

The Piarist Fathers



Pastor

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

Parochial Vicars

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

Facilities Manager

Karime Vergara

Music Director

Mr. Daniel Ambe

Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson

Mr. Alex Henriquez

August—September 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

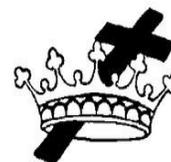
www.churchofsthelena.com

Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saint Helena



Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Holy Days: 8:30AM, 12:15 PM, 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) Primer lunes de mes

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday:	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>
	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 718-892-3232

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

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.



Handicapped Accessible

THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

September 14

Some parishes such as ours celebrate both a patronal feast and a titular feast. A patronal feast celebrates the person after whom the parish is named, which in our case is Saint Helena, whose feast day is August 18. The titular feast celebrates the particular mystery to which we are attached, which in our case is The Exaltation of the Cross, which is celebrated on September 14. A parish is allowed to move such a feast if it falls on a weekday to the nearest Sunday, which is why we are celebrating our Titular Feast today instead of the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.



The Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross every year on September 14, and it recalls three important historical events: the finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine; the dedication of churches built by Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary; and the restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem by the emperor Heraclius II. But in a much deeper sense, the feast also celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree that reversed Adam's Original Sin.

After the death and resurrection of Christ, both the Jewish and Roman authorities in Jerusalem made efforts to obscure the Holy Sepulchre, Christ's tomb lies in the garden near the site of His crucifixion. The earth had been mounded up over the site, and pagan temples had been built on top of it. The Cross on which Christ had died had been hidden (tradition said) by the Jewish authorities somewhere in the vicinity. According to tradition, first mentioned by Saint Cyril of Jerusalem in 348, Saint Helena, when nearing the end of her life, decided under divine inspiration to travel to Jerusalem in 326 to excavate the Holy Sepulchre and attempt to locate the True Cross. A Jew by the name of Judas, aware of the tradition concerning the hiding of the Cross, led those excavating the Holy Sepulchre to the spot in which it was hidden. Three crosses were found on the spot and portions of the holy inscription *Jesus Nazarenus Rex Iudaeorum* ("Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews") were also found at the site. Saint Helena and Saint Macarius, the bishop of Jerusalem devised an experiment to determine which was the True Cross. The three crosses were taken to a woman who was near death, and when she touched the True Cross, she was immediately healed.

In celebration of the discovery of the Holy Cross, Constantine ordered the construction of churches at the site of both the Holy Sepulchre and on Mount Calvary. Those churches were dedicated on September 13 and 14, 335, and shortly thereafter the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross began to be celebrated on the latter date. The new feast slowly spread from Jerusalem to other churches, until, by the year 720, the celebration was universal.

In the early seventh century, the Persians conquered Jerusalem, and the Persian king Khosrau II captured the True Cross and took it back to Persia. After Khosrau's defeat by Emperor Heraclius II, Khosrau's own son had him assassinated in 628 and returned the True Cross to Heraclius. In 629, Heraclius, having initially taken the True Cross to Constantinople, decided to restore it himself to Jerusalem. Tradition says that he carried the Cross on his own back, but when he attempted to enter the holy church on Mount Calvary, a strange force stopped him. The Patriarch Zacharias of Jerusalem, seeing the emperor struggling, advised him to take off his royal robes and crown and to dress in a plain penitential robe instead. As soon as Heraclius took Zacharias' advice, he was able to carry the True Cross into the church. For many centuries, the feast, the Finding of the Cross, was celebrated on May 3 in the Roman and Gallican churches, following a tradition that marked that date as the day on which Saint Helena discovered the True Cross. This is the reason St. Helena's parish was dedicated on May 3, 1942. In Jerusalem, however, the finding of the Cross was celebrated from the beginning on September 14.

We celebrate this feast because Christ Himself said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." The point of taking up our own cross is not simply self-sacrifice; in doing so, we are uniting ourselves to the sacrifice of Christ on His Cross. When we participate in the Holy Mass, the Cross is there, too. The "unbloody sacrifice" offered on the altar is the re-presentation of Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross. When we receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we do not simply unite ourselves to Christ; we nail ourselves to the Cross, dying with Christ so that we might rise with Him. For Catholics the Cross is the crossroads of history and the Tree of Life. Christianity without the Cross is meaningless: Only by uniting ourselves to Christ's Sacrifice on the Cross can we enter into eternal life.

