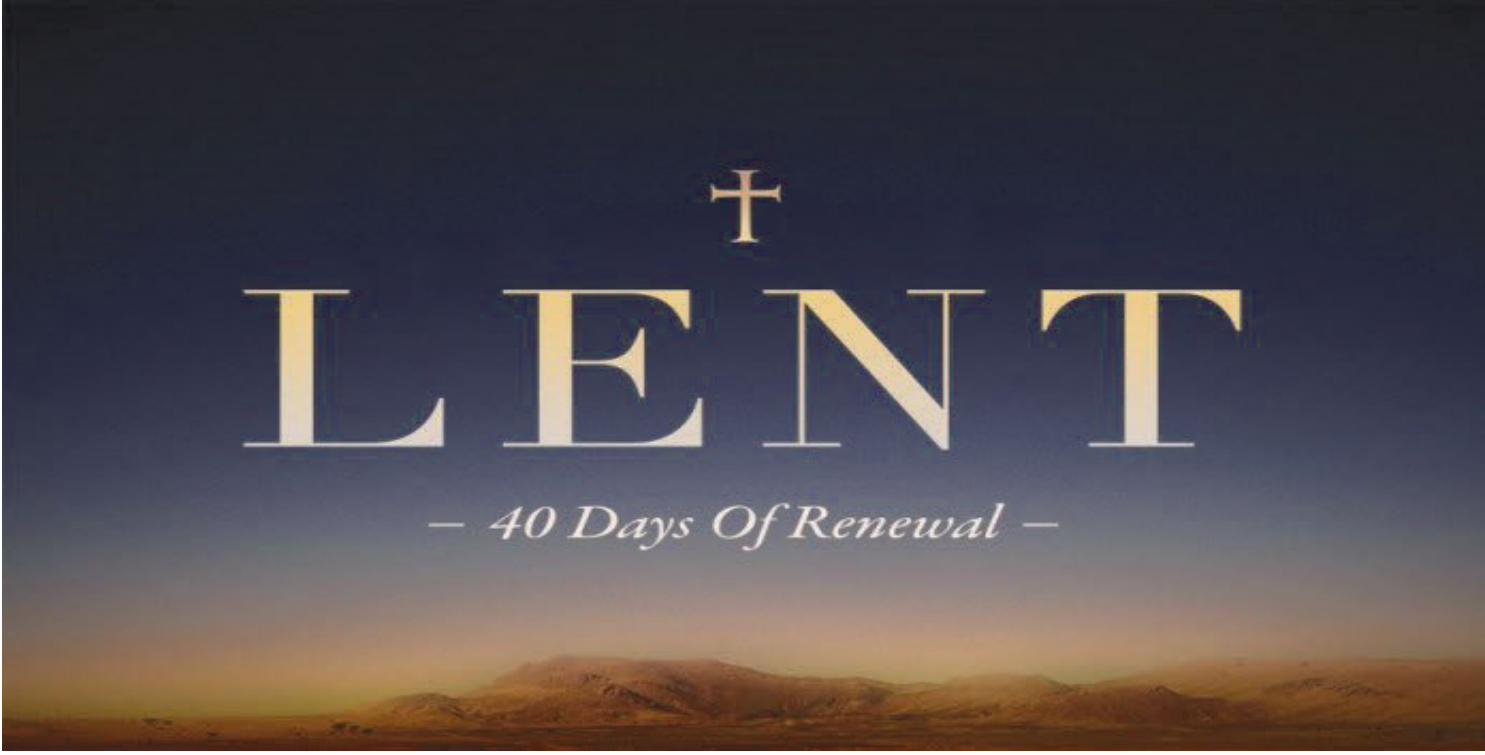


# CHURCH OF ST. HELENA

950 GROVE AVENUE, EDISON, NEW JERSEY 08820  
our website: [www.sthenaedison.org](http://www.sthenaedison.org)

MARCH 16, 2025—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



## LENT

— 40 Days Of Renewal —

VERY REV. ANTHONY M. SIRIANNI, PASTOR

REV. JOSEPH KUBIAK, OFM CAP.

