

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021

- 8:00AM In Thanksgiving for the Missionaries of Charity (*Vita Monastero*)
- 9:30AM Stanley Jasiak, Jr. (*Loving Family*)
- 11:00AM Capozziello-DiSanto Family (*Loving Family*)
- 12:30PM In Thanksgiving (*Joe & Donna Palagonia*)
- Macaluso Family (*Casillo Family*)
- Antonino Pedone (*Loving Family*)
- Myrtle Pugliese (*M/M N. Spinelli*)
- Fred Spagnuolo (*Loving Wife, Grazia*)
- Vincenza Spagnuolo (*Sister-in-law Grazia*)
- Special Intentions of Zoribel Torres
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021

- 9:00AM Paul Auwarter (*Vanessa & Hailey Morgan*)

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021

- 9:00AM Lillian Monastero (*Loving Daughter, Vita*)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021 *St. Patrick*

- 9:00AM Elizabeth & George Gould (*Annette & Marty*)

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2021 *St. Cyril of Jerusalem*

- 9:00AM Mary Montelbano (*Rose Anne Lepani*)

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021 *St. Joseph*

- 9:00AM Alberto Polvorosa (*Susan Polvorosa*)

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 2021

- 9:00AM Lillian Monastero (*Vita & Paul*)
- 5:00PM Mariam Arnold (*Phyllis Dispinseri*)
- Julianna Grace Cappello (*Visconti Family*)
- Gilma Cardenas (*Chinosi Family*)
- Ida Colletti (*Visconti Family*)
- Ray Guglielmi (*Carol Sorgenti*)
- Olga Haines (*Joe Barreca*)
- Francesca Lentini (*Vincenza Manzella*)
- John Long (*Margaret Butler*)
- Michael Palermo (*St. Helen Support Group*)
- Francis Purpura (*Michele Prince*)

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021

- 8:00AM George & Ann Papandrea
- 9:30AM Rina Cefarello (*Loving Son, Carmine*)
- 11:00AM Elda Bertagna (*Lucia Migliaccio*)
- 12:30PM George Buonocore (*Rosalie Librizzi*)
- Casillo Family (*Casillo Family*)
- Janet DeVivo—Special Intention (*Martin Kouzelove*)
- Carmine Giuliano (*M/M Pat Colarullo*)
- Aurora Hidrobo (*Zulia Lowery*)
- Zina Sisto (*Stacey Mangiaracina*)
- Richard Wade (*Stacey Mangiaracina*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners



Maureen Goehringer

GOOD SHEPHERD STATUE



We would like to thank **Vita Monastero**, who has been keeping the statue. Anyone interested in keeping the statue in their home and praying for vocations for one week should contact the Rectory.



Please join us every Tuesday at 1:00PM in Church to pray the special prayers to **The Holy Face of Jesus** in reparation for the crimes of communists, blasphemers, the profaners of his Holy Name and of the Holy Day of Sunday.

Are you new to St. Helen Parish? If so, please stop in at the Rectory to register your family, or for easier and faster service please register through our website at www.sthelen.org!



Amado Araneta, Joe Barreca, Anthony Barresi, Stella Barresi, Mary Battista, Barbara Bitetto, Theresia Brech, Daniel Campion, Sally Capozziello, Shang Cheng, Zena Cipolla, Marge D'Auria, Patrick Delaney, Domenica DeVito, Toni Ann Diaz, Virginia DiGangi, Tina DiPalo, Mary Divers, Colin F., Jennie Federici, Jean Fochetta, Clementine Gagliardi, Dennis Giammalvo, Tony Giampietro, John Joseph Gleeson, John Pierce Gleeson, Rosemarie & Joseph Guagenti, Gertrude Gwardjak, Christine Healy, Maria Hernandez, Henry J. Hinton, Steven Iglie, Marilyn Krajcik, Keri & Baby Tristan, Elaine Lazzeri, Susan Leone, James Leung, Patricia Lipari, William J. Litt, Tom Mercatante, Barbara Miller, John Myers, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Michael Palermo, Frank Palmenteri, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Doris Pecchillo, Nino Pedone, Amelia Pepe, Josephine Profera, Vivian Puglissi, Joseph Questore, Recupero Family, Frances Russo, John Secreti, Remington Stafford, Rubie Anna Torall, Lynn Torres, Chrissie Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters.

