



St. Helena Church

6161 N. 5th Street
(Fifth Street and Godfrey Avenue)
Philadelphia, PA 19120-1497

St. Helena Church is a Tithing & Evangelizing Parish Mission Statement

We, the Parish of St. Helena, are rooted in Jesus Christ and nourished by Eucharist. We are aware of our present diversity and the changes that enrich us. We strive with all that God has given us to live and to share the Gospel of love by creating a welcoming and united community. We seek to integrate actively people of all ages, races, and cultures into every area of life.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Joseph T. Trinh	<i>Pastor</i>
Rev. Edward A. Pelczar	<i>(Retired) In Residence</i>
Rev. Peter J. Welsh	<i>Parochial Vicar</i>
Rev. Albert Gardy Villarsen, OMI	<i>In Residence</i>
Deacon Victor I. Seda	<i>Parish Deacon</i>
Deacon Huan C. Tran	<i>Parish Deacon</i>
Deacon Victor Pomaes	<i>Parish Deacon</i>
Sr. Sophie Yondura, ssj., D. Min.	<i>Parish Services, DRE, RCIA</i>
Elena Asencio	<i>Parish Secretary</i>
Tram Ton Nu	<i>Business Manager</i>
Genevieve Black	<i>Music Director</i>
Sr. Maryanne Zakreski, ssj	<i>Outreach Center</i>
Sr. Anna Marie Lesutis, RSM, RN	<i>Health Promotion</i>
Ann Farley, MSN	<i>Health Promotion</i>
Sr. Lan Nguyen, OP	<i>Parish Ministry</i>

Rectory	6161 N. 5 th Street	215-424-1300 (1301)
Convent	6127 N. 5 th Street	215-924-2770
School	6101 N. 5 th Street	215-549-2947
Rectory Fax Number		215-424-9152
Health Promotion Office		215-384-6540
Food Bank		267-900-5935
St. Helena Parish Outreach Center		267-437-4929

Web-site www.sainthelenaparish.net

St. Helena Church Office Hours (closed 12Noon-1:00pm)

Monday-Thursday	9:00am to 8:00pm
Friday	9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday	9:00am to 2:00pm



St. Helena-Incarnation Independent Mission School

6101 N. 5th Street 215-549-2947

St. Helena Food Bank

Is serving clients in the 19111, 19120 and 19126 zip codes once a month. Bring photo I.D. and a current bill showing your name and zip code. Hours of Service: Tuesday & Thursday from 9:00am-12:30pm. Senior Boxes – 3rd Thursday of each month from 9:00am-12:30pm.



MASSES

Saturday Vigil – 4:30PM Mass in English
Sunday – 8:00AM Mass in English
9:30AM Mass in Vietnamese 11:15AM Mass in English
12:30PM Mass in Spanish
Monday through Saturday 8:00AM
Obligatory Holy Days – (except Jan. 1 & Christmas)
8:00AM, 9:00AM, 7:00PM Tri-lingual
First Fridays – 8:00AM (and 9:00AM during School Year)



SACRAMENTS

Confession

Saturdays 4:00-4:30PM 15 minutes after Mass



Preparation Class in English is held the 1st Sunday of each month. Please call the rectory to set up an interview with Sr. Sophie Yondura, ssj. D. Min. before planning for the baptism.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If interested in completing your Sacraments For information, contact Sr. Sophie Yondura, ssj., D. Min. (215-424-1300).



Religion classes for Public School students held every Sunday beginning in September. Classes are at 9:15AM in the School Hall. For information, contact Sr. Sophie Yondura, ssj., D. Min. 215-424-1300).



The Church must be contacted at least 6 months in advance to make arrangements.

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic
Adoration
Daily Rosary
MM Devotion
OLLV Devotion

Every Thursday in Chapel
8:30AM-5:00PM (Evening Prayer)
Monday – Friday after 8:00AM Mass
Saturday – 7:45AM (Lower Church)
Friday – 8:00PM (Chapel)
Saturday – 8:30AM (Lower Church)



Viet. Divine Mercy
Grupo
Carismático

Sunday – 2:30pm (Lower Church)
Tenemos circulo de oración en español todos los miercoles a las 6:00PM-9:00PM en la iglesia de abajo. Están todos invitados

SERVICE MINISTRY

55+ Club
Boys Scouts
Aid for Friends
Outreach Center
Sick Calls

2nd & 4th Thursday 12:00 (Rectory Basement)
Every Wednesday 7:00PM-9:00PM (Hall)
Contact Sister Sophie Yondura, ssj. D. Min.
Sr. Maryanne Zakreski, ssj (267-437-4929)
Please call the rectory to schedule a home visit for Communion or in the Hospital.