DEACON BOB YUNKER

SISTER MARY CHARLES - ST. HELENA SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

SISTER REBECCA PIATEK - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

### MASSES:

WEEKDAYS: 8:30 AM

SATURDAY MORNING MASS: 8:30 AM

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM

SUNDAY: 8:00 & 10:30 AM, 12:15 PM

RECTORY:

FAX

CHURCH OFFICE:

BUSINESS MANAGER

PARISH SECRETARY

732-494-3399

732-494-2076

732-494-3399

FEBE CHUA

CARRIE VIGLIANTI

VIGILS OF EVES OF HOLY DAYS: TBA

HOLY DAYS: 8:30 AM & TBA

ST. HELENA SCHOOL:

2018 National Blue Ribbon School

FAX

732-549-6234

732-549-6205



### CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY MORNING: 9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM

SECRETARY

Anna Morabito

Ashley Worden

### MISSION STATEMENT

*"As a diverse parish, the community of St. Helena's encourages parishioners to be good stewards through the interaction and involvement of all members with respect and dignity to the poor, the sick and those in need, as well as encouraging the youth to participate fully in parish life."*

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP** All parishioners should be registered. Please register at the Rectory when you move into the parish. Our hours are Mon-Thurs, 9 AM - 4 PM, we close for lunch from 12:30-1:30 PM, and Fridays we are open until 12:30 PM. Also, please notify the Rectory if you are leaving the parish.

**SPONSOR LETTERS** Church law mandates that a Godparent for Baptism and a Sponsor for Confirmation be an active Confirmed Catholic who is registered, attends Mass weekly, contributes to the support of the church, is in a valid Catholic marriage, and publicly leads a life compatible with Church teaching. We can only write letters of eligibility for parishioners who meet these criteria.

**BAPTISM** is celebrated every Sunday at 1:30 PM. Arrangements must be made in advance. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics. If sponsors are from another parish, they are to obtain a sponsor letter from their parish priest indicating that they are practicing Catholics.

**MARRIAGE** arrangements should be made at least one year in advance and prior to any social plans. Contact the Parish Office for all pre-marriage arrangements.

**MASS INTENTIONS** Contact the Parish Office to schedule a Mass for our beloved deceased.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** If you are new to the parish and wish to enroll your child in the Religious Education Program, please call our Religious Ed office at 732-549-4660 or

email: [misele@sthelenaedison.org](mailto:misele@sthelenaedison.org). Our hours are Monday 9 AM to 2 PM and Friday 9 AM to 2 PM.

**OCIA** Adults wishing to become Roman Catholic or receive First Eucharist and/or Confirmation, please call our Religious Ed office for information on the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults or email:

[misele@sthelenaedison.org](mailto:misele@sthelenaedison.org)

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** Join online at [KofC.org](http://KofC.org) Pope John Paul 1 Council 6571, Colonia, NJ we meet the first Thursday of each month at the VFW Hall on Inman Ave. in Colonia at 7:30 PM. Contact Charlie at 732-381-3389 for more information. Great Insurance program, and Church and community work.

**ETHICSPPOINT INITIATIVE** A confidential way for employees, volunteers & parishioners to report suspected financial malfeasance in any of our parishes, schools, cemeteries and diocesan institutions. <https://diometuchenmobile.ethicspoint.com/> Or call 844-796-1296.

