

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

Business Manager

Anne Kathy Rice

Facilities Manager

Alina Hernandez

Music Director

Mr. Patrick Marques

Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson

Mr. Alex Henriquez

March-April 2018

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

<http://www.sthelenaelementary.org>

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

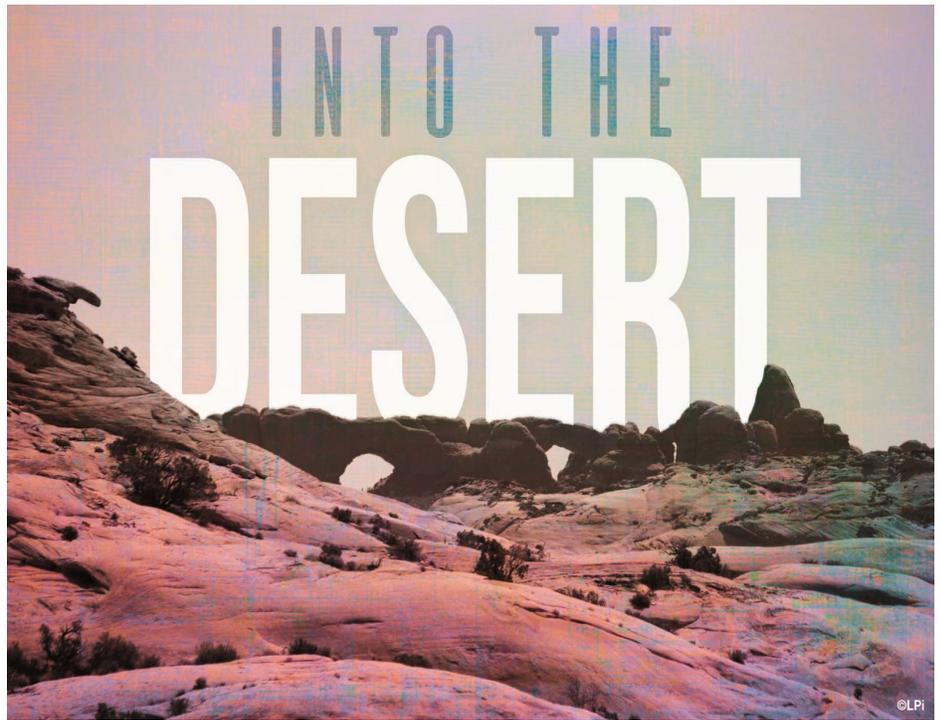
Phone: (718) 892-3232

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Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saint Helena parish



Bronx, NY

Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: AM PM

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—7:00PM

Wednesday—7:00 PM (Spanish)

Monday 7:00PM (every first Monday of the month in

Spanish) Primeros lunes de mes

Confessions: Saturday — 4 to 5:30

Sick Or Emergency Calls:

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
Spanish Bible Study: Tuesday, 7:00PM

Baptisms: Arrangements must be made at the Rectory for Baptismal Class Bring a copy of the 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 the Bookstore or Rectory.



Handicapped Accessible

PALM SUNDAY and EASTER SUNDAY 2018 NEW MASS TIMES

The Palm Sunday Vigil Mass will still be at **5:30PM**

The Easter Vigil Mass will still be at **7:30PM**

But the Sunday Masses for PALM SUNDAY will be:

7:30AM

9:30AM (with procession)

11:30AM en Español (with procession)

2:00PM

4:30PM (with procession)

The EASTER SUNDAY Mass times will be the same as above but without the procession.

The regular Mass times will resume on DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, April 8.

Why Fish and No Meat During Lent?

Every year, people always ask this basic question, and the answer lies, in part on the medieval diet and, in part, on the closeness of animal flesh to human flesh. The Church maintains that since Christ offered his flesh on the wood of the cross, so we give up flesh for Him.

For centuries, the reason evolved with the fast. In the beginning, some worshippers only ate bread. But by the Middle Ages, they were avoiding meat, eggs, and dairy. By the 13th century, the meat-fish divide was firmly established—and Saint Thomas Aquinas gave an interesting answer explaining why abstaining from red meat has to do with: sex, simplicity, and farts.

In Part II of his *Summa Theologica*, Aquinas wrote: "Fasting was instituted by the Church in order to bridle the concupiscences (disordered passions) of the flesh, which regard pleasures of touch in connection with food and sex. The Church forbade those who fast to partake of those foods which afford the most pleasure to the palate and besides are a very great incentive to lust. Such are the flesh of animals that take their rest on the earth, and of those that breathe the air and their products." In other words, Aquinas thought fellow Catholics should abstain from eating land-locked animals because they were just too tasty. Lent was a time for simplicity, and he suggested that everyone tone it down. It makes sense since in the 1200s, meat was a luxury. Eating something as decadent as beef was no way to celebrate a holiday centered on modesty.

But Aquinas had another reason. He believed eating red meat greatly increases the libido, and to a certain extent, he is right. Aquinas said, "For, since such animals are more like man in body, they afford greater pleasure as food, and greater nourishment to the human body, so that from their consumption there results a greater surplus available for seminal matter, which when abundant becomes a great incentive to lust. Hence, the Church has bidden those who fast to abstain especially from these foods." In fact, eating red meat increases one's testosterone levels, which in turn increases one's libido. So now you can blame all those impure thoughts on those nasty "two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions, on a sesame seed bun."

Aquinas gave a third reason to avoid meat—it won't give you gas. "Those who fast," Aquinas wrote, "are forbidden the use of flesh meat rather than of wine or vegetables, which are flatulent foods." Aquinas argued that "flatulent foods" gave your "vital spirit" a quick pick-me-up. Meat, on the other hand, boosts the body's long-lasting, lustful humors—a religious no-no.

