

# 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

## January 2022

### 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

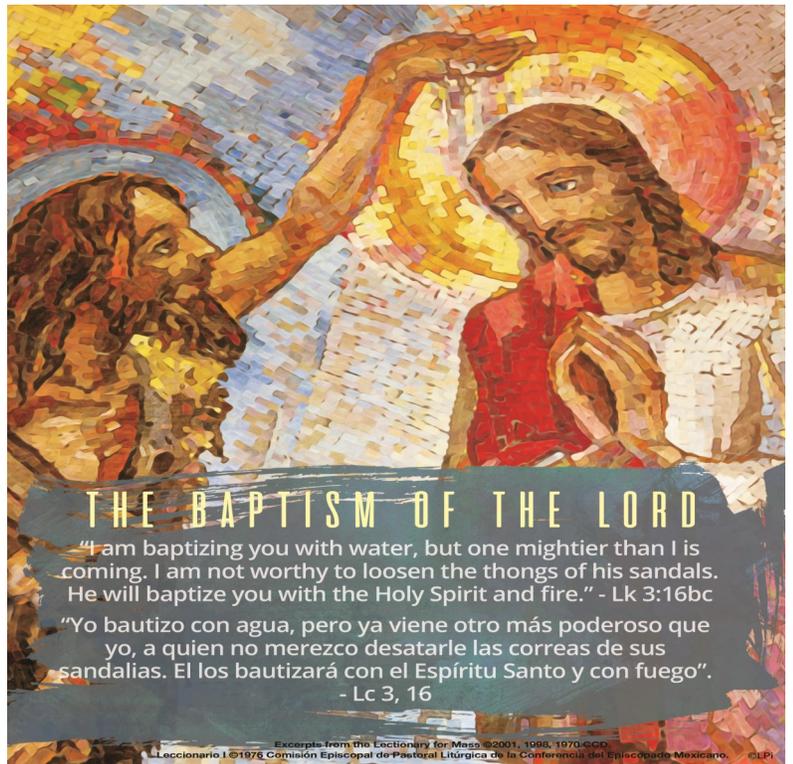
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

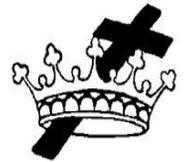
[www.churchofsthelena.com](http://www.churchofsthelena.com)

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

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



# saint Helena



## Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Saturday: 5:30 PM

Sunday: AM PM  
8:00 12:00 (Español)  
10:00 (Family) 5:00

Holy Days: 8:30AM, 12:15 PM, 8:00 PM

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

Morning Prayer: Daily 8:30AM

Spanish Mass: Sunday, 12:00 Noon

Monday Thru Friday-7:00 PM

French Mass: Sunday, 6:30 PM

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.

**Registro Parroquial** Todos los católicos que viven dentro de los límites de la parroquia deben llegar una tarjeta de registro en la rectoría



Handicapped Accessible

## Candlemas or Candelaria

At St. Helena, we will bless candles and Christ Child's during the weekend of **January 29-30** at all Masses, and we will also bless candles and Christ Childs on **February 2**.

Candlemas is also known as the Feast of the Presentation, but in many Hispanic countries, it's simply referred to as "el Día de la Candelaria" which always falls on February 2, exactly 40 days after Christmas (and the same day as Groundhog Day in the U.S.). Supposedly, the reason for the date is because



according to early Jewish tradition, a woman was forbidden from entering the temple for 40 days after giving birth. Once December 25 was chosen by the Church as the date for Christmas, Jesus' birth, then his actual presentation in the temple would have taken place February 2, or 40 days later. It was the law among the Jews that after the first child was born in a family, he should be brought to the Temple. God once told the Israelites that the firstborn belonged to Him. The parents would offer a sacrifice to God as a sign that they were buying the child back. A rich man would offer a lamb, but a poor man might give a pair of young pigeons for the sacrifice. When Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph brought Him to the Temple; and as Joseph the carpenter was not a rich man, they gave for the Child as an offering a pair of young pigeons.

