

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

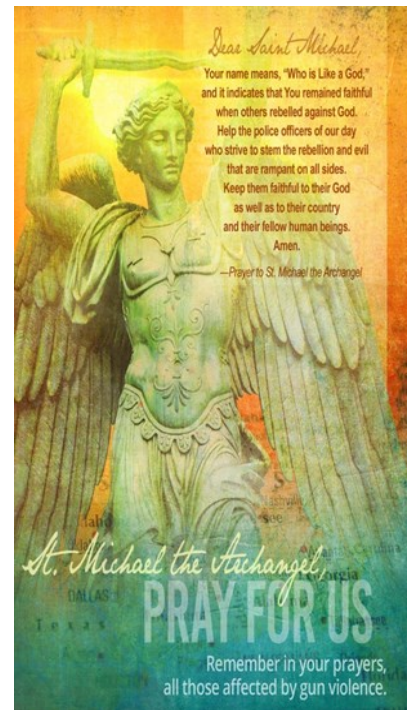
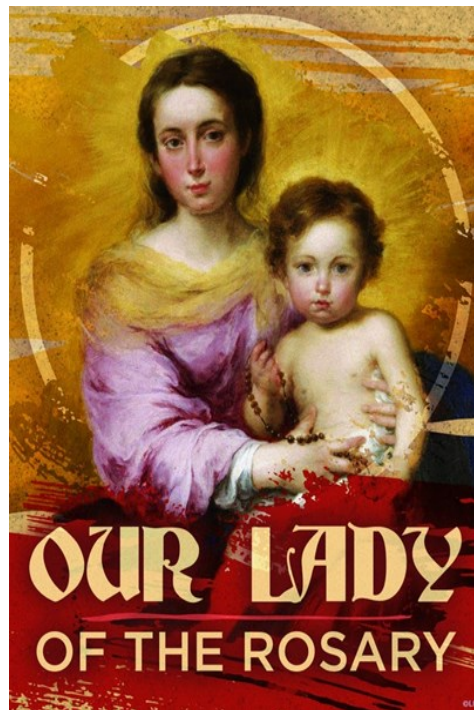
Phone: (718) 892-3232

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: AM

8:00

10:00 (Family)

PM

12:00 (Español)

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

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

Being a catechist is now an official canonical ministry in the Church. The ministry of the Word is a fundamental element of evangelization through all its many stages because it involves the proclamation of Jesus Christ, who is the eternal Word of God. In 1935, the Vatican published *On the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education*, a document that asked every country to acknowledge the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists. For the first few years after Catechetical Sunday was established, national catechetical congresses were held in conjunction with the first celebration. Beginning in 1971, the USCCB's Department of Education began producing materials to help parishes celebrate the event at the local level. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has designated the third Sunday in September as Catechetical Sunday. Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also must commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes an optional blessing of all parents and guardians. We will commission our catechists today at **10AM**.

