

# 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

## September-October 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

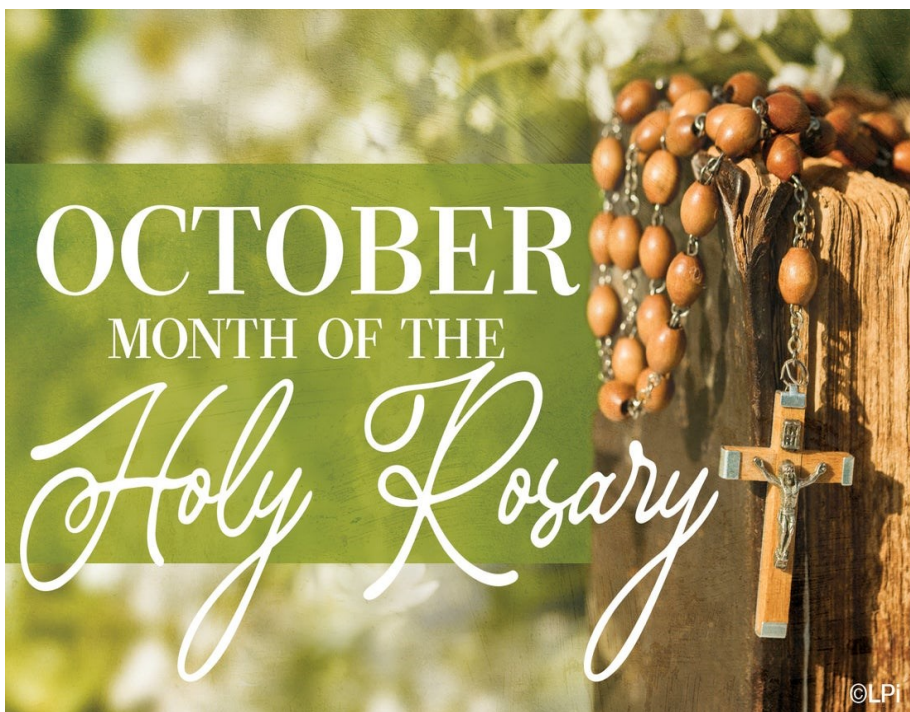
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

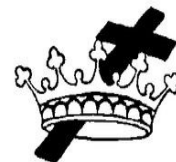
[www.churchofsthelena.com](http://www.churchofsthelena.com)

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

Sunday: AM

8:00

10:00 (Family)

PM

12:00 (Español)

5:00

6:30 (Français)

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

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

Morning Prayer: Daily 8:30AM

Spanish Mass: Sunday, 12:00 Noon and

Monday thru Friday—7:00PM

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 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 Catolicos que viven dentro de los Limites de la parroquia deben llenar una tarjeta de registro en la rectoria.



Handicapped Accessible

## THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

References to the communion of saints in Catholic belief can be found as far back as the fourth century. The term appears in the Apostles' Creed, was thought to have been written in the fifth century. In the West, the communion of saints more commonly means a communion of "holy ones," both the living and the dead. Remember that in the New Testament, "saints" means not canonized saints (a much later development), but rather all the people of God. Paul began one of his letters, "To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi." Thus, the communion of saints encompasses not only all believers in Christ but, according to many scholars, all those of truth and love, in whom the Spirit is at work. This includes all those on earth, those still journeying to God in the purification process Catholics call purgatory, and all those who now abide in God. The old terminology for these three states was "the church militant" on earth, "the church suffering" in purgatory, and "the church triumphant" in heaven. Together we all make up the Holy Church, the body of Christ. The best thing about the communion of saints is that it connects us all—because we are one body. When we celebrate the Eucharist, we pray with all those who have gone before us. We the living can pray for all the dead, "the souls in purgatory," who need our prayers on their journey to God. The multitude in heaven pray for the rest of us. They inspire us by their example, and remain present to us in ways of which we know not. "I will spend my heaven doing good on earth," said St. Thérèse of Lisieux before her death.



The month of November is dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory, whose feast is celebrated on November 2. They await their arrival into Heaven to become part of the Church Triumphant. Meanwhile, the Church Suffering and the Church Militant constitute in their relations a second circle of most vital activities. Having entered into the night "wherein no man can work," the Suffering Church cannot ripen to its final blessedness by any efforts of its own, but only through the help of others—through the intercessory prayers and sacrifices (suffragia) of those living members of the Body of Christ who, being still in this world, are able in the grace of Christ to perform expiatory works. The Church has from the earliest times faithfully guarded the words of Scripture that it is a holy and a very wholesome thing to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins. [2 Mac. 12, 43] The suppliant cry of her liturgy: "Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them," can be heard already in the Acts of the martyrdom of Sts. Perpetua and Felicitas (A.D. 203) and is represented in numerous sepulchral inscriptions of the most ancient period, while theologians and Fathers of the Church, beginning with Tertullian, have supplied its substantial proof. So fundamental indeed and also so natural to man's hope and desire and love is this belief, that the historians of religion have discovered it among almost all non-Christian civilized peoples: a striking illustration of Tertullian's saying that the human soul is naturally Christian.