While Candelaria is not an official holiday, special Masses are held to commemorate the day and at home, families may host a special dinner that usually involves traditional holiday foods, especially tamales. The tradition actually begins a month earlier on Three King's Day when families eat the typical holiday cake called *rosca de Reyes*, which has a small figurine of baby Jesus baked into the dessert. The person who finds the figurine in their slice of *rosca* is in charge of hosting the Candelaria party in February—and also providing the tamales.

Another important custom is for families to own a doll-sized version of baby Jesus called *Niño Dios*, or Christ Child. The *Niño Dios* is first placed in the home Nativity scene on Christmas Eve and then given gifts on Three King's Day. On Candelaria, people dress up their *Niño Dios* and bring it to church with them, just as Jesus was believed to have been presented.

Candelaria in English is known in the Catholic Church as the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus Christ because it commemorates the day when his mother, Mary, brought him to the temple for the first time. It's one of the oldest celebrations in Christianity, dating back to at least the fourth century in ancient Jerusalem. It's also known as the Feast of Purification since traditions at the time considered a woman "impure" until 40 days after childbirth. Candles, which are considered a symbol of the Virgin Mary's purity, became a hallmark of the observance (hence the name, "Candelaria"). Bees' wax candles which will be used during home religious activities are usually blessed on that day.

While the feast day is fully rooted in Christianity, some Candelaria traditions such as tamales and the beverage *stole* date back to before the arrival of Spaniards on the continent. In fact, even the date February 2 coincided with celebrations in the Aztec calendar to ask the gods for rain and a bountiful harvest.

## Candles At Mass

The word **candle** (from *candeo*, to burn) was introduced into the English language as an ecclesiastical term, probably as early as the eighth century. Altar candles have been a part of the Roman Catholic Church for most of its history, and play a vital part in the church today, from the paschal candle to the sanctuary lamp. Writings appear as early as the fourth century discussing the symbolism and meaning of candles, and rules governing their use, composition, and placement are set forth both in canon law and liturgical guides. For mystical reasons, the Church prescribes that the candles used at Mass and at other liturgical functions must be

made of beeswax. The pure wax extracted by bees from flowers symbolizes the pure flesh of Christ received from His Virgin Mother. The wick signifies the soul of Christ, and the flame represents His divinity. Candles were not used as a part of the liturgy until the fourth century. It was then that the use of candles in honor of Jesus Christ as the light of the world originated, and reached its ultimate expression in the paschal candle. Around the same time, St. Jerome developed the symbolism of bees and their wax. Beeswax represents the body of Christ, the wick his soul, and the flame itself his divinity. The use of candles became an act of reverence, and rules for that use were made.

The **paschal candle** is a representation of Christ as the light of the world. The candle is made of pure beeswax and is adorned in a way found on no other candle. Five grains of incense form a cross on it, representing the wounds to Christ's body and spices used in preparation for his burial. The paschal candle is carried in procession on Holy Saturday while the congregation waits in darkness. No Mass is held until after sundown. The candle is then lit and blessed by the priest, while he makes a cross on it and places the five pieces of incense. He also inscribes the Greek letters Alpha and Omega, for Christ is the beginning and the end. The current year is also marked, and the candle is lit at every Mass during the Easter season and at all baptisms and funeral Masses.

The **sanctuary lamp**, or lamp of the presence, is another singular type of candle set forth in church policy and canon law, although it is more than just a simple candle. It is a candle that is placed in a red glass container and burns night and day when the Blessed Sacrament is present or reserved, in a church or chapel. Also known as the Holy Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is the consecrated host or Communion wafer that is the real presence of Jesus Christ. Beyond serving as a sign that Blessed Sacrament is present, it acts as a symbol of Christ's love and sacrifice and calls the faithful who are present to respond to that love.

