

## ***Parish Staff***

### ***Pastor***

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

### ***Parochial Vicars***

Rev. Nelson Henao Sch.P.

Rev. Richard Wyzykiewicz Sch.P.

### ***Parish Secretary***

Mrs. Rosemarie Ortiz

### ***Organists***

Mr. Franco Bonanome

Mr. Patrick Marques

### ***Leaders of Song***

Mrs. Terry Bonanome

Mr. Alex Henriquez

***August—September 2016***

### ***Director of Development***

Mrs. Stephanie Turtle

### ***St. Helena's School (718) 892-3234***

Early Childhood (3Yr Olds & Pre-K for All)

Elementary School (Grades K-8)

Principal: Mr. Richard Meller

2050 Benedict Avenue

Bronx, New York 10462

### ***High School:***

Monsignor Scanlan H.S. (718) 430-0100

<http://www.scanlanhs.edu/>

Principal: Mr. Peter Doran

915 Hutchinson River Parkway

Bronx, New York 10465

### ***St. Helena Rectory:***

1315 Olmstead Avenue

Bronx, N.Y. 10462

Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

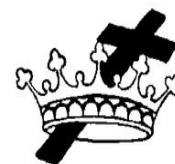
[www.churchofsthelena.com](http://www.churchofsthelena.com)

Email: [sthelenarc@yahoo.com](mailto:sthelenarc@yahoo.com)

Alumni: [sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com)



# ***saint Helena parish***



***Bronx, NY***

## ***Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)***

***Saturday: 5:30 PM***

| <b><i>Sunday: AM</i></b> | <b><i>PM</i></b> |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 7:30                     | 12:00 (Spanish)  |
| 9:00                     | 1:30             |
| 10:30 (Family)           | 5:00             |

***Holy Days: 6:50AM, 8:30 AM, 12:15 PM and 7:30 PM***

***Weekdays: 6:50AM, 8:30 AM and 12:15 PM***

***Morning Prayer—Daily 8:30AM***

***Spanish Mass: Sunday, 12:00 Noon***

***Holy Days — Evenings Before—7:30PM***

***Wednesday —7:30 PM (Spanish)***

***Monday 7:30PM (every first Monday of the month in Spanish)***

***Primeros lunes de mes***

### ***Confessions:***

***Saturday — 4 to 5:30***

### ***Sick Or Emergency Calls:***

***At any time***

***call the Rectory at 892-3232***

### ***Devotions:***

- Circulo De Oracion: lunes, 7 a 9PM,
- Miraculous Medal Novena  
Monday after 12:15 PM Mass
- Exposición del Santísimo y Coronilla de la Divina  
Misericordia: miércoles, 7PM
- Eucharistic Adoration  
Thursday between the 8:30 & 12:15 Masses
- Sacred Heart Novena: Thursday, Noon
- English Bible Study: Tuesday, 7:30PM

### ***Baptisms:***

***Arrangements must be made at the  
Rectory for Baptismal Class.***

***Bring copy of child's Birth Certificate.***

### ***Marriages:***

***Arrangements for weddings should be  
made as soon as possible at the Rectory.***

### ***Parish Registration:***

***All Catholics who live within the  
parish boundaries should fill out a  
registration card at Church or Rectory.***



**Handicapped Accessible**

**A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:**

**EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS -  
Patronal Feast of St. Helena Parish  
September 14**

We will venerate the relic of the true Cross at all Masses on September 14 as well as during the 10:30 Mass on Sunday, September 18. A Plenary Indulgence can be obtained either for oneself or for a soul in purgatory by attending Mass during this time.

Let Us Pray:

Adoramus te, Christe, et benedicimus tibi,  
quia per crucem tuam redemisti mundum.  
We adore thee, O Christ, and we bless Thee,  
for by Thy Cross Thou hast redeemed the world.



*Let us faithfully recite this prayer in the Exaltation of the Holy Cross :*

Jesus, Who because of Thy burning Love for us  
willed to be crucified  
and to shed Thy Most Precious Blood  
for the Redemption and Salvation of our souls,  
look down upon us and grant the petition we humbly ask for  
(*our prayer intention here...*)  
Lord we trust completely in Thy Mercy.  
Cleanse us from sin by Thy Grace,  
sanctify our work,  
give us and all those who are dear to us our daily bread,  
lighten the burden of our sufferings,  
bless our families,  
and grant to the nations,  
so sorely afflicted,  
Thy Peace, which is the only True Peace,  
so that by obeying Thy Commandments  
we may come at last to the Glory of Heaven. Amen

We Catholics have a great share in this Exaltation of the Cross. It is our special trust, our badge, our glory. Like the first Christians, it is ours to honor, to use, to be known by. Those who have fallen from the true faith have laid it aside as childish and not fit for the mature. But the Gospel was preached to the childlike, and the Kingdom of Heaven reserved for them. So we will keep our childlike ways, and loyally use the sacred sign. We will make it with reverence, with confidence, with joy. And the day will come when we who are signed with the Sign of the Cross upon our foreheads will go forth to meet our Redeemer, and He will acknowledge us to be His own. Like Constantine, by that sign we shall conquer.

