

## 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

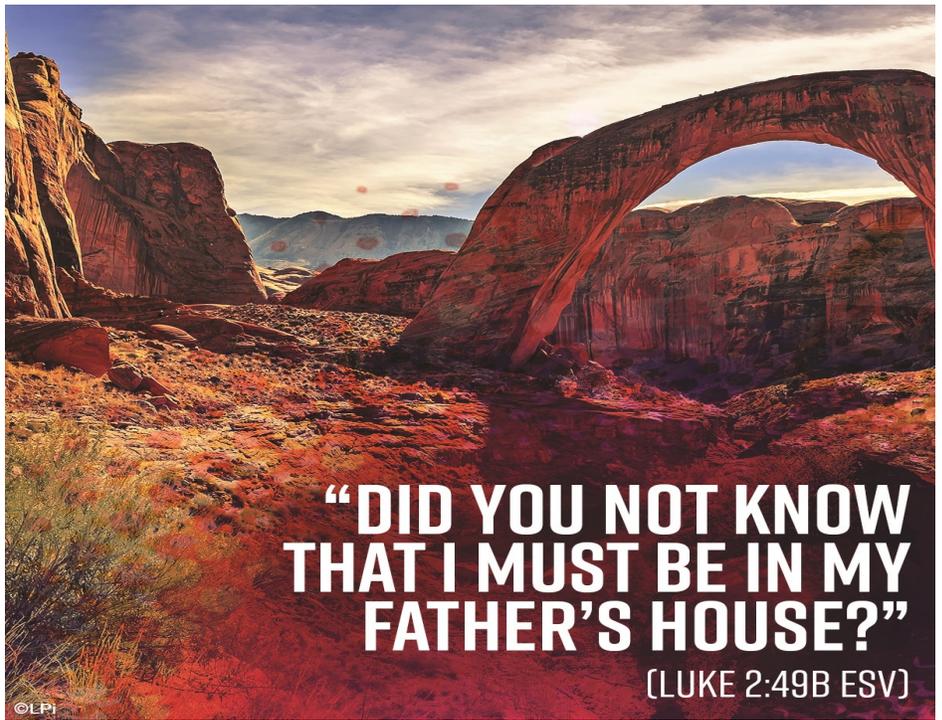
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

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

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

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



# saint Helena parish



Bronx, NY

## Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

**Saturday:** 5:30 PM

**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

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE****Palm Sunday Vigil: March 24**

Spanish Charismatic Retreat: 12-5PM gym  
 Spanish Baptism: 2:30PM  
 Palm Sunday Vigil Mass: 5:30PM  
 Gracias Choir Easter Cantata: 7-9PM Church

**Palm Sunday: March 25**

Masses: 7:30AM, 9:30AM (with procession), 11:30AM (with procession), 2:00PM & 4:30PM (with procession)  
 Lunch at 1:30PM; Spanish Movie (Passion of the Christ) at 3PM gym  
 Adoration & Benediction in English from 3:30-4:30PM Church

**Reconciliation Monday: March 26**

Masses: 6:50, 8:30, and 12:15PM  
 Confessions heard 4:00-8:00PM in both English & Spanish

**Tuesday of Holy Week: March 27**

Masses: 6:50, 8:30, and 12:15PM  
 SEDER SUPPER at 7PM gymnasium: presenter from Paris

**Spy Wednesday: March 28**

Masses: 6:50, 8:30, and 12:15PM  
 English Movie and Discussion at 1PM in Green Building

**Maundy Thursday: March 29**

6:50AM Morning Mass  
 10:30AM Children's Holy Thursday Liturgy  
 7:30PM Bi-Lingual Solemn Mass & ADORATION until 11PM

**Good Friday: March 30**

8:30AM Tenebrae  
 10:30AM Children's Good Friday Service  
 3:00PM Simple Traditional Good Friday Service  
 4:00PM Divine Mercy Novena (Spanish-gym & English-church)  
 5:00PM Seven Last Words of Christ (Spanish gym & English-church)  
 6-8PM Living Stations of the Cross  
 8:00PM Solemn Good Friday Liturgy (Spanish-Gym & English-church) Groups come together for Veneration of the Cross in Church.