The Instruction of the Roman Missal governs all aspects of the celebration of Mass, including the use of **altar candles**. It calls for a minimum of two candles to be present on the altar or near it but allows for four and six as well. The lighting of six candles upon the altar is now enjoined for every high Mass, four at every *Missa Cantata*, and two for all other Masses. Still, a certain freedom is left of lighting more candles on occasions of solemnity. A seventh can be permitted if the Mass is celebrated by a bishop. The candles must be placed in a way that considers the design of the altar and sanctuary and does not interfere with the viewing of the altar.

**Votive candles** were, and are, commonly used to burn before shrines towards which the faithful wish to show special devotion. The candle burning before a statue is symbolic of prayer and sacrifice. A curious medieval practice was that of offering at any favored shrine a candle or a number of candles equaling in measurement to the height of the person for whom some favor was asked. This was called "measuring to" such a saint. The practice can be traced back to the time of St. Radegund (d. 587). An elaborate blessing for candles is provided on the feast of the Presentation on February 2, otherwise known as Candlemas Day

## St. John Bosco - January 31

St. John Bosco was born near Castelnuovo in the archdiocese of Turin, Italy, in 1815. His father died when he was only two years old, and it was his mother Margaret who provided him with a good humanistic and Christian education. His early years were difficult but at the age of twenty, he entered the major seminary. John Bosco was ordained a priest on June 5, 1846, and with the help of John Borel, he founded the oratory of St. Francis de Sales.

At this time the city of Turin was on the threshold of the industrial revolution and as a result, there were challenges and problems, especially for young men. Gifted as he was as an educator and a leader, Don Bosco formulated a system of education based on "reason, religion, and kindness." In spite of the criticism and violent attacks of the anti-clericals, he conducted workshops for the tradesmen and manual laborers, schools of arts and sciences for young workers, and schools of the liberal arts for those men preparing for the priesthood. In 1868, there were 800 students involved in this educational system. To ensure the continuation of

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his work, Don Bosco founded the Society of St. Francis de Sales (Salesians), which was approved in 1869. Also, with the help of Sister Mary Dominic Mazzarello, he founded the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Auxiliatrix to educate young girls.

In 1875, a wave of emigration to Latin America began, and this prompted the inauguration of the Salesian missionary apostolate. Don Bosco became a traveler throughout Europe, seeking funds for the missions. Some of the reports referred to him as "the new St. Vincent de Paul." He also found time to write many popular catechetical pamphlets, which were distributed throughout Italy, as was his Salesian Bulletin. This great apostle of youth died on January 31, 1888, and was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1934. Pope John Paul II named him "teacher and father to the young."

### St. Brigid - February 1

Bridget of Kildare was born around 450 into a Druid family, being the daughter of Dubhthach, the court poet to King Loeghaire. At an early age, St. Brigid decided to become a Christian, and she eventually took vows as a nun. Together with a group of other women, she established a nunnery at Kildare. She was later joined by a community of monks led by Conlaed. Kildare had formerly been a pagan shrine where a sacred fire was kept perpetually burning. Rather than stamping out this pagan flame, Brigid and her nuns kept it burning as a Christian symbol. This was in keeping with the general process whereby Druidism in Ireland gave way to Christianity with very little opposition, the Druids, for the most part, saying that their own beliefs were a partial and tentative insight into the full nature of God and that they recognized in Christianity what they had been looking for. As an abbess, Brigid participated in several Irish councils, and her influence on the policies of the Church in Ireland was considerable. Many stories of her younger days deal with her generosity toward the needy.

