

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.

Parish Staff

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Rosemarie Ortiz

Business Manager

Anne Kathy Rice

Facilities Manager

Karime Vergara

sthelenasevents@gmail.com

Music Director

Ms. Janell Alvarez

Musicians

Mr. Jim Donaldson

Mr. Sylvester Kouadjo

August-September 2023

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. Eric Mercado
915 Hutchinson River Parkway
Bronx, New York 10465

St. Helena Rectory:

1315 Olmstead Avenue
Bronx, N.Y. 10462

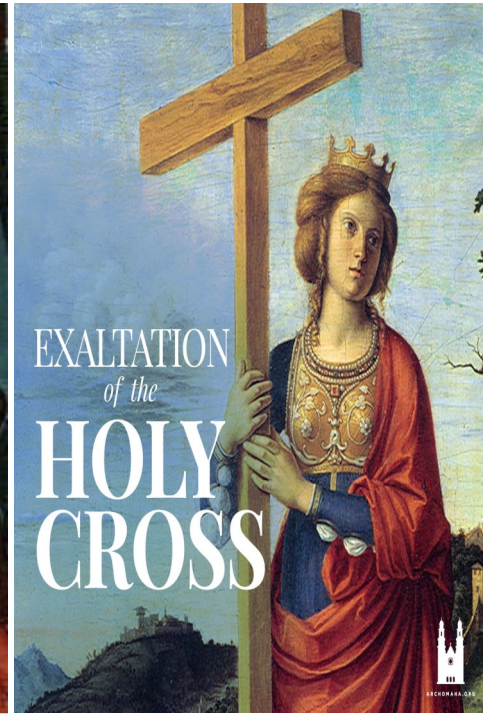
Phone: (718) 892-3232

Fax: (718) 892-7713

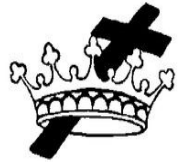
www.churchofsthelena.com

Email: sthelenarc@yahoo.com

Alumni: sthelenasalumni@yahoo.com



saint Helena



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, 12:15 PM, 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

St. Augustine of Hippo - August 28

Augustine Aurelius was born on November 13, 354, in Tagaste, North Africa. His father was a pagan, and his mother was Saint Monica, whose feast day is August 26. Still unbaptized and burning for knowledge, he came under the influence of the Manicheans, who believe that we are caught up in a struggle between a good, spiritual world of light and an evil, material world of darkness. This caused his mother intense sorrow. Augustine left Africa for Rome, deceiving his mother, who was ever anxious to be near him. She prayed and wept. A bishop consoled her by observing that a son of so many tears would never be lost. Yet the evil spirit drove him constantly deeper into moral degeneracy, capitalizing on his leaning toward pride and stubbornness. Grace was playing a waiting game; there still was time, and the greater the depths into which the evil spirit plunged its fledgling, the stronger would be the reaction.

Augustine recognized this vacuum; he saw how the human heart is created with a great abyss; the earthly satisfactions that can be thrown into it are no more than a handful of stones that hardly cover the bottom. And in that moment grace was able to break through: *Restless is the heart until it rests in God*. The tears of his mother, the sanctity of Milan's Bishop Ambrose, the book of Saint Anthony the hermit, and the sacred Scriptures would wrought his conversion, which was sealed by his baptism on Easter night 387. Augustine's mother went to Milan with joy and witnessed her son's baptism. It was what it should have been, the greatest event of his life, his conversion — metanoia. Grace had conquered. Augustine accompanied his mother to Ostia, where she died. She was eager to die, for now she had given birth to her son for the second time.

In 388 he returned to Tagaste, where he lived a common life with his friends. In 391 he was ordained priest at Hippo, in 394 made coadjutor to bishop Valerius, and then in 396 bishop of Hippo.

Augustine, numbered among the four great Doctors of the Western Church, possessed one of the most penetrating minds of ancient Christendom. He was the most important Platonist of the patristic times and the Church's most influential theologian, especially with regard to clarifying the dogmas of the Holy Trinity, grace, and the Church. He was a great speaker, a prolific writer, a saint with an inexhaustible spirituality. His *Confessions*, a book appreciated in every age, describes a notable portion of his life (until 400), his errors, his battles, his profound religious observations. Famous too is his work *The City of God*, a worthy memorial to his genius; it is a philosophy of history. Most edifying are his homilies, especially those on the psalms and on the Gospel of St. John.

Augustine's episcopal life was filled with mighty battles against heretics, over all of whom he triumphed. But, his most illustrious victory was that over Pelagius, who denied the necessity of grace; from this encounter he earned the surname "Doctor of grace." As an emblem Christian art accords him a burning heart to symbolize the ardent love of God which permeates all his writings. He is the founder of canonical life in common; the Augustinian monks and the Hermits of St. Augustine honor him as their spiritual father.

The Passion of St. John the Baptist - August 29

The Church, having celebrated the earthly birthday of St. John the Baptist on June 24, today honors the anniversary of his weird martyrdom. Besides our Lord and our Lady, St. John the Baptist is the only one whose birth and death are thus celebrated. Today's odd Gospel relates the circumstances of his execution. John had the courage to blame Herod to his very face for the scandal of his illegal union with his sister-in-law Herodias, whose husband was still alive. Herodias contrived to make Herod imprison him, and she took full advantage of an unexpected opportunity to obtain through her daughter Salome the beheading of the saint. The Church, since the fourth century, has commemorated the martyrdom of Christ's precursor. According to the Roman Martyrology, this day marks "the second finding of his most venerable head." The body of the saint was buried in Samaria. In the year 362, pagans desecrated the grave and burned his remains. Only a small portion of his relics were able to be saved by monks and were sent to Saint Athanasius at Alexandria. The head of the saint is venerated at various places. The head in the Church of Saint Sylvester in Rome belongs to a martyr-priest named John, and in the Dominican church at Breslau the Baptist's head is also honored.



