

# The Piarist Fathers



## Pastor

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

## Parochial Vicars

Rev. Andrew Berinyuy, Sch.P.  
Very Rev. Fernando Negro, Sch.P.  
Rev. Jesús Negro, Sch.P.  
Rev. Richard Wyzykiewicz Sch.P.

## Parish Staff

### Parish Secretary

Mrs. Rosemarie Ortiz

### Business Manager

Anne Kathy Rice

### Music Director

Mr. Daniel Ambe

### Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson  
Mr. Alex Henriquez

## March—2021

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

<http://www.sthelenaelementary.org>

Early Childhood (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. Kris Keelin  
915 Hutchinson River Parkway  
Bronx, New York 10465

### St. Helena Rectory:

1315 Olmstead Avenue  
Bronx, N.Y. 10462

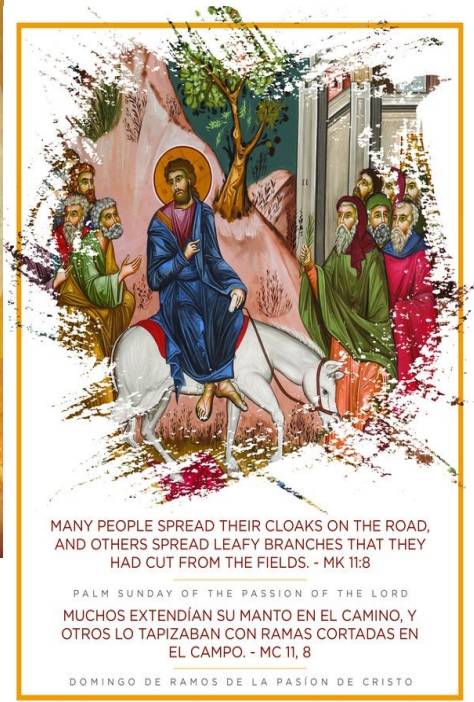
**Phone: (718) 892-3232**

**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



## Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

**Saturday: 5:30 PM**

**Sunday:** AM PM  
8:00 12:00 (Español)  
10:00 (Family) 5:00  
6:30 (Français)

**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
- First Friday: 1 to 6:30PM
- Sacred Heart Novena: Thursday, Noon
- English Bible Study: Tuesday, 1PM & 7:30PM  
and Sunday 11:15AM
- Rosary: Wednesday, 1:00PM

**Holy Days:** 8:30AM, 12:15PM, 7:30PM

**Weekdays & Sat.:** 8:30AM, 12:15 PM

Morning Prayer: Daily 8:30AM

**Spanish Mass:** Sunday, 12:00 Noon

Holy Days—Evenings Before—7:00PM

Wednesday —7:00PM (Español)

Monday 7:00PM (every first Monday of the month in Español) Primeros lunes de mes

**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.

**Stations of the Cross-Fridays during Lent-1PM-Eng & 7PM-SP**



Handicapped Accessible

## RECONCILIATION MONDAY

Every parish in the Archdiocese will offer Sacramental Reconciliation on **Monday, March 29** from **3-9PM**. If you have been away from this Sacrament for a while, this would be a good opportunity to celebrate it. At St. Helena, we will hear Confession in English, Spanish, and French. We also hear Confession every **Saturday** from **4-5:30PM** and by appointment.

Confession is one of the least understood of the sacraments of the Catholic Church. In reconciling us to God, it is a great source of Sanctifying Grace, and Catholics are encouraged to take advantage of it often. But it is also the subject of many common myths and misunderstandings, both among non-Catholics and among some Catholics themselves.

The Sacrament of Penance is one of the seven sacraments recognized by the Catholic Church. Catholics believe that all of the sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ himself to give us grace. In the case of Confession, that institution occurred on Easter Sunday, when Christ first appeared to the apostles after his Resurrection. He breathed on them and said: "Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23).

Catholics also believe that the sacraments are an outward sign of an inward grace. In this case, the outward sign is the absolution, or forgiveness of sins, that the priest grants to the penitent (the person confessing his sins); the inward grace is the reconciliation of the penitent to God. That is why the Sacrament of Confession is sometimes called the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Whereas Confession stresses the action of the believer in the sacrament, Reconciliation stresses the action of God, who uses the sacrament to reconcile us to Himself by restoring Sanctifying Grace in our souls. The Catechism of the Catholic Church also refers to the sacred Sacrament of Confession as the Sacrament of Penance. Penance expresses the proper attitude with which we should approach the sacrament—with sorrow for our sins, a desire to atone for them, and a firm resolve not to commit them again.

