

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

September—October 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.churchofsthelenas.com

Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saint Helena parish



Bronx, NY

Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Saturday: 5:30 PM

<i>Sunday: AM</i>	<i>PM</i>
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:

*You are cordially invited to the
Institution of the Ministry of Acolyte upon
Br. Vinod Angadathu George, Sch.P.
and the Institution of the Ministry of Lector upon
Br. Ricardo David Rivera Ortiz, Sch.P.
on Saturday, October 22, 2016
during the 5:30 pm Holy Sacrifice of the Mass*

In 1973 Pope Paul VI issued the apostolic letter *Ministeria Quaedam*, establishing the lay ministries of lector and acolyte which are to be given to all candidates for Holy Orders. The ministries are conferred by the Ordinary (the bishop and, in clerical institutes, the major superior). Our Piarist Provincial from D.C., the Very Rev. Fernando Negro, Sch.P. will confirm the ministries.

A lector is a reader, while an acolyte is a person who is especially appointed by the Church to assist the deacon and to minister to the priest. His duty is to attend to the service of the altar, to prepare the water and wine, and to assist as needed in the celebration of the Mass. He may also distribute Holy Communion as an auxiliary minister at the Eucharistic liturgy and to the sick. An acolyte may be entrusted with publicly exposing the Blessed Sacrament for adoration but not with giving benediction. He may also, to the extent needed, take care of instructing other faithful who by appointment assist the priest or deacon by carrying the missal, cross, candles, and other similar functions. The ministry of acolyte is reserved to men.

An interval, determined by the Holy See or the conferences of bishops, is observed between the conferring of the ministries of lector and acolyte whenever more than one ministry is conferred on the same person. Unless they have already done so, candidates for ordination as deacons and priests are to receive the ministries of lector and acolyte and are to exercise them for a suitable time, in order to be better disposed for the future service of the word and of the altar. There is to be an interval of at least six months between the conferral of the ministry of acolyte and the diaconate.

Fr. David

St. Luke - Feast October 18

Luke, the writer of the Gospel and the *Acts of the Apostles*, has been identified with St. Paul's "Luke, the beloved physician" (Colossians 4:14). We know few other facts about Luke's life from Scripture and from early Church historians.

It is believed that Luke was born a Greek and a Gentile. According to the early Church historian Eusebius, Luke was born at Antioch in Syria. In our day, it would be easy to assume that someone who was a doctor was rich, but scholars have argued that Luke might have been born a slave. It was not uncommon for families to educate slaves in medicine so that they would have a resident family physician. Not only do we have Paul's word, but Eusebius, Saint Jerome, and Saints Irenaeus and Caius, a second-century writer, all refer to Luke as a physician.

We have to go to Acts to follow the trail of Luke's Christian ministry. We know nothing about his conversion but looking at the language of Acts we can see where he joined Saint Paul. The story

of the Acts is written in the third person, as an historian recording facts, up until the sixteenth chapter. Then suddenly in 16:10, when Paul was in Troas, "they" becomes "we": "When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them." Thus, it seems Luke first joined Paul's company at Troas in about the year 51 and accompanied him into Macedonia where they traveled first to Samothrace, Neapolis, and finally Philippi. Luke then switches back to the third person which seems to indicate he was not thrown into prison with Paul and that when Paul left Philippi, Luke stayed behind to encourage the Church there. Seven years passed before Paul returned to the area on his third missionary journey. In Acts 20:5, the switch to "we" tells us that Luke has left Philippi to rejoin Paul in Troas in 58 where they first met up, and they traveled together through Miletus, Tyre, and Caesarea, to Jerusalem.

Luke is the loyal comrade who stays with Paul when he is imprisoned in Rome about the year 61: "Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, sends greetings to you, and so do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers" (Philemon 24). And after everyone else deserts Paul in his final imprisonment and sufferings, it is Luke who remains with Paul to the end: "Only Luke is with me" (2 Timothy 4:11). Luke's inspiration and information for his Gospel and Acts came from his close association with Paul and his companions as he explains in his introduction to the Gospel: "Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus" (Luke 1:1-3).