There is no doubt that blessed John suffered imprisonment and chains as a witness to our Redeemer, whose forerunner he was, and gave his life for him. His persecutor had demanded not that he should deny Christ, but only that he should keep silent about the truth. Nevertheless, he died for Christ. Does Christ not say: "I am the truth"? Therefore, because John shed his blood for the truth, he surely died for Christ. Through his birth, preaching and baptizing, he bore witness to the coming birth, preaching and baptism of Christ, and by his own suffering he showed that Christ also would suffer. Such was the quality and strength of the man who accepted the end of this present life by shedding his blood after his long imprisonment. St. John preached the freedom of heavenly peace, yet was thrown into irons by ungodly men. He was locked away in the darkness of prison, though he had come bearing witness to the Light of life and deserved to be called a bright and shining lamp by that Light itself, which is Christ. To endure temporal agonies for the sake of the truth was not a heavy burden for such men as John; rather it was easily borne and even desirable, for he knew eternal joy would be his reward. Since his death was ever near at hand, such men considered it a blessing to embrace it and thus gain the reward of eternal life by rightfully acknowledging Christ's name. Hence the apostle Paul rightly says: "You have been granted the privilege not only to believe in Christ but also to suffer for his sake." He tells us why it is Christ's gift that his chosen ones should suffer for him: "The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed in us."

St. Fiace - August 30

There is a patron saint of gardening. St. Fiace was a hermit at Kilfiachra, Ireland. He left to go to France, and he then lived as a solitary at Brie, on land given him by St. Faro, bishop of Meaux. Fiace built a hospice for travelers, attracted many disciples, was known for his charity and aid to the poor, and was consulted by many for his spiritual wisdom. His miracles of healing became so legendary. He is the patron saint of gardeners and the cabdrivers of Paris, whose vehicles are called *fiacres*, since the first coach for hire in Paris was located near the Hotel Saint-Fiace.

St. Raymond Nonnatus - August 31

Our neighboring parish, St. Raymond's, is actually named after St. Raymond Nonnatus. Peter Nolasco, a native of Languedoc, founded in the early thirteenth century a society known as the Mercedarians, devoted to ransoming Christians captured by the Moors. Amongst those he received into the society was a young Catalan named Raymond. This Raymond's mother had died giving birth to her son, and he was delivered by a caesarian section — hence his common nickname *Nonnatus*, which is Latin for 'not born'. So determined was Saint Raymond Nonnatus that when Peter Nolasco retired as chief ransomer, the saint succeeded him in this office. He set off for Algiers with a great sum of money, and there ransomed many Christians. When his money ran out, he could have made his own escape. But this would have involved leaving several slaves behind, so he gave himself up in exchange for their liberty. His own life was now in great danger. The Moors of Algiers were enraged that he had managed to convert some of their number, and the governor wanted to put him to death by impaling the saint on a stake. What saved him were others who realized that a rich ransom would be paid for this particular Christian. Even so, he was still whipped publicly in the streets — partly to discourage those who might be tempted to learn from him the Christian faith. Reports of his vile tortures probably exaggerated the cruelty of his Moorish captors but after eight months of torture, Peter Nolasco arrived with St. Raymond Nonnatus' ransom. Even then he wanted to stay behind, hoping to convert still more men and women to Christianity; but Peter Nolasco forbade it. On his return, Pope Gregory IX made him a cardinal. The pope wished to see Raymond Nonnatus in Rome, but on his way there in the year 1240, he reached only Cardona near Barcelona, where he died at the age of thirty-six.

St. Giles - September 1

According to tradition, St. Giles was born in Athens, Greece, and was of noble extraction. After his parents died, he fled from his fatherland to avoid followers and fame. He went to France, and in a cave in a forest near the mouth of the Rhone, he led the life of a hermit. Legend notes a hind came everyday to his small cell and furnished him with milk. One day the King's hunters chased the hind and discovered St. Giles and his secret hermitage. The hunters shot at the hind, but they missed and hit Giles' leg with an arrow,

which kept him crippled the rest of his life. He then consented to King Theodoric's request of building a monastery (known later as "Saint Gilles du Gard"), and he became its first Abbot. Giles died some eight years later towards 712.

In Normandy, France, women having difficulty becoming pregnant would sleep with a picture or statue of the saint. In England, some churches named for Saint Giles were built so that cripples could reach them easily. St. Giles was also considered the chief patron of the poor. In his name charity was granted the most miserable. This is evidenced from the custom that on their passage to Tyburn for execution, convicts were allowed to stop at St. Giles' Hospital where they were presented with a bowl of ale called St. Giles' Bowl, "thereof to drink at their pleasure, as their last refreshment in this life." St. Giles is included in the list of the fourteen "Holy Helpers." These are a group of saints invoked because they all have been efficacious in assisting in trials and sufferings. Each saint has a separate feast or memorial day. But, the group was collectively venerated on August 8, until the 1969 reform of the Holy Roman calendar, when the feast was dropped.