A Catholic, therefore, is zealous to expiate and suffer for the "poor souls," especially by offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice, wherein Christ's infinite expiation on the Cross is sacramentally represented, and stimulating and joining itself with the expiatory works of the faithful, passes to the Church Suffering according to the measure determined by God's wisdom and mercy. So the saying of St. Paul that the members of the Body of Christ are mutually careful one for another is nowhere more comprehensively and luminously fulfilled than in the Church's suffrages for her dead children. When, in the Memento of the Mass, in the presence of the sacred Oblation and under the gaze so to speak of the Church Triumphant, she cries to heaven: "Be mindful also, O Lord, of thy servants and handmaids. All who have gone before us with the sign of faith and rest in the sleep of peace," then truly heaven and earth greet each other, the Church Triumphant, Suffering and Militant meet in a "holy kiss," and the "whole" Christ along with all His members celebrates a blessed love-feast (agape), a memorial of their communion in love and joy and pain.

## Veterans Day - November 11

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month of the year 1918, an armistice was signed, ending the "war to end all wars." The Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, thus marking the official end of World War I. Nonetheless, the armistice date of November 11, 1918, remained in the public imagination as the date that marked the end of the conflict. One year later, in November 1919, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The day's observation included parades and public gatherings, as well as a brief pause in business and school activities at 11 a.m. On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C., and an official wreath-laying ceremony is held each Veterans Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, while parades and other celebrations are held in states around the country. November 11 was set aside as Armistice Day in the United States to remember the sacrifices that men and women made during the war in order to ensure a lasting peace. In 1938, Congress voted Armistice Day as a legal holiday, but World War II began the following year, and Armistice Day was still observed after the end of the Second World War. In 1953 townspeople in Emporia, Kansas called the holiday Veterans Day in gratitude to the veterans in their town. In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans' service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word "Armistice" in favor of "Veterans." President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor all American veterans of all wars. Today, we remember those who have served our country in the armed forces in our prayers. You may bring photos of your loved one, especially those in uniform, to Mass here at St. Helena and place them in front of the altar. Red poppies became a symbol of World War I from their appearance in the beloved poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae, and they are often sold to raise money for veterans or worn in the lapel as a tribute. Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day—a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to the living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.



## DO THE SAINTS PRAY FOR US?

First, we may infer from the fact that the saints are in heaven that they would pray for us. Being in heaven means being united with God, who is love (1 John 4:8-9, 16). When united with God, we will be transformed to be like him (Rom. 8:29; 1 Cor. 15:49-52; 2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Pet. 1:4; 1 John 3:2), for "nothing unclean shall enter" the heavenly city (Rev. 21:27). Being thus transformed by the love of God, the saints are filled with love and so care about others. It is natural when you care about someone to pray to God for that person. We can thus infer that, just as God loves us and provides for us, the saints love and pray for those on earth. We also have direct evidence of their intercession in Scripture. Judah Maccabee had a vision of two men who had died. The first was the former high priest Onias, and in the vision, "With outstretched arms Onias was praying for the entire Jewish nation" (2 Macc. 15:12). When he saw the second man, Judah was told, "This is God's prophet Jeremiah, who loves the Jewish people and offers many prayers for us and for Jerusalem, the holy city" (2 Macc. 15:14). Although, Maccabees is not in the Protestant canon, but it is in the Catholic canon, so it is legitimate for Catholics to appeal to it to inform their faith. Even for Protestants, 2 Maccabees attests the pre-Christian Jewish belief in the intercession of the saints. The sacred book of Revelation, in the Protestant and Catholic canons, also shows the saints and angels interceding in heaven. In Revelation 5:8, we see the twenty-four elders, who appear to represent the leaders of the

people of God in heaven, offering incense to God, which we are told represents the prayers of the saints. In Revelation 8:3-4, we see an angel offer incense to God, incense mingled "with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar" in heaven. All the Guardian angels also intercede (Matt. 18:10).

### St. Engelbert - November 7

St. Engelbert of Cologne (1185-1225) is commemorated today. At a young age, he was appointed as provost over several churches and cathedrals. He had lived dissolutely in his youth, and he was excommunicated after he threatened to attack the Holy Roman Emperor Otto IV. He publicly submitted to the pope's authority and was received back into the Church. He worked hard in his diocese of Cologne, but many of the nobility hated and feared him. He was killed by henchmen while traveling and is considered a martyr as he died in the defense of religious sisters.

### Blessed John Duns Scotus - November 8

John Duns Scotus was probably born in the winter of 1266 in the South of Scotland. Around 1279, he was accepted into a Franciscan friary in South Scotland. After eight years of preliminary studies in philosophy, or rather in the arts, at Oxford, he started to study theology there in 1288. Having attained the age of 25, he was ordained a priest in Northampton on March 17, 1291. In the next academic year 1297-98, John Duns prepared his first theological course which would change his life. During the next year, he gave this course, on the *Sentences* of Peter Lombard, the most important textbook of systematic theology at the time. During these years (1297-99) Duns wrote *Lectura I-II*, his lecture notes on the two first books of the *Sentences*. Scotus' course based on these notes not only impressed his audience very much, but also the Franciscan leadership, and this established his name as an exceptionally penetrating and original thinker. In the summer of 1301, Scotus fulfilled all of the requirements for being a master (*magister*). However, he was sent to Paris by the Franciscan leadership in order to continue on a Parisian career, at the most prestigious university in Europe. After having again taught the *Sentences* for a year, he and some of his colleagues were banished in June 1303 from Paris because of a conflict between the French king Philip IV and Pope Boniface VIII. He returned to his *studium* at Oxford and probably spent the first half of 1304 in Cambridge. At the end of the summer of 1304, Scotus was already back in Paris where he became a professor of theology in 1306. Duns Scotus and his *socius* continued to work very hard on his *Ordinatio* together with a staff of assistants. The *Ordinatio* was meant to be the definitive edition of his Commentary on the *Sentences*. For this edition, he used his *Lectura I-III* and *Reportatio Parisiensis IV* and piles of other materials he had prepared in the meantime. In 1307, Duns leaves Paris again, but this time he left for Cologne in order to become the professor of theology at the Franciscan House of Studies (*Studium*). On November 8, 1308, he suddenly died in Cologne, leaving behind quite a number of his unfinished works, including his *Ordinatio*. Scotus also developed a complex argument for the existence of God, and he also argued for the Immaculate Conception of Mary. He was given the scholastic accolade of *Doctor Subtilis* ("the subtle doctor") for his penetrating and subtle manner of thought. He was beatified by Pope St. John Paul II in 1993.

