

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

October—November 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

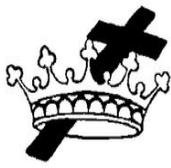
www.churchofsthelenarc.com

Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saínt 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.

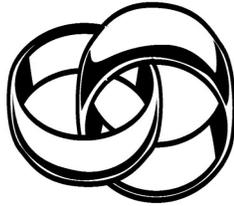


Handicapped Accessible

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR:

IS YOUR MARRIAGE A SACRAMENTAL MARRIAGE?

Recently, a parishioner approached me and said that she was told that her marriage was not considered a "sacramental marriage" because even though she had been married by a priest in a Catholic Church, she had married a baptized non-Catholic which made her marriage non sacramental, and she was rightly very upset about it. What she was told **was not correct**, and I suspect there are several parishioners who are not sure just what is the ecclesial status of their marriage. Thus, it is important to review just what does constitute a sacramental marriage.



The *Code of Canon Law* recognizes that, "a valid matrimonial contract cannot exist between the baptized without it being by that fact a sacrament" (CIC 1055 §2). In fact, there are two key requirements for a marriage to be a **sacramental marriage**: (1) the marriage must be valid; and (2) both parties must be baptized.

To be in a valid marriage, Catholics must meet certain requirements of canon law including the obligation to observe the Church's form of marriage celebration or to be dispensed from that form. This applies to every Catholic, even when marrying a non-Catholic.

All valid marriages between Catholics are sacramental because you can't be Catholic without being baptized. However, a valid marriage between a Catholic and a baptized non-Catholic is **also sacramental**, while a valid marriage between a Catholic and a non-baptized person is not.

Non-Catholics are not generally under the authority of canon law concerning marriage, so marriages between non-Catholics are generally recognized to be valid unless proven otherwise. Some of these marriages are sacramental (when both parties are baptized) and some are not (when one or both are not baptized).

Marriage is a practice common to all cultures in all ages. It is a natural institution, which is something common to all mankind. At its most basic level, **marriage is a union between a man and a woman for the purpose of procreation, as well as mutual support and love**. Each spouse in a marriage gives up some rights over his or her life in exchange for rights over the life of the other spouse.

While divorce has existed throughout history, it has been rare until recent centuries, which indicates that, even in its natural form, marriage is meant to be a lifelong union. Fundamentally, there are four elements that have been common to natural marriage throughout history:

- 1 It is a union of opposite sexes.
- 2 It is a lifelong union, ending only with the death of one spouse.
- 3 It excludes a union with any other person so long as the marriage exists.
- 4 Its lifelong nature and exclusiveness are guaranteed by contract.

Thus, even at a natural level, divorce, adultery, and "same sex unions" are not compatible with marriage, and a lack of commitment means that no marriage has taken place.

In the Catholic Church, marriage is more than a natural institution; it was elevated by Christ Himself, during His participation in the wedding at Cana, to be one of the seven sacraments. A marriage between two Christians, therefore, has a supernatural element as well as a natural one. While few Christians outside of the Catholic

and Orthodox Churches regard marriage as a sacrament, the Catholic Church insists that **marriage between any two baptized Christians, as long as it is entered into with the intention to contract a true marriage, is a sacrament**.

And how, you may ask, can a marriage between two non-Catholic but baptized Christians be a sacrament, if a Catholic priest does not perform the marriage? Most people, including many Roman Catholics, do not realize that **the ministers of the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony are the spouses themselves**. While the Church strongly encourages Catholics to marry in the presence of a priest (and to have a wedding Mass, if both prospective spouses are Catholic), strictly speaking, a priest is not needed.

The spouses are the ministers of the sacrament of marriage because the mark—the external sign—of the sacrament is not the wedding Mass or anything the priest might do but the marriage contract itself. This does not refer to the wedding license that the couple receives from the state, but, rather, the vows that each spouse makes to the other. As long as each spouse intends to contract a true marriage, the sacrament is performed.