The purpose of Confession is to reconcile man to God. When we sin, we deprive ourselves of God's grace, and by doing so, we make it even easier to sin again. The only way out of this downward cycle is to acknowledge our sins, to repent of them, and to ask for God's forgiveness. Then, in the Sacrament of Penance, grace can be restored to our souls, and we can once again resist sin.

Most non-Catholics, and even some Catholics, often ask whether they can simply confess their sins directly to God and whether God can forgive them without going through a priest. On the most basic level, of course, the answer is yes, and Catholics should make frequent acts of contrition, which are prayers in which we tell God that we are sorry for our sins and ask Him for His forgiveness. While Catholics are only required to confess mortal sins directly to a priest and not venial sins, the Church encourages the frequent confession of all sins because it is a very good thing to do. While Penance is the only sacrament not celebrated within a Eucharistic framework and for which therefore no Ritual Mass is provided, the Confiteor, said within the Penitential Rite at the beginning of the Mass serves as a general confession of sins, both past, absolved mortal sins, and any venial sins one currently is guilty of but which don't merit damnation. It is in this sense that the general form of absolution given by a priest during Mass makes explicit the priestly intercession to God on behalf of the people (in concordance with the fact that he is about to offer the perfect Victim to the Father, "in persona Christi.")

But the question misses the point of the Sacrament of Confession. The sacrament, by its very nature, confers graces that help us to live a Christian life, which is why one of the Precepts of the Church requires Catholics to receive it at least once per year. Moreover, the Sacrament of Penance was instituted by Christ as the proper form for the forgiveness of our sins. Therefore, we should not only be willing to receive the sacrament frequently but should embrace it not as a burden but as a gift from a loving God.

There are three things that are required of a penitent in order to receive the sacrament worthily:

1. One must be **contrite**—or, in other words, sorry for one's sins.
2. One must **confess** those sins fully, both in kind and in number.
3. One must be willing to **do penance** and **make amends** for one's sins.

Again, while Catholics are only required to go to Confession when they are aware that they have committed a mortal sin, the Church urges the faithful to take advantage of the sacrament often. A good rule of thumb is to go once per month. The Church strongly recommends that, in preparation for fulfilling our Easter Duty to receive Holy Communion, we go to Confession even if we are aware of venial sin only. This is the reason why we celebrate Reconciliation Monday during Holy Week. Thus, the Church especially urges the faithful to receive the Sacrament of Penance frequently during Lent, to help them in their spiritual preparation for Easter.

**HOLY WEEK** is the week preceding Easter and the final week of Lent. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Holy Saturday, the day before Easter Sunday. Holy Week includes Holy Thursday (also known as Maundy Thursday) and Good Friday, which, together with Holy Saturday, are known as the Triduum, the shortest liturgical season. Before the revision of the liturgical calendar in 1969, Holy Week was the second week of Passiontide; in the current calendar, Passiontide is synonymous with Holy Week.

During Holy Week, Christians commemorate the Passion of Christ, who instituted both the priesthood and the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, died on **Good Friday** in reparation for the sins of mankind, and rose on Easter Sunday to give new life to all who believe. One important point of faith is that the priesthood exists entirely at Christ's initiative for the sake of the Eucharist. There is no Eucharist without the priesthood. Without Jesus' decision to institute the Eucharist, there is no priesthood. Moreover, while Holy Week is solemn and sorrowful, it also anticipates the joy of Easter through the recognition of God's goodness in sending his son to die for our salvation.

**SECOND COLLECTION** this weekend, Palm Sunday, which is also Passover, will be for the Parish Easter Flowers.

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION**—Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. Please be Generous. For more info about Christians in the Holy Land, visit [www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday](http://www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday).

**MASS OVERFLOW**—This Sunday and next Sunday, the overflow for the Masses will be directed to the gymnasium where the Mass will be live-streamed from the church.