**Holy Saturday: March 31**

8:30AM Tenebrae  
 10:00AM RCIA Rite  
 1:30-6:30PM Decoration of Church for Easter  
 4:00-5:30PM Confessions  
 6:45PM Divine Mercy Novena (English-Church & Spanish-Gym)  
 7:30PM Bi-Lingual Solemn Easter Vigil (with Choirs)

**Easter Sunday: April 1**

Masses: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM Spanish Mass & Novena;  
 2:00PM, 3:00PM Baptisms and 4:30PM

**Divine Mercy Sunday Schedule:****Easter Week: April 2-6**

Masses: 6:50, 8:30, and 12:15PM  
 7:00PM Divine Mercy Novena in Spanish in church  
 7:30PM Divine Mercy Novena in English in church

**Day Prior to Divine Mercy Sunday: April 7**

Parish Pilgrimage to Divine Mercy Shrine—  
 Buses leave at 6:30AM  
 Cost \$45; \$20 deposit due by March 30, bring to Rectory

**Divine Mercy Sunday: April 8**

7:30AM, 9:00AM, 10:30AM (Family), Noon (Spanish)  
 1:30PM Lunch, Movie "Risen"-gym; 1:30PM Mass;  
 3:00PM Divine Mercy Chaplet (En) Confession and Veneration of Image; 5:00PM Mass

**Rosary Prayed Twice at St. Helena every week:** The Most Holy Rosary is now being prayed as a group twice each week. The Legion of Mary prays the Rosary in Spanish every Friday at 7PM in the rectory meeting room, and the Rosary is prayed publicly every Wednesday following the 12:15PM Mass.

**A Plenary Indulgence** may be gained (under the usual conditions) when the Rosary is prayed in Church, in a family group or in a religious community. The following conditions must be met:

- Five (5) decades of the Rosary must be prayed continuously.
- The prayers of the Rosary must be prayed vocally and one must meditate upon the Mysteries of the Rosary.
- If the recitation of the Rosary is public, the Mysteries of the Rosary must be announced.

**A Partial Indulgence** may be gained for the Rosary's recitation in whole or in part in other circumstances.

**A Plenary Indulgence** can be gained only once a day (except by those who are in danger of death.) To gain a *plenary indulgence* one must perform the indulgenced act, and three other conditions must be fulfilled:

1. A sacramental confession (within two weeks of the indulgenced action)
2. Eucharistic Communion (within two weeks of the indulgenced action)
3. Recite prayers for the Pope's intentions

In addition, one must be free of all attachments to sin, even venial sin. If this complete integrity is not present or if the above conditions are not fulfilled the indulgence is only partial. Both a plenary and partial indulgence may be applied to the dead.

**BLESSED CELESTINA DONATI - March 18**

Maria Anna Donati was born in Marradi (Firenze) on October 28, 1848. She soon felt attracted by the religious life, so she spent a period of reflection with the Sisters of Vallombrosa, but the experience was not successful. She returned to her family and was later entrusted to the spiritual guidance of the Piarist priest Father Celestino Zini, Sch.P., who recognized her hidden spiritual possibilities and led her to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit. With his advice, at age 41, she founded the new Congregation of the "Poor Daughters of St. Joseph Calasanz" in 1899. Commonly known as the "Calasanziane," its purpose was educating poor Christian girls, and their ministry was later expanded to include the education of the children of prisoners.

The message of Calasanz, endorsed by Mother Celestina Donati, who, upon taking her vows, had changed her name from Mary Anne, was always alive and present, and her sisters actively taught educational and social skills, and they became well-known for instilling within their students more than just human and civil skills but especially the "extra soul" that comes from faith. In 1892, her spiritual director and driving force, Father Zini, died. He had become the archbishop of Siena but maintained all responsibility for the institution. He governed wisely, and the sisters soon spread throughout all regions of Italy.

She knew how to instill within her daughters the spirit of poverty that accompanied all her life, avoiding many difficulties in the management of the Institute. Humble in nature, she posed any problem to her ecclesiastical superiors and followed their advice with docility. She worked hard to establish the Institute in Rome, contracting considerable debt and succeeding with the help of many different people.

Mother Celestina died in Florence on March 18, 1925, and the cause for her beatification began ten years later. On July 12, 1982, the decree of introduction was published, and on April 6, 1998, she was acknowledged as one having heroic virtues and was given the title of Venerable. She was beatified in Florence on March 30, 2008.

Among the many houses that her Calasanziane sisters run, there is the "oasis calasanziana" and "Mamma Bella," which is located on the Salentine Fields, near Lecce, in whose church lie the relics of the Piarist priest Saint Pompilio Maria Pirrotti, who had lived and taught there. The work of the sisters continues there, and they now minister to Albanian immigrants.

## Solemnity of St. Joseph - March 19

Venerated as a saint, St. Joseph is a biblical figure who is believed to have been the corporeal father of Jesus Christ.

St. Joseph first appears in the Bible in the gospels of Matthew and Luke where his lineage is traced back to King David. According to the visions of Venerable Mother Mary of Agreda, Joseph was born circa 47 BC and later wed the Virgin Mary when she was 14 and remained married to her for 27 years. He died in Israel at the age of 60 around AD 13.