### Dedication of the Lateran Basilica - November 9

Today the liturgy celebrates the dedication of the Lateran Basilica, called "mother and head of all the churches of the city and of the world." In fact, this basilica was the first to be built after Emperor Constantine's edict, in 313, granted Christians freedom to practice their religion. The emperor himself gave Pope Miltiades the ancient palace of the Laterani family, and the basilica, the baptistery, and the patriarchate, that is, the Bishop of Rome's residence — where the Popes lived until the Avignon period — were all built there. The basilica's dedication was celebrated by Pope Sylvester around 324 and was named Most Holy Savior; only after the 6th century were the names of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist added, and now is typically denominated by these latter.

Initially, the observance of this feast was confined to the city of Rome; then, beginning in 1565, it was extended to all the Churches of the Roman rite. The honoring of this sacred edifice was a way of expressing love and veneration for the Roman Church, which, as Saint Ignatius of Antioch says, "presides in charity" over the whole Catholic communion. On this solemnity, the Word of God recalls an essential truth: the temple of stones is a symbol of the living Church, the Christian community, which in their letters the Apostles Peter and Paul already understood as a "spiritual edifice,"

built by God with "living stones," namely, Christians themselves, upon the one foundation of Jesus Christ, who is also called the "cornerstone." "Brothers, you are God's building," St. Paul wrote and added: "holy is God's temple, which you are." The beauty and harmony of the churches, destined to give praise to God, also draws us human beings, limited and sinful, to convert to form a "cosmos," a well-ordered structure, in intimate communion with Jesus, who is the true Saint of saints. This happens in a culminating way in the Eucharistic liturgy, in which the "ecclesia," that is, all of the community of the baptized, come together in a unified way to listen to the Word of God and nourish themselves with the Body and Blood of Christ. From these two tables, the Church of living stones is built up in truth and charity and is internally formed by the Holy Spirit transforming herself into what she receives, in conforming herself more and more to the Lord Jesus Christ. She herself, if she lives in sincere and fraternal unity, in this way she becomes the spiritual sacrifice pleasing to God. Today's feast celebrates a mystery that is always relevant: God's desire to build a spiritual temple in the world, a community that worships him in spirit and truth. But this observance also reminds us of the very importance of the material buildings in which all the community gathers to celebrate the praises of God. Every holy community, therefore, has the duty to take special care of its own sacred buildings, which are precious religious and historical patrimony. For this, we call upon the intercession of Mary Most Holy, that she help us to become, like her, the "house of God," living temple of his love.

### St. Leo the Great - November 10

Leo I, Pope and Doctor of the Church, ruled from 440 to 461. He is one of three popes surnamed "the Great" and ranks among the most illustrious sovereigns that ever sat on the throne of St. Peter. Of his life, we know little; with him, the man seems to disappear before the Pope. He saw most clearly that one of his greatest tasks was to vindicate the primacy of the Roman bishop, Saint Peter's successor, and to raise the prestige of the Holy See before the entire world. Hardly any Pope in history has occupied a like position in the ecclesiastical and political world. As a writer, too, his name is famous. His sermons, which occur frequently in the Divine Office, belong to the finest and most profound in patristic literature. The Council of Chalcedon was held under his direction (451), and the Breviary tells us: Leo I, an Etruscan, ruled the Church at the time when Attila, King of the Huns, who was called the Scourge of God, invaded Italy. After a siege of three years, he took, sacked, and burned Aquileia, and then hurried on toward Rome. Inflamed with anger, his troops were already preparing to cross the Po, at the point where it is joined by the Mincio. Here Attila was stopped by Leo (452). With God-given eloquence, the Pope persuaded him to turn back, and when the Hun was asked by his servants why, contrary to custom, he had so meekly yielded to the entreaties of a Roman bishop, he answered that he had been alarmed by a figure dressed like a priest that stood at Leo's side; this individual was holding a drawn sword and acted as if he would kill him if he advanced farther. As a result, Attila the Hun retreated back to Pannonia. Meanwhile, Leo returned to Rome and was received with universal rejoicing. Sometime later, the Vandal Genseric entered the city, and again Leo, by the power of his eloquence and the authority of his holy life, persuaded him to desist from atrocity and slaughter (455). Leo was also active in matters liturgical. The so-called Leonine sacramentary, a compendium of Missal prayers, contains many of his compositions, and some liturgists give him credit for the beautiful offices of Advent.

