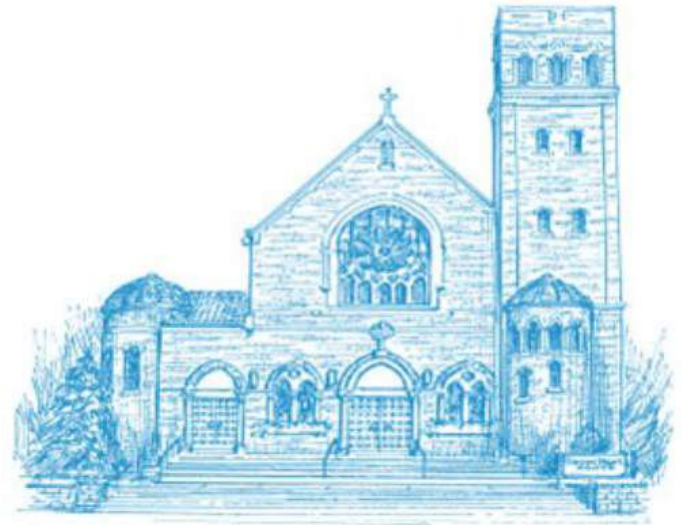


# The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

The First Sunday of Lent– February 21, 2021



## Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - [frrapaglia@yahoo.com](mailto:frrapaglia@yahoo.com)

## Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciuolo

## 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 (Choir), 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 - 6 PM

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

**Novena Devotions** : Mon & Wed (after daily Mass)

**Pro Life Rosary**: Tuesday 9 AM

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### Sick Calls

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

### Baptism

Please contact the pastor for an appointment to arrange the Baptism.

### 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** - [www.sacredheartsi.org](http://www.sacredheartsi.org)

**School** - [www.sacredheartschoolsi.org](http://www.sacredheartschoolsi.org)

**Church**  
718-442-0058

**Church Fax**  
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**School**  
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**School Fax**  
718-442-6978

**C.C.D. Office**  
718-448-1536

**FEBRUARY 21, 2021**

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**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.

**READING 1** GN 9:8-15

God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you: all the birds, and the various tame and wild animals that were with you and came out of the ark. I will establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all bodily creatures be destroyed by the waters of a flood; there shall not be another flood to devastate the earth." God added: "This is the sign that I am giving for all ages to come, of the covenant between me and you and every living creature with you: I set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the

clouds, I will recall the covenant I have made between me and you and all living beings, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all mortal beings."

**Responsorial Psalm** PS 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

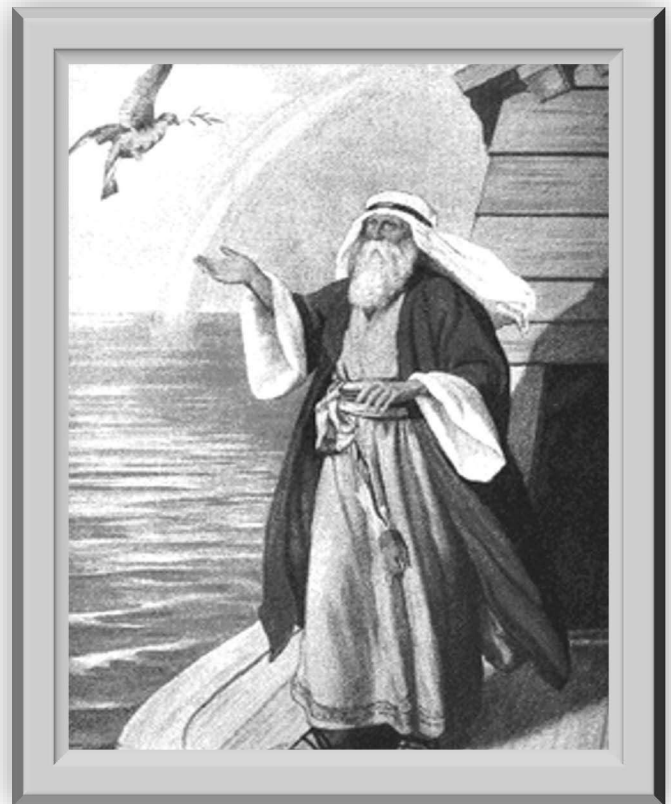
**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. In your kindness remember me because of your goodness, O LORD.

**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**

Good and upright is the LORD, thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and he teaches the humble his way.

**R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.**



**READING 2****1 PT 3:18-22**

Beloved: Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient while God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to him.

**VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL  
MT4:4B**

One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**GOSPEL MK 1:12-15**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him. After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

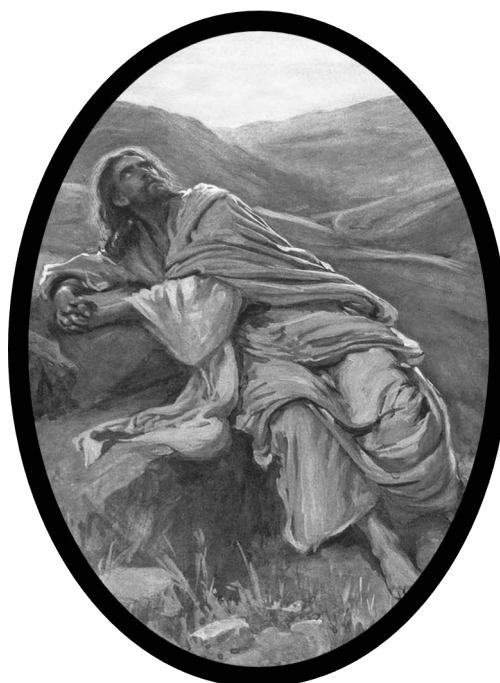
I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

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, 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.



## A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Lent! Lent is a time in which we focus more on what God thinks, rather than on what humans think. In *Church of Spies: The Pope's Secret War Against Hitler* (2015), author Mark Riebling offers a fascinating chapter (3) on Joseph Müller, whose nickname was "Joey Ox." Pope Pius XII would say bluntly that Müller "worked wonders."

On January 30, 1933, Adolf Hitler became chancellor of Germany. His Nazi Party would soon control every aspect of German life. Joseph Müller was a Catholic lawyer. He was told that because the Nazis had never won an election in Bavaria, they would seize power there by force immediately. Müller rushed to the home of Bavaria's prime minister, Heinrich Held, who had often consulted him for legal advice. Müller begged him to mobilize the state guard. But the prime minister hesitated to inflame the situation.

The next morning, as Müller and Held were having coffee, the door flew open. SS chief Heinrich Himmler, who would become the vice-führer, second only to Hitler himself, banged a horsewhip on the desk and demanded that Held give up his power. Himmler offered him the Bavarian ambassadorship to the Vatican to persuade him to capitulate. Held asked for two hours to think it over. Müller urged decisive action, appealing to the fact that as the head of a state under siege, Held had the authority to arrest Himmler and put him before a firing squad. But Held resisted that advice. He did not want to ignite a civil war. The situation intensified. Nazi Brownshirts surged through the streets. Müller wrestled Held into an unmarked car. After dark, Müller drove the prime minister to exile in Switzerland, where Held admitted, "The Devil is loose in Bavaria."

Thus, began a long battle between Joseph Müller and Nazi Germany. The Nazi regime very much hated the Catholic Church. Adolf Hitler said publicly that he had every intention to squash the Church "like a toad." Riebling describes Müller as a self-made lawyer who came from peasant stock. A decorated hero of World War I, he was "a beer-loving Bavarian with sky-blue eyes." He worked his way through school driving an oxcart, and so friends nicknamed him *Ochsensepp*, which in English means "Joey Ox". "The nickname accurately captured Müller's robust build, his rural roots, and his strong will that brought him both bad and good fortune."

But what did he do? He was a Vatican spy. "His life was a wild mix of exploits. Müller led troops, smuggled documents, played politics, plotted the murder of murderers, wrote sermons, rescued Jews, ransomed bishops, eluded capture, suffered betrayal, endured torture, confounded his captors, married his true love," and, most importantly, went to his grave with the Grace of God and the Holy Sacraments. "For those who fell afoul of the Nazis, he was a fixer and a benefactor, a guardian and an advocate—part Oskar Schindler, part Vito Corleone."

By the time of World War II, Müller had a network of hundreds. He was very well-liked. One American said of him that he had a legendary reputation for tireless joviality. He was an immensely cheerful and joyful guy. Once he won three trainloads of German war prisoners in a drinking bet with a Soviet diplomat. Joey Ox often showed his great sense of humor in his defiance of the Nazis. Hitler's portrait was everywhere in Nazi Germany. Whenever Müller entered a room where the portrait was hanging, he would take the portrait of Hitler and set it face down on a table, and then say: "He's up there crookedly. He deserves to be hanged correctly."

On February 9, 1934 the Gestapo arrested Müller in Munich and charged him with treason, punishable by death. Heinrich Himmler directed the interrogation. Riebling writes, "With his small eyes darting behind rimless glasses, his manicured hands stroking a receding chin, he seemed more schoolmaster than hangman. A stickler for procedure, he ordered a transcript made of the interview. He opened by saying that there could be no compromise between the Catholic Church and the Third Reich, because each demanded 'the whole soul of the man.'"

Müller was in full agreement. His interrogator then pointed out that Müller had legally represented enemies of the Reich. Müller admitted so and pointed out in return that there was no law against practicing law. Himmler asked what Müller told Prime Minister Held to do during the Nazi takeover of Bavaria. Müller admitted that he encouraged Held to have Himmler shot. Then he asked, "Wouldn't you have done the same?"

Müller's courage shook Himmler to his core. He was in awe of the unbreakable will of Joey Ox. In deep admiration, Himmler invited him to join the SS. Müller refused. He said, "I am philosophically opposed to you. I am a practicing Catholic, and my brother is a Catholic priest. Where could I find the possibility of a compromise there?" Himmler commended Müller on what he called Müller's "manly defense," and then let him go. Müller continued his anti-Nazi crusade and ended up in a concentration camp. He survived the war, and helped to found the German political party called the Christian Social Union. He died in 1979.