The effect of the sacrament is **an increase in sanctifying grace for the spouses and a participation in the divine life of God Himself**. This "sanctifying grace" helps each spouse to help the other advance in holiness, and it helps them together to cooperate in God's plan of redemption by raising up children in the Faith. In this way, sacramental marriage is more than a union of a man and a woman; it is, in fact, a type and symbol of the divine union between Christ, the Bridegroom, and His Church, the Bride. As married Christians, open to the creation of new life and committed to our mutual salvation, we participate not only in God's creative act but in the redemptive act of Christ. *Fr. David*

St. John of Capistrano and the Famous Swallows - Feast: October 23

St. John was born at Capistrano, Italy in 1385, the son of a former German knight in that city. He studied law at the University of Perugia and practiced as a lawyer in the courts of Naples. King Ladislas of Naples appointed him governor of Perugia. During a war with a neighboring town he was betrayed and imprisoned. Upon his release he entered the Franciscan community at Perugia in 1416. He and St. James of the March were fellow students under St. Bernardine of Siena, who inspired him to institute the devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus and His Mother. John began his brilliant preaching apostolate with a deacon in 1420. After his ordination, he traveled throughout Italy, Germany, Bohemia, Austria, Hungary, Poland, and Russia preaching penance and



establishing numerous communities of Franciscan renewal. When Mohammed II was threatening Vienna and Rome, St. John, at the age of seventy, was commissioned by Pope Callistus III to preach and lead a crusade against the invading Turks. Marching at the head of seventy thousand Christians, he gained victory in the great battle of Belgrade against the Turks in 1456. Three months later he died at Illok, Hungary. His feast day is October 23. He is the patron of jurists.

Now, about those cliff swallows who are about to leave California and fly down to Argentina. The miracle of the "Swallows" of Capistrano takes place each year at Mission San Juan Capistrano, beginning on March 19th, St. Joseph's Day and ending October 23rd. As the faithful little birds wing their way back from South America to the most famous mission in California, the village of San Juan Capistrano takes on a fiesta air, and visitors from all parts of the

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

world and all walks of life gather in great numbers to witness the "miracle" of the return of the swallows. At dawn on St. Joseph's Day, the little birds arrive and begin rebuilding their mud nests, which are clinging to the ruins of the Great Stone Church of San Juan Capistrano. The arches of the two story, vaulted Great Stone Church were left bare and exposed after the roof collapsed during the earthquake of 1812. The Great Stone Church, said to be the largest and most ornate in any of the missions, now has a more humble destiny — that of housing the birds that St. Francis loved so well. After the summer spent within the sheltered walls of the Old Mission in San Juan Capistrano, the swallows take flight again, and on the Feast Day of St. John of Capistrano, October 23rd, they leave after circling the Mission bidding farewell to the "Jewel of the Missions."

PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: The Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe will arrive by procession at St. Helena on **Saturday, October 29**. A procession will leave 1132 St. Lawrence Avenue at **6PM** to bring the statue to St. Helena Church. The rosary will be recited during the procession. The statue will arrive at St. Helena's around **6:45PM**, and a Spanish Mass will take place at **7PM**. The statue will remain in the church at St. Helena's until **Saturday, November 5 at 3:30PM**, when it will be brought to St. Anthony Church.

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

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT:

St. Helena's is happy to announce that we have initiated 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 musical accomplishments including a debut with Carnegie Hall as tenor soloist, and singing lead roles as well as being on the music ministry 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 are as follows:

Children's Choir:

8:30 am Rehearsal - 9:00 am Mass

Adult Choir:

10:00 am Rehearsal - 10:30 am Mass

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.

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.

REAL CANDLE VOTIVE LIGHTS RETURN

Our insurance company has approved the use of the St. Killian Votive Light system, which is handmade in Ireland. We have purchased three stands, two small stands for the newly renovated Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the parking lot, and one large stand for Our Blessed Mother Altar. The candles are safe and smokeless and will burn for 1 1/2-2 hours. Our suggested donation is \$1 per candle. This is the same candle system used at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Votive candles are lit for prayer intentions and symbolize the prayers the worshipper is offering for him or herself, or for other people.