### St. Martin of Tours - November 11

St. Martin was born (c. 316) at Sabaria, a town in Pannonia near the famous Benedictine monastery dedicated to his name. Against the wishes of his parents, he associated with Christians and became a catechumen at the age of ten. At fifteen he entered the army and served under the Emperors Constantius and Julian. While in the service, he met a poor, naked beggar at the gates of Amiens who asked for alms in Christ's Name. Martin had nothing with him except his weapons and soldier's mantle; but he took his sword, cut the latter in two, and in imitation of Zacchaeus gave half to the poor man. During the following night, Christ appeared to him clothed with half a mantle and said, "Martin, the catechumen, has clothed Me with this mantle!" Martin was eighteen years old when he received the sacrament of holy baptism. At the pleading of his superior officer, he remained two years longer in the army. Then, upon requesting dismissal, Julian accused him of cowardice. "With the sign of the Cross," Martin answered, "I shall more certainly



## NOVEMBER 6, 2022

break through the ranks of the enemy than if armed with shield and sword." When released he sought out St. Hilary, bishop of Poitiers, and was ordained. Later he was made the third bishop of Tours. Close to the city he built a monastery (Marmoutier), where with eighty monks he led a most holy life. One day, one of his numerous visits to the imperial court at Trier, a certain man besought him to help his daughter, "I firmly believe in the Lord that my daughter will be healed through your prayer." Martin healed the girl with consecrated oil. Tetradius, who witnessed this extraordinary manifestation of divine power, asked St. Martin for baptism. Martin also possessed the gift of discerning spirits. Once the devil appeared to him radiant and clothed in royal apparel, and spoke as if he were Christ. Martin, recognizing the deceit, replied, "The Lord Jesus Christ never prophesied that He would come in purple robes and with royal crown." The apparition immediately vanished. Three dead persons he raised to life. While celebrating holy Mass a luminous sphere appeared over his head. He was far advanced in age when he fell into a grievous fever during a visitation at Candes, an outlying parish of his diocese. Unceasingly he begged God to release him from this mortal prison. His disciples, however, implored him with tears, "Father, why are you leaving us? To whom will you entrust the care of your disconsolate children?" Deeply moved, Martin turned to God: "Lord, if I am still necessary for Your people, I will not refuse the labor. Your will be done!" When the bystanders saw that despite his great fever he remained lying on his back, they besought him to change position to alleviate somewhat the pain. But Martin answered, "Brothers, rather let me look toward heaven than to earth so that my soul in its journey home may take a direct flight to the Lord." Shortly before death, he saw the evil spirit. "What do you want, horrible beast? You will find nothing in me that's yours!" With those words, the aged saint breathed forth his soul on November 11, 397, at the age of eighty-one. St. Martin was the first non-martyr to be canonized as a saint.

### St. Mennas - November 11

Saint Mennas was a Christian soldier from Egypt who left the Roman army during the persecution of Diocletian and Maximian to go into the desert and do penance. On the Emperor's birthday, which the people celebrated with outdoor spectacles, he entered the theatre at Cotyaeum and openly mocked belief in pagan gods. He was seized and cruelly scourged by Pyrrhus, the official in charge. Tied to the rack, his whole body was burned with torches, brushed with thorns, and torn with leaden whips. He was finally beheaded and his body thrown into the fire. Christians took what remained and gave it an honorable burial. His grave, which was close to Alexandria, became such a famous place of pilgrimage that, as at Lourdes today, a whole town arose to accommodate the pilgrims. Many small phials or eulogia have been found there which show St. Mennas between two kneeling camels.

### St. Josaphat - November 12

Josaphat Kuncewicz was born about the year 1580 at Vladimir, Volhynia, [part of the Polish province of Lithuania at the time] and given the name John at baptism. While being instructed as a child on the sufferings of our Savior, his heart is said to have been wounded by an arrow from the sacred side of the Crucified. In 1604, he joined the Ukrainian Order of Saint Basil (Basilians), lived as a monk in a very mortified life, went barefoot even in winter, refrained from the use of wine and flesh meat, and always wore a penitential garb. In 1614, he was appointed archimandrite of Vilna, Russia, and four years later archbishop of Polotzk; in this position, he worked untiringly for Church reunion. He was a great friend of the poor and once even pledged his archiepiscopal omophorion (pallium) to support a poor widow. The foes of the reunion one day decided to assassinate him. In a sermon, he himself spoke of his death as imminent. When he visited Vitebsk (now in Russia), his enemies attacked his lodging and murdered a number of his companions. Meekly the man of God hastened toward the mob and, full of love, cried, "My children, what are you doing? If you have something against me, see, here I am." With furious cries of "Kill the papist!", they rushed upon him with gun and sword. Josaphat's body was thrown into the river but emerged, surrounded by rays of light, and was recovered. His murderers, when sentenced to death, repented of their crime and they became Catholics. In 1867, he became the first saint of the Eastern Church to be canonized by Rome.

**FR. ANDREW** will celebrate the **6:30PM** French Mass on **Sunday, November 6** in the church.

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY DATES** Observed since 2011, Advent Reconciliation Monday will be held on **December 19**. After the experimentation of two sessions last year, we now announce the times of **2:00 to 4:00 PM** and **6:00 to 8:00 PM** in the Archdiocese and the Diocese of Brooklyn.

**ALTAR SERVER GROUP**-If you are between the ages of 10 and 18 and are interested in serving at the Altar, we have good news. We are signing up all those interested in being part of the Parish Altar Servers. Our first meeting for parents and children will be **November 19th at 3:00PM** in the Rectory. For more info, please get in touch with Daniel Bahora at **929-360-7080**.

**FIRST COMMUNION SESSION** for the parents of all those children who plan to receive First Holy Communion in May 2023 will take place on **Sunday, November 6 at 11AM** in the School Cafeteria. All must attend.

**SPANISH FAMILY SESSION** for all the Spanish-speaking parents of children in our Religious Education program on **Sun., November 13 at 1PM** in the School Cafeteria. All must attend.