On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross (or Triumph of the Cross) we honor the Holy Cross by which Christ redeemed the world. The public veneration of the Cross of Christ originated in the fourth century, according to early accounts written by St. Cyril of Jerusalem, beginning with the miraculous discovery of the cross on September 14, 326, (1,690 years ago) by Saint Helena, the mother of St. Constantine the Great, while she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. It was on the same day that two churches built at the site of Calvary by Constantine were dedicated. On this day, we also remember the restoration of the True Cross, which had been captured by the Persians, to Jerusalem in 629 by the emperor Heraclitus II. Tradition says that the emperor carried the cross on his own back, but when he attempted to enter the church on Mount Calvary, a strange force stopped him. The Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem, seeing the emperor struggling, advised him to take off his royal robes and crown and to dress in a penitential robe instead. As soon as Heraclius took Zacharias' advice, he was able to carry the True Cross into the church.

Christians "exalt" the Cross of Christ as the instrument of our salvation. Adoration of the Cross is, thus, adoration of Jesus Christ, the God Man, who suffered and died on this Roman instrument of

torture for our redemption from sin and death. The Holy Cross represents the One Sacrifice by which Jesus, obedient even unto death, accomplished our salvation. The Holy Cross is a symbolic summary of the Passion, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ -- all in one image. Therefore, Christians "exalt" the Cross of Christ as the instrument of our salvation.

Oremus/Let us pray :

O God, Who, for the redemption of the world, was pleased to be born in a stable, and to die upon a Cross; O Lord Jesus Christ, by Thy Holy Sufferings, which we, Thy unworthy servants, devoutly call to mind, by Thy Holy Cross, and by Thy Holy Passion and Death, deliver us from the pains of hell, and vouchsafe to conduct us wherever Thou didst conduct the thief who was crucified with Thee.

Who lives and reigns eternally in Heaven. Amen.

**ORIGINAL MOTHER TERESA CANONIZATION  
PORTRAIT NOW IN CONNECTICUT**

North Carolina artist Chas Fagan's posthumous painting of Mother Teresa was chosen as the official portrait for her September 4 canonization. The painting was commissioned by the Knights of Columbus as a gift to the Missionaries of Charity.

"Everyone's face shows their history," Fagan said in an interview from Rome. "Mother Teresa's is a face that has seen a lot of daylight and work, and that's completely reflected in her actual likeness, but what contrasts with that harsher physical visage is the warmth of her eyes and expression, that inner glow. That's what makes it such an appealing face."

His painting was used as the basis for the large tapestry unfurled from the facade of St. Peter's Basilica as Pope Francis declared Mother Teresa a saint. The original painting is now on display at the Knights of Columbus Museum in New Haven, Conn. Knights officials said the portrait will end up in one of the Missionaries of Charity houses in Rome. The Knights printed the official canonization Mass program and 1 million holy cards with the Fagan painting on the front and a quote from Mother Teresa on the back: "*God so loved the world that He gave His only Son. God still loves the world and sends you and me to be His love, His compassion to the poor.*"

**Let's Make a Difference Together on 9/11**

September 11 is now a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance. In observance of this year's 15th anniversary of 9/11, we'd like to invite you to join more than 2,000 other New Yorkers to help pack more than half a million meals in NYC for families, seniors and veterans in need. No special skills are required. All you have to do is show up on time, ready to make a difference.

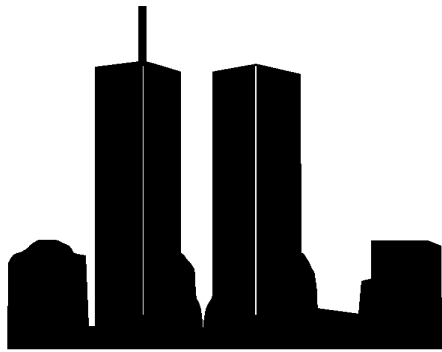
**WHEN:** Sunday, September 11, 2016, All Day Beginning at 7:00 AM (You'll select a two-hour shift)

**WHERE:** Basketball City, Pier 36, Manhattan (East side)

This event is FREE! All volunteers will work for approximately two-hours. The first two-hour shift begins at 7:00 AM. When you click REGISTER, you'll be taken to a page where you can select your desired shift.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact 9/11 Day at [info@911day.org](mailto:info@911day.org). Also please remember later to share your good deed via social media and visit our website at [911day.org](http://911day.org) for updates, parents and teacher guides, and other info.

The purpose of 9/11 Day is to promote unity, empathy and service in tribute to the victims, survivors, families, and the many who rose in service in response to the attacks. Today, nearly 30 million Americans observe 9/11 Day each year by volunteering, making donations to charities, and performing simple good deeds that help others.



## Never Forget 9/11

### REMEMBERING ST. HELENA PARISH VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

DENNIS DEVLIN  
THOMAS FARRELLS  
JOHN GALLAGHER  
FREDERICK ILL JR.  
JOSE NUNEZ  
WILLIAM "HARRY" THOMPSON

On March 30, 1863, in the midst of the civil war, Abraham Lincoln called for a day of humility, fasting, and prayer. We believe it is time to once again dedicate a day in the same manner for those that would join us. Therefore, on 9/11/2016, we encourage you to take time personally, with your family, and in your church service to humble yourselves, pray, and fast as the Lord would lead.