ALL SAINTS DAY is a Holy Day of Obligation and this year will take place on **Tuesday, November 1**. Our Masses here at St. Helena for the Holy Day will be on **Tuesday, November 1 at 6:50AM, 8:30AM, 12:15PM, and 7:30PM**, all in English. The Spanish Mass for All Saints Day will take place on **Wednesday, November 2, at 7:00PM** which will be combined with the All Souls Day celebration. The English Masses for ALL SOULS DAY will be at **6:50AM, 8:30AM, and 12:15PM**.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Banns of Marriage

I-Luis Loja-Rosa Loja

50/50 DRAWING: The Oct. 16 winners are: No. 184 & No. 418 @ \$27

- **BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** for October will be held at **7PM** on **October 27**. Bring a copy of the child's birth certificate.
- **CALLING ALL SAINTS**-St. Helena's invites all children and youth to dress as their favorite SAINT during the **10:30AM** Family Mass and the **NOON** Spanish Mass on **Sun., October 30**, the day before Halloween and two days before ALL SAINTS DAY. The children will process into the Church and will serve as a reminder of the importance of the saints as role models for us all. This year, several new saints have been canonized, including St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and last weekend Pope Francis canonized St. Jose Sanchez del Rio, a Mexican teenage martyr. So, dress as your favorite saint and join us next Sunday.
- **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 Tues., we will conclude 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.

OCTOBER 23, 2016

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday, October 16, 2016 **\$4,148.14**
World Mission Sunday **\$1,429.98**

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, and I am again glad to report that we exceeded our weekly budget goal. Keep up the good work. 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.

- **PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY** on **Sat., December 17**
- **PARISH BOOKSTORE** is open every **Sunday** from **8:30AM to 1PM. Now Available in the Bookstore: 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.
- **A COURSE IN MIRACLES**-Rogier F. van Vlisningen is teaching a 13-week class A Course in Miracles every Sunday at St. Helena's from **3 to 4:30 PM** downstairs in the Rectory. For more information, call **917-549-0959**. A suggested donation is \$7/session.
- **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.
- **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: Jessica Perez at **jeniperez_s@yahoo.com**.
- **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.

- **CHILD PROTECTION**-Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious, or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P. at **212-371-1000 x 2949** or Deacon George J. Coppola at **917-861-1762**. Both may also be reached via e-mail at **victimassistance@a-archny.org**. Information can also be found on the archdiocesan website, **www.archny.org**. In keeping with the archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.
- **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 ViewIf 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.
- **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.

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.
- **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
- **HALLOWEEN PARTY-Oct. 29, Noon-1:30PM** in gym.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **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 Sainly 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.
- **NIGHTFEVER NYC IS COMING BACK TO ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL on November 19, 2016.** On the last night of the Year of Mercy, Nightfever NYC will be hosting this night of praise, worship and reconciliation at Saint Patrick's Cathedral (50th Street and 5th Avenue). We will have the opportunity to pray before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament as well as light candles to honor Our Lord. The evening of music and prayer will start at **7pm** and end at **9pm**. Confessions will be heard throughout the night. Come and be a part of this night, where the Cathedral will have its doors open to all New Yorkers so they can come, pray, and love the Lord. For more information, email us at nightfevernyc@gmail.com.
- **PRO-LIFE CATHOLIC CHOSEN AS NEW UN SECRETARY-GENERAL** - A former Portuguese prime minister who opposed abortion and the legalization of same-sex marriage during his tenure in office has been named the ninth Secretary-General of the United Nations. António Guterres, a Catholic layman and a Socialist, will succeed Ban Ki-moon on January 1. Guterres served as prime minister of Portugal from 1995 to 2002, president of Socialist International from 1999 to 2005, and head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees from 2005 to 2015.
- **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>

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, Annissa Ramratsansingh, Catherine Gregson, Noemi Cross

Please Pray for the Deceased and their Grieving Families:

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, Annamma, Gregorio Rodrigues Carrillo, Santa Rivera