**EASTER NOVENAS** are available at the two church entrances.

**ENGLISH BIBLE STUDY** has resumed on **Tuesdays** and on **Sundays**. Classes will be at **1PM and 7:30PM** on **Tuesdays** and **Sundays** at **11:15AM**. Our study topic will be Jesus in the Bible.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** takes place in the church every Friday during Lent at **1PM** in English and **7PM** in Spanish. They can all be seen on our YouTube Channel, St. Helena Film Ministries.

**CALASANZ MOVEMENT YOUTH GROUP** is now meeting virtually every **Friday** at **7PM**.

**SPANISH PRAYER GROUP** every **Mon.** at **7PM** in the church.

**ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP** every **Sat** at **1PM** in Green Bldg.

**LEGION OF MARY** meets every **Sat.** at **1PM** in Peralta Room.

**PARISH BAPTISMS**—You must attend a one-hour baptismal class prior to the event. You must come to the rectory and register for the class, which takes place on **Thursday** evenings at **7PM**.

**BOOKS & ORIGINAL DRAWINGS** by Fr. Fernando Negro are available for your perusal every Sunday from **9AM-1:30PM** in the room beside the Religious Goods Room.

**2021 CARDINAL'S APPEAL**-You can help the most vulnerable parishes across the archdiocese by giving a one-time or monthly gift to the Cardinal's *Appeal*. Use the Appeal envelope or make your gift at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org). Thanks for your support.

Puede ayudar a las parroquias más vulnerables de la arquidiócesis haciendo un donativo único o mensual a la Campaña de Cardenal. Hagan su donativo en [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org) o utilizando el sobre de la Campaña. Gracias por tu generosidad.

Our parish goal is \$51,500, and we are now at 51.8% of our goal with \$26,580 pledged from 132 people.

**UNPLANNED**-The movie UNPLANNED will be shown in Spanish at 2PM on Sunday, March 28 and in English at 1:30PM on Sunday, April 4 in the Gym. Based on a true story, the movie takes a look inside the abortion industry through the eyes of a former Planned Parenthood clinic director.

**SPECIAL HOLY WEEK COVID SELF-TEST AT SAINT HELENA**-NYC Test and Trace staff will be present at St. Helena, March 28-April 5 from 9:30AM-5PM to assist people ages 4 and up in using free self-swab COVID-19 testing kits.

**PRO-LIFE BABY SHOWER** will take place on Holy Saturday, April 3 from 7-9AM outdoors at 2050 Eastchester Rd, celebrating women who said Yes to Life. Light refreshments will be served. Donations of diapers, baby wipes, and other baby items are gladly accepted and can either be brought to the baby shower or brought to Saint Helena's. For more info, call Nora at 646-546-9847.

**CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**-Tax day for individuals has been extended to May 17. If you are in need of your parish tax donation contribution statement for tax purposes, please contact the parish office at 718-892-3232.

**VIEW ON FORMED**-Everyone at St. Helena's has a free parish subscription at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org). Just click join as a parishioner. Today is Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord. Study *Lectio: The Case for Jesus*. Watch: *Lectio Eucharist- The Last Supper and the Cross*, or *Holy Week in Rome: A Journey with the Pope*. Listen to: *Holy Week* by Dr. Brant Pitre, *Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week* by Pope Benedict XVI, *Glimpses Along the Way of the Cross*, or *Resurrection of Jesus- Fact or Fiction*.

**FARM SHARE PROGRAM**-We need 23 people to sign up for the program where you can purchase fresh, local veggies, fruits, and eggs every other week for a low cost of \$10-\$20. Register at <http://corbinhill-foodproject.org/sign-up>. For more specific information, contact [farmshare@corbinhillfarm.com](mailto:farmshare@corbinhillfarm.com).

**VIRTUAL COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS**-We offer a VIRTUAL program called Mindful Eating for the Beloved Community. There are nine cooking demonstrations broadcast every other week. Visit: <http://www.bit.ly/mebc2021> to register. The next video will be on March 31. Many people are enjoying these virtual presentations, brought to you by Chef Alex.

**FREE CATHOLIC COURSES**-Receive a free on-line Catholic education in many areas. This is a website you will go back to time and again. <https://www.catholiconline.school>.

**MISSALETES**-Lenten bilingual missalettes are now available in the rectory for \$2. They will be used for Holy Week and Easter.

