

# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

*In*  
**LOVING**  
*Memory*

## This Week's Mass Intentions

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2018

- 6:00AM Thomas Barreca (*Tom Taglienti*)
- 8:00AM Lenny Altamura (*Cabral Family*)
- 9:30AM For The Parishioners
- 11:00AM Christine Salegna (*Mom & Dad*)
- 12:30PM Theresa Montelbano (*Loving Children*)

### MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018

- 9:00AM Mary Porrello (*JoAnn Doody*)

### TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018

- 9:00AM Christopher Maniscalco (*Loving Daughter & Family*)

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018

- 9:00AM Frank T. Serpico (*Loving Family*)

### THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018

- 9:00AM Estelita Tiongson (*Susan Polvorosa*)

### FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018

- 9:00AM Dorothy Pizzo (*Maidhof Family*)

### SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 2018

- 9:00AM John Ariola (*Sal & Julie Friscia*)
- Louis DeCrescenzo, Sr. (*Loving Son*)
- John DeRiso (*Shamala Goriah*)
- Linda McSorley (*Jo-Ann & Phyllis Leccese*)
- 5:00PM John DeRiso (*Jack Raia*)
- William F. DiPeitra (*Helen & Frank DiPietra*)
- Michael Furlong (*Margaret Butler*)
- Eileen Morgan (*Margaret Butler*)
- Edward Vinciguerra (*JoAnn & Phyllis Leccese*)

### SUNDAY, APRIL 8, 2018

- 8:00AM George & Ann Papandrea
- 9:30AM In Thanksgiving (*Rosetta Liuba*)
- 11:00AM Dorothy Schmitt (*Loving Friend*)
- 12:30PM George Dunn (*Marie A. Battaglia & Family*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

**New Families:** All are welcome to St. Helen Parish, and are asked to please register at the Rectory during office hours.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Please call the Rectory to register for the baptism of your child. Baptisms will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (no Baptisms during Lent).

**Sacrament of Confession:** Saturdays 12:30PM to 1:30PM. Weekdays: 15 minutes prior to the 9:00AM Mass.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Couples should contact the Rectory at least **one year** in advance of the desired date. Please call for an appointment for the initial interview.

**Communion Calls:** Please call the Rectory to arrange for one of the priests to bring Holy Communion to a sick person who is confined to home due to a serious illness.

**Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:** Anyone who expects to be hospitalized (or in an emergency) and wishes the Anointing of the Sick, should call the Rectory.



Debbie Abbene, Sally Capozziello, Shang Cheng, Marge D'Auria, Mary Ann D'Angelo, Patrick Delaney, Domenica DeVito, Virginia DiGangi, Richard H. Dimler, Mary Divers, Jean Fochetta, Dennis Giammalvo, John Joseph Gleeson, John Pierce Gleeson, Christine Healy, Maria Hernandez, Elizabeth Isolano, Keri & Baby Tristan, James Leung, Thomas & Patricia Lipari, William J. Litt, Cindy Maione, Barbara Miller, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Michael Palermo, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Joseph Questore, Ronald J. Reid, Frances Russo, Bill Sangirardi, John Secreti, Patrick Smith, Frank Spemulli, Remington Stafford, Michael Tamburo, Chrisie Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters.

**Deceased:** Pia Casquarelli, Linda McSorley, Joseph L. Puleo



*You are invited to Pray  
the Family Rosary*

**THURSDAY  
EVENINGS  
IN CHURCH  
7:00-7:30PM**

**THE ALTAR BREAD & WINE** for this week are donated in memory of **John DeRiso**, requested by **Deacon Rick & Maria Elrose**.

**T**he Order of Franciscans Secular meet on the 3rd Saturday of every month in St. Helen's Rectory after the 9AM Mass. Come and learn more about the Franciscan way of life.

W naszej parafii ks. Łukasz może również służyć pomocą w języku polskim.

### St. Helen's Purgatorial Society Mass

All parishioners have the opportunity to enroll the names of loved ones in the Purgatorial Society. The Purgatorial Society Mass will be held on the **last Friday of each month**. The offering to be enrolled in the Purgatorial Society is \$120 per name (a total of 12 Masses for one year will be said for your loved one). Aside from listing one name, a husband and wife together, or a family name is also acceptable. Having a Purgatorial Society is wonderful way of living out the Scriptures and will be a relief for those who desire to have their loved ones remembered with prayers all year long at God's Altar. Please stop in at the Rectory if you are interested in having a loved one enrolled in the Purgatorial Society. **The next Purgatorial Society Mass will be held Friday, April 27, 2018.**

## *Easter and its Symbols*

As all of us now celebrate this Sacred season, our celebrations contain a considerable mixture of the sacred and the secular. The following are but a few of the popular symbols of Easter found in the home.

**The Easter Egg:** Since ancient days, the egg has always symbolized new life. As Christians we are reminded of the new life we have in Christ, who rose from the tomb. The cracking of the egg reminds us of the breaking forth of Jesus from that tomb and, traditionally, eggs were colored red as a reminder of the crucifixion.

