

The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time— January 31, 2021

Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - frrapaglia@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciuolo

Principal

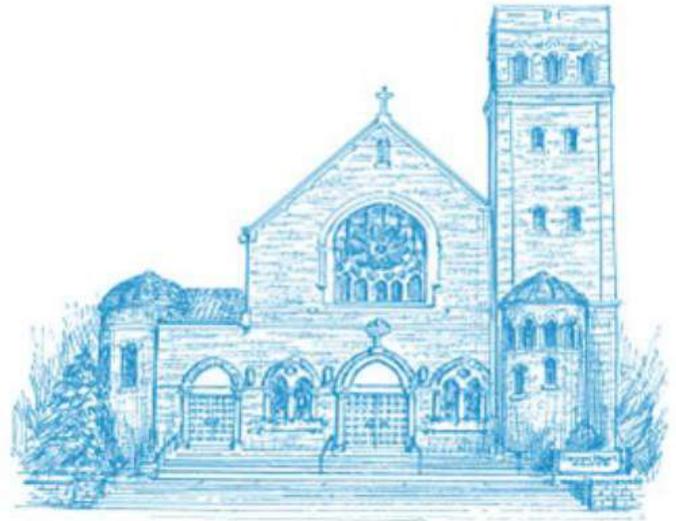
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

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

School - www.sacredheartschoolsi.org

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718-442-0058

Church Fax
718-816-8006

School
718-442-0347

School Fax
718-442-6978

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

JANUARY 31, 2021

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

READING 1 DT 18:15-20

Moses spoke to all the people, saying: "A prophet like me will the LORD, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin; to him you shall listen. This is exactly what you requested of the LORD, your God, at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let us not again hear the voice of the LORD, our God, nor see this great fire any more, lest we die.' And the LORD said to me, 'This was well said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kin, and will put my words into his mouth; he shall tell them all that I command him. Whoever will not listen to my words which he speaks in my name, I myself will make him answer for it. But if a prophet presumes to speak in my name an oracle that I have not commanded him to speak, or speaks in the name of other gods, he shall die.'"

Responsorial Psalm PS 95:1-2,6-7, 7-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

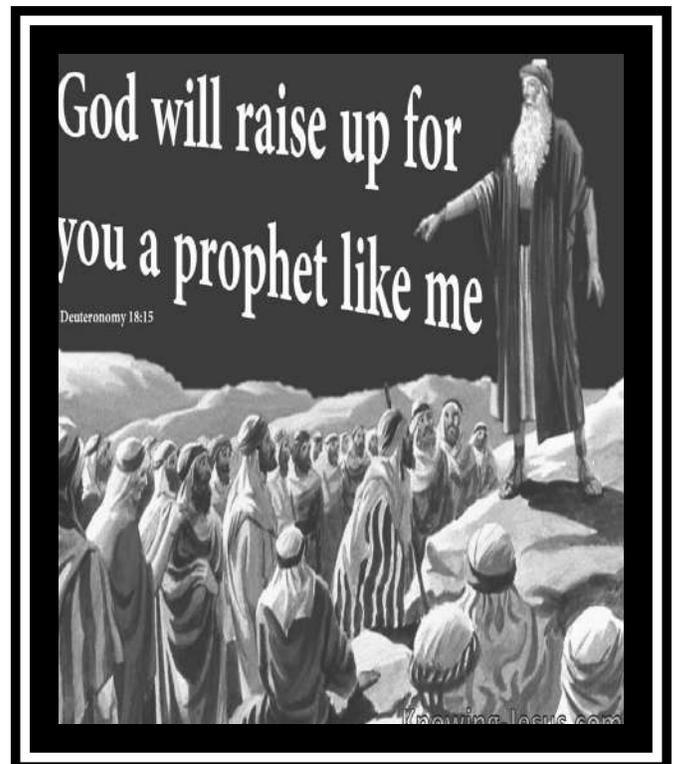
R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: "Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works."

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.



READING 2 **1 COR 7:32-35**

Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties. An unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord. But a married man is anxious about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and he is divided. An unmarried woman or a virgin is anxious about the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy in both body and spirit. A married woman, on the other hand, is anxious about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. I am telling you this for your own benefit, not to impose a restraint upon you, but for the sake of propriety and adherence to the Lord without distraction.

ALLELUIA **MT 4:16**

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light; on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has arisen.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL **MK 1:21-28**

Then they came to Capernaum, and on the sabbath Jesus entered the synagogue and taught. The people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." His fame spread everywhere throughout the whole region of Galilee.

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,

A famous Carthusian spiritual writer offers a reflection on human suffering. It is quite deep, and hence, a second reading of it may bear fruit. He writes, “It is not a question of loving what is evil or painful, but of suffering it in order either to set it right or bring it to an end. That is God’s way. He doesn’t love evil but He permits it for the sake of the good He draws out of it. Evil, like all reality, is a marvelous instrument in the hands of Divine Providence. We shall be amazed one day—in the next world—to see what suffering will have accomplished in courageous souls, who know how to accept it and bear it out of love. It is the deepest source of true peace.

“No one wants us to suffer, but we should love suffering as God loves it—that is, as something uplifting and a harbinger of peace. The world is made according to a plan which we cannot alter: it is the Master’s plan. We are only servants, and we must take life as He has planned it, and bring our wills and efforts into conformity with His designs.