Some people, like Joey Ox (with all his faults), follow the advice of Jesus Christ, blessed be His Name. They don't fear those who can kill only the body. They fear the (Divine) One who has much more power than that. Some people care more about what God thinks than what humans think.

God bless you!

Father Eric

**CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

**FEBRUARY 21, 2021**



**Saturday, February 20:**

5:00 Moira Mackey

**Sunday, February 21:**

7:00 Ben Zarrelli  
9:00 Al & Sue Amore & Susan Pellecchia  
11:00 Robert LoPrimo  
1:00 Robert Cooney

**Monday, February 22:**

9:30 Edward & Janice Jackus

**Tuesday, February 23:**

9:30 John & Mary Kirincich

**Wednesday, February 24:**

9:30 Joseph Catullo

**Thursday, February 25:**

9:30 Denise Perera

**Friday, February 26:**

9:30 Leonard & Loretta Gaeta

**Saturday, February 27:**

9:30 Msgr. James Dorney  
5:00 Thomas H. McDonough

**Sunday, February 28:**

7:00 The Gordon Family  
9:00 Milo Daigan  
11:00 Brendan Hoey  
1:00 Patrick & Bridget Jordan

**Saturday, February 27:**

5:00 PM Bill Jones

**Sunday, February 28:**

7:00 AM Joan Prenty  
9:00 AM Sister Jessica  
11:00 AM Kenneth Wisniewski  
1:00 PM Don Maj

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, February 27:**

5:00 Jacob Torres

**Sunday, February 28:**

7:00 Christopher Basile  
9:00 Elijah Greene  
11:00 Tara Murphy  
1:00 Abigail Cruz

**COLLECTIONS:**

February 14th.....\$8,407.00  
Peter's Pence.....\$893.00

**ATTENDANCE FEBRUARY 14TH: 400  
CAPACITY FOR EACH MASS: 210**

**WEDDING BANNS**

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SERAFINA GAMBINO**

## Year of St. Joseph Prayer

Dear Saint Joseph,

The very deep love and respect that Jesus had for you on earth continues in Heaven. Add your voice to all of our daily prayers, especially the following: ( ). We pray for the conversion of our parish and of our families. Help us to repent of our sins and to do penance. We ask you to bless the children of our faith family and their parents and teachers. May our young develop well and fulfill their true calling. We pray for priestly, religious and marital vocations from our parish. We ask you to intercede for all our loved ones who have died. Help us to love Christ with all our minds, our hearts and our strength and to love others as we love ourselves. We ask you for the grace of final perseverance and the blessing of a happy death for us and for our loved ones. May we pass into eternity as you did in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

**Parish Evaluation:** Father Eric will be completing his first six year term as our Pastor this year. In keeping with the archdiocesan tradition an evaluation of the parish has begun. Parishioners and Staff who wish to comment on the parish or its pastoral leadership may send their letters to the following address: Archdiocese of New York, Office of the Priest Personnel, 1011 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10022.

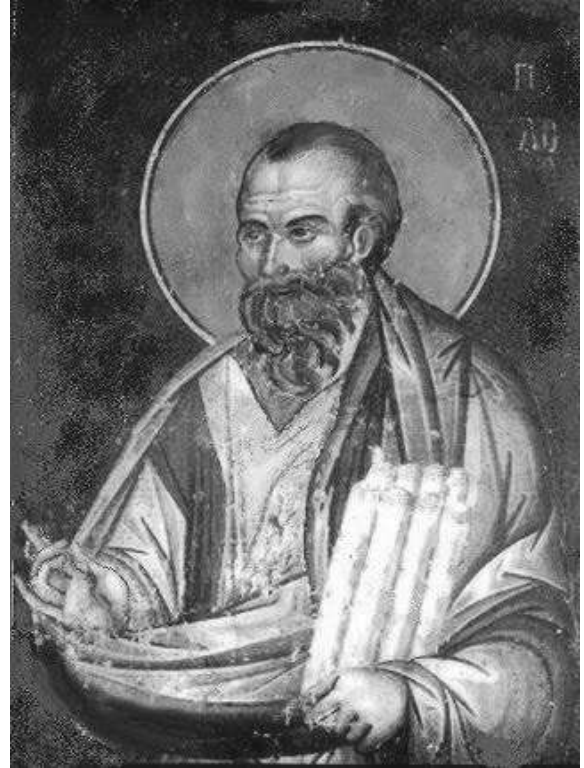
**Stations of the Cross:** Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM during the season of Lent. The Stations of the Cross will begin this Friday, February 19th. This is a beautiful ceremony and a wonderful Lenten sacrifice.

**Sacred Heart School:** Sacred Heart School is accepting admissions for the 2021-2022 school year. Please call the school at (718) 442-0347 for more information. Sacred Heart has a rich history of academic excellence and Sacred Heart graduates stand at the top of their high school classes. This year our 8th grade students received \$230,000 in scholarship funds. Also our basketball teams are perennial winners at the state levels.

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