**As we remember the fifteenth anniversary of 9/11, and inspired by the words of Abraham Lincoln, let us pray this simple prayer of dedication for ourselves, our church, and our nation back to God.**

"We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!" (Abraham Lincoln)

Therefore, Lord, as Your people, we humble ourselves today before You and acknowledge our need for You in our lives and in our nation. We ask and plead, reliant on Your great mercy, that You would once again forgive us. Forgive us as a people, who are not worthy to carry Your name, for not always depending upon You, nor declaring that You are God in all areas of our lives. We ask that Your grace might once again shine on Your people. We ask that You revive and renew this land. Revive us in Your word, revive us in prayer, revive us in love for You and for one another, revive us in unity, and revive Your great message of love and grace once again in this nation. Help us to be Your representatives worthy to reflect Your name. Search us, cleanse us, purify us, lead us, guide us, and once again be our God, oh Lord. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

**Remembering the TWO priests killed on 9/11:** Everyone knows the name of Fr. Mychal Judge, the 68-year-old NY Fire Department chaplain, who was the first official casualty of the

September 11th terrorist attacks and who died while giving Last Rites to a fire fighter. But there was a second priest who also died. He was Father Francis Grogan, C.S.C. Fr. Grogan was a passenger onboard United Airlines Flight #175 when it hit the second tower. May they both Rest In Peace.

**THE Story of the 9/11 Flag:** As America reeled from the shock of the 9/11 terror attacks, one iconic image was captured that restored our hope. Firefighters on 9/11 saw a flag on a yacht docked next to the World Trade Center. They cut the flag down and took it to the World Trade Center site. It was hoisted over the heads of recovery workers. At the moment it was raised, a photographer managed to capture the iconic moment. Firefighters raised a pole much like the Marines did on Iwo Jima during World War II. The striking similarities between the two events caused the flag raising to go viral, a sign that America can overcome any challenge when we work together. That flag, one of the most famous flags in American history has been rediscovered thousands of miles away from where it was first hoisted. The 9/11 flag, as it is often called went missing after the disaster and turned up in Washington state. The flag has since been returned and put on display at the WTC Museum.

### UPCOMING PARISH PATRONAL FEAST

**The Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross**, the Patronal Feast of the Parish, is **Wednesday, September 14**. Masses will be held at **6:50AM, 8:30AM, 12:15PM, 4PM and 7:30PM (in Spanish.)** We will venerate the Relic of the True Cross at all Masses on that day. There is a Plenary Indulgence attached to attending Mass here at St. Helena on the Patronal Feast Day.

The Parish Sunday Celebration of the **Exaltation of the Cross** will take place during the **10:30AM Mass on Sunday, September 18**. We will venerate the Relic of the True Cross during this Mass.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** will begin on **Wednesday, September 14**, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. Students will gather in the Church at **3:45PM** and Mass will begin at **4PM**. Parents are also invited to attend this opening day celebration, which is also the Patronal Feast of the Parish. There will be Veneration of the Relic of the True Cross at all Masses on that day.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *Banns of Marriage*

*SSS-John Paul Wallace—Tamara Hughes*

**50/50 DRAWING:** The Sept. 4 winners are: No. 14 & No. 93 @ \$22

- **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION** for the **2016-2017** school year will continue this weekend after all Masses. Registration will take place every weekend thereafter through September at the back of the church. You may also register for First Communion, Confirmation, RCIA or regular religious education classes with Fr. Richard at the rectory during the weekdays.
- **SPANISH RCIA CLASS** will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 18** from **10-11:15AM** in the green building.
- **ENGLISH RCIA CLASS** will begin on **Sunday, Sept. 25** from **3-4PM** in the downstairs rectory meeting room.
- **BIBLE STUDY**-The Fall Semester class has begun and is Church History. It meets both at **1PM** and **7:30PM** in the green Family Life Center. This Tuesday, we will discuss the early Church persecutions. You can attend one class or as many as you like. Everyone is welcome.



**SEPTEMBER 11, 2016**

**OFFERING ENVELOPES**

**Sunday, September 4, 2016 \$4,718.67**

Our weekly budget, (Nuestro presupuesto semanal es) \$4,231.00

Thank you to everyone for your generosity and for your support and for all that you do for St. Helena's Parish. Yay, on Labor Day Weekend, we exceeded our weekly budget goal. Remember, everyone is welcome here at St. Helena. We are your spiritual home, and your support means a lot, and together, we are making a difference.

Gracias a todos por su generosidad y por todo lo que hacen por esta Iglesia de St. Helena.