- **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.
- **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.
- **WIC** is now being offered near St. Helena's at the Morris Heights Health Center, 2019 Westchester Avenue, Bronx. WIC services will be available **Monday-Friday 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 ESPANOL

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

- **ATENCIÓN:** Se recuerda que la próxima semana tenemos dos días muy especiales en el calendario de la Iglesia. El **martes 1 de noviembre** celebramos la fiesta de obligación de **Todos los Santos**. El **miércoles 2 de noviembre, de 7 pm a 9 pm**, celebraremos la conmemoración de **Las Almas del Purgatorio**. Este día *combinaremos las dos celebraciones* de dos maneras: Trae a tus niños vestidos como sus santos favoritos para que reciban una bendición especial. Trae también en un papel el nombre de tus seres queridos que se han adelantado en el camino hacia el Padre y haremos una celebración especial por ellos y para ellos.
- En relación con la nota anterior, se informa que los niños que vengan vestidos como santos el **domingo 30 de Octubre**, recibirán una bendición especial. Tráelos y enséñales sobre la vida del santo preferido. Los niños tendrán un lugar especial en esa Eucaristía.
- **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**. 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.
- **RETIRO DE ADVIENTO:** El P. Nelson dirigirá el **Retiro de Adviento** como preparación para la temporada de Navidad. El retiro tendrá lugar el **3 de diciembre** en el **gimnasio, de 12 pm a 6 pm**. Habrá música, adoración al Santísimo y la predicación del P. Nelson. Prepárate para ese día.
- **DONACIONES:** Estamos de nuevo aceptando donaciones para el gran **Flea Market Anual** que se celebrará el **27 de Noviembre**. Agradecemos tu donación de objetos que estén en buen estado.
- **FIESTA DE NAVIDAD:** Ya se está iniciando la preparación de la **Fiesta de Navidad** de la parroquia. Tendrá lugar el **Sábado 17 de diciembre en el gimnasio, de 6 pm a 11 pm**. Deseamos que sea una fiesta para toda la familia y para las diferentes culturas en la parroquia. Te estaremos informando.
- **LIBRO SOBRE LA HISTORIA DE LA CATEDRAL DE ST. PATRICK:** Si estás interesado/a en conocer la historia de la famosa catedral de NY, en la librería se está vendiendo un libro en Español maravillosamente editado. Pasa por allí y dále una mirada.
- **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 el crecimiento de tu vida de fe.
- **GRUPO DE ORACIÓN:** Todos los **lunes de 7 pm a 9 pm**. Ven a alabar al Señor con tus hermanos y hermanas!!!
- **MIÉRCOLES 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 y Eucaristía.
- **PROTECCIÓN PARA LOS NIÑOS**-Cualquier persona que necesite reportar algún incidente de abuso sexual de un menor por un sacerdote, diacono, religioso/a, o laico sirviendo en la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York, se le pide que por favor contacte Hermana Eileen Clifford, O.P. al (212) 371-1000 extensión 2949 o Deacon George Coppola at 917-861-1762. Ambos también pueden ser contactados vía

correo electrónico: victimassistance@archny.org. Para más información pueden visitar la página en la red de la Arquidiócesis: www.archny.org. De acuerdo con las normas de la Arquidiócesis respecto al abuso sexual de menores, esta información se provee para asegurar que nuestros niños permanezcan seguros.

- **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 para agradecer al Señor el que siempre está contigo, amándote, perdonándote y protegiéndote.