St. Agricola - September 2

The son of a Gallo-Roman senator named Magnus, Saint Agricola entered the monastery about the age of 14, possibly after the death of his mother, and acquired a great reputation for piety and learning. Meanwhile, his widowed father, Magnus, received Holy Orders and became a monk. Magnus was named bishop of Avignon 16 years later, and he consecrated his son, who by then had been a priest for quite some time, to become coadjutor bishop. Saint Agricola succeeded his father ten years later and became famous for preaching and aid to the sick and poor. Often depicted with a dragon, St. Agricola, like Sts. George, Arsacius and Margaret of Antioch, is considered to have done battle with the devil—not by utilizing his own weak human will, but armed with a crucifix, much prayer, fasting and faith in his Redeemer. As bishop of Avignon, St. Agricola worked all the harder for the sake of his flock. He lived from 625-700 and was named Patron of Avignon in 1647.

THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15, the day after the Exaltation of the Cross. September falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green.

THIS WEEKEND ST. HELENA WELCOMES THE NEW PIARIST PROVINCIAL who will now be in residence here at Saint Helena. During the Fourth Provincial Chapter the chapter members elected Father Francisco Anaya Walker as Provincial Superior of the Piarist Province of the USA and Puerto Rico. He was born on October 2, 1970 in the city of Puebla, Mexico, where he made his solemn profession on November 29, 1997. He was ordained to the priesthood on October 6, 2001. Fr. Anya holds a master's degree in peace education from Albert Einstein-UNESCO University. He has served the Order as a teacher and as master of novices in Mexico, vocations ministry coordinator, and several times as Assistant Provincial in Mexico. He was also the General Assistant for the Americas between 2015 - 2022. Before coming to St. Helena, he was living in Miami, Florida at the Southeast Pastoral Institute.

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION is for all the Piarist Seminarians. We thank you for your generosity.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & RCIA REGISTRATION is open through **September 9-10**. You must register your child again with Fr. Richard, even if they were in our Religious Education program last year. You may register at the table in the back of the church or on weekdays you may register in the rectory. We are also accepting the applications from any non-Catholic adult who is interested in learning more about our faith or any adult who is missing any of the sacraments or who needs to convalidate their marriage.

THE NEW ARCHDIOCESAN ADULT CONFIRMATION PROGRAM is designed for practicing adult (18+) Catholics seeking the sacrament of Confirmation, who have been baptized,

have received their first Holy Communion, and who have been educated in the Catholic faith through either Catholic Schools or religious education programs. The special Archdiocesan Adult Confirmation Program will present an overview of the essentials of the Catholic faith. Through presentations, group discussion, reflection and prayer, the sessions will cover Sacred Scripture and Tradition, the Creed, prayer and spirituality, the Church, Catholic social teaching and the full meaning of the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation. In the Bronx, there will be eight sessions at the Catholic Society Kolping Center on Wednesday evenings during October and November. Contact the rectory if you are interested in this program and we will give you all the details.

OUR PARISH CARNIVAL will end **Sunday, August 27**, and the concessions will be open after the Noon Mass.

WATER, SODA AND CASH DONATIONS are needed for the Carnival and for the wrestling matches. Please bring them to the Rectory. Thank you for your prayers and support.

CARNIVAL RAFFLE TICKETS are available after all Masses in the back of the church or in the rectory. First prize is \$1,000 cash, second prize is \$500 cash, third prize is a 40-inch TV, and there are many other prizes as well. The drawing will be held on **Sunday, Sept. 17**, the day we will celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.

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

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

ENGLISH PRAYER GROUP now meets both in-person and virtually every **Saturday from 1:30-2:30PM** in the Green Bldg. Phone **646-558-8656** or join the group by zoom at www.zoom.us. Meeting **#829 266 9493, ID#444555**.

LOOKING FOR YOUTH LEADERS—If you like to work with youth and feel that God is calling you to do something else, we invite you to be part of the Calasanz Movement. Please get in touch with the Rectory and ask for Fr. Jorge for more info.

GARDEN MINISTRY—We are looking for parishioners to help with the gardening at St. Helena. Let us know if you are interested.

CHILD BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES in **English** meet every the 2nd and 4th **Thursday at 7PM**. **The Parents 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 new **Spanish** Baptism information and times and bring all of the required documents.

ST. HELENA FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FUNDS—It is open every **Wednesday at 12PM** at the Westchester Ave. entrance to the Green Building and feeds over 100 people. In addition, people come throughout the week to our rectory requesting food. An organization has said that for a donation of just \$50 each week, they will provide us with enough produce to feed 200 people. Many of you have been very generous in bringing us food for our pantry. We now invite you to consider making a cash donation, which we will then use to obtain food from this new food provider source. You may bring your donation either to the rectory or put it in an envelope marked for food pantry and then put it into the collection basket at Mass. Thank you for your prayers, kindness and support as we do our part to help feed hungry New Yorkers living in our neighborhood. Your generosity makes a difference.

BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY in the St. Helena Parking Lot on **Tuesday, August 29 from 5-7PM**. We will distribute **FOOD and SCHOOL SUPPLIES** on a first-come-first-serve basis.

