

# The Piarist Fathers



## Pastor

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

## Parochial Vicars

Rev. Nelson Henao Sch.P.

Rev. Richard Wyzykiewicz Sch.P.

## Parish Staff

### Parish Secretary

Mrs. Rosemarie Ortiz

### Business Manager

Anne Kathy Rice

### Facilities Manager

Alina Hernandez

### Music Director

Mr. Daniel Ambe

### Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson

Mr. Alex Henriquez

## June 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

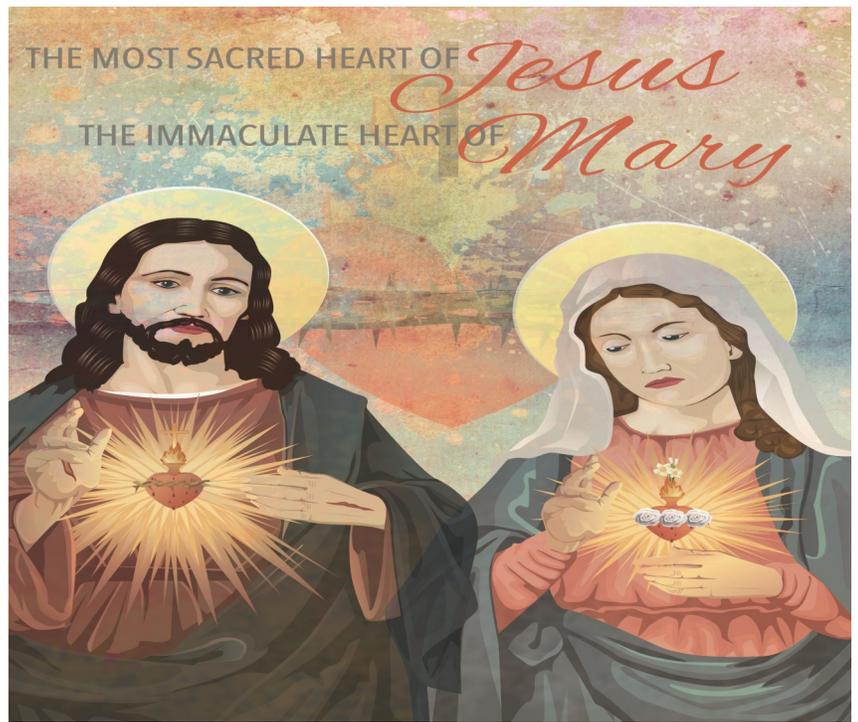
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

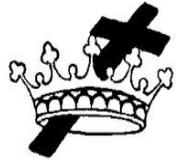
[www.churchofsthelena.com](http://www.churchofsthelena.com)

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

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



# saint Helena parish



Bronx, NY

## Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: AM PM

7:30 12:00 (Spanish)

9:00 1:30

10:30 (Family) 5:00

Holy Days: 6:50AM, 8:30 AM, 12:15PM 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 9:00PM
- 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
- Rosary: Wednesday, 1:00PM

**Baptisms:** Arrangements must be made at the Rectory for Baptismal Class. Bring a copy of the child's Birth Certificate and Godparent documents.

**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 Rectory.



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## What are Religious Vows?

Yesterday, Br. Ricardo professed public, perpetual solemn vows in the Order of the Pious Schools (Piarist Fathers) here at St. Helena's before our Superior General. He professed four vows: poverty, chastity, obedience, and the education of youth (especially the poor). The other Piarist seminarians have professed temporary solemn vows.



In canon law a vow is public (concerning the Church itself directly) only if a legitimate superior accepts it in the name of the Church; all other vows, no matter how much publicity is given to them, are classified as private vows (concerning directly only those who make them). The vow taken at profession as a member of any religious institute is a **public vow**.

Like solemn vows, **simple vows** are taken publicly, i.e., received by the superior in the name of the Church. They may be temporary or perpetual. A simple vow is any vow, public or private, individual or collective, concerned with an action or with abstaining from an action, unless that vow has been recognized by the Church as a solemn vow. Simple vows permit ownership of property, solemn vows do not. Those under solemn vows can only be released by the pope, while those under simple vows can be released from them by the bishop. Acts contrary to simple vows, e.g., getting married, would be illicit, but valid. A religious society of simple vows is called a congregation. Religious women in simple vows are called **sisters**, while **nuns**, strictly speaking, are religious women who have taken solemn vows.

A **solemn vow** is a vow ("a deliberate and free promise made to God about a possible and better good") that the Church has recognized as such. Solemn vows are perpetual, and contrary acts, like getting married, are not only illicit but invalid. Religious in solemn vows cannot own property. A religious society of solemn vows is called an **order**, and its members are called **regulars**.

Secularization requires a **papal indult** except from purely diocesan societies (those established by a bishop with approval from the Holy See). Likewise, a papal indult is necessary for readmission to an order or congregation, with the requirement that they begin again in the novitiate and make a new profession.

Pope John Paul II said of religious vows, "Hence it follows that the profession of the evangelical vows is a super-addition to that consecration which is proper to Baptism. It is indeed a special consecration which perfects the former one, inasmuch as by it, the follower of Christ totally commits and dedicates himself to God, thereby making his entire life a service to God alone." Vows are public promises. Most religious make three promises, called vows, pledging to imitate Jesus in these three ways for their whole life. To nurture a closer relationship with Christ, religious model their life on Christ's example. His life had many, but three main characteristics:

- He lived without any possessions.
- He lived the chastity of an unmarried person and spoke about celibacy.
- In all things, Jesus obeyed his Heavenly Father.