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM - Set. 13

St. John Chrysostom, born in Antioch about A.D.347, was a great genius. His powerful eloquence earned him the surname of the Chrysostom, or golden mouthed. With St. Athanasius, St. Gregory Nazianzen, and St. Basil, he forms the group of the four great doctors of the Eastern Church. As Archbishop of Constantinople, his courageous stance against the vices of even the very wealthy caused him to be exiled several times. As a result, he died in 407, still in exile. In 1204 his body was brought to St. Peter's in Rome but was returned to the Orthodox on November 27, 2004, by Pope Saint John Paul II. His silver and jewel-encrusted skull is now kept in the Vatopedi Monastery on Mount Athos in northern Greece and is credited by Christians with miraculous healings. His right hand is also preserved on Mount Athos, and numerous smaller relics are scattered throughout the world.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS - Sept. 15

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows whose memorial the church will celebrate on **Wed., September 15**. The title, Our Lady of Sorrows, was given to our Blessed Mother and focuses on her intense suffering and grief during the passion and death of our Lord. Traditionally, this suffering was not limited to the passion and death event; rather, it comprised the seven dolours or seven sorrows of Mary, which were foretold by the just Priest Simeon. These seven sorrows of our Blessed Mother included the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt; the loss and finding of the child Jesus in the Temple; Mary's meeting of Jesus on His way to Calvary; Mary's standing at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified; her holding of Jesus when He was taken down from the cross; and then our Lord's burial. In all, the prophecy of Simeon that a sword would pierce our Blessed Mother's heart was fulfilled in these events. For this reason, Mary is sometimes depicted with her heart exposed and with seven swords piercing it. More importantly, each new suffering was received with the courage, love, and trust that echoed her fiat, let it be done unto me according to Thy word, first uttered at the Annunciation.



This Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows grew in popularity in the 12th century, although under various titles. In 1482, the feast was officially placed in the Roman Missal under the title of Our Lady of Compassion, highlighting the great love that our Blessed Mother displayed in suffering with her Son. In 1727, Pope Benedict XIII placed the Feast of Our Lady of Compassion in the Roman Calendar on the Friday before Palm Sunday, but the feast was suppressed with the revision of the new calendar published in the Roman Missal of 1969. In 1668, a feast in honor of the Seven Dolours was set for the Sunday after September 14, the Feast of the Holy Cross. The feast was inserted into the Roman calendar in 1814, and Pope Pius X fixed the permanent date of September 15 for the Feast of the Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Focusing on the compassion of our Blessed Mother, Pope Saint John Paul II reminded the faithful in 1980 that Mary Most Holy goes on being the loving consoler of those touched by the many physical and moral sorrows which afflict and torment humanity. She knows our sorrows and our pains, because she too suffered, from Bethlehem to Calvary. Mary is our Spiritual Mother, and the mother always understands her children and consoles them in their troubles. Then, she has that very specific mission to love us, received from Jesus on the Cross, to love us only and always, so as to save us! Mary consoles us above all by pointing out the Crucified One and Paradise to us!

SOLEMNITY OF THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

ST. CORNELIUS and CYPRIAN - Sept. 16

On September 16, the Church commemorates two friends in the service of Christ and his Church. Cornelius, a Roman, was the twenty-first Pope during the reign of the Emperors Gallus and Volusian. He opposed Novatian, the first anti-pope, who believed that apostates who repented could not be forgiven, and he also financially supported 500 widows in Rome. Helped by St. Cyprian, who was a pagan rhetorician in Carthage who converted to the faith and was later ordained as a priest and then bishop of Carthage, Cornelius confirmed his papal authority. He was beheaded in exile at Civitavecchia, Italy in 253. Cyprian defended the unity of the Church, and he was also beheaded. Saints Cyprian and Cornelius are mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) of the Mass. They encouraged each other to live virtuous and loving lives.

