

The Piarist Fathers



Pastor

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

Parochial Vicars

Very Rev. Fernando Negro, Sch.P.
Rev. Jesús Negro, Sch.P.
Rev. Emilio Sotomayor, 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

October-November 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

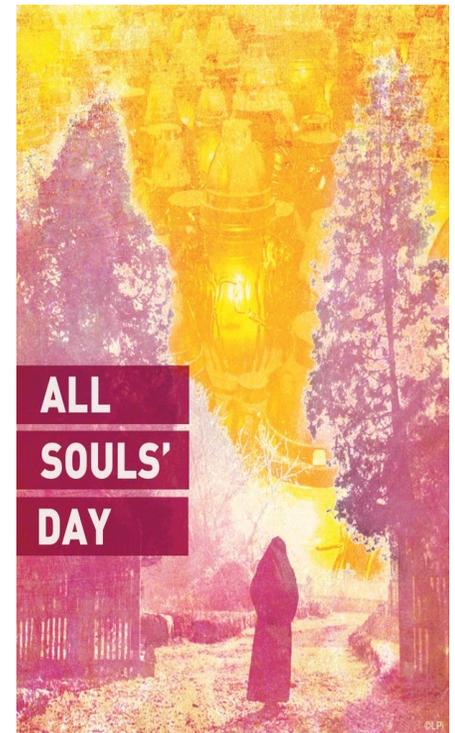
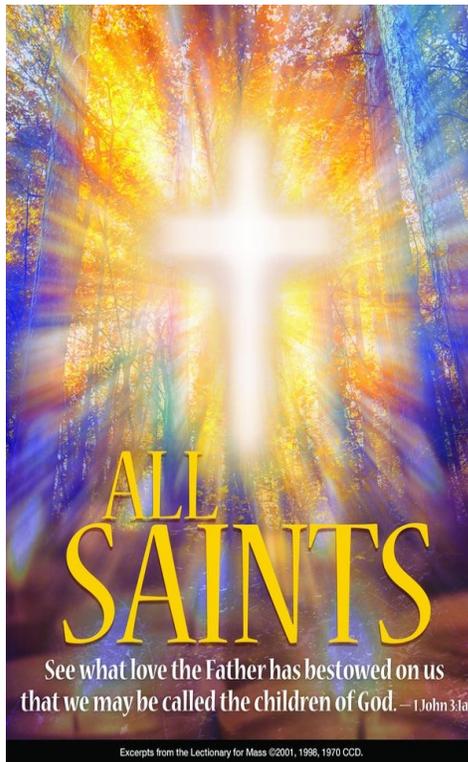
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

www.churchofsthelena.com

Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saint Helena



Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

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 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

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

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 CATHOLIC ORIGINS OF HALLOWEEN

Halloween's origins are, in fact, very Catholic. Halloween falls on October 31 because of Pope Gregory III, and its observances are the result of medieval Catholic piety. We've all heard the allegations that Halloween is a pagan rite dating back to some pre-Christian festival among the Celtic Druids, but nothing could be further from the truth. The origins of Halloween are, in fact, very Christian and rather American.

It's true that the ancient Celts of Ireland and Britain celebrated a minor festival on October 31—as they did on the last day of most other months of the year. However, Halloween falls on the last day of October only because the major Solemnity of All Saints or “All Hallows,” falls on November 1. The feast in honor of all the saints in heaven used to be celebrated on May 13, but Pope Gregory III (d. 741) moved it to November 1, the dedication day of All Saints Chapel in St. Peter's at Rome. Later, in the 840s, Pope Gregory IV commanded that All Saints should be observed everywhere, and the day before was the feast's evening vigil, “All Hallows Even,” or “Hallowee'en.”

