

# The Church of the Sacred Heart

981 Castleton Avenue Staten Island, NY 10310

Established 1875

Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 15, 2022

## **Pastor**

Fr. Eric Rapaglia

Email - [frrapaglia@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.sacredheartsi.org)

**School Website:** - [www.sacredheartsschoolsi.org](http://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



## ALLELUIA

JN 13:34.



I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
love one another as I have loved you.

## GOSPEL JN 13:31-33A, 34-35.

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."



## 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: LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

**LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH AND LET IT BEGIN WITH ME. LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH, THE PEACE THAT WAS MEANT TO BE. WITH GOD AS OUR FATHER, BROTHERS ALL ARE WE; LET ME WALK WITH MY BROTHER IN PERFECT HARMONY.**

**LET PEACE BEGIN WITH ME, LET THIS BE THE MOMENT NOW. WITH EVERY STEP I TAKE, LET THIS BE MY SOLEMN VOW: TO TAKE EACH MOMENT AND LIVE EACH MOMENT IN PEACE ETERNALLY. LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH AND LET IT BEGIN WITH ME.**

## A Note from The Pastor

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently, I was chatting with one of our teenaged parishioners, who made me proud. He spoke of how his faith is very important to him and, as a result, at his public high school he is not shy about voicing his opposition to abortion and homosexual relations. He told me that his friends know this about him and they respect him. He did not mind standing against the prevailing (God-less) culture.

As the U.S. Supreme Court has been in the news lately, perhaps it is appropriate to appeal to the thought of Antonin Scalia (1934-2016), devout Catholic and U.S. Supreme Court justice (1986-2016). In a 1992 speech, Justice Scalia spoke, more or less, on the topic broached by the teenager and myself. Scalia said:

“I want to speak about the expectation—the reality—that Christians will be different. I and those Catholics in the room who are my age or older have had the great good fortune of growing up at a time when even in areas with large Catholic populations such as New York or Chicago, it was a little bit strange to be a Catholic. Catholic was not ‘mainstream.’”

“There were still some places where Catholics, like Jews, were not welcome. America had not yet had a Catholic president. John F. Kennedy had not yet appeared to express the hope that his fellow citizens would not vote against him ‘because,’ as he put it, ‘of my religious affiliation.’ I have always hated that phrase, reducing the most profound commitment of a man’s life to a mere membership preference. ‘Ah, yes, I am a Catholic. But I might be a Muslim or a Jew or even an Episcopalian tomorrow, if I should choose to change my religious affiliation.’ Perhaps there is an open season, like changing from Blue Cross to the Postal Worker’s Plan. Surely the man should have said, ‘I hope no one will vote against me because of what I am.’ That is what my hero Popeye would have said. ‘I yam what I yam.’”

“But never mind. My point, before I launched myself into this digression, is that when I was growing up, to be Catholic was to be a bit different. It was a little bit beyond—in some parts of the country a lot beyond—what was respectable. And the Church, I must say, far from seeking to eliminate that differentness, in some ways seemed to go out of its way to emphasize it. The Protestants here may remember that their Catholic friends used to have to eat fish on Fridays, when everyone else was having hot dogs. And at a Saturday-night party the Catholics (or at least those who planned to receive Communion the next day) would no longer eat or drink anything after midnight. These dietary rules were not as strict, or as noticeable, as those observed by, for example, Orthodox Jews. But they still served to increase rather than reduce our ‘apartness.’” (Antonin Scalia, *On Faith: Lessons from an American Believer*, 2019, p. 29-30).

Scalia points out that when our worldview and code of moral behavior are “comfortably in conformance” with the mores of “respectable” society, that is no guarantee that we are living the Gospel. After all, St. John the Apostle wrote: *Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.* (1 John 15-16).

As Christians, we are in the world but not of the world. The Lord Jesus (blessed be His Name) said: *If the world hates you, realize that it hated Me first. If you belonged to the world, the world would love its own; but because you do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world, the world hates you.* (John 15:18-19).

Moreover, at the Last Supper, Christ prayed to the Father about His followers and said: *I gave them Your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world but that you keep them from the evil one.* (John 17:14-15).

Furthermore, the good Lord said to Pilate on Good Friday: *“My kingdom does not belong to this world. If My kingdom did belong to this world, My attendants would be fighting to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, My kingdom is not here.”* (John 18:36).

Justice Scalia reminds us that we Catholics have always been of the mindset of being on pilgrimage, “passing through these parts on the way to the promised land. It becomes quite obvious why the serious Christian must be a pilgrim, an alien citizen, a bit ‘different’ from the world around him, when one considers how many Christian virtues make no sense whatever to the world. Consider, for example, the first and foremost Christian virtue, humility: awareness of the greatness of God and hence the insignificance of self. That is a crazy idea to the world, which values above all else self-esteem and self-assertion.”

“Or consider the Christian virtue (or practice) of self-denial. I am not talking about self-denial in the sense of refraining from what is sinful; but self-denial in the sense of deliberately depriving oneself of what is good and lawful, solely for the sake of doing penance and asserting the dominance of the spirit over the flesh.” (Ibid, p. 33).