### St. Blaise - February 3

At St. Helena, we will bless throats at all Masses on **February 3** and on **February 6**. St. Blaise was a physician and was Bishop of Sebaste, Armenia. He lived in a cave on Mount Argeus and was a healer of men and animals. According to legend, sick animals would come to him on their own for help, but would never disturb him at prayer. When Agricola, governor of Cappadocia, came to Sebaste to persecute Christians, his huntsmen went into the forests of Argeus to find wild animals for the arena games, and they found many waiting outside Blaise's cave. Discovered in prayer, Blaise was arrested, and Agricola tried to get him to recant his faith. While in prison, Blaise ministered to and healed his fellow prisoners, including saving a child who was choking on a fishbone; this led to the blessing of throats on Blaise's feast day. Thrown into a lake to drown, Blaise stood on the surface and invited his persecutors to walk out and prove the power of their gods; they drowned. When he returned to land, he was martyred by being beaten, his flesh torn with wool combs, which led to his association with and patronage of those involved in the wool trade, and he was then beheaded. In 1222, the Council of Oxford prohibited servile labor in England on his feast. He is one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers and is invoked for all throat afflictions, and on his feast, two candles are blessed with a prayer that God will free from all such afflictions and every ill all those who receive this blessing.

### St. Agatha - February 5

St. Agatha died in defense of her purity, in Catania, Sicily, where she was born. After Quintanus, the governor of Sicily, tried in vain to force her to consent to sin, she was imprisoned for a month with an evil woman. He then turned from sensuality to cruelty and had her breasts cut off, but that night Agatha was healed by St. Peter. She was then rolled over sharp stones and burning coals, and finally taken to prison where she died while praying. Her holy name appears in the Roman Canon.

**THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK** takes stewardship of your donations seriously. If you have knowledge of or reason to suspect misconduct, please report your concerns via our toll-free hotline at **877-820-0541** or <http://www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY>. Both are available 24 hours per day.

**CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2022:** The annual Cardinal's Appeal has begun. Our parish goal for the *Appeal* this year is \$45,000. The overall goal for all parishes in the archdiocese combined is \$21,000,000. We thank you for your generosity last year, and despite the pandemic, we reached 76% of our parish goal. Many

of you should have received a letter from Cardinal Dolan, with a pledge card to make this year's gift. You will be hearing more about the campaign in the upcoming weeks.

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND-**Contact the rectory at **718-892-3232** if you would like the Holy Eucharist brought to your home. We are also encouraging family members to bring a pyx to Mass and indicate to the priest how many hosts you need for your loved one. Please call the rectory and do let us know if you intend to bring Communion to your loved one(s).

**TAX LETTERS-**If you donated to St. Helena in 2021, you can call the rectory to request a tax donation letter, which can be used to help reduce your income taxes.

**PARISH CALENDARS** have arrived and are available both in the rectory and at the back of the chapels.

**MISSALETTES-**You can purchase your own in the rectory for \$2.

**FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY SESSION** will take place on **Sunday February 6** at **11AM** in the cafeteria.

**ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP** will meet on **Thursdays** at **7PM** and **Saturdays** at **1PM** in the Green Bldg and will be either in-person or virtual. You can join virtually by going on your computer to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). **Meeting ID: 521 709 4814, Passcode: 333 777.**

**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** meet on **Saturdays** from **9:30-11AM** for Cubs, and the Scouts from **11AM-12:30PM** at the Msgr. Scanlan HS cafeteria.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO HAVE YOUR CHILD BAPTIZED**  
Have you or your child been baptized? There is no reason to delay. Baptism is the first of the seven sacraments and the way in which a person becomes a member of the Catholic Church. Anyone who has not already been baptized can receive Baptism in the Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "Every person who is not yet baptized and only such a person is able to be baptized." Baptism leaves an indelible (permanent) mark on the soul and there is no reason that one could be re-baptized. There are no age restrictions; you cannot be too old or too young to be baptized. Bishops, priests, and sometimes deacons are the ordinary ministers of baptism. The person is baptized with water using the Trinitarian formula. In fact, in response to a water shortage, Pope Gregory IX actually issued a decree saying that it was not valid to baptize someone in cold beer (especially on Super Bowl Sunday). Baptism is important, so contact the rectory to find out the exact procedure for baptizing your child. You will be glad you did.