So now we know why we shouldn't eat meat while we are fasting, But why isn't fish considered meat, since fish are animals and not plants? Interestingly, the dictionary defines meat as, "the flesh of an animal (especially a mammal) as food." The reason is foggy. Saint Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, for one, has been used to justify the Church's fasting rules. Paul wrote, "...There is one



kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fish, and another of birds" (15:39). That distinction was probably taken from Judaism's own dietary restrictions, which separates **fleishig** (which includes land-locked mammals and fowl and is the term from which we get the English word "flesh:") from **pareve** (which includes fish). However, neither the Torah, Talmud, or New Testament clearly explains the rationale behind the divide.

In the end, it's arbitrary, anyway. In the 17th century, the Bishop of Quebec ruled that beavers are fish. In Latin America, it's okay to eat capybara on Lenten Fridays, and Catholics around Detroit can guiltlessly munch on muskrat every Friday. And in 2010, the Archbishop of New Orleans gave alligator the thumbs up when he declared, "Alligator is considered in the fish family." So all those alligators crawling around the New York City sewers - BEWARE!

The FIRST celebration of the Feast of St. Faustino Miguez - March 8

Father Faustino Miguez, Sch.P., is the founder of the Calasancian Sisters, Daughters of the Divine Shepherd and was canonized as a saint this past October 15. He was born on March 24, 1831, in Xamirás, a village of Acebedo del Río, in Orense, Spain. His family is of humble origin, and as a youth, he was dedicated to the work of the field, which was where he forged the fundamental elements of his personality: faith in God, prayer, work, devotion to Mary, and solidarity with the most needy.

After finishing his elementary school studies in his home, he moved to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Miracles, in Celanova, to study Humanities and Latin. It was there that he discovered his vocation: to be a priest and an educator, in the manner of Saint Joseph Calasanz. Determined to realize the dream of God for his life, in December 1850, he entered the Novitiate of the Piarist Fathers in Madrid. After three years of initial formation, he made his Profession of Solemn Vows as a Piarist Religious on January 16, 1853, and on March 8, 1856, in the parish of San Marcos in Madrid, he was ordained a priest.

In 1857, he was sent to Guanabacoa (Cuba), where his gifts as an educator and his inclinations to the study of botany and his investigations into the therapeutic properties of plants were manifested. In 1860, he was sent again to the Peninsula and then successively to San Fernando, Getafe, Celanova, and Sanlúcar de Barrameda. In 1873, he was sent as the librarian to the Royal Monastery of El Escorial, where he continued his research of the healing properties of the local flora. He was then assigned to Monforte de Lemos as the rector and, in 1879, for the second time to Sanlúcar de Barrameda. And it was in this town of Cadiz where Father Faustino discovered the need to educate the Sanluean girls, just as Calasanz had done with the street children of Rome years before. And thus, impelled by the Holy Spirit, he initiated a new religious community, the Congregation of the Daughters of the Divine Shepherd, which is dedicated to the integral education of children and youth and the promotion of women. Finally, in 1888, he was assigned again to Getafe, where he remained until his death on March 8, 1925.

St. John of God - March 8 A very different saint

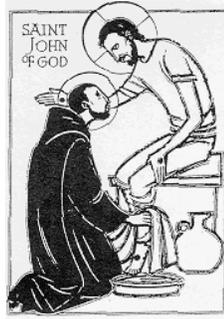
From the time he was eight to the day he died, John followed every impulse of his heart, but the challenge for him was to rush to follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and not his own human temptations. But unlike many who act impulsively, when John made a decision, no matter how quickly, he stuck with it, no matter what the hardship.

In 1503, when he was eight years old, John heard a visiting missionary priest speak of adventures that were waiting, with new worlds being opened up. That very night he ran away from home to travel with the priest, and he never saw his parents again. They begged their way from village to village until John fell sick. The man who nursed him back to health, the manager of a large estate, adopted John, and he worked as a shepherd in the mountains until he was 27. Feeling pressure to marry the manager's daughter, whom he loved as a sister, John took off and joined the Spanish army in the war against France. As a soldier, he actively participated in the gambling, drinking, and pillaging that his comrades enjoyed. One day, he was thrown from a stolen horse near French lines. Frightened that he would be captured or killed, he reviewed his life and vowed impulsively to

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

make a change, and became a faithful Catholic.

When he returned, he kept his spur of the moment vow, made a confession, and immediately changed his life. His comrades didn't mind so much that he was repenting but hated the idea that he wanted them to give up their pleasures too. So they used his impulsive nature to trick him into leaving his post on the pretext of helping someone in need. He was rescued from hanging at the last minute and thrown out of the army after being beaten and stripped. He begged his way back to his foster-home where he worked as a shepherd until he heard of a new war, this time against the Moslems who were invading Europe. So, off he went, but after the war was over, he decided to try to find his real parents. To his grief he discovered both had died in his absence.



He went back to being a shepherd, until, at age 38, he decided to go to Africa to ransom Christian captives. He was on the dock waiting for his ship when he saw a family obviously upset and grieving. When he discovered they were a noble family being exiled to Africa after political intrigues, he abandoned his original plan and volunteered to be their servant. The family fell sick when they reached their exile, and John kept them alive not only by nursing them but by earning money to feed them. His job building fortifications was grueling, inhuman work, and the workers were beaten and mistreated by people who called themselves Christians. Seeing fellow Christians acting this way so disturbed John that it shook his faith. A priest advised him not to blame the Church and to leave for Spain at once. John returned home after learning that his newly adopted family had received pardons.