**SECOND COLLECTION Next Weekend, Nov. 12-13**, our parish will take a collection to benefit our own Elementary School, which is one of only 29 parish-based schools left in the Archdiocese. Catholic schools strive to put students firmly on the path to holiness that one day they may attain Heaven. Catholic schools introduce students to Jesus and invite them to form a relationship with Him so they may discern His call for their lives, strive for holiness, and attain Heaven. St. Helena teaches students by forming their whole being: body, mind, and soul so they may fulfill their God-given potential to become the people God is calling them to be and in so doing, they serve their neighbors, contribute to their communities, and find joy in their holy lives. Your generous contribution truly makes a big difference.

**IN TWO WEEKS, November 19-20**, our second collection will be for the Catholic Charities Campaign for Charity and Justice. Countless families in the Archdiocese live in poverty and are in crisis. Last year this collection helped parish and community-based efforts to help the poor all across the Archdiocese. By supporting this collection, you give people a helping hand. Learn more about the collection at [www.CatholicCharitiesNY.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesNY.org)

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

**THE RELIGIOUS ARTICLE SHOP** is open on every **Sunday** from **9AM** till **1PM**. Let us know what articles you may want.

**LEGION OF MARY** meets every **Sat at 1PM** 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, and today, we will study the Way of the Cross in great detail.

**ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP** now meets both in-person and virtually every **Saturday at 1:30PM** in the Green Building.

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET** is also prayed in English every **Saturday at 1:30PM** both live and 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 or a loved one are sick, and you would like the Holy Eucharist brought to your home by a parish Eucharistic Minister.

**CHILD BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES** in **English** meet every the 2nd and 4th **Thursday at 7PM**. **You must** telephone the rectory for an appointment and bring the necessary documents, which are a copy of the child's Birth Certificate and a copy of the Godparent's Confirmation Certificate. Come to or call the rectory for Spanish Baptism information and requirements.

**SCOUTING MEETINGS** for all youth ages 5 through 16 will take place every **Saturday** in the school cafeteria. Cub Scouts

will take place from **10AM-12PM**. Boys Scout Troop 65 and Girls Troop 650 will take place from **11:30AM-1PM**.

**LEGO DONATIONS NEEDED**-St. Helena Cub Scout Pack 65 is looking for new or used LEGO donations. The Pack uses the LEGOs for many activities, and the size of the Cub Packs has increased considerably over the past couple of years. Cash or LEGO donations can be dropped off at the rectory.

**CALASANZ YOUTH MOVEMENT** meets every **Friday** at **7PM**. Both the middle school and high school youth groups are open to any student living in the area.

**ST. HELENA FOOD PANTRY** is open every **Wednesday** at **12PM** at the Westchester Ave. entrance to the Parish Green Building. Food donations are needed and always most welcome.

**ORDER A FREE** Fatima Our Lady Star of the Sea rosary by calling **888-317-5571**. Promo code FF619b.

**DIAPERS NEEDED**-Many asylum seekers and other people who come to our outreach ministry seeking help have babies who are in need of diapers. Any cash or diaper donations can be brought to the rectory.

**WE WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALL THE COATS & WINTER CLOTHING** you have donated. At this time we have plenty of items for the Asylum Seekers. We will let you know when we will need additional items. Thank you.

**THE SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM** is now finished. Because of your prayers, we have 4 babies that have been born saved from abortion. All babies were born this year, 2 boys, 6 months and 9 months and 2 girls, 3 months and 6 months. We would like your help with new baby clothes donations for the babies that were born. Please bring your donations to the rectory.

**WE INVITE YOU TO OUR Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 11AM** Suicide Council meeting on **“What’s Driving Increasing Rates of Anxiety, Depression, and Suicidality and How to Effectively Prevent with Training and Crisis Intervention”** as we see increasing rates across the city and state. It really is a serious public health crisis that’s not being taken seriously enough nor being recognized as such. Sadly, only when high profile people complete suicide or someone is “accidentally” killed by train, falling off a bridge, or an “accidental overdose” that we often think of suicide. As we’re seeing more children between 4-10 yrs. old with depression and talking about wanting to die at the foundation and at the Suicide Institute, and it behooves us to keep raising the alarm about the severity of these unseen threats to our quality of life happening in plain sight and in silence in our city. We must put more focus, attention, and resources on suicide awareness and stop hiding it under mental health efforts. Suicide is a serious risk that needs to be the label and focus of community awareness and support to break stigmas, taboo, and myths and engage in nonjudgmental public conversations so people suffering with it can know and be comfortable speaking out and getting meaningful and effective help. We look forward to having you with us for this discussion and sharing knowledge and tools to meet the public health crisis. Please RSVP at <http://sisfi.eventbrite.com>

**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. Tuesday we honor Bl. John Duns Scotus. Study: *The Bible and the Virgin Mary, Lessons 3: Wedding at Cana; 4: The New Eve; or 9: Full of Grace*. Watch the movie, *Blessed Duns Scotus: Defender of the Immaculate Conception, Was the Immaculate Conception Necessary?*, or FORMED Now!- *What is the Immaculate Conception?*

**LIVEONNY** November has been designated as National Donor Sabbath by the organization *LiveOnNY*, the federally designated organ procurement organization for New York City, and it is

dedicated to elevating the power of faith-based communities to bring hope to those waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant. Here in New York, there are nearly 10,000 children and adults on the organ transplant waiting list. Being a registered organ donor gives us the opportunity to provide our vulnerable brothers and sisters with a second chance at life. Some of them are our own brothers in the priesthood. Thanks to *LiveOnNY*, the organization that oversees organ donation in the greater-New York area, for also reminding us about how precious life is and how we can help extend that preciousness to others.

