

The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 27, 2022

Pastor

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - frrapaglia@yahoo.com

Pastoral Associates

Msgr. Nicholas Soares

Msgr. Greg Mustaciuolo

Fr. Soju Varghese

Principal

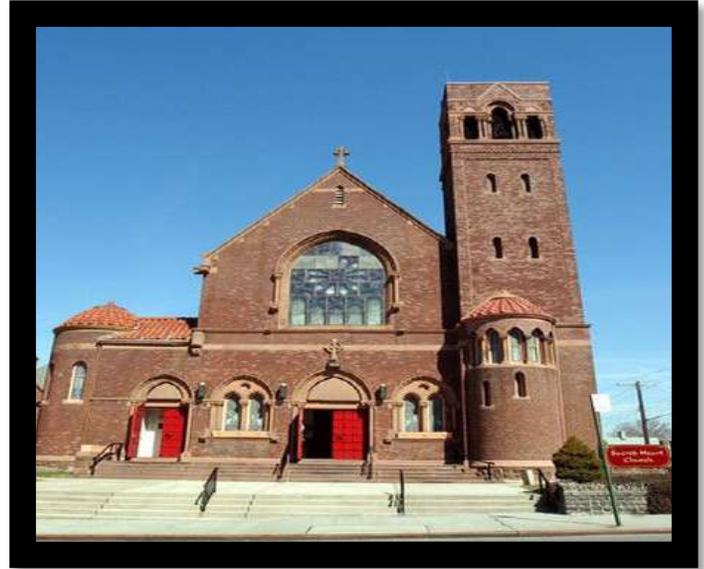
Ms. Celeste J. Catalano

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

MARCH 27, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

OPENING HYMN: TABLE OF PLENTY

COME TO THE FEAST OF HEAVEN AND EARTH! COME TO THE TABLE OF PLENTY! GOD WILL PROVIDE FOR ALL THAT WE NEED, HERE AT THE TABLE OF PLENTY.

O COME AND SIT AT MY TABLE WHERE SAINTS AND SINNERS ARE FRIENDS. I WAIT TO WELCOME THE LOST AND LONELY TO SHARE THE CUP OF MY LOVE.

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; therefore I ask blessed Mary, ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you my brothers and sisters to pray for me to the Lord Our God. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON

CHRISTE ELEISON

KYRIE ELEISON

READING 1 **JOS 5:9A, 10-12.**

The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you." While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover, they ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the

land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM **PS 34: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7.**

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.



I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall be ever in my mouth. Let my soul glory in the LORD; the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Glorify the LORD with me, let us together extol his name. I sought the LORD, and he answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame.

When the poor one called out, the LORD heard, and from all his distress he saved him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

READING 2 **2 COR 5:17-21.**

Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL LK 15:18.

I will get up and go to my Father and shall say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

GOSPEL LK 15: 1-3, 11-32.

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.'

Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swal-

lowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'

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: LED BY THE SPIRIT

LED BY THE SPIRIT OF OUR GOD, WE GO TO FAST AND PRAY WITH CHRIST INTO THE WILDERNESS; WE JOIN HIS PASCHAL WAY.

"REND NOT YOUR GARMENTS, REND YOUR HEARTS. TURN BACK YOUR LIVES TO ME." THUS SAYS OUR KING AND GRACIOUS GOD, WHOSE REIGN IS LIBERTY.

LED BY THE SPIRIT, WE CONFRONT TEMPTATION FACE TO FACE, AND KNOW FULL WELL WE MUST RELY ON GOD'S REDEEMING GRACE. ON BREAD ALONE WE CANNOT LIVE, BUT NOURISHED BY THE WORD WE SEEK THE WILL OF GOD TO DO; THIS IS OUR DRINK AND FOOD.

A Note from The Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

What a gift it is to be baptized! Jesus (blessed be His Name) was speaking of this bedrock Sacrament when He said: *Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit* (John 3:3).

Peter Kreeft offers a meditation on this subject (*The Philosophy of Jesus*, 2007). Dr. Kreeft says: "Christ is the answer to the question: What is the meaning of human life? Who are we meant to be? The answer is that we are destined to be little Christs. The meaning of life is to be Christ. The answer to the primary question of anthropology is not any abstract ideal but a concrete, realized fact. The meaning of Man is a man, this man. The Old Testament told us that we are created by God in His own image (Genesis 1: 26-27), but only the New Testament fully shows us what that image is: it is Christ..." (p. 74).