Everything we know for certain about St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus, comes from the Bible, and mentions of him are overwhelming. The 13 New Testament books written by Paul (the epistles) make no reference to him at all, nor does the Gospel of Mark, the first of the Gospels. Joseph is mentioned twice in John's Gospel. Joseph first appears in the Bible in the gospels of Matthew and Luke, each of which traces Joseph's lineage back to King David but through different sons; Matthew follows the major royal line from Solomon, while Luke traces another line back to Nathan, another son of David and Bathsheba. Consequently, all the names between David and Joseph are different. Most scholars reconcile the genealogies by viewing the Solomonic lineage in Matthew as Joseph's major royal line, and the Nathanic lineage in Luke to be Mary's minor line. To add to the problem of not knowing enough about Joseph, some apocryphal writings—such as the second-century Protevangelium of James and the fourth-century History of Joseph the Carpenter—muddy the historical waters further, presenting him as a widower with children when he met Mary and claiming that he lived to the age of 111. These claims, however, are spurious and most are not accepted by the church.

After marrying Mary, Joseph found that she was already pregnant, and being "a just man and unwilling to put her to shame" (Matt. 1:19), he decided to divorce her quietly, knowing that if he did so publicly, she could be stoned to death. An angel, however, came to Joseph and told him that the child Mary carried was the son of God and was conceived by the Holy Spirit, so Joseph kept Mary as his wife. After Jesus's birth in Bethlehem, an angel came to Joseph again, this time to warn him and Mary about King Herod of Judea and the violence he would bring down upon the child. Joseph then fled to Egypt with Mary and Jesus, and the angel appeared again, telling Joseph that Herod had died and instructing him to return to the Holy Land.

Avoiding Bethlehem and possible actions by Herod's successor, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus settled in Nazareth, in Galilee. The Gospels describe Joseph as a "tekton," which is a Greek word that means "one who works with his hands." Traditionally, this word has been translated as "carpenter," and it is assumed that Joseph taught his craft to Jesus in Nazareth. At this point, however, Joseph is never mentioned again by name in the Bible. The last time Joseph appears in person in any Gospel is in the story of the Passover visit to the Temple in Jerusalem when Jesus is 12 years old, found only in Luke. No mention is made of him thereafter. The story emphasizes Jesus' awareness of his coming mission: here Jesus speaks to his parents (both of them) of "my father," meaning God, but they fail to understand. The circumstances of Joseph's death are not known, but it is likely that he died before Jesus's ministry began, and it is implied that he was dead before the Crucifixion (John 19:26-27).

According to the visions of Venerable Mother Mary of Agreda (1602-1665), "The most fortunate of men, Saint Joseph reached an age of sixty years and a few days. For at the age of thirty-three he espoused the blessed Virgin, and he lived with Her a little longer than twenty-seven years as her husband. When Saint Joseph died, She had completed the half of her forty-second year; for She was espoused to Saint Joseph at the age of fourteen. The twenty-seven years of her married life completed her forty-first year, to which must be added the time from the eighth of September until the death of her blessed spouse. The Queen of heaven still remained in the same disposition of natural perfection as in her thirty-third year; for she showed no signs of decline, or



of more advanced age, or of weakness, but always remained in that same most perfect state of womanhood. She felt the natural sorrow due to the death of Saint Joseph: for She loved him as her spouse, as a man preeminent in perfection and holiness and as her protector and benefactor."

Already a patron saint of Mexico, Canada and Belgium, in 1870, Joseph was declared patron of the universal church by Pope Pius IX, and in 1955 Pope Pius XII established May 1 as the "Feast of St. Joseph the Worker" to counter the Communists' May Day. Pope Pius IX declared him to be both the patron and the protector of the Catholic Church, in addition to his patronages of the sick and of a happy death, due to the belief that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary. In popular piety, Joseph is regarded as a model for fathers, and, of course, many people when trying to sell their homes will bury a little statue of St. Joseph upside down in their yard until their home sells.

## L'Église est en réforme permanente

«C'est le Saint Esprit qui ... meut l'Église en une purification et une réforme de soi permanente, afin qu'elle aille de l'avant », a déclaré le cardinal Fernando Filoni, grand chancelier de l'Université pontificale urbanienne et préfet de la Congrégation pour l'évangélisation des peuples.

C'est ce qu'il a affirmé en ouvrant, le 13 mars 2018, les travaux d'un Congrès international sur le thème « Réforme au sein de l'Église, réforme de l'Église », qui se déroule jusqu'au 15 mars à l'Université pontificale urbanienne, indique l'agence vaticane Fides.

La réforme de l'Église, a souligné le cardinal, n'est pas « une renonciation opportuniste à des éléments historicisés de la Tradition de l'Église ». Elle n'est pas non plus conçue pour « permettre l'entrée en son sein des vents variables et contrastants du relativisme, du sécularisme, du réductionnisme, de l'irénisme, etc. »

Il s'agit plutôt d' « une transformation effectivement missionnaire de l'Église », a expliqué le cardinal Filoni. L'Église, a-t-il dit, vit son caractère missionnaire « dans sa tension visant à demeurer constamment fidèle au mandat du Christ consistant à aller dans le monde entier » et à « faire de tous les peuples des disciples ».