“Now suffering falls within this plan. It is the way to joy, just as death—or mortification, which is death to self—is the way to live. *He that shall lose his life ... shall find it.* (Matthew 16:25). We are tiny seeds cast into the ground and we must die if we would live anew in God. There are some verses in the 125th Psalm which give a wonderful picture of this divine plan; but it is not enough merely to submit to it as to something inevitable; we must love it as an expression of divine love.

“For that we must be strong. But being strong does not mean resisting what is wounding us to rid ourselves of it. There is another, and much higher, kind of strength. It is that strength which accepts what it cannot get rid of, remaining all the while smiling under the cross. It is not to the cross we smile, but to Him Who carried it before us and for us, and Who carries it with us still.” (Dom Agustin Guillerand, *They Speak by Silences*, 1955.).

I find that a three-pronged approach to suffering works well. In the midst of something unpleasant the first step is to thank God for it. To thank God for the bitter detail we are experiencing is to trust that God sent it to us for a reason. God is the King of the Universe. Every molecule in creation obeys His command. There is a good reason why God has allowed all the trials and tribulations in history, from Noah’s Flood to Covid-19. In each difficulty God respects human and angelic free will in shaping destinies, while at the same time bringing

the maximum amount of good out of the suffering that comes to the world through sin. God says to the Prophet: *I create woe and I create weal.* (Isaiah 45:5). In other words, whether it is bitter or whether it is better it comes from Divine Providence. We ought to trust God’s Providence. *Whoever trusted in the Lord and was put to shame?* (Ecclesiasticus 2:10).

The second step in dealing with a trial is to protest our blameworthiness for the bitterness that has befallen us. One can say, for instance, “Lord, I deserve worse than this (illness, relationship crisis, traffic jam et cetera) for my many sins.” This is an act of humility and such an attitude always calls down God’s blessings. Moreover, it is no mere act of modesty. It is completely true. If God is merciful, which He most certainly is, consequently, we actually suffer less than our sins deserve. Even the souls in Hell, although they suffer immensely, actually suffer less than their sins deserve because of the mitigating effects of divine mercy.

These first two steps are quite effective in reducing the burden of what suffering lays upon us. Why? Not only because of the union with God that these actions produce in the heart, and union with God makes a heart stronger, but also because these two actions drastically reduce, and can even eliminate, our resistance to suffering. Our resistance to whatever is bitter in our lives, which includes the “Why me?” attitude, is what magnifies the trial and makes it heavier.

Lastly, we should do what Our Lady of Fatima suggested, or rather, commanded: offer it up in reparation. After accepting the suffering, thanking God for it, recognizing the justice in it because of our many sins, we then offer to God that whole experience. By offering it in reparation we exchange the pain of the suffering and the merit of our accepting it, for the benefit of God blotting out the effects of sin in our souls and in the souls of those around us. It works. The offering becomes a super-charged prayer infused with the merit of gratitude, humility and trust.

God bless you!

Father Eric

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 31, 2021



Saturday, February 6:
5:00 PM Jack Gordon

Sunday, February 7:
7:00 AM Efrain Ortiz
9:00 AM Roy Hansen
11:00 AM Frank DiSalvo
1:00 PM Charles Sullivan

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 6:
5:00 Jason Suazo
Sunday, February 7:
7:00 Matthew Basile
9:00 Jacob Torres
11:00 Sean Ahern
1:00 Jack Smith

COLLECTIONS:

January 24th.....\$7,454.00
Jan. Budget Deficit.....,..... \$746.00

ATTENDANCE JANUARY 24TH: 450
CAPACITY FOR EACH MASS: 210

Wedding Banns

**Kerry Joseph Cosgriff II &
Kauanne Conte Frare**

Saturday, January 30:
5:00 Patrick Jordan

Sunday, January 31:
7:00 Peter Pellegrito
9:00 Alice Geraghty & Jack Graham
11:00 In Honor of St. Martha
1:00 Harold & Margaret Olive

Monday, February 1:
9:30 Eileen McGarry

Tuesday, February 2:
9:30 Grace O'Donnell

Wednesday, February 3:
9:30 Olga Bianco

Thursday, February 4:
9:30 M/M William J. Grace

Friday, February 5:
9:30 Eva Balintitt

Saturday, February 6:
9:30 Catherine Linner
5:00 Richard P. Morrison

Sunday, February 7:
7:00 Patricia M. Silvestri
9:00 Josenita Abecia
11:00 Frank & Marie Barnard
1:00 Ana Celia Rodriguez

St. Michael Prayer

Saint Michael The Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness & snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan & all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Ash Wednesday Schedule: Wednesday, February 17th is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. Ashes will be distributed during Masses at 9:30 AM, 12 PM and 6:30 PM. There will also be simple ash services at 7 AM, 2:45 PM & 4:45 PM. We remind our parishioners that Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence.

8th Grade Students: Congratulations to our 8th grade students all of who were accepted into their high schools of choice. Together they have totaled \$214,000 in scholarship money! We congratulate the following students on their academic achievements; **Abigail Cruz** a full scholarship to St. Joseph By The Sea, **Sean Ahern** a full scholarship to Monsignor Farrell and a partial to Xaverian, **Brenda Garpestad** partial scholarships to St. Joseph Hill & Xaverian, **Erik Shashaty** a full scholarship to St. Peter's Boys High School and partial scholarships to St. Joseph By The Sea and Xaverian, **Noah Teixeira** a partial scholarship to St. Peter's Boys High School and **Inyene Ate** a partial scholarship to St. Peter's Boys High School. God bless all of our 8th graders and their families.

St. Stephens's Basilica

Budapest, Hungary



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FEAST DAY: FEBRUARY 3RD

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