"A man fully alive' means 'a little Christ.' How could we miss it? Only because we are more than half asleep more than half the time. The New Testament says it strongly and clearly in many places. For instance, Romans 8:29: *Those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the first-born among many brethren.* Or 1 Corinthians 15:49: *Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the Man of Heaven.*" Or 2 Peter 1:4: *He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, that through these you may . . . become partakers of the divine nature.*" (p. 74-75).

"There is also a second reason why we need the divine revelation of Christ to know ourselves: because 'without the knowledge revelation gives of God, we cannot recognize sin clearly, and are tempted to explain it as merely a developmental flaw, a psychological weakness, a mistake, or the necessary consequence of an inadequate social structure.' (CCC 389). Christ shows us how *abnormal* we are by being the norm. If we let Him judge us rather than us judging Him, we see that our 'normal' is really abnormal.... Without knowing Christ, and thus knowing our 'abnormalism,' we must fall into the fundamental error of 'normalism.'" (p.75).

"All secular psychology, sociology, and anthropology is fundamentally askew at its very foundation because it assumes, wrongly, that its object, man, is in his natural state. All its data are its observations of 'normal' human behavior, just as in physics or astronomy all the data come from observations of how matter naturally behaves. Just imagine how radically physics would change if physicists came to believe that gravity was not inherent to matter at all but that matter had 'fallen' into this abnormal state at some time in the past. Imagine the radical shock astronomy would experience if astronomers came to believe that stars only started to shine at some point in past time called the 'fall.'" (p. 75-76).

"Christianity reveals a shock as great as that in anthropology in its doctrine of the Fall, in its most basic interpretation of human history, in which the three great defining events are Creation, Fall, and Redemption. Chris-

tianity adds two men to its database that secular anthropology does not know: Adam and Christ, the only two innocent men who have ever lived, and Christianity judges fallen men by that norm. Without that corrective, we inevitably think backwards and misunderstand our present sinfulness as natural and normal, and thus see innocence, and even sainthood, as abnormal and unnatural, super-human rather than human. In the same way, drunks and drug addicts see sober people as abnormal. We are all morally drunk and sin addicts." (p. 76-77).

"So it was quite natural for Bill Clinton's supporters to claim that it was wrong and even immoral for his critics to expect of presidents 'unrealistic, unattainable' moral virtues like fidelity and honesty. This is the most fundamental error of our secular society's view of man, and the root of all its other errors. 'Ignorance of the fact that man has a wounded nature inclined to evil gives rise to serious errors in the areas of education, politics, social action, and morals.' (CCC 401) In all four fields, secular 'liberalism' (a misleading term because it is not really liberating) denies the reality of personal sin and sees man as a lettuce rather than a potato. (Lettuce rots from the outside in; potatoes rot from the inside out.) So their solution is always a 'lettuce solution': let us do this or that, let us improve the social environment, let us throw some money at the social structures, or let us condition people by better education. They are like the Pharisees, who clean the outside but ignore the rot within. (Matthew 23:25-26) ..." (p. 77-78).

"We cannot go back to Paradise to see unfallen Adam. *But we see Jesus.* (Hebrews 2:9). Christ is our new data for anthropology. Christ is our standard, or norm. Without this data we are like a dog in a cage at the airport who has chewed off his dog tag so that he does not know his true name, or the name of his master, or his home. He does not know where he has come from, who he is, or where he is destined to go." (p. 78).

"Without Jesus Christ we do not know the meaning of our life, or our death, of our God or of ourselves.' (Pascal) We get this crucial fourfold information only from Christ. Our true name is 'Christ's brother, God's adopted child.' We must keep this dog tag, cherish it, live by it, remember it, read it often. The tag is Christ. Christ is the key to anthropology. But how can we become Christs? ... We must become Christs, but we cannot. Not all our prayers and sighs and tears, not all our loves and thoughts and deeds and mystical experiences, can do that. We simply can't do it. To do it, we have to become someone else. We have to be 'born again.'" (p. 79).

God bless you!

Father Eric



Lector Schedule

Saturday, April 2:
5:00 PM Jack Gordon

Sunday, April 3:
7:00 AM Efrain Ortiz
9:00 AM Roy Hansen
11:00 AM Frank DiSalvo
1:00 PM Wanda Ortiz

Saturday, March 26: **Celebrant**

9:30	Jimmy Lanahan	Fr. Soju
5:00	Nicole Flanagan	Fr. Eric

Sunday, March 27:

7:00	Sr. Ruth Borgersen	Fr. Soju
9:00	Mary Ellen Wright	Fr. Eric
11:00	Juan & Corazon Ariado	Msgr. Nick
1:00	Janet Cugini	Msgr. Greg

Monday, March 28:

9:30	People of the Parish	Msgr. Nick
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Tuesday, March 29:

9:30	Stephen Reilly	Fr. Eric
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Wednesday, March 30:

9:30	Virginia Crane (8th Anniversary)	Fr. Eric
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Thursday, March 31:

9:30	Camille Petosa	Msgr. Nick
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Friday, April 1:

9:30	Maria Guastavino	Fr. Eric
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Saturday, April 2:

9:30	Frank Duff & Edel Quinn	Fr. Soju
5:00	Frank J. Santora	Fr. Eric

Sunday, April 3:

7:00	Ben Zarrelli	Fr. Soju
9:00	Mary Ellen Wright	Msgr. Greg
11:00	Thomas Metz	Fr. Eric
1:00	Denise E. Campo	Msgr. Nick

Collections:

March 20th:
\$7,378.00

Building Fund:
\$436.00

Pastosa Raffle March 20th:
M/M William Rautenstrauch

Attendance March 20th:
503

During the season of Lent Stations of the Cross are held every Friday night at 7:30 PM. The Stations are a great Lenten sacrifice.

2022 Cardinal's Appeal Update: In February Father Eric officially launched the 2022 Cardinal's Appeal. We are happy to announce that we are getting closer and closer to our goal of \$71,500.00. As of now we have raised \$69,065.00. That represents an incredible 97% ! Every year our parishioners give very generously and our Cardinal's Appeal is a resounding success. Our hope this year is to increase the number of participants. Therefore, each and every gift, however small or large, is deeply appreciated.

Catholic Relief Services: The annual collection for Catholic Relief Services will be taken up this weekend. Every year this collection goes to help people who live in the most marginalized communities of the world. Your donations provide food and shelter for young children. Nutrition for pregnant women and infant babies as well as getting them medical exams. The donations also help teach farmers innovative and inventive ways to grow and store crops for seasons of famine and drought. Remember Lent is a season of sacrifice and this collection would be a great example of a Lenten sacrifice. Last year, despite still feeling the effects of the pandemic, our diocese was able to raise \$193,884. Please be as generous as your means will allow and remember every donation is greatly appreciated.

Sacred Heart School Calendar Raffle: Sacred Heart School is having their annual calendar raffle beginning on May 1st. Please see the fliers in the vestibule of the Church for more details. Any person who wishes to enter the raffle must complete and submit an entry form to the school by April 29th.

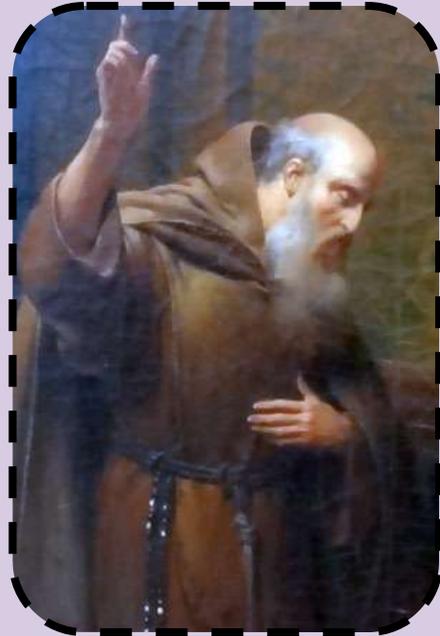
Legion of Mary: This Sunday at 3 PM The Legion of Mary will be holding their annual "Acies" prayer service in our church. During the service The Rosary will be recited and the members of The Legion of Mary will rededicate themselves to The Blessed Mother. After the service refreshments will be served in the Rectory basement. All are invited to join.

Sacred Heart Track: Any boy or girl interested in joining Sacred Heart's track team should contact Tom Smith at (917) 608-7587. The first practice is on Monday, April 11th and the first meet is on Saturday, April 30th. Our track team has been very successful and we wish them all the best in their spring season.

SAINT FRANCIS OF PAOLA

FEAST DAY: APRIL 2ND

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



SICK PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS

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, Linda & Antoniette Gagliardi, Harrison Schursky, Caroline Dacunta, Irene McCarthy, Maria Rivera, Denise Bianacanello, 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 Endeley, Peter Marsh, John Riccobono, Joseph DiAngelo, William Walsh, Gertrude Wilson, Frank Duff, Edel Quinn, Phillip Reinhardt, Catherine Angielczyk, Louis Lepore, Dawn McFadden, John Meehan, Anthony Cosentino, Vincent Yeyines, Frank Sullivan, Bobby Shepherd, Regina Fusaro, Billy McNeely, Melissa Dudley, Athena Guerrero, Monique Russo.

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