Le préfet a rappelé « la spécificité multiculturelle de l'Université urbanienne », où « ses protagonistes, étudiants et enseignants, sont eux-mêmes porteurs des multiples ferments de l'urgence du renouvellement et de la transformation missionnaire de l'Église ».

Le cardinal a souligné, selon *L'Osservatore Romano*, que « l'harmonie recherchée avec l'instance toute missionnaire de la "réforme de l'Église", prend une signification spéciale », puisqu'elle « fut déjà faite par le Concile Vatican II et que depuis lors, elle a été invoquée comme urgente dans et par les Églises locales et elle a été demandée dans les enseignements des papes Paul VI, Jean-Paul II, Benoît XVI et François ». Par conséquent, « si cette harmonie n'était pas recherchée », a-t-il averti, l'Université urbanienne « aurait rendu opaque son identité et aurait failli à sa finalité ».

Il a dit aussi qu'à l'époque actuelle dominée par l'impératif du progrès à réaliser à tout prix, « l'inculturation de l'Évangile prend une signification prégnante d'humanisation spirituelle de cultures différentes entre elles et de développement intégral des peuples ».

## Why Should I Fast More Often Than is Required?

During the Season of Lent, the Church urges **all** of the faithful to reflect a spirit of penance in their daily life through performing acts of fast and abstinence. Lent is a time consecrated in a special manner to penance, and this penance is mainly practiced by fasting. Fasting is an abstinence, which we voluntarily impose on ourselves. Pope Clement XIII in 1759 said that "penance also demands that we satisfy divine justice with fasting, almsgiving, and prayer and other spiritual works." The purpose of fasting is not to become physically weak or to lose weight but to create a hunger, a spiritual void that only Christ can fill; in fasting from the heart, we express our love of God and acknowledge our

sinfulness. Though unworthy, we pray our sacrifices, which are no longer animal but rather spiritual sacrifices, will be acceptable to the one who suffered and gave his life blood for us.

**FASTING**, at its minimum, requires that only one full meal be taken per day. Two other smaller meals may be taken during the day to maintain physical strength, but these two meals together should not equal a full meal in quantity. Fasting obliges all those who have reached the age of 18 and continues to oblige until age 59. Those not specifically obliges to fast are **encouraged** to join in the discipline of fasting to the extent that they are able.

**ABSTINENCE** prohibits individuals from eating meat on a particular day. Abstinence obliges all those who have reached the age of 14 and continues to oblige throughout their entire life. Those not specifically obliged to abstain from eating meat are **encouraged** to join in the discipline to the extent that they are able.

**LENTEN DEVOTIONS**-We will have Eucharistic Adoration on **Friday, March 23** from **1-8PM** and Stations of the Cross at **1PM** and **8PM** in English and **7PM** in Spanish.

**EASTER FLOWERS COLLECTION** will take place this weekend. Please contribute to the beauty of the Church this Easter Season. Thank you for all that you do.

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COLLECTION** will take place next weekend, **March 24-25**. We urgently need your help.

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **50/50**-Remember, it only costs **\$5.00** to enter. The next winner will be picked on **Monday, March 26**. You cannot win unless you enter. Envelopes are available at the two Church entrances. Perhaps one will be the winner.
- **ENGLISH FAMILY SESSION** will take place today **Sunday, March 18** at **11:30AM** in the cafeteria.
- **NO RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES** **March 28** or **April 4**.
- **FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION** information will be distributed on **Wednesday, March 21** during religious instruction classes.
- **SPANISH PRAYER GROUP** meets every **Monday**, at **7PM** in the Church.
- **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 today **Sunday, March 18**, at **11:30AM**, as well as on **Tuesday, March 20**, at both **1PM** and **7:30PM**. On **Tuesday**, we will study Chapter 13 of the "Acts of the Apostles" which is about St. Paul's 1st Missionary Journey.
- **SPANISH BIBLE STUDY** will begin **Tuesday, March 20** at **7:30PM** in the cafeteria. The topic will be Mariology.
- **BOY SCOUTS**, every **Wednesday** 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 filling up quickly. Come in early, especially if you want very specific Mass dates.
- **RELIGIOUS ARTICLES ROOM** is open every **Sunday** from **8AM-1:30PM**. We are expanding the room. Do you have any religious articles or handicraft you wish to donate to the church? If so, bring them to the rectory.
- **CONGRATULATIONS TO BR. RICARDO RIVERA ORTIZ, SCLP**. Today, **March 18**, is his 30th birthday, and this past Monday, he passed his comprehensive examination

at St. Joseph's Seminary in order to be granted the MDiv (Master's in Divinity) degree. We also welcome again to St. Helena is mother, who flew in from Puerto Rico, to celebrate both occasions with her son.