**The Rabbit:** Rabbits have always been a symbol of fertility, new life and Spring. We celebrate New Life in Christ every Easter Season with the renewal of our Baptismal promises.

**The Lily:** Another symbol of new life. Traditionally, there is a legend surrounding the Garden of Gethsemane (where Jesus sweat drops of Blood). It is said lilies sprouted from the Earth from the location where the drops of His blood landed.

**The Lamb:** The lamb is a Passover symbol and in Sacred Scripture, Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God, sacrificed on the Cross for our sins. We are washed in the Blood of the Lamb.

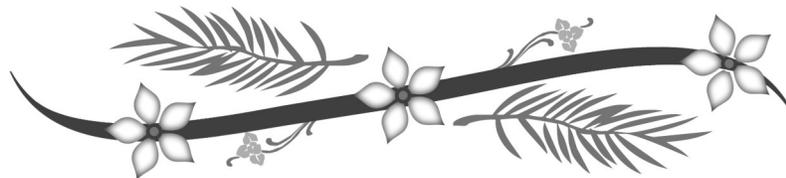
**The Easter Basket:** Traditionally, Catholics in Europe brought their Easter food to Church the day before Easter in baskets, to be blessed by the priest; a custom we retain at Saint Helen Parish.

**The Easter Bonnet:** The new clothes donned on Easter again symbolize new life.

**The Easter Pie:** Many Europeans celebrate Easter by cooking an Easter Pie, with eggs, meats and cheeses—many of the delicious foods we sacrificed during Lent.

Whatever your traditions may include, all have their foundation or their roots in our faith.

*Celebrate and enjoy them and let the world know  
He is Risen, He is truly Risen!*



**The Rectory Office will be closed Easter Sunday  
and Easter Monday, reopening on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00AM.**

**Rosary for Peace...New Place, New Time**

The Rosary for Peace, sponsored by the Saint Helen Secular Franciscan Fraternity, takes place in the Church at 6:30PM every Wednesday. The group prays for our Blessed Mother's intercession to end violence (both domestic and civil) and the persecution of Christians throughout the world. All parishioners are invited to join us. We welcome anyone willing to lead a decade of the Rosary in a language other than English.

**POLICIES REGARDING INFANT BAPTISM AT ST. HELEN PARISH**



Parents seeking Baptism for their children *who live within the territory of St. Helen Parish* are asked to register as members of the parish before requesting an initial interview for Baptism. Registration is easily done at the parish office anytime during business hours.

Parents seeking Baptism for their children *who live outside the territory of St. Helen Parish* are asked to obtain a letter from the parish in which they live authorizing the Baptism to take place at St. Helen.

Initial meetings with parents seeking Baptism for their children will normally take place **on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:00-9:00PM and on the fourth Saturday of each month from 10:30AM-12:30PM.**

**APRIL — JUNE, 2018**

**Mornings of Preparation Required Before a Baptism:**

*(All begin at the 11:00AM Mass and continue in the Msgr. McGinness Room)*  
**April 22 — May 27 — June 10 & 24**

**Schedule for Baptisms:** *(All begin at 2:00PM)*  
**April 22 — May 27 — June 10 & 24**

**Please call 718-738-1616 for more information and/or to schedule an appointment.**



**Every once in a while it's good to make a plug for those who do favors!** There is a young woman in the parish I have often called upon to professionally photograph major events at the parish. Some of her photos have been used on the parish website and are also part of the parish archives. Her pursuit of photography has led her to having her own professional photography business. I (Fr. Colamaria) highly recommend her expertise. Her contact information: **Nicole Balbone, Nic Bal Photography** (718-916-2983). Her website is: [www.nicbalphotography.com](http://www.nicbalphotography.com), and her email is [nicbalphotography@gmail.com](mailto:nicbalphotography@gmail.com).

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**St. Helen's Holy Name Society** will hold their monthly meeting in Fr. Dooley Hall next **Sunday, April 8th**, after the 8AM Mass. As always, all men of the parish are invited.

**Do you have a family member that is 60+ years old and needs a hot meal daily?** The Southwest Queens Home-Delivered Meals Program can assist you! Eligibility requirements for home-delivered meals:

- Individual must be 60 years of age or older
- unable to attend a senior center for a meal
- Unable to prepare meals
- Does not have anyone else to rely on to prepare meals
- Can live safely at home if services are provided.

For more information please call (718) 847-2168.

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES  
HOWARD BEACH SENIOR CENTER**



The Center is located at 155-55 Cross Bay Blvd., across from Stop N Shop on Cross Bay Blvd. Seniors aged 60 and older are invited to become members. Activities and services are offered Monday-Friday from 9:00AM to 4:00PM. Every day delicious and nutritious full, hot lunches are catered by Russo's on the Bay (\$2 donation requested).