In 998, St. Odilo, the abbot of the powerful monastery of Cluny in southern France, added a celebration on November 2. This was a day of prayer for the souls of all the faithful departed. This feast, called All Souls Day, spread from France to the rest of Europe. The custom of dressing up in fanciful costumes arose in France during the 14th and 15th centuries. Late medieval Europe was hit by repeated outbreaks of the bubonic plague—the Black Death—and it lost about half its population. So, it is not surprising that Catholics became more concerned about the afterlife. Many more Masses were said on All Souls Day, and artistic representations were devised to remind everyone of their own mortality. We know these representations as the “dance macabre”, or “dance of death,” which was commonly painted on the walls of cemeteries and shows the devil leading a daisy chain of people—popes, kings, ladies and knights, monks, peasants, lepers, etc.—into a tomb. Sometimes the dance was presented on All Souls Day itself as a living tableau with people dressed up in the garb of various states of life.

But as every young ghoul knows, dressing up isn't the point; the point is getting as many goodies as possible. Where on earth did “trick or treat” come in? “Treat or treat” is perhaps the oddest and most American addition to Halloween and is the most unwilling contribution of English Catholics.

An ill-conceived Gunpowder Plot was foiled on November 5, 1605, and the man guarding the gunpowder, a reckless convert named Guy Fawkes, was captured, arrested, and hanged. November 5 became known as Guy Fawkes Day and was a great celebration in England. During the penal periods, bands of revelers would put on masks and visit local Catholics in the dead of night, demanding beer and cakes for their merry celebration and calling out trick or treat. When Guy Fawkes Day arrived in the American colonies with the first English settlers, Trick or treat was too much fun to give up, so eventually it moved to October 31, the day of the Irish-French masquerade. Thus, the mixture of various immigrant traditions we know as Halloween had become a fixture in the United States by the early 1800s. To this day, it remains largely unknown in Europe, even in the countries from which some of the customs originated.

But what about witches? Well, they are one of the last additions. The greeting card industry added them in the late 1800s, because Halloween was already “ghoulish,” so why not give witches a place on greeting cards? The Halloween card failed but the witches stayed. So too, in the late 1800s, ill-informed folklorists introduced the jack-o'-lantern because simple lamps made from turnips (not pumpkins) had been part of ancient Celtic harvest festivals, and they were soon translated to the American Halloween celebration. So now you know the real origin of All Hallows Eve, and you can invite your friends to discover its Christian significance, along with the two greater and more important Catholic festivals that follow it.

All Saints Day - November 1

During the year, the Church celebrates one by one the feasts of the saints. Today she joins them all in one festival. In addition to those whose names she knows, she recalls in a magnificent vision

all the others “of all nations and tribes standing before the throne and in sight of the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands, proclaiming Him who redeemed them in His Blood.”

The feast of All Saints should inspire us with tremendous hope. Among all the saints in heaven are some whom we have known. All lived on earth lives like our own. They were baptized and marked with the sign of faith; they were faithful to Christ's teaching, and they have gone before us to the heavenly home whence they call on us to follow them. The Gospel of the Beatitudes, read today, while it shows their happiness, shows, too, the road that they followed; there is no other that will lead us whither they have gone.

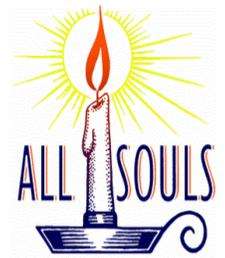


ALL SAINTS' DAY

“The Commemoration of All Saints” was first celebrated in the East. The feast is found in the West on different dates in the eighth century. The venerable *Roman Martyrology* mentions that this date is a claim of fame for Gregory IV (827-844) and that he extended this holy observance to the whole of Christendom; it seems certain that Gregory III (731-741) preceded him in this. At Rome, on the other hand, on May 13, there was the annual commemoration of the consecration of the basilica of *St. Maria ad Martyres* (or St. Mary and All Martyrs). This was the former Pantheon, the temple of Agrippa, dedicated to all the gods of paganism, to which Boniface IV had translated many relics from the catacombs. Gregory VII transferred the anniversary of this dedication to November 1.