Luke's unique perspective on Jesus can be seen in the six miracles and eighteen parables not found in the other gospels. Luke's gospel shows special sensitivity to evangelizing Gentiles. It is only in his gospel that we hear the parable of the Good Samaritan, that we hear Jesus praising the faith of Gentiles such as the widow of Zarephath and Naaman the Syrian (Lk.4:25-27), and that we hear the story of the one grateful leper who is a Samaritan (Lk.17:11-19). Luke's is the gospel of the poor and of social justice. He is the one who tells the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man who ignored him. Luke is the one who uses "Blessed are the poor" instead of "Blessed are the poor in spirit" in the beatitudes. Only in Luke's gospel do we hear Mary's Magnificat where she proclaims that God "has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty" (Luke 1:52-53).

Luke also has a special connection with the women in Jesus' life, especially Mary. It is only in Luke's gospel that we hear the story of the Annunciation, Mary's visit to Elizabeth including the Magnificat, the Presentation, and the story of Jesus' disappearance in Jerusalem. It is Luke that we have to thank for the Scriptural parts of the Hail Mary: "Hail Mary full of grace" spoken at the Annunciation and "Blessed are you and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus" spoken by her cousin Elizabeth.

Forgiveness and God's mercy to sinners is also of primary importance to Luke. Only in Luke do we hear the story of the Prodigal Son welcomed back by the overjoyed father. Only in Luke do we hear the story of the forgiven woman disrupting the feast by washing Jesus' feet with her tears. Throughout Luke's gospel, Jesus takes the side of the sinner who wants to return to God's mercy. Reading Luke's gospel gives a good idea of his character as one who loved the poor, who wanted the door to God's kingdom opened to all, who respected women, and who saw hope in God's mercy for everyone.



The reports of Luke's life after Paul's death are conflicting. Some early writers claim he was martyred by being hung on an olive tree, others say he lived a long life. Some say he preached in Greece, others in Gaul. The earliest tradition we have says that he died at 84 in Boeotia after settling in Greece to write his Gospel.

A tradition begun in the eighth century that Luke was the first icon painter seems to have no basis in fact. Several images of Mary appeared in later centuries claiming him as a painter, but many of these claims were proved false. The St. Thomas Christians of India say that they still have an icon of Mary said to have been painted by St. Luke and brought to India by St. Thomas. Because of this tradition, he is considered a patron of painters of pictures and is often portrayed as painting pictures of Mary.

He is often shown with a winged ox or a calf because these are the symbols of sacrifice -- the sacrifice Jesus made for all the world. St. Luke is the patron of physicians and surgeons.

ALUMNI REUNION COMMITTEE MEMBERS GREATLY NEEDED:

We are planning THREE St. Helena School alumni reunions. One for the classes 1940-1969, a second for the classes 1970-1999, and a third for the classes 2000-2016. We are NOW looking for people from those years who are willing to give of their time and talent to serve on one of the three committees that we are forming to plan those celebrations. We really need your help. Please either call the rectory at **718-892-3232** or send an email to sthelenarc@yahoo.com to let us know that you would like to participate in planning your special alumni event.

OPEN HOUSE FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE BRONX

Cardinal Spellman	10/23 (Sunday)	11AM-3PM
Cathedral	10/23 (Sunday)	12-2:30PM
Mt. St. Ursula	10/23 (Sunday)	10AM-1PM
Loyola	10/26 (Wednesday)	5:30PM
Notre Dame (Manhattan)	10/30 (Sunday)	2:30-5PM
St. Catherine's	10/23 (Sunday)	11AM-2PM
St. Raymond's Boys	10/16 (Sunday)	12-3:30PM
Xavier	10/22 (Saturday)	1-4PM

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT:

St. Helena's is happy to announce that this weekend, we will be starting both an adult and a children's choir. A long tradition of musical excellence has been a part of our St. Helena heritage. We are excited to grow and nourish this extraordinary part of worship under the leadership of our Music Director, Patrick Marques. Patrick has had a long list of professional music accomplishments including a debut with Carnegie Hall as tenor soloist and being on the musical staff at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Mr. Marques received his training at Westminster Choir College and has been directing choirs and serving as an organist since he was 17 years old. Rehearsals and Sung Choir Masses will begin today on **October 16, 2016**.

