

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THIS WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2023

- 8:00AM George & Claire Cox
- 9:30AM Frances Baglino (*Jennie Taranto*)
- 11:00AM Ciro Bunone (*Son, Michael & Caroline*)
- 12:30PM Dolores Ambrosino (*Robbins Family*)
- Enza Maniscalco Asaro (*Steve Giusto*)
- Josephine Biers (*Nicastro Family*)
- Fred Catapano (*St. Helen Choir*)
- Joe Ingargiola—Good Health (*Loving Sister*)
- John Ingargiola (*Loving Sister*)
- Vincenzo & Fedele Tullo (*Tullo Family*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2023 COLUMBUS DAY

- 9:00AM Helen Meshak (*Longo Family*)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023

- 9:00AM Christine Ann Salegna—Birthday (*Loving Parents*)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2023 St. John XXIII

- 9:00AM Frances Vigliarolo (*Loving Daughter*)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

- 9:00AM Linda Massino (*Josephine Massino*)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2023

- 9:00AM Patty & Kevin Harold—In Honor of Their 50th Wedding Anniversary



Anna Sabatino

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 Purgatorial Society Mass will be offered **Friday, October 27, 2023.**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023 O.L. Callistus I

- 9:00AM Yvonne Troia (*Muriel Quinn*)
- 5:00PM Alfred Carbonaro (*Mistretta Family*)
- Fred Catapano (*Franca & Jack Taranto*)
- Lidia DiBartolomeo (*M/M Alberto Patti*)
- Gina Furno (*Nancy & Sal Murno*)
- John Hamel (*St. Helen Religious Ed*)
- Fara Milazzo (*Franca & Jack Taranto*)
- August Schmuck (*Marion Costa*)
- Giacomo Scotti (*St. Helen Religious Ed*)
- Jennifer Tubolino (*Franca & Jack Taranto*)
- Vincent Vaccaro (*Angela Conrad*)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023

- 8:00AM George & Ann Papandrea
- 9:30AM Rosalie Hawk (*Cynthia Ottomanelli*)
- 11:00AM Joseph & Helen Feminella (*Alena Pazienza*)
- 12:30PM Louis Bacotti (*Stephanie Olsen & Family*)
- John J. Barone (*Joanne Barone & Family*)
- Donna Johnson—Good Health (*Louis Zerella*)
- Marguerite Nocerino (*Dolores Priolo*)
- Rose Pecorella (*Stephanie Olsen & Family*)
- Jennifer Tubolino (*Sabrina Mastrangelo*)
- Francis Yong (*Susan Yong*)
- 5:00PM For The Parishioners



THE ALTAR BREAD for this week is donated in memory of Christine Ann Salegna, requested by her loving parents.

THE ALTAR WINE for this week is donated in memory of Yvonne Troia, requested by Muriel Quinn.



Men's Ministry with Fr. Panicali

for men 18+, meets Thursdays at 7:00PM in the Rectory meeting room.

*Rosary, fellowship, coffee.
Build your masculine Christian spirituality!*



Florence Albrecht, Amado Araneta, Beatrice Arango, Carolyn Barbiero, Anthony Barresi, Stella Barresi, Mary Battista, Barbara Bitetto, Gail, Blanc, Helena Brophy, Mary Ann Camhi, Loraine Cammarata, Daniel Campion, Mary Chiarello, Zena Cipolla, Lucille Claps, Rose Curti, Domenic Dell'Anno, Toni Ann Diaz, Virginia DiGangi, Mark Esposito, Jennie Federici, Adeline Florio, Dawn Franceschetti, Clementine Gagliardi, Tony Giampietro, Florence Hauschild, Rosemarie & Joseph Guagenti, Gertrude Gwardjak, Christine Healy, Maria Hernandez, Henry J. Hinton, Genoveva Ibanez, Steven Iglio, Keri & Baby Tristan, Baby Peyton Krajcik, Elaine Lazzeri, Susan Leone, James Leung, Tom Mercatante, Barbara Miller, Brenda Myers, John Myers, Angela Ottomanelli-Hubbs, Mary Palermo, Frank Palmenteri, Sebastian Panasci, Santo Pantina, Doris Pecchillo, Nino Pedone, Rosemarie Perl, Josephine Profera, Vivian Puglissi, Joseph Questore, Recupero Family, Maria Rivera, Joseph Russo, Remington Stafford, Rubie Ann Torall, Lynn Torres, Chrissie Tremblay, Paul Tremblay, Paul John Tremblay, Sr., Sr. Joanne Walters, Sonia Zeller.