All Souls Day - November 2

The Church today prays for all those who, in the purifying suffering of Purgatory await the day when they will be joined to the company of saints. At no place in the liturgy is stated in more striking fashion the mysterious union between the Church triumphant, the Church militant, and the Church suffering; at no time is there accomplished in clearer fashion the twofold duty of charity and justice deriving for every faithful Christian from the fact of his incorporation in the mystical Body of Christ.



ALL SOULS

By virtue of the consoling doctrine of the communion of saints, the merits and prayers of each one are able to help all; and the whole Church is able to join her prayer with that of the saints in heaven and supply what is wanting to the souls in Purgatory by means of the Mass, indulgences and the alms and sacrifices of her beloved children. The celebration of Mass, which is the sacrifice of Calvary continued on our altars, has ever been for the Church the principal means of fulfilling towards the dead the great commandment of charity. Masses for the dead are found in the fifth century. But it was St. Odilo, fourth abbot of Cluny, who was responsible for the initial institution of the general commemoration of all the faithful departed; he instituted it and fixed its celebration on November 2, the day after All Saints. The practice soon spread to the rest of Christendom. Daily in a special Memento in the Canon of the Mass, at which the priest remembers all those who have fallen asleep in the Lord, the priest implores God to grant them a place of happiness, light, and peace. Thus there is no Mass in which the Holy Church does not pray for the faithful departed; but today her thoughts are directed towards them in a particular fashion, with the maternal preoccupation of leaving no soul in Purgatory without spiritual aid and of grouping them all together in her intercession. By a privilege that Pope Benedict XV's decree has extended to the whole world every priest can today celebrate three Masses; for the liberation of the poor souls in Purgatory, the Church multiplies the offering of the sacrifice of Christ, from which she draws forever on behalf of all her children, infinite fruits of redemption.

ALL SOULS DAY INDULGENCES

A plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful who, on All Souls' Day, devoutly visit a church or an oratory and recite an Our Father and the Creed. A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the souls in purgatory, is granted each and every day from **November 1st** to

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 8th, to those who devoutly visit a cemetery and there pray, if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from the 1st to the 8th of November; on other days of the year, it is partial.

Día de los Muertos - November 1,2

Día de los Muertos combines the ancient Aztec Indian custom of celebrating ancestors with All Souls' Day, a holiday that Spanish invaders brought to Mexico starting in the early 1500s. This holy holiday, which is celebrated mostly in Mexico on November 1 and 2, is like a family reunion—except dead ancestors are the guests of honor. Day of the Dead is a joyful time that helps all people remember the deceased and celebrate their memory. First, people set up a candlelit altar in their homes so spirits can find their way back to their relatives. The altar also offers some of the favorite foods of the deceased—just in case they get hungry. Items that were important to the ancestors when they were alive, such as a favorite book or musical instrument, are placed on the altar as well. Then it's off to the graveyard for a big party. Families bring a huge feast to eat while they clean tombstones, sing songs, and talk to their ancestors. Parents might even introduce a baby to a grandparent who died before the baby was born. Life-size paper-mâché skeletons and miniature plastic or clay skeletons are found everywhere. Mexicans honor their ancestors on Day of the Dead, but they're also reminding themselves that death is just a part of life. Hanging out with skeletons reminds people that one day they will be skeletons—but not for a very long time. The skeletons are posed doing all sorts of wacky things, such as playing a guitar, taking a bath, or making tortillas. Apparently, people aren't the only ones who get to have fun on the Day of the Dead!