ST. HILDEGARD - Sept. 17

St. Hildegard was born in A.D. 1098, in the Rhine region of present-day Germany, and she died at the age of 81 in A.D. 1179. She was a Benedictine abbess, composer, writer, theologian, mystic, philosopher, and visionary, and was also well-versed in scientific natural history. She has been honored as a saint for many centuries, but only officially canonized a saint and named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. On January 25, 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church, be inserted into the General Roman Calendar.

ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE - Sept. 17

St. Robert Bellarmine (1542-1621) was born in Montepulciano, Italy, and died in Rome. The son of noble parents, he entered the Society of Jesus, and finished his theological studies at Louvain, Belgium. His services to the Church were outstanding and many. He occupied the chair of controversial theology in Rome. He also defended the Holy See against anti-clericals. He wrote many books against the prevailing heresies of the day. His catechism, translated into many languages, spread the knowledge of Christian doctrine to all parts of the world. He was the Counsellor of Popes and spiritual director of St. Aloysius Gonzaga. He also helped Saint Francis de Sales obtain approval of the Visitation Order. As a religious he was a model of purity, humility, and obedience; as a bishop and then a Cardinal, he was an example of great love for his flock.

ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO - Sept. 18

St. Joseph of Cupertino (1603-1663) was born in Cupertino, Italy, and died in Osimo. He was of lowly origin, was clumsy, and had little formal education. In his youth, he was employed as an odd apprentice to a shoemaker. He joined the Conventual Franciscans as a stable boy and later became a lay brother and then ordained a priest in 1628. From that time onwards Joseph of Cupertino was continually passing into ecstatic trances, sometimes even appearing to float above the ground. He was noted for his great austerities, his angelic purity, his great devotion to Our Lady, and especially for his ardent love of God.

¿Qué significa la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz?

La Exaltación de la Santa Cruz honra a la Cruz de Cristo, instrumento que se hizo sagrado al ofrecerse el Señor sobre ella para nuestra salvación. Esta fiesta se celebra el 14 de septiembre. Cuando honramos, o exaltamos, la Cruz, los cristianos estamos reconociendo principalmente a Cristo mismo.

El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica afirma que el Concilio de Trento subraya el carácter único del sacrificio de Cristo como "fuente de salvación eterna" y enseña que "su santísima Pasión en el madero de la cruz mereció la justificación para nosotros, y la Iglesia venera su cruz mientras canta: "Salve, oh Cruz, nuestra única esperanza".

Además de celebrar el sacrificio de Jesús en la Cruz, la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz conmemora tres acontecimientos históricos. El primero es el descubrimiento, en el año 326, de la verdadera Cruz, del Calvario y de la tumba de Cristo por Santa Elena, la madre del emperador Constantino, que los romanos habían enterrado bajo un templo de Venus. La segunda es la dedicación de una iglesia el 14 de septiembre de 335 sobre el lugar de la crucifixión de Jesús. Hoy en día, esta iglesia, en existencia continua desde entonces, se conoce como la Basílica del Santo Sepulcro, y alberga el Calvario, la Tumba de Jesús y la cisterna en la que Santa Elena encontró los instrumentos de la

Pasión, incluida la Cruz. Por último, la fiesta recuerda la devolución por parte del emperador Heraclio de un trozo de la Vera Cruz que había sido robado por los persas en el siglo VII. La basílica, llamada Martyrium, y el santuario, llamado Calvarium, fueron destruidos por los persas en el año 614. La iglesia del Santo Sepulcro que ahora se levanta en el lugar fue construida por los cruzados en 1149.