**FOOD DEMONSTRATION TRAINING-**Bronx Health REACH is establishing a training program for Food Pantry staff or volunteers to receive training from culinary experts on conducting food demonstrations for clients. The goal is to show people how to prepare meals with the nutritious ingredients they are receiving, which some of the items the clients might not be familiar with. We would like to know if you have 1-2 people who help to run your food pantry who might be interested in participating in this training. The expectation is that they will lead food demonstrations with clients on their own after going through the training program. If you are interested, complete the interest form below which is available in both English and Spanish. We will have the capacity to make the training bilingual. The training is not required for your work with Bronx Health REACH, but we do plan to provide stipends to those who participate in the program. Food Demo Training Interest Form (**English**version):<https://forms.gle/eXg3zEbDnTumDJRW8>. Food Demo Training Interest Form (**Spanish**version):<https://forms.gle/u2mFnDxBjD7dtSoD8>

January 30, 2022

**ST. HELENA HOLY LAND TOUR**-Fr. David will lead an 11-day pilgrimage to Israel and Jordan from **October 21-31, 2022**.

Renew your wedding vows in Cana, the town of Jesus' first miracle. We will all renew our own Baptismal vows at the sacred Jordan River, and of course, we will have daily Mass. We will also visit Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Nazareth, Capernaum, Petra, Mt. Tabor, Mt.



Carmel, Qumran, Tiberias, the Dead Sea, the Sea of Galilee, and so much more. We will stay at five different four-star hotels. The cost is \$4,300 per person from JFK. This is the opportunity of a lifetime. A \$500 deposit is required. Call the rectory at **718-892-3232** for a brochure and to reserve your spot. Also, invite your friends because the trip is open to people from outside the parish.

**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** if you would like to host the Rosa Mystica statue.

**VIEW ON FORMED**-Good, solid Catholic Information is so very important. Everyone here at St. Helena's has a free parish subscription at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org). Just click the icon and join as a parishioner. Wednesday is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Watch: Ready Reasons: *Was the Immaculate Conception Necessary?* or *Mary of Nazareth*. Listen to: *Mary: The Indispensable Mother of God*, or *The Virgin Mary Revealed Through Scripture*. Also Watch: *Don Bosco or Saint John Bosco*. For children Watch: *Brother Francis: The Saints*.

**YOUNG ADULT MASS**-You are invited to the February Young Adult Mass on **Wednesday, February 2, 7:30PM** at St. Patrick's Cathedral! Adoration and Confessions will be available from **6:30-7:30 p.m.** Our celebrant is Father Brian Graebe. Our guest musicians will be the Metropolitan Catholic Chorale. Mass begins at **7:30 p.m.** Social to follow at Connolly's Pub and Restaurant, 14 E. 47th Street. Specials include a dollar off draft beers and house wine. Current NYS restaurant regulations will be observed.

**ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY, YONKERS** presents "The Historical Jesus"-Lecture with Msgr. John Meier. **Thurs, Feb. 3.** Reception-6:30/Lecture 7:30. Donation \$20. Purchase tickets at [www.dunwoodie.edu/125thanniversary](http://www.dunwoodie.edu/125thanniversary) or call **914-968-6200 x8201**.

**CULTURAL DIVERSITY APOSTOLATE – BLACK MINISTRY: BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS**-You are invited to the annual Archdiocesan Black History Month Mass and National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family on **February 6 at 2 p.m.** Cardinal Timothy Dolan will be the principal celebrant. For more information, contact the Office of Black Ministry at **646-794-2681** or [obm@archny.org](mailto:obm@archny.org).

**CATHOLIC BISHOP URGE WORLDWIDE VACCINE EQUITY**-The US Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services (the US bishops' main international relief and development agency) have asked Catholics to lobby Congress to "ensure the United States uses its full diplomatic and funding capabilities to push for the equitable global distribution and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines." Pope Francis said that "in the end, a comprehensive commitment on the part of the international community is necessary, so that the entire world population can have equal access to essential medical care and vaccines."