**VIRTUAL AL-ANON MEETINGS**-meet every Saturday at 9AM. Call in at 712-770-5372, and the access code is: 178602.

**HAIR BRAIDING** and hair weaving by Angie, call 347-981-5806.

**WEEKLY COLLECTION: March 21—\$4,926.13**  
**St. Helena School—\$1,685**

Masses Live-Streamed from St Helena take place Mon-Sat in Eng at 8:30AM and every Wed and First Monday in Spanish at 7PM & Sun at 10AM and 12PM at [www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx](http://www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx). Our Parish YouTube Channel is St. Helena Film Ministry.

# Mass Intentions

**March 28 – Sunday— Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
**8:00** +Betty Ishrie-20th Anniversary;  
+Bernardo Santiago & Antonia Ruiz

**10:00 S** +Alina Hernandez; +America Lebron

**12:00 S (Sp)** +Aurelio Carrillo & Esequiel Medina; +Carlos Flores;  
+Victor Castro, Rafael Baez and Ramona Baez Herrera;  
+Jacqueline French; +Luis Mella; +Juan Vallejo;  
+Janeth Corisino Padilla

**5:00** +Ralph A. Cerbone, Jr.; *Meera Job-Intentions*

**6:30 S (Fr)** +Margaret Bongyii and Raphael Mbinkar

**March 29 – Monday of Holy Week**

**6:30\*** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to J. Savino

**8:30 S** +Elvira Watts

**12:15** +Elvira Watts; *Meera Job-Intentions*

**March 30 – Tuesday of Holy Week**

**6:30\*** Brenda & Scott Van de Weghes Spiritual & Temporal Needs

**8:30 S** +Daniel J. Sullivan

**12:15** +Christopher Ramos

**March 31 – Spy Wednesday**

**6:30\*** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to the Van de Weghes

**8:30 S** +Fr. Tom Sherdian

**12:15** +Fr. Tom Sherdian; +Anthony Louis Perhendes;

+Marvin Conwell

**7:00 S (Sp)** +Carlos Escalona; +Maria Urgiles; *Meera Job-Health*

**April 1 – Holy Thursday – No Announced Masses**

**8:30 S** Children's Holy Thursday Liturgy

**7:00 S** Spanish Solemn Mass in Gym

**7:30S** Bi-Lingual (French/English) Solemn Mass and Adoration until 11:30PM

**April 2 – Good Friday—No Announced Masses**

**8:30 S** Tenebrae

**3:00** Traditional Good Friday Liturgy

**6:00** Divine Mercy Novena

**7:00** Seven Last Words of Christ-Sp in Gym/Eng in Church

**8:00 S** Solemn Good Friday Liturgy-Sp in Gym/Eng in Church

**April 3 – Holy Saturday—No Announced Masses**

**8:30** Tenebrae

**10:00** RCIA Rite-Rehearsal

**1:30-6:30** Decoration of Church for Easter

**4-5:30** Confessions

**6:30** Divine Mercy Novena

**7:30 S** Spanish Easter Vigil in Gym

**8:30 S** English Solemn Easter Vigil

**April 4 – Easter Sunday**

**8:00** +Catherine Carolan; +Murphy and Warneke Families

**10:00 S** +Murphy and Warneke Families

**12:00 S (Sp)** +Rosa Mani; +Asia Morales; +Carlos Flores;

+Victor Castro, Rafael Baez, Ramona Baez Herrera,

Cruz Torres, Ana Franco and Julio Santiago;

+America Lebron; +Amy Garcia-8th Birthday Intentions

+Pedro J. Davila, Elickson Ledesma and Rayna Duran

+Regalada Colon; +Jacqueline French

**5:00** +Fr. Charles Newburn, Sch.P.-5th Anniversary

**6:30 S (Fr)** +Margaret Bongyii and Raphael Mbinkar

*Names only said in Prayer of the Faithful are in Italics*

*\*not a public Mass; +=deceased; S=Mass is live-streamed*

**Readings for the week of March 28, 2021**

**Sun:** 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; **Mon:** Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 [1a]/Jn 12:1-11; **Tues:** Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38; **Wed:** Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 [14c]/Mt 26:14-25; **Thurs:** Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [2a]/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21; **Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 [cf. 1 Cor 10:16]/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15; **Fri:** Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 [Lk 23:46]/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42; **Sat:** **Vigil:** Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 [30] or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 [5b]/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Ex 14:15—15:1/Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 [1b]/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 [2a]/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [3]/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 [42:2] or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Mk 16:1-7; **Next Sun:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or Lk 24:13-35