Sin embargo, la fiesta, más que nada, es una celebración y conmemoración de la obra más grande de Dios: su muerte salvadora en la Cruz y su Resurrección, mediante la cual la muerte fue derrotada y se abrieron las puertas del Cielo. La antifona de entrada de la fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz es: "Debemos gloriarnos en la cruz de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, porque él es nuestra salvación, nuestra vida y nuestra resurrección: por él somos salvados y liberados". Siempre que el pueblo de Dios se reúne como Iglesia, lo hace como aquellos que han resucitado en el bautismo, pero cuya vida está marcada para siempre por el signo de la cruz y se vive bajo él. Desde principios del siglo IV, los cristianos reservan el 14 de septiembre -además del Triduo Pascual- para contemplar el misterio simbolizado en este antiguo instrumento de ejecución. Confiando en la curación extendida a todos a través del Misterio Pascual del que es expresión, afrontan el giro de la naturaleza hacia el invierno con renovada esperanza. El misterio de la cruz -siempre unido al misterio de la resurrección- sigue estando en el centro de la vida cristiana. A través de celebraciones litúrgicas cuidadosamente planificadas y creativas, se pueden fomentar conexiones nuevas y significativas con el ciclo natural. A pesar de sus oscuros orígenes, esta fiesta puede llegar a ser abrazada y apropiada por el pueblo que vive bajo el signo de la cruz, que pone con confianza su esperanza en aquel que, cuando es elevado, atrae a todos hacia sí.

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS is the Patronal Feast of the Parish and is celebrated on September 14. Our Parish Celebration of it will be today, **Sunday, Sept. 12** at all Masses. We will venerate the Relic of the True Cross, and also there is a Plenary Indulgence attached to attending Mass at St. Helena on that day.

SECOND COLLECTION taken today is for our Elementary School. This year we added a UPK-3 Program. Our enrollment is now at 338 students, and we are off to a very good start.

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend is the Utility Fund Collection which is used to help maintain our boilers. We need to update the control panels to help maintain an even heat distribution throughout the school. Your generosity is much appreciated.

DAILY SPANISH MASSES will be celebrated here at St. Helena at **7PM Monday-Friday** beginning on **Monday, September 20**. In addition, starting on **Mon., September 13** the front doors of the church will be locked at **4:30PM**. The side door will remain open.

YOM KIPPUR, also known as the **Day of Atonement**, begins at sunset on Sept. 15 and ends on Sept. 16 and is the holiest day of the year in Judaism. Its central themes are atonement and repentance. Jews traditionally observe this holy day with a day-long fast and intensive prayer, often spending most of the day in synagogue services.

CONSTITUTION DAY is **September 17, 2021**. It celebrates the ratification of the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17, 1787. The Constitution of the United States of America is the supreme law of the United States. It is the foundation and source of the legal authority underlying the existence of the United States of America and the Federal Government of the United States.

PRAYER FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body, and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year. Bless them and their teachers and staff. Give them the strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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ST. HELENA STUDENTS RECEIVE DONATION-On the opening day of school, St. Helena School alumnus Andrew Curiel surprised the second-grade class by presenting them with a \$3,000 check that will be used to purchase bookbags, school supplies, & a Google Chromebook for each student. Thank you for your generosity

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY-Next weekend is Catechetical Sunday, and we will be commissioning our religious education catechists at the **10AM** Family Mass on **September 19**.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND RCIA REGISTRATION continues this weekend. You must register your child again with Fr. Richard, even if they were in our Religious Education program last year. You may register at the table in the back of the church or on weekdays you may register in the rectory. We are also accepting applications from any non-Catholic adult who may be interested in learning more about our faith or any adult who is missing sacraments.

BILINGUAL OPENING MASS for our religious education program will take place on **Wed., September 15** at **3:45PM** in the church. All students and their families are invited to attend. It is the holy Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows for which the month of September is dedicated. Our regular religious education classes begin on **September 22** at **3:45PM**. If your child is not attending Catholic School, they should be enrolled in our parish religious education program, especially if they are preparing for the two Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation, which are both two-year programs. Please see Fr. Richard to enroll them.

LA MISA DE APERTURA BILINGÜE para nuestro programa de educación religiosa tendrá lugar el **miércoles 15 de septiembre a las 3:45PM** en la iglesia. Todos los estudiantes y sus familias están invitados a asistir. Es la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de los Dolores para la cual se dedica el mes de septiembre. Nuestras clases regulares de educación religiosa comienzan el **22 de septiembre a las 3:45PM**. Si su hijo no asiste a la escuela católica, debe ser inscrito en nuestro programa de educación religiosa de la parroquia, especialmente si se están preparando para los sacramentos de la Primera Comunión y la Confirmación, ambos programas son de dos años. Por favor vea al Padre Richard para inscribirlos.

