

# The Piarist Fathers



## Pastor

Rev. David Powers Sch.P.

## Parochial Vicars

Rev. Jesús Negro, Sch.P.

Rev. Jorge Ramirez, Sch.P.

Rev. Richard Wyzykiewicz Sch.P.

Deacon Christian Santiago, Sch.P.

## Parish Staff

### Parish Secretary

Mrs. Rosemarie Ortiz

### Business Manager

Anne Kathy Rice

### Facilities Manager

Karime Vergara

### Music Director

Ms. Janell Alvarez

### Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson

Mr. Alex Henriquez

## August-September 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

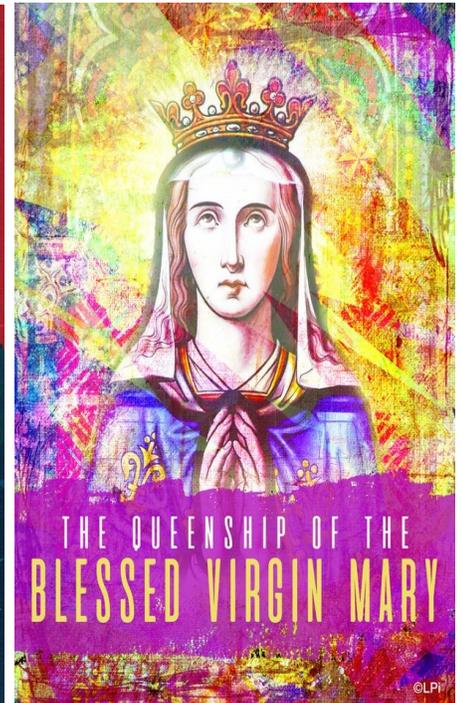
Phone: (718) 892-3232

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 parish



Bronx, NY

## Mass Schedule (Horario de Misas)

Saturday: 5:30 PM

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

Sunday: AM

PM

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

8:00

12:00 (Español)

Morning Prayer: Daily 8:30AM

10:00 (Family)

5:00

Spanish Mass:

Sunday, 12:00 Noon and

Monday thru Friday—7:00PM

6:30 (Français)

French Mass:

Sunday, 6:30PM

Confessions: Saturday — 4 to 5:30

Sick Or Emergency Calls:

Call the Rectory at 892-3232

### Devotions:

- Circulo De Oracion: lunes, 7 a 9.00PM
- Miraculous Medal Novena  
Monday after 12:15 PM Mass
- Exposición del Santisimo 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 Catolicos que viven dentro de los Limites de la parroquia deben llenar una tarjeta de registro en la rectoria.



Handicapped Accessible

**Patriot Day - September 11**

On September 11, Patriot Day gives all of us time to reflect on the four devastating terror attacks that took nearly 3,000 lives. We will also commemorate those who we lost and give thanks to the brave first responders who put their lives on the line. Take a moment today to consider what we stand for as a nation and how we all can work together to make the world a better place for all.

Patriot Day falls on the 11th of September (also commonly known as 'Nine-Eleven'), and it is remembered globally as the infamous anniversary of the four vile catastrophic terrorist attacks on the USA on September 11, 2001. Now embedded in the memories of everyone who lived through it, this was the day four jet planes were hijacked by 19 terrorists of al-Qaeda and crashed into the two 110-story towers of the New York World Trade Center and the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, causing the deaths of 2,977 brave people. The fourth plane (United Airlines Flight 93) was directed at Washington DC, but some of its passengers bravely attempted to take back control, and it crashed into a hay field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The large majority of those lost after the attacks on the Twin Towers were working at or above the points of collision; thousands of people who had gone to work that morning like every other day, found themselves suddenly stranded at the top of a burning skyscraper. A number made the choice to jump from the flaming buildings rather than wait to be caught by the flames or for the building to collapse. No one could forget the terrifying and the heartbreaking stories and those images captured by all the news footage of the day.



**REMEMBERING ST. HELENA'S VICTIMS OF  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

**DENNIS DEVLIN '64; THOMAS FARRELLY '61;  
JOHN GALLAGHER '83; FREDERICK ILL, JR.;  
CURTIS NOEL; JOSE NUNEZ;  
SEAN TALLON; WILLIAM "HARRY" THOMPSON**

**Grandparents' Day**

On the first Sunday after Labor Day, the nation celebrates National Grandparents Day. This year the date falls on September 11. Like Mothers' day and Fathers' day we also have an entire day that is dedicated to our grandparents. Grandparents and children have a special connection that is proven to both make grandparents live longer, and also to make children more emotionally resilient. Thus, Grandparents' Day is an opportunity to treasure that connection and spend some quality family time together. How did it happen?

In 1956, Marian McQuade of West Virginia began a national movement to recognize the important role of grandparents. In 1969, nine-year-old Russell Capper sent President Nixon a brief letter suggesting that a day should be set aside in order to celebrate grandparents, and on June 12, 1969, he received a letter back saying the idea was good but it would require a Congressional resolution authorizing him to do so. In 1978, McQuade launched a nationwide "Adopt a Grandparent" campaign, and later that year, Marian McQuade (1917-2008) was recognized nationally by the U.S. Senate and by President Jimmy Carter as the founder of National Grandparents' Day. McQuade said she wanted to educate youth about the importance of seniors and the contributions they have made throughout history. She urged all youth to "adopt" a grandparent and learn more about their lives, challenges, and desires for the future. West Virginia Senator Jennings Randolph, with the help of other senators, introduced a joint resolution to the senate requesting the president to "issue annually a proclamation designating the first Sunday of September after Labor Day of each year as 'National Grandparents' Day.'" Congress passed the same legislation and proclaimed the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents' Day. On August 3, 1978, Jimmy Carter signed the proclamation, and the day was finally celebrated the following year. The Church last year, in 2021, began celebrating Grandparents' Day on the fourth Sunday of July.