- **ST. PAUL'S BOOK SALE THIS WEEKEND**-Representatives from St. Paul's will be selling brand new books and tapes **in both English and Spanish** after ALL **MASSES** this weekend, **March 17 and 18** in the Narthex. **ST PAUL'S**, a member of the St Paul's international group, publishes religious books, CDs and DVDs for adults, teenagers and children.
- **JOSEPH OF NAZARETH**-On **Monday, March 19**, the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Patron Saint of the Universal Church, we will show a very realistic 2000 movie on the life of St. Joseph at **7:30PM** in the Green Building. There is no charge to attend and everyone is welcome.
- **NEXT BAPTISM PREP CLASS** will be held on **Thursday, March 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.
- **EASTER CANTATA**-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**.
- **PIARISTS WILL RENEW THEIR RELIGIOUS VOWS** All six Piarists currently residing and ministering at St. Helena Parish will publically renew their four religious vows of poverty; chastity; obedience; and the education of youth, especially the poor, during the **NOON** Mass next **Sunday, March 25**, which is the 401st anniversary of St. Joseph Calasanz and his fourteen first members of The Piarist Fathers receiving the Piarist religious habit for the first time. Please join us for this special celebration.
- **ANNUAL SEDER SUPPER**-St. Helena will host its annual Passover Seder Supper on **Tues., March 27** at **7PM** in the gym. This year, Karl De Souza, who is on staff with Jews for



### **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b>	<b>\$5,385.46</b>
<b>Catholic Relief Services</b>	<b>\$1,479.93</b>

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. Repairmen are 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 apoya estas mejoras.

Jesus, will be flying over to St. Helena's from Paris, France, to conduct the model Seder. He will discuss and demonstrate how Passover was celebrated originally in the Old Testament, at the time of Jesus, and by Jews today. This is a very special celebration, one you will not want to miss. Everyone is welcome.

- **DIVINE MERCY SHRINE**-Our annual parish pilgrimage to the National Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, Massachusetts will take place on **Saturday, April 7**. The buses will leave at **6:30AM**, and we will return around **9PM**. The cost for the trip is \$45. Please secure your spot by bringing a \$20 deposit to the rectory by **March 30**.
- **COMMUNITY SAFETY SUMMIT MEETING**-Come and ask members of the NYPD and Parkchester Security questions and express your concerns about police safety issues of importance to you. The meeting will take place in the gymnasium on **Wednesday, April 25** from **6:30-7:30PM**.
- **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**.
- **AA BIG BOOK STUDY** meets every **Sat., 7-8:30PM** in the green building.
- **CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS (CODA)** meets every **Monday** from **7-8:30PM** in the rectory meeting room.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?** Call **1-800-621-HOPE**

## SCHOOL NEWS

- **SCHOOL PARENT'S ASSOCIATION MEETING** will be held on **Thursday, March 22** at **8PM** in the cafeteria. We would like to start planning for the Middle School Dance this spring and to inform you of some recent developments with the Archdiocese. We want to hear your input.

### **Horsemen Win Varsity Championship**

The St. Helena Horsemen trampled Our Lady of the Assumption 60-29 to win the local Catholic Basketball League Varsity Championship Tuesday night at St. Theresa's. Earlier, St. Theresa's won the JV championship over St. Ignatius Loyola. Omari Ward hit a free throw for the first point of the game, which he quickly followed with a three. OLA's John DiNapoli responded by also hitting a three, and Ward next sank a two. Both teams played aggressive ball, and the Horsemen only led 18-9 at the quarter, but OLA lost its focus and just could not sink their shots, and the Horsemen took advantage and led 36-20 at the half. Khalil Black hit a three to open the second half for the Horsemen, who just never looked back. All players on both teams had playing time, and everyone received a plaque at the conclusion of the game to celebrate their team's achievement.

Both Omari Ward and Francisco Mattei had 2 threes. Ward had a game-high 23 points, finishing the season with a league-high 238 points. Mattei had 13 points, and Christian Colter was also in double digits with 10 points. Devonne Stewart hit 2 twos in the fourth for 4 points, followed by Black with his three. Eric Cordero hit a two in the first; William Manning had one in the second, and Jose Velez sank his two in the fourth. Danny Bahora

rounded out the Horsemen scoring with a free throw in the fourth. Anthony Perroncini was the only OLA player in double digits with ten. The Horsemen were 5 for 14 from the line, while OLA was 4 for 12. Congratulations to Coach Bobby Schaefer and the Horsemen for once more bringing home the CBL varsity championship.