**TWO NEW BISHOPS FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE**-His Eminence, Cardinal Dolan is pleased to announce that our Holy Father, Pope Francis has appointed Father John S. Bonnici, 56, class of 1991, pastor of two Westchester parishes: the Church of Ss. John and Paul, and the Church of St. Augustine, both in Larchmont; and Father Joseph A. Espaillet, 45, class of 2003, pastor of the Church of St. Anthony of Padua in the South Bronx

and director of the Hispanic Catholic Charismatic Center, as auxiliaries to the Archbishop of New York. They join the current pontifical team of Bishops Peter Byrne, Jerry Colacicco, Ed Whalen; and Bishops *emeriti* Josu Iriondo, John Jenik, Dominick Lagonegro, John O'Hara, and Jerry Walsh.

#### **PIERRE TOUSSAINT 2022 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The application for the 2022 Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund (PTSF) is now live. PTSF provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors of diverse backgrounds from public, private, and parochial schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York, to assist them with the educational fees and expenses associated with their college studies. For more information, you can visit [obm@archny.org](mailto:obm@archny.org).

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION: ENLIGHTEN: FAITH EDUCATION FOR TODAY'S CATHOLIC**-Shed light on your faith through online courses! Introducing *Enlighten*, from Fordham University and the Archdiocese of New York. Although we are taking registrations for Enlighten courses, our collaboration with Fordham University. Foundational classes covered are: *Introduction to Catholicism*, *Understanding the Creed*, *Understanding Holy Scripture*, *Unveiling the Sacraments*, *Catholic Social Teaching*, and *Catholic Moral Teaching*. Learn more or register at [archny.org/enlighten](http://archny.org/enlighten)

**A LIVELY DISCUSSION BETWEEN EPISCOPALIANS AND CATHOLICS**-Join us on **Tuesday, February 8 from 7 to 8:15 PM** via zoom. This series is free of charge, space is also limited. For more information or to register, contact Father Brian McWeeney or Rev. Robert Flanagan at [growingasoul@gmail.com](mailto:growingasoul@gmail.com).

**THE SISTERS OF ST. DOMINIC OF AMITYVILLE CELEBRATE IRISH NIGHT**-For almost 50 years, Irish Night has raised crucial funds needed to care for our senior Sisters living at our Motherhouse in Amityville. This year's celebration will take place virtually on **Saturday, March 5**. Our Emcee is CBS news anchor, Dick Brennan. The event will feature traditional Irish songs, dance, and plenty of Irish spirit! For more info, call **631-842-6000 x246**. Raffle tickets for the event are available.

**WE INVITE YOU TO PRAY AND FAST** for the upcoming Supreme Court case *Dobbs v Jackson* on the 22nd of each month for the next nine months as part of a nationwide prayer campaign. In 2018 Mississippi passed a law protecting unborn children after 15 weeks of gestation. The law was challenged and that case, known as *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization*, is being heard by the Supreme Court. This is truly a landmark case that could potentially overturn the decision of *Roe v Wade*.

**CHILD PROTECTION**-Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious, or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P. at [victimassistance@archny.org](mailto:victimassistance@archny.org) or **646-794-2949**. Info can also be found on the archdiocesan website, [www.archny.org](http://www.archny.org). In keeping with the archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

**VIRTUAL AL-ANON MEETINGS**-meet every **Saturday at 9AM**. Call in at **712-770-5372**, and the access code is: **178602**. **AA BIG BOOK** meetings at **7PM** will only be virtual for the next few weeks. Virtual meetings are on **Saturdays**. The Zoom Meeting Code is **84360210329** and the password is **dasolution**.