**Most Holy Name of Mary - September 12**

In accordance with Jewish custom, our Lady's parents named her eight days after her birth and were inspired to call her Mary. The feast of the Holy Name of Mary, therefore, follows that of her Birthday, as the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus follows Christmas. The feast originated in Spain and was approved by the Holy See in 1513; Innocent XI extended its observance to the whole Church in 1683 in thanksgiving to our Lady for the victory on September 12, 1683, by John Sobieski, king of Poland, over the Turks, who were besieging Vienna and threatening the West. This day was later commemorated in Vienna by creating a new kind of pastry and shaping it in the form of the Turkish half-moon. It was eaten along with coffee which was part of the booty from the Turks.

The ancient *Onomastica Sacra* preserved the meanings ascribed to Mary's name by the early Christian writers and perpetuated by the Greek Fathers. "Bitter Sea," "Myrrh of the Sea," "The Light Giver," "The Enlightened One," "Lady," "Seal of the Lord," and "Mother of the Lord" are the principal interpretations. From the time of Saint Jerome until the 16th century, preferred interpretations of Mary's name in the West were "Lady," "Bitter Sea," "The Light Giver," and especially "Star of the Sea." *Stella Maris* was by far the most favored interpretation. The revival of Hebraic studies, which had accompanied the Renaissance, led to a more critical appraisal of the meanings assigned to Our Lady's name.



Miryām has all the appearance of a genuine Hebrew name, and no solid reason has been discovered to warrant rejecting the Semitic origin of the word. The Hebrew name of Mary, Miryām, (in Latin *Domina*) means lady or sovereign; this Mary is by virtue of her Son's sovereign authority as the Lord of the World. We call Mary our Lady as we call Jesus our Lord, and when we pronounce her name we affirm her power, implore her aid and we place ourselves under her protection.

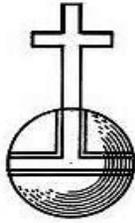
**St. John Chrysostom - September 13**

John Chrysostom was the son of a Latin father and a Greek mother; his mother, Anthusa, was widowed at the age of twenty, soon after his birth in Antioch. Putting aside all thoughts of remarriage, Anthusa gave all of her attention to her son: she gave him the best classical education of the day, and she then enrolled him as a catechumen when he was eighteen. He came under the influence of Meletius, patriarch of Antioch, who sent him to the monastic school of Diodore, then baptized him and ordained him a lector. At this time, St. John Chrysostom decided to take his future into his own hands and became a monk-hermit, living in a cave, studying the Scriptures, and putting himself under the discipline of an old hermit named Hesychius. However, his health broke under this austere regimen and he returned to Antioch, was ordained a priest, and began his remarkable career as a powerful preacher.

During the next twelve years, he electrified Antioch with his fiery sermons, filled with a knowledge and an eloquence that were astonishing. It was during this period that he received the nickname Chrysostom, or golden mouth, for his words seemed to be pure gold. In 397, when the see of Constantinople became vacant, the Emperor Arcadius appointed John patriarch, and since it was feared that he would refuse the honor, he was lured to Constantinople and consecrated bishop of the city in 398. John found himself in a nest of political intrigue, fraud, extravagance, and naked ambition. He curbed expenses, gave lavishly to the poor, built hospitals, reformed the clergy, and restored monastic discipline. But his program of reform made him enemies, in particular, the Empress Eudoxia and the Patriarch Theophilus of Alexandria. With the city in turmoil and his life threatened, John was exiled by the emperor in the year 404. The papal envoys were imprisoned, and John — defended by the pope and ordered restored to his see — was sent further into exile, six hundred miles from Constantinople, across the Black Sea. Worn out and sick, he died of his hardships at Comana in Pontus. His last words were, "Glory to God for all things." In 1204, his body was brought to St. Peter's in Rome but was returned to the Orthodox on November 27, 2004, by Pope Saint John Paul II. His silver and jewel-encrusted skull is now kept in the Vatopedi Monastery on Mount Athos in northern Greece and is credited by Christians with miraculous healings. His right hand is also preserved on Mount Athos, and numerous smaller relics are also scattered throughout the world. Along with Saint Athanasius, Saint Gregory Nazianzen, and Saint Basil, he forms the group of the four great doctors of the Eastern Church.

**Exaltation of the Holy Cross - September 14**

When St. Helena's Parish was established in 1940, Msgr. Scanlan named the Feast of the Finding of the True Cross (May 5) as the patronal feast of the parish rather than Saint Helena (August 18) partly because the feast fell during the school year. When the May 5th feast was merged with the September 14 Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross in 1960 by Pope John XIII, that date, which also takes place during the school year, became the new parish patronal feast. As such, there is a plenary indulgence attached to attending Mass at St. Helena's on that day. We are permitted to move the parish celebration to the nearest Sunday, so we shall celebrate it this year on **Sun., September 18.**



The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross was observed in Rome before the end of the seventh century. It commemorates the recovery of the Holy Cross, which had been placed on Mount Calvary by St. Helena and preserved in Jerusalem, but then had fallen into the hands of Chosroas, King of the Persians. The most precious relic was recovered and later returned to Jerusalem by Emperor Heraclius in 629. The Golden Legend describes Emperor Heraclius carrying the Cross back to Jerusalem on his shoulders. He was clothed with costly garments and with ornaments of precious stones. But at the entrance to Mt. Calvary, a strange incident occurred. Try as hard as he would, he could not go forward. Zacharias, the Bishop of Jerusalem, then said to the astonished monarch: "Consider, O Emperor, that with these triumphal ornaments you are far from resembling Jesus carrying His Cross." The Emperor then put on a penitential garb and was able to continue the journey.