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND**-Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Lent and Easter? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joy-filled hope in our Risen Savior. Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in Catholic Mass on TV or watch online:

### **PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER TV MASS**

WRNN channel 48 at **8:00 a.m.**

### **ONLINE VIDEO**

[www.HeartoftheNation.org](http://www.HeartoftheNation.org)

- **MAKE DISCIPLES EFFECTIVELY, EFFICIENTLY, AND AFFORDABLY**-Ascension Press wants to make your Bible Study experience as easy and low-cost as possible. Our small-group digital platform does just this. With our digital delivery platform, parishes and groups no longer have to purchase DVDs to run studies. AND, everyone can get digital access to all 45 of our learning systems—with no monthly fee or extra cost. The first sessions are free for those already on the digital platform. Call **800-376-0520** for info.
- **POPE INSTITUTES FEAST OF OUR LADY, MOTHER OF CHURCH**-The liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church—currently celebrated in Poland and Argentina—has been extended to the universal Church and will be celebrated on the day after Pentecost Sunday. Cardinal Robert Sarah, prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, said that the new feast emphasizes “the importance of the mystery of Mary’s spiritual motherhood, which from the awaiting of the Spirit at Pentecost has never ceased to take motherly care of the pilgrim Church on earth.”
- **IRAQI CATHOLIC PATRIARCH NOMINATED FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE**-Patriarch Louis Raphaël I Sako has led the Chaldean Catholic Church since 2013. “The Catholic association L’Oeuvre d’Orient put forward his candidacy in late January, which the Norwegian Nobel Committee accepted.”
- **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.
- **SEE PAUL THE APOSTLE OF CHRIST**-Join Catholic Charities Junior Board to see "Paul, Apostle of Christ" on **Friday, March 23**, at **7 PM** at the AMC Empire 25. Seating is reserved, so please purchase your ticket online as soon as possible to join the Junior Board members in rows E and F. <http://www.paulmovie.com/site/>. **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.
- **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](mailto:kjavier@amsu.org). Visit our website- [www.amsu.org](http://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)
- **SEND YOUR NAME TO THE SUN**-NASA's Parker Solar Probe mission – scheduled to launch in summer 2018 – will travel through the sun's atmosphere and get closer to the solar surface than any spacecraft before it. You can send your name along for the ride. To commemorate humanity's first visit to our own star, NASA is inviting people around the world to submit their names online to be placed on a microchip aboard the Parker Solar Probe. Submissions will be accepted until **April 27, 2018**. Go to: <http://parkersolarprobe.jhuapl.edu/The-Mission/Name-to-Sun/>

## ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

- **MARIOLOGIA:** Iniciamos nuestro curso el **MARTES 20** a las **7.30 pm**
- **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 22 de marzo** a las **7 pm**. **NOTA IMPORTANTE:** Se debe traer copia del certificado de nacimiento del niño.
- **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.
- **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.
- **DEVOCIONES PARA CUARESMA:** Viacrucis en español, viernes a las 7 pm. Ven con la familia.
- **MIERCOLES DE MISERICORDIA: 21 de marzo, MISA POR LA FAMILIA.**
- **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](http://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.*

### *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, Kheather Raby, Erica Vargas, Caroline Caper, Chaya Jonathan, Leah Rodriguez

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

Maria Enriquez, Fr. Robert Aufieri, Fr. Oscar Alonso, Brigid McKeon, Jose Quintero, Juanita Sanchez, Edmond Okonkwo, Margaret Coyle, Nelly Perez, Sr. Virginia Seibert, SSND, Alice Carrion, Maureen Sullivan, Alice Delarosa, Higinio Santana Jr., Margot Arroyo, Carmen Rivera, Carlos Morales, Cecilia Leon, Emma Perez Rodriguez

- **CAMBIO DE HORARIO EN DOS MISAS: *Recuerda*** que la misa de **Domingo de Ramos** y la del **Domingo de Pascua** comenzarán a las **11.30 am** en lugar de las 12 m.
- **COMPRAS EN AMAZON?** Si vas al link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/13-1740343> antes de hacer tu compra el 0.5% del valor será donado a tu Iglesia. Es otra manera de solidarizarse con tu comunidad.