Rehabilitation
& Nursing Home

Laurel Square, York, Cheltenham
Contact Father Peter Welsh

Meetings

Parish Council

Alternating 2nd Tuesday 7:00PM (Rectory)

Finance Committee

Alternating 2nd Tuesday 7:00PM (Rectory)

Alumni Meeting

Monthly at 10:00am in the Convent



January 10, 2021 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

We Remember in Prayer our Sick

Luke Tynan	Frances Clark	Duong Thi Tham
Rosaura Caraballo	Victoria Marin	Stephen Beach
Lucia Zavala	Ryan Cichon	Monica Yondura Peltz
Carmen Torres	John Sanchez	Carmen Jimenez
Virginia Gilligan	Elena Evagenevna	Biryukova
Margarita Adorno	Nathaniel Lopez	Emilio Rosario
Francis Germanovich	Carmen Giamarco	Dan Shead
Francis Hernandez	Isabel Phayre	Awilda Gonzalez
Camille Figueroa	Ignacio Ortolaza	Hipolita Delgado
Samuel Delgado	Samie Rosado	Carmen Delia Cruz
Maria Thanh Doan	Adolfo Castano	Fernando Castano
Belen Delgado	Mercedes Garcia	Gisela Gonzalez

We Remember in Prayer our Deceased Brandy Vaughn & David Van Nguyen

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls. Amen!

San Miguel Arcángel, defiéndenos en la batalla. Sé nuestro amparo contra la perversidad y asechanzas del demonio. Reprímale Dios, pedimos suplicantes, y tú Príncipe de la Milicia Celestial, arroja al infierno con el divino poder a Satanás y a los otros espíritus malignos que andan dispersos por el mundo para la perdición de las almas. Amén.

Lạy Tổng Lãnh Thiên Thần Micae, xin hãy bênh vực che chở cho chúng con trong chốn chiến trường, cùng nên như thành lũy vững bền cho chúng con trông cậy và chống trả các chước sâu độc ma quỷ. Chúng con sắp mình xuống xin Đức Chúa Trời ngăn cấm thần ngụy ấy. Lạy Tổng Lãnh Thiên Thần Micae là tướng quân cai quản cơ binh trên trời kia Satan và thần dữ đang rảo khắp thiên hạ hòng làm hư loài người chúng con, xin người lấy phép Đức Chúa Trời mà xua đuổi chúng xuống hỏa ngục đời đời. Amen

Scripture Readings for the Week

SUNDAY, January 10, 2021 Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Is 55: 1-11 1 John 5: 1-9 Mark 1: 7-11

MONDAY (11) Heb 1: 1-6 Mk 1: 14-20

TUESDAY (12) Heb 2: 5-12 Mk 1: 21-28

WEDNESDAY (13) Heb 2: 14-18 Mk 1: 29-39

THURSDAY (14) Heb 3: 7-14 Mk 1: 40-45

FRIDAY (15) Heb 4: 1-5, 11 Mk 2: 1-12

SATURDAY (16) Heb 4: 12-16 Mk 2: 13-17

Mass Intentions for the January 10 to 17, 2021

SATURDAY, January 9, 2021

4:30pm Anna Quynh Hoang

SUNDAY, January 10, 2021 Baptism of Our Lord

8:00am Peter & Anna Ky Nguyen & Mau Do

9:30am Personal Intention (VN Livestream-UC)

11:15am St. Helena Parishioners

12:30pm St. Helena Parishioners (SP Livestream-UC)

MONDAY, January 11, 2021

8:00am Maria Pham Thi Hong

7:00pm Jose Ramon Frias

TUESDAY, January 12, 2021

8:00am Maria Huong Thi Nguyen

WEDNESDAY, January 13, 2021 St. Hilary, Bishop &

8:00am Joseph Xung & Anna Quy **Dr. of the Church**

THURSDAY, January 14, 2021

8:00am Peter Tam Vu and All the Souls

FRIDAY, January 15, 2021

8:00am Joseph Xuan Nguyen

SATURDAY, January 16, 2021

8:00am Maria Kim Nguyen

4:30pm Lien Pham

SUNDAY, January 17, 2021 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am Lisa Bell

9:30am Personal Intention (VN Livestream-UC)

11:15am Julia & Frank Schaller

12:30pm St. Helena Parishioners (SP Livestream-UC)

