



**4th Sunday of Lent
April 3, 2011**

**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.

Masses for the Week Apr. 3rd to Apr. 10th

SATURDAY, April 2, 2011

4:30PM Dominique & Marie Nguyen

SUNDAY, April 3, 2011 4th Sunday of Lent

8:00AM Bienvenido Jamil
9:30AM Personal Intention
11:00AM Bridgett McGoldrick
12:30PM Maria Saenz

MONDAY, April 4, 2011 St. Isidore

6:30AM
8:00AM Maria Chi Pham (BD)

TUESDAY, April 5, 2011 St. Vincent Ferrer

6:30AM
8:00AM Edward Srnik

WEDNESDAY, April 6, 2011

6:30AM
8:00AM

**THURSDAY, April 7, 2011 St. John Baptist
de la Salle**

6:30AM
8:00AM
4:00PM Confirmation Mass

FRIDAY, April 8, 2011

6:30AM
8:00AM James Francis Gannon

SATURDAY, April 9, 2011

8:00AM Francis Dong Doan
4:30PM John Gazick

SUNDAY, April 10, 2011 5th Sunday of Lent

8:00AM Thomas Carroll
9:30AM Personal Intention
11:00AM Francis Dong Doan
12:30PM Francisca Ruiz

***Please remember in your prayers
the deceased members of our
parish, families, friends and
benefactor.***



**Welcome to
St. Helena Church**



Our Church is a center for spiritual growth, where positive attitudes are developed, where good people become better, where hurts are healed, where lessons are learned, where friendships are developed, where marriages restless find peace, where love is alive, where God is understood, where the Holy Spirit leads, and where Jesus Christ is Lord. Together, let us spread the message of the Gospel to our neighbors.

We Remember in Prayer...Our sick

Winnie McGinty	Patricia Komly	Tina Hosgood
Theresa Palmer	Taryn & Jack	Betty Masi
Judy Kovescek	Bernie Black	Rita Voras
Rita Klienknecht	Donald Panaro	Priscilla Nguyen
Geraldo Acevedo	Charles T. Benner	Charles Ball
Joseph Voras	Rosa Di Nicola	Roberta Pohl
Sharon Doneker		

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, April 3, 2011 4th Sunday of Lent

1 Sm 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a Eph 5: 8-14 Jn 9: 1-41

MONDAY (04)	Is 65: 17-21	Jn 4: 43-54
TUESDAY (2405)	Ez 47: 1-9	Jn 5: 1-16
WEDNESDAY (06)	Is 49: 8-15	Jn 5: 17-30
THURSDAY (07)	Ex 32: 7-14	Jn 5: 31-47
FRIDAY (08)	Wis 2: 1a, 12-22	
	Jn 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30	
SATURDAY (09)	Jer 11: 18-20	Jn 7: 40-53

SUNDAY, April 3, 2011 4th Sunday of Lent

John 9:13 - 41

Jesus...smearred the clay on the blind man's eyes and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" which means Sent. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

Reflection: (Reflection by Jude Siciliano, OP, used with permission)

The miraculous healing of the blind man comes quickly in the narrative. Jesus goes over to him, anoints his eyes with the mud made from his saliva and tells him to wash at the Pool of Siloam. He does and gains his sight. But that's just the beginning. To receive physical sight in the Scriptures is a symbol for gaining spiritual sight. We will note throughout the story how the man's faith grows. It will be a clue to our own deepening in faith. The blind man's healing represents the first moments of faith for all of us. Fuller sight doesn't come immediately. His new sight must grow and, after being enlightened in the baptismal washing, so must our spiritual sight. As the blind man went on to testify to what the Lord has done for us, so too must we share the good works the Lord has done in our lives.



**American
Red Cross**

*The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood!*

Save this Date for **St. Helena's Annual Blood Drive**

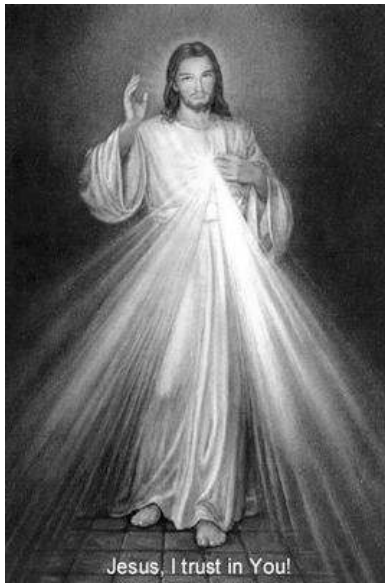
Sunday, April 3, 2011

9:00am to 3:00pm St. Helena School Hall

Please sign up through Sr. Sophie after Mass.

Thanks to all who signed up....Walk-ins welcome!

The Sunday after Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday!



Jesus promised St. Faustina that on Divine Mercy Sunday *"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."*

Join us Sunday, May 1, 2011, Divine Mercy Sunday in St. Helena's Parish Chapel as we pay devotion to the Merciful Jesus by chanting The Chaplet of Mercy and the veneration of His Image. The chapel will open at 2:30 PM and prayers will start promptly at 3:00 PM.

Please call Anita Repsch, at 215-548-3543 or Gemma Baldon. at 215-329-1659 for more information.

Children's Bible Story Hour

Children's Bible Story Hour is a new program in St. Helena Church that will focus on teaching young children up to age 5 about the Bible as well as the traditions and teachings of the Catholic Church. Children will hear about the life of Jesus and other special stories from the Bible. They will also learn traditional prayers and songs that will surely please our Lord! To make their learning more fun, milk and cookies will also be served! Parents and older siblings are welcome.

Children's Bible Story Hour will be held once a month. So, come and join us on Easter Sunday, April 23rd, after the 11 am mass, in the school gym, as we launch this exciting new program in our parish!

Please call Sr. Sophie at (215) 317-9168 or Gemma at (215) 329-1659 to RSVP or if you have any questions.



Jesus loved little children. When parents brought their children to Him, He took them in His arms and blessed them.

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St. Helena Parish Important Dates/Information

April 3rd St. Helena Church Annual Blood Drive 9:00am to 3:00pm
April 7th St. Helena Church Confirmation 4:00pm
April 23rd Children's Bible Story Hour after 11:00am Mass in the School Hall

PCA Olney Senior Program Hot Lunch served Monday through Friday for \$1.00. Contact Sr. Anna Marie Lesutis at 215-329-3650 for more information.

Called to Conversion and Holiness



The Sacrament of Confession We are all in the same boat...

We can point to many reasons for the equal dignity of human persons before God. One of those reasons does not seem as lofty as some others but it is one we can all easily understand. We are all in need of healing because we all have the wounds of sin. Since Jesus was "bruised for our offenses" and "bore our transgressions," He has taken those sins upon Himself in the mystery of His Death and Resurrection.

It remains for us to receive that healing which is so readily available and which, according to God's plan, is given to us in the Sacrament of Confession. In this great sacrament the reality of sin and forgiveness is placed before us, not so that we can lament that "we are all in the same boat," but so that we might rejoice that, though we have sinned, Jesus, the divine physician, offers us His healing and forgiveness.

You are invited to read Cardinal Rigali's Pastoral Letter that can be found on the home page of the Archdiocese – www.archphila.org

Turn to Me Về với ta Vuelve a Mí

St. Helena Parish Garden