- **SPANISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING** takes place every **Monday** evening at **7PM**. Because of Labor Day the monthly Mass will be held on **September 12**.
- **PARISH BOOKSTORE** reopens this weekend, **Sept. 11**. We have Mother Teresa holy cards and new St. Patrick's Cathedral book, both in English and Spanish.
- **PARISH FLEA MARKET** will be held this **Sun., Sept. 18** from **10AM - 3PM** in the green Family Life Center.
- **CATECHETICAL SUNDAY** will be celebrated on **Sunday, September 18**. Those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry during the **10:30AM** Family Mass. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith. This year's theme is *Prayer: The Faith Prayed*.
- **FOUNDATIONS OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH**-This is a continuation of last semester's course. It will be conducted in Spanish by Fr. Nelson every Tuesday evening from **7-9PM** in the cafeteria, beginning on **Tuesday, September 13**.
- **BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** for September will be held at **7PM** on **September 22**.
- **FREE FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS**-St. Helena's Parish NOW has a subscription to an online platform called **FORMED**, which is a kind of Netflix for Catholics, and so all parishioners now have unlimited access to faith formation programs, Bible Studies, Catholic-themed movies, e-books and much more. A number of Spanish-language resources are also available on FORMED. All you need to enter is the Parish Code: **2KQQYD**. Go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)
- **BOY SCOUT TROOP 65 MEETING**: This is the 65th anniversary year for St. Helena Boy Scout Troop 65. Our first meeting of the new academic year will take place on **Wednesday, September 14** from **6:30-8PM** in the school cafeteria. Boy Scouting is for youth ages 11-17 and provides valuable life lessons and skills, a fun and safe environment, character building and development, and exciting outdoor experiences. Come to our first meeting and see what scouting is all about.
- **A COURSE IN MIRACLES** - Rogier F. van Vliissingen is teaching a class using the 3rd edition of the book *A Course in Miracles, Combined Volume*, written by Helen Schucman, a professor of medical psychology at Colombia University, and published by the Foundation For Inner Peace. The book describes itself as a course which contains a curriculum to bring about spiritual transformation. The class meets every Sunday from **3-4:30PM** in the green Family Life Center.

The book is available on Amazon, and the suggested donation for the course is \$7 per session for the general public and any donation per session for St. Helena parishioners. Everyone is welcome, and for more information, call **917-549-0959**.

- **SICK AND DECEASED** members of the parish are remembered in the Offertory Prayers. If you know of any current or former parishioners who are seriously ill or have passed, or you know of any sick parishioners who need Holy Communion brought to them, please contact the rectory at **718-892-3232** and let us know about their condition.
- **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**-A Bereavement Support Group will begin at St. Helena, starting **Saturday, September 17**. The group is intended for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one or a dear friend. There will be TWO introductory sessions, one in English at **11AM**, and another in Spanish at **2PM**, both in the green building. Each introductory session will last about an hour. For more information, contact either: Jessica Perez at [jeniperez\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:jeniperez_s@yahoo.com) or Stephanie Colon at [srcolon610@gmail.com](mailto:srcolon610@gmail.com) or **917-504-4455**.
- **HOLY WATER**-Many religions use holy water for cleansing, protection, and blessing. It is sanctified by a priest or similar position in a church and is only holy water if it is sanctified. Holy means to be sanctified, so by sanctifying it yourself, it is not necessarily holy. You may come to the rectory or the sacristy to obtain Blessed Holy Water.
- **KNITTING PRAYER MINISTRY**-Do you like to knit? We are looking for people to knit either Prayer Shawls or Prayer Pockets. You can knit them either in your own home, or you can come to the Church for a group knitting. If you are interested in this new ministry, please call the rectory at **718-892-3232**.
- **FREE FLU CLINIC**, sponsored by Walgreens, will once again be held here at St. Helena in the gymnasium on Sunday, **September 18** from **10AM - 3PM**. There is **no cost to you** but please bring your Medical Insurance card so Walgreens can seek reimbursement. You can still receive the shot even if you do not currently have health insurance.
- **PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOP** is a free 15-week course in Spanish for adults who seek a more vibrant and vivid presentation of Jesus and a true adaptation to the needs of our present society. Its emphasis is on love, which is a transforming power, rather than fear and punishment. It is being held here on **Thurs. evenings** from **7-9PM**.
- **ST. MARY'S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM FOR CHILDREN** will be conducting an open house at St. Helena's Church on **Thursday September 15** from **1PM to 6PM** in search of Nurses, Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapists to work with clients in the Bronx. St. Mary's is a not for profit organization that services special needs, medically fragile children and young adults in the 5 boroughs of NYC, Nassau, and Suffolk counties.
- **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, or are you an Adult Needing Communion, Confirmation, or the Convalidation of Your Marriage?** Make an appointment with one of the parish priests by calling **718-892-3232**. Leave your contact information, and a priest will get back to you to set up an appointment.
- **APARTMENTS WANTED**-Within the Parkchester area. If you know of one that is available, please call the Rectory.

***Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish***

Joanne Frances Bernadette Sanabria, Sylvia Carballo,  
Ruben Mercado, Mike Adorno, Catherine Holden,  
Carmelle and Nicole Antoine, Indrowdi Sadu, Rosa Pena,  
Adam Mary, Brenda Jackson, James Leunge,  
Carol Primak, Lucy Cannavacciuolo, Joan Ricci,  
Aaron Sylvester, Sean Gaffney, Peter Vaccaro, Gino Vaccaro,  
Veronica Gonzalez, Bertha Mero, Ronald Horne, Doris Waldroft,  
Milagro Vasquez, Juana Carmen Rodriguez, Ynes Tavaréz,  
Theresa Delevan, Neil Duggan,

***Please Pray for the Deceased and their Grieving Families:***

Deacon Patrick Troy, Jorge Betancourt, Lorelei Williams,  
George Gisselbrecht, Mary Jane Gisselbrecht, Msgr. John Mescall,  
Louisa Josefa Massanet, Fidela Tougove, Jose Cartagena

## **ST HELENA SCHOOL NEWS**

- **BREAKFAST AND AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS BEGIN Monday, September 12.**
- **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT** is on **Tuesday, Sept. 20:**  
**Grades 3 and younger is at 6:30PM.**  
**Grades 4-8 is at 7:30PM.**
- **NO SCHOOL** on **Wednesday, September 28**, due to Teachers Conference Day.
- **PILOT PROGRAM**-We are proud to report that St. Helena's School has been selected to pilot *Blended Learning* for the 2016-17 academic year. More details about this exciting program will soon follow.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **SERRA CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING** on **Wed., Sept. 28** at **Noon** at Eastwood Manor, 3371 Eastchester Rd. Cost of the luncheon is \$25. This month's speaker will be Rev. Dennis Williams, pastor of Holy Rosary/Nativity of Our Blessed Lady parishes in the Bronx.
- **AFRICA TO BE CONSECRATED TO THE DIVINE MERCY**-The continent of Africa will be consecrated to the Divine Mercy on **September 14**, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and the Patronal Feast of St. Helena Parish. The consecration will take place during the Third Congress for Africa and Madagascar on Divine Mercy in Kigali, Rwanda. Pope Francis has named Cardinal Pasinya Laurent Monsengwo of the Democratic Republic of the Congo as his legate to the congress
- **HOMESCHOOLERS** can earn up to 60 college credits online at Angelicum Academy. Enroll now at [angelicum.net](http://angelicum.net) or call **410-282-6172**. Credits accepted by NYU.
- **AN EDUCATION FOR ALL REFUGEE CHILDREN:** On **September 20**, President Obama will host a Leaders Summit on Refugees. That means there is less than two weeks to make sure that during his talks with world leaders, the President puts education for all refugee children at the heart of his conversations. So today, please consider calling the White House and leaving a message for the President, asking him to work toward a plan for getting all refugee children - more than three million - an education. Calling the White House is easy. Just dial 1-888-869-8931, and when a White House volunteer answers say, "I would like to ask President Obama to work with other world leaders to commit to a plan for getting all refugee children an education at the Refugee Summit on September 20th."
- **MENTAL WELLNESS WORKSHOP** will cover topics like dementia, depression, anxiety, effective communication

skills, and strategies for healthy aging. The workshop will be held at PEP, 1525 Unionport Rd., starting **Thursday, September 29** from **12-2PM** and will run for 5 weeks. Lunch is included. The workshop is FREE thanks to a grant from the NY Foundation for Eldercare.

- **ELIMINATE ZIKA AT ITS SOURCE**-To eliminate mosquito breeding sites, NY State is distributing 100,000 starter kits of mosquito dunks (larvicide tablets) to residents and business owners to use in water in containers that cannot be emptied on their property. Each dunk (or tablet) lasts 30 days. For a free 2-pack of larvicide, call the Zika Information Line at **1-888-364-4723** or email your name and mailing address to [b0019w@health.ny.gov](mailto:b0019w@health.ny.gov).
- **NEED SOMEONE TO RUN ERRANDS?** If you are a senior living in Parkchester, PEP has a volunteer who can run errands for you. The volunteer is available every **Friday** in the late morning/early afternoon. If you need this service, call **718-409-1619** and speak with either Nicole or Gordon.
- **FREE LECTURE ON CHRISTIAN COSMOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY**-Sr. Ilia Delio explores Evolution and the Power of Love from Aristotle to Teilhard de Chardin in a free lecture given at Maryknoll, 55 Ryder Road, Ossining on **Sunday, Sept. 11** from **2:30-4PM**. For more info, call **914-941-7636 X 2445**.
- **NOURISHMENT FOR SENIORS:** Are you a SNAP-eligible senior citizen living in NYC? You may qualify for a **free monthly food package**. For more information, call **917-982-2564**. [www.nycommonpantry.org](http://www.nycommonpantry.org)
- **FAMILY DAY-BE INVOLVED, STAY INVOLVED** is The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse's national initiative to promote simple acts of parental engagement as key ways to help prevent risky substance use in children and teens. *Family Day* will be celebrated across the country on **September 26**. To learn more about *Family Day* and to join parents all across America in taking the Family Day STAR Pledge, log on to [www.CASAFamilyDay.org](http://www.CASAFamilyDay.org).
- **THE ITALIAN APOSTOLATE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK** invites you to save the date for the **2016 Columbus Day Mass and Parade** at St. Patrick's Cathedral on **Monday, October 10** at **9:30AM**. Call the Rectory if you would like tickets to the parade.
- **ADORATION CHAPEL**-Holy Cross Parish, 620 Thieriot Avenue, has an Adoration Chapel, which is open **Monday-Friday from 10AM - 9PM**.
- **NYC BROADWAY WEEK TICKETS** are now on sale. Talk about a hot ticket: Get 2-for-1 seats to riveting dramas, sidesplitting comedies and spectacular musicals during NYC Broadway Week (**September 5-18**).
- **FORGIVING FINES**-NYC is reducing penalties and interest for many violations issued by City agencies for a one-time 90-day period from **Sept. 12 - Dec. 12**. To take advantage of this opportunity to reduce the amount you owe the city, visit [nyc.gov/forgivingfines](http://nyc.gov/forgivingfines)
- **RESOLVE OUTSTANDING WARRANTS**-Clear your record and resolve outstanding warrants from certain quality of life summonses such as: consumption of alcohol in public, disorderly conduct, unlawful possession of marijuana, and trespassing. **Saturday, September 17** from **9AM - 4PM** at the Mount Hope Community Center, 55 E 175 Street, Bronx. For more information, call **718-590-2272** or go to [www.bronxda.nyc.gov](http://www.bronxda.nyc.gov)

## ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

### **Atención a las siguientes fechas, son importantes para el crecimiento y la formación de la familia.**

- **IMPORTANTE:** La serie **PRO-VIDA** se ha pospuesto por una semana. De tal manera que se realizará los días 18 y 25 de septiembre y el 2 de octubre. **Hago una invitación muy especial** a las parejas, a las personas mayores, a los jóvenes a participar de esta serie de charlas. Necesitamos prepararnos en temas como la sexualidad, la vida, el aborto, etc, para enfrentar como Católicos los retos que la sociedad nos propone. Aquellos que participen en estos tres encuentros podrán entrar a participar de un periodo de formación para posteriormente ser líderes PRO-VIDA en nuestra comunidad. **Registrarse a la salida.**
- **CURSO: UNA FE BIEN CONSTRUIDA:** Este curso, dictado por el P. Nelson, se **reiniciará** el próximo **martes 13 de septiembre**, e irá hasta el **6 de diciembre**. **Lugar:** Cafetería. **Hora:** 7 pm a 8.30 pm.
- **VACUNA CONTRA EL FLU, GRATIS:** El 18 de Septiembre de 10 am a 3 pm Walgreens patrocinará una jornada de vacuna gratuita. No tiene costo, pero si tienes seguro de salud tráelo para que Walgreens pueda recibir reembolso. Si no tienes seguro de salud, no te preocupes, ven con tu familia a recibir la vacuna.
- **CLASES DE CCD 2016-2017:** Comienzan el **14 de septiembre**. El costo de inscripción es de **\$35 dólares** por el primer niño y **\$25 dólares** por el segundo.
- **CLASES DE RCIA:** Estas clases son dictadas por el P. Nelson los **domingos de 10 am a 11.15 am**, para preparar a personas adultas en el camino de la fe. **Si te falta algún sacramento** (Bautismo, Primera Comunión o Confirmación) ven a esta clase para aprender acerca de tu fe, recibir tus sacramentos y vivir tu vida en plenitud. Las clases comienzan el **25 de septiembre**.
- **CLASES DE PREPARACION PARA EL BAUTISMO:** Se realizan cada **segundo y cuarto jueves** de cada mes a las **7 pm** en la Iglesia. Entrada por el parqueadero. Se recuerda que deben inscribirse previamente en la rectoría. Los bautismos en Español se realizan los segundos y cuartos **sábados** de cada mes a las 2.30 pm.
- **GRUPO DE APOYO PARA AQUELLOS QUE HAN PERDIDO UN SER QUERIDO:** La solidaridad y compasión sondas marcas del cristiano. Te sientes llamado a pertenecer a un ministerio como estos? Contacta a Jessica Pérez: [jeniperez\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:jeniperez_s@yahoo.com). También a Stephanie Colon: [srcolon610gmail.com](mailto:srcolon610gmail.com).
- **GRUPO DE ORACION:** El lunes 12 de septiembre se tendrá la reunión del grupo de oración con alabanza **misa de sanación**. Presidirá el P. Nelson. Ven y celebramos juntos nuestra fe!!!!
- **MIERCOLES DE LA MISERICORDIA:** Todos los miércoles a las 7 pm. El próximo miércoles celebraremos la canonización de **Santa Teresa de Calcuta**. Ven para revivir juntos la experiencia de esta mujer que supo vivir en plenitud la relación misericordiosa con el Señor.
- **FORMACION ONLINE GRATUITA SOBRE NUESTRA FE:** La parroquia se ha unido a una subscripción online que es **gratuita** para todos los miembros de la parroquia. Allí puedes encontrar Estudios de Biblia, películas, libros, etc. Todo lo que tienes que hacer es entrar a: [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) y marcar el código: **2KQQYD**.

Aprovecha la oportunidad de hacer formación desde tu casa con la familia.

