



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 Pastor

Rev. Edward A. Pelczar (Retired) In Residence

Rev. Peter J. Welsh Parochial Vicar Rev. Albert Gardy Villarson, OMI In Residence Deacon Victor I. Seda Parish Deacon Deacon Huan C. Tran Parish Deacon **Deacon Victor Pomales** Parish Deacon

Parish Services, DRE, RCIA Sr. Sophie Yondura, ssj., D. Min.

Elena Asencio Parish Secretary Tram Ton Nu Business Manager Genevieve Black Music Director Outreach Center Sr. Maryanne Zakreski, ssi Sr. Anna Marie Lesutis, RSM, RN Health Promotion Ann Farley, MSN Health Promotion Sr. Lan Nguyen, OP Parish Ministry

Rectory 6161 N. 5th Street 215-424-1300 (1301) Convent 6127 N. 5th Street 215-924-2770 School 6101 N. 5th 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 5:00pm

Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

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-12:00pm. Senior Boxes – 2nd Thursday of each month from 9:00am-12:00pm.



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 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)

Viet. Divine Mercy Grupo Carismático

Saturday – 8:30AM (Lower Church) Sunday – 2:30pm (Lower Church)

Tenemous circulo de oración en español todos los miercoles a las 6:00PM-9:00PM en la iglesia de abajo. Estan 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

Laurel Square, York, Cheltenham & Nursing Home Contact Father Peter Welsh

Meetings

Parish Council Alternating 2ndTuesday 7:00PM (Rectory) **Finance Committee** Alternating 2ndTuesday 7:00PM (Rectory)

Alumni Meeting Monthly at 10:00am in the Convent



February 28, 2021 2nd Sunday of Lent

We Remember in Prayer our Sick

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

We Remember in Prayer our Deceased

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 qủy. Chúng con sấp 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 kìa 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, February 28, 2021 2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-181 Romans 8: 31b-34 Mk 9: 2-10

MONDAY (01)Dn 9: 4b-10Lk 6: 36-38TUESDAY (02)Is 1: 10, 16-20Mt 23: 1-12WEDNESDAY (03)Jer 18: 18-20Mt 20: 17-28THURSDAY (04)Jer 127: 5-10Lk 16: 19-31FRIDAY (05)Gn 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Mt 21: 33-43, 45-46

SATURDAY (06) Mi 7: 14-15, 18-20

Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

Mass Intentions for the Feb. 28 to Mar. 7, 2021

SATURDAY, February 27, 2021 4:30pm Maria Phuong Vu

SUNDAY, February 28, 2021 2nd Sunday of Lent

8:00am Thanksgiving for Teresa Guong Nguyen 9:30am Personal Intention (VN Livestream-UC)

11:15am Frank Schaller, Sr

12:30pm Mercedes Martinez (SP Livestream-UC)

MONDAY, March 1, 2021

8:00am Martin Vo Dai Hai 7:00pm Dominic Giao Cong Tran

TUESDAY, March 2, 2021

8:00am Joseph Am Hoang

WEDNESDAY, March 3, 2021 St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin

8:00am Maria To Tuu

THURSDAY, March 4, 2021 St. Casimir

8:00am John Than Tran

FRIDAY, March 5, 2021

8:00am Peter Vuong Tran 7:00pm St. Helena Parishioners

SATURDAY, March 6, 2021

8:00am Joseph Chiet and All the Souls

4:30pm Maria Phuong Vu

SUNDAY, March 7, 2021 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:00am Thanksgiving for Teresa Guong Nguyen 9:30am Personal Intention (VN Livestream-UC)

11:15am Frank Schaller, Sr

12:30pm Mercedes Martinez (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



www.sainthele naparish.net

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 Parish Health Promotion Office Information

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. 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



The current global situation engenders a feeling of instability and uncertainty, which in turn becomes "a seedbed for collective selfishness". When people become self-centered and self-enclosed, their greed increases. The emptier a person's heart is, the more he or she needs things to buy, own and consume. (LS #204)

 During COVID-19 we experienced selfishness and greed as some people hoarded toilet paper and hand sanitizer. What helps you resist

being self-centered and choose to be other centered?

 Notice your buying, owning and consuming habits this week. Do you have more than enough?

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



Dear St. Joseph, Guardian of the Family watch over my Family here on earth. **St. Joseph: A Model for Guardians of Families...** Today families are threatened and fragmented in many ways. St Joseph is a vigilant and a man of discernment and action. As head of the Holy Family, he is the model for every Catholic home. Pope Francis, early in his pontificate, emphasized the saint's importance, inserting a petition in each Eucharistic prayer to the man who became a spiritual father to Jesus. In an unofficial, but very real way, Joseph is the patron saint of the family. Appointed by God to protect Jesus and Mary, so now Saint Joseph is the protector of the our family in this world. We are the members of the family of God because we have God the Father as our adoptive father through our baptism. Joseph's paternal protection of the Lord Jesus continues even from Heaven, as he watches over our families on earth. He is the icon of a loving and caring father, modeled after God our Father.