St. Martin de Porres - November 3

St. Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru, in 1579. He was the illegitimate son of a Spanish gentleman. His mother was a freed slave from Panama, maybe black but also possibly of Indian blood. At fifteen, he became a lay brother at the Dominican Friary at Lima and spent his whole life there — as a barber, farm laborer, almoner, and infirmarian, among other things. Martin had a great desire to go off to some foreign mission and thus earn the palm of martyrdom. However, since this was not possible, he made a holy martyr out of his body, devoting himself to ceaseless and severe penances. In turn, God endowed him with many graces and more wondrous gifts, such as aerial flights and bilocation. St. Martin's love was all-embracing, shown equally to humans and animals, including vermin, and he maintained a cats' and dogs' hospital at his sister's house. He also possessed spiritual wisdom, which was demonstrated in his solving his sister's marriage problems, raising a dowry for his niece inside of three days' time, and resolving theological problems for the learned of his Order and for Bishops. A very close friend of St. Rose of Lima, this saintly man died on November 3, 1639, and was canonized on May 6, 1962.

St. Charles Borromeo - November 4

St. Charles Borromeo (1538-1584) was a member of a noble family and a nephew of Pope Pius IV. He was made a Cardinal at the age of 23 and assisted the Pope in administering the affairs of the Holy See and in governing the Church. Soon thereafter he was made Archbishop of Milan. His endeavors on behalf of the 19th Ecumenical Council of Trent (1545-1564) were especially meritorious and fruitful. He helped to direct and guide it and brought it to a successful conclusion. He then proceeded to enforce its decrees in the Archdiocese of Milan and thoroughly reformed Catholic life in his See. During a plague he walked barefooted carrying a cross, with a rope around his neck, offering himself as a victim to God for the transgressions of his people.

Although raised to the grand life, Borromeo spent much of his time dealing with hardship and suffering. The famine of 1570 required him to bring in food to feed three thousand people a day for three months. Six years later a two-year plague swept through the region. Borromeo mobilized priests, religious, and several lay volunteers to feed and care for the sixty thousand to seventy thousand people living in the Alpine villages of his district. He personally cared for many who were sick and dying. In the process, Borromeo ran up huge debts, depleting his resources in order to feed, clothe, administer medical care, and build many shelters for thousands of plague-stricken people. Once when he was playing billiards, someone asked what he would do if he knew he only had fifteen more minutes to live. "Keep playing billiards," he replied. He died at age forty-six, quietly in bed. He was a founded many seminaries and was a leading figure of the Counter-Reformation.

Sts. Zachary and Elizabeth - November 5

They are the parents of St. John the Baptist. The name Elizabeth means in Hebrew a "worshiper of God," and all that we know of Elizabeth, wife of Zachary and mother of John the Baptist, is to be found in the book of Luke. She was a descendant of the priestly line of Aaron and a kinswoman - how close we are not told - of the Virgin Mary. St. Zachary was of the tribe of Abia, and a member of the priestly class. It was customary for the priests whose week it was to serve in the temple to cast lots each day to see who would perform the various rituals. One day, during Zachary's period of service, the privilege of offering incense on the altar in the holy place fell to him, and while he was alone before the altar performing this rite, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to him and announced his barren wife would bear a son. However, because he doubted, the angel announced that Zachary would be stricken dumb and would regain the power of speech only when the prophecy was fulfilled. In Hebrew, his name means "God has remembered." The second part of the "Hail Mary" was said by her.

Feast of the Holy Relics - November 5

By relics of the Saints, we mean all that remains of them after their death — their bones, their ashes, their clothing, and other objects used by them. The Council of Trent decreed that the bodies of the martyrs and other Saints must be honored by the faithful and that through them God grants a great many benefits to the living. Its decision was based on the heavy usage already established in the first century and which has remained constant in the Church, as well as on the teaching of the Fathers and Councils. There are three classes of relics from bones to cloth.

The cult of holy relics is therefore not only permitted but very much commanded; it is not only a right but a duty. We honor what remains of the Saints only from motives based on the Faith. If one honors the memory and remains of great men worthy of that appellation, it is regarded as justice; but when one honors the memory and remains of the Saints, it is more than justice, it is the virtue of religion.