Rehearsal/Mass Schedule as follows:

Children's Choir:

8:30AM Rehearsal - 9:00AM Mass

Adult Choir:

10:00AM Rehearsal - 10:30AM Mass

If you enjoy singing, everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Banns of Marriage

I-Luis Loja-Rosa Loja

50/50 DRAWING: The Oct. 2 winners are: No. 86 & No. 116 @ \$31

- **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES HAVE BEGUN** for the **2016-2017** school year. However, you may still register for First Communion, Confirmation, RCIA or regular religious education classes with Fr. Richard at the rectory during the weekdays.
- **ADULT SACRAMENT PREPARATION**-Classes have begun for adults who would like to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation. Spanish sessions take place every **Sunday** from **10-11:15AM** in the green building. English sessions take place every **Sunday** from **3-4PM** in the downstairs rectory meeting room. The sacraments will be received at the Easter Vigil in **April 2017**. If you are interested in these classes, contact Fr. Richard or call the rectory at **718-892-3232** and leave your contact information.
- **BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** for October will be held at **7PM** on **October 27**. Bring a copy of the child's birth certificate.
- **PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE** will arrive at St. Helena on **Saturday, October 29** following the **5:30PM Mass**. Adoration will take place from **6:30-8PM**. The statue will remain at St. Helena's until **Saturday, November 5** at **3:30PM**.
- **SPANISH ADVENT RETREAT** on **Sat., December 3** from **Noon-6PM** in the gym.
- **BIBLE STUDY**-The Fall Semester class is Church History. It meets every Tuesday both at **1PM** and **7:30PM** in the green building. This Tuesday, we will begin our discussion of the Crusades. You can attend one class or as many as you like.
- **FOUNDATIONS OF OUR CATHOLIC FAITH** is conducted in Spanish by Fr. Nelson every Tuesday evening from **7-8:30PM** in the cafeteria.
- **SPANISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING** takes place every **Monday** evening at **7PM**.
- **FLEA MARKET-Sunday, October 23** from **10AM-3PM**.
- **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**-We are seeking donations for and people to help at St. Helena's Annual Christmas Bazaar, which will take place on **Sunday, November 27** from **10AM-5PM** in the Parish Hall. Included in the day's events will be the drawing of the Thanksgiving Raffle, as well as a variety of ethnic foods, religious items, clothes, crafts, jewelry, gift items, and a special surprise guest appearance. Donations can be brought to the rectory.
- **CHRISTMAS PARTY PLANNING MEETING** on **Monday, October 17** from **8-9PM** to begin planning for the upcoming **December 17** Parish Christmas Party. All are welcome to attend.
- **FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED**-If you have a degree in business or accounting or have experience running a business or managing money, etc., then we would like you to consider joining the Parish Finance Council. If you are interested, please call the Rectory at **718-892-3233**.
- **PARISH BOOKSTORE** is open every **Sunday** from **8:30AM to 1PM**. Now Available in the Bookstore:

OCTOBER 16, 2016

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday, October 9, 2016 \$3,695.21
St. Patrick's Cathedral \$1,003.15

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. We have some major capital repair expenses coming up. Perhaps because of the holiday weekend, we did not reach 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.

St. Patrick's Cathedral. A beautiful book with dozens of unseen photos. The book retails for \$40, but it is now ON SALE in the bookstore, along with Mother Teresa Holy Cards, also available in English and Spanish.

- **ST. HELENA BOY SCOUT TROOP 65** is welcoming new members. The Troop celebrates its 65th Anniversary this year. Meetings are held every **Wednesday** from **6:30-8PM** in the school cafeteria. We invite you to come and see what scouting may offer you.
- **75th ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST MASS CELEBRATED AT ST. HELENA**-On Oct. 4, 1941, Msgr. Scanlan celebrated in the church auditorium the First Mass at Saint Helena's. Our First Mass in the Church was Christmas Midnight Mass.
- **REGISTER ON A FREE CATHOLIC INTERNET SITE** St. Helena's Parish NOW has a free 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 and programs, enjoy music, e-books and much more. A number of Spanish-language resources are also available. So far, 24 parishioners have registered. It is very easy to register with **FORMED**. FIRST go to formed.org and click the REGISTER link in the middle of the page; enter the parish code **2KQQYD** and your email, then click "Go." Fill in the registration information. After registering, you will receive a message asking you to verify your email address. Check your email (it may be in your spam folder) and click **VERIFY**. You will be prompted to login. You can then enjoy using **FORMED**. We will be using it for many upcoming parish programs and activities.
- **CARNEGIE HALL GOSPEL CONCERT**-Carnegie Hall's 2016-17 season has been announced, and one of the concerts offered this season will be *A Night of Inspiration* a wonderful program of gospel music led by composer, music director and producer Ray Chew on **Tues., Dec. 6 at 8PM**. The concert features Dionne Warwick and the New Faith Church Choir from Capetown, South Africa. Tickets are now available to groups of 15 or more. Is there enough interest in having a group go from the parish? Ticket prices are as follows:

\$81.00 - Parquet
\$72.90 (front) or \$54.90 - Dress Circle
\$30.50 - Dress Circle Obstructed View
\$32.40 (\$27 if paid for right away) - Balcony
\$18.00- Balcony Obstructed View

If you are interested in attending this Gospel Concert, please call the rectory at **718-892-3232** and let us know which ticket you would like to order, and as soon as we have requests for 15 tickets, we shall place the group order.

- **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**-A Bereavement Support Group has been formed at St. Helena. The group is intended for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one or a dear friend. It meets at **11AM** on **Saturdays** in the green building. To register or for more information about this program, contact either: Jessica Perez at jeniperez_s@yahoo.com or Stephanie Colon at srcolon610@gmail.com or **917-504-4455**
- **SICK AND DECEASED** members of the parish are remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful. 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 call the rectory at **718-892-3232**, and let us know about their condition.
- **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**.
- **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**.
- **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.
- **FOOD COUPONS**-Thank you for the restaurant coupons you give us. We have many people who come to the Rectory asking for money for a meal, and your donation greatly helps them.

PARISH AND SCHOOL FINANCIAL REPORT

I present to you our Financial Report for both this past year (September 1, 2015 - August 31, 2016), as well as the previous year. This is the report that each pastor is asked to submit to the Archdiocese. This report represents your active support for our school and parish. Despite the economic difficulties experienced by our country and our area, your support of St. Helena remains strong. Please note that we were especially blessed by a generous bequest this year which greatly improved our financial situation. We already know that we will have some major Capital Expenses this year, as we will have to replace both the boilers and the air conditioning compressors, along with all their respective pipes and duct work, as well as install a handicap bathroom for the Church. Therefore, we must ask you to be especially generous this year and to increase your weekly contribution as much as possible to help us with these necessary and extraordinary expenses. Please accept my deepest thanks as this is truly a wonderful testimony of your love for St. Helena.

PARISH ANNUAL REPORT (2015-2016)

PARISH INCOME:	2014-15	2015-16
Regular Sunday Collection	\$217,633	\$235,405
Holy Day collections	22,444	29,886
Vigil Light Offerings	17,701	17,439
Gratuities & Perks	6,936	18,788
Poor Box, Books & Pamphlets	2,477	3,611
Book Store	2,505	3,669
Fundraising	21,082	51,703
Donations and Bequests	\$319,751	\$112,539
UPK Rental Income		65,120
Religious Education	6,042	2,973
Investment Income	33,009	32,926
Restricted Fund Income	50,008	
Other Revenues	11,982	7,709
TOTAL INCOME	\$711,570	\$581,768

PARISH EXPENSES:		
Clergy Salaries	\$171,119	\$132,891
Staff Salaries	52,000	64,148
Office Supplies & Expenses	64,091	111,081
Religious Education	1,227	12,542
Utilities	50,587	52,620
Repairs and Maintenance	72,848	26,385
Taxes and Insurance	50,232	55,521
Living Expenses	32,632	21,494
Interest to Archdiocese		1,337
Diocesan Assesments	37,764	48,326
Other Expenses		2,505
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$532,500	\$528,850
Income—Expenses	+ \$179,070	+\$52,918

SCHOOL INCOME		
Tuition	\$1,200,054	\$1,783,994
Fundraising	69,798	31,289
Grants	27,992	300
Scholarships	126,000	117,165
Donations	44,994	19,137
Governmental	128,471	280,690
Other	8,787	34,168
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,606,096	\$2,266,743