The liturgy of the Cross is a triumphant liturgy. When Moses lifted up the bronze serpent over the people, it was a foreshadowing of the salvation through Jesus when He was lifted up on the Cross. Our Mother Church sings of the triumph of the Cross, the sacred instrument of our redemption. To follow Christ we must take up His cross, follow Him and become obedient until death, even if it means death on the cross. We identify with Christ on the Cross and become co-redeemers, sharing in His cross. We made the Sign of the Cross before prayer which helps to fix our minds and hearts to God. After prayer, we make the Sign of the Cross to keep close to God. During trials and temptations, our strength and our protection is the Sign of the Cross. At Baptism, we are sealed with the Sign of the Cross, signifying the fullness of redemption and that we belong to Christ. Let us look to the cross frequently, and realize that when we make the Sign of the Cross we are giving our entire self to God — mind, soul, heart, body, will, and thoughts. The cross of triumph is usually pictured as a globe with the cross on top, symbolic of the triumph of our Savior over the sin of the world, and the world conquest of His Gospel through the means of a grace (cross and orb). We will venerate a relic of the True Cross at all Masses on both **September 14 and 18.**

**Our Lady of Sorrows - September 15**

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, and this feast dates back to the twelfth century. It was especially promoted by the Cistercians and the Servites, so much so that in the 14th and 15th centuries it was widely celebrated throughout the Catholic Church. In 1482, the feast was added to the Missal under the title of "Our Lady of Compassion." Pope Benedict XIII added it to the Roman Calendar in 1727 on the Friday before Palm Sunday. In 1913, Pope Pius X fixed the date on September 15. The title "Our Lady of Sorrows" focuses on Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ. "The Seven Dolors," the title by which it was celebrated in the 17th century, referred to the seven swords that pierced the Heart of Mary. The feast is an octave for the birthday of Our Lady on September 8th. It is dedicated to the spiritual martyrdom of Mary, the Mother of God, and to her compassion with the sufferings of her Divine Son, Jesus. In her suffering as co-redeemer, she reminds us of the tremendous evil of sin and shows us the way of true repentance. May the numerous tears of the Mother of God be conducive to our salvation; with which tears Thou, O God, art able to wash away the sins of the whole world.

As Mary stood at the foot of the Cross on which Jesus hung, the sword of sorrow Simeon had foretold pierced her soul. Below are the seven sorrows of Mary:

1. The prophecy of Simeon, (*Luke 2:25-35*)
2. The flight into Egypt, (*Matthew 2:13-15*)

3. Loss of the Child Jesus for three days, (*Luke 2:41-50*)
4. Mary meets Jesus on his way to Calvary, (*Luke 23:27-31*)
5. Crucifixion and Death of Jesus, (*John 19:25-30*)
6. The body of Jesus being taken from the Cross (deposition from the Cross), (*Psalms 130; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-37*)
7. The burial of Jesus, (*Isaiah 53:8; Luke 23:50-56*)

**Saints Cornelius and Cyprian - September 16**

This memorial commemorates two friends in the service of Christ and his Church. Cornelius, a Roman, was the twenty-first Pope and served during the reign of Emperors Gallus and Volusian. He had to oppose Novatian, the first anti-pope, who believed that apostates who repented could not be forgiven. Helped by Saint Cyprian, Pope Cornelius confirmed his papal authority. He was beheaded in exile at Civitavecchia, Italy in 253. At the time of Pope Cornelius, there were at Rome forty-six priests, seven deacons, seven subdeacons, forty-two acolytes, fifty-two clerics, and more than five hundred widows who were supported by the Church.

Thascius Caecilius Cyprianus was an illustrious pagan rhetorician in Carthage who embraced the true faith in the year 246 and was soon thereafter consecrated priest and bishop of that city (248). He was an energetic shepherd of souls and a prolific writer. He defended the unity of the Church against schismatic movements in Africa and Italy, and he greatly influenced the shaping of Church discipline relative to reinstating Christians who had apostatized. He fled during the Decian persecution but guided the Church by means of letters. During the Valerian persecution (258) he was beheaded. He suffered martyrdom in the presence of his flock, after giving the executioner twenty-five pieces of gold. Saints Cyprian and Cornelius are mentioned in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I) of the Mass. St. Cornelius is invoked against epilepsy.

**The Saints of September 17**

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

**Saint Hildegard** (1098-1179) was born in the Rhine region of present-day Germany and died at the age of 81 in A.D.1179. She was a Benedictine abbess, composer, writer, theologian, mystic, philosopher, and visionary, and also well-versed in scientific natural history. She has been honored as a saint for many centuries, but was officially canonized a saint and named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012. On January 25, 2021, Pope Francis ordered the inscription of Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church, into the General Roman Calendar. Saint Hildegard is also celebrated each year as an Optional Memorial on September 17.