Members of some religious communities profess a fourth religious vow, such as the Benedictines who profess a vow of stability or the Jesuits who profess a vow of being at the service of the Holy Father. The Piarists profess a fourth vow to educate youth, especially the poor. Thus, yesterday Br. Ricardo professed these four Religious Vows:

### Obedience:

In professing obedience, religious offer the full surrender of their

own will as a sacrifice of themselves to God and so are united permanently and securely to God's salvific will. By the vow of obedience, Religious make decisions in tune with God's Will, which is often mediated for them through the authority of their congregation.

### Poverty:

Religious should diligently practice and if need be express also in new forms that voluntary poverty which is recognized and highly esteemed especially today as an expression of the following of Christ. By the vow of Poverty, Religious own everything in common, share possessions, and live simply.

### Chastity:

The chastity which religious profess should be counted as an outstanding gift of grace. It frees the heart of man in a unique fashion so that it may be more inflamed with love for God and for all men. By the vow of celibacy / chastity, Religious give themselves in love to God in a way so total that the pursuit of union with God makes it impossible for anything or anyone to be more central. Their heart is free to love God above all and to love all men for the sake of God. Celibacy is embraced not because marriage is not desired but because the union with God and the work of God is more greatly desired.

### Education of Youth:

The Church has historically promoted education and the improvement of the mind. In fact, Jesus Himself learned. One of the only things we know of His childhood is that He "grew in wisdom" as He grew "in stature" (Luke 2:52). That is, the Son of God voluntarily put Himself in a position where He needed to assimilate knowledge as a man, and education was part of the process. Jesus also says that whoever does and TEACHES what the commandments say will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

## The Birth of John the Baptist

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist. Jesus called John the greatest of all those who had preceded him: "I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John..." But John would have agreed completely with what Jesus added: "Yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he" (Luke 7:28). John challenges us to live the fundamental attitude of Christianity—total dependence on the Father, in Christ. Except for the Mother of God, no one had a higher function in the unfolding of salvation.

The attractiveness as well as the austerity of John, his fierce courage in denouncing evil—all stem from his fundamental and total placing of his life within the will of God.

John spent his time in the desert as an ascetic. He announced the coming of the Kingdom and called everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: "He must increase while I must decrease" (John 3:30).

John was humbled to find among the crowd of sinners who came to be baptized the one whom he already knew to be the Messiah. "I need to be baptized by you" (Matthew 3:14b). But Jesus insisted, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15b). Jesus, true and humble human as well as eternal God, was eager to do what was required of any good Jew. Jesus thus publicly entered the community of those awaiting the Messiah. But making himself part of that community, he made it truly messianic.

The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus. John attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. But he constantly deferred to Jesus, even to sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.

It is the firm belief among the faithful that John was freed from original sin at the moment when his mother met the Blessed

## THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Virgin (Luke 1, 45). Saint Augustine mentioned this belief as a general tradition in the ancient Church. In any case, it is certain that he was "filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother's womb" (Luke 1, 15) and, therefore, born without original sin. Accordingly, the Church celebrates his natural birth by a festival of his "nativity," assigned exactly six months before the nativity of Christ, since John was six months older than the Lord. As soon as the Feast of Christmas was established on December 25 (in the fifth century) the date of the Baptist's birth was assigned to June 24. Sometimes the question arises as to why his birth is celebrated on June 24 and not 25. Saint John's Day falls on June 24 due to the Roman way of counting, which proceeds backward from the calends (first day) of the succeeding month. Christmas was "the eighth day before the Kalends of January" (*Octavo Kalendas Januarii*). Consequently, Saint John's nativity was put on the "eighth day before the Kalends of July." However, since June has only thirty days, in our way of counting the feast falls on June 24.

The Council of Agde, in 506, listed the Nativity of Saint John among the highest feasts of the year, a day on which all faithful had to attend Mass and abstain from servile work. Indeed, so great was the rank of this festival that, just as on Christmas, three Masses were celebrated, one during the vigil service, the second at dawn, the third in the morning. In 1022, a synod at Seligenstadt, Germany, prescribed a fourteen-day fast and abstinence in preparation for the Feast of the Baptist. This, however, was never accepted into universal practice by the Roman authorities.

Perhaps John's idea of the coming of the Kingdom of God was not being perfectly fulfilled in the public ministry of Jesus. For whatever reason, when he was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the Messiah. Jesus' answer showed that the Messiah was to be a figure like that of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. John himself would share in the pattern of messianic suffering, losing his life to the revenge of Herodias.

### The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul

June 30 is the feast day of St Peter and St Paul. These two larger-than-life biblical figures pioneered the gospel in Rome and they have been jointly celebrated on this feast day since AD 258.

In fact, they were so important in the spreading of the good news that their feast day is considered a solemnity - which is the highest order of honor for Roman Catholics - shared by the likes of Jesus' miracles and Mary. Many saints share a day with another saint. Tradition has it that they are celebrated together because they were both martyred by Emperor Nero around the same time.

And it's not only the Catholics that celebrate this feast. In the Orthodox Church, the day also marks the end of the Apostle's Fast and is often marked with an all-night vigil. And whether you're Christian or not, if you live in Rome you get a public holiday, because Paul and Peter are the patron saints of the city.