SCHOOL EXPENSES		
Salaries and Benefits	\$1,215,026	\$1,647,513
Office and Clerical Support	54,767	31,473
Educational Department Expenses	48,769	144,203
Utilities	85,630	74,613
Repairs and Maintenance	45,237	51,108
Taxes and Insurance	50,571	104,315
Fundraising Expenses	20,917	15,957
School Program Expenses	31,987	59,069
Other Expenses	930	5,388
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,553,834	\$2,133,639
Income—Expenses	+ \$ 52,262	+\$ 133,104

SCHOOL NEWS

- BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**-St. Helena School receives 10 cents for each Box Top For Education box top that you clip and give to us. There are hundreds of products that carry the special Box Top For Education symbol. You may send them to the school with your child or drop them in the collection basket at Mass. Your support is much appreciated.



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 Waldropt, Milagro Vasquez, Juana Carmen Rodriguez, Ynes Tavarez, Theresa Delevan, Neil Duggan, Humberto Prieto, Fr. Jesús Alvarez Ferat, Sch.P., Jenny Mauro, Jimmy Mauro, Mariana Rivera, Sonia Candelario, Justin Abreu, Annissa Ramratansingh, Catherine Gregson

Please Pray for the Deceased and their Grieving Families:

Alberto Mendoza, Shanta Cruz, Eulalia Balaguer, Msgr. Robert F. McCormick, Adele Palau, Kelmy Rodriguez, Rev. Gerard D. O'Shea, Feliciano de Jesus, Fr. Thomas McDonald, Emelina Ramirez, Alvaro Jorge, Nero Wells, Jorge Sotomayor, Gregorio Rodrigues Carrillo

- ASPIRA** is our new, free, after-school program for students in grades 5-8. For information about this exciting program here at St. Helena, contact Lori Medina at 347-404-4929 or e-mail her at Lmedina@nyaspira.org
- TACHS Registration Deadline is Monday, October 17.**
- HALLOWEEN PARTY-Oct. 29, Noon-1:30PM** in gym.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HALL OF FAME AWARDS DINNER** at Monsignor Scanlan High School on **Saturday, October 22** from **5-9PM**. The dinner will recognize the contributions of: Dave Smith '60, Ann Pavelka Smith '62, Michael Mullen '55, Thomas Renaghan '56, Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P., and Br. Joseph Maura, FMS. Even if you cannot attend, you may purchase a journal ad or a sponsorship for this event. For more information, call **718-430-0100 X13**.
- FIGHT BACK SELF DEFENSE**-This is an intense and extensive practical, hands on physical self defense workshop for women and teen girls on **Saturday, Oct. 22** at **2-4PM** at 2132 E. Tremont Ave. Be on time and dress comfortably. Violent crimes are being committed against women, teens and children everyday! Avoid being a victim.
- 2016 ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK MEN'S CONFERENCE** will take place on **Saturday, October 29** at the Westchester Hilton in Rye Brook, featuring Hall of Fame Baseball Player Mike Piazza and Al Kelly, the planner for Super Bowl XLVIII and the Papal Visit to NYC. Closing Mass with Timothy Cardinal Dolan. **COST: \$50**. Registration begins at **11AM**. Conference includes lunch, and there will be an opportunity for confession during the day. Group reservations are available, so please contact the rectory at **718-892-3232** if you are interested in attending, as a bus will be going to it from here.
- BLESSED AMONG US-Day by Day with Saintly Witnesses** is the title of a **FREE** lecture given by Robert Ellsberg, publisher of Orbis Books, on **Sunday, Oct. 30** at **2:30PM** at Maryknoll, 55 Ryder Road, Ossining.
- ADORATION CHAPEL**-Holy Cross Parish, 620 Thieriot Avenue, has an Adoration Chapel, which is open **Monday-Friday from 10AM - 9PM**.
- CATHOLIC VOLUNTEER NETWORK**-Check out **RESPONSE 2017**, which is a free guide listing nearly 200 faith-based volunteer programs. Volunteers serve full-time

for periods of one week to one year or more. To receive a free copy of *RESPONSE 2017*, call **800-543-5046** or e-mail info@catholicvolunteernetwork.org. Website: www.catholicvolunteernetwork.org for more info.