Historically it is the commemoration of the **Imprinting of the Holy Stigmata on the Body of St. Francis.** Two years before his death St. Francis retired to Mt. Alverno where he began a forty days fast in honor of St. Michael the Archangel. There, while in a state of continual prayer and unceasing watching, he saw in a holy vision a seraph with burning, dazzling wings whose feet and hands were nailed to a cross; at the same time five wounds, like those of our Lord, appeared on Francis' feet, hands and on his side; from the wound in his side blood flowed. These stigmata were so fully verified subsequently that the Franciscans since the fourteenth century have celebrated a feast in honor of the event.

**WELCOME BACK FR. JORGE RAMIREZ, SCH.P.** Fr. Jorge is now assigned to St. Helena's, and he will work in the parish and in the school. Here is a little more information about him:

Father Jorge Luis Ramirez Quiles was born in Rio Piedras (San Juan), Puerto Rico on June 8, 1994. He is the youngest of three siblings: Jose Luis and Yailyn. His parents, Jorge L. Ramirez Ayala and Wanda Quiles Morales, live in Bayamon, P.R. and are active in the Church. His pious father is now in the Permanent

## SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

Diaconate program for the Archdiocese of San Juan, and his mother and father belong to the group of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion.

Fr. Jorge met the Piarists in 2009-2010 in a meeting organized by the Archdiocese. Jorge was doing a vocational experience with the Archdiocese and did not know anything about the Piarist Fathers. After he met with Father Rafael Capó, he began to go on many vocational retreats at the Formation House in Playa Ponce, and that is how little by little he began to feel that the Piarist Life was for him. After a year of discernment and being about to go to his senior year, Fr. Jorge decided to enter the Piarist Fathers in Advent of 2010 in Aibonito, P.R.

Fr. Jorge officially entered the Order on August 6, 2011, on the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. In that year, he began his Prenovitiate in Playa Ponce and, at the same time, his studies in Secondary Education in History with a Minor Concentration in Philosophy at the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico (PUCPR). Jorge began his novitiate in Mexico City along with Brother Victor Carreras and five other brothers. On July 13, 2013, Br. Jorge Luis Ramirez Quiles made his simple profession in the Order of the Pious Schools taking the religious name of the Most Holy Trinity.

Upon returning from the novitiate, Fr. Jorge resumed his studies at the PUCPR. During his years of Juniorate in Ponce, Fr. Jorge participated in different pastoral activities such as the youth group of the Saint Martin Chapel, the altar servers, vocation ministry, and continuous prayer at the Colegio del Carmen. He also helped in the retreats offered by the Ponceño and Calasanz schools to their students. In 2017, Fr. Jorge graduated from PUCPR and was transferred to St. Helena's community in the Bronx, NY, for a year of language immersion.

In September 2018, Bro. Jorge entered St. Joseph's Seminary to study theology which he finished this year. In August 2019, he was transferred to the Annunciation community in Manhattan, NY. On June 5, 2021, He was ordained a transitional deacon at Annunciation Church in Manhattan, NY. Then on June 11, 2022, Fr. Jorge was ordained a Piarist Priest in Adjuntas Puerto Rico. Fr. Jorge is now at the Piarist Community of the Bronx as the Rector of the Community and helping with the Hispanic ministry. Also, he will be assisting in the Campus Ministry of St. Helena's School. He also continues to be the provincial coordinator of the Calasanz Youth Movement.

**NEXT SUNDAY, September 18**, is Catechetical Sunday. We will install our parish catechists during the **10AM Mass**.

**SECOND COLLECTION** this weekend, **Sept. 10-11**, is for the Parish Elementary School. The new school year began on Sept. 7.

**SECOND COLLECTION** next weekend, **Sept. 17-18**, is to help defray the escalating costs of our Utility Bills.

**RAFFLE PRIZES** can now be picked up in the rectory.

**FALL ADULT CONFIRMATION PROGRAM**-The new Archdiocesan Adult Confirmation Program is designed for any practicing adult (18+) Catholics seeking the holy sacrament of Confirmation, who have been baptized, have received their first Holy Communion, and have been educated in the Catholic faith through Catholic Schools or religious education programs. You can contact the rectory for more information.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND OCIA CLASSES** will officially begin on **Wednesday, Sept. 21** with a **3:45PM** opening Mass in the church.

**VOLUNTEER PIANISTS NEEDED** to play at School Masses. Call the rectory at **718-892-3232** for more information.

**THE RELIGIOUS ARTICLE SHOP** will reopen next week, **Sunday, September 18** from **9AM** till **1PM**.

**NEW MISSALETTES** are in and are available for purchase and private use for \$2 in the rectory.

**BIBLE STUDY** on St. Luke is held every **Tuesday** at **1PM** and **7:30PM** and **Sunday** at **11:15AM** in the Green Building. Today, we will study the parable of the Prodigal Son.

**ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP** meets virtually **Sat.** at **1:30PM**.

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

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** is also prayed in English every **Saturday** at **1:30PM** virtually and every **Monday** in Spanish in the church at **7:30PM**.

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND**-Contact the rectory at **718-892-3232** if you would like the Holy Eucharist brought to your home, or you may bring a pyx to Mass for it.

**CHILD BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES** in **English and Spanish** every **Thursday** at **7pm**. You must telephone the rectory for an appointment and bring the necessary documents.

**ST. HELENA FOOD PANTRY** is open every **Wednesday** at **12PM** at the Westchester Ave entrance to the Green Building. Food donations are always welcome. People are in great need.