PLEASE NOTE: The Intentions for the next monthly Purgatorial Society Mass will be offered on **Friday, March 26, 2021.**

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC ACADEMY 200 TO 1 RAFFLE

\$10,000 Grand Prize (\$100 per ticket)



Drawing will take place on
Friday, April 23, 2021 at 7:00PM

Live Streamed on
St. Helen RC Church Facebook Page

To purchase tickets or for additional information please call
**Maria Ford 718-344-1998 or
Diane Joseph 917-697-5351**

Tickets sold on a first-come first-served basis.
Only 200 tickets will be sold!



**Only two more sessions left:
March 16, & March 23**
at 7:00PM in Church

(Faith Lab will not be held on the Tuesday of Holy Week)

If you would like to submit questions for Faith Lab, you may place the questions in the collection any weekend Mass prior to Faith Lab, and we will answer them at the meeting. Please place your questions in an envelope marked "Faith Lab".

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH BENEDICTION
Every Friday evening at 7:30PM.

CONFESSION
Monday - Friday: 8:45AM
Saturdays: 12:30-1:30PM

Reconciliation Monday:
March 29, 2021: 3:00-8:00PM

Sponsorship Certificates

If you have been asked to be a godparent for baptism, or sponsor for Confirmation, you will need a Sponsorship Certificate form which can be completed by one of the priests or deacons **in the Church directly after any of the weekday morning or weekend Masses**. Appointments are not made for these at the Rectory. You must come yourself—you cannot send someone else to get the form for you.



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 **who have already been born** 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.**

Upcoming Mornings of Preparation (Required Before a Baptism)
(All begin at the 11:00AM Mass and continue in the Msgr. McGinness Room): **April 25 & May 23**

Upcoming Schedule for Baptisms (All begin at 2:00PM): April 25 & May 23

Dates for the Morning of Preparation and Baptisms are the same for the convenience of the Celebrant. It is **strongly suggested** you plan on taking the Baptism class **prior** to the date of your child's baptism.

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

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Reading I *2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23*

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled." In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

R. *Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!*

By the streams of Babylon we sat and wept
when we remembered Zion.
On the aspens of that land
we hung up our harps. **R.**



For there our captors asked of us the lyrics of our songs,
And our despoilers urged us to be joyous:
"Sing for us the songs of Zion!" **R.**

How could we sing a song of the LORD
in a foreign land?
If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand be forgotten! **R.**

May my tongue cleave to my palate if I remember you not,
If I place not Jerusalem
ahead of my joy. **R.**

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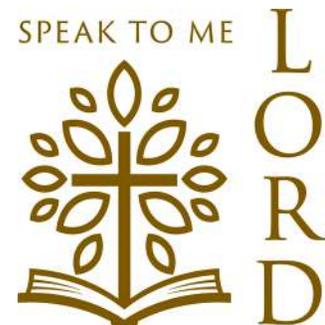
Reading II

Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ—by grace you have been saved—raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

Verse Before the Gospel

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so everyone who believes in him
might have eternal life.



Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: “Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.” For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.



Our Parish COMMUNITY

March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Lent (B)

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

Eph 2:4-10

Jn 3:14-21

You Decide

We normally take great pride in making our own decisions. When we did this as children, it was a sign that we were growing up; as adolescents, it was a proclamation of independence. Now as adults, when making decisions we demonstrate that we are self-directed. The problem doesn't seem to lie in decision-making itself but in the options given to us that require a decision. And there is the rub. Often these are options not of our choosing. This can make decision-making very difficult.

Today's Gospel is all about making decisions. Options are placed before us. We either choose Jesus and the extraordinary way of life that he has outlined for us, or we go along with the movements of society. This could include making money at any cost, denying hospitality to those who knock on our door, harboring an attitude of superiority over others. We either choose to live in the light with the insights that our faith provides, or we simply accept the values that bombard us each day through the media, namely: Me first. What's mine is mine. What's in it for me? Not in my back yard.

If we look carefully, we will realize that the way of life Jesus promotes is based on the dignity of each person, who is made in the image and likeness of God. Actions that dismiss, demean, damage, or destroy human life are contrary to the teaching, life, and example of Jesus. Accepting his way brings forth a new society called "the reign of God." Rejecting it will undermine the foundations of the society we have. Which will it be? You decide.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

For Reflection

- ✦ How might you have compromised your religious values in order to get by in life?
- ✦ Might God be asking you to choose something new?



And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil.

JOHN 3:19