- **HEALTHY PETS PROJECT OF NYC** provides a free or low cost spay/neuter program with vaccines; pet food, leash, bowls and toys for one month; and referrals to low-cost vets in your area. Applications must be made online at: <http://www.healthypetsnyc.org/contact-us.html>
- **ADULT DAY CARE AVAILABLE** - Do you have a loved one WHO IS ON MEDICAID and is elderly or has a physical or mental disability? Then you may be interested in finding out about The Heart Social Adult Day Care Center, located near St. Helena at 2011 Westchester Avenue. The Center is open 9AM-2PM, and transportation is provided. For more information on this exciting program, contact Carmen at **718-215-1177 X202**.
- **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.
- **WIC** is now being offered near St. Helena's at the Morris Heights Health Center, 2019 Westchester Avenue, Bx. WIC services will be available **Mon.-Fri.** from **8:30AM - 5PM**.
- **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
- **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

ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

IMPORTANTE: La serie **PRO-VIDA** se ha pospuesto. Ya les informaré al respecto. Estén atentos, por favor.

- **FLEA MARKET:** El próximo **domingo 23 de Octubre** tendremos Flea Market. Ven para llevarte buenas ofertas y ayudar a la Iglesia.
- **DONACIONES:** Estamos de nuevo aceptando donaciones para nuestro Flea Market y para prepararnos para el Flea Market anual que se celebrará el 27 de Noviembre. Agradecemos tu donación de objetos que estén en buen estado.
- **BIBLIAS:** La Biblia es clave en tu encuentro con Jesucristo quien es la Palabra de Dios en medio de nosotros. Tenemos Biblias a buen precio en el Bookstore para que las uses en tu crecimiento de vida de fe.
- **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**.
- **ESTATUA DE LA VIRGEN PEREGRINA DE GUADALUPE:** Prepárate, estará llegando a nuestra parroquia el **Sábado 29 de Octubre** después de la misa de 5.30 pm. Tendremos **Adoración Eucarística** y oración hasta las **8 pm**.

- **RETIRO DE ADVIENTO:** El **sábado 3 de Noviembre, de 12 m a las 6 pm**, tendremos el *Retiro de Adviento* de la parroquia. Tendremos música y la predicación del P. Nelson en el gimnasio de la escuela.
- **GRUPO DE ORACIÓN:** Todos los **lunes de 7 pm a 9 pm**. Ven a alabar al Señor con tus hermanos y hermanas!!!
- **MIERCOLES DE LA MISERICORDIA:** Todos los **miércoles a las 7 pm**. Ven a dar gracias a Dios por su misericordia. Música, Coronilla de la Misericordia. Adoración al Santísimo, Eucaristía. La estatua de la Virgen se quedará con nosotros hasta el **Sábado 5 de Noviembre a las 3.30 pm**. La despediremos con el rezo del rosario.
- **LEGION DE MARIA:** Todos los **viernes a las 7 pm**, ven a rezar el Rosario y a planear servicio a la comunidad.
- **AGUA BENDITA:** En nuestra fe Católica los sacramentos son centrales porque nos ayudan a “hacer visible” la presencia de Dios en nuestras vidas. Existen otras cosas que nos ayudan a estar conscientes de esa presencia de amor y misericordia. Una de ellas es el agua. Ven a la rectoría y lleva agua bendita a tu casa. Úsala con fe ara agradecer al Señor el que siempre está contigo, amándote, perdonándote y protegiéndote.

BUEN DIA, HERMANOS:

La semana pasada hemos terminado con la carta de San Pablo a los Gálatas. Sabemos que se trata de una carta en la que él advierte que el cristiano no se guía ya por la “**ley**” o la “**torah**” del Antiguo Testamento. **A qué nos referimos cuando hablamos acerca de la ley?** Según la tradición hebrea, los cinco libros del **Pentateuco**: Génesis, Exodo, Levítico, Números, y Deuteronomio, fueron escritos por Moisés, quien recibió la revelación directamente de Dios en el Monte Sinaí. Por eso, “la ley” se comprende como *la instrucción dada por Dios para su pueblo, a través de Moisés*.

