

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In
LOVING
Memory

This Week's Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

- 8:00AM Margaret Vaiano (*Vincent Vaiano*)
- 9:30AM Jackie Albert (*Rachele Sannino*)
- 11:00AM Frank DiRago (*Loving Children*)
- 12:30PM Julia Ammirati (*M/M Mario Faulisi*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2018—LABOR DAY *St. Gregory*

- 9:00AM John DeRiso (*Barbara Bitetto & Amelia Pepe*)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

- 9:00AM Mary Camelo (*Loving Daughter*)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2018 *St. Teresa of Calcutta*

- 9:00AM Catherine & Frank Fiore (*Loving Family*)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

- 9:00AM Karl Albrecht (*Loving Family*)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

- 9:00AM DeRiso-Ruocco Family (*John & Joan DeRiso*)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2018

- 9:00AM Edward Belulovich (*Rita Belulovich*)
Donald Francis (*Serafina Francis*)
Mattei-Nervo Family (*Rita Belulovich*)
Miazga-Salzano Family (*Rita Belulovich*)
Ann Sciamè (*Pavrides Family*)
- 5:00PM Amos Crawley
Tricia Plotkin-DeFrank (*Dennis DeFrank*)
Salvador Rosado (*Friends*)
Paul Russo (*Howard Beach Studios*)
Harold A. Sorgenti (*Loving Family*)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

- 8:00AM George & Claire Cox
- 9:30AM Maria Cracchiolo (*Joseph Barreca*)
- 11:00AM John DeRiso (*Deacon Rick & Maria Elrose*)
- 12:30PM Raymond D. Moran (*Josephine Massino & Family*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

PLEASE NOTE:

The Rectory office will resume its regular schedule
on Tuesday, September 4th:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00AM-8:00PM

Friday: 9:00AM-4:00PM

Saturday & Sunday: 9:00AM-12:00PM.

The Rectory office will be closed on Monday,
September 3rd in observance of Labor Day.

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 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

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, Ann Ahern, Amado Araneta, Baby Canzoneri, 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, Marilyn Krajcik, Keri & Baby Tristan, James Leung, Thomas & Patricia Lipari, William J. Litt, Cindy Maione, Barbara Miller, Jane Orban, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Michael Palermo, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Joseph Questore, Frances Russo, Bill Sangirardi, John Secreti, Patrick Smith, Remington Stafford, Michael Tamburo, Rubie Lynn Torres, Christine Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters.

Deceased: Catherine Minieri, Stefano Ognibene, John Truncale

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, September 28, 2018.**



THE ALTAR BREAD for this week is donated in memory of **Thomas v. Newman, Sr.**, requested by **Mr. & Mrs. Robert Heedles.**

faith

LAB

Beginning **Tuesday September 25th**, after the 9:00AM Mass, we will be “experimenting” with a new concept here at the parish. Fr. Lukasz and I are calling it **Faith Lab**.

The definition of a Laboratory is “a room or building equipped for scientific experiments, research, or teaching.” Now, we will not be creating anything like some mad scientists! Faith Lab is an invitation to all parishioners to bring their thoughts, research, and questions to the table in a setting that will be led by one or both of the priests of the parish.

We will not be solving the problems of the world but more like engaging each other with questions like... “Why we do that?” or “Does the Church teach this?” or “Father, what’s your opinion?” (including some of the more sticky questions). Father Lukasz and I are not theologians and so you may stump both of us! In fact, we will be open to anonymous questions!

There is no signup and no prerequisites or requirements, just a willingness to explore the Catholic faith in a respectful manner using Scripture, tradition, anecdotes and experiences.

Faith Lab will begin on Tuesday September 25th after the 9.00 Mass, in the rectory, and will conclude on the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving. Following Thanksgiving, the “**Foul Weather Friends**” (that’s my moniker) will begin to meet in the rectory for coffee and cake, continuing through winter months and concluding the Tuesday before Holy Week. If Faith Lab is a success, Fr. Lukasz and I will plan evening dates throughout the winter months. As I said, Faith Lab will be conducted by both priests of the parish (depending on our schedules).