Let us then venerate, with respect, devotion, and confidence, these precious relics which once were animated by such great souls, were the instruments of beautiful and holy works and of astonishing virtues, and which will someday be honored by a brilliant and immortal glory. Let us value pilgrimages made to the tombs of the Saints, and celebrate religiously the feast of the holy relics, which appropriately follows closely upon All Saints Day, the feast day of the splendid holy souls who are in heaven.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY-Thank you for your generous response to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith last weekend. Our parish raised \$1,698.00.

DAILY SPANISH MASSES are celebrated here at St. Helena at **7PM, Monday-Friday**. In addition, the front doors of the church will now be locked at **4:30PM**. However, the side church door will remain open for people to enter and leave.

FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY SESSION will take place today, **Sunday, October 31** at **11AM** in the cafeteria.

SESIÓN FAMILIAR EN ESPAÑOL el **domingo 7 de noviembre** a la **1PM** en la cafetería.

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**. Everyone is welcome to come.

ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP has scheduled two meetings this week, one on **Thurs., Nov. 4** at **7PM** and another on **Sat., Nov. 6** at **1PM**. Both meetings will take place in the Green Bldg and both will be either in-person or virtual. Join virtually by going to www.zoom.us, **Meeting ID: 829 266 9493**, **Passcode: 444555**. Let us know which one you prefer.

LEGION OF MARY meets every **Sat** at **1PM** in the Rectory.
CALASANZ MOVEMENT YOUTH GROUP invites all young people ages 13-30 to our meetings scheduled every Friday at **7PM**.
ST. HELENA BOY SCOUT TROOP AND CUB SCOUT PACK is open to boys and girls in grades 1-12. The Cub Scouts will meet on **Saturdays** from **9:30-11AM**, and the Scouts from **11AM-12:30PM** that same day in the school cafeteria.

WE SHARE is offering a Donor Match promotion for the 2021 holiday season. The promotion will cover the period **November 1 to December 31, 2021**. We Share will match the first gift from a new recurring donor, up to \$50.00, with a maximum contribution of \$1,000 per parish. To participate please visit the parish website at www.churchofsthelena.com.

PARISH FLEA MARKET today, **Sunday, Oct 31** from **10AM-2PM** in the school cafeteria. We will have food to sell, and there are many discounted items available from \$1-\$3.

THE PARISH RELIGIOUS GOODS ROOM, located off of the narthex, will reopen on **Sunday, November 7** from **9AM-1:00PM** after being closed for almost 1 1/2 years. Come and browse the inventory. The Piarist Religious Goods Room, which features books and drawings made by Fr. Fernando and is located next to the main room, will also be open during that time.

FOOD PANTRY Our Food Pantry distributes cooked food every **Wednesday** from **12-1PM**.

ALL SOULS DAY-It is a tradition of the church to dedicate the month of November to the memory of your departed relatives and friends. At Saint Helena, this annual All Souls Remembrance provides us the opportunity to reflect on those departed alumni and parishioners who continue to inspire us in our daily lives. We invite you to write on the **All Souls Envelope** which is located at the two church entrances, the names of all those for whom you would like us to pray, and your intentions will be placed on the altar during the month of All Souls Remembrance. We hope you will be consoled by the knowledge that your deceased loved ones are remembered in our daily prayers throughout November. In addition, you may remember your loved one by lighting **Special Votive Candles** which will be available at all four All Soul's Day Masses (8:30AM, 12:15PM, 7PM and 8PM). You will even be able to inscribe their name on it.

PILGRIM IMAGE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE will come to the Archdiocese from her Shrine in Mexico City and will be visiting churches throughout the Archdiocese. The image will come to St. Helena in procession on **Friday, Dec. 10**, and will be here for the **8:30AM** Bilingual Mass, which will be live-streamed.

THANKSGIVING RAFFLE TICKETS are now available in the rectory and at the back of the church after some Masses. You may also receive some in the mail or from a St. Helena School student. There are eight cash prizes totaling \$2,500. Tickets are \$3 each, 2 for \$5 and 5 for \$10. We thank you for your effort and generosity. The proceeds are urgently needed for parish needs.