In Spain, he spent his days unloading ship cargoes and his nights visiting churches and reading spiritual books. Reading gave him so much pleasure that he decided that he should share this joy with others. So he quit his job and became a book peddler, traveling from town to town selling religious books and holy cards. A vision at age 41 brought him to Granada where he sold books from a little shop. It is for this reason that John of God is the patron saint of booksellers and printers.

After hearing a sermon from John of Avila on repentance, he was so overcome by the thought of his sins that the whole town thought the little bookseller had gone from simple eccentricity to madness. After the sermon, John rushed back to his shop, tore up any secular books he had and gave away to the poor all his money and all his religious books. Clothes torn and weeping, he was the target of insults and jokes, and even the children threw stones and mud at him. Friends took him to the Royal Hospital where he was housed with the lunatics. John was tied down and whipped daily until John of Avila came to visit him and told him his penance had gone on long enough -- forty days, the same amount as the Lord's suffering in the desert, and he had John moved to a better part of the hospital.

John of God could never see suffering without trying to do something about it, and now that he was free to move about, although still a patient, he immediately got up and began to help the other sick people around him. The hospital was glad to have his unpaid nursing help and were not happy to release him when one day he walked into the office to announce he was going to start his own hospital.

John was positive that God wanted him to start a hospital for the poor who got bad treatment, if any, from the other hospitals, but everyone else still thought of him as a madman. It didn't help that he decided to try to finance his plan by selling wood in the square. At night he took what little money he earned and brought food and comfort to the poor living in abandoned buildings and under bridges. Thus, his first hospital was the streets of Granada.

Within an hour after seeing a sign in a window saying "House to let for lodging of the poor," he rented the house in order to move his nursing operations indoors. Of course he rented it without money for furnishings, medicine, or help. After he begged for money for beds, he went out in the streets again and carried his ill patients back on those same shoulders that had previously carried stones, wood, and books. Once he got them inside, he cleaned them, dressed their wounds, and mended their clothes at night while he prayed. He used his experience as a peddler to beg for

alms, crying through the streets in his peddler's voice, "Do good to yourselves! For the love of God, Brothers, do good!" Instead of selling goods, he took anything he was given, including food, clothing, and a coin here and there.

Throughout his life, he was criticized by people who didn't like the fact that his impulsive love embraced anyone in need. When he was able to move his hospital to an old Carmelite monastery, he opened a homeless shelter in the monastery hall. Immediately critics tried to close him down saying he was only pampering troublemakers. His answer to this criticism always was that he knew of only one bad character in the hospital and that was himself. His urge to act immediately when he saw need got him into trouble more than a few times. Once, when he encountered a group of starving people, he rushed into a house, stole a pot of food, and gave it to them. He was almost arrested for that act of charity! Another time, on finding a group of children in rags, he marched them into a clothing shop and bought them all new clothes. Since he had no money, he paid for it all on credit.

Yet his impulsive nature helped save many people in one dire emergency. The alarm sounded when the Royal Hospital was on fire, and John dropped everything to run there. He rushed into the blazing building and carried or led the patients out. When all the patients were rescued, he started throwing blankets, sheets, and mattresses out the windows. How well he knew from his own hard work how important these things were. At that point a cannon was brought to destroy the burning part of the building in order to save the rest. John stopped them, ran up onto the roof, and separated the burning portion with an axe. He succeeded but fell through the burning roof. All thought they had lost their hero until John appeared miraculously out of smoke. It is for this reason that John of God is also the patron saint of firefighters.

John was already ill himself when he heard that a flood was bringing precious driftwood near the town. He jumped out of bed to gather the wood from the raging river. When one of his companions fell into the river, John without thought for his own illness or safety jumped in after him. He failed to save the boy and instead caught pneumonia. He died on March 8, his fifty-fifth birthday. However, his actions were remembered, and his friends founded in his memory a new religious community, the Brothers Hospitallers of St. John of God.

« prenons un café ensemble », dit Dieu

« Prenons un café ensemble » : c'est ainsi que Dieu appelle le pécheur, « avec douceur », sans menace, sans coup de bâton, a affirmé le pape François lors de la messe matinale qu'il a célébrée à la Maison Sainte-Marthe, au Vatican, ce 27 février 2018. « Il n'y a pas de problème, il y a le pardon », a-t-il assuré.

Dans son homélie rapportée par Vatican News, le pape a commenté la première lecture (Is 1, 10.16-20), soulignant l'attitude « spéciale » de Dieu face à nos péchés : « Venez, et discutons », dit-il aux habitants de Sodome et Gomorrhe. « Il ne menace pas, mais il appelle avec douceur, en donnant confiance. »

« Le Seigneur dit : "Venez-là. Venez et discutons. Parlons un peu", a expliqué le pape. Il ne s'épouvante pas. Il est comme le père qui doit réprimander son adolescent qui a fait une farce. Et il sait que s'il arrive avec le bâton ça n'ira pas, il doit entrer avec la confiance. »

Et d'insister : « Le Seigneur, dans ce passage, nous appelle ainsi : "Allons, venez. Prenons un café ensemble. Parlons, discutons. N'aie pas peur, je ne veux pas te battre". Et comme il sait que son enfant pense : "Mais j'en ai fait, des choses..." – (il dit) tout de suite : " Si vos péchés sont comme l'écarlate, ils deviendront aussi blancs que neige. S'ils sont rouges comme le vermillon, ils deviendront comme de la laine." »

Il n'y a pas de problème, il y a le pardon

Le pape François a mis en relief la « bonté » du Seigneur : « Il ne veut pas nous frapper et nous condamner. Il a donné sa vie pour nous... Et il cherche toujours la façon d'arriver au cœur. » Dieu n'a de cesse de montrer « comme faire un pas de plus sur le chemin de la conversion ».