On **Friday, April 13th**, at 1:00PM, the Center will hold a **Mah Jongg** class for beginners. Seating is limited, so you must **register beforehand** by calling Rosalie at the number below.

**For further information, contact Rosalie at 718-738-8100.**

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**  
**April 8, 2018**



**You are invited to the celebration of the**  
**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**  
**with devotion from 2:00-3:00PM in Church**

The celebration will include St. Faustina's Way of the Cross, Eucharistic Exposition, St. Faustina's Prayer for sinners, Recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Recitation of St. Faustina's Praises, Benediction, and Veneration of St. Faustina's Relic.

There will be an opportunity for Confession immediately after the Service. Preparation for gaining Indulgence:  
Reception of Holy Communion that day,  
Sacrament of penance approximately two weeks prior or after Divine Mercy Sunday, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father.

***Jesus, King of Mercy,  
We Trust In You.***

## FIRST WEEK OF EASTER

Acts  
3:11-  
26; Ps



### Monday, April 2, 2018

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16; Mt 28:8-15

Every life has defining moments. Some are joy-filled and some are terrifying and painful and heartbreaking. We may not recognize their significance at the time, but later, we realize how completely a particular event changed our lives. As Jesus' disciples of the 21st

century, we have to remember that none of us saw the resurrection. All we have are the reports of what happened afterward: The disciples experienced his presence with them even after his death. This experience completely transformed them from a group of scared disciples into bold witnesses who could not stop talking about what had happened, even in the face of persecution, arrest and martyrdom. *Fill us, holy One, with resurrection hope, courage and faith.*

### Tuesday, April 3, 2018

Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33; Jn 20:11-18

By all accounts, the resurrection of Jesus was a transformative experience for all of Jesus' disciples, but perhaps for no one more than Mary Magdalene. Luke tells us that Jesus had healed her of "evil spirits," and after that, Mary Magdalene became one of Jesus' most devoted disciples. Even when the other disciples denied and betrayed him, even when they had fled, Mary Magdalene stayed with Jesus even as he hung on the cross. She was one of the first to see the risen Christ, who told her to go and tell, go and proclaim, go and preach. *Transformed by your grace, may we be a voice for hope, love and new life.*

### Wednesday, April 4, 2018

Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105; Lk 24:13-35

To get away from the despair and defeat and a situation that was unbearable, Cleopas and his friend start walking to Emmaus. Where is Emmaus? Seven miles from Jerusalem, but in what direction? Perhaps the "road to Emmaus" is a metaphor for the road we walk when the future seems bleak and hopeless. It is the road in front of the doctor's office where one has just found out about a life-threatening illness. It is the path to a lonely room where a wife sits with the husband who no longer knows her name. The road to Emmaus is everywhere. And Jesus joins us on the road. *Thank you for walking with us, Lord Jesus.*

### Thursday, April 5, 2018

8; Lk 24:35-48

For most of us, Easter is a single day of celebration, festive music, lilies and family gatherings. But Easter is more than one day; it is a season which lasts 50 days until Pentecost. And so we continue to read accounts of Christ's post-resurrection appearances. The two disciples who encountered Jesus on the road to Emmaus have returned to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples about the stranger who joined them on the road and how they finally recognized him as Jesus when he broke the bread with them. Suddenly, Jesus is in their midst; the disciples are startled and think they are seeing a ghost. While they are still coming to grips with Jesus' presence, he asks them for something to eat — his not-so-subtle way of letting them know he is not a ghost. *Lord Jesus, open our eyes to recognize you in our midst.*

### Friday, April 6, 2018

Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118; Jn 21:1-14

Over the years, I have come to appreciate the many stories that have been recorded about Peter — impetuous, bold, fearful Peter. He's the first to declare that Jesus is the Messiah, but he also reacts in horror when he realizes that the Messiah will suffer and be killed. He is the one who wants to build shrines for Jesus, Elijah and Moses after the Transfiguration; he is also the one who denies knowing Jesus when push comes to shove. He tries to walk on water and jumps into the sea when he realizes that the stranger on the beach is the risen Lord. Peter, like all of us, is a mix of faith and doubt, trust and ambivalence, courage and fear. Even after all his failures, the risen Christ, with great love and faith, tells Peter: "Feed my sheep." *Thank you, gracious God, for loving us as we are and for challenging us to greater faithfulness.*

### Saturday, April 7, 2018

Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118; Mk 16:9-15

Those who encountered the risen Christ — Mary Magdalene, the two unnamed disciples — were instructed to "go and tell." But when they did, no one believed them; it was, in many ways, easier to grieve than to believe that Jesus was alive. In this final scene from Mark's Gospel, Jesus appears to the disciples and rebukes them for not believing those who had seen him after the resurrection. Does the risen Christ still appear in our time? Absolutely. And maybe, just maybe, we will have the eyes to see and the faith to go and tell. *Forgive us, living Lord, when we do not see, or seeing, do not tell.*