EMBER DAYS

Most Catholics born after 1965 typically have never heard of Ember Days. This Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mark the Autumn or September Ember days. On Ember Days the Church is accustomed to entreat the Lord for the various needs of humanity, especially for the fruits of the earth and for human labor, and to give thanks to him publicly. Four times a year, approximately three months apart, near the beginning of each season of the solar cycle (winter, spring, summer and autumn), the Church set aside three days (a total of twelve days in a year) to ask for blessings upon mankind and to pray in gratitude for the blessings of nature, particularly those used by the Church in her Liturgy, such as olives, grapes, and wheat. This is also a time set apart to thank God for the sacraments and pray for priests, particularly those who were being ordained. These days are marked with prayer, fasting and abstinence and stress spiritual renewal; Ember Days could be regarded as quarterly spiritual check-ups. The word "Ember" comes from the Latin phrase *Quatuor Tempora*, meaning four times. Pope St. Leo the Great in the 5th century mentioned the Ember Day Fasts, pointing to these fasts as stemming from Old Testament and Apostolic tradition. Under Pope St. John XXIII, the Ember Days in September were adjusted to fall after the 3rd Sunday in September, which usually coincides with the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, but this year is an example of the Ember Days falling the next week. While once required of all Catholics, Ember days are now suggested days of fasting and abstinence, allowing one full meal, with meat at the principal meal only, except on Fridays where complete abstinence is suggested. Ember days are also days to pray for priests. The Holy Church has always recognized that we have both spiritual and human needs, and She honors that connection with our agrarian roots, recognizing God's gift of nature to us. The Ember Days reflect the different seasons and harvests of the year. Originally the seasons matched with the Mediterranean crop harvests of grapes, olives, and wheat, and the September Ember Days celebrate the grape harvest. The Ember Days can remind us that God speaks to us in His creation. In today's age of predominantly urban living with technology, there can be a disconnect with God and creation. By observing in small ways the quarterly Ember Days with each focus on the different harvest seasons, we can bring our thoughts back to God and His creation, and also unite with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

THE PROTOMARTYRS OF KOREA-Sept 20-During the 17th century the Christian faith was brought to Korea through the zeal of lay persons. From the very beginning these Christians suffered terrible persecutions and many suffered martyrdom during the 19th century. Today's feast honors a group of 103 martyrs. Notable of these were Andrew Kim Taegon, the first Korean priest, and the

lay apostle, Paul Chong Hasang. Also among the Korean martyrs were three bishops and seven priests, but for the most part they were heroic laity, men and women, married and single of all ages. They were canonized by Pope Saint John Paul II on May 6, 1984.

ST. MATTHEW - Sept. 21

At the time that Jesus summoned him to follow Him, Matthew was a publican, that is, a tax-collector working for the Romans, and no one was more shunned by the Jews than a publican, who robbed his own people and made a large personal profit. Publicans were not allowed to trade, eat, or even pray with any other Jews. His profession was hateful to the Jews because it reminded them of their subjection; the publican, also, was regarded by the pharisees as the typical sinner. St. Matthew is known to us principally as an Evangelist. Matthew was the first to put down in writing our Lord's teaching and the account of His life. Matthew's Gospel was written in Aramaic, the language that our Lord Himself spoke.

One day, while seated at his table of books and money, Jesus looked at Matthew and said two words: "Follow me." This was all that was needed to make Matthew rise, leaving his pieces of silver to follow Christ. His original name, "Levi," in Hebrew signifies "Adhesion" while his new name in Christ, Matthew, means "Gift of God." The only other outstanding mention of Matthew in all the Gospels is the dinner party for Christ and His companions to which he invited his fellow tax-collectors. The Jews were surprised to see Jesus with a publican, but Jesus explained that he had come "not to call the just, but sinners."

St. Matthew's Gospel was written to convince the Jews that their anticipated Messiah had come in the person of Jesus. The version of Matthew in our Bible was a later version written in Greek. Not much else is known about Matthew. According to tradition, he preached in Egypt and Ethiopia and further places East. Some legends say he lived until his nineties, dying a peaceful death, others say that he died a martyr's death. In the more traditional symbolization of the evangelists, based on Ezech. 1:5-10 and Rev. 4:6-7, the image of the winged man is accorded to St. Matthew because his Gospel begins with the human genealogy of Christ.

OUR LADY OF RANSOM - Sept. 22

The story of Our Lady of Ransom begins with St. Peter Nolasco, born in Languedoc about 1189. At the age of 25, he took a vow of chastity and made over his vast estates to the Church. After making a pilgrimage to Our Lady of Montserrat, he went to Barcelona where he began to practice various works of charity. He conceived the idea of establishing an Order for the redemption of captives seized by the Moors on the seas and in Spain itself; they were being cruelly tormented in their African prisons to make them deny their faith. He spoke of it to the king of Aragon, James I, who knew him well and already respected him as a saint; for the king had already asked for his prayers when he sent out his armies to combat the Moors, and he attributed his victories to those prayers.