« Quand nous les prêtres, à la place du Seigneur, nous devons entendre les conversions, a poursuivi le pape, nous devons aussi

MARCH 4, 2018

avoir cette attitude de bonté, comme le dit le Seigneur : “Venez discutons, il n’y a pas de problème, il y a le pardon” ». Il a donné l’exemple d’un cardinal confesseur qui, en entendant de graves péchés, ne s’y arrête pas : « et cela ouvre le cœur... et la personne se sent en paix ».

« Cela m’aide de voir cette attitude du Seigneur, a conclu le pape... Il sait que nous sommes tous à mi-chemin et que nous avons souvent besoin de cela, d’entendre cette parole : “Mais viens, ne t’effraie pas, viens. Il y a le pardon”. »

Catholic Schools Need Your Help

The proposed budget will cut state funding to many Catholic Schools by an average of 4 percent. Unless the original funding formula is restored, additional costs will be passed on to our schools and families. Please contact Governor Cuomo and your state representatives to encourage them to take steps to support our Catholic schools and tuition-paying families. Go to www.nycatholic.org and click on “Catholic Schools Need Your Help” to lend your support.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS-As we did last year, throughout the Lenten Season, we will have Eucharistic Adoration every **Friday** from **1-8PM** and Stations of the Cross every **Friday** at **1PM** and **8PM** in English and **7PM** in Spanish.

LENTEN YOUTH RETREAT: A Lenten Youth Retreat will take place in the cafeteria on St. Patrick's Day, **Saturday, March 17** from **9AM - 4PM**. All youth, ages 13-21 are invited to attend. The Retreat is sponsored by the ABC's Youth group.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **50/50-February's 50/50 winner was an envelope from the Church entrance.** Remember, it only costs **\$5.00** to enter. The next winner will be picked on **Mon., March 26**. You cannot win unless you enter. Envelopes are available at the two Church entrances. Perhaps one will be the winner.
- **FIRST COMMUNION SESSION** will take place today **Sunday, March 4** at **11:30AM** in the cafeteria.
- **SPANISH FAMILY SESSION** will take place on **Sunday, March 11** at **1:30PM** in the cafeteria.
- **ENGLISH FAMILY SESSION** will take place on **Sunday, March 18** at **11:30AM** in the cafeteria.
- **SPANISH PRAYER GROUP** meets every **Monday**, at **7PM** in the Church. Their monthly Charismatic Mass takes place on **Monday, March 5** at **7PM**.
- **ENGLISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** meets every **Saturday** at **1PM**, following the **12:15PM Mass**, in the Green Building. They will sponsor a Prayer and Praise Luncheon on **Saturday, April 21** at **1:30PM** in the cafeteria.
- **STUDY THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**-Join us in the Green Building on **Sunday, March 4**, at **11:30AM**. as well as on **Tues., March 6**, at both **1PM** and **7:30PM**. On **Tuesday**, we will study Chapter 10 of the “Acts of the Apostles” which is about The Preaching of Peter.
- **BOY SCOUTS, Wed., Mar. 7** at **6:30PM** in the cafeteria.
- **YOUTH GROUP** for ages 12-18 meets on **Fridays** from **7-8:30PM** in the gym.
- **2019 MASS BOOK** is starting to fill up quickly. Come in early, especially if you want very specific Mass dates.
- **RELIGIOUS ARTICLES ROOM** is open every **Sunday** from **8AM-1:30PM**. New items have arrived. We are expanding the room. Do you have any religious articles or handicraft you wish to donate to the church or the missions? If so, bring them to the rectory.

- **NEXT BAPTISM PREP CLASSES** will be held on **Thursday, March 8 and 22** at **7PM**. Please bring a copy of the child's birth certificate as well as either a letter of suitability for the godparents from their local pastor or a copy of the godparent's Confirmation Certificate, and if a godparent is married, bring a copy of their Catholic Marriage Certificate. These must all be brought to the class.
- **BREAST CANCER MOBILE CARE CLINIC** will be at St. Helena next **Sunday, March 11** from **9AM to 4:30PM** to provide **NO COST** digital mammograms and clinical breast exams. The unit is funded by a grant from the American Italian Cancer Foundation. To be eligible, you must be a woman aged 40 and older, currently living anywhere in New York City and who has **NOT** had a mammogram in the past 12 months. If you have one, bring your insurance card. No co-pays are required and deductibles are waived. Uninsured patients are welcome. Early detection of breast cancer saves lives. You must register for a time slot either by signing the list at the back of the church or calling the rectory now at **718-892-3233** or **877-628-9090**.
- **NEXT WHOLE FOODS PLANT-BASED SUPPERS MEAL**-Our next cooking and eating class is on **Saturday, March 17** from **4-6:30PM** in the cafeteria. The meal prep takes place at 4PM and the meal will begin at 4PM. The \$15 fee is non-refundable as it is for groceries. There is usually a refund since we don't spend it all. You must register by **March 16** so please call the Rectory at **718-892-3233**.
- **SHOP AMAZON AND DONATE TO ST. HELENA**-Amazon has found a way to take some of the guilt out of online shopping through Amazon Smile. This initiative allows consumers to choose a charity of their choice and Amazon will donate **0.5 percent** of the price of any eligible purchases to the organization. St. Helena is a participating organization, so please bookmark this link so all your eligible shopping will benefit St. Helena: To register, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1740343>
- **KNITTING AND CROCHETING** supplies and yarn are still needed to teach knitting & crocheting skills to our students. If you have supplies that could be donated; or if you know of a source where we could get yarn, hooks and needles free or at a great discount, please call the rectory at **718-892-3232**.
- **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK**-Please check us out on FACEBOOK at: **St. Helena Catholic Church AND St. Helena School**. THEN please be sure to **like** us. This is where you can find up-to-the-minute information about the School and the Parish. Alumni! Don't forget about our alumni page at **St. Helena's grammar school alumni**. Send us a note and some photos and be sure to let us know what is happening in your life.
- **TAX RECEIPTS**-If you use the envelope system for your weekly donation to St. Helena and would like a tax receipt for 2017, please call the rectory at **718-892-3232**.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