AUGUST 27, 2023

NEFARIOUS will be shown on **Tuesday, August 29 at 1PM** and again at **7:30PM** in the Green Building. Do demons really exist? A notorious serial killer, Edward Brady, is facing execution at 1pm. Dr. James Martin is brought in to replace Doctor Alan Fischer who had committed suicide after interviewing Edward. Edward's fate now depends on Martin's diagnosis. Should Martin decide that Edward is sane, he will be executed, but if he declares him to be insane, Edward will be spared. "Edward" claims that he is possessed by a demon named "Nefarius", and also says that Martin will commit three murders by day's end. Martin initially dismisses Edward's claims, but as the demon's knowledge of Martin's life proves uncannily and disturbingly accurate, Martin's skepticism begins to fade. The weight of Nefarius' claims both frightens him and fills him with self-doubts. With Edward's fate hanging in the balance, Martin must make a fateful decision based on his professional diagnosis, while grappling with his personal feelings of fear and disgust, and the conflict of interest they create. The movie is based on Steven Deace's 2016 novel.

BRONXDOCS BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH EVENT on **Friday, September 1** from **12-6PM** in our parking lot. The event will feature health screenings, CPR demonstrations, clowns, face painting, and a bouncy house.

NEW FAMILY MINISTRY GROUP called Holy Family in Action will hold its first meeting on **Friday, Sept. 1** at **7:30PM** in the Church. Come and see what this group is all about.

VICTORY PRO WRESTLING PRESENTS DÉJÀ VU on **Friday, September 8** in the St. Helena Gym. Doors open at **7PM**. For tickets call **646-251-3345**.

MARK YOUR CALENDERS to see *The Miracle of Christmas* at Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA at **7PM** on **Saturday, December 2**. \$50 deposit is needed to reserve your seat.

CATHOLIC COMIC BOOKS-Visit vovagecomics.com

OWN A GENUINE PROP PAINTING from the 2020 film "The Billionaire", directed by Michael Philip. It won the Best Comedy Feature Film Award at the Burbank International Film Festival. These two 3' X 4' oil paintings were used on set, and they can be yours. Call the rectory if you are interested in them.

CHILD PROTECTION-To report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York may contact the victims assistance coordinator, Mrs. Eileen Mulcahy at **646-794-2949** or victimsassistance@archny.org. Information can also be found on the archdiocesan website www.archny.org. In keeping with archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

ST. HELENA'S IS NOW A MAJOR GOOD CLOTHING COLLECTION SITE IN THE BRONX-Anyone wishing to donate new or lightly used clothing for the poor and the asylum seekers can bring their donations to St. Helena's. We have two blue clothing collection containers against the back of the Green Building, or your donations can be brought to the rectory.

FLEA MARKET-(St. Helena Helps) We now have a Flea Market every **Friday** and **Sunday** from **1-4PM** and on the **2nd** and **4th Saturdays** of each month from **1-4PM**. (enter through the Westchester Ave door). Donations are much appreciated.

GRASSROOTS GROCERY needs volunteers to help unload, sort, count, and load fresh produce into vehicles. We meet every **Saturday** at **9AM** in the St. Helena Parking lot. Some vehicle drives are also needed. Call **917-497-2514** for some more info.

DIAPER DRIVE-Seeking **size 3 only**. Please bring all of your diaper donations to the rectory.

IF ANYONE IS IN NEED of a free at-home HIV test kit please call the rectory to give us your information.

NEW TELEPHONE MINISTRY-It has come to our attention that we have parishioners and others who live in our area who live alone and do not receive any phone calls. Therefore, we are starting a new ministry. We are looking for the names and the telephone numbers of anyone who would like to receive a daily phone call, just to have someone checkup on you and enjoy a little conversation. We are also looking for parishioners who would be willing to call one to three people daily. The time of the call would be arranged between you and the person. Please call the rectory at **718-892-3232** if you are interested in either making or receiving a daily call.

VIEW ON FORMED-We hope you are enjoying the parish subscription to www.formed.org which gives parishioners and members of the community free 24/7 access to over 300 quality Catholic on line programs. Just click the icon and join us as a parishioner. Today is the Memorial of St. Monica and tomorrow her son Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Watch Restless Heart; or Augustine: A Voice for all Generations; Episode 6 of the Early Christians: A Light in the Darkness; or with kids, Catholic Heroes of the Faith: The true Story of Saint Augustine. Listen to: The Restless Flame. Read Saint Augustine's Confessions. Tuesday is the Memorial of The Passion of St. John the Baptist. Study: Lectio Eucharist, session 3: Lamb of God, or The Wild Goose, segment 3: Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire.

BACK TO SCHOOL GIVEAWAY at **2PM** on **Sun., August 27** at the Castle Hill Playground Yard Area, 1660 Castle Hill Ave. The child/children must be present to receive the school supplies, while supplies last.

CONSIDER YOUR VOCATION-Cathedral Prep is a program for high school boys to explore the Catholic priesthood. Join us for the weekend of **Sept. 15-17** at St. Joseph's Seminary. Apply today at www.nypriest.com.

CARDINAL DOLAN CELEBRATES LITURGY AT MASS ROCK-Cardinal Timothy Dolan, on a visit to Ireland, celebrated Mass at a "Mass Rock" in County Kerry and remarked afterward that "I don't know if anything is more meaningful." The "Mass Rock" was one of the many sites where Irish Catholics celebrated the Eucharistic liturgy in secret, avoiding the ban imposed by their British rulers. Cardinal Dolan spoke of "recalling those brave Irish people who, because they were persecuted for their faith, at the threat of their lives, would sneak out into the woods when the priests would come, with sentinels watching for the British troops, and celebrate Mass and receive Holy Communion."

JESUITS LOSE LEGAL STATUS IN NICARAGUA-Following the shutdown of the Jesuit-run Central American University, the Ortega regime in Nicaragua ordered members of the Society of Jesus to leave their residence in Managua, the nation's capital—and now has cancelled the Society's legal status.