VIEW ON FORMED-Everyone at St. Helena's has a free parish subscription at www.formed.org. Just click the icon and join as a parishioner. Today Watch: Formed Now! *The Catholic Take on Halloween*. Monday is the Solemnity of All Saints Day. Study: *Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 9, Mary and the Saints*. Watch: *Who are the Saints?*, *Friendship with the Saints*, or *All Saints Day*. Listen to: Answering Common Objections: *The Saints* or *Purgatory*. Children can watch *Brother Francis: The Saints*. Tuesday is All Souls' Day. Watch: *The Last Things* or *Our Eternal Destiny*. On Election Day also listen to: *In God We Trust*, or *Put Not Your Trust in Princes*.

TRI-LINGUAL ALL SOULS DAY MASS at **11:30AM** on **Tuesday, November 2** at the St. Francis Crypts in the New St. Raymond's Cemetery.

NOVEMBER YOUNG ADULT MASS-**Wednesday, Nov. 3** at **7:30PM** at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Adoration with praise and worship and Confessions will be available from **6:30-7:30PM**. Mass begins at **7:30PM**.

EUCCHARISTIC REVITALIZATION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NY FORUM-On **Thursday, Nov. 4** at St. Joseph's Seminary, following the Annual Mass for Deceased Alumni and a luncheon, the Presbyteral Council will sponsor a forum starting at **2:00PM**

with three speakers: Father Joseph Lienhard, S.J. of Fordham University, who will present a talk on the theme "The Eucharist Believed – A Revitalized Understanding"; Father Herald Brock, C.F.R., who will address the topic "Eucharistic Coherence as a Call to Conversion"; and Charles Camosy, Ph.D. of Fordham University (and Visiting Scholar at St. Joseph's Seminary, Fall 2021), who will speak on the topic "Eucharistic Coherence as a Matter of Personal Conscience." If you can join us for any of the conferences, please email PresbyteralCouncil@archny.org

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

OPEN HOUSE DATES FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Ursuline School Virtually 1/3 Wed 6:30PM

FAMILY LIFE: HOPE AND ACTION-SUICIDE PREVENTION WEBINAR-This free Zoom-based webinar on **Nov. 3** from **6:30-7:30PM** offers parents a safe and confidential way to learn about the warning signs for suicide and how to create space for loving conversations that may save a life. Presented by Fr. Chris Alar, MIC; Pamela Morris, Ph.D.; and Stan Collins. For questions, to register, or for more information, contact Sue DiSisto in the Family Life Office at susan.disisto@archny.org or **646.794.3191**.

CANADIAN DIOCESE REQUIRES VACCINATION TO ATTEND MASS-It is mandatory for all persons 12 and older wishing to attend Masses or Services in the churches of the diocese of Grand Falls to demonstrate proof of vaccination before entering a church.

EASTERN ORTHODOX PATRIARCH AND CARDINAL GREGORY MEET PRESIDENT BIDEN at Georgetown, Univ. Born in 1940 and installed in 1991, holy Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople holds a primacy of honor among the Orthodox churches. During a meeting with Biden, he discussed climate change and the pandemic, encouraging vaccination.

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.

SOLEMNIDAD DE TODOS LOS SANTOS

A veces nos da miedo hablar de la santidad, porque la imaginamos casi imposible, pues tenemos un concepto desfigurado de lo que es ser santo. Hemos puesto a los santos como figuras de una elite inalcanzable, como si hubieran nacido santos desde el vientre de sus madres. Y así, justificamos indirectamente nuestras mediocridades, e inconscientemente, nos decimos: "la santidad no es para mí".

¿De dónde nace el deseo de ser santos? La respuesta es simple y profunda a la vez: del encuentro con la belleza de Cristo, que atrae poderosamente hacia Él para imitarlo en su estilo de vida y en su misión. Atraídos por este amor, los santos en cada período histórico, han sido capaces de lo humanamente imposible.