## **PARISH ORGANIZATIONS/MINISTRIES**

Director of Music:	Paul Bergin
Readers/EM	L. Radler, J. Maldony
Youth Director:	M. Tonzola
YLF:	<a href="mailto:ylfshp@gmail.com">ylfshp@gmail.com</a>
Trustees:	Dr. M. Garcia and J. Nolan
HSA Pres.:	D. Tayco, 732-549-6234
Athletic Assoc.:	David Lacko—732-549-6234
Altar Servers	Karen Kattan, S. McGreevey
Dir. of Religious Ed)	Dr. Mary Kay Isele
Dir. of OCIA )	<a href="mailto:misele@sthelenaedison.org">misele@sthelenaedison.org</a>
)	732-549-4660
Altar Rosary Society:	J. Maldony
Holy Name Society:	T. Fiedorowicz
Knights of Columbus:	J. DiPaola
Legion of Mary:	P. Murphy
FAA:	Dr. M. Garcia
Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts	Sue Dalton, 732-680-1719

If you wish to get in touch with anyone in these Organizations/Ministries, please call the Rectory Office at 732-494-3399, Ext. 10, unless otherwise noted.

**MUSIC MINISTRY** For information regarding our Adult Choir and Children's Choir, contact the Parish Office at 732-494-3399.

## **MINISTRY TO THE SICK OR HOMEBOUND**

Our Priests and members of the Legion of Mary bring Communion to homebound parishioners or those in local area nursing homes. If you or a family member would like to be put on our homebound list please contact the Parish Office to arrange such visits. To contact a priest in a genuine emergency involving the sick or dying, call the rectory office. After normal business hours dial the regular rectory number, 732-494-3399 and then Ext. 13.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY** The St. Vincent de Paul food collection **takes place on the second weekend of the month.** Please leave your non-perishable food donations on the tables in the breezeway the second weekend of the month.

## **HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE**

If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our diocesan website: <https://diometuchen.org/report-a-suspected-abuse>.

## MARCH 16, 2025—SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



### **SUNDAY - March 16, 2025**

#### **Second Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Harry Milne r/o Family  
 10:30 AM Stephen Mehes, Jr. r/o Joann Toth  
 12:15 PM Sophie Wnek r/o Daughter, Diane

### **MONDAY - March 17, 2025-St. Patrick**

8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Schreiber Family r/o Mary & Bill Mastrolly

### **TUESDAY - March 18, 2025**

8:30 AM Dorothea Schmidt r/o Family

### **WEDNESDAY - March 19, 2025**

#### **St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30 AM Fr. Rosetti & Sr. Joselma r/o Friends

### **THURSDAY - March 20, 2025**

8:30 AM Stanley Piatek r/o Sister Rebecca

### **FRIDAY - March 21, 2025**

8:30 AM Marie Curcio r/o Maria Cochran

### **SATURDAY - March 22, 2025**

#### **8:30 AM PURGATORIAL SOCIETY**

**March 2025**

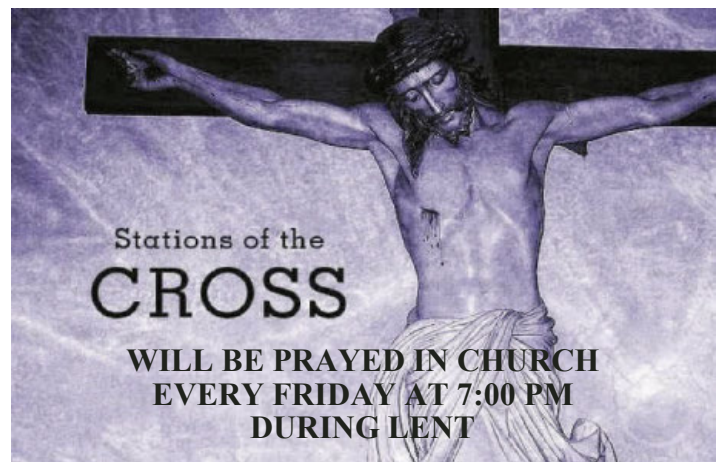
Dorothea Schmidt r/o Family  
 Deceased Members of the Guardado Family  
 r/o The Yglesias Family  
 Deceased Members of the Arias Family  
 r/o The Yglesias Family  
 Thomas & Bruce Radice and Matthew Manisa  
 r/o Mom  
 Charles & Helen Burt r/o Family  
 Michael Harjes r/o Fr. Anthony, Sr. Charles,  
 Teachers, Students & Staff of  
 St. Helena School & Church  
 Emilio Frank & Josephine Cesareo r/o  
 Rita & Emery Fisher  
 Brian Scoda r/o The Scoda Family  
 Ray & Alma Scoda r/o The Scoda Family  
 Josephine V. Feliciano r/o Noli & Emmy Vidal  
 Joan Pelligrini r/o Rita & Emery Fisher  
 Josephine T. DiStefano r/o Daughters