Friday's during Lent ~ A Time for Prayer



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sundays from 2:00pm to 5:00pm and on Mondays and Fridays from 8:30am until Mass at 7:00pm. On Mondays and Fridays at 12:00 noon we will pray the Angelus followed by Benediction. Confessions will be available from 12:15 to 1:00pm and from 6:00 to 6:45pm. **Stations of the Cross will be prayed PRIVATELY this year.** Copies of the Stations of the Cross book will be available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Come and spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

2nd Sunday of Lent ~ Words to Read and Reflect

Readings: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Romans 8: 31b-34

Mark 9: 2-10

Our daily lives are filled with a routine and a lot of daily tasks. In our daily lives, sometimes, without knowing it, or even when we are aware of it, we can get locked into our own world, our particular situation, and our daily routine. We can forget about or lose sight of the fact that we are part of a much bigger world, a bigger reality, and a universal community of faith. In today's Gospel, Jesus takes some of his apostles away from their daily routine, inviting them to go with him up a mountaintop. This does not seem unusual because Jesus sometimes goes off to places like the mountains to pray and to get away. Jesus became transfigured before the apostles, which is something special and unusual. His clothing became as white as light. Imagine the surprise and the shock on the apostles' faces. Most importantly, the apostles heard a voice from the clouds saying: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." These words are meant for us to hear today as well. Today, we are bombarded by so much noise and so many messages in the world. We have 24 hours news programs, 24 hour internet, and 24 hour social media. We have smart phones that link us to so many things instantly. News from around the world arrives in seconds to us. We hear so much news, but a lot of it is not good news. Some of it is not even real news. So much of what we hear in the media today has a slanted opinion, not objective facts. The word and message that Jesus speaks to us and offers us today are life-giving and life-changing. The words of Jesus are there to nourish us, to nurture us, and to sustain us. However, we need to open our hearts and our lives to hearing his words and the message contained therein. As we hear the Gospel of the transfiguration today, we are in the midst of challenging reality. However, there are many blessings in our lives as well. There are blessings that we are coming through the pandemic and that vaccinations are underway. We have to be open to seeing those blessings.

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!

Thank

Parish Tithing Report for February 21, 2021



(1st) Weekly......\$3,315.00 (145 envelopes) **Drop Off......\$595.00 (17 envelopes)** E-Giving......\$340.00 (4 transactions)

Total Collection......\$4,250.00 (162 envelopes)

Ash Wednesday Collection......\$2,104.00 (94 envelopes)

Tithing Income					
February 23, 2020					
\$6,288.50					
Tithing Income					
February 24, 2019					
\$5,689.00					

Mass	Attendance	Loose	Envelopes	Total	# Envelopes
4:30pm	59	\$97.00	\$119.00	\$216.00	12
8:00am	52	\$186.00	\$161.00	\$347.00	14
9:30am	185	\$250.00	\$1,210.00	\$1,460.00	72
11:15am	41	\$52.00	\$452.00	\$504.00	18
12:30pm	95	\$100.00	\$688.00	\$788.00	29
Drop off			\$595.00	\$595.00	17

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 2nd Sunday of Lent. "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to Him!" Today we hear the Gospel story of Jesus transfigured on the top of a mountain in front of the disciples. The apostles saw the real Jesus in those few hours on the mountain which they would never forget. They saw him as they never saw him before. They were told that he is the one who is to come. They knew they would listen to him, that his words were to be the rock of their life. The apostles' faith was confirmed on the mount of Transfiguration. The experience of Jesus on the mountain can be compared to our prayer time. Prayer moments may often be transfiguration moments when we glimpse the beauty of Jesus Christ and we commit ourselves to 'listen to him' as God invites. This week, spend some time with Jesus on the mountain and ask him to change those things in your life that are not in line with living a life dedicated to Him.

This week, we will ponder **St. Joseph, A Model for Guardians of Families.** (See page 3 for a short reflection St. Joseph. In honor of the Year of St. Joseph, we will pray the **Memorare to St. Joseph** at the end of Mass. Copies are available next to the bulletins.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sundays from 2:00pm to 5:00pm and on Mondays and Fridays from 8:30am until Mass at 7:00pm. On Mondays and Fridays at 12:00 noon we will pray the Angelus followed by Benediction. Confessions will be available from 12:15 to 1:00pm and from 6:00 to 6:45pm. Stations of the Cross will be prayed PRIVATELY this year. Copies of the Stations of the Cross book will be available in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Come and spend some time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Finally, it was so nice to see so many of you who came out on Ash Wednesday. Lent is a time to draw closer to the Lord. I invite you to come back to Mass, if you feel comfortable, and draw closer to the Lord during these days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. You may want to spend a few minutes after Mass pondering the words of the Gospel or reflecting on the homily.

Congratulations to 14 of our parish children who received their First Reconciliation on Tuesday. Thanks for your weekly contribution, 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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