In effect, all the Christians of Europe, and above all of Spain, were praying intensely to obtain from God the remedy for the great evil that had befallen them. On August 1, 1218, the Blessed Virgin appeared to St. Peter, to his confessor, Raymund of Penafort, and to the king, and through these three servants of God established a work of the most perfect charity, the redemption of captives. On that night, while the Church was celebrating the feast of St. Peter in Chains, the Virgin Mary appeared first to St. Peter, saying that she indeed desired the establishment of a religious Order, later known as the *Mercedarians*, bearing the name of her mercy. Its members would undertake to deliver Christian captives and offer themselves, if necessary, as a ransom pledge. The Order was solemnly established in Spain and approved by Pope Gregory IX under the name of *Our Lady of Mercy*. By the grace of God and under the protection of His Virgin Mother, the Order spread rapidly. Its growth was increased as the charity and piety of its members was observed; they very often followed Our Lady's directive to give themselves up to voluntary slavery when it was necessary, to aid the good work. It was to return thanks to God and the Blessed Virgin that a feast day was instituted and then observed on September 24, first in the Order, then everywhere in Spain and France. It was finally extended to the entire Church by Pope Innocent XII. Pope Leo XIII encouraged the devotion with a focus on how Our Lady ransoms us from the slavery of our sins and brings us the grace of conversion.

St. Pio of Pietrelcina - Sept. 23

We will venerate the relic of Padre Pio at all Masses on **Sept 23**, and we will have three large relics of Padre Pio here at St. Helena's all day on **Sat., November 27**, which is also the Patracinium of St. Joseph Calasanz. Padre Pio was born to a southern Italian farm family, the son of Grazio, a shepherd. At age 15, he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin Friars in Morcone and joined the order at age 19. He suffered several health problems, and at one point his family thought he had tuberculosis. He was ordained on August 10, 1910, at age 22. While praying before a cross on September 20, 1918, Padre Pio received the stigmata. He is the first priest ever to be so blessed. As word spread, especially after American soldiers brought home stories of Padre Pio following WWII, the priest himself became a point of pilgrimage for both the pious and the curious. He would hear confessions by the hour, reportedly able to read the consciences of those who held back. He, himself, was reportedly able to bi-locate, levitate, and heal by touch.



In 1956, he founded the House for the Relief of Suffering, a hospital that serves 60,000 a year. Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968, at age 81. Today there are over 400,000 members worldwide in prayer groups begun by Padre Pio in the 1920s. His canonization miracle involved the cure of Matteo Pio Colella, age seven, the son of a doctor who worked in the House for Relief of Suffering, the hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo. On the night of June 20, 2000, Matteo was admitted to the intensive care unit of the hospital with meningitis. By morning doctors had lost hope for him as nine of the boy's internal organs had ceased to give signs of life. That night, during a prayer vigil attended by Matteo's mother and some Capuchin friars of Padre Pio's monastery, the child's condition improved suddenly. When he awoke from the coma, Matteo said that he had seen an elderly man with a white beard and a long, brown habit, who said to him: "Don't worry, you will soon be cured." The miracle was approved by both the Holy Congregation and Pope John Paul II on December 20, 2001.

St. Finbar - Sept. 25

The patron saint of Cork, was born in Achaid Duborcon near Crookstown, Co. Cork; he was the son of a Connacht father, a metalworker, who moved to Munster to find work and married a slave girl. Finbar left home with three unidentified ascetics and spent much time in Scotland before establishing various simple hermitages in his native area, notably at Kilclooney and on an island in Gougane Barra, which bears his name. Among many wondrous tales associated with him is, one in which he is led by an angel from the source of the river Lee at Gougane Barra to its marshy mouth, where he founded his most important monastery, out of which grew the see and the city of Cork. Another one of Finbar's great legends was the chase and expulsion of the great lake serpent from the lake in Gougane, which created the channel that is now the river Lee. Finbar died at Cloyne in 633, and his remains were taken to Cork to be enclosed in a silver shrine.