THE BIBLE AND THE SACRAMENTS is the title of our new 11-session Parish Bible Study, which begins on **Tuesday, September 14** at either **1PM** or **7:30PM** in the Green Building. A session also takes place on **Sundays** at **11:30AM** beginning **Sept. 19**.

ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP every **Sat.** at **1PM** in Green Building. We also pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at the beginning.

LEGION OF MARY meets every **Sat** at **1PM** in the Rectory.

SPANISH CHARISMATIC MASS on **Mon. Sept. 13** at **7PM**.

BRONX CONCERT SINGERS welcome new singers. The next rehearsal, **Tuesday, September 14** at **7PM** in the church.

STREET FAIR PLANNING MEETING on **Sat., September 18** at **3:30PM** in the rectory basement meeting room. We are going to have an old-fashioned cakewalk as part of the event, and we are asking parishioners to bake any kind of cake that will be used as the prizes. We are also accepting Religious Items to sell.

CALASANZ MOVEMENT YOUTH GROUP-The Calasanz Movement Youth Group invites everyone to our first big Kickoff Celebration on **September 12** from **1:30-4:30PM**. Our very first meeting is scheduled for **September 17** at **7PM**. Come and let your children be a part of the Calasanz Movement Youth Group where they get to learn about our Lord, in a positive, supportive, and fun filled atmosphere and in making lifelong friendships.

ST. HELENA BOY SCOUT TROOP AND CUB SCOUT PACK are now accepting new members. We are accepting both boys and girls into the programs. The Cub Scouts will meet on **Saturdays** from **9:30-11AM**, and the Scouts from **11AM-12:30PM** that same day.

BREAST CANCER SCREENING will take place today, **Sunday, September 12** in front of the church. You must now pre-register for an appointment. They will not accept anyone without an appointment due to COVID regulations.

FOOD PANTRY on **Tuesday, September 14**, from **12-2PM**, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. We will then distribute produce and cooked food. Our Food Pantry distributes cooked food every **Tuesday** from **12-2PM**, depending on what time the food is delivered. Sponsored by the Hunts Point Produce Market.

BACKPACK GIVEAWAY on **Sat., September 18** from **12-2PM** in the St. Helena parking lot. Sponsored by Karina Reyes.

FIRE IN THE BRONX: After many months, outdoor concerts are now coming back to New York City, and here in the Bronx, there will be a free outdoor Spanish Concert at St. Helena's on **Sunday, September 26**, from **2-6PM** in St. Helena Church. The guest speaker will be Juan de la Rosa, the Director of the Charismatic Renewal for the Archdiocese of New York. There will be lots of exciting music, food, and prayer and praise.

FUEGO EN EL BRONX: Después de muchos meses, los conciertos al aire libre están volviendo a la ciudad de Nueva York, y aquí en el Bronx, habrá un Concierto Español gratuito al aire libre en la Iglesia de Santa Elena el **domingo 26 de Septiembre, de 2 a 6 PM**. El orador invitado será Juan de la Rosa, el Director de la Renovación Carismática de la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York. Habrá mucha música emocionante, comida, y oración y alabanza.

CAKES NEEDED FOR STREET FAIR-Our final Street Fair of the year will be on **Saturday, October 2** on Castle Hill Ave. from **10AM - 6PM**. We are looking for homemade or bakery cakes as the prizes for an old-fashioned "cakewalk." We will also accept any religious goods you may have.

Our Bus Trip to See QUEEN ESTHER at the Sight and Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA on **Saturday, October 30** still has a few seats left on the bus. The trip will include a family-style lunch and main floor tickets to the **3PM** showing. To reserve your seats, please call the rectory at **718-892-3232** before the seats are all gone.