4:00 PM Richard Kenny r/o Family

### **SUNDAY - March 23, 2025**

#### **Third Sunday of Lent**

8:00 AM Elena Andriani r/o Maria Cochran  
 10:30 AM Ann & Robert Steinbach r/o Judy &  
 Rich Steinbach  
 12:15 PM Raymond Forziati r/o Barbara Lasal



### **2025 LENTEN OBLIGATIONS**

1. The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18).
2. The other Fridays of Lent (Mar. 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, and 11) are days of abstinence.
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.) The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.



### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS**

Please join us on Saturday mornings from 9AM - 10 AM for Eucharistic Adoration.

**Reconciliation** Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM



## From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

Today's readings help us to refocus on the spiritual in our lives.

St. Paul tells the Philippians, "our citizenship is in heaven". The spiritual is what matters. We have to allow God to transform our minds by His spiritual reality. The spiritual must transform the world. We come upon Jesus at prayer on the Mountain. Luke begins the account with the Lord at prayer. This is significant. The Lord is opening Himself to the presence of the Father. He is transformed, transfigured, into a state that reflects the glory of God. Moses and Elijah appear. Moses represents the Books of the Law, Elijah represents the Books of the Prophets. They come to speak to Jesus, the very Word of God. Of course, the disciples, Peter, James and John, don't understand this. They are still looking for a physical kingdom. The voice in the cloud is meant for them and us: "This is my Beloved Son, Listen to Him." We belong to the spiritual. We belong to God. We are made in the image and likeness of God. But the image of God, our capacity to be spiritual, is hidden deep within us. The Lord will reveal it, though, if we let Him. The Lord chips away on us. The negative drives within us are also chipped away, our anger, our greed, our lust, our jealousy.

We belong to the Kingdom of God. We are made in His Image and Likeness. We are physical and spiritual. We have our citizenship in heaven. Jesus Christ is transforming us into an everlasting gift to the Father. The Divine Sculptor's work will not be unveiled until our mission on earth is complete. What will we look like if we let Him complete His Work? Well, we also will be transfigured.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Father Anthony*

## 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

### Journeying Together in Faith, Hope and Charity

If you have yet to make your pledge to this year's Bishop's Annual Appeal, you will have the opportunity to do so next weekend, March 22/23, which has been designated as **Bishop's Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend**. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help our parish reach its goal. If we can exceed our goal, 50% of the amount collected over goal will be returned to us in the form of a parish rebate. Just as important as our financial goal is our goal of reaching 100% participation. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Thank you.

To date, the Development Office has received pledges and payments totaling 37,063.10. This represents 24.71% received and 22.51% pledged of your \$150,000 goal. Thank you for your efforts.

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03/09/25 Collection	03/10/24 Collection
Reg. \$9,003	Reg. \$7,444
Reg. Online \$2,298	Reg. Online \$2,313
R&R \$2,257	R&R \$2,246
R&R Online \$ 362	R&R Online \$ 382

**I AM TRULY HUMBLLED BY YOUR  
GENEROSITY! THANK YOU!**





### ST. HELENA SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Helena School is dedicated to providing a well-rounded education for students in grades pre-kindergarten through eighth. Gospel values are instilled by creating an environment of stewardship and by encouraging respect and tolerance. Strong academic skills are achieved through a challenging curriculum enriched by the study of fine arts, technology, and physical education.



The Vatican has asked that we pray the Rosary for Pope Francis' healing so, on February 28th, the students sacrificed their recess to join in praying the Sorrowful Mysteries with each decade having a special intention for the Pope. They were strength, comfort, peace, courage and healing. We know we are all "Pilgrims on the Journey" this Jubilee year.