**BRONX CONCERT SINGERS** invites interested singers to our Handel's MESSIAH OPEN REHEARSALS **Tuesdays Sept. 13**, and **20** at **7:30PM** in St. Helena's Church sanctuary. Call/text Frances at **917-743-4641** to reserve your seat and a score or you can always email [BCS\\_info@bronxconcertsingers.org](mailto:BCS_info@bronxconcertsingers.org). More information at: [www.bronxconcertsingers.org](http://www.bronxconcertsingers.org).

**CALASANZ MOVEMENT OPEN HOUSE** will be **Friday, September 16** at **7PM** in the school gymnasium. The Calasanz Movement is an international youth movement for children and young adults that has as its mission to empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today and to draw young people into responsible participation in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community through an organized series of games, music, retreats, crafts, sports, religious activities, and life lessons. Our weekly meetings are for middle school and high school youth who meet every Friday at 7PM. We also have activities for young adults that take place monthly, often in coordination with other area youth events. We invite you all to attend the Open House and learn more about our youth group.

**CUB SCOUT OPEN HOUSE** on **Saturday, September 17** from **11AM-12PM** in the school cafeteria. **Boys Scout Troop 65** and **Girls Scout Troop 650 Open House** will take place from **12-1PM** that same day also in the cafeteria. Membership in the Pack and the Troops is open to any child. Come and see what today's scouting is all about. We also will be at the Parkchester Oval.

**CORONA SELF-HELP CENTER** will speak at all Masses during the weekend of **September 24-25**. They will sell T-shirts after Mass. Its mission is to rehabilitate people suffering from the consequences of Substance Use Disorders, focusing on their physical, mental and spiritual aspects by contributing to the individual's social and family reintegration in a dignified and efficient way.

**PIARIST ART EXHIBITION AND SALE** will be held on **Sunday, Sept. 25** from **11AM - 5PM** in the gymnasium. Many Artworks from Father Fernando and Deacon Christian will be on display and available for purchase. There will be a wine and a cheese reception during the exhibit. All proceeds will benefit the Piarist Seminarians, as well as the missions of the Order.

**BREAST CANCER SCREENING**-The Italian American Mobile Mammography Van will be parked in front of St. Helena on **Sun., Sept. 25** from **9AM-4:30PM**. Call the rectory now to reserve a slot. Any woman in NYC 49+ can apply. By providing free mammograms in this highly convenient manner, the unit is able to maximize the number of individuals who are able to receive these important screenings. Call the rectory today.

## ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

- Our 3-year-old and 4-year-old seats for UPK are all filled, but we are still accepting students in some K-8 grade classrooms.
- The national media has been reporting that nationwide, last year's NEAP assessments of fourth grade Reading scores showed a decrease of almost an entire academic year. However, St. Helena School 4th grade student scores reported that an amazing 92% of our students passed the NYS ELA tests with scores well above the national average, receiving 3s and 4s out of a maximum score of 4.
- This year, Father Richard, Fr. Jorge, and Deacon Christian will all be involved in the school. We welcome 3 new faculty members: Thelma Butler, Laura Duran and Elizabeth Smith.
- This year, the school will institute a new Robot-building and Computer Coding program for our students.
- Our fourth and fifth graders will now work with Columbia University health professionals on a "Hip-Hop Health" initiative.
- New York City is funding free afterschool programs for students in grades 6, 7, and 8 here at St. Helena. The ASPIRE program will begin here on September 19.
- All teachers and staff are scheduled to participate in city-required Active Shooter workshops.

While COVID protocols have been relaxed, each student will receive home test kits on a regular basis in order to maintain a healthy environment. We can also resume sports, culinary activities, afterschool musical instrument instruction, concerts, and theater shows as well as class trips.

**ST. HELENA HOLY LAND TOUR**-Fr. David will lead an 11-day pilgrimage to Israel and Jordan from **October 21-31, 2022**. Renew your own 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, & 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 all your friends because the trip is open to people from outside the parish.

**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. On the 12<sup>th</sup> the Memorial of The Most Holy Name of Mary, study Symbolon: Knowing the Faith, Session 9: *Mary and the Saints*, or *33 Days to Morning Glory*, or *The Women*. **On the 14<sup>th</sup> read, Saint Helena and the True Cross on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Watch: FORMED Now! – Exaltation of the Holy Cross** or listen to: *Understanding the Crusades*. The 15<sup>th</sup> is the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows. Listen to *Drawing Strength from Our Lady of Sorrows*, or *15 Things to do in the Midst of Suffering*. Watch *Sorrowful Mysteries*.

**THE PARKCHESTER FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL** returns on **Sat., September 24**, in the North Ballfield from **12-4PM** for residents with valid ID containing a Parkchester address. Come enjoy music, fresh donuts, cider, cotton candy, popcorn, hot dogs, inflatables, games, pumpkin decorating, a photo booth, balloon twisting, face painting, train rides and raffle prizes (you must be present to win).

**NUN KILLED BY TERRORISTS**-Sister Maria De Coppri, an 84-year-old Comboni nun, was killed by in a terrorist attack on a mission school in Mozambique. Sister Maria, who had served in Africa for nearly 60 years, was shot and killed as the attackers—believed to be affiliated with the Islamic State—destroyed a church, clinic, and school in Chipene, in the north of the country.

**COURT RULES CALIFORNIA ASSISTED SUICIDE LAW** violates the free speech rights of objecting doctors. The ultimate outcome of this requirement is those non-participating providers are compelled to participate in the Act through this documentation requirement, despite their objections to assisted suicide," the federal district court ruled, and it decided that California CANNOT force doctors to participate in assisted suicide.