## LITURGIA DE PASCUA

- 3-24** **Sábado. RETIRO DE CUARESMA PARA PASCUA** 12-5 pm  
**CANTATA** 7 pm. Coro bilingüe-concierto en la Iglesia. Gratis.
- 3-25** **Domingo de Ramos**  
**Misas:** 7.30 am - 9.30 am (*procesión*)- **11.30 am** (*procesión*)- 2 pm 4.30 pm (*procesión*)  
**Nota:** Los seis Escolapios (padres y hermanos) *renovarán sus votos* en la *misa* de 12 pm.  
**1.40 pm** Almuerzo - Película "**La Pasión de Cristo**" \$5
- 3-26** **Lunes de Reconciliación:** Confesiones 4 pm a 8 pm.  
Español e Inglés
- 3-27** **Última Cena**, 7 pm. Gimnasio. Inglés.
- 3-29** **Jueves Santo**  
**10.30 am** Liturgia para niños  
**7.30 pm** Misa Bilingüe & Adoración hasta las 11 am
- 3-30** **Viernes Santo**  
**8.30 am** Tenebrae. Inglés  
**10.30 am** Servicio de Viernes Santo para niños  
**3 pm** Servicio de Viernes Santo sencillo. Inglés  
**4 pm** Novena Divina Misericordia (Gym)  
**5 pm** Sermón de las Siete Palabras (Gym)  
**6 p-8pm** Estaciones de la Cruz en vivo  
**8 pm** Liturgia Solemne de la Palabra (Gym)  
Adoración de la Cruz y Comunión en la Iglesia
- 3-31** **Sábado Santo**  
**8.30 am** Tenebrae. Inglés  
**10 am 1.30-6.30 pm** Decoración de Pascua de la Iglesia  
**4-5.30 pm** Confesiones  
**6.45 pm** Novena de la Divina Misericordia (Gym)  
**7.30 pm** Vigilia Solemne
- 4-1** **Domingo de Resurrección**  
**Misas:** 7.30 am - 9.30 am - **11.30 am** - 2 pm - 4.30 pm  
Novena de la Divina Misericordia después de misa en el gym  
La **Semana de Pascua** tendremos **Novena de la Misericordia** a las 7 pm
- 4-7** **Sábado.** Peregrinaje al Santuario de la Divina Misericordia.  
**Salida a las 6.30 am**
- 4-8** **Domingo de la Divina Misericordia**

## PROXIMAS ACTIVIDADES

- Abril 16, Lunes** **GELA, CONCIERTO-TESTIMONIO,**  
7 pm - 9 pm. Iglesia.
- Mayo 11, Viernes** **Hna. GLENDA, CONCIERTO-ORACION "NADA TE TURBE"** 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm. Iglesia.

## LA PALABRA NOS DICE:

Hola queridos herman@s. Estamos iniciando la quinta semana de Cuaresma, ya el domingo próximo estaremos celebrando el Domingo de Ramos. Durante esta semana que termina el tono de las lecturas ha cambiado. Por ejemplo, a pesar de estar en el Ciclo B de la liturgia, en donde el Evangelio de San Marcos es el que nos acompaña, ahora hemos estado leyendo el Evangelio de San Juan y lo leeremos en total por diez semanas consecutivas. La razón para este cambio es que San Juan nos da una

profundidad cristológica muy especial sobre la comprensión maravillosa del misterio Trinitario.

A San Juan lo tenemos con nosotros durante dos momentos especiales en el año. Primero, hacia el final del tiempo de Adviento y durante la Navidad. Allí el ‘discípulo amado’ nos adentra en el precioso y profundo misterio de la Encarnación. El Hijo de Dios, Aquel a quien el padre le comunicó todo su ser y su amor, viene al mundo para darnos a conocer el maravilloso designio que el Padre tiene para nosotros: que vivamos para siempre en la presencia de Dios. La eternidad es don y regalo para todos aquellos que creemos y aceptamos a Jesús como nuestro Dios y Salvador.

El otro tiempo cuando tenemos a San Juan por un período de tiempo largo es ahora, al final de Cuaresma y durante todo el tiempo hasta Pentecostés. Es el tiempo de la maduración profunda de la comprensión del significado de ser discípulos de Jesucristo y del fortalecimiento de nuestra fe en el conocimiento del misterio de amor que Dios Padre, con la plena participación de Dios Hijo, a través de la inspiración que Dios Espíritu Santo, da en forma permanente a la Iglesia que el Señor nos dejó.

El 14 de marzo falleció Stephen Hawkins, una de las más brillantes mentes de la ciencia en los últimos tiempos. Hago referencia a este hombre, ateo por excelencia, porque en el Evangelio del viernes 16 se hace una referencia sobre la actitud de muchas personas, en el tiempo de Jesús, con referencia al Enviado de Dios. Esta actitud, que ha sido permanente en el corazón del ser humano marcado por el peso del pecado, tiende a rechazar no sólo al Creador, sino inclusive a quien Él ha enviado para dejarnos conocer quiénes somos en realidad, cuál es nuestra misión en la vida y cuál es nuestro destino final.

San Juan escribe que a Jesús lo quieren matar y por eso no iba todavía a Judea. Esto nos enseña que hay que ser prudentes encuentro caminar. En su camino hay personas que lo reconocen y dicen: *“Nosotros sabemos de dónde viene éste; en cambio, cuando llegue el Mesías, nadie sabrá de dónde viene.”* Ellos “creían” conocer a Jesús porque lo habían visto caminar, conocían su familia y no les parecía que ello concordara con la idea que ellos tenían sobre cómo debía ser el Mesías. Definitivamente, los caminos de Dios no son los caminos del ser humano, estamos muy lejos de Él.