Prayer in Anticipation of our 100th Anniversary

Gracious God we give thanks as we anticipate celebrating the 100th anniversary of St. Helena Church and the journey that started so many years ago, and so many plans ago, and so many dreams ago. We celebrate all the joys that have been birthed in these 97 years. We celebrate all the happy times, all the accomplishments, and all the triumphs. Thank You, Lord, for blessing our parish. We acknowledge that there have been, and will continue to be, struggles and heartaches. Yet we have travelled together under Your protection and love for the past 95 years. Thank You, Lord, for being with us in good times and bad. We give thanks for those who founded our church 96 years ago and for their faith and vision, for their gifts and abilities. We give thanks for all who have been members of this congregation, those who have given freely of their time and money, and for those whose wisdom guided our Church. We give thanks for all who have preached and taught here and for all who today lead in worship, witness, and service in our parish. We ask, Lord, that You would continue to protect us, guide us and sustain us as we anticipate our 100th anniversary celebration in 2024. Amen

Welcome to St. Helena Parish in Olney section of Philadelphia! We are pleased to have you share in this celebration of the Eucharist. If you do not have a home parish, we invite you to become part of our parish family and become fully involved in our life of prayer, education, service and community.

Live-streaming Sunday Masses

English Masses: The Mass is celebrated and live-streamed each Sunday at 11:00am from the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul so you can participate in the Eucharist remotely.



St. Helena's Vietnamese Mass is live-streamed every Sunday at 9:30am and St. Helena's Spanish Mass is live-streamed every Sunday at 12:30pm. Go to www.sainthelenaparish.net and click on the time under MASS SCHEDULE for all English and live-streaming Masses, including the Mass at the Cathedral of Sts. Peter and Paul.



St. Helena Church Food Pantry Today is **FOOD BANK** Sunday

Our Food Pantry continues to serve those in need. Please bring your donations of pasta, sauce, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese, beans, baked beans, rice, to the food pantry on Tuesdays and Thursday. Money donations are needed for perishable goods and to buy food at discount from Philabundance. The rectory office mail drop can be used anytime for your donations.

Health Promotion Office News

To prevent infection and to slow transmission of COVID-19, do the following:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, or clean them with alcohol-based hand rub.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when in public settings or around others.
 - Maintain at least six feet distance.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Refrain from smoking and other activities that weaken the lungs.
- Practice physical distancing by avoiding unnecessary travel and staying away from large groups of people.



Laudato Sí ~ Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Environment and Human Ecology



We can hardly consider ourselves to be fully loving if we disregard any aspect of reality: "Peace, justice and the preservation of creation are three absolutely interconnected themes, which cannot be separated and treated individually without once again falling into reductionism". Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth. **(LS #92)**

- ♦ This week reflect on the ways that peace, justice and the preservation of creation are related.



Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. This brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to be sons of God. The baptism of Jesus reminds us of our identity. It reminds us of who we are and Whose we are. By Baptism, we become sons and daughters of God, brothers and sisters of Jesus, members of his Church, heirs of Heaven, and temples of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' baptism reminds us also of our mission to experience the presence of God within us, to acknowledge our own dignity as God's children, and to appreciate the Divine Presence in others by honoring them, loving them and serving them in all humility and to live as the children of God in thought, word and action. Through our Baptism, we accept both the good and the bad experiences of life as the gifts of a loving Heavenly Father for our growth in holiness and to grow daily in intimacy with God by personal and family prayers, by meditative reading of the Word of God, by participating in the Holy Mass, and by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Today is a day to **thank God for the graces** we have received in Baptism, **to renew our Baptismal promises** and to preach Christ's "Good News" by our transparent Christian lives of love, mercy, service and forgiveness.

Do you reject Satan? **I do.** And all his works? **I do.** And all his empty promises? **I do.** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth? **I do.** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? **I do.** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? **I do.** God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins. May he also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ for ever and ever!



Year of St. Joseph ~ December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021

J is for Joseph the Just Man. **O** is for Joseph the Obedient One. **S** is for Joseph the Silent one. **E** is for Joseph the Example. **P** is for Joseph the Patron. **H** is for Joseph the Helper.