Come join us to explore and investigate the Catholic Faith!

Fr. Lukasz & Fr. Colamaria



“THE WEIGHT OF A MASS”

Quite a few years ago, I read a children’s book entitled The Weight of a Mass: A Tale of Faith, by Josephine Nobisso. Well written and beautifully depicted is the tale of a poor old woman and her faith (and our belief). In the story, the old woman enters a bakery and begs for a piece of bread; upon her request the baker inquires what she has to offer. She explains she has no money, but will offer her Mass for the baker. The baker laughs and finds her offer ludicrous, and to prove it so, he writes the words “one Mass” on a slip of paper and places it on the dish of a bakery scale. To demonstrate his point, he places a bun on the other dish of the scale expecting the scale to tip with the weight of the bun. The scale doesn’t budge! Incredulously, he inspects the scale and places another bun upon the same dish as the other bun and still the scale does not tip. Before you know it, he is ordering everyone in the bakery to pile every cruller, bun, cake and croissant onto the one dish of the scale. The scale never moves. Everything in the bakery including the wedding cake of the king is then placed on the scale and yet none weigh more than the slip of paper that says “one Mass”.

Every Mass celebrated at this parish has an intention attached to it. Very often we hear the name of the person (the intention) during the prayer of the faithful. That public intention, although not necessary to be announced, is the priest’s intention when he offers the Mass. It his public prayer to God at

that Mass to offer that Mass for that intention. Intentions can be offered for the living, the deceased, or for a special thanksgiving or request. Masses are offered by request at the rectory or if you have had to bury a loved one, you may have received a Mass Card. The Mass Card is like that small slip of paper that is placed on the scale. It states that the Mass will be offered for your loved one, either here in the parish or at another Altar. Purgatorial Masses are a series of Masses offered solely for the deceased and are offered once a month here in the parish. There are many names included in a Purgatorial Mass, hence the name “Purgatorial Society”.

What you may not know is that once a week, on a Sunday, a “*Pro Popolo*” Mass is offered publicly. The *Pro Popolo* Mass is required by Church law in every parish. It is a Mass offered for all the people (pro popolo) of that parish. Yes, each week, one Sunday Mass is offered for your intention! Membership has its privileges! Knowing the importance of the Mass, or the weight of every Mass that is offered, is a good reminder to you, and to all, that each and every week you are remembered in prayer at the Altar. And the weight of that is immeasurable!

Fr. Colamaria



New Family Religious Education Registration for 2018-2019

Our program consists of Eight Religious Education grades: Kindergarten through 7th Grade

We are now registering children for the **2018-2019** school year. You may pick up a registration **form** at the Religious Education Office located in the St. Helen's Academy school building. The registration fee is **\$75** for one child and **\$100** for two or more children in the same family **for registrations received up to and including 7/20/2018**. **The registration fee for forms received after 7/20/18 is \$100 for one child and \$125 for two or more children in the same family.** If the child was baptized at a Church other than St. Helen, you will need a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate. If you do not have one available, you should contact the rectory of the Church where your child was baptized. It takes a couple of weeks to process a Baptismal Certificate at most parishes. Place your request now so your registration for our program will not be delayed. If you have any concerns or questions please contact us at 718-916-2319. Re-registration for those enrolled in the current year was sent home.

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.

St. Helen's Support Group for the Physically Challenged

meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 1:30PM in the Rectory meeting room. All are invited. For further information please call Joan at (718) 848-9173.