SECOND COLLECTION taken today is for 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, the front doors of the church will now be locked at **4:30PM**. However, the side church door will remain open.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA is prayed every week in Spanish on **Wednesdays** at **7PM** in the church and every **Saturday** at **1PM** in English in the Green Building.

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; give wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and give peace and zeal to their hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY-This 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 CLASSES begin this week and registration continues this weekend. You must register your child again with Father 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.

Our regular religious education classes will begin on **Sept. 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 as soon as possible.

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 is held every **Tuesday**, 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.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE BELONGINGS IN THE PEWS-We have recently had some parishioners who have lost items that were left in the pews. We have a lost-and-found in both the sacristy and the rectory which have some of these found objects, but it is best to make sure you have your valuables with you at all times.

BRONX CONCERT SINGERS welcome new singers. The next rehearsal, **Tuesday, September 21** at **6:30PM** in the church.

STREET FAIR PLANNING MEETING on **Sat., September 25** 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 all young people ages 13-30 to our meetings scheduled every Friday at **7PM**. Please encourage 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 in the parish parking lot.

FOOD PANTRY Our Food Pantry distributes cooked food every **Tuesday** from **12-2PM**, depending on what time the food is delivered. Our next big food pantry will be **October 12**.

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 Spanish Charismatic Eventt 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.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS will take place on **Sun., October 3** from **1:30-3:30PM** and on **Mon., October 4**, the Feast of Saint Francis, from **1-3PM**. The Blessing will take place in our parish parking lot. We will also have pet medals available.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLYLAND: St. Helena's is planning a parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the fall of 2022. The company organizing the tour is Unitours Inc. One highlight of the trip, which is expected to cost about \$3,800 per person, is that couples will have a chance to renew their wedding vows at Cana in Galilee. We will have an important informational session about the trip on **Sunday, October 24** at **11AM** in the Peralta Room, which is the meeting room in the rectory basement. This is the first of several meetings, and it is an important one as it will answer most of your questions. You must RSVP to the rectory at **718-892-3232** so the tour company will know how many people to expect. Be prepared to ask your questions.



VIEW ON FORMED-Everyone at St. Helena's has a free parish subscription at www.formed.org. Just click join as a parishioner. Today listen to: *St. John Henry Newman- Excerpts from the Tears of Christ* or watch: *Lead Kindly Light*. Tuesday we celebrate the Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Study *Lectio: Evangelization* or watch *Lost Gospels or False Gospels*, or *The Calling of Matthew*. You can also listen to the audio, *The Gospel of Matthew* or *Proclaiming the Kingdom*. Thursday is the Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio). Watch *Padre Pio: Miracle Man* or *Padre Pio: Between Heaven & Earth* or *The Cross that Padre Pio Bore*. Listen to: *The Life of Padre Pio*.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE DAY on **Tuesday, October 5** from **12-5PM** on Benedict Avenue from Pugsley to Olmstead. Featuring Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, celebrity entertainment, healthy cooking, physical activity demonstrations, and much more.

MAN-UP NY will take place on **Sat., Oct. 23** from **8AM-5PM** at St. Joseph's Seminary. This event focuses on supporting and encouraging men to be better sons, fathers, and husbands by living out their faith and leading their families by example. For more info, visit www.manupny.com

PARKCHESTER FARMER'S MARKET, which is located at the intersection of White Plains Rd. and Westchester Ave, is open every **Friday** from **8AM-4PM**.

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**.

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>.

WHAT IS THE LARGEST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE USA?-The largest church is being built in the heart of California's dairy industry. St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church in Visalia, CA, will seat 3,200 people.