VIEW ON FORMED-Everyone at St. Helena's has a free parish subscription at www.formed.org. Just click join as a parishioner. On the 14th read, *Saint Helena and the True Cross* on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Watch: FORMED Now! – *Exaltation of the Holy Cross* or listen to: *Understanding the Crusades*. The 15th is the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. Listen to *Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows*, or *15 Things to do in the Midst of Suffering*. Watch *Sorrowful Mysteries*.

PARKCHESTER FARMER'S MARKET, which is located at the intersection of White Plains Rd. and Westchester Ave, is open every **Friday** from **8AM-4PM**. There are Health Bucks available in the rectory that can be used to purchase produce from the market.

SEE IF YOUR CHILD qualifies for food and health services on the WIC program, regardless of your immigration status. Call Andrea at **646-453-7064** or **Caridad** at **646-948-1315**.

VEA SI SU HIJO califica para recibir alimentos y servicios de salud en el programa WIC, sin importar su estatus migratorio. Llame a Andrea al **646-453-7064** or **Caridad** at **646-948-1315**.

NY LATINO FILM FESTIVAL showing 102 films **Sept. 14-19** at 100 E. 151st St. Visit www.nylatinofilmfestival.com

ENCOUNTER-Adoration Through the Eyes of Mary, A night of prayer with meditative music and confession. St. Benedict's Church **Saturday, Sept. 18** from **7:30-8:30PM**. Confession **7-7:30PM** only. Fellowship afterwards in Father Albert Hall.

MEXICAN SUPREME COURT Rules Pro-life Laws are all Unconstitutional: "Today is a watershed in the history of the rights of women and pregnant people, above all the most vulnerable,"

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Chief Justice Arturo Zaldívar said in the 10-0 ruling, which also declared that laws against abortion violate Mexico's constitution.

PILGRIM ROSA MYSTICA STATUE is now available to be brought to your home for nine days for prayer. The statue is now in the Rivera household. If you would like the statue to visit your home for nine days, please call Meera Job at **718-924-6657**.

LATIN HOME CARE offers Home Care Services and training 24/7. Call **718-918-1749**. You can get paid to care for a loved one.

NYC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT encourages everyone to report storm damage using the Damage Assessment Tool, located here: <https://on.nyc.gov/report-damage>.

SOUTH DAKOTA GOVERNOR says abortion drugs require a doctor's visit. South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem has issued an executive order that bars the dispensing of abortion drugs without a doctor's consultation. The order would block over-the-counter sales of abortion-inducing drugs in South Dakota if federal legal authorities allow the practice.

NEW TEXAS ABORTION LAW-As of September 1, 2021, the state of Texas has enacted a new abortion restriction. Known as Senate Bill 8, this law prohibits abortions as early as six weeks and sometimes even earlier. The governor's signature comes just after the U.S. Supreme Court said it would hear a case concerning a Mississippi law that would ban most abortions after 15 weeks, and which could lead to new limits on abortion rights. It is the first major abortion case heard before the court's newly expanded conservative majority. The state is expecting many lawsuits.

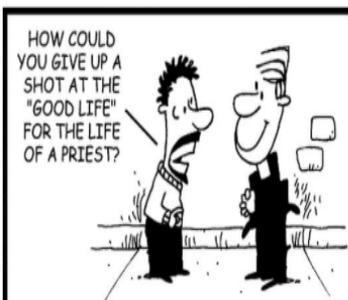
PRESTON HIGH SCHOOL is holding a TACHS Workshop for 8th grade girls and boys **September 18-October 30** from **9AM-12PM**. Program cost is \$350. To register visit: <http://tachsinfo.com>. For Admissions contact Cristina Fragale at **718-863-9134 ext, 132** or cfragale@prestonhs.org.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PETITION-We are asking the city to address the hazardous intersection of White Plains Rd. and Westchester Ave. We must obtain 200 signatures in order to petition the city to address this issue. There are four-signature petition sheets at the back of the church. If you are over 18, please take a minute to have four adults sign this important petition, and return it to the rectory or the back of the church as soon as possible. There is increasing traffic on those streets.

AA BIG BOOK meetings at **7PM** both virtually and in-person. every **Sat.** in the Green Building. The Zoom Meeting Code is 84360210329 and the password is dasolution.