On Ash Wednesday, the students of St. Helena School assembled in church for Liturgy of the Word with Ashes. What a great start to their Lent!



### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2025-2026 TUITION ASSISTANCE ONLINE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN**

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance to attend an eligible Diocese of Metuchen elementary or high school may apply online now through FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment at <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>. Online applications must be completed (including all required documentation) by no later than **March 31, 2025**. A **signed Parish Verification Form is also required by the Diocese, and should be signed by your Pastor, and submitted to the school or schools your children attend**. Eligibility requirements, instructions and forms can be found at <https://diometuchen.org/tuition-assistance>. Applications are available in English and Spanish.



We invite any parents interested in sending their child(ren) to St. Helena School to an **Open House on April 8, 2025, from 6-8 PM.**

Please call the school at 732-549-6234 to schedule a tour and see our school!

### **LENTEN PRAYER OPPORTUNITY**

Jesus told St. Faustina, *Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy* (Diary 300). The Church season of Lent provides us with a time to increase or to regain our peace of mind and heart as well as to pray for peace in our world, our Church and our nation. The *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* is an instrument of God, given to assist us in finding this peace through trust in His Divine Mercy.

St. Helena Parish has been praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. We encourage anyone who can do so to join us, or to pray the Chaplet at home for peace and for your own personal intentions as well. Jesus, We Trust in You! Jesus also told St. Faustina, *No soul that has called upon My Mercy has ever been disappointed*. (Diary 1541). God Bless You!

### **ANNUAL ALUMNI CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME**



St. Helena's Athletic Association presents their Annual Alumni Charity Basketball Game on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 from 6:30-9:00 PM in the school gym. All proceeds will

benefit Robert Wood Johnson Pediatric AIDS Foundation. Tickets are \$5 per person. Bring a canned good and get a raffle ticket. The kitchen will be open! Alumni who are interested in playing please RSVP by 3/10 with Alumni name / graduation year to 917-453-7891.



**ST. HELENA SCHOOL HSA'S**

**LENTEN FISH FRY**

Friday, March 28, 2025

St. Helena School Hall

5:00pm-7:00pm

Bring the family and enjoy a delicious fried fish dinner for

\$20.00 per person!

\*Dine in or Take Out Available!\*

Dinner: \$20.00

Includes: Fried fish, fries, coleslaw, dinner roll and dessert

New England Clam Chowder: \$8.00 a container

\*Tickets must be purchased in advance to ensure quantities.  
Tickets can be purchased in the Church breezeway after each  
Mass beginning March 9th.  
Cash or Checks are accepted.\*

**CHRISM MASS -TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025**

On Tuesday, April 15, 2025, Bishop James F. Checchio will celebrate the Chrism Mass with the priests of the Diocese. At this Mass, all priests will make a Renewal of Commitment to Priestly Service to the Bishop and the people of God. The Bishop will also bless and consecrate the Holy Oils, which each parish receives for the rites of anointing.

The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint infants and adults before their Baptism; the Oil of the Sick is used on the forehead and hands of the infirm in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick; and Sacred Chrism is used to anoint the head of the newly baptized, the foreheads of confirmandi, the hands of a priest at his ordination, the head of a bishop at his ordination, and the altar and walls of new churches.

All are strongly encouraged to join in-person or via Livestream in the ancient, grace-filled Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen at 4:00 PM.