**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 the internet at <http://www.reportlineweb.com/ADNY>, or a toll-free hotline at **877-820-0541** Both are available 24 hours per day."

**CIVIC EDUCATION FOR FOOD**-This is a program for low-income individuals living in the Bronx. People can attend a weekly 45-minute class on a **Sunday, September 11 at 1:30PM**. After the class, each participant will receive food items for free. The classes are Civics education informational sessions designed at CUNY to increase the electoral participation of all low-income individuals living in NYC. Each session will enroll 25-50 people every three months. To register for the sessions, which will take place here at Saint Helena in the Green Building, you may call **347-649-4253** or email: [archerkentbloodcenter@gmail.com](mailto:archerkentbloodcenter@gmail.com)

**RETRouvaille** is a weekend marriage-saving program, **September 9-11**. It is different, a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage. To register or for more information, call **800-470-2230**. Remember that St. Helena is the Patron Saint of difficult marriages.

**2022 CATHOLIC IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION INITIATIVE (CIII) CONFERENCE** will take place from **September 13-14**. This hybrid event will have virtual access for those unable to attend in person. Since its inception in 2013, the CIII initiative has sought to strengthen the individual and the collective work of diverse Catholic institutions, programs, and ministries with immigrants and refugees. This year's conference will feature plenary presentations, workshops, and numerous events on diverse topics. Please register to attend the CIII Conference in-person or virtually at: <https://2022cii.eventbee.com>

**THE CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY**, fall 2022 session will commence on **Tuesday, September 13, 2022 at 6PM**. The Citizen Police Academy is a 7- week program with each class taking place weekly on **Tuesdays at 6 PM**. It will also be hybrid model of in-person training which incorporates real scenarios and force options practice and simulator long with a virtual-based training element, which will take place at the Borough (48 Precinct 450 Cross Bx Expy Bronx, NY). Transportation will be provided to and from the Police Academy for the duration of the training. If you have further question or are interested in attending, please call **718-542-6325**.

**WIDOWER'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**- A Widower's bereavement support group will be held at the Saint Kateri Catholic Center (24 Sloan Rd., Newburgh) on consecutive **Tuesdays: September 13, 20, 27, and Oct 4, and 11 - from 5:30 – 7:30 pm**. Please note that this group is open to all men who have survived the death of a spouse. Space is limited. For more information and to register, please call Vinny DaSilva from the Archdiocesan Family Life Office at **646-794-3168**.

**PARKCHESTER FARMER'S MARKET** at the intersection of White Plains & Westchester Avenue every **Friday, 8AM-4PM**.

**FREE HEALTHY FOOD** is given out every **Tuesday at 1PM** at 1990 McGraw Ave. Text Essen to 726879 to pre-register.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (NA)** meet every **Saturday at 11AM** in the Calasanz Room. Peer support is so important.

**VIRTUAL AL-ANON MEETINGS**-meet every **Saturday at 9AM**. Call in at **667-770-1448**, and the access code is: **178602**.

**AA BIG BOOK** in-person meetings have resumed at **7PM** in the Green Building on **Saturdays**. The virtual Zoom Meeting Code is **84360210329** and the password is **dasolution**.

### **LE MIRACLE QUI A CONDUIT À UNE CANONISATION**

Tard le 30 novembre 2016, François Asselin a reçu un appel de son directeur de travaux. "Écoute, François, il y a eu un accident", a-t-il entendu à l'autre bout du fil. L'un des employés de l'entrepreneur, un charpentier nommé Charles, était tombé d'une voûte du plafond de la chapelle du lycée Saint-Louis à Saumur, dans l'ouest de la France.

L'homme de 21 ans, connu du public uniquement par son prénom, avait fait une chute de 15 mètres sur l'accoudoir d'un banc d'église. Un morceau de bois a traversé son abdomen, est passé sous son cœur et est ressorti par l'arrière. Il s'était empalé sur le bois. Marie-Claire, la femme d'Asselin, a immédiatement commencé à prier pour le jeune charpentier. Elle a également envoyé un message au prêtre de la famille à la paroisse Charles de Foucauld et à la Fraternité de Marie, Reine Immaculée, expliquant la situation et demandant des prières.

L'accident est survenu la veille du 100e anniversaire de la mort de Charles de Foucauld. L'explorateur français, devenu missionnaire catholique en Algérie, avait été béatifié en 2005. Des centaines de personnes à la paroisse et dans la fraternité ont prié pour la guérison du jeune homme par l'intercession du prêtre et ermite catholique, tué dans le Sahara en 1916. Après sa chute, Charles est resté conscient et s'est levé et a marché pour chercher de l'aide.

Il a été transporté d'urgence à l'hôpital, où il a été opéré, mais les médecins ont constaté qu'aucun organe vital n'avait été touché et qu'il n'y avait aucune séquelle, ni cérébrale ni physique. Les médecins qui ont examiné le charpentier ont convenu que l'empalement, associé à une chute d'une telle hauteur, provoquait généralement l'éclatement des organes du corps. La semaine suivante, huit jours après, il est sorti de l'hôpital, et deux mois plus tard, il était de retour au travail comme charpentier dans l'entreprise, comme si rien ne s'était passé."

Charles a raconté à sa famille que lorsqu'il a commencé à tomber, il s'est "couché à plat, a mis ma tête dans mes mains et s'est abandonné." La prière d'abandon de Charles de Foucauld contient ces mêmes mots clés, mais ce qui la rend encore plus remarquable, c'est que Charles n'était pas baptisé et ne connaissait pas du tout Charles de Foucauld."