BUEN DIA, HERMANOS:

Esta semana, queridos hermanos/as, hemos estado leyendo otra carta de San Pablo, esta es a los Efesios. En Éfeso Pablo vivió durante tres años y se dedicó a formar a la comunidad cristiana que era, en su mayoría, compuesta por paganos convertidos a la nueva fe. Un punto importante al inicio de la carta es que “**todo es iniciativa de Dios**”. Dios nos ha predestinado desde la eternidad para ser sus hijos por medio de la salvación de Jesucristo. O sea, la unión con Cristo no sólo nos salva sino que nos hace *hijos* de Dios. **Creemos esta verdad de fe?** Qué significa eso para tí? Dios nos ha pensado desde antes de existir, nos ha incorporado al destino de su Hijo, nos ha perdonado, nos ha destinado a la plenitud de la salvación. Son todas esas razones motivo de alegría y de esperanza para tí, aún en los momentos difíciles? Ahora, a todos esos regalos que Dios nos ha dado se espera que demos una respuesta: “*nos eligió en la persona de Cristo para que fuéramos santos e irreprochables ante Él por el amor.*”

En este plan de salvación Dios eligió primero a los judíos, pero no para que todo se quedara en ellos, sino para que desde allí se expandiera por toda la tierra. Por eso los paganos tampoco reciben este don para quedarse con él sino para llevarlo a otros que aún no lo conocen. Y tú que has recibido el don de la salvación y de ser hijo/a de Dios, comunicas ese tesoro a otros?

Los paganos, aquellos que adoraban otros ídolos antes de llegar al encuentro con Jesucristo al escuchar y creer en la **extraordinaria noticia de la salvación** han recibido la misma marca, **la marca del Espíritu Santo**, que es la garantía de nuestra suerte final. Es que, según Pablo, Dios Padre nos ha destinado a ser **su** pueblo, en Cristo hemos sido salvados y el Espíritu es nuestro sello o marca. Esto es de gran esperanza para cada uno de nosotros, porque sin importar cuál haya sido nuestro pasado, al llegar a Jesucristo tenemos la **certeza** de ser plenamente incorporados al pueblo escogido. En otras palabras, sabemos que no estamos solos, Dios está muy cerca y nos ha incluido en su proyecto de vida: “*La Palabra del Señor es sincera, todas sus acciones son leales.*”

El cristiano es una persona con una identidad muy rica, se sabe “**Cuerpo de Cristo**” quien es “**Cabeza de la Iglesia**”. La sola comprensión de esas imágenes que nos da Pablo serían suficientes para llevarnos a vivir con alegría nuestro discipulado y deben ser inspiración para ser testimonio viviente del amor de Dios. Nosotros ya conocemos a Cristo y hemos decidido seguirlo, pero debemos profundizar más y más en esa fe, para que sea permanentemente *el motor de nuestro amor y fuente de esperanza*

que ilumine nuestra vida. Esa es la mejor manera de dar respuesta a Dios y de comunicar el mensaje de Cristo a aquellos que entran en contacto con nosotros.

Cuando Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, se vuelve el centro de nuestra existencia, dice Pablo, es cuando adquirimos lo que Pablo llama un “**super-conocimiento**”. Este conocimiento que supera cualquier otro conocimiento, no se contenta sólo con conocer a Cristo, sino que desea conocerlo más profundamente porque ha llegado a la convicción de saber quién es Cristo. En realidad, nunca conoceremos totalmente a Cristo porque es Dios y Dios es infinito. Pero cuanto más lo conocemos, más ese conocimiento nos impulsará a querer conocerlo más y más y a desear que Él viva totalmente en nosotros, para nosotros poder vivir en Él y como Él.

Otra característica de este “conocimiento superior” es que nos libera de la esclavitud del “conocimiento superficial” que acosa a nuestra sociedad y le hace conformarse con las cosas materiales que no pueden llevar al ser humano a la plena satisfacción. Por eso podemos decir que este conocimiento le pertenece al pueblo escogido, que es el que ha aceptado y reconocido a Cristo como la fuente de salvación, y ese pueblo tiene la responsabilidad de ayudar a otros que aún viven en la oscuridad, a ser también partícipes de ese conocimiento que tiene la capacidad de transformar vidas desde lo más profundo del ser. Es un conocimiento que permanentemente crea ‘nuevos cielos y nueva tierra’, es una renovación permanente de la creación, es fuente permanente de ‘**nueva vida**’.