**TRANSITIONAL DEACONS ORDAINED** Two students at St. Joseph’s Seminary were ordained to the transitional diaconate for the archdiocese on **November 5** by Bishop Robert Brennan. With the help of God, they are expected to be ordained to the priesthood at the end of May. They are the Reverend Messrs. Collins Ashu and Carlos Germosen, and may Christ the Good Shepherd continue to accompany, bless, guide, and shape their hearts after His Sacred Heart with great pastoral zeal in the holy service of the Church.

**PRAYING FOR THE ELECTION**-These mid-term elections are critical for the pro-life effort in this post-Dobbs world. **Your vote matters.** Here in New York, we will elect those who make decisions on critical issues such as **assisted suicide** and the future of many **pro-life pregnancy centers**. On behalf of the USCCB, Archbishop Lori's has **called out President Biden's** commitment to codify a national right to abortion after the election: **“The President is gravely wrong** to continue to seek every possible avenue to facilitate abortion, instead of using his power to increase support and care to mothers in challenging situations...” Please also **keep in prayer** important elections throughout the country. Several states have important abortion-related constitutional amendments on the ballot for Nov 8.

**THE SAINT CHALLENGE** is launching on All Saint's Day, **November 1st**. It is a year-long series of challenges based on the saint of the day. In 90 seconds, you'll learn a little fact about the saint of the day and be given a challenge inspired by that saint. It could be a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, or even something to improve your interior life and your relationship with God and neighbor. The Saint Challenge is free, and you can find more info at [www.thesaintchallenge.com](http://www.thesaintchallenge.com).

**SAVE THE DATE**-The Annual Retreat Day For Catholic Teachers and Staff Who Are Working in Public Schools - The Archdiocese of New York’s Department of Youth Faith Formation will sponsor the *Annual Retreat Day for Catholic Teachers and Staff Working in Public Schools*. This retreat will take place on **Saturday, January 28, 2023**, from **8:30AM to 1:30 PM** at St. Joseph Seminary, Yonkers, NY.

Active and or retired Catholic public school teachers and staff members are welcomed. This is an opportunity to deepen your appreciation of your ministry as a teacher or staff working in public schools, share with your colleagues and pray and reflect upon Jesus’ connection with each of us. Visit <https://bit.ly/CTPS2023> for more information.

**HEALING AFTER ABORTION**-Do you know someone who is carrying the grief of a past abortion? A “Day of Prayer and of Healing” offers the opportunity to experience the love and mercy of God. For dates, locations, and confidential registration, or just to talk to a Sister, please call the Sisters of Life at **866-575-0075** (toll free) or by email at [hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org](mailto:hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org).

**FREE IMMIGRATION LAWYER** every **Thursday** at City Council Member Amanda Farias' office, 778 Castle Hill Ave.

**SEEKING INDOOR SPACES FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS** for 24-96 hours at a time. If you have a liveable area, email Jason Santiago at [Jason.Santiago@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jason.Santiago@mail.house.gov) or call **917-620-3498**.

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN BEGINS**-A life-saving

prayer campaign will take place throughout the Archdiocese. The campaign consists of 40 days of prayer, fasting, peaceful vigils at abortion facilities, and an educational outreach, with the goal of protecting mothers and their babies from an abortion. For more information, contact Pearl at [40daysforlifebx@gmail.com](mailto:40daysforlifebx@gmail.com).

**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."

**IMMIGRATION ISSUES?** Catholic Charities has created a multi-service office to help all immigrants, especially those who have just arrived in the country. The services included in this office are: housing, medical services, and immigration lawyers. To receive assistance, you must first call **888-744-7900** and ask for Christina who will help you make an appointment. The place to go once you have made your appointment is the Red Cross Immigration Center, located at 520 West 49th Street, NY, 10019, where you will meet with immigration specialists.

**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)** meets 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**.

**SAINT FRANÇOIS, UN HOMME DE PAIX ET DE PAUVRETÉ**-"Quand j'ai choisi de m'appeler François, je savais que je faisais référence à un saint très populaire, mais aussi très incompris". Très souvent, les gens ne comprennent pas la "racine" et la "source" de tout ce que le saint a aimé et fait, à savoir Jésus-Christ, a déclaré le pape. Saint François "est celui qui est amoureux de Jésus-Christ et qui, pour le suivre, n'a pas peur de se ridiculiser mais va de l'avant. La source de toute son expérience est la foi".

Le Saint-Père a commenté les prochains événements commémorant le 800e anniversaire de la Règle de saint François et de Noël à Greccio (2023), des stigmates (2024), du "Cantique des Créatures" (2025) et de la "Pâque de François" (2026). Le pape François a déclaré que les gens d'aujourd'hui peuvent découvrir davantage sur saint François en "trouvant dans sa vie évangélique la manière de suivre les pas de Jésus. Concrètement, cela signifie écouter, marcher et proclamer aux périphéries." Saint François a écouté la voix de Jésus qui lui disait : "Va et répare ma maison", et le jeune François a répondu "promptement et généreusement" en "se mettant au service de l'église, en l'aimant et en travaillant pour que le visage du Christ s'y reflète de plus en plus", a déclaré le pape.

Saint François "ne s'est jamais arrêté, parcourant d'innombrables villes et villages d'Italie, ne manquant jamais d'être proche des gens", a-t-il ajouté. La communauté chrétienne d'aujourd'hui doit avoir la même capacité à "aller à la rencontre", plutôt que d'attendre dans les coulisses" et de "se replier sur elle-même." L'annonce de l'Évangile aux périphéries est une façon d'apporter la foi nécessaire pour "respirer" l'Esprit Saint dans "un monde fermé et individualiste", a déclaré le pape. "Avec ce souffle supplémentaire, les grands défis actuels, comme la paix, le soin de la maison commune et un nouveau modèle de développement, pourront être relevés sans plier sous des faits qui semblent insurmontables", a-t-il dit. Le pape a dit espérer que le "parcours spirituel et culturel" de ces événements centenaires puisse être combiné avec l'Année sainte 2025 "dans la conviction que saint

François d'Assise pousse encore l'Église à vivre sa fidélité au Christ et sa mission aujourd'hui."