Second Sunday of Lent **\$5,202.89**

Our weekly budget, (Nuestro presupuesto semanal es) \$4,423.00 Thank you all for your generosity and support and for all that you do for St. Helena's. We exceeded our goal this week. The plumbers and heating repair men are still working constantly, so I ask you to still please consider increasing your regular weekly offerings a little so that we can pay for the increased physical plant improvements. Gracias a todos por su generosidad y por todo lo que hacen por esta Iglesia de St. Helena. Nosotros estamos haciendo reparaciones en la escuela y la iglesia; por favor, considere aumentar su oferta para ayudar y apoyar estas mejoras.

- **RAFFLE PRIZES**-If you received a gift card during the holidays which you might not wish to use, please consider donating it to St. Helena's as a prize for our upcoming Parish Carnival **June 28-July 1**. Monetary donations always welcome, of course. All donations are tax deductible. You will receive a letter acknowledging your donation.
- **AA BIG BOOK STUDY** meets every **Sat., 7-8:30PM** in the green building.
- **CO-DEPENDENTS ANNONYMOUS (CODA)** meets every **Monday** from **7-8:30PM** in the rectory meeting room.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?** Call **1-800-621-HOPE**
- **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**-The internationally renowned Gracias Choir is coming to St. Helena's on **Sat., March 24**, the vigil of Palm Sunday. They will perform their bilingual Easter Cantata in the church following the **5:30PM** Palm Sunday Vigil Mass and beginning at **7PM**. The Gracias Choir Easter Cantata is a moving musical re-enactment of the last days, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Started in 2011, the Easter Cantata has already touched tens of thousands around the world, giving each an intimate, firsthand portrait of what Christ endured to take on the sins of the entire world. The Cantata is free and open to the public, and you will want to come early to get good seats. The choir recently won an international competition in Germany and is considered one of the world's best choirs. This really is something you do not want to miss. Call the rectory at **718-892-3232**.



SCHOOL NEWS

Ward Is a Winner

Omari Ward first put in a season-high 31 points against Our Lady of the Assumption to lead the Horsemen to an easy 71-46 win at OLA. Then, he sank another 24 points against Santa Maria to give him a season total of 177 points, making him currently the leading Catholic Basketball League varsity scorer. Peter Lugo hit 4 threes to lead the junior varsity to a 57-34 victory over OLA.

It was Ward's night, putting in 5 twos, 6 threes, and 3 free throws, all within the first three quarters. The Horsemen charged out of the gate and never once looked back, leading 26-17 at the quarter and 46-29 at the half. Francisco Mattei, back in the game after an earlier injury, sank 6 twos and 2 threes and a free throw for 19 points, and Christian Colter hit 5 twos and 3 free throws for 13 points. William Manning had a two in the third and another in the fourth, while Antonio Martinez hit a two in the third, and Khalil Black hit one in the fourth to round out the Horsemen scoring. The Horsemen were 7 for 8 from the line, while OLA was 10 for 21.

The junior varsity also galloped to an early lead, 18-9 at the quarter and 27-22 at the half. Three Horsemen were in double digits, while only one OLA player did so. Lugo hit 4 threes, 2 twos, and a free throw to give him a game-high 17 points. Jahli Ward was the only Horseman to score in all four quarters, sinking 4 twos and 6 free throws for 14 points. Kyle Austin had 5 twos and a free throw for 11 points. Also contributing to the victory was Joseph Fernandez with 8 points and Isaiah Lacosse with 7. The Horsemen were 8 for 17 from the line, while OLA was 2 for 4.

The varsity players went to St. Raymonds to play a stronger Santa Maria team, but the Horsemen were only trailing by four, 24-28 at the half, and they lost by a respectable 46-53. Ward hit 7 twos, 2 threes, and 4 free throws for a game-high 24 points. Mattei was also in double digits with 10 points, while Colter contributed 6 points, Black 4 points, and Manning a two in