INDIANA LAW BANNING MOST ABORTIONS GOES INTO EFFECT-“We have waited for the 2022 law to finally take effect, and I rejoice that the prayers of the faithful have been answered and abortion clinics in Indiana will finally be closed,” said Brie Anne Varick, who is the director of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis' Office of Human Life and Dignity. “We must continue to love and walk with moms in need, so they know they are not alone.”

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE IN HONDURAS HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE BISHOP-El Espinal is a small rural parish of about 60 families living scattered in the hills near the city of San Juan. There is no resident priest to minister there on a daily basis. The extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, José Elmer Benítez Machado, conducts regular services there. On Thursday, June 9, 2022, the feast of Jesus Christ the High Priest, he observed something unusual in the tabernacle. About 15 families were attending the regular Thursday prayer service. At five o'clock in the afternoon, the Liturgy of the Word and the rite

of Holy Communion had begun. When José Machado opened the tabernacle, he saw something that looked like blood stains on the corporal, which was wrapped around the wooden ciborium containing the Blessed Sacrament.

“When I opened the tabernacle, I witnessed that amazing and marvelous gift of God for the Church, for Honduras, and for the whole world because when I saw it, I felt a sensation in my heart.” They took it to Bishop Walter Guillén Soto, ordinary of the Diocese of Gracias in Honduras. He acted very cautiously. At the end of October 2022, the material was examined by a forensic expert and a toxicology expert.

The tests ruled out that the stains were wood resin from the ciborium or animal blood. They also showed that the stain was not a pigment or other substance. The material was found to be free of fungus, mold, and contamination, despite the time that had passed since the stain was discovered. Instead, tests showed that the stains on the corporal are indeed human blood. The blood type is AB+, which is the blood type of all the true Eucharistic miracles.” Blood of the very same type was found, for example, during the examination of the miracle of Lanciano and the Holy Shroud of Turin. And according to the World Population Review portal in Honduras, less than 2.5% of the population has the same blood type.

Bishop Walter Guillen Soto announced the results of the study and acknowledged that the results were humanly inexplicable. He stressed that it was unique that Jesus showed this miracle not to a clergyman or religious, but to a layman. He called it a “miracle of synodality.” “It’s the time of the laity,” the bishop said. “It is the faith of the laity that has kept alive the vitality of the Church in these corners of the world. For me and for the clergy of the diocese it has been a call to conversion to recognize the call of God in the voice of the laity.” To read the entire article, go to: <https://caminocatolico.com/mons-walter-guillen-soto.../>

THE PRAY MORE HEALING RETREAT-Sign up if You want to learn how to grow in your faith, in hope and in peace; if You want to learn more about who God is as our Father and about how you can grow closer to Him through prayer; if You want to hear inspiring testimonies about God's real presence throughout difficult times, so that you can renew your hope and faith in Him in your circumstances. You can register for the Retreat at: <https://praymoreretreat.org/> **We're praying for you.**

EMBLEMHEALTH offers free or low-cost healthcare for New Yorkers. Call Kevin Morales at **332-271-6724** for more info.

CATHOLIC CHAT is a new artificial intelligence interaction where you can get answers from the Catechism of the Catholic Church. You can interact on three different answer levels: child, adult, and scholar. Check out this great resource for all of your Catechism questions. Go to: www.catholic.chat

CALLING ALL SINGLE CATHOLICS! August 25th-27th. Join 400+ singles coming from all parts of the US (and beyond!) at the 22nd National Conference for Single Catholics to participate virtually and engage with others via the online socials and small group discussions. The weekend includes talks by dynamic music, speakers, social events, Mass, adoration, fellowship and more. Visit NationalCatholicSingles.com for more information

THE GET TEXT ALERTS from New York State Health. Text start to **866-988-0327**. Keep up to date with all changes.

HEALTH CARE in NY is available to everyone regardless of their immigration status. Call **646-692-2273** or visit the web site: NYCcare.nyc.

ARE YOU A HOMEBOUND PARISHIONER and in need of meals on weekends, holidays, and emergencies? Or do you know of a friend, relative, or neighbor in need of such meals? Call the rectory and give us this information, and we will assist you.

HAVE A LOVED ONE WITH DEMENTIA? They may then qualify for a research study in the Bronx. There is no-cost study-

related care and no cost medication. To see if you qualify, call **866-503-8963**.

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT FOOD STAMPS? Call Estrella from Catholic Charities at **646-823-3571**.

PUBLIC HEALTH-Many New Yorkers' Medicaid eligibility will be reviewed. To inquire about your status call **800-505-5678** or **855-222-8350**.

STILL HAVING SYMPTOMS of COVID long after you tested negative? NYC has a special aftercare program. For more information, call **212-268-4319**.

FREE HEALTHY FOOD is given out every **Tuesday** at **1PM** at 1990 McGraw Ave. Text Essen to 726879 to pre-register. Also, St. Paul's Food Pantry **Friday** from **8-10AM** and Parkchester Baptist Food Pantry takes place every **Tuesday** from **12-2PM**.

SOUND THE ALARM-It is a new fire department program. A retired NYFD officer will inspect your home free of charge and if necessary will install a free smoke detector that is good for ten years. To apply, call **877-733-2767**.

FREE DIAPERS to expecting mothers and to any families with children 4 years old and younger and residing in the Bronx. Visit Homebase I, 2155 Blackrock Ave. or call **(718) 414-1050**.