Algunos santos, como Catalina de Siena y Tomás de Aquino, tuvieron oposición hasta de sus propios padres. Catalina de Siena tuvo como enemiga número uno a su madre, que se llamaba Lapa. San Wenceslao, que murió mártir a los 22 años, tuvo a su madre por enemiga, y lo mató su propio hermano. Francisco de Asís, se enfrentó a su padre, que no entendía que Francisco quisiera vivir pobre entre los pobres, pues él era un rico mercader que había puesto en el dinero y en las ganancias su corazón. Isabel de Portugal, tuvo un esposo mujeriego y vividor, que la llenó de sinsabores y, a la muerte de éste, su calvario siguió al contemplar la lucha permanente por el trono y por la herencia entre sus hijos. Vivir lo que nos toca vivir desde la fe y la confianza ilimitada en

el Amor de Dios, aunque seamos malentendidos, juzgados y a veces rechazados, pero siendo siempre fieles, a eso la Iglesia le llama 'virtud heroica', necesaria para definir a una persona como 'santo' o 'santa'.

Los santos no vienen del cielo. Están entre nosotros y reflejan centelladas de presencia divina por dondequiera que pasan. Se les reconoce en su capacidad de tolerancia y de paciencia. Se les nota porque a su paso uno siente deseos de ser mejor, de imitarlos. Los santos y santas de ayer y de hoy nunca se victimizan, aunque pasen por auténticos calvarios interiores o exteriores.

Los santos no saben que son santos, simplemente lo son. Y se sienten indignos del Amor de Dios que experimentan, pues tienen la percepción personal de ser los mayores pecadores del mundo. Los santos son el alma y el corazón del mundo, los que nos dicen que Dios no ha muerto, con el convencimiento de sus vidas marcadas por el dolor, más que por sus palabras bellas y piadosas. Los santos son los que verdaderamente prueban la existencia de Dios.

Son muchísimos más los santos anónimos en el cielo, que los poquitos reconocidos por la Iglesia a través de los siglos. Podemos estar seguros de que a diario nos rozamos con gentes santas a quienes nos uniremos, por la gracia de Dios, en la multitud inmensa del cielo, tal y como nos lo cuenta la Sagrada Escritura:

"Después de esto miré y vi una muchedumbre grande, que nadie podía contar, de toda nación, tribu, pueblo y lengua, que estaba delante del Trono y del Cordero, vestidos de túnicas blancas y con palmas en las manos. Clamaban con grande voz, diciendo: La salvación es de nuestro Dios, del que está sentado en el Trono y del Cordero." (Ap 7, 9-10).

Los santos son los amigos incondicionales de Jesús. Están dispuestos a todo, pues saben que participan con Él en la resurrección, aun cuando pasan por el valle de la muerte. Jesús les pide grandes sacrificios, y como contrapartida, les regala consuelos sin cuento. Pueden morir jóvenes, niños o ancianos, pero lo importante es que todos ellos han aprendido que la vida se mide por el amor que ponemos en ella, más que por los años de vida. Al final seremos juzgados en el amor.

Hace un tiempo leí la historia de un señor anciano dominicano que tuvo dos hijos sacerdotes. Ese hombre estaba tan agradecido a Dios por la vocación sacerdotal de sus hijos que, al quedarse ciego de ambos ojos, decía a quienes le compadecían: *"¡Qué alegre estoy! No puedo estar triste; mira, por cada ojo al que le falta la luz para ver, Dios me ha dado un hijo sacerdote."* Sólo los santos razonan así.

WEEKLY COLLECTION: October 24 — \$5,048.80
World Mission Sunday—\$1,698.00

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](http://www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx).

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

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 7.

Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour.



www.catholiccartoonblog.blogspot.com

Mass Intentions

October 31 – Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (All

8:00 +Jimmy Murphy-50th Anniversary **Hallows Eve)**

10:00 S +Andrew Pugliese; +*Felicita Barbosa*

12:00 (Sp) +Jacqueline French; +Antonina Rodriguez and Gerbacio Flores; Accion de Gracias St. Juditas Tadeo por la Fam Hernandez; +Jose Velez; +Juan Vallejo-Birthday and Francisco Castro; +Juan Bautista Pantaleon-3rd Ann.;+Tomaza Montenegro +Froylan Petronilo, Katalina Carerra and Miquel Refugio

5:00 In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Fr. Luis

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

November 1 – Monday — All Saints Day

6:30* +Ralph A. Cerbone, Jr.

8:30 S +Catherine Carolan

12:15 In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory;

Ramona & Gabriela Rodriguez, & Aida Suarez-Health Inten

7:00 Aurea Perez y Familia Pidiendo Perdon a Jesus Cristo

8:00 For the Souls of the Family of Therese Diallo

November 2 – Tuesday – All Souls Day

6:30* All Soul's Novena

8:30 S In Honor of All Souls in Purgatory; *Deceased Member of Davila Family; +Bernardo, Melchora and Camilo Abordo and Reginal Culpepper*

12:15 Deceased Members of the Cerbone Family

7:00 +Severiano Peña; +Teodoro Regus; +Rosie Dominiche;

Ashley Veriguete de Jesus y Familia Pidiendo Perdon a Jesus Cristo

8:00 Deceased Parishioners of St. Helena Parish

November 3 – Wednesday— St. Martin de Porres

6:30 Alessandra Mia Savino's Interest and Utmost Facility to Learn and Speak Spanish Like a Native

8:30 S For All Souls

12:15 +David Sheehan; *All Soul's Novena*

7:00 (Sp) Alejandro Veriguete de Jesus y Familia Pidiendo Perdon a Jesus Cristo; Adolphe Koffi Amevor-Intentions

November 4 – Thursday – St. Charles Borromeo

6:30* +Victoria Falta

8:30 S All Soul's Novena

12:15 Souls in Purgatory

7:00 Juan y Faña Jr. de Jesus Familia Pidiendo Perdon a Jesus Cristo; Theodor Komla Afeli-Intentions

November 5 – First Friday — Sts. Zachary and Elizabeth

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Alessandra Savino

8:30 S Deceased Members of Torrens & Gramlich Families;

All Soul's Novena

12:15 +Guillermina Marrero;

+*Eduardo, Paulina Rafael, Gladys & Felix Bruno*

7:00 Elizabeth M. Veriguete de Jesus y Familia Pidiendo Perdon a Jesus Cristo; Damiene, Stephane & Carmel Afeli-Inten

November 6 – First Saturday—St. Illtud

6:30 David and Sandra Savino's Utmost Capacity to be Welcomed by God at the End of Their Earthly Lives

8:30S Deceased Members of the Retutas & Corciega Families; *All Soul's Novena*

12:15 +Anthony Fernandes; +*Edwin Rivera*

5:30 S +Antonia and Gaetano Bizzoco

November 7 – Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 Deceased Members of the Bizzoco, D'Aiello & Spano Fam

10:00 S +Jennie and Pablo Nevarez; *All Soul's Novena*

12:00 (Sp) +Asia Morales; +Jacqueline French; +Angelica Davila; +Santos Loja, Sebatena Loja, David Loja and Luis Antonio Loja; +Casimira Soto

5:00 Alfred Ortiz-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 October 31, 2021

Sun: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34; **Mon:** Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 6]/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a; **Tues:** Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1 or 4ab]/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40a; **Wed:** Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 [5a]/Lk 14:25-33; **Thurs:** Rom 14:7-12/Ps 27:1bcd, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 15:1-10; **Fri:** Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Lk 16:1-8; **Sat:** Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 [1b]/Lk 16:9-15; **Next Sun:** 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44