Everyone is invited to join the Rosarians on a trip to
**Our Lady of the Island Shrine in Manorville, NY
This Wednesday, October 11th.**

We will travel by comfortable coach bus. The donation is \$30.00 per person. For more information contact Patty at (917) 685-4712, or Mary Ann at (347) 806-6960.

Please Note: The Rectory office will be closed on **Monday, October 9th** in observance of Columbus Day, and will reopen on Tuesday at 9:00AM.



Please join us on Thursdays at 3:00PM in Church to pray the special prayers to **The Devotion of 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.



For your ongoing clothing donations, a St. Vincent de Paul Van will be here at St. Helen Church the following Sundays from 8:00AM-1:00PM: October 29, November 26, December 31 & January 28

If you miss any of these dates you may also call St. Vincent de Paul at (917) 226-8691.

Please do not leave bags of clothing donations by the Church or the Rectory!

Molloy University (1000 Hempstead Ave., Rockville Centre, NY), will be holding a **Fall Open House on Sunday, November 12th** at 1PM. For more information, or to register, please visit www.molloy.edu/openhouse23.

St. Helen's Support Group is open to new members. Twice a month (the 1st & 3rd Wednesday) we provide emotional and social support. We encourage the home-bound parishioners to venture out from their home and spend a few hours with us. Please call Joan (718-848-9173) or Rosemary (718-738-4628) for more information.



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



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): **Nov. 12 & 26 — Dec. 10**

Upcoming Schedule for Baptisms (All begin at 2:00PM): Nov. 12 & 26 — Dec. 10

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.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2024 ARE NOW BEING TAKEN

IMPORTANT! THERE WILL BE NO IN-PERSON BOOKINGS OF 2024 MASSES!

As done previously, Mass intention requests for 2024 will only be accepted by mail, drop off in the mail slot by the Rectory door, or in the collection basket at Mass (please make sure to mark the outside of the envelope "2024 Mass Intentions"). Requests will be entered into the 2024 Mass Book in the order they are received by mail or drop off. No one may personally come to the Rectory for 2024 Mass Intentions.

Once your Mass intention has been processed you will be contacted by phone or email.

IMPORTANT CHANGES TO SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Dear Parishioners,

Last week, I announced in the Bulletin the necessity to take a proactive measure with the Sunday Mass schedule in reducing one of the Sunday Masses (if you missed last week's letter, it can be found online on the parish website). Currently, the parish has five Masses on a Sunday. Having five Masses every Sunday means that one of the two priests must celebrate three Masses. Is this difficult? No. Priests love to say Mass. Is this optimal? No. Canon Law specifically states a priest may celebrate three Masses on any given day for specific circumstances. This schedule does not meet the criteria for those canonical circumstances. Now, what if one of those two priests were to become ill or be unable to celebrate Mass? In that situation, it is permissible for the priest to celebrate all five Masses. But, to regularly celebrate three Masses on a Sunday is not what the Church intends. If a parish had a need to celebrate six or seven Masses on a Sunday, that would behoove the Diocese to assign an additional priest to that parish. But the fact of the matter is, there are fewer and fewer priests available!