Cuando algunos de los cristianos de Galicia comienzan a aferrarse a la ley, estaban de alguna forma rechazando el Evangelio de Jesús. Pablo les recuerda: “Los cristianos ya **no dependemos** de la ley antigua, porque Cristo nos ha liberado para vivir en libertad. Por eso insiste en la necesidad de estar **firmes** en la fe en el Señor. Recordemos que la ley fue un paso en la obra pedagógica de Dios, que con amor y paciencia educa a su pueblo en el **verdadero espíritu** de Dios, que llega a su **plenitud** en Jesucristo. No rechazamos la ley de Moisés, pero ahora en Jesucristo está la plenitud de la revelación de Dios.

Uno de los riesgos en nuestro camino es querer aferrarnos a las cosas del pasado. Por ejemplo, los Israelitas, cuando comenzaron su peregrinaje hacia la Tierra Prometida guiados por Moisés, quisieron regresar a la esclavitud de antes cuando los retos del desierto comenzaron en su vida. Esto nos da la oportunidad de reflexionar acerca de nuestra propia experiencia de fe: ¿Podemos a veces sentir la tentación de “regresar” al *antiguo estilo de vida*, cuando comenzamos a descubrir las exigencias de ser discípulos de Cristo? Allí es cuando Pablo nos aconseja mantenernos firmes, porque el verdadero **Espíritu** de Dios lo encontraremos sólo en **Jesús**, quien siendo el Hijo enviado por el **Padre**, nos quiere llevar a la verdadera libertad.

Jesús mismo, en su naturaleza humana (aunque nunca sin dejar de ser Dios), nos mostró lo que es caminar en **libertad interior**: vivir una vida de coherencia con nuestra fe, con fidelidad, no por interés o por miedo, sino por el amor y la convicción de saber en quien depositamos nuestra confianza. El Señor nos quiere liberar de tanta moda permisiva que en el mundo hace esclavos a

quienes caen en sus garras, quitando a tantas personas y, desafortunadamente a tantos jóvenes en particular, la alegría de vivir y de reconocerse con la dignidad de ser verdaderamente hijos de Dios.

No es el observar la ley lo que nos salva, es la fe en Jesucristo, nos recuerda Pablo. El cristiano aprende, poco a poco, a moverse con libertad interior, con la libertad de hijo de Dios. Es aprender a dejarse mover por el Espíritu de Cristo y no por los legalismos exagerados, que fue lo que sucedió con la ley y por lo cual Jesús criticó tanto a los fariseos. Ellos se fiaban más de las *prácticas externas* que de los méritos por la gracia de Dios.

Lo que importa, según Pablo, es la *fe activa en al práctica del amor*. Esto es un gran reto para el cristiano y un gran compromiso con Dios. La libertad no se os ha dado precisamente para hacer lo que queremos, sino para *comprometernos a ser discípulos de Cristo*. Y lo más exigente es lo que Jesús más enseñó: el amor desinteresado, el amor que lo da todo. Un buen ejemplo lo tenemos en la familia cuando los hijos obedecen, no por miedo al castigo de los padres, sino por amor y por corresponsabilidad. Así es nuestra relación con Dios.

Cuando Pablo habla de libertad y de relativizar ‘las obras de la ley’, se refiere a que es la acción del Espíritu la que supera totalmente la acción de la ley. Es el Espíritu el que nos ayuda a descubrir como hacer visible la fe en Jesús a través de la práctica del *amor desinteresado*.

La carta a los Gálatas termina con una doble lista que debemos tener siempre presente: las **obras de la carne** y los **frutos del Espíritu**. Cuando Pablo habla de las **obras de la carne**, se refiere a lo que hacemos con nuestras solas fuerzas, a la mentalidad meramente humana que nos inclina al pecado, a la impureza, a la idolatría, a la falta de control de nosotros mismos, a nuestra falta de buena relación con los demás. En otras palabras, a todas esas actitudes que se oponen al Espíritu que nos dió Jesús, al Evangelio que Él nos enseñó.

Lo contrario de las obras de la carne son “**los frutos del Espíritu**”. Ellos son los que se deben ver en nuestra conducta: dominio de sí mismo, paz y alegría y sobre todo entrega amable y desinteresada por los demás. Allí tenemos un buen espejo en donde mirarnos y reflexionar con sinceridad.