the fourth to round out the Horsemen scoring. Mattei and Colter each now have 162 season points. The Horsemen went 8 for 16 from the line, while Santa Maria was 10 for 15.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **A NEW LETTER ON SALVATION**-The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) has released a new document on the nature of salvation, emphasizing that man cannot be saved through his own efforts alone, nor without reference to others. The CDF document, entitled *Placuit Deo*, emphasizes that salvation comes through Jesus.
- **GERMAN BISHOPS APPROVE COMMUNION FOR NON-CATHOLIC SPOUSES**-The Catholic bishops of Germany will allow the Protestant spouses of Catholics to receive Communion in some cases, Cardinal Reinhard Marx has announced. The new policy will allow Holy Communion for couples who, after consulting with their priests, determine that they have a "grave spiritual need" to share the Eucharist.
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 9 GENERAL BOARD MEETING** on **Thursday, March 15** at **7PM** at the Kips Bay Boys and Girl's Club, 1930 Randall Ave.
- **COMMUNITY BOARD 9 SENIORS CONNECTED MEETING** will take place on **Wednesday, March 21** at **10AM** at the Justice Sonia Sotomayer Community Center, 100 Rosedale Ave. The program allows senior citizens and those suffering from disabilities – who may not be able to come out to the general board meetings – to learn what's going on in their community. Attendees receive minutes from each committee meeting and general board meeting that occurred during the previous month.
- **THE ACADEMY OF MOUNT ST. URSULA** proudly presents "Seussical", **March 23rd and 24th**, at **7:30pm**. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and students K-12. For tickets or more information please contact **(718) 364-5353 ext. 215** or **kjavier@amsu.org**. Visit our website- www.amsu.org
- **MSGR. SCANLAN HIGH SCHOOL** first annual Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, March 24** at **10AM**. Special guest The Easter Bunny. \$3 Egg Hunt fee for each child. **8:30AM** Pancake Breakfast **\$15.99** Adults, **\$5.99** 12 and under. Buy tickets to the breakfast and egg hunt in advance at <https://ScanlanHSEggHunt.brownpapertickets.com>. Bring Your Own Basket. (BYOB)
- **PAUL, APOSTLE OF CHRIST** opens in local movie theaters on **Wednesday, March 28**. The story as told by St. Luke, covers Paul going from the most infamous persecutor of Christians to Jesus Christ's most influential apostle.
- **13th ANNUAL DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE** at Cardinal Spellman H.S. on **April 28** from **9AM - 5:30PM**. Featured Speaker Christopher West. Registration \$60. Call **800-462-7426** for more information.
- **POPE OPENS REGISTRATION FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY IN PANAMA**-Pope Francis announced that registration is now open for the World Youth Day celebration that will be held in Panama in **January 2019**. Participants attending World Youth Day with the Archdiocese of New York must be between the ages of 18 and 35, as recommended by the USCCB. There is no age limit for group leaders/priests. Rooms are limited. For more info or to sign up, contact MaryElise.Zellmer@archny.org.
- **CAMP MARIST**, a great summer camp for boys and girls on Ossipee Lake in Effingham, NH. Call **603-539-4552** or visit www.campmarist.org
- **GOD'S OCEAN OF MERCY**-Are you or is someone you know suffering the grief of a past abortion? There is hope for

you! Hope and healing are possible and God's mercy is greater than any sin. The Sisters of Life host monthly **Days of Prayer and Healing**. For confidential registration please call the Sisters of Life at (866)-575-0075 or email hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org. *The Sisters are also available to meet privately or speak over the phone. Upcoming dates are: March 17th and April 21st in English and February 24th in Spanish.*

- **RADIO MARIA**-To listen to Radio Maria in English on radio 620AM, type www.radiomaria.us. Then, click on "Live Stream" on the bottom left where it says "24/7 Live Listening. Listen Live".

ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

- **LAS ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS NECESITAN SU AYUDA**- El presupuesto del estado propone recortar en promedio 4% los fondos para las escuelas Católicas. Esto obligaría a las escuelas a pasar estos costos a las familias. El laico tiene voz en la democracia, contacta al Gobernador Cuomo y sus representantes para apoyar a las escuelas católicas. Puedes ir a www.nycatholic.org y presiona en: "Escuelas Católicas Necesitan su Ayuda". Es una buena forma de apoyar la educación católica.
- **CLINICA MOVIL PARA EL EXAMEN DE CANCER DEL SENO:** El **domingo 11 de marzo de 9 am a 4.30 pm** se proveerá sin ningún costo el examen de cancer de seno y mamografías digitales.
- **RETIRO DE CUARESMA:** *Sábado Marzo 24, 12 m a 5 pm.* Día anterior al Domingo de Ramos. *Preparación para entrar a la Semana Santa.* Hermano Darío García y P. Nelson Henao, Sch.P.
- **RETIRO PARA JOVENES:** *Sábado, marzo 17 en la cafetería, de 9 am - 4 pm. Edades: de 14-21.*
- **DEVOCIONES PARA CUARESMA:** Como el año pasado, tendremos los viernes de cuaresma adoración y el Viacrucis. Es ora oportunidad de crecer en la fe y de enseñar a tus hijos sobre las tradiciones de nuestra fe. Cada viernes habrá Adoración al Santísimo de 1 pm a 9 pm. y tendremos tres viacrucis, dos en inglés a la 1 pm y a las 8 pm; un *Viacrucis en español a las 7 pm. Ven con tu familia!*
- **SESIONES PARA LOS PADRES DE NIÑOS EN CCD:**
Primera Comunión: Domingo 4 de marzo a las 11.30 am en la cafetería
Sesión de Familia: (Español) Domingo 11 de marzo a la 1.30 am en la cafetería
Sesión de Familia: (Inglés) Domingo 18 de marzo a las 11.30 am
- **MIERCOLES DE MISERICORDIA:** El *miércoles 7 de marzo*, MISA POR LOS ENFERMOS. La Eucaristía será ofrecida de forma especial por todos aquellos que sufren enfermedades corporales y espirituales. Habrá **unción de los enfermos** para quienes la necesiten.
- **CLASES DE PREPARACION PARA EL BAUTISMO:** Las clases se realizan cada segundo y cuarto jueves de mes a las 7 pm. La **próxima clase** será el **jueves 8 de marzo a las 7 pm. NOTA IMPORTANTE:** Se debe traer copia del certificado de nacimiento del niño.

Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

Joanne Frances Bernadette Sanabria, Carmelle and Nicole Antoine, Indrowdi Sadu, Rosa Pena, Luzvina Vega, Michelle Vega, Lucy Cannavacciuolo, Jose Rosario, Augustine Ayala, Florence Churchill, David Sheehan, Joyce Hoyt, Heyllie Cardona, Genil Alcantara, Maria Barro, Vayron Orellana, Teresa Orellana, Khetheer Raby, Erica Vargas

Please Pray for the Deceased and their Grieving Families:

Ava Luz Ortiz, Carlos Pagan, Marlo McClellan, Lourdes Ramirez, Jeanette Santos, Carmen Gloria Heyliger, Sukdeo Persaud Sukhmandan, Andrew Alvarez, Maria Enriquez, Fr. Robert Aufieri, Fr. Oscar Alonso, Brigid McKeon, Jose Quintero, Juanita Sanchez, Edmond Okonkwo

- **SOBRE LOS PADRINOS DE BAUTISMO:** si los padrinos son pareja, deben estar *casados por la Iglesia* y traer el *certificado de matrimonio de la iglesia donde se casaron*. La otra posibilidad es que **una o dos personas** que tengan al menos 16 años y hayan recibido el Sacramento de la Confirmación acepten ser los padrinos. Esta o estas personas deben traer el **Certificado de Confirmación** y/o una carta del pastor de la Iglesia a la que pertenecen, donde se certifique que puede ser padrino ó madrina de Bautismo.
- **CALASANZ COMMUNICATIONS:** Te enriqueció espiritualmente alguna de las homilias del P. Nelson? Deseas escucharla de nuevo o compartirla con alguien más? Sólo tienes que ir a youtube.com y buscar: **Calasanz Communications**. Allí las encontrarás. También te puedes suscribir al canal para que te llegue automáticamente la última homilía. Ayuda a propagar la Palabra de Dios!!!! *Es una buena manera de evangelizar.*

PROXIMAS ACTIVIDADES

- Marzo 17, Sábado-RETIRO DE JOVENES** 17 de marzo, 9 am - 4 pm
- Marzo 24, Sábado-RETIRO DE CUARESMA PARA PASCUA** 12-5 pm
- Marzo 24, Sábado-CANTATA** 7 pm.
- Marzo 25, Domingo-PELICULA "LA PASION"** Después de misa de 12 pm
- Abril 7, Sábado-PEREGRINAJE DIVINA MISERICORDIA,** Stockbridge
- Abril 8, Domingo-PELICULA "RESUCITADO"** Después de misa de 12 pm
- Abril 16, Lunes-CONCIERTO-TESTIMONIO GELA,** 7pm-9pm Iglesia
- Mayo 11, Viernes-Hna. GLENDA CONCIERTO-ORACION** "NADA TE TURBE" 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm. Iglesia

ATENCION - HORARIOS EN ESPAÑOL PARA DOMINGO DE RAMOS Y DOMINGO DE PASCUA
DOMINGO DE RAMOS: 11.30 am con procesión
DOMINGO DE PASCUA: 11.30 am -Volveremos a los *horarios tradicionales* desde el domingo de la Divina Misericordia

ACTIVIDAD SEMANAL EN ESPAÑOL

- LUNES:** GRUPO DE ORACION, 7 pm
- SEGUNDO LUNES DE MES, MISA EN REBEKKA**
- MARTES:** CLASE DE BIBLIA, 7.30 pm a 9 pm.
- MIERCOLES:** MIERCOLES DE MISERICORDIA, de 7 a 9 pm, Iglesia
- GRUPO MADRE TERESA—VISITA A REBEKKA** 10 am
- JUEVES:** T.O.V. 7 pm
- VIERNES:** LEGION DE MARIA 7 pm
VIACRUCIS Y ADORACIÓN, 7 pm
GRUPO JUVENIL 12-18 años, 7 pm. Gimnasio
JECAFA (segundo y cuarto viernes de mes)7.30pm Green Building
- DOMINGO:** CATEQUESIS PARA ADULTOS (RCIA), 10am Cafetería
- MIERCOLES DE MISERICORDIA**
- Marzo 7** Misa por los **Enfermos**
- Marzo 14** Misa por la vida **DIA 5**

LA PALABRA NOS DICE:

Hola queridos hermanos. No debemos perder de vista que todo el camino de Cuaresma mira hacia la Pascua, o sea, hacia las celebraciones que están en el corazón del Catolicismo, la Semana Santa. Esa celebración comienza con la Santa Misa en la conmemoración de la **Cena del Señor** el Jueves Santo en la tarde.

Allí conmemoramos el inmenso regalo de la Eucaristía, el pan del cielo para “no desmayarnos por el camino.”

Después viene el Viernes Santo que es el camino de la cruz. Es el viacrucis que, como en los dos últimos años lo celebraremos en vivo en nuestra parroquia para culminar con la celebración litúrgica de la **Pasión y Muerte del Señor** y la adoración que hacemos de la cruz. Luego está el Sábado Santo, día que culmina triunfalmente con la Vigilia Pascual y su gran desenlace que es la **Resurrección del Señor**.

La cuaresma no es para los creyentes un ejercicio estéril de dar vueltas sobre sí mismo, sino un peregrinar en Cristo y con Cristo, un peregrinaje que tiene una luz intensa que alumbrará el final de la Cuaresma mostrándonos en toda su gloria la luz de la Pascua de Resurrección. Pero no debemos olvidar que la gloria de la luz de Pascua tiene su antecedente en el sufrimiento de la cruz.

Nosotros los cristianos-católicos somos gente de esperanza, pero no gente que vive de fantasías, cosas que son muy diferentes. Nuestra fe se cimienta en hechos reales y poderosos que se repiten en la historia de millones de vidas en cada momento de la historia, en cada día de nuestras vidas.

Sabemos que para llegar a la Pascua debemos pasar por la cruz y por eso las lecturas de los viernes durante Cuaresma tienen un tono muy especial. Ellas nos van preparando de manera singular al **gran viernes**, al viernes santo, al viernes de la cruz y de la sangre, al viernes que es, por un lado de terrible abandono, pero por otro lado es el viernes que dejó grabado para siempre el lenguaje de la misericordia en nuestros corazones.