**"LA ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE NUEVA YORK** toma la administración de sus donaciones seriamente. Si usted tiene conocimiento o una razón sospechosa del mal manejo financiero, por favor reporte sus inquietudes a través de la línea gratuita de atención telefónica al **877-820-0541** o en la Internet, en <http://www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY>. Ambos están disponibles las 24 horas del día."

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**LA LIBERTAD CRISTIANA SIGNIFICA SER DÓCIL A LA PALABRA DE DIOS**-Para obtener la verdadera libertad cristiana, hay que ser dócil para discernir y obedecer la Palabra de Dios. "La Palabra de Dios es viva y eficaz, discierne los sentimientos y los pensamientos del corazón" dijo el Santo Padre. Estas Palabras, sin embargo, no viene a decirnos lo que queremos oír, sino que viene con una novedad porque Dios es un "Dios de sorpresas".

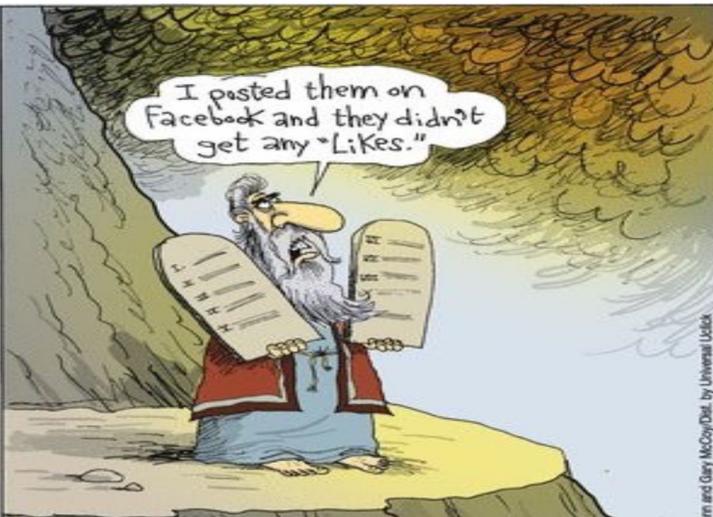
El papa recalca que, el Evangelio es nuevo. Que hay una Revelación nueva. Nuestro Dios es un Dios que siempre hace cosas nuevas y pide de nosotros esta docilidad a su novedad. Jesús respondió a las quejas de que sus discípulos no ayunan como los discípulos de Juan y los fariseos. *¿Pueden los invitados a la boda ayunar mientras el novio está con ellos?*, fue la respuesta de Jesús. El Santo Padre observó la sorprendente respuesta de Cristo, que es muy clara *el vino nuevo se echa en odres nuevos*.

"Dios trae el vino, pero hay que recibirlo con apertura a esta novedad. Y esto se llama docilidad. Podemos preguntarnos: *¿soy dócil a la Palabra de Dios o hago siempre lo que creo que es la Palabra de Dios? ¿O paso la Palabra de Dios por una destilería y al final es otra cosa respecto a lo que Dios quiere hacer?*"

El Papa Francisco basándose en la lectura, en la que el rey Saúl desobedece el mandato de Dios, dijo que es una llamada para que nos adaptemos a la novedad de la Palabra de Dios. Saúl, el elegido de Dios, ungido por Dios, se había olvidado que Dios es un Dios de sorpresas y de novedades. El estaba cerrado en sus pensamientos, en sus esquemas, y por eso razonaba humanamente", Continuo el Papa. Siguiendo con la lectura dijo que en lugar de destruir todo lo que pertenecía a los amalecitas, Saúl optó por conservar las ovejas y los bueyes como sacrificio a Dios. El profeta Samuel reprocha entonces a Saúl por, lo que el Papa Francisco llamó, "apoderarse de la Palabra de Dios".