If you're a Christian the names will be among the most familiar in the Bible, but it's always helpful to have a quick review:

**Peter**, whose actual name was Simon, was a fisherman and one of Jesus' disciples. Jesus renamed him Peter, which means 'Rock', stating that he was going to become the rock upon which Jesus would build his church. Peter was a close follower of Christ, bold in his claims that Jesus was the Messiah and Son of God, but he was also flawed. He denied Christ three times on the night of His crucifixion. However, Jesus redeemed him and stayed true to his promise - Peter was the rock of the church. In Acts, Peter is leading the early church and he traveled to Rome, where he led the church through persecution. He was martyred in 64 AD and crucified upside down upon his request, saying he was not worthy to die as his Lord. For Catholics, Peter was the first Pope. He was buried on Vatican hill, and St. Peter's Basilica is built over his tomb.

**Paul** was responsible for a large chunk of the New

Testament, writing countless letters, mostly to Gentile believers. Before he used his Roman name Paul, he used his Hebrew name, Saul. Scripture records that Saul was present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen. He was a tentmaker by trade, a Jewish Pharisee, and a Roman citizen who horrendously persecuted early converts to Christianity until he had had a dramatic encounter with God on the road to Damascus. He'd been traveling there to do some more persecution when he was surrounded by a great light from heaven which blinded him. He then encountered Jesus Christ, was baptized and had his sight restored. From this point on he used his Roman name Paul and was an unstoppable force for God. He ended up in Rome, where he was beheaded in 67 AD. He is buried in Rome in the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls.

Church father St Augustine of Hippo wrote in a sermon in 395 AD of the pair: "Both apostles share the same feast day, for these two were one; and even though they suffered on different days, they were as one. Peter went first, and Paul followed. And so we celebrate this day made holy for us by the apostles' blood. Let us embrace what they believed, their life, their labors, their sufferings, their preaching, and their confession of faith."

Their feast day is a solemnity, one of the ten Universal Holy Days of Obligation, and it's a pretty major holiday in Rome - shops and schools are shut and many get a day off work. Instead, people spend the day celebrating in both religious and secular festivities. The Pope gives a homily during a special mass, where he gives a Pallium to archbishops who have been appointed in the last year. A pallium is a special piece of clothing which symbolizes the unity between the Pope and Catholic Church. A bronze statue of St Peter also gets spectacularly dressed up with traditional attire including a ring and a tiara and a rather large red cloak.

### The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church June 30

These "proto-martyrs" of Rome were the first Christians persecuted *en masse* by the Emperor Nero in the year 64, even before the martyrdom of Saints Peter and Paul.

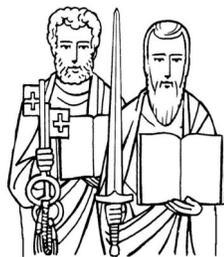
Nero was widely believed to have caused the fire that burned down much of Rome in the same year. He blamed the fire on the Christians and put them to death, many by crucifixion, being feeding to the wild animals in his circus, or by being tied to posts and lit up as human torches.

Today, the site of Nero's Circus, also the location of St. Peter's martyrdom, is marked by the Piazza dei Protomartiri Romani (Square of the Roman Protomartyrs) in the Vatican next to St. Peter's basilica. These martyrs were called the "Disciples of the Apostles" and their firmness in the face of their gruesome deaths were a powerful testimony that led to many conversions in the early Roman Church.

### The Symbolism of the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

The icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is an example of the Western influence on Eastern art. Especially in the 12th and 13th centuries, as Franciscans traveled through the eastern Mediterranean, this influence became evident in a new class of icons called *Cardiotissa*, from the Greek word *kardia*, which means heart. *Cardiotissa*, then, refers to a type of icon which shows tenderness, compassion, and mercy. Our Lady's face, though serene and dignified, shows great sorrow in contemplating the sufferings of her Son.

In Western art, there is little difference in the styles used in sacred art as compared to secular art; only the subject matter is different. Icons, however, are not meant to be realistic as far as physical representations, but rather to portray eternal truths in a way that immediately transports the viewer to a spiritual plane. Perhaps the simplest way to describe it is as theology in line and color. The images are rendered in an extremely stylized, non-naturalistic way. The folds of garments appear as simple geometric forms, while faces and bodies show portray human nature transformed by grace into the divine.



**JUNE 24, 2018**

In the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, the Child Jesus is not portrayed with the physical proportions of an infant, but appears almost as an adult in miniature form. This has been interpreted to indicate that He is God, having infinite knowledge. Yet He is human as well, for He clings to His Mother's hand in fear, while gazing up toward the angel over His shoulder. One of His sandals has come loose, indicating the haste with which He had run to her.

Why is the Child Jesus so frightened? The angels in the picture are holding instruments of His Passion and death, with the angel on the left bearing the gall, the lance and the reed, while the angel on the right holds the cross and nails. Their hands are covered with a cloth or veil, much like the humeral veil that the priest holds when blessing with the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance at Benediction.

The face of Our Lady is grave and sorrowful, with her large eyes directed not at Jesus, but at us. One feels that she is pleading with us to avoid sin, which has caused her Son to suffer so much for us. Her gaze makes us a part of the picture and the pain it portrays. "Will you not love my Son, Who has loved you so much?" she seems to say.