“... Or consider, finally, the Christian virtue of chastity. Except for divine command, it makes no sense. The world can find reasons for condemning dishonesty, deception, and manipulateness in sexual relations. But if those secular evils are avoided—if the partners are really fond of each other, or are not even fond of each other, but both understand that they are just having a good time—what possible justification is there for chastity? Surely the worldly ideal is not chastity, but safe sex. And to preach the opposite is like—well, it’s like talking about hair shirts.” (Ibid, p. 34).

Lastly, Justice Scalia appeals to the only saint canonized directly by Christ Himself. He was referring to St. Dismas, “the good thief,” who, while on a cross next to Christ’s, repented and begged Christ for a place in His Kingdom. Jesus answered: *Amen I say to you. Today you will be with Me in Paradise.* (Luke 23:43). Scalia sees in this exchange an icon of the topic at hand. “So much did Jesus value that man’s standing beside Him when all the world had abandoned Him. And the same reward, for the same willingness to go against the world, awaits us.” (Ibid, p. 37).

That same reward awaits the teenager mentioned above. I have no doubt. That was the reason why, as his pastor, I was so proud.

God bless you!

Father Eric



**Lector Schedule**

**Saturday, May 21:**

5:00 PM: Bill Jones

**Sunday, May 22:**

7:00 AM : Joan Prenty

9:00 AM: Sr. Barbara

11:00 AM: Ken Wisniewski

1:00 PM: Don Maj

**Saturday, May 14:** **Celebrant**

9:30 Deborah Hyland Fr. Soju

5:00 Karl G. Reina II Fr. Soju

**Sunday, May 15:**

7:00 Deceased Members of The Quinn & McCauley Families & Souls in Purgatory Fr. Soju

9:00 Stephen Reilly Msgr. Greg

11:00 Katherine Jezycki Fr. Eric

1:00 Deceased Members of The Decker Family Fr. Eric

**Monday, May 16:**

9:30 People of the Parish Fr. Eric

**Tuesday, May 17:**

9:30 Richard O'Shea Fr. Eric

**Wednesday, May 18:**

9:30 Susan Cooney Mahon Fr. Eric

**Thursday, May 19:**

9:30 Gerald, Thomas, Edward & John Cosgrove Fr. Eric

**Friday, May 20:**

9:30 John Baker Fr. Eric  
(50th Anniversary)

**Saturday, May 21:**

9:30 John & Maureen Driscoll Fr. Soju

5:00 Carlos Causo Fr. Eric

**Sunday, May 22:**

7:00 Ben Zarrelli Fr. Soju

9:00 Mary Ellen Wright Fr. Eric

11:00 Matthew & Maureen Gordon Msgr. Greg

1:00 Brendan Hoey Fr. Eric

**Collections:**

**May 8:**

**\$7,389.00**

**Building Fund:**

**\$723.00**

**Mother's Day**

**\$767.00**

**Attendance May 8th:**

**507**

**Pastosa Raffle May 8th.**

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**Central & Eastern Europe:** This weekend, the 2nd collection will be the annual archdiocese collection for the **Church in Central & Eastern Europe**. The emergency collection on Ash Wednesday for the aid of The Ukraine successfully raised over half a million dollars. The Cardinal himself, recently embarked on a trip to Slovenia & Poland to ensure the people there of our prayers, support and solidarity in this terrible time. Given the great upheaval, violence and disruption occurring in this region this year your donation means more than ever. Last year the diocese raised a total of \$214,763 despite the pandemic. These people need our help because they are suffering and in a period of great uncertainty. Please be as generous as your means will allow.

**First Holy Communion:** This past weekend the second grade children in our school and our CCD Program received the sacrament of First Holy Communion. The children receiving First Communion were: **Peter Basile, Kadence Llanos, Luis Narvaez, London O'Neal, Isabella Tamayo Martinez, Angelina Velez, Benjamin Bernabe, Daniel Bilek Jr., Lucas Boylan, Carly Carbone, Tiffany Dias, Miguel Esteves, Victoria Esteves, Max Fernandez, Quinn Fisher, David Guadarram, Jack Gullo, Shane Gullo, Hunter Holdman, Aiden Lesane, Robert Maffettone, Liam Mallen, Christopher Murphy, Mia Murante, Madeline Neumann, Emery O'Leary, Elijah Rios, Johann Rojas, Juliana Trnidad, Emily Ursomanno, Ace Vanden-Heuvel, James White Smith and Declan Wisniewski.** Congratulations to them, we are proud of each of them. God bless them and their families!

**Schoenstatt May Crowning:** The Schoenstatt Sisters will be having a "May Crowning" of The Blessed Mother on Sunday, May 22nd at 11 AM. The program includes an English talk at The Shrine, then lunch in the school cafeteria (bring your own lunch), a Rosary in the school auditorium and Holy Mass at 1:30 PM.

## **ST. BERNADINE OF SIENA**

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