Now, nobody likes change, myself included, but I do believe the time is now to change the Sunday Mass schedule in preparation for a parish to do more with less. Much thought, prayer, reflection, and consultation has been put into this decision. Most parishes in my predicament would simply pare down the current schedule to an 8:00, 10:00, 12 noon schedule, leaving both Saturday and Sunday 5:00 Masses as is. But Saint Helen parish is not like other parishes! After monitoring the numbers of people attending Mass throughout the year, I have decided that beginning in January 2024 the parish Sunday schedule will **not** include a 12:30PM Sunday Mass. All other Masses will remain the same. My reasons are multiple, and I do not have enough space to list them all. Here are but a few:

1. The 12:30 Mass has been monitored and tallied as the lowest attended Sunday Mass.
2. Eliminating the 12:30 Mass will affect the least amount of parishioners, compared to creating an 8AM, 10AM, 12 noon schedule.
3. The children's choir sings at the 9:30 Mass and the Adult Choir sings at the 11:00 Mass.
4. On Holidays such as Easter & Palm Sunday, or if Christmas falls on a Sunday, the parish will add a 12:30 Mass to accommodate the crowds. A 12:30 Mass may be added when we engage all the parents in the "proximate preparation for Sacraments" which is done on a Sunday (about 4 times a year) and also brings large crowds. An 8AM, 10AM, 12 noon schedule would preclude this from happening.
5. If parishioners prefer a later Mass, there will still be a 5:00 Mass Sunday evening.
6. The Diocesan Bishop has expressed that if a parish has an evening Mass on Sunday to try to maintain it, especially if it's the only one around. Saint Helen parish is one of last parishes in the area to have a later Sunday Mass.

I do not take this decision lightly and have been considering it for over a year. I have discussed it with numerous pastors, staff members, and priest friends. I understand that this will inconvenience some, but I do believe being proactive to the impending clergy personnel situation is something that must be done sooner than later.

This new schedule will go into effect the first Sunday in January 2024. The last 12:30 Mass on a Sunday will be Sunday, December 31st. I cannot apologize for a situation I did not create, but must be a responsible steward and Pastor to this parish. The Mass book already reflects this decision and announcements will continue to be made informing parishioners of this new schedule until the new year. Letters to parents in the Academy and Religious Education will also be issued forthwith.

Sincerely,
Father Colamaria

REQUEST FOR MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2024

MASS TIMES YOU MAY REQUEST: LIMIT OF THREE (3) MASSES ONLY PER FAMILY!

Monday through Saturday: 9:00AM Mass	Offering per Mass: \$15.00. <u>One Intention Per 9:00AM Mass.</u>
Saturday 5:00PM Mass	Offering per Mass: \$10.00. There may be up to ten (10) separate intentions for this Mass, for recently deceased ONLY. Intentions for this Mass will not open until a later date, so please do not request a Saturday 5PM Mass.
Sunday Masses at 8:00AM & 9:30AM	Offering per Mass: \$25.00. <u>One intention per Mass.</u> (The Sunday 11:00AM Mass will now be "For The Parishioners" and, therefore, this Mass is not available for intentions.)
Sunday Mass at 5:00PM	Offering per Mass: \$10.00. This is a " multiple intention Mass " and there may be up to eight (8) separate intentions for this Mass.
Dates <u>NOT AVAILABLE</u> For 2024 Mass intentions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The last Friday of every month (Purgatorial Society Mass): Jan. 26, Feb. 23, March 29, April 26, May 31, June 28, July 26, Aug. 30, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 29, & Dec. 27. Mother's Day 9-Day Novena: May 11: 9AM, May12: 8AM, 9:30, and the 9AM Mass May 13-18. Father's Day 9-Day Novena: June 15: 9AM, June 16: 8AM, 9:30, and the 9AM Mass June 17-22. Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses.

Please make sure the form below is completed **before dropping off at the Rectory** to reserve Masses for loved ones and other intentions during the coming year of 2024. Offerings may be accepted by cash or check (made payable to St. Helen Church). **Please make sure you include your name, address, phone number and email address below so we may be able to contact you.** *Please print all information clearly so there is no mistake on the spelling of a loved one's name!*

1. Name for Intention:			
Requested by:			
1. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____
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2. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____

2. Name for Intention:			
Requested by:			
1. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____
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2. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____

3. Name for Intention:			
Requested by:			
1. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____
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2. Choice Date:	Day of Week:	Mass Time:	Offering: \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