Our Lady is clothed in the colors of royalty; her tunic is of dark red and her mantle is dark blue with a green lining. (According to another interpretation, the dark red is said to be the color worn by virgins at the time of Christ, while blue was the color worn by mothers in Palestine.) The Child Jesus also wears the colors of royalty. Both Jesus and Mary have golden halos, but Christ's halo is decorated with a cross as a sign of His Divinity. Jeweled crowns were placed on the heads of both Mother and Child of the original icon by order of the Vatican in 1867. (The crowns were removed when the icon underwent restoration in the 1990's.)

The Greek initials next to the head of Our Lady identify her as "Mother of God," while those next to the Child are the abbreviation for "Jesus Christ." The letters over the angels' heads indicate the one on the left as St. Michael and the one on the right as St. Gabriel.

The 8-pointed star on Our Lady's veil tells us that she is the Star of the Sea, the Star that leads us to Jesus. The small ornate cross to the left of the star reinforces this concept.

Mary's mouth is small to indicate her spirit of silence and prayer. Her eyes are large, for they see all of our troubles and needs, and are always turned toward us.

Christ's hands, turned palms down into His Mother's, indicate that He has placed the graces of the Redemption in her keeping. Our Lady's hand does not clasp those of her Son, but remains open, inviting us to put our hands in hers along with those of Jesus.

As in other icons, the background of the painting is gold to symbolize Heaven, where Jesus and Mary now reign in glory. This light of Heaven shines through their clothing, illuminating not only the picture itself, but those who behold it. This radiance speaks to us of God's light and grace, strengthening and consoling us as we journey through life to our heavenly goal.

Finally, it is of no small significance that Our Blessed Mother herself referred to the icon by the title of "Holy Mary of Perpetual Help." Surely this, along with the symbolism we see in the picture, should assure us of the loving concern and tenderness our Blessed Mother has for us, and her ardent desire to be a source of perpetual help to all who call upon her.

**Le pape François encourage à une « prière fervente » au Cœur du Christ** Le pape François encourage à une « prière fervente » au Cœur du Christ pendant le mois de juin. « J'ai une pensée spéciale pour les jeunes, les personnes âgées et les nouveaux mariés », a dit le pape en italien à la fin de l'audience générale de ce mercredi 20 juin 2018, place Saint-Pierre.

Puis il a ajouté: « Au mois de juin, la piété populaire nous fait prier avec plus de ferveur le Cœur Sacré de Jésus. Que ce Cœur miséricordieux vous enseigne à aimer sans rien demander en échange et qu'il vous soutienne dans les choix de la vie les plus difficiles. » Le pape a recommandé la prière au Cœur du Christ spécialement pour son ministère et pour tous les prêtres: « Priez-le aussi pour moi et pour mon ministère mais aussi pour

tous les prêtres afin qu'il fortifie leur fidélité à l'appel du Seigneur. »

Ce sera aussi son intention de prière pour le mois de juillet 2018: « Pour que les prêtres qui souffrent de la fatigue et de la solitude dans leur travail pastoral, soient aidés et consolés par l'amitié du Seigneur et de leurs frères. » Le pape François avait invité à prier le Cœur du Christ pour les prêtres dès le début du mois, le 6 juin, en disant: « Vendredi, ce sera la solennité du Cœur Sacré de Jésus. Je vous invite, pendant tout le mois de juin, à prier le Cœur de Jésus et à soutenir vos prêtres par votre proximité et votre affection de façon à ce qu'ils soient l'image de ce Cœur plein d'amour miséricordieux. »

Et en s'adressant aux jeunes, aux malades, et aux nouveaux mariés, le pape avait ajouté: « Puisez au Cœur de Jésus la nourriture et la boisson spirituelle de votre vie afin que, nourris du Christ vous soyez des personnes nouvelles, profondément transformées par cet amour divin. » Lors de la solennité du Cœur de Jésus, le 8 juin, le pape avait publié ce tweet sur son compte @Pontifex\_fr: « La fête du Sacré-Cœur nous rappelle que Dieu nous a aimés en premier: Lui nous attend toujours pour nous accueillir dans son cœur, dans son amour. »

Pour le pape François, pape jésuite, « le cœur du Christ est le centre de la miséricorde » : il l'a rappelé aux prêtres à l'occasion de leur Jubilé de la miséricorde, le 2 juin 2016, à Sainte-Marie Majeure. Il leur a recommandé de lire l'encyclique de Pie XII « Haurietis Aquas » sur le Cœur du Christ. Il a souligné que « la miséricorde est une question de liberté », de cœur à cœur.

L'encyclique de Pie XII a été publiée le 15 mai 1956. On peut la trouver en ligne en français dans la traduction du spécialiste du Cœur de Jésus qu'était le P. Edouard Glotin SJ en cliquant ici. Le 11 juin 2010, le pape Benoît XVI avait conclu l'Année sacerdotale en la fête du Sacré-Cœur et il a proclamé à cette occasion saint Jean Marie Vianney comme le saint patron de tous les prêtres (et plus seulement des curés).

**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**-The monthly Filipino Mass will take place today, **Sunday, June 24 at 3PM** here at St. Helena. A German copy of the original 15th century Byzantine icon is venerated in the National Shrine of Our Mother of Perpetual Help in Metro Manila. Almost all churches have a replica of the icon in a side chapel. All are welcome. A reception will follow in the gym.

**NEW CATECHISTS NEEDED** for the fall in our Religious Education Program. Call the rectory if you are interested. Several grade levels are available. Experience preferred but not necessary.