- **FREE ENGLISH CLASSES FOR SPANISH-SPEAKERS DESEA SER MAS!... Aprende ingles gratis...Con CLASES DE INGLES – curso basico** impartido por el Doctor Estevez profesor de la Universidad de Nueva York (CUNY) - los MIERCOLES de 7:30pm a 9:00pm en el Salon Parroquial de la Iglesia de Santa Maria (2352 Saint Raymond Avenue Bronx NY 10462 – 718 828 2380). Las clases son gratuitas pero to tendras que comprar tus propios libros. **Las clases e inscripciones comienzan el miercoles, 14 de septiembre de 2016.** ¡No te quedes a tras...aprenda ingles y progresa!

## **BUEN DIA, HERMANOS:**

Durante la semana que termina han sucedido cosas muy bellas en términos de enseñanza, según las Sagradas Escrituras. Comenzaré diciendo que es muy importante tomar conciencia del regalo que se nos ofrece cada día para alimentar nuestra mente, nuestra alma y nuestro corazón. Es un verdadero banquete. A menudo cuando en la Biblia se nos habla de un banquete, por ejemplo en el capítulo 14 del Evangelio de San Lucas, nos imaginamos que tiene que ver con una invitación que se nos hace hacia el futuro, un futuro que sucederá cuando ya no estemos aquí en este bello planeta llamado Tierra. En otras ocasiones el banquete lo conectamos con la Eucaristía a la que asistimos cada domingo. Y eso no es equivocado, la invitación al banquete que nos hace Dios tiene que ver con todo al anterior. Sin embargo, el banquete, siendo eso, es mucho más.

La invitación al banquete comienza allí donde tú estás, en lo que estás haciendo, en lo que estás viviendo, en tu *vida de cada día*. Dios está **siempre** invitándonos al banquete que nos tiene preparado. Pero... somos conscientes de ello? Soy consciente del amor inmenso que el Padre, el Hijo y el espíritu Santo tienen por mí? Soy consciente de lo que yo pierdo cuando no acepto la invitación que diariamente se me hace?

Y es que el banquete al que somos invitados, queridos hermanos y hermanas, no es solamente un banquete para después de esta vida, no es solamente la invitación al banquete de la Eucaristía cuando asistimos a ella, es además, el banquete al que somos invitados día a día, minuto a minuto. Soy yo consciente de que la relación con el Señor no es algo exclusivo del domingo de 12 pm a 1.20 pm? No, la misa es el banquete que nos debe **preparar** para recibir el **banquete diario** de la presencia de Dios en nuestras vidas. Y cuál es el banquete diario?

Fíjate, cada vez que vamos a la misa el Señor se ofrece a nosotros como “**hostia viva**”. Es Él quien se entrega a nosotros en forma repetida desde aquel momento en que se entregó en la cruz por la salvación de cada uno de nosotros. Pero se entrega también a nosotros cada vez que entramos en contacto con las Escrituras, cada vez que oramos con el Señor, cada vez que lo escuchamos en silencio, cada vez que vivimos la experiencia de nuestros sacramentos. Cada vez que todo esto sucede, el Señor se entrega a nosotros para que comprendamos mejor su misterio y aprendamos a vivir, actuar y pensar como Él. Pero si nosotros no nos acercamos a Él, cómo podemos esperar crecer en la relación de vida que Jesús nos ofrece?

Él está siempre allí para nosotros, pero nosotros debemos **abrir** nuestro corazón y nuestra mente a su acción. Esa es nuestra parte en la relación con Dios. El hará todo lo demás, Él se encargará de

abrir nuestra mente a la comprensión del significado de la vida; Él se encargará de transformar nuestro corazón de manera que comencemos a ser de verdad seres nuevos, renovados. Él se encargará de transformar nuestra forma de razonar y nos dará la sabiduría y la fortaleza de su Espíritu para que podamos discernir mejor su Palabra y para que desde allí aprendamos a comprender mejor la voluntad del Padre en nuestras vidas. Ese es el banquete al que Jesús nos invita. Es un banquete que se extiende a lo largo de cada día de nuestra vida y se prolongará, según su promesa, por toda la eternidad.

Y yo, soy consciente de esa invitación diaria? Qué es lo que yo hago cada día para poder decir en la noche, antes de irme a dormir: gracias por el banquete que me has dado hoy? Qué es lo que Dios quiere de cada uno de nosotros con esta invitación a su banquete?

San Pablo nos da la respuesta en su carta a los **Romanos, 12, 1-2**: *“Los invito a ofrecerse como sacrificio vivo, santo, aceptable a Dios: éste es el verdadero culto”*. En otras palabras, el Señor quiere que no nos contentemos solamente con recibirlo a Él como hostia viva. También quiere que nosotros, en forma progresiva, nos convirtamos en *hostia via para otros*, que diariamente ofrezcamos nuestra vida reconociendo en cada evento la presencia de Dios. Sí, en ‘cada evento’, sea bueno o no. Cuando las cosas salen muy bien podemos correr el riesgo de olvidarnos de Dios y cuando salen mal podemos caer en la tentación de echarle la culpa por lo que nos sucede.