**SEGUNDA COLECTA El próximo fin de semana, 12 y 13 de noviembre**, nuestra parroquia hará una colecta a beneficio de nuestra propia Escuela Primaria, que es una de las únicas 29 escuelas parroquiales que quedan en la Arquidiócesis. Las escuelas católicas se esfuerzan por poner a los estudiantes firmemente en el camino de la santidad para que un día puedan alcanzar el Cielo. Las escuelas católicas presentan a los estudiantes a Jesús y los invitan a formar una relación con Él para que puedan discernir Su llamado para sus vidas, luchar por la santidad y alcanzar el Cielo. Santa Elena enseña a los estudiantes formando todo su ser: cuerpo, mente y alma para que puedan cumplir con su potencial dado por Dios para convertirse en las personas que Dios les llama a ser y al hacerlo, servir a sus vecinos, contribuir a sus comunidades, y encontrar la alegría en sus vidas. Tu generosa contribución realmente marca una gran diferencia.

**SESIÓN FAMILIAR EN ESPAÑOL** para los padres de habla hispana de los niños en nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa el **domingo 13 de noviembre** a la **1PM** en la cafetería de la escuela. Todos debe. Todos deben asistir.

**GRUPO DE SERVIDORES DEL ALTAR**-Si tienes entre 10 a 18 años y estás interesado en Servir en el Altar tenemos buenas noticias. Estamos anotando a todos aquellos interesados en ser parte de los Servidores del Altar de la Parroquia. Nuestra primera reunión para padres y niños será el **19 de noviembre** a las **3:00PM** en la Rectoría. Para más información por favor comuníquense con Daniel Bahora al **929-360-7080**.

**NUESTRO NUEVO MINISTERIO DE ALCANCE**, Helena Helps, está abierto en el Edificio Verde en las siguientes horas: Lunes de 3 a 4 de la tarde, martes de 2 a 4 de la tarde, viernes de 1 a 4 de la tarde, cada segundo y cuarto sábado de 1 a 4 de la tarde, y domingo de 1 a 4 de la tarde.

**ABOGADO DE INMIGRACIÓN GRATIS** todos los **jueves** en la oficina de Amanda Farias, 778 Castle Hill Ave.

**EL MOVIMIENTO JUVENIL CALASANZ** se reúne todos los **viernes** a las **7PM**. Estudiantes de escuela intermedia y superior están invitados a participar. El Movimiento Calasanz tiene como misión capacitar a los jóvenes para que vivan como discípulos de Cristo a través de una serie organizada de juegos, música, retiros, manualidades, deportes y actividades religiosas. Todavía estamos aceptando nuevos miembros, así que acércate a la rectoría todos los viernes y descubre de qué se trata este singular Movimiento Juvenil Calasanz.

**¿PROBLEMAS DE INMIGRACIÓN?** Caridades Católicas ha creado una oficina de servicios múltiples para ayudar a todos los inmigrantes, especialmente aquellos que acaban de llegar al país. Los servicios que incluye esta oficina son: vivienda, servicios médicos y abogados de inmigración. Para recibir ayuda debe primero llamar y preguntar por Christina al **888-744-7900** quien le ayudará a concretar una cita. El lugar donde debe acudir una vez tenga su cita es el Centro de Inmigración de la Cruz Roja, localizado en el 520 West 49th Street, NY, NY 10019, donde se reunirá con los especialistas en inmigración

**“LA ARQUIDIOCESIS 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.”

**QUERIDOS HERMANOS Y HERMANAS** en este Domingo Trigésimo Segundo del Tiempo Ordinario y primer domingo del mes de noviembre donde en estas tierras celebramos el Día de Acción de Gracias, quiero de manera especial a través de estas

reflexiones dominicales introducirle a una nueva celebración muy querida para los **Padres Escolapios**; y es el Patrocinio de nuestro *Santo Fundador José de Calasanz*.

Durante este mes de noviembre, los Padres Escolapios, los cuales se dedican a la educación de niños y jóvenes, recuerdan en todas sus obras alrededor del mundo; la labor educativa y religiosa de Calasanz. Es por tal motivo que a través de estas reflexiones iré presentándoles a Calasanz, su pensamiento y sabiduría, para que de esa manera podamos juntos celebrar su Santidad y legado para el mundo de hoy. A demás intentaré introducirles durante este mes a otros santos Escolapios que son ejemplo visible de que es posible seguir a Jesús y alcanzar la Santidad. Ya que la Santidad, que celebramos el pasado 1ro de noviembre, es algo alcanzable, si nosotros la deseamos y buscamos.

**¿Quién fue Calasanz?** Muy buena pregunta, a la cual les invitaré a que busquen y se enteren de la vida de este gran Santo, el cual les puede ayudar con la crianza y educación de sus hijos. Les invito a que en familia pidan su intercesión para que él les ayude especialmente a sus hijos a adquirir la sabiduría que proviene de las ciencias y la fe.