**CONFIRMATION PHOTOS** are now in. You may pick them up in the rectory at any time. There is no charge for the photos.

## **PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **50/50-THIS IS THE LAST WEEKEND FOR THE JUNE 50/50.** Remember, it only costs **\$5.00** to enter. The June winner will be picked on **Monday, June 25**. You cannot win unless you enter. Special pink envelopes are available at the two Church entrances or in your packet.
- **ENGLISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** meets every **Saturday** from **1PM to 3PM**, in the Green Building.
- **THE BOOK OF PSALMS** continues today, **Sun., June 24 at 11:30AM** in the Green Building. This 11-week course will also take place every **Tuesday** at both **1PM and 7:30PM**. Psalms is the only Bible Book that is read from at every single Catholic Mass. Today we will study the Responsorial Psalms said during Mass.
- **ROSARY** every **Wednesday** in the church after the **12:15PM** Mass and every **Friday** in Spanish at **7PM** in the rectory meeting room. May is the month of Mary.
- **BOY SCOUTS**, every **Wednesday** at **6:30PM** in the cafeteria.
- **YOUTH GROUP** every **Friday** from **7-8:30PM** in the gym.

- **2019 MASS BOOK**-Come in now if you want very specific Mass dates and times. Some 2018 dates are still available.
- **RELIGIOUS ARTICLES ROOM is closed for the summer. It will reopen in the middle of September.**
- **NEXT BAPTISM PREP CLASS** will be held on **Thursday, June 28 at 7PM. Arrangements must be made at the Rectory for the Baptismal Class.** 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.
- **CARNIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**-This year, the Carnival will run 30 hours over four days, **June 28-July 1**. The parish will prepare and serve food and will operate two games. We are in need of volunteers. If you can help, please either come to the meeting or leave your name and phone number at the rectory along with the days that you can help. We are in need of donations of small bottled water and cans of soda. Bring donations or cash to the rectory.
- **UNLIMITED RIDE CARNIVAL TICKETS**-For the very first time, you can now buy a \$20 ticket that will give one person unlimited rides for ANY ONE DAY of the 4th Annual Parish Carnival, which will take place **June 28-July 1** at St. Helena. On the day of the carnival, you will bring the ticket to the box office on the day of your choosing and redeem it for a colored wristband. Buying the ticket in advance will save you \$5 off the cost of buying the wristband at the carnival. There will be more rides this year. Individual rides at the carnival will range from \$3.75-\$6.25 per ride at the carnival. These special tickets are now available in the back of the church or at the rectory along with discounted ride sheets of \$15 tickets for \$12. In addition to the carnival rides, there will be food and games. The Carnival will take place from **6-10PM on June 28, 6-11PM on June 29, NOON-11PM on June 30, and NOON-10PM on July 1**. For more info, call **718-892-3233**.
- **BABY BOTTLE DRIVE**-Please support Expectant Mother Care. If you have taken a bottle, please return it with your donation for EMC to the Rectory asap. Expectant Mother Care empowers girls and women in the NYC area to courageously choose motherhood. To donate directly, please visit: [emcfrontline.org](http://emcfrontline.org), or call **212-213-4690** for more info.
- **PSYCHO-SPIRITUAL INTEGRATION WORKSHOP** will take place **July 6-8** in the cafeteria. The purpose of the workshop, which will be given by Very Rev. Fernando Negro, Sch.P., is to assist the individual in his/her search for God, to know Him, love Him, and serve Him. The workshop will utilize both intuitive and poetic reflections and the use of images will help the participant connect with the deep meaning of life. The course is free and is being offered in Spanish.
- **LIVE BCW PRO WRESTLING at St. Helena on Friday, July 13 at 7PM** in the gymnasium. Tickets available at Everbrite or by calling **347-446-5142**.
- **MUSICIANS NEEDED**-We are still in need of a volunteer musician to play at the **5PM Sunday** night Mass. If you can help us, please contact the rectory at **718-892-3233**.
- **PARISH DIRECTORY**-Information sheets are at the church entrances. We are now compiling an official St. Helena School and Parish Directory. The directory will be available either on line or in print format. You will have the option of uploading your own family photo or submitting one to us, and we will upload it. You will also have the ability to update your photo as your family changes.
- **The first day of the new school year will be Sept. 5.**