ANGIE specializes in hair health, braids, and extensions at 1705 Castle Hill Avenue. Call **929-667-3636**.

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

CODA GROUP meets every **Monday** at **7PM** in the Rectory. Please contact Tavonna at **718-344-1384** for more information.

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

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 PAPE EST-IL INFALLIBLE?-Jésus, le vrai Fils de Dieu, s'est fait homme pour faire de tous les hommes ses frères et cohéritiers avec lui du royaume divin et éternel. Pour poursuivre sa mission divine sur terre (après être monté au ciel), il a fondé l'Église sur les douze apôtres. Cette Église devait être le nouveau peuple élu de Dieu (c'est pourquoi les douze apôtres remplacent peut-être les chefs des douze tribus du peuple élu d'autrefois). Elle devait être composée de toutes les races et de toutes les parties du monde. Sa mission étant d'apporter le message du salut à tous les hommes, elle devait perdurer jusqu'à la fin des temps. Pour que cette Église, cette société d'êtres humains divinement instituée, puisse remplir sa mission d'aider tous les hommes à atteindre leur royaume éternel, il fallait s'assurer de la route et des aides offertes à ses membres. En d'autres termes, l'Église devait être certaine que ce qu'elle disait aux hommes de croire et de pratiquer était ce que Dieu voulait qu'ils croient et pratiquent. La lecture d'aujourd'hui, tirée de saint Matthieu, nous montre comment le Christ a répondu à cette nécessité. En faisant de Pierre le chef du Collège apostolique, la pierre angulaire de son Église, le garant de sa stabilité par le symbole des clés et la promesse que toutes ses décisions seraient ratifiées au ciel, le Christ lui a donné le pouvoir d'être à l'abri de l'erreur lorsqu'il enseigne officiellement à l'Église universelle. En d'autres termes, Pierre a reçu la primauté dans l'Église et le don de l'infailibilité dans son enseignement officiel sur les questions de foi et de morale. Comme l'Église devait se poursuivre longtemps après la mort de Pierre, il a été bien compris dès le début que les privilèges qui lui avaient été accordés et qui étaient nécessaires à la réussite de la mission de l'Église, étaient accordés à ses successeurs légitimes, les papes.

Telle a été la conviction constante de l'Église depuis ses débuts. Le premier Concile du Vatican a solennellement défini ce dogme, qui

a été reconfirmé récemment par le deuxième Concile du Vatican. En donnant ces pouvoirs à Pierre et à ses successeurs légitimes, le Christ a prévu nos besoins. Afin de préserver et de sauvegarder la bonne conduite de tous ses membres, il a prévu un siège central du pouvoir d'autorité dans son Église. Par le don de l'infailibilité, il nous a assuré que tout ce qu'il nous était ordonné de croire (foi) ou de faire (morale) serait toujours ce que lui-même et son Père céleste voulaient que nous croyions et fassions. Comment pouvons-nous remercier le Christ pour ces merveilleux dons faits à son Église, c'est-à-dire à nous ? Disons un fervent : "Merci Seigneur, Tu as prévu tous nos besoins et y as pourvu, accorde-nous la grâce de faire la petite part que tu nous demandes pour continuer notre progression sur l'unique route directe vers le ciel.

ESTE FIN DE SEMANA SANTA ELENA DA LA BIENVENIDA AL NUEVO PROVINCIAL ESCOLAPIO que ahora residirá aquí en Santa Elena. Durante el IV Capítulo Provincial los capitulares eligieron al P. Francisco Anaya Walker como Superior Provincial de la Provincia Escolapia de EE.UU. y Puerto Rico. Nació el 2 de octubre de 1970 en la ciudad de Puebla, México, donde hizo su profesión solemne el 29 de noviembre de 1997. Fue ordenado sacerdote el 6 de octubre de 2001. El P. Anya tiene una maestría en educación para la paz por la Universidad Albert Einstein - UNESCO. Ha servido a la Orden como profesor, maestro de prenovicios en México, coordinador de pastoral vocacional y varias veces como Asistente Provincial en México. También fue Asistente General para las Américas entre 2015 y 2022.

NUESTRO CARNAVAL PARROQUIAL terminará el **domingo 27 de agosto**, y la concesión estará abierta después de la Misa del Mediodía.

LOS BOLETOS PARA LA RIFA DEL CARNAVAL están disponibles después de todas las misas en la parte posterior de la iglesia o en la rectoría. El primer premio es de \$1,000 en efectivo, el segundo premio es de \$500 en efectivo, el tercer premio es un televisor de 40 pulgadas, y hay muchos otros premios también. El sorteo será el domingo 17 de septiembre, día en que celebraremos la Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Cruz.

HIV e HIPERTENSIÓN-Asiste a una conferencia el **domingo 27 de agosto** a las **14:00** en el Edificio Verde para aprender más sobre la relación entre Hipertensión y VIH. El VIH está relacionado con la disfunción renal, que a la larga puede provocar hipertensión porque los riñones son responsables de regular los niveles de líquido en el cuerpo. Las personas con VIH también tienen niveles más altos de colesterol en la sangre, que tiende a depositarse en las paredes de las arterias, lo que provoca hipertensión. Sin el VIH, hay un 30% de probabilidades de sufrir hipertensión en algún momento de la vida. Si eres seropositivo, esa probabilidad aumenta hasta el 35%.

REGALO DE REGRESO A LA ESCUELA en el estacionamiento de St. Helena el **martes 29 de agosto** de **5-7PM**. Distribuiremos **ALIMENTOS** y **ÚTILES ESCOLARES** por orden de llegada.