The **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.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES HOWARD BEACH SENIOR 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. **For further information, contact Rosalie at 718-738-8100.**

Mondays	9:30-10:30AM: 10:45-11:45AM:	Tai Chi with Elaine Fleischman Chair Aerobics with Charlie Roemer
Tuesdays	9:30-10:30AM: 1:00PM:	Movement Exercise with Millie Dancing to a DJ with Refreshments
Wednesdays	10:00-11:00AM: 10:30-11:30AM: 1:00-3:00PM:	Zumba with Elaine Adult Coloring Classes Karaoke By Fernando
Thursdays	9:30-10:30AM: 9:30-11:30AM: 12:30-2:30PM:	Movement Exercise with Millie Art Classes with a certified teacher Art Classes with a certified teacher
Fridays	9:30-10:30AM: 10:00-11:30AM: 10:30-11:30AM:	Cardio Exercise with Dwayne Introduction to Sign Language Yoga with Charlie Roemer



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 10:00AM-12:00PM.**

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER, 2018

**Mornings of Preparation
Required Before a Baptism:**
*(All begin at the 11:00AM Mass and
continue in the Msgr. McGinness Room)*
September 9 & 23 — October 14 & 28

Schedule for Baptisms:
(All begin at 2:00PM)

**September 9 & 23
October 14 & 28**

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

PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL Middletown, NY



Sponsored by St. Helen's Rosary Ministry

Wednesday, October 10, 2018

**Departing St. Helen's at 8:00AM
Returning by 5:30PM**

**\$40.00 for Rosarians — \$50.00 Non-Rosarians
Included: Continental Breakfast & Hot Lunch
and a donation to the Shrine**

**For more information, or to make a reservation call:
Agnes Cummings 917-716-5898**

St. Helen's Holy Name Society will hold their next meeting in Fr. Dooley Hall on **Sunday September 9th** after the 8:00AM Mass. As always, all men of the parish are invited to attend.



CYO Basketball sign-ups will be held in Fr. Dooley Hall on **Friday, September 7th from 7-9PM; Saturday, September 8th from 10AM-1PM; Sunday, September 9th from 1-4PM, and Monday, September 10th from 7-9PM.** For more information call Anthony at 917-494-9569 or you may also email: sthelenyobb@gmail.com.



The Rosarians will have their first meeting on **Sunday September 9th** after the 9:30 Mass in the school cafeteria. Flu and pneumonia shots will be available. Remember your insurance cards. If you are able, please help fill the food pantry with canned fruits and/or vegetables.



ADULT CONFIRMATION AND BECOMING CATHOLIC

Any adult who has not received the Sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist and desires to do so, please contact the Rectory to set an appointment with Father Colamaria.

Any Adult who is curious about becoming Catholic, or to be received into the Church, is invited to contact the Parish office at 718-738-1616.

Any and all questions about Adult Sacraments can be made at any time, **but September is an important deadline for the beginning of classes for Sacraments to be received in 2019.**



PASS ON THE GOOD NEWS!
What Good News? – The Good News of Jesus Christ and our Catholic Faith!

This fall over 400 children, kindergarten through 7th grade, will sign up to learn more about Jesus and our Catholic faith. You can help them learn and grow in faith by becoming a catechist for the St. Helen's Faith Formation Program. With classes offered Monday evenings, as well as Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, you are almost sure to find a time that fits your schedule. As you nurture the faith of our young, you will learn and grow as well! As one long-time catechist put it, "I learn so much from the children!" We provide you with training, materials and support.

Classes begin September 24th. If interested, or for more information, please contact Ms. Haiffa Vizoso, Director of Religious Education at the St. Helen's Religious Education Office: 718-916-2319.



ST. HELEN LADIES BOWLING LEAGUE

After 51 years, our **Bowling Day** is changed to **Tuesdays at 10:00AM** at Bowl 360, Rockaway Blvd. The season starts on **September 4th**. If you are interested in joining our league, please call Lorraine at (718) 843-3431.

