceasingly to give Him thanks. To buy the time again that I have lost. To abstain from vain conversations. To shun foolish mirth and gladness. To cut off unnecessary recreations. Of worldly substance, friends, liberty, life and all, to set the loss at naught, for the winning of Christ. To think my worst enemies my best friends, for the brethren of Joseph could never have done him so much good with their love and favor as they did him with their malice and hatred. These minds are more to be desired of every man than all the treasures of all the princes and kings, Christian and heathen, were it gathered and laid together all in one heap. Amen."

God bless you!

Father Eric



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Saturday, December 4:

5:00 Gabriel Torres

Sunday, December 5:

7:00 Ben Zarrelli
9:00 James P. Mackey
11:00 Lois Mazzetelli
1:00 Patrick Jordan

Monday, December 6:

9:30 Msgr. Vincent Bartley

Tuesday, December 7:

9:30 Thomas Murphy

Wednesday, December 8:

9:30 Dawn Walsh
7:00 People of the Parish

Thursday, December 9:

9:30 Maureen F. McDonough

Friday, December 10:

9:30 Charles, Mary & Charles M. Donohue

Saturday, December 11:

9:30 Lizann Mooney
5:00 Lizann Mooney

Sunday, December 12:

7:00 Al & Sue Amore & Susan Pellecchia
9:00 John R. Kubasek
11:00 Randi Manfredi
1:00 Marianne Gallo

Saturday, December 11:

5:00 PM Mary Rosso

Sunday, December 12:

7:00 AM Vincent O'Grady
9:00 AM John Mooney Jr.
11:00 AM Maria Montuori
1:00 PM Wanda Ortiz

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 11:

5:00 PM Jason Suazo

Sunday, December 12:

7:00 Matthew Basile
9:00 Oliver Czarnecki
11:00 Abigail Cruz
1:00 Brandon Pak

Collections:

November 21st.....\$7,478.00
November 28th.....\$7,516.00
Budget Deficit.....\$510.00
Charities & Justice.....\$1,187.00
Congratulations to M/M Dominic D'Ambrosio & M/M Gene Borowski on winning the weekly Pastosa Raffles.
Congratulations to M/M Lawrence Tirone on winning the November 50/50.

ATTENDANCE NOV. 21ST : 580

ATTENDANCE NOV. 28TH: 558

WEDDING BANNS

**III. MATTHEW PAUL HANSEN &
ALYSSA JOSEPHINE BLOMQUIST**

Giving Tree: The Sacred Heart Giving Tree is now up and during this season we ask our parishioners to remember those who are less fortunate or have fallen on hard times. If you take a tag from the tree remember that you must drop off the requested item at The Rectory or place it under the tree no later than Monday, December 13th. The item should be wrapped, or in a gift bag, labeled and have the original gift tag attached.

Retired Religious: The annual collection for retired religious will be taken up on the weekend of December 11th & 12th. Every year this collection goes to support the retired priests, brothers and sisters who dedicated most of their lives to helping others. When active these religious were Pastors, parish priests, teachers, principals, religious education instructors, administrators of hospitals and military chaplains. Sadly, many of them have lived a life of poverty so they have very little if anything accumulated in retirement accounts. In addition, many are advanced in age and suffer from health problems and physical ailments. Your donations help meet their basic living expenses such as food, clothing and medications. These men and women gave freely and generously of themselves so remember every donation is greatly appreciated.

Fire Family Donations: The family of one of our CCD students who lives at 68 Glenwood Avenue recently had a house fire. They are all physically all right but they lost everything in that fire. Sister Barbara and Mrs. Rizzuto are working to help that family in this time of need. If you wish to contribute you can place an envelope in the collection but be sure to mark it as "Donations for CCD Family". If you write a check be sure to make this comment on the memo line. Also donations can be made online at the following website: <https://gofund.me/fb7f8b14>.

Fr. Micciulla Update: During the summer we told our parishioners to pray for **Fr. Angelo Micciulla**, Pastor of Holy Family, who is suffering from advanced kidney disease. We asked that you spread the word that Fr. Micciulla needed a kidney transplant from a living donor. We are extremely happy to follow up that a parishioner at Holy Family is a donor match and that Fr. Micciulla will be getting his kidney transplant in the very near future. May God bless Fr. Micciulla with many more active years in the priesthood and also the parishioner that has made a very selfless sacrifice.

Immaculate Conception: Wednesday, December 8th, is The Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses that day will be at 9:30 AM and 7 PM.

SAINT AMBROSE

FEAST DAY: DECEMBER 7TH

WE ASK FOR THE INTERCESSION OF SAINT AMBROSE ON BEHALF OF OUR SICK PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS



Sick Relatives & Friends

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Meghan Clark, Alberto Meranda, Anna Parente, James Parente, John C. Marino, Cpl Justin Campbell, Sheila Jones, Frank Silvestri, Christian Pepo, Jean Forte, Mark Herman, Frances Bocignone, Crystal Helewa, Daniel Juliano, Linda Powers, James Carney, Danny Fortunato, Frank Juliano, Joseph Brancato, Carmela D'Angelo, Michael Meyer, June Laub, Frank Musuruca, Joanne Prato, Joseph Koslowski, Diana Umana, Isaiah Roland, The Munoz Family, Brianna Scilabra, Judy Dele, Kassem Ripen, Ernestine Scott, Steven Riggio, James Ross, Michael Loughran, Salvatore Parisi, Cinderella Wonsewitz, Patrice Martin, Lucille Baron, Michael J. DiCostanzo, Catherine Broderick, Omari Roland, Carmine Rapisarda, Ann McGowan, Linda & Antoniette Gagliardi, Harrison Schursky, Elizabeth McKenna, Caroline Dacunta, Irene McCarthy, Maria Rivera, Denise Bianacanello, Bob Kenny Sr., Alexa Rigney, Easton Nash Clark, Jessica Necco, Richie Ochotorena, Rosamaria Ochotorena, Don Quinn, Jennifer Pakulniewez, Frank Astorino, Aubrie Robinson, Ron Salguera, Fr. Angelo Micciulla, Rose McBrien, Saint Jermaine Endley, Peter Marsh, John Riccobono, Joseph DiAngelo, William Walsh, Gertrude Wilson, Frank Duff, Edell Quinn, Kathy Perry.

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