Calasanz nació en España en el 1557 y murió en Roma un 25 de agosto de 1648, día en que conmemoramos su memoria. Como todos tuvo un momento de conversión que lo llevo a darse cuenta de que Dios lo llamaba a Educar a aquellos menos privilegiados de la sociedad y a eso dedico su vida y misión. Una vez aceptada la llamada, se puso en marcha y se dejó llevar por el Señor para educar en la Piedad y las Letras a todos los que no podían acceder a una educación digna.

En una de sus cartas les decía a sus religiosos: "*La meta del religioso, tras la gloria de Dios, es su propia salvación. El objetivo secundario es la salvación de su prójimo. (31-7-1643)*" Queridos Hermanos, esto no es solo para los religiosos; sino que nos aplica a cada uno de nosotros. Calasanz tiene razón nuestra meta principal es alcanzar nuestra salvación, pero al mismo tiempo estamos llamados a ayudar a otros a alcanzarla también. En todos los ámbitos de nuestra vida y es esto lo que Calasanz quiso para esos niños y jóvenes los cuales educaba que entendieran que Dios los ama y que es posible vivir una vida de santidad en cada momento de su día a día.

Me da mucha alegría el que podamos este mes ir conociendo más la persona de Calasanz y su obra. Espero que, al finalizar este hermoso mes, todos tengamos más sed de conocer su persona y obra y que juntos podamos seguir descubriendo su carisma y misión para la Iglesia.

Les comparto una oración en su honor:

*San José de Calasanz, mi Maestro Luz y Guía, mírame desde la Gloria, Bendiceme en este día y alcánzame de Dios Padre Inteligencia y Piedad y un corazón bien dispuesto para hacer su voluntad. San José de Calasanz, ruega por nosotros.*

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

### WEEKLY COLLECTION: October 30 —\$4,175.18

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**.

**JUST ONE MORE THING** Early one morning, a mother went in to wake up her son. "Wake up, son. It's time to go to school." From under the covers, he replied, "But why, mom? I don't want to go." His mother replies, "Give me two reasons why you don't want to go." He explained, "Well, the kids hate me for one, and the teachers hate me, too." "Oh, that's no reason not to go to school. Come on now and get ready" the mom said. Her son asked, "Give me two reasons why I should go to school?" Finally, she said, "Well, for one, you're 52 years old. And for another, you're the principal!"

# MASS INTENTIONS

## November 6 – Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted a Parishioner;  
*All Soul's Novena*

**10:00 S** Deceased Members of the Retutas & Corciega Families

**12:00 (Sp)** Por la intercesión de Padre Pio por la salud de Ramon Eladio Rodriguez y su Familia and Por el descanso eterno de Juana Ramona Rodriguez y por las almas del purgatorio; +Francisco and Angel Flores; +Rosa Aguilar; +Felicitia, Nancy and Pedro Morales; +Luis Angel Acosta; En Accion de Gracias a la Virgen de Carmen y a la Divina Misericordia

**5:00** +Antonia and Gaetano Bizzoco

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

## November 7 – Monday — St. Engelbert

**6:30\*** A Sister's Intentions for Brenda and Scott Van de Weghe;  
*All Soul's Novena*

**8:30S** Deceased Members of the Bizzoco, D'Aiello & Spano Families

**12:15** +Eduardo Bruno; *Ofelia Dommer-Intentions*

**7:00(Sp)** +Maria Valladores; +Rosa Aguilar

## November 8 – Tuesday — Blessed John Duns Scotus

**6:30\*** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to the Van de Weghes  
*All Soul's Novena*

**8:30 S** Living and Deceased Members of the Bizzoco and Mondelli Families

**12:15** For All Souls

**7:00** +Severiano Peña; +Rosa Aguilar

## November 9 – Wed. — Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

**6:30** For Alessandra Savino: That She be Granted Joy and Happiness in a Close and Loving Relationship with her Paternal Grandmother; *All Soul's Novena*

**8:30 S** +Antonia and Gaetano Bizzoco

**12:15** +Antonia and Gaetano Bizzoco

**7:00(Sp)** +Rosa Aguilar; +Michael Guevara, Luz Estela, Roberto Guevara, Lutmer Portilla and Juan Portilla

## November 10 – Thursday — St. Leo the Great

**6:30** In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to A. Savino;  
*All Soul's Novena*

**8:30** +David Sheehan

**12:15** +Indiana Franco

**7:00 (Sp)** +Rosa Aguilar

## November 11 – Friday — Sts. Martin of Tours and Mennas

**6:30** Pauline Atsu for God's Blessings

**8:30 S** +Andres Davila

**12:15** +Louis Fernando Javier

**7:00 (Sp)** +Rosa Aguilar

## November 12 – Saturday — St. Josaphat

**6:30** God's Justice Granted to a Parishioner Who Has Been Denied Certain Rights

**8:30 S** +Katherine Callaghan

**12:15** +Altagracia, Carmen, Manuel and Jose Capellan

**5:30** +Mary Hapatzy

## November 13 – Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**8:00** Xavier Francis, Meera Job, Staven & Jair Joseph in Thanks

**10:00 S** +Jennie Nevarez; +Carlos Hatch

**12:00 (Sp)** En Onor a Sant Martin Obispo de Tours; Myte Lucia Pacheco-Healing Intention; +Carlos Hatch; +Ramon Antonio Gil, Elvin Vargas, Roberto Sastre and Accion de Gracias Familia Peña +Walter Nelson

**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 November 6, 2022

**Sunday:** 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15 [15b]/2 Thes 2:16—3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38; **Monday:** Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 17:1-6; **Tuesday:** Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10; **Wednesday:** Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22; **Thursday:** Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Lk 17:20-25; **Friday:** 2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37; **Saturday:** 3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8; **Next Sunday:** Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-1