La persona que está **atenta** encuentra a Dios en cada momento de la vida y da gracias con humildad por todos los bienes recibidos, por todo lo bueno que puede hacer. Y cuando a la puerta de la persona llega la enfermedad o la soledad o cualquier tipo de dificultad, sabe que ello no viene de Dios, pero que Dios nunca lo abandonará. Al contrario, estará siempre dándole ánimo y la certeza de nunca estar a solas. Es verdaderamente maravilloso ver personas que pasando por momentos muy difíciles son capaces de no desesperarse e inclusive de animar a otros a seguir adelante con una fe sólida. Esas personas son ‘hostias vivas’ que han *comprendido* de qué se trata la invitación al banquete.

La “hostia viva” es la persona que cada día se pregunta: Cómo puedo hacer mejor el día para mí... (esposa, hermano, compañero, etc.). La “hostia viva” es la persona que comprende que la belleza del sentido de la vida se comienza a vivir cuando se descubre que el secreto no es buscar siempre el número uno lleno -de egocentrismo y narcisismo-, como la sociedad nos invita, sino a ser siempre el número tres. O sea, primero Dios; segundo el hermano (especialmente el que sufre) y tercero yo. La “hostia viva” es el trabajador responsable, es el estudiante dedicado, es la madre que da todo por sus hijos, es el padre que sabe que su mayor misión es sostener su familia, tanto en lo económico, como en lo emocional, como en lo espiritual. La “hostia viva” lo es porque sabe que de esa manera se convierte en un mejor ser humano y su vida se vuelve agradable a Dios. Para resumir, la “hostia viva” ya está en el camino de la santidad y comprende que cada día es una nueva oportunidad de ser verdadero discípulo de Jesucristo.

Estás dispuesto/a a ser “hostia viva”? Dios tiene el banquete preparado para ti. Lo único que hace falta es tu respuesta, tu deseo de ser un verdadero sacrificio vivo, santo, aceptable a Dios. Lo único que falta es tu disposición para dejarte transformar interiormente, con una mentalidad nueva, para desde allí poder discernir la voluntad de Dios, la voluntad que te enseña lo que es bueno, aceptable y perfecto. (Rm 12, 1-2)

P. Nelson

# Mass Intentions

**SUNDAY, Sept. 11, 2016-Twenty-Fourth Sun. in Ordinary Time**

- 7:30** Annamma (Intentions-Good Health)
- 9:00** Victims of the World Trade Center Tragedy
- 10:30** Anna Bernarda Ayala  
Richard Soumagbo (Intentions)
- 12:00** Julio Medina  
Cumpleaños de la Virgen Maria (Legion)  
Christopher Arce Gonzalez  
Rita Leon
- 1:30** Job A.M.
- 5:00** Sarah Echevarria  
George Gisselbrecht  
Our Parishioners

**MONDAY, Sept. 12, 2016-Most Holy Name of Mary**

- 6:50** In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 8:30** In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 12:15** Carol J. Parker  
Marie-Denise Antoine
- 7:30** Elvis Lee Rosado

**TUESDAY, Sept. 13, 2016-Feast of St. John Chrysostom**

- 6:50** Grace and Jack G. Savino
- 8:30** Xavier Francis, Meera, Staven and  
Jair Joseph (Intentions)
- 12:15** Ralph A. Cerbone Jr.

**WEDNESDAY, Sept. 14, 2016-Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

- 6:50** Thomas Kilroy (Health-Intentions)
- 8:30** Catherine Carolan
- 12:15** Vincenzo and Dominica D'Agostino
- 7:30** Luis Manuel Vega Rodriguez  
Anibal Vasquez

**THURSDAY, September 15, 2016-Our Lady of Sorrows**

- 6:50** Alessandra Mia Savino (Intentions)
- 8:30** Joanne Savino's Intentions
- 12:15** Joseph E. Pedro

**FRIDAY, September 16, 2016-Feast of St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian**

- 6:50** In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 8:30** In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 12:15** Marie-Denise Antoine

**SATURDAY, Sept. 17, 2016-Feast of St. Robert Ballamine**

- 6:50** Telma Anith and Family (Intentions)
- 8:30** Kenneth O'Donnell
- 12:15** Marie-Denise Antoine
- 5:30** Michael J. Parker

**SUNDAY, Sept. 18, 2016-Twenty-Fifth Sun. in Ordinary Time**

- 7:30** Aleth Mercado  
Our Parishioners
- 9:00** Lerma Jamon, Gerardo Jabinal,  
Francisco Ramos and Norberto Sapinoso
- 10:30** Parish Feast Day Celebration  
Eduardo Hernandez  
Sarah Joseph  
Carlos and Mercedes Delgado
- 12:00** Oscar Amalio Nuñez  
Maria Cuadrado
- 1:30** Anthony Brennan
- 5:00** Roberto Caban

**Readings for the Week of September 11, 2016**

Sunday: Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10  
Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-10, 17/Lk 7:1-10  
Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 7:11-17  
Wednesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 28/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1, 6-8, 15/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10-14/Lk 8:4-15  
Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13