Asselin a déclaré qu'après la reconnaissance de la guérison miraculeuse de Charles, de nombreuses personnes ont écrit à la paroisse Charles de Foucauld de Saumur pour demander des prières d'intercession dans l'espoir de recevoir leur propre miracle. La prière peut faire des miracles et dans ce cas, la prière a fait un beau miracle.

**CASA ABIERTA DEL MOVIMIENTO CALASANZ** el **viernes 16 de septiembre** a las **7PM** en el gimnasio de la escuela. El Movimiento Calasanz es un movimiento juvenil internacional para niños y jóvenes adultos que tiene como misión capacitar a los jóvenes para vivir como discípulos de Jesucristo en nuestro mundo actual y atraer a los jóvenes a una participación responsable en la vida, la misión y el trabajo de la comunidad de fe católica a través de una serie organizada de juegos, música, retiros, artesanías, deportes, actividades religiosas y lecciones de vida. Nuestras reuniones semanales son para jóvenes de secundaria y preparatoria que se reúnen todos los viernes a las **7PM**. También tenemos actividades para jóvenes adultos que se realizan mensualmente, a menudo en coordinación con otros eventos juveniles del área. Os invitamos a todos a asistir a la jornada de puertas abiertas y a conocer más sobre este grupo juvenil único.

**EL CENTRO DE AUTOAYUDA** de Corona hablará en la misa en español el **25 de septiembre**. Venderán camisetas después de la misa. Su misión es rehabilitar a las personas que sufren las

consecuencias de los Trastornos por Consumo de Sustancias, centrándose en sus aspectos físicos, mentales y espirituales, contribuyendo a la reinserción social y familiar del individuo de forma digna y eficaz.

**"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."

**EDUCACIÓN CÍVICA PARA LA ALIMENTACIÓN**-Este es un programa para personas de bajos ingresos que viven en el Bronx. En el marco de este programa, una persona asistirá a una clase de 45 minutos los domingos, en **Septiembre 11** a las **1:30PM**. Después de la clase, cada participante recibirá alimentos gratis. Las clases son sesiones informativas de educación cívica diseñadas en la CUNY para aumentar la participación electoral de las personas de bajos ingresos que viven en Nueva York. En cada sesión se inscribirán entre 25 y 50 personas cada tres meses. Para inscribirse en la sesión, que comienza a finales de julio aquí en Santa Elena en el Edificio Verde, llame al **347-649-4253** o envíe un correo electrónico a: [archerkentbloodcenter@gmail.com](mailto:archerkentbloodcenter@gmail.com)

### **BIENVENIDO DE NUEVO P. JORGE**

**Santa Elena da la bienvenida de nuevo al P. Jorge Ramírez, Sch.P., quien ahora está asignado a Santa Elena y trabajará en la parroquia y en la escuela. Aquí hay algo de información sobre él.**

El Padre Jorge Luis Ramirez Quiles nació en Rio Piedras (San Juan), Puerto Rico un 8 de junio de 1994. Es el menor de tres hermanos: José Luis y Yailyn I. Sus padres Jorge L. Ramirez Ayala y Wanda Quiles Morales viven actualmente en Bayamón, P.R. y son activos en la Iglesia. Su papá se encuentra en estos momentos está en el proceso del Diaconado Permanente para la Arquidiócesis de San Juan y su mamá como también su papá pertenecen al grupo de Ministros Extraordinarios de la Comunión.

El P. Jorge conoció a los Escolapio en el año 2009-2010, en un encuentro que la Arquidiócesis organizaba. Por aquellos años el P. Jorge se encontraba haciendo experiencia vocacional con la Arquidiócesis y no conocía nada sobre los Padres Escolapios. Después de su encuentro con el Padre Rafael Capó, el hermano comenzó a ir a las convivencias vocacionales en la Casa de Formación en la Playa de Ponce y así fue como poco a poco comenzó a sentir que la Vida Escolapia era para él. Después de más o menos un año de discernimiento y estando a punto de ir a cuarto año el Hno Jorge decide entrar con los Padres Escolapios en la convivencia vocacional de adviento de 2010, en Aibonito, P.R.

Oficialmente el P. Jorge entró a la Orden el 6 de agosto de 2011 en la fiesta de la Transfiguración del Señor. En ese año comenzó el Prenoviciado en la Playa de Ponce comenzando a su vez sus estudios en Educación Secundaria en Historia con una Concentración Menor en Filosofía en la Pontificia Universidad Católica de Puerto Rico (PUCPR). El verano de 2012 el Hno. Jorge comenzó su noviciado en la Ciudad de México junto al Hno. Víctor Carreras y otros cinco hermanos más. El día 13 de julio de 2013 el Hno. Jorge Luis Ramirez Quiles hizo la profesión simple en la Orden de las Escuelas Pías tomando como nombre de religioso de la Santísima Trinidad.

Al regresar del noviciado el P. Jorge retomó sus estudios en la PUCPR. Durante sus años de Juniorato en Ponce, el P. Jorge participó en distintas pastorales como: el grupo de jóvenes de la Capilla San Martín, los servidores del altar, la pastoral vocacional, la oración continua en el colegio del Carmen y también ayudó en los retiros que ofrecían los colegios Ponceño y

Calasanz a sus estudiantes. En el 2017 el P. Jorge se graduó de la PUCPR y fue trasladado a la comunidad de Santa Elena en el Bronx, NY para hacer un año de inmersión lingüística.