FOR SALE: Hutch and table, armoire, new queen mattress, a kitchen table and cabinets. Call **646-467-3503**. Low prices.

EL PAPA FRANCISCO nombró a la teóloga argentina Emilce Cuda como la nueva jefa de oficina de la Comisión Pontificia para América Latina, cargo que asume el 1 de septiembre. Cuda, laica y madre de dos hijos, trabajará con el nuevo secretario, Rodrigo Guerra López, un mexicano también laico y profesor de filosofía. La nominación de Cuda fue vista en el país sudamericano como una señal de la lucha continua del Santo Padre contra el clericalismo y como un paso importante para aumentar la presencia de las mujeres en la jerarquía de la iglesia.



WEEKLY COLLECTION: September 5 — \$4,395.06

Masses Live-Streamed from St Helena take place **Mon-Sat** at **8:30AM** and **Sun** at **10AM** both in **English** at www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx.

Our Parish YouTube Channel is **St. Helena Film Ministry**.

Mass Intentions

September 12 – Solemnity of The Exaltation of the Cross

8:00 +Carol J. Parker; +Remedios and Jose de La Cruz; +Maria Rivera

10:00 S +Emma Sanchez (Birthday) and +Gloria Sanchez

12:00 (Sp) +Marlene Gomez-(Birthday); +Jacqueline French;

+Rose Delgado-2nd Month Anniversary; +Juanita Sanabria;

+Angelica Davila; +Restituta Quella; +Enriquillo Sanchez

5:00 For Brenda and Scott Van de Weghe's Utmost Facility to be Welcomed by God at the End of Their Lives

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

September 13 – Monday — St. John Chrysostem

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to the Van de Weghe's

8:30 S Xavier Francis, Meera, Staven & Jair Joseph in Thanks;

In Thanksgiving for the Inturias Family

12:15 +Ralph A. Cerbone, Jr.

September 14 – Tuesday – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

6:30* The Prevention of Cruel and Indifferent Treatment of Children and Adolescents Causing Emotional Disabilities in Them

8:30 S +Catherine Carolan

12:15 +Mark Clayton; +Luis Rexach-Gonzalez

September 15 – Wednesday— Our Lady of Sorrows

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Children and Adolescents

8:30 S Fr. Luis's Health, Happiness and Success as Principal of Colegio Ponceño in Puerto Rico

10:00 Funeral Mass-+William Berrios

12:15 +Hylla Rebello; *Annette Wharff Intentions for Safe Travel and God's Blessings*

7:00 (Sp) +Tweolde Abraham, Ezana Mathews and Elen Tesfa Yohans; +Jose Adin Cuadra Lacayo (Birthday)

September 16 – Thursday – St. Cyprian

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Fr. Luis

8:30 S For David and Sondra Savino's Utmost Facility to be Welcomed by God at the End of Their Earthly Lives

10:00 Funeral Mass- +Regina Moreno

12:15 Souls in Purgatory

September 17 – Friday — St. Hildegard

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to the Savino's

8:30 S The Souls of the Teresina Family

12:15 Michael Soto-Torrellas-Intentions

September 18 – Saturday — St. Joseph of Cupertino

6:30 Joanne Savino's Intentions

8:30S for the Prevention of Unjust Trials for the Faithful

12:15 +Marie Salud and Hilarian Lazo

5:30 S San Mateo Celebration Mass

September 19 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to J. Savino

10:00 S +Miguel Davila Sabu

12:00 (Sp) +Jacqueline French; +Caridad Alfonso; +Josefina Almazar, Ofano Perez, Rafael Pañora and Guillermo Pañora

5:00 Annette Wharff-Blessings and in Thanksgiving

6:30 (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 September 12, 2021

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk

8:27-35; **Monday:** 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor

11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10; **Tuesday:** Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37,

38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17; **Wednesday:** 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps

111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35; **Thursday:** 1 Tm

4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50; **Friday:** 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps

49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3; **Saturday:** 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps

100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/Lk 8:4-15; **Next Sunday:** Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps

54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-3