Por eso es que Pablo nos recuerda que “**antes estábamos muertos**”. Cierto, ser una persona transformada por el amor de Cristo implica reconocer que la vida anterior a Él, la corriente superficial del mundo, las tendencias sensuales, los vicios y apetitos del cuerpo nos empujeñen como seres humanos y que, en cambio, el conocimiento del “amor con que siempre hemos sido amados” significa para nosotros una **nueva vida**, una vida que vivimos en Cristo.

Esta reflexión nos lleva a darnos cuenta de que hemos sido amados *aún sin merecerlo*, por lo tanto, *ese amor es un don de Dios que nos llena de vida*. Con el Bautismo y con el reconocimiento de lo que somos desde allí, estamos llamados a dar una respuesta y esta no puede ser otra que una vida coherente. En otras palabras, Dios nos ha creado en Cristo Jesús para que nos dediquemos a las buenas obras. Esa es la intervención de Dios en nuestras vidas, una intervención absoluta que, sin embargo, nos deja en libertad para dar una respuesta. Cuando la respuesta es positiva una nueva vida nace.

Pero Pablo es realista y nos recuerda que debemos estar atentos porque *nuestra fe es frágil*. El mal y todas sus tentaciones siempre estarán allí y eso nos obliga a una **lucha permanente** para no volver a caer a la vida anterior, en donde los impulsos del instituto y del pecado controlan nuestra existencia.

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Si hemos aceptado a Cristo queremos seguirlo y por eso tratamos de actuar según su mentalidad y no según la mentalidad del mundo, que para el cristiano debe ser cosa del pasado. Pidamos todos los días a Dios su fuerza para poder perseverar en este camino. Que no estemos unidos a Cristo sólo con el conocimiento de su misterio sino que desde allí lo vivamos y lo hagamos presente a otros con nuestro estilo de vida. *P. Nelson*

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, Oct. 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

MONDAY, October 24, 2016-Feast of St. Anthony Mary Claret

- 6:50 Ben A. Gonzales
- 8:30 Catherine Warneke
- 12:15 Tricia Briska (Intentions)

TUESDAY, October 25, 2016-Feast of St. Tabitha

- 6:50 Msgr. Arthur J. Scanlan
- 8:30 Travis Stoddart (Intentions)
- 12:15 José Sanabria

WEDNESDAY, October 26, 2016-Feast of St. Lucian

- 6:50 Ray Dimichino
- 8:30 Elizabeth Coly
- 12:15 In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 7:30 Nurys Medina
Germania Zambrano

THURSDAY, October 27, 2016-Feast of St. Elesbaan

- 6:50 Divine Justice for the Hugh Rent Increases
Imposed on Parkchester Merchants & Tenants
- 8:30 Mary Theresa Early (Intentions)
- 12:15 Msgr. John J. Voight

FRIDAY, October 28, 2016-Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude

- 6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 8:30 Ralph A. Cerbone Jr.
- 12:15 Fr. Joseph Ligory, His 33rd Anniversary of
Holy Ordination, His Parents and Family

SATURDAY, October 29, 2016-Feast of St. Anne

- 6:50 Fr. David Powers, Sch.P. (Intentions and
Good Health)
- 8:30 Divine Justice for the Hugh Rent Increases
Imposed on Parkchester Merchants & Tenants
- 12:15 Adalberto Vazquez
- 5:30 Vickie Rios (Sacred Heart of Jesus)

SUNDAY, Oct. 30, 2016-Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 In Thanksgiving for Favors
- 9:00 Camilo, Bernardo and Melchora Abordo and
Reginald Culpepper
- 10:30 Aurea Andujar
- 12:00 Fernando Cinto and Verginia Campos
Felicita Barbosa
Aleja Garcia
- 1:30 AnneMarie Donelin (Intentions)
- 5:00 Nelson Vega, Jr.
Our Parishioners

Readings for the Week of October 23, 2016

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

Monday: Eph 4:32--5:8/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Eph 5:21-33 or 5:2a, 25-32/Ps 128:1-5/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Eph 6:1-9/Ps 145:10-14/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 6:10-20/Ps 144:1-2, 9-10/Lk 13:31-35