- **AA BIG BOOK STUDY** meets every **Sat., 7-8:30PM** in the green building. New members are always welcome.
- **CO-DEPENDENTS ANNONYMOUS (CODA)** meets every **Monday** from **7-8:30PM** in the rectory meeting room.
- **RAIN** Home Attendant Services-**718-829-2131**.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?** Call **1-800-621-HOPE**
- **ARE YOU LOOKING TO RENT YOUR HOUSE, APARTMENT, OR CONDO?** Two parishioners are looking to rent a one and a two-bedroom unit in the Parkchester area. If you have one, call **718-892-3233**.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **CATHOLIC BISHOPS ASK YOU TO URGE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO VOTE AGAINST TWO IMMIGRATION BILLS**-In an alert described as urgent, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops called on Catholics to ask their representatives to vote against [HR 4760](#) (the SAFE Act) and [HR 6136](#) (the Border Security and Immigration Reform Act). Both bills are sponsored by Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA), the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.
- **POPE CRITICIZES TRUMP AND DUBIA CARDINALS**-Pope Francis sharply criticized President Donald Trump's immigration policies in a new interview with the Reuters news service. The Pontiff said that he sided with the US bishops in their criticism of Trump, adding that "populism is not the solution." He also questioned Trump's policies regarding Cuba and climate change. On other questions, the Pope said that he is "not even thinking about" resignation, that he expected to accept the resignations of more Chilean bishops, and that the cardinals who presented the dubia had behaved in a way "that is, let's say, not ecclesial, but we all make mistakes."
- **CARDINAL ACCUSED OF SEX ABUSE WHILE A NYC PRIEST**-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the retired Archbishop of Washington, DC, has announced that he has been accused of sexual abuse and has accepted the decision of the Holy See "that I no longer exercise any public ministry." Cardinal McCarrick, who is now 87 years old, revealed that the charge against him involved "an allegation of sexual abuse of a teenager from almost fifty years ago." At the time, he was serving as a priest of the New York archdiocese. New York's Cardinal Timothy Dolan said that an investigation into the complaint, conducted by the archdiocesan review board at the request of the Vatican, "found the allegations credible and substantiated."
- **SUMMER SACRED MUSIC COURSES**-Introduction to Chant-**June 25-28** will take place at St. Joseph's Seminary (Yonkers). For more info: [nvliturgv.org/workshops](http://nvliturgv.org/workshops) or contact: [liturgv@archny.org](mailto:liturgv@archny.org) or **914-968-6200 x8177**.
- **CATHEDRAL HS SUMMER FACTS PROGRAM**-This program is for rising 7th, 8th and 9th grade girls to come together for three weeks of summer fun. Besides activities and games to sharpen students academic skills, they will also prepare students for the TACHS exam. They will be using the latest up to date software, 3D printing labs, and Maker

### **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

**Sunday, June 17** **\$4,546.27**

Our weekly budget, (Nuestro presupuesto semanal es) \$4,423.00 We continue repairs on our heating and cooling systems, and we are doing some electrical upgrades. Thank you all for your generosity and support and for all that you do for St. Helena's.

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.

Space where they will work together to imagine, design and create. The program fee is \$600 which includes all course materials, 2 T-shirts, and a metro card. Register by June 1 online. Website: [www.cathedralhs.org](http://www.cathedralhs.org) and click Summer Program under the Student Life tab. 350 E. 56th Street, NYC, 212-688-1545 x224

- **ST. CATHARINE ACADEMY SUMMER TACHS PREP PROGRAM** for girls entering 7th and 8th grade will take place from **Monday, June 25th to Friday, July 20th** from **9:00AM to 2:00PM**. HAP will help to strengthen and reinforce English, Math, Reading and Time Management skills in preparation for taking the Test for Admission in Catholic High Schools (TACHS). In addition, the program includes enrichment courses in Robotics, Art, Writing and Dance. Contact: website, [www.scahs.org](http://www.scahs.org) or Ms. Tracy Keelin, Program Director at **718-882-2882 ext. 122**, for more info.
- **ATTENTION STUDENTS-Summer Employment-The American Turner Club** is looking for lifeguards. Call Ida or Pat @ **718-829-4200**. 748 Clarence Avenue, Bx, NY 10465.
- **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** or visit: [www.nycommonpantry.org](http://www.nycommonpantry.org)
- **WIC** is now being offered near St. Helena's at the Morris Heights Health Center, 2019 Westchester Ave., Bx. **WIC** services will be available **Mon.-Fri.** from **8:30AM-5PM**.

## ANUNCIOS EN ESPAÑOL

- **TE GUSTARIA SER CATEQUISTA?** *Ven y hablamos* sobre la posibilidad de participar en nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa. Debemos ayudar a *"llevar el Evangelio hasta los confines del mundo"*.
  - **FOTOS DE CONFIRMACIÓN:** Las puedes recoger en la rectoría o en la tienda de artículos religiosos los domingos. No se cobra por ellas.
  - **MISA DE LA COMUNIDAD FILIPINA** se realizará el domingo 24 de junio a las 3 pm. Están invitados.
  - **MES LA PARROQUIA HACE UNA RIFA 50/50:** El valor es \$5, puedes comprar el ticket en la rectoría o tomar uno de los sobres rosados colocados a la entrada d la iglesia. El ganador de junio se escogerá el **lunes 25 de junio**.
  - **TALLER DE INTEGRACION PSICO-ESPIRITUAL: Julio 6-8** en la cafetería. El P. Fernando Negro, Sch.P. dará claves importantes sobre cómo buscar, conocer, amar y servir a Dios, usando reflexiones intuitivas y poéticas y el uso de imágenes que ayudarán a conectar con el significado profundo de la vida. El curso es libre y en Español.
- NOTICIAS DEL CARNAVAL**
- **TICKETS PARA EL CARNAVAL:** Este año habrá una innovación en la venta de tickets, pensando en su conveniencia. Pueden comprar, además de los tickets tradicionales, un ticket de **\$20 US**, con el cual puedes hacer uso de las atracciones en **forma ilimitada por un día**. Cuando

### *Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish*

Joanne Frances Bernadette Sanabria, Carmelle and Nicole Antoine, Indrowdi Sadu, Rosa Pena, Luzvina Vega, Michelle Vega, Jose Rosario, Augustine Ayala, Florence Churchill, Joyce Hoyt, Heyllie Cardona, Genil Alcantara, Maria Barro, Erica Vargas, Vayron Orellana, Teresa Orellana, Khetther Raby, Caroline Caper, Chaya Jonathan, Leah Rodriguez, Alen George, Phillip Williams, Bertha Mero, Marie Lopez, Pat Callahan, Sabina Acosta, Isham, Ruben Mercado, Iris Garcia, Margarita Torres, Thomas Darrigo