REGALO DE REGRESO A LA ESCUELA a las **2PM** el **domingo, 27 de agosto** en el patio de Castle Hill, 1660 Castle Hill Ave. Los niños deben estar presentes para recibir los útiles escolares, hasta agotar existencias.

EL NUEVO GRUPO DE MINISTERIO FAMILIAR tendrá su primera reunión el **Viernes 1 de Septiembre** a las **7:30PM** en el Salon Calasanz. Venga y vea de que se trata este grupo.

EDUCACION RELIGIOSA Y RCIA INSCRIPCION comienza el próximo fin de semana, el **9-10 de septiembre**. Usted debe inscribir a su hijo de nuevo con el Padre Richard, incluso si estaban en nuestro programa de Educación Religiosa el año pasado. Usted puede registrarse en la mesa en la parte posterior de la iglesia o los días de semana puede registrarse en la

rectoría. También estamos aceptando solicitudes de cualquier adulto no católico que esté interesado en aprender más acerca de nuestra fe o cualquier adulto que le faltan los sacramentos.

LA CORONILLA DE LA DIVINA MISERICORDIA se reza en español los **miércoles a las 7:00pm**.

TENEMOS UN FLEA MARKET EMPEZANDO LOS VIERNES EN ENERO. de **1-4PM** y el segundo y cuarto **sábado** de cada mes de **1-4PM**. (por favor, entrar por la puerta de la avenida Westchester). Gracias a su generosidad, tenemos un amplio suministro de ropa y artículos para el hogar. Por lo tanto, en este momento, no aceptamos más donaciones.

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.

PROTECCION PARA LOS NIÑOS-Cualquier persona que necesite reportar algún incidente de abuso sexual de un menor por un sacerdote, diacono, religioso/a, o laico sirviendo en la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York, se le pide que por favor contacte al coordinador de asistencia a las víctimas, Señora Eileen Mulcahy al **646-794-2949**. Ella también pueden ser contactada vía correo electrónica: victimassistance@archny.org. Para más información pueden visitar la página en la red de la arquidiócesis: www.archny.org. De acuerdo con las normas de la arquidiócesis sobre el respeto al abuso sexual de menores, esta información se provee para asegurar que nuestros niños permanezcan seguros.

ESTAMOS BUSCANDO LIDERES, si te gusta trabajar con niños y jóvenes y sientes que Dios te llama a algo más, te invitamos a que seas parte del Movimiento Calasanz. Llama a la Rectoría y pregunta por el Padre Jorge para que te de más info.

SI VOUS AVEZ BESOIN d'un kit gratuit de dépistage du VIH à domicile, veuillez contacter le presbytère et nous donner vos coordonnées.

SE NECESITAN VOLUNTARIOS LATINOS para un nuevo ministerio de VI H-SIDA. Vamos a entrenar. Llame a la rectoría para mas informacion.

SE NECESITAN VOLUNTARIOS PARA TOMAR EL CURSO de sensibilización sobre el VIH y el SIDA y para ayudar a distribuir información sobre este tema a la comunidad latina de Santa Elena. Llame al **718-892-3232** si desea tomar este entrenamiento, algunos serán virtuales y otros en persona.

¿**SABÍA** que la mayoría de los residentes del Bronx pueden reemplazar su tarjeta del Seguro Social mediante una cita virtual? ¡No necesita visitar el Centro de Tarjetas! Simplemente llame al **888-864-9788** para programar una cita virtual hoy mismo.

EL INFORME DEL SÍNODO ARQUIDIOCESANO ya está disponible en ESPAÑOL. Aquí está el enlace: <https://archny.org/wp-content/uploads/Arch-NY-Sintesis-Sinodal-2022-for-website-Spanish.pdf>

PROGRAMAS DE HORA CATÓLICA en Univision y Radio WADO Sintonice la radio WADO 1280 AM para Hora Católica con el Padre Ato, director de comunicaciones hispanas y ministerio pastoral, todos los **domingos** a las **8 a.m.**

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

¿**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. Para más información, llame a la línea directa para nuevos estadounidenses del Estado de Nueva York al **800 566 7636**, de lunes a viernes de 9 de la mañana a 8 de la tarde. La línea ofrece información general y referencias sobre cuestiones relacionadas con la inmigración y los servicios sociales disponibles para los inmigrantes.