El papa Francisco continuo que la rebeldía, el no obedecer la Palabra de Dios, es un pecado de adivinación. La obstinación, la no docilidad de hacer lo que uno quiere y no lo que Dios quiere, es un pecado de idolatría". La lectura continua a llevarnos a contemplar en qué consiste exactamente la libertad cristiana y la obediencia cristiana. "La libertad cristiana y la obediencia cristiana son la docilidad a la Palabra de Dios, y tener la valentía de convertirse en odres nuevos, para este vino nuevo que viene continuamente" concluyó el Santo Padre.

"Esta valentía de discernir siempre: discernir, dice, no relativizar. Discernir siempre lo que el Espíritu hace y quiere en mi corazón, y a dónde me lleva este Espíritu. El Papa Francisco nos invita a pedir la gracias de ser dóciles a la Palabra de Dios, una Palabra que "discierne los sentimientos y los pensamientos del corazón.



**WEEKLY COLLECTION: January 23 — \$3,449.00**  
**Envelope System — \$877.00**

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**.

*Names only said in Prayer of the Faithful are in Italics*  
*\*not a public Mass; +=deceased; S=Mass is live-streamed*

## Mass Intentions

### January 30 – Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00** +Catherine Warneke  
**10:00 S** Fr Luis Intentions in Puerto Rico  
**12:00 (Sp)** +Juan Vallego; +Joseph and Lidia Bastone, Marino Mota and Librado Geraldo; +Jacqueline French; +Tomas Monte Negro Tillo  
**5:00** +Domenica and John Pugliese  
**6:30 (Fr)** +Margaret Bongyii and Raphael Mbinkar

### January 31 – Monday — St. John Bosco

**6:30\*** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Fr. David  
**8:30 S** +Margaret Cotter; +Abin Jacob  
**12:15** David Sheehan, Jr.-Health Intention

### February 1 – Tuesday – St. Brigid

**6:30\*** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Fr. Luis  
**8:30 S** David and Mary Kennelly and Family-Intentions  
**12:15** Maloney and Sheehan Families-Intentions

### February 2– Wednesday — The Presentation of the Lord

**6:30** +Jaxson Thorburn and Family  
**8:30 S** +Catherine Carolan  
**12:15** +Cruz Torres  
**7:00 (Sp)** En agradecimiento a Dios de parte de Enrique Loja

### February 3 – Thursday – St. Blaise

**6:30\*** Intentions for Joanne Savino's Eye Exam  
**8:30 S** Alessandra Mia Savino's Utmost Facility to Achieve Salvation and for a Close and Loving Relationship with her Paternal Grandmother  
*Florine Suphal-Health and Healing Intention*  
**12:15** +David Sheehan

### February 4 – Friday — St. John de Britto

**6:30\*** Vincent McDonnell-Intentions  
**8:30 S** Deceased Members of the Retutas and Corciega Families  
**12:15** John and Sheila Henrahan and Family-Health Intentions

### February 5 – Saturday — St. Agatha

**6:30** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Joanne Savino  
**8:30** Deceased Members of the Torrens & Gramlich Families  
**12:15** +Eduardo, Paulina, Rafael, Gladys and Felix Bruno  
**5:30** +Maria and Angelo Belusci

### February 6 – Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00** +Walter and Mildred Murphy; +*Salud Vallada*  
**10:00 S** +Rumalda Ortiz  
**12:00 (Sp)** +Juanita Martinez; En Accion de gracias por el cumpleaños de Gracia Galicia y Katy Hernandez; Por el aniversario de bodas de Silvia y Victor; +Jacqueline French  
**5:00** In Honor of the Virgin de la Guadalupe from Judith Santiago  
**6:30 (Fr)** +Margaret Bongyii and Raphael Mbinkar

### Readings for the week of January 30, 2022

**Sunday:** Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17 [cf. 15ab]/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13/Lk 4:21-30; **Monday:** 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 5:1-20; **Tuesday:** 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43; **Wednesday:** Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32; **Thursday:** 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13; **Friday:** Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29; **Saturday:** 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34; **Next Sunday:** Is 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 [1c]/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11