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

Raymond Lopez, Miguel Renaud, Eric Higgs, Ramon Delgado, Nanette Cruz, Deacon Ralph Longo, Rev. Donald Fussner, Elias Ocasio, Miguel Perez, Juan Quinones, Elsie Flores, Herminia Lopez

llegas al carnaval presentas tu ticket y se te colocará una banda en la muñeca que te identifica como usuario ilimitado para ese día. **A disfrutar!!!!** **NOTA IMPORTANTE: El precio de 20 dólares es hasta el momento en que se inicia el carnaval, jueves 28 de junio a las 6 pm. Tickets comprados durante el carnaval tienen un precio de \$25 US.**

**Necesitamos donaciones de soda y agua para el carnaval**  
**FECHAS DEL CARNAVAL Y PRECIOS DE TICKETS:**

**Jueves 28 de junio** 6 pm a 10 pm.  
**Viernes 29 de junio** 6 pm a las 11 pm.  
**Sábado 30 de junio** 12 pm a 11 pm.  
**Domingo 1 de julio** 12 pm a 10 pm.

Los tickets individuales tienen un costo que va de **\$3.75 a \$6.25** por ride.

### **BAUTISMO**

- **CLASE DE PREPARACION PARA EL BAUTISMO: Jueves 28 de junio** a las 7 pm. **NOTA IMPORTANTE:** Se debe traer *copia del certificado de nacimiento* del niño. **Si los padrinos son pareja, deben estar casados por la Iglesia y traer el certificado de matrimonio de la iglesia donde se casaron.** Si el padrino o madrina es soltero/a, debe traer su *certificado de confirmación*.

### **FORMACION ESPIRITUAL CONTINUA**

**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 subscribir al canal para que te llegue automáticamente la última homilia. Ayuda a propagar la Palabra de Dios!!!! *Es una buena manera de evangelizar.*
- **"LA SEMILLA DEL DIA":** Deseas recibir *cada día* la reflexión sobre la *Palabra de Dios* por el P. Nelson? **Inscríbete al grupo de WhatsApp "La Semilla del Día".** Sólo tienes que *enviar un e-mail* a: [jnelsonh55@yahoo.com](mailto:jnelsonh55@yahoo.com), o dejar tu **nombre y número de teléfono** en la rectoría, o puedes llamar a la rectoría (718-892-3233) y dejar tu información, diciendo que quieres ser parte de "La Semilla del Día". *Conocer la Palabra de Dios es conocer a Dios.*
- **"LA SEMILLA DE LA SEMANA":** El P. Nelson te invita a leer cada semana su artículo *"La semilla de la semana"* en el boletín de la parroquia. Allí el reflexiona sobre algún punto importante de la Palabra de Dios durante la semana.

### **ACTIVIDADES EN ESPAÑOL**

<b>LUNES</b>	<b>7 - 9 pm</b>	<b>Grupo Carismático de Oración.</b> Misa cada primer lunes
<b>MARTES</b>	<b>7.30 - 9 pm</b>	<b>Clase "Mariología"</b>
<b>MIERCOLES</b>	<b>7 - 9 pm</b>	Coronilla de la <i>Divina Misericordia</i> , Adoración, <i>Eucaristía</i>
<b>VIERNES</b>	<b>7 - 8 pm</b>	<b>Legión de María.</b> Rosario y reunión.
	<b>7 - 8.30 pm</b>	<b>Grupo Juvenil.</b> Edades 12-18. 7-8.30pm
	<b>7.30 - 9 pm</b>	<b>JECafa.</b> Jesús, Calasanz y la Familia. Grupo de reflexión. Segundos y cuartos viernes. Edificio verde.

## **LA SEMILLA DE LA SEMANA**

Hola queridos hermanos. Esta semana hemos leído en el Evangelio de San Mateo la entrega que Jesús da a los discípulos de la oración que mejor resume lo que es nuestra fe y nuestra relación con el Padre del cielo. He pensado que es importante hacer una reflexión sobre ella, porque allí se concentra la espiritualidad tanto del Antiguo como del Nuevo Testamento. Esta oración tiene siete peticiones, las tres primeras se enfocan en Hágase **TU** voluntad. Pero vean que antes de esas peticiones Dios: Santificado sea **TU** nombre; Venga a nosotros **TU** reino; Jesús nos invita a nosotros, sus discípulos, a llamar a Dios

“Padre”. En Israel Dios se comprendía a Dios como el Padre del pueblo, no del individuo. En cambio, Jesús nos invita a una intimidad inusual con el Padre, ahora es nuestro Padre. Pero no es cualquier padre, Él es el Padre que está en el cielo. O sea, le estamos diciendo Padre al Dios todopoderoso, al Creador del cielo y de la tierra, al Dios trascendente, que *al mismo tiempo* está pendiente de nuestras necesidades.

**Santificado sea TU nombre.** No hacemos esta petición porque seamos nosotros los que santificamos su nombre. Él ya es santo, Él es Dios. Lo que hacemos es reconocer esa santidad y al mismo tiempo es una invitación a recordar que estamos llamados a “desear profundamente” esa misma santidad. Y esto lo podemos aspirar porque eso es lo que Dios ha deseado desde el comienzo. Él quiere que seamos santos e inmaculados en su presencia, en el amor.