TWENTY-SECOND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

The
“call”
stories



*Homiletic starters and
scriptural
reflection points for
each day of the month*

Monday, September 3, 2018

1 Cor 2:1-5; Lk 4:16-30

Today is Labor Day in the United States, a day to honor workers of all kinds, a day to give thanks for those who labor. It is also a day to be more aware of all the people who do the sometimes messy but always vital jobs that are often underappreciated and underpaid: those who grow and pick the vegetables and fruit we enjoy; those who collect and haul our garbage; those who care for both children and the elderly. And, it is a day to remember those who want to work but can't, as well as those who must work several jobs in order to make ends meet. *Gracious God, keep us mindful of those who have no work and those who have too much work.*

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

1 Cor 2:10b-16; Lk 4:31-37

I am writing this a few weeks after Easter, so the stories of the women visiting the tomb come to mind as I read Paul's letter. When the women go back to tell the other disciples what they've experienced, their words are dismissed as "an idle tale." A dead man who doesn't stay dead? Foolish, unbelievable nonsense. But then, some of Jesus' teachings also seem pretty foolish: The last will be first. The greatest among you is a servant. Go and sell your possessions and give to the poor. Love your enemies. And, sometimes hardest of all, love your neighbor. Perhaps, we need to risk being foolish sometimes. *Your ways are not our ways, eternal God, and for this we give thanks.*

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

1 Cor 3:1-9; Lk 4:38-44

Paul's letter to the Corinthians gives us a glimpse into the early church, fledgling Christians learning by trial and error what it means to be the church. It's clear from Paul's letter that the church in Corinth was filled with internal divisions and conflict, which Paul addresses head on. He calls the Corinthians "infants in Christ," not ready for solid food. After his criticism, he reminds them that, although he and others had planted and watered the seeds of faith, God alone gives the growth. Jesus is the center and foundation of their faith — not Paul, not Apollos. Even more remarkable, Paul tells this deeply divided community, "You are God's garden." You are people who gather in Christ's name, people who grow and bear fruit in God's garden. *Nurture us and lead us, Holy One, that we may indeed be your garden.*

Thursday, September 6, 2018

1 Cor 3:18-23; Lk 5:1-11

in the Bible are wildly different from each other. Moses encounters God in a burning bush; Elijah hears a still, small voice; an angel visits Mary. The prophet Isaiah hears God's call in the temple. In God's presence, Isaiah becomes aware of his sin and he cries out his confession. And, when God asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for me?" Isaiah responds "Here am I" without a moment's hesitation. Luke's account of Jesus calling his first disciples doesn't take place in a temple. Instead, we have the tremendous catch of fish after a night of failure and frustration. The boats are so full that they begin to sink. Like Isaiah, Peter senses the significance of this event and also his sinfulness in Jesus' presence. But Jesus says, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." *For the courage to respond to your call, we pray.*

Friday, September 7, 2018

1 Cor 4:1-5; Lk 5:33-39

Jesus and the disciples are enjoying a banquet at Levi's house. The guests include other tax collectors, but also some scribes and Pharisees. When they complain that all Jesus and his disciples seem to do is eat and drink (they're not praying or fasting the way they're supposed to), Jesus tells them that the joyful news of the kingdom of God will demand new ways of thinking and doing and living the faith. God's reign will require change, something most of us do all we can to avoid. But the old clothes and old wineskins—the old traditions and rules and regulations—will do nothing to hinder the new life Jesus brings. *Help us, O God, to open our hearts to the new life you offer.*

Saturday, September 8, 2018

Mi 5:1-4a; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

As a Protestant pastor, it surprises me to read Matthew's genealogy in September. We usually read this Scripture during Advent, but reading it now helps me pay attention to the other characters of Jesus' nativity, especially his mother Mary. We really don't know much about Mary, at least not from the Gospels. Her family is never mentioned, except for cousin Elizabeth. We think she was young, perhaps a teenager. In Matthew's Gospel, the angel tells Joseph — not Mary — why and how Mary is pregnant, and that he should marry her as planned. Through the centuries, our image of Mary has emphasized her obedience and innocence, and yet there are stories in the Gospels (like the wedding feast at Cana) where she is neither meek nor mild. Like all of us, Mary is a child of God, a unique individual with both strengths and weaknesses. Maybe what we should remember most is her willingness to say "yes" to God. *Help us trust you enough to say, "Yes, Divine Love."*

