

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MARCH 27, 2022

- 8:00AM George & Claire Cox
- 9:30AM Michael Casillo (Joe Barreca)
- 11:00AM Phyllis Carol Miranti (Loving Family)
- 12:30PM Catherine Ann Barcia (Stephanie & Michael Marrone)
- Michael Casillo (St. Helen's Religious Ed)
- Dara & Coraci Family (Loving Son, Frank)
- Steven Fischetti (Loving Family)
- Felice Pugliese (Cathy Lima)
- Andrja Stipanovic (Loving Family)
- Tomaselli Family (Carolyn Pulomena)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022

- 9:00AM Julie Villano (Loving Family)

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022

- 9:00AM Margaret Stanton (Anthony & Rosemary Matteo)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

- 9:00AM Madeline Bagnato (Julieanne Fleming)

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2022

- 9:00AM Theresa Montelbano (Rose Anne Lepani)

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022

- 9:00AM Susan Prosa-Hefter (Joseph & Rocco Prosa)

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 St. Francis of Paola

- 9:00AM Angelo Moccia (Luigi Moccia & Family)
- 5:00PM Michael Casillo (Vendittelli Family)
- Gregory Fox (Margaret Butler)
- Theresa Goldkranz (Donna & Mario Cirillo)
- Marie Keatley (Melissa & Billy Valley)
- Michael LaMarca (Sarosy Family)
- Rosalia Macaluso (Vendittelli Family)
- Angelo Nicoletta (St. Helen Rosarians)
- Donna Riccardi (Maria & Tom Ford)
- Imelda Whelan (Margaret Butler)

SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022

- 8:00AM Zofia & Bronislaw Bodziony (Loving Daughters)
- 9:30AM Rev. Wladyslaw Ciaglo & Jozef Bodziony (Loving Family)
- 11:00AM Frank T. Serpico (Loving Family)
- 12:30PM Giuseppa Adamo (Loving Family)
- Ida Colletti (Loving Family)
- Barbara Illari (Andrew & Samantha)
- Mary LaVelle (Douglas Nitzberg)
- Rosalia Macaluso (Alba Gutierrez)
- Felice Pugliese (Rosetta Liuba)
- Joseph Schiavone (Rich)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners



Pasquale Mantone
Providenzia Rodriguez

New Families: All are welcome to St. Helen Parish, and are asked to please register at the Rectory during office hours, or online at www.sthelen.org.

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 (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.

PLEASE NOTE: The Intentions for the next monthly Pur-gatorial Society Mass will be offered **Friday, April 29, 2022.**



Amado Araneta, Joe Barreca, Anthony Barresi, Stella Barresi, Mary Battista, Barbara Bitetto, Mike Cabral, Daniel Campion, Kathleen Cassata, Shang Cheng, Mary Chiarello, Zena Cipolla, Lucille Claps, Rose Curti, Patrick Delaney, Domenica DeVito, Toni Ann Diaz, Virginia DiGangi, Mary Divers, Colin F., Jennie Federi-ci, Clementine Gagliardi, Dennis Giammalvo, Tony Giampietro, John Joseph Gleeson, John Pierce Gleeson, Rosemarie & Joseph Guagenti, Frank Guerra, Gertrude Gwardjak, Christine Healy, Maria Hernandez, Henry J. Hinton, Steven Igllo, Keri & Baby Tristan, Elaine Lazzeri, Susan Leone, James Leung, William J. Litt, Tom Mercatante, Barbara Miller, John Myers, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Mary Palermo, Frank Palmenteri, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Doris Pecchillo, Nino Pedone, Amelia Pepe, Rosemarie Perl, Josephine Profera, Vivian Puglissi, Joseph Questore, Recupero Family, Maria Rivera, Joseph Russo, John Secreti, Remington Stafford, Rubie Anna Torall, Lynn Torres, Chrissie Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters.

GOOD SHEPHERD STATUE



We would like to thank Edith Dimiro, who has kept the statue for these past few weeks. Anyone interested in keeping the Good Shepherd statue in their home and praying for vocations should contact the Rectory.



Don't forget to drop your 50-50 envelope in the collection basket! **Please, only \$1 per envelope! Good Luck To All!**

THE VEILING OF IMAGES

The Fifth Sunday of Lent is the beginning of what is traditionally known in the Catholic Church as Passiontide. After the Fifth Sunday of Lent, the most solemn and sacred liturgies of our Church are celebrated. Passiontide includes the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. There is a venerable tradition during Passiontide, to veil or cover all the images of the Saints and Crucifixes in the parish Church. **This year, Saint Helen Parish will practice the veiling of all images during Passiontide.**

It may seem counterintuitive to cover images, particularly those that depict our Lord's suffering on the Cross, especially during the time we recall the passion and death of our Savior. But that's the point! The covering or veiling of images stands as a stark reminder that this time (that is, Passiontide) is different. There is an ancient homily once delivered on Holy Saturday, that begins with one sentence, "Something strange is happening". Passiontide is meant to heighten our awareness, our senses, our intellect and our emotional awareness, that yes, something strange is happening! Our Lord and Savior is approaching His death. We will listen intently on Palm Sunday and Good Friday to the Passion, the account of our Lord's agony in the garden, His betrayal, His arrest, His trial, and His walk to Calvary. The liturgies we celebrate on these days are meant to draw us into the great mysteries of our redemption. These ancient liturgies draw us into the mystery through word and sacrament.