FEDERAL COURT BLOCKS NY VACCINE MANDATE THAT BARS RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS-A federal judge in New York has blocked enforcement of a state vaccine mandate for health-care workers. The judge's order represents a temporary victory for a group of health-care professionals who had filed suit challenging the mandate, claiming religious exemptions. The new court order bars employers from denying religious exemptions, at least until the suit is resolved.

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.

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

SPECIALIZING IN HAIR BRAIDING-Angie-**347-981-5806**.

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

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.

OPEN HOUSE DATES FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Fordham Prep	10/14 Thurs	6:00PM
	10/30 Sat	11:00AM
Visit: fordhamprep.org/admissions for details on open house		
Ursuline School	10/23 Sat	11AM or 2PM
	10/27 Wed	6:30PM
	Virtually 11/3 Wed	6:30PM

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.

El pensamiento de hoy

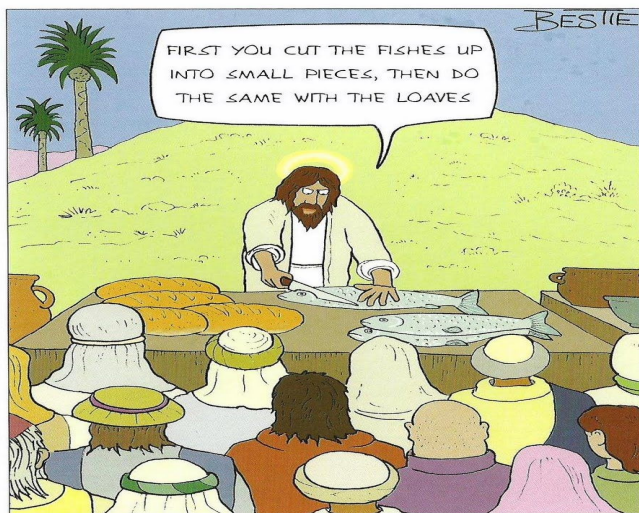
En el Evangelio de hoy, había en los Apóstoles un deseo de convertir el reino de Cristo en un estado de bienestar terrenal, en lugar de una preparación para el cielo. Todos los cristianos saben que Cristo sufrió y murió por su salvación, y que pidió a sus seguidores que tomaran su cruz y le siguieran si querían ser sus discípulos. Las primeras generaciones de cristianos lo entendieron

25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

perfectamente y le siguieron fielmente hasta el martirio. Sin embargo, con el paso del tiempo y la desaparición de la oposición a la fe cristiana, también desapareció el celo y el fervor de muchos cristianos. Durante siglos hemos tenido cristianos nominales en la Iglesia de Cristo, hombres y mujeres que intentaban hacer su paraíso en este mundo y olvidaban el cielo eterno.

Nuestra época ha visto un aumento sin precedentes en esta caída de los católicos. El número de católicos caducos y nominales es aterrador. Estos cristianos no practicantes, que no están dispuestos a cargar con sus cruces, han decidido hacer de esta tierra su paraíso. Quieren prosperidad, comodidad y felicidad en este mundo. La gran mayoría de ellos, por supuesto, se niega a mirar al futuro; podría ser un pensamiento desagradable, pero deben ver que en cada ciudad y pueblo hay un funerario, un enterrador que se gana bien la vida deshaciéndose de los "restos" humanos. Deben morir; "¿y luego qué?" debe ser una pregunta que ensombrece sus vidas.