**ST. JUDE  
ANSWERS PRAYERS**

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

**HOLY THURSDAY**

**7:00 PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER  
VISITS TO REPOSITORY UNTIL 9:00 PM**

**GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

**8:30 AM - MORNING PRAYER**

**3:00 PM - THE LORD'S PASSION**

**7:00 PM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**HOLY SATURDAY**

**NO CONFESSIONS ON HOLY SATURDAY**

**8:30 AM - MORNING PRAYER**

**11:00 AM - BLESSING OF THE FOOD**

**8:00 PM - EASTER VIGIL**

**EASTER SUNDAY**

**THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

**SUNRISE MASS – 6:00 AM**

**(OUTSIDE, WEATHER PERMITTING OR IN CHURCH)**

**MASSSES: 8:00 & 10:30 AM AND 12:15 PM**

**SILVER & GOLD & 5 YEAR  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

You are cordially invited to celebrate your 25th, 50th, 50+ or 5th Wedding Anniversary with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM. The Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will again include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage. Registration is required. Please register online at: <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>. If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at 732-562-1543 or [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org). Registration will close on October 10, 2025. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion. Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling 732-562-1543.



**PRAY FOR OUR SICK & INFIRM**

**ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, YOU ARE THE EVERLASTING HEALTH OF THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN YOU. . .HEAR US FOR:**

Robert Allen, Phylis Girone, John W. Dambrauskas, Sue Ann Catalon, Lisa Pelli, Shujat Hussain, Jean Hillyer, Michael O'Connor, Bill Hillyer, Marion Pimonte, Mary Caprio, Sue Nemer, Mary Ellen DeAngelo, Alice Wolsky, Nat Minucci, Debbie Perryman, Lonnie Perryman, John Welgos, Jr., Lauren Fonseca, Linda Fonseca, Rose Corbisiero, Robert Jordan, Timothy McGovern, Siobhan McGovern, Kelly McGovern, Bob Jenkins, Mary Partesi, Kevin Richardson, John Allen, Enrique Curbelo, A.J. Crowder, Dave Springsteen, Yvette Coyle, Rose Catalon, Dorothy Voza, Michael Giovanniello, Alphie Paternostro, Anthony Service, Joan Gibson, Margarete Brandl, Margharita Fatatis, Nicholas Baldassarre, Wayne Radice, Anthony Aliberti, Sandy Aliberti, Sandra Lynn Place, Sondra Albert, Werner Brandl, Sandy Buck, Eugenia Rzegocki, Reynaldo Manahan, Marie Rossi, Anna Vulpi, Mary Annichearico, Michael Roppo, Valerie Huber, Kathleen Gebler, Harry Huber, Mary Maloney, Janina Langowski, Paula DeSario, James Beyan, Charles & Carol McCormick, Christine Kline, Wendy White, Michael Lowles, Elizabeth Denis, Alberto Batista, Kathy Cordes, Joseph Toth, Irmgard Schmale, Mr. Suresh, Robert Balestrieri, Bill Cordes, Olga Cartaino, Chris Atwood, Andrew White, Jr, Eric Basile, Grace D. Simone, Baby Luciano, Audrey Flynn, Jacqueline Levenhurz, Jack Kenny, Henry Bachman, Betty Condran, Theresa Parisi, Barbara Menge, Paula Imbro, Ernie Pawling, Marge Davfgek, Brianna Marino, Steven Harvey, Anthony Palmisano, Pauline Rossi, Hal VanDermark, Anthony Tricarico, Bishop Paul Bootkoski, Jennie Catlin, Darlene Kertes, Laurie McGovern, Kristen McGovern, Megan McGovern, Therese Fibraio, Betty Pappas, Steve Beirach, Shelley Punctatz, Edward Zdanowicz, Dr. Mrs. Dias and Rui Fernandes **YOUR ILL SERVANTS FOR WHOM WE IMPORE THE AID OF YOUR TENDER MERCY, THAT BEING RESTORED TO BODILY HEALTH, THEY MAY GIVE THANKS TO YOU IN YOUR CHURCH. THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.**

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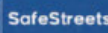
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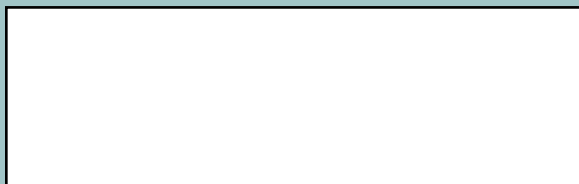
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