Inclusive nosotros los creyentes a menudo ‘creemos’ que ya conocemos a Dios. Ciertamente, ya tenemos un recorrido, una experiencia de Dios y eso es importante para nosotros y a muchos esa experiencia ha transformado totalmente nuestra vida. Sin embargo, debemos tener cuidado de ‘creer’ que ya lo conocemos, esa es la fórmula para comenzar a alejarnos de Él. Hay otro grupo muy de moda hoy día que ‘cree’ conocer muy bien a Dios. Se trata de la ciencia. No me refiero a todos los científicos y no ataco la ciencia como tal, ella es una maravilla porque nos ayuda a confirmar en cada descubrimiento la mano amorosa de Dios. El problema es la arrogancia que a menudo acompaña a algunos científicos.

Stephen Hawking afirmó en sus obras la no existencia de Dios. El argumento? Si YO no lo puedo comprobar, es que no existe. Es el problema con lo que se denomina científicismo, postura que afirma no sólo que la forma más valiosa del conocimiento es la ciencia, sino que se afirma como la única. Todo debe ser valorado, según ellos, según el método científico y, en últimas son ellos los que tienen la última palabra en lo que se refiere a los grandes misterios del universo.

Esta postura es falsa. La única respuesta que la ciencia ha podido dar al origen del universo es que “todo ha sido coincidental”, todo ha surgido de manera espontánea y poco a poco todo se ha hecho a sí mismo de tal manera, que hoy vemos el universo de la manera que es. Somos todos una coincidencia? Una casualidad? Es una respuesta demasiado pobre para quienes se consideran tan brillantes y racionales. Es mucho más creíble y razonable admirar

la belleza y complejidad de un universo que es matemáticamente perfecto y saber que una mano sabia y amorosa lo ha creado. Un Creador que está vivo y con el que nos podemos relacionar por medio de su Hijo.

Al final todo se reduce a lo que Jesús les respondió: “Yo no vengo por mi cuenta sino enviado por el que es veraz; y a Él ustedes no lo conocen.” Cuando no hay fe nada le pertenece a Dios. Con los ojos de la fe la vida es muy diferente. Celebremos con alegría que tenemos un Dios que nos ama, nos habla, nos enseña y nos guía. Ese nuestro tesoro y no lo cambiamos por nada del mundo.

P. Nelson

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, March 18, 2018-Fifth Sunday of Lent

7:30 Brenda Van de Weghe's Spiritual Needs and Full Recuperation From Eye Surgery

9:00 Josephine Acevado

10:30 Lucy Cannavaccioulo-Health Intention

12:00 Luis-Jose Herrera; Yonior Yazfon Marte; Adelina Rosas and Jose Manuel Yanez

1:30 Carmen Rodriguez

5:00 Ernestine and Arthur Perea Jr. and for Celine and Sylvia Perea Intentions

### MONDAY, March 19, 2018-Solemnity of St. Joseph

6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors

8:30 Ralph A. Cerbone Jr.

10:00 Funeral-Higinio Santana Jr.

12:15 Clifton Allen; Josephine Cozzolino

### TUESDAY, March 20, 2018-St. Wulfran

6:50 Joseph and Matilda Carty

8:30 Jose Davila Ortiz

12:15 Michael Guido

### WEDNESDAY, March 21, 2018-St. Nicholas of Flue

6:50 Nelida Perez

8:30 For the Safety of Our Country

12:15 Margaret Callaghan

7:00 Juana del Carmen Rodriguez; Maria Mata; Marcelino Ramos

### THURSDAY, March 22, 2018-St. Lea

6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors

8:30 Mary Smith

12:15 Carlos and Bienvenida (Birthday) Reyes

### FRIDAY, March 23, 2018-St. Turibius de Mongrovejo

6:50 Msgr. Francis X. Duffy

8:30 Anneris Rosario-Health Intention

11:00 Cremains Mass-Margot Arroyo

12:15 Altagracia, Carmen, Manuel and Jose Capellan

### SATURDAY, March 24, 2018-St. Catherine of Sweden

6:50 Julio Cartejena-Diaz

8:30 Alberto Brinz

12:15 Sr. Virginia Sebert, SSND

5:30 Terence Lorino-Health Intention

### SUNDAY, March 25, 2018-PALM SUNDAY

7:30 Lucy Cannavaccioulo-Health Intention

9:30 Marianna Seda & Pedro Seda; Sherinah Yvette Lugo

11:30 Jose Sanabria; Anna Luisa Perez; Sherinah Lugo

2:00 Ralph A. Cerbone Jr.

4:30 Indra Romdhon, Rupert Ramdhon & Shamie Romlaxhan; Almora Cara Cena and Families

### Readings for the Week of March 18, 2018

**Sunday:** Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45; **Monday:** 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a; **Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30 ; **Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3: 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42 ; **Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59 ; **Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42 ; **Saturday:** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56 ; **Next Sunday:** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39