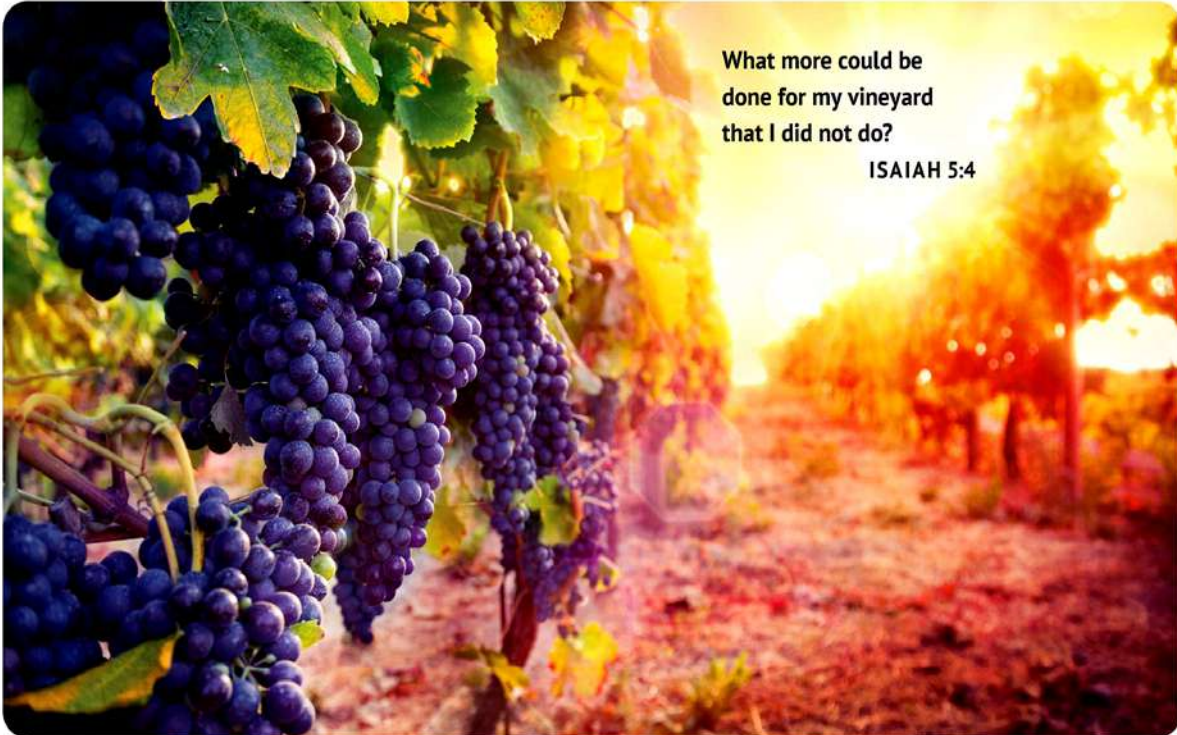
Submitted By: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ Email: _____

Our Parish COMMUNITY

October 8, 2023

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Isaiah 5:1-7 / Philippians 4:6-9 / Matthew 21:33-43



What more could be
done for my vineyard
that I did not do?

ISAIAH 5:4

When God Daydreamed Us

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

At the end of the Broadway musical *Camelot*, King Arthur finds himself confronted by the fact that his dream of the Round Table and justice for all has died without having borne the fruit he had hoped. A young boy, Tom of Warwick, comes up to him asking if he might be dubbed a knight. Arthur does so, and then commissions him to go forth and tell the story of Camelot to everyone he meets, all with the hope that someone someday will dare to try again to create a world with equal justice for all.

We all live with dreams of what we might be, of what life might be. They seldom turn out the way we had imagined, yet what would life be without such dreams. They push us into new futures. They create hope and new possibilities. They bring meaning to our lives.

The parable of the landowner and his vineyard is really a story of God and the dream God has for us. It is a story of how God withholds nothing from caring for his vineyard that it might bear fruit, that is, from trying to make his dream for us a reality, even to the point of giving his Son over to that dream.

Dreams never come easy. If they did, they would not be dreams. It was so for those who founded this nation in 1776. It is so for parents with dreams for their children. It is so as well for God, who dreams dreams for us in Jesus. ●

Reflect

Do the dreams you have for your life and the lives of your children reflect God's dreams for you?