Por eso en la cuaresma las lecturas de los viernes son especiales. Ellas nos ponen en sintonía con el tono, el estilo y significado de la muerte de Cristo. Por ejemplo, el viernes 2 de marzo tuvimos en la primera lectura la historia de la traición de los hermanos de José. Si recuerdas la historia se trata de los hijos de Jacob. Ellos son doce hermanos y de ellos sale el nombre de las doce tribus de Israel. De ellos hay uno -José- que es sin duda el preferido de Jacob. José ha tenido sueños premonitorios -o sea, que hablan del futuro- en donde él es el personaje central, mientras los hermanos le rinden homenaje, lenguaje que ellos ciertamente no quieren escuchar.

Esas revelaciones van generando en ellos sentimientos de antipatía y resentimiento hacia José y finalmente esto se convierte envidia y odio contra “el de los sueños”. Por eso deciden acabar con él, método que a menudo usa el ser humano cuando cree que hay obstáculos en su camino, método que también fue usado contra Jesús. Al final José no es asesinado sino vendido como esclavo y termina en la tierra de Egipto. Aquí entra la providencia de Dios porque llega una hambruna sobre la tierra y sólo en Egipto se encuentra pan para saciar el hambre. Todos deben llegar allá para conseguir alimento y en ese proceso sucede el re-encuentro entre José -ahora un hombre muy poderoso- y sus hermanos y la manifestación de la misericordia del amor que reconcilia.

Dios escribe derecho en renglones torcidos y nosotros los seres humanos somos expertos en escribir en renglones torcidos. Dios todo lo hace nuevo y usó el pecado de los hermanos para de allí sacar algo bueno. La historia de José tiene un gran parecido con la historia de Jesús. También José, al igual que Jesús, debe pasar por dificultades, sufrimientos y humillaciones, pero al final Dios le da a este hombre fiel la gloria y da la salvación de los suyos.

Estas son lecciones a las que debemos estar muy atentos para cuando llegue el gran viernes. Desde José, el hijo del patriarca Jacob, hasta Jesucristo, el hijo de Dios, hay una constante de persecución del inocente pero también siempre de victoria del amor. Estas historias son parte de nuestra historia, de la historia del ser humano cuya esencia no cambia, es la historia del ser humano en cuyo corazón Dios trabaja sin descanso y va realizando poco a poco su obra de salvación.

La Cuaresma y la Pascua es tu historia y es mi historia y en esa historia Dios está siempre actuando, Él lo hace de manera muchas veces imperceptible para nosotros, pero siempre para nuestro bien, enderezando caminos y recordándonos que la última palabra siempre es el amor, porque Dios es amor. *P. Nelson*

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, March 4, 2018-Third Sunday of Lent

- 7:30 Maria and Guiseppe Biolzi
9:00 Lucy Cannavacioulo-Health Intention
10:30 Sandra Ward-Health Intention
Navarro Ramnarayan and Beverly Rivera
12:00 Pedro Figueroa; Julia Ferrer; Maximina Santiago;
Efrain Bonilla and Ezequiel Bonilla; Digna Robles
1:30 Allison Garcia
5:00 Gladys Perez, Dominga Perez, Mario Duenas and
Nancy Perez

MONDAY, March 5, 2018-St. John Joseph of the Cross

- 6:50 Loretta Bozzone
8:30 Jose A. Garcia
12:15 Chris Eddy Alexis-Special Intention
7:00 Spanish Charismatic Mass

TUESDAY, March 6, 2018-Anniversary of the Piarist Order

- 6:50 Kevin Ross
8:30 Francisco Ariel Chavier
12:15 Andrew Gerald

WEDNESDAY, March 7, 2018-Sts. Perpetua and Felicity

- 6:50 Michael Novasky & Tatiana Martins Intentions and
For Granting U Visa Certification for Xavier Francis & Meera Job
8:30 Sheila Padgett, Lorraine Padgett and Ethel Massey
12:15 Philip E. Parker, Jr.
7:00 All Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, March 8, 2018-St. Faustino Miguez

- 6:50 Alessandra Mia Savino's Utmost Facility in Achieving
Salvation and Meaningful Happiness in Her Life
8:30 The Shine Family Intentions
12:15 Guido, Bellizzi and Tamburi Families

FRIDAY, March 9, 2018-St. Dominic Savio

- 6:50 Josephine Cozzolino
8:30 In Thanksgiving for Favors
12:15 Leah Rodriguez-Health Intentions

SATURDAY, March 10, 2018-St. Macarius

- 6:50 Alessandra Mia Savino's Utmost Facility in Achieving
Salvation and Meaningful Happiness in Her Life
8:30 Catherine Marie Powers
12:15 Terence Lorino-Health Intention
5:30 Doris Waldropt Birthday Intention

SUNDAY, March 11, 2018-Fourth Sunday of Lent (Daylight Savings Time)

- 7:30 Those Suffering From Breast Cancer
9:00 Lucy Cannavacioulo-Health Intention
10:30 Gracia Maria Ortiz
12:00 Yajaira Vargaz and Laura Verdugo-Health Intention
and for the Soul of Pedro Beltran
1:30 Cipriano Velasquez and Lucretia Velasquez
5:00 Jose A. Garcia

Readings for the Week of March 4, 2018

Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25. ; **Scrutiny:** Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42;
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30;
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35; **Wednesday:** Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20 [12a]/Mt 5:17-19; **Thursday:** Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23; **Friday:** Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34; **Saturday:** Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14 ; **Next Sunday:** 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21. **Scrutiny:** 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38