**Venga a nosotros TU reino.** Jesús dijo que “su reino no es de este mundo”, el Reino de Dios es para nosotros lo más importante. El Reino de Dios se nos acerca en el Hijo que se encarna, el Reino de Dios se anuncia en todo el Evangelio, el Reino de Dios llega en la muerte y resurrección de Jesucristo, el Reino de Dios llega en la última cena y por medio de la Eucaristía está entre nosotros. El Reino de Dios llegará en gloria al final de los tiempos, cuando Jesucristo lo devuelva a su Padre. Mientras ese día llega, la iglesia -nosotros- sigue comprometida con la misión que el Hijo dejó: la de llevar el mensaje del Reino al mundo entero.

**Hágase Tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo.** Cuál es la voluntad del Padre? Que todos los hombres (*en la tierra*) se salven (*estén siempre con Él*). O sea, que lleguemos al pleno conocimiento de la Verdad que es Dios. El Padre ya nos dió a conocer su voluntad dándonos a Cristo por cabeza, ya que Cristo fue el único que cumplió en totalidad su voluntad: “Yo vine a hacer su voluntad”. Por eso en el momento de la agonía dice: “No se haga mi voluntad sino la tuya”. Esto significa que, unidos a Cristo podemos llegar a ser un solo espíritu con Él y así cumplir la voluntad del Padre.

Todo al final depende de la gracia de Dios, pero Jesús nos dice que por medio de la oración podemos llegar a discernir la voluntad de Dios y sobre todo recibimos el don de la constancia y de la perseverancia para cumplir esa voluntad. *Dice San Juan:* “Si alguno cumple la voluntad de Dios, a ése Dios le escucha”. Es el poder de la oración de la Iglesia cuando se hace en el nombre del Señor, especialmente en la Eucaristía. Estas tres primeras peticiones nos acercan a la gloria de Dios. Las cuatro últimas ofrecen nuestra fragilidad a su gracia. Como no me alcanza el espacio para reflexionar en las últimas cuatro, lo haré la próxima semana. Por ahora, tenemos aquí un precioso material sobre el cual reflexionar y sobre todo agradecer que, el mismo Dios, sin ningún mérito de nuestra parte, nos ha querido invitar a ser parte viva de su vida, de la vida de la Trinidad. Bendiciones.

*P. Nelson*

# Mass Intentions

## SUNDAY, June 24, 2018-The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

- 7:30 Father's Day Novena  
 9:00 Catherine Carolan  
 10:30 Maureen Sullivan  
 12:00 Antonio Fortuna, Jose Luis Munic and Manolo Munic; Laura Elisa Chazatar; Annalisa Perez; In Honor and Thanks to the Divine Child; In Honor & Thanksgiving to San Gregorio Hernandez Luis Lebron (1Yr Anniv); Ana Montalvo  
 1:30 Lucy Cannavacciuolo  
 3:00 Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
 5:00 Hylla Rebello  
*Thanksgiving Prayers for Cecilia Inya and Family for Good Health*

## MONDAY, June 25, 2018-St. William of Vercelli

- 6:50 Father's Day Novena  
 8:30 In Honor and In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony for Tomasina Hilowsky  
 12:15 Jose Sanabria

## TUESDAY, June 26 2018-St. Anthelm

- 6:50 For the Recuperation of Good Eyesight of Tricia Briska and Fr. David  
 8:30 Frank Campbell Crook  
 12:15 Carlos and Catherine Reyes

## WEDNESDAY, June 27, 2018-St. Cyril of Alexandria

- 6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors  
 8:30 Minerva Diaz—Special Intention  
 12:15 Souls in Purgatory  
 7:00 In Honor & Thanksgiving to San Gregorio Hernandez

## THURSDAY, June 28, 2018-St. Irenaeus

- 6:50 For Alessandra Mia Savino's Utmost Facility in Achieving Salvation and for Permission to Enjoy and Sustain a Loving and Close Relationship with Her Paternal Grandmother  
 8:30 In Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
 12:15 Timothy Harty Intentions

## FRIDAY, June 29, 2018-St. Peter and St. Paul

- 6:50 In Thanksgiving for Favors  
 8:30 Zenaída and Lorenzo Sabastian Acea  
 12:15 Germain Palacios  
 1:15 Memorial Mass for Germain Palacios

## SAT., June 30, 2018-The First Martyrs of the Church of Rome

- 6:50 For the Departed Souls of Lillian Pirozzi, Ana Brinz, Fred Havelka, Larry Young and Gloria Savino  
 8:30 Deceased Members of the Sheehan & Harty Families  
 12:15 Jesus M. Soto  
 5:30 Alberto Evidente

## SUNDAY, July 1, 2018-Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 Carlos Ortiz, Jr.  
 9:00 Hylla Rebello  
 10:30 Margaret "Margie" Acosta  
 12:00 Digna Robles; William Ortiz; Maribel Ureta de Farfan; Rufino Miguel Arisméndiz Moran; San Gregorio Hernandez Intentions of Thanks; Josephine Alvarez;  
 1:30 Hylla Rebello  
 5:00 Elvira Sandoval Gras  
*Prayer for Quick Recovery of Hand Surgery and Good Health for Fr. Richard*

## Readings for the Week of June 24, 2018

**Sunday:** Vigil: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 [6b]/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17; **Day:** Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80; **Monday:** 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13 [7b]/Mt 7:1-5; **Tuesday:** 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9d]/Mt 7:6, 12-14; **Wednesday:** 2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40 [33a]/Mt 7:15-20; **Thursday:** 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Mt 7:21-29; **Friday:** Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19; **Day:** Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19; **Saturday:** Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-17; **Next Sunday:** Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 [2a]/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