El discípulo de Jesucristo es llamado a **crucificar en su carne** sus pasiones y sus deseos, eso es *morir al hombre viejo*. Jesús murió crucificado en la cruz por nuestros pecados. Nosotros aprendemos a ‘crucificar’ nuestros pecados por amor a Él. Es una tarea larga y llena de retos, es también la más bella tarea que el Señor nos ha dejado, pues es allí en donde encontramos nuestra plenitud, nuestra libertad y el sentido de la vida.

Es allí, en la crucifixión de pecado que somos verdaderamente humanos, a imagen de Aquel que lo dió todo por nosotros. Cuando nos dejamos llevar por los celos, la envidia, el chisme, las borracheras, el libertinaje, el rencor, etc, no estamos viviendo según Cristo, sino según la carne.

Pero en la medida que maduramos en nuestra fe, comenzamos a seguir, a comprender, a amar el Espíritu que Jesús nos dejó, el mismo Espíritu que nos da vida desde el Bautismo. Y quien sigue con confianza las enseñanzas del Espíritu (*que nos recuerda todo lo que Jesús nos enseñó y nos ayuda a profundizar en su misterio*) comienza a ver en su propia experiencia los frutos de esa relación con el Espíritu: el dominio de sí, la alegría y la paz. La comprensión, generosidad y bondad con los demás. En todas esas actitudes se reconoce a la persona que camina según el Espíritu, no como apariencia, sino como fruto de una honesta e íntima relación con Dios.

Por lo tanto, estamos siempre llamados por Dios a elegir **sus** caminos y no los del mundo. Los caminos de Dios son los movidos por la fe y por el amor, o sea, los movidos por el Espíritu de Cristo.

P. Nelson

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, Oct. 16, 2016-Twenty-Ninth Sun. in Ordinary Time

7:30 Bridget and Pat Joe Early

9:00 Candita Rivera and Victor Rivera

(Birthday-Anniversary)

10:30 For the Soul of Annamma

12:00 Christopher Arce Gonzalez

Faustino Rivas

Rufino Arismendiz (Birthday and

Esmerita Arevalo (Birthday Intentions)

Gudelia Saavedra Mendez (por su eterno

descanzo)

Ana Gonzalez (Intentions)

1:30 In Thanksgiving for Favors

5:00 Brandon Gutierrez

Our Parishioners

MONDAY, October 17, 2016-Feast of St. Ignatius of Antioch

6:50 For the Soul of Annamma

8:30 Magalie Fonvil (Intentions)

12:15 Jermelle Fraser (Intentions)

TUESDAY, October 18, 2016-Feast of St. Luke

6:50 For the Soul of Annamma

8:30 For Grandparents who are Being Denied the Right to Visit Their Grandchildren

12:15 Fr. John Grange (Third Anniversary) and

Fr. Gerald Ryan

WEDNESDAY, October 19, 2016-Feast of St. John de Brébeuf and St. Isaac Jogues and Companions

6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors

8:30 In Thanksgiving for Favors

12:15 Dominica and Vincenzo D'Agostino

7:30 Asuncion Tepales and Livorio Tepale

THURSDAY, October 20, 2016-Feast of St. Paul of the Cross

6:50 Tricia Briska (Intentions)

8:30 Karl-Henry Schmidt (Intentions)

12:15 Msgr. Arthur J. Scanlan

FRIDAY, October 21, 2016-Feast of St. Berthold

6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors

8:30 Jean-Raphael Antoine (Intentions)

12:15 St. Helena's Benefactors

SATURDAY, October 22, 2016-Feast of Pope St. John Paul II,

6:50 Telma Anith and Family (Intentions)

8:30 Jean-Raphael Antoine (Intentions)

12:15 Fr. David Delzell

5:30 Innocentia Gidi (Thanksgiving Mass)

SUNDAY, October 23, 2016-Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 Stephanie Holt (Intentions)

9:00 Edith Louis

10:30 Aurea Andujar (First Anniversary)

12:00 Mark Anthony Padilla and Francisca Lopez

Brandon Chiavarria (1-Year Death Anniv.)

1:30 Florence & Christopher Houssou (Intentions)

5:00 Our Parishioners

Readings for the Week of October 16, 2016

Sunday: Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-8/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1-5/Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9

Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-6/Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-5/Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14