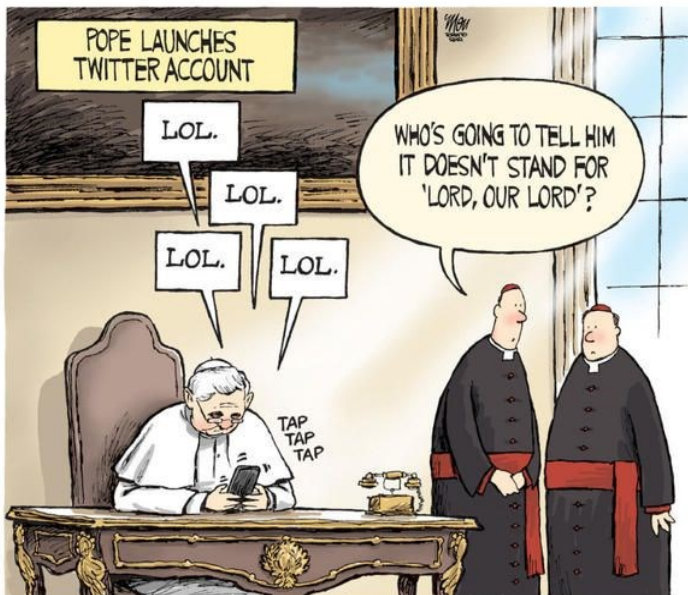
QUERIDOS HERMANOS, con gran alegría luego de haber celebrado el pasado viernes la Solemnidad del fundador de los Padres Escolapios; San José de Calasanz. Continuamos viviendo el tiempo ordinario ahora en su vigésimo primer domingo. Y hoy, el Señor por medio del evangelista San Mateo nos presenta dos preguntas. Éstas nos ayudan a ver ambas partes de nuestra vida y sobretodo nos permiten reconocer que es importante saber lo que ocurre afuera y adentro de nosotros. Las preguntas realizadas por el mismo Jesús nos confrontan sobre su persona: “¿Quién dice la gente que es el Hijo del hombre? Y ustedes, ¿quién dicen que soy yo?” En este domingo estamos invitados a responder esta interrogante, pero no de una manera superflua sino desde lo más profundo de nuestro ser, detengámonos a ver lo que Dios nos está diciendo y nuestra experiencia de Él en nuestras vidas.

Es por eso por lo que al principio les mencionaba que estas preguntas dobles son necesarias en la vida espiritual y super importante que le demos respuesta y propia no “copy y paste.” La respuesta externa la encontramos de nuestra experiencia diaria y de aquello que ajeno a nosotros nos invita un día a ver quién era ese Jesús de que tanto hablan; la segunda pregunta es más personal y debería ir a nuestras profundidades. Muchos creerán conocer quién es Jesús, pero en realidad solo son capaces de ver lo externo de su corazón.

Hoy mis queridos hermanos, les quiero invitar a que dejemos a un lado las respuestas básicas: Jesús es mi amigo, mi salvador, mi compañero, etc. Para que dejándolas a un lado, podamos en realidad tener un encuentro con Él. Piensa por un instante; nuestras etiquetas sobre una persona determina en gran medida nuestra relación y la etiqueta que le ponemos a Jesús podrían dejar estancada nuestra relación con su Persona; y él lo único que busca siempre es entrar y habitar en nuestras profundidades.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTION: August 20 — \$5,250.00
Mission Appeal—\$5,302.00
Assumption—\$1,320.00



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

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

MASS INTENTIONS

August 27 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 R.P. John Callan, Sch.P.-Birthday Intention and R.P. Abner Gonzalez, Sch.P.-Birthday Intention

10:00 S Daniel Bahora-Intentions; +Doris Torres

12:00 (Sp) +Erenia Hernandez; +Enriquillo Sanchez; In Honor of St. Rafael; +Jose Antonio Oquendo and Concepcion Corqueda; +Erica Bustos

5:00 +Albert Echevarria

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

August 28 – Monday — St. Augustine of Hippo

6:30* For the Prevention of Glaucoma and Auditory Difficulty in the Elderly

8:30 S Daniel Bahora-Intentions

12:15 All Souls in Purgatory

7:00 (Sp) +Jose A. Cortes and Aida Melendez; +Jose Antonio Oquendo, Concepcion Corqueda and Health Intention for Rafeal Heyos; +Dolores Rodriguez-1 Yr Anniversary; +Amarilys Moreta and Magalis Montero

August 29 — Tuesday — The Passion of St. John the Baptist

6:30* In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Prevent Glaucoma

8:30 S Daniel Bahora-Intentions

12:15 +Lidia Ramona Tolentino

August 30 – Wednesday — St. Fiacre

6:30 +Dora Aritonang

8:30 S Daniel Bahora-Intentions

12:15 +Josefina Gonzalez

7:00 (Sp) +Manuel Basilio Perez; +Roberto Sagtre & Elvin Vargas; +Milagros Roldan

August 31 — Thursday — St. Raymond Nonnatus

6:30 Fr. Nelson Henao, Sch.P.-Birthday Intention

8:30 Daniel Bahora-Intentions

12:15 +Ralph A. Cerbone, Sr.-20th Anniversary;

+Jose Carrasquillo and Deceased Family Members

September 1 – Friday — St. Giles

6:30 Alessandra's Spiritual, Emotional and Physical Welfare

8:30 S Deceased Members of the Retutas and Corciega Families

12:15 Daniel Bahora-Intentions

September 2 – Saturday — St. Agricola

6:30 In Thanksgiving for Favors Granted to Alessandra

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

12:15 +Richard Harty; Angelina Ramorachin-Intention

5:30 Daniel B. Bahora-Intentions & Danny Bahora-Birthday Intention

September 3 – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 Intentions for the Van de Weghes

10:00 S +Katherine Callaghan; Daniel Bahora-Intentions

12:00 (Sp) +Carmen Hernandez-6th Month of Passing;

+Benita Altamirano; +Rosalia Carida Alfonso;

+Francisca Ledesma; In Honor of St. Rafael;

Yadira Dolores-Birthday Intention

5:00 +David Sheehan

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

Names only said in Prayer of the Faithful are in Italics

**not a public Mass; +=deceased; S=Mass is live-streamed*

Readings for the week of August 27, 2023

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20; **Monday:** 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22; **Tuesday:** 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mk 6:17-29; **Wednesday:** 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32; **Thursday:** 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 24:42-51; **Friday:** 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mt 25:1-13; **Saturday:** 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30; **Next Sunday:** Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (2b)/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27