En septiembre de 2018 el P. Jorge entró a St. Joseph's Seminary para estudiar la teología la cual se graduó el verano de 2022. En agosto de 2019 fue trasladado a la comunidad de la Anunciación en Manhattan, NY. El 5 de junio de 2021 fue ordenado Diacono en la Anunciación en Manhattan, NY. El 11 de junio de 2022 fue ordenado Sacerdote en Adjuntas Puerto Rico. En estos momentos el P. Jorge es el coordinador provincial del Movimiento Calasanz y el Rector de la Comunidad de los Padres Escolapios en el Bronx, apoyando en la patoral del colegio parroquial y en el ministerio hispano.

### UN SALUDO FRATERO EN EL ESPÍRITU:

Les escribo en esta ocasión para compartir con ustedes unas palabras de bienvenida y ánimo.

Cada semana intentaré compartir con ustedes algún tema o reflexión sobre el Evangelio del Domingo, pero como les dije en este momento solo quiero presentarme.

En el verano del 2017 llegue por primera vez a Santa Elena como Junior Escolapio y ahora regreso después de estar más de tres años fuera como Sacerdote Escolapio. Para mí, es un gran honor el poder volver a la comunidad que me dio la bienvenida a mi experiencia de Vida Religiosa en Nueva York. Llego ahora con muchas ilusiones y sueños por cumplir junto a todos ustedes que forman parte de esta Hermosa Comunidad. Mi mayor ilusión es poder servirles a todos así que nunca duden en acercarse. Como Escolapio mi principal misión son los niños y jóvenes; y tengan por seguro que en mi estancia aquí, ellos tendrán un rol importante en nuestra comunidad. Así que les invito a que traigan a sus niños y jóvenes a que se involucren en las actividades que iremos promocionando.

Termino con unas palabras que San José de Calasanz (Fundador de los Padres Escolapios) dirigió a sus religiosos: "Trabaje alegremente, realizando todas las obras por amor de Dios, para que sea merecedoras de vida eterna." De esa manera queremos comenzar este nuevo semestre, ALEGRES, confiando que todo lo que hagamos lo hacemos por el Señor y no por nosotros. Espero con ansias el poder conocerlos y comenzar a formar parte de esta gran familia, a la cual todos estamos llamados a formar parte.

En Cristo Jesús y Calasanz, Fr. Jorge L. Ramírez, Sch.P.



"They should just do what WE do to get what we want — go ask their grandmas."

### WEEKLY COLLECTION: September 4 —\$4,347.93

Masses Live-Streamed from St. Helena take place **Mon-Sat at 8:30AM** and **Sun at 10AM in English** and **12PM in Spanish** [www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx](http://www.facebook.com/St.HelenaBronx).

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### September 11 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00** Victims of the World Trade Center Attack

**10:00 S** Job A.M.

**12:00 (Sp)** +Benigna Guardado de Rivas; +Josefina Almanzar, Ofana Perez, Rafael Pañora and Guillermo Pañora; +Secundina Antonio Valerio and Rosa and Emilio Lugo

**5:00** +Fortunata Focella

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

### September 12 – Monday — Most Holy Name of Mary

**6:30\*** Brenda and Scott Van de Weghe: That They Understand the Need to be Reconciled to God and to Practice Their Faith

**8:30 S** +Nelson Ramirez

**12:15** +Carol J. Parker; +Richard Soumagbo

**7:00 (Sp)** +Dolores Rodriguez

### September 13 – Tuesday — St. John Chrysostom

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

**8:30 S** +Ralph A. Cerbone, Jr.

**12:15** Xavier Francis, Meera Job, Staven & Jair Joseph in Thanks; *Ronald Estime in Thanksgiving to God;* *Gene C. Soto-Intentions*

**7:00 (Sp)** +John Carrasquillo

### September 14 – Wednesday— Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**6:30** For David and Sandra Savino: That They Can Enjoy the Health and Happiness that Awaits Those Who do God's Will and for a Good Attitude Towards David's Mother

**8:30 S** +Catherine Carolan

**12:15** Cynthia Ramirez-Birthday Intention

### September 15 – Thursday — Our Lady of Sorrows

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

**8:30** +Joseph Nicoles

**12:15** +Margaret Pieiol

**7:00 (Sp)** +Maria Antonia Javier

### September 16 – Friday — Saints Cornelius and Cyprian

**6:30** +Alberto Brinz

**8:30 S** +Neville Robertson

**12:15** Souls in Purgatory

### September 17 – Saturday — St. Hildegard, St. Bellarmine

**6:30** +Antonio Brinz, My Deceased Paternal Grandfather

**8:30 S** Fr. Richard's Health and Happiness

**12:15** +Felicita Fontanez

**5:30** +Pat Lynch

**6:30** San Mateo Mass

### September 18 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**8:00** +Mrs. Benigna Guardado de Rivas

**10:00 S** +Delia Trujillo

**12:00 (Sp)** +Domingo Sanchez, Angel De Sanchez and Oscar Sanchez; +Antonia Rivera; +Juana rodriguez, Ramon Castro, Jose Torres and Almas de Purgatorio

**5:00** +Michael Sheehan

**6:30(Fr)** +Margaret Bongyii & 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 11, 2022

**Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/1 Tm 1:12-17/ Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10; **Monday:** 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 7:1-10; **Tuesday:** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 7:11-17; **Wednesday:** Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17; **Thursday:** 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35; **Friday:** 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15/Lk 8:1-3; **Saturday:** 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/ Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14/Lk 8:4-15; **Next Sunday:** Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13