Joseph the Obedient One... Joseph was truly obedient to the will of God in his life. The Angel said, "Have no fear about taking Mary to be your wife." As soon as Joseph knew God's will for him, he obeyed. When the angel told Joseph that Herod was planning to destroy the child, Joseph immediately got up and began the flight to Egypt. Some people ask if St. Joseph was old. This is due to the apocryphal writings of the early church, ancient writings which were not divinely inspired, or approved by the Church as Sacred Scripture. These ancient writings say that when Joseph married the Blessed Mother he was 89 years old, and that he died at the age of 111. There is nothing in the Bible to suggest that St. Joseph was so old. We can be assured that Mary didn't have to push St. Joseph in a wheel chair through the desert. Actually, I believe that Joseph was young and strong. Obviously older than the Blessed Mother; perhaps in his 20s or 30s. He was her guardian and protector. Scripture speaks about Mary's betrothal to a man named Joseph. It does not say he was an old man, as Simeon or Zachary. So Joseph wasn't as old as some would like to claim him to be. Even in the ancient catacomb of Priscilla, Joseph was drawn without a beard showing him to be a young man. But Joseph was an obedient man. Whenever he was warned in a dream he always obeyed the will of God. He never questioned Divine Providence. Even though Mary was 8 3/4 months pregnant, Joseph had to believe it was God's will for them to leave Nazareth and go down to Bethlehem. This was to fulfill the prophecy of Micah that the Savior would be born in Bethlehem. Joseph abandoned himself to the will of God. Ask yourself these questions: "Am I obedient to the will of God? Am I obedient to the Ten Commandments? Am I obedient to the teaching of Christ and the teachings of the Church on marriage and family life?" Go to St. Joseph to become obedient sons of the Church.

Biblically a tithe means 10%. All are asked to consider returning 10% of our income to the Lord (5% to the parish, 5% to God's other charities: e.g. St. Helena Outreach Center, Food Bank) in gratitude. The spiritual practice of tithing disposes us to make God first in every area of our lives! The aim is to secure not the tithe, but the tither, not the gift, but the giver—for God!



Parish Tithing Report for December 27, 2020

Thank You!

(1st) Weekly.....\$3,385.00 (140 envelopes)
 Drop Off.....\$1,436.00 (62 envelopes)
 E-Giving.....\$350.00 (5 transactions)
Total Collection.....\$5,733.00 (202 envelopes)

Mass	Attendance	Loose	Envelopes	Total	# Envelopes
4:30pm	43	\$60.00	\$80.00	\$145.00	14
8:00am	49	\$117.00	\$1,256.00	\$1,373.00	22
9:30am	213	\$190.00	\$842.00	\$1,032.00	50
11:15am	51	\$73.00	\$768.00	\$841.00	31
12:30pm	143	\$122.00	\$434.00	\$556.00	23
Drop off	-----	-----	\$1,436.00	\$1,436.00	62

A special Christmas donation of \$2,000.00 Christmas Collection.....\$9,534.00
 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1, 2021) Collection.....\$2,319.00

Thank You!

Parish Tithing Report for January 3, 2021



(1st) Weekly.....\$2,658.00 (146 envelopes)
 Drop Off.....\$1,600.00 (60 envelopes)
 E-Giving.....\$340.00 (4 transactions)
Total Collection.....\$5,172.00 (206 envelopes)
 (2nd) Maintenance Collection.....\$1,605.00

Mass	Attendance	Loose	Envelopes	Total	# Envelopes
4:30pm	55	\$58.00	\$165.00	\$223.00	14
8:00am	36	\$55.00	\$258.00	\$313.00	20
9:30am	211	\$336.00	\$1,118.00	\$1,454.00	66
11:15am	47	\$16.00	\$635.00	\$651.00	22
12:30pm	138	\$109.00	\$482.00	\$591.00	24
Drop off	-----	-----	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	60

You make the difference! Thank you for growing in holiness and striving to be a good steward.

Last But Not Least

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord. How important it is that all of us remember our baptisms! That's a big part of this Feast Day today and every year. As we come to the end of our Christmas season, before we head into Ordinary Time, we take the time to remember that we **ARE** baptized people. And that, my brothers and sisters, makes us different. We aren't like everybody else. We are a unique creation of God. We have died to Christ. From the moment that all that water poured off our heads, we were a new creation in Christ. We were born again. Everything started a new! How important it is for us to **NOT** forget that! Today we celebrate Jesus' Baptism and the beginning of His public ministry. But today demands that we also remember our own baptisms and the beginnings of our own walks with Christ.

Pope Francis announced a special year dedicated to St. Joseph starting from December 8, 2020 until December 8, 2021, on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the proclamation of St. Joseph as the Patron of the Universal Church. **This week, we will ponder Joseph the Obedient One. (See page 3 for a short reflection).** Thanks for reading, stay healthy, reach out to those close to you and last but not least have a good week

Your Brother and Shepherd,
 Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

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What's My Name?

The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson



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