Muchas de estas personas que en la práctica han abandonado la Fe, a veces intentan apaciguar sus conciencias dedicando el tiempo que puedan a hacer de este planeta un lugar mejor en el que vivir. Es un excelente objetivo con posibilidades de éxito, si se mantiene la paternidad de Dios y la verdadera fraternidad del hombre. Pero, de lo contrario, es una vana utopía. Si Dios y las enseñanzas de Cristo se dejan de lado, siempre tendremos celos, enemistades, odios y guerras. Los cristianos han hecho la guerra a los cristianos porque ninguna de las partes en la lucha era verdaderamente cristiana. ¿Qué oportunidad tiene entonces el mundo cuando Cristo y el cristianismo son desterrados de él? El pensamiento de hoy para cada uno de nosotros es éste: Cristo se hizo hombre, sufrió y murió como hombre, por nosotros. Con su resurrección venció a la muerte y nos abrió el cielo. El cielo es nuestro verdadero destino. Amar a Dios y al prójimo y llevar nuestra cruz es el único camino para alcanzar el cielo. Olvida esa doctrina del "cielo en la tierra"; ¡no existe ni existirá nunca! Acepta a Cristo y estarás aceptando al Padre que lo envió. Él, a su vez, te aceptará a ti.



THE FIRST CELEBRITY CHEF

There are 18 species of fish in the Sea of Galilee, but only 10 are sought by fishermen, including the Kinneret Sardine.

Fall begins on **Wednesday, September 22** and ends on **Tuesday, December 21**. Day and night will be almost equal.

WEEKLY COLLECTION: September 12 — \$5,108.51
Elementary School—\$2,417.54

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 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 Almazan, Ofano Perez, Rafael Pañora and Guillermo Pañora; +Lamberto Cedeño; +Teresa Margarita Reyes

5:00 Annette Wharff-Blessings and in Thanksgiving

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

September 20 – Monday — Protomartyrs of Korea

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to the Faithful

8:30 S Fr. Luis's Health, Happiness and Success as Principal of Colegio Ponceño in Puerto Rico; *Telma Anith-Intent*

12:15 +Gloria Duran; +John Carrasquillo

September 21 – Tuesday – St. Matthew

6:30* +Helen Mary Wnek

8:30 S +The Soul of Fr. Ray Nobiletti; *Meera Job-Intentions*

12:15 +Martha Irene Duran

September 22 – Wednesday— Our Lady of Ransom

6:30* In Honor of Padre Pio in Thanksgiving for Graces Received

8:30 S In Honor of St. Padre Pio

12:15 +Rita Spano; *Annette Wharff Intentions for Safe Arrival to Trinidad*

7:00 (Sp) +Nicoletta Dimichino; +Lorna Taylor;

+Brandon Chavarria; Gladys Sanchez;

Misa para papito Dios en Nombre de Enrique Loja

September 23 – Thursday – St. Pius of Pietrelcina

6:30* +Ralph A. Cerbone, Jr. and Padre Pio

8:30 S +Elizabeth Hurty; +Rita Spano

12:15 +Thomas F. Sullivan; +John Carrasquillo

September 24 – Friday — Martyrs of Chalcedon

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

8:30 S +Olga Villacis

12:15 +Miguel Angel Rodriguez, Sr.

September 25 – Saturday — St. Finbar

6:30 +Mkayla Robinson; +Fr. John Haggerty

8:30S +Porinchu Neyyan

12:15 +Luis M. Cappelán

5:30 S +Junior Rexach

September 26 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 +Luis Rexach-Gonzalez

10:00 S +Amalia Franco de Torres

12:00 (Sp) +Jacqueline French; +Juan Vallejo; +Joseph and Lidia Bastone, Marino Mota, Librado Geraldo and Gustavo Rosales

2:00 Spanish Charismatic Event

5:00 Bilingual Mass +Maria Diaz

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 19, 2021

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk

9:30-37; **Monday:** Ezr 1:1-6/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Lk

8:16-18; **Tuesday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Mt 9:9-13;

Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9/Tb 13:2, 3-4a, 4befghn, 7-8 [1b]/Lk 9:1-6;

Thursday: Hg 1:1-8/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Lk 9:7-9;

Friday: Hg 2:1-9/Ps 43:1, 2, 3, 4 [5]/Lk 9:18-22; **Saturday:** Zec 2:5-

9, 14-15a/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13 [cf. 10d]/Lk 9:43b-45; **Next**

Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48