The veiling of the images is a stark symbol that things are not normal. What we are used to looking at as a means of devotion, we are suddenly deprived of, but only for a short while! And therein lies the whole point: **the veils are not meant to be there forever.** The images need to be unveiled; it is unnatural for them to be covered. Thus, we are left with our own imaginations while we listen to the word of God.

This venerable tradition has taken many forms throughout the centuries. In some churches in Europe, every statue was covered throughout the forty days of Lent, altar pieces had doors on hinges that would close, covering paintings and other sacred images, and in Germany during the Middle Ages, the entire Altar was veiled to the point you were unable to see Mass being celebrated. It is jarring, it is not meant to be, to cover that which leads our hearts and minds to the things of heaven; but therein lies another mystery. These images will be once again revealed or unveiled. The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. It is only through our own death that the veil is lifted and we are finally able to see the beauty of everything in our lives.

The veiling of images in Church reminds me of the concrete veils seen on monuments in older cemeteries, symbolizing the pall of death. The veiling of images reminds me of sitting shiva with my Jewish neighbors, when they had lost a loved one; every mirror in the home was veiled to deter one from vanity. The veiling of statues is akin to the burial shroud. The veiling of things familiar to us, also speaks to us: "Something strange is happening!" May these final days of Lent enrich your souls and deepen your love for our Savior; because by His Holy Cross, He has redeemed the world.

Father Colamaria

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Reading I *Jos 5:9a, 10-12*

The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.” While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover, they ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

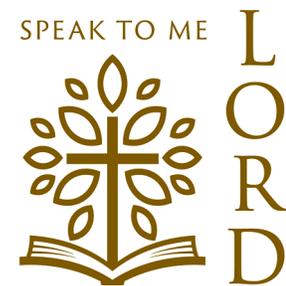
Responsorial Psalm

R. *Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

I will bless the LORD at all times;
 his praise shall be ever in my mouth.
 Let my soul glory in the LORD;
 the lowly will hear me and be glad. **R.**

Glorify the LORD with me,
 let us together extol his name.
 I sought the LORD, and he answered me
 and delivered me from all my fears. **R.**

Look to him that you may be radiant with joy,
 and your faces may not blush with shame.
 When the poor one called out, the LORD heard,
 and from all his distress he saved him. **R.**



Reading II *2 Cor 5:17-21*

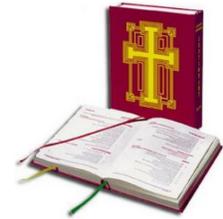
Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

Continued on next page...

READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Verse Before the Gospel

I will get up and go to my Father and shall say to him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.



Gospel *Lk 15:1-3, 11-32*

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So to them Jesus addressed this parable: “A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, ‘Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’ So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, ‘How many of my father’s hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers.’”

So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ But his father ordered his servants, ‘Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.’ Then the celebration began.

Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, ‘Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, ‘Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.’ He said to him, ‘My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.’”

faith Only 2 More Sessions!
LAB

Thursday Evenings March 31 & April 7 at 7PM in Church

Faith Lab will not be held the Thursday of Holy Week.

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.

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". You may submit a question even if you do not attend.

St. Helen Catholic Academy's

200 to 1 RAFFLE

\$10,000 Grand Prize!



\$100 Per Ticket
(Only 200 tickets will be sold)

Drawing: Friday, May 20, 2022 at 7:00PM
Live Streamed On St. Helen R. C. Church Facebook Page

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

Tickets will be sold on a first come first served basis!



Please join us on Mondays at 3:30PM 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.

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2022

Stations of the Cross:

Every Monday in Lent at 12:30PM (with School children)

Every Friday evening at 7:30PM with Benediction

Weekday Masses: Monday—Saturday: 9:00AM

Weekend Masses: Saturday at 5:00PM

Sunday: 8AM, 9:30AM, 11AM, 12:30PM & 5PM

Confessions: Monday—Friday at 8:45AM

Saturdays 12:30-1:30PM, or by appointment (please call Rectory)

RECONCILIATION MONDAY
APRIL 11, 2022

Throughout the N.Y. region, this day is set aside for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) in preparation for Easter. Here at St. Helen, the opportunity for the Sacrament will be offered from **3:00PM thru 8:00PM.**



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 3 — May 22**

Upcoming Schedule for Baptisms

(All begin at 2:00PM): **April 3 — May 22**

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.**

Society of St. Vincent de Paul



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St. Helen will share in the profits! For each car, truck or van, running or not, The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will give back to our Church \$50/\$100 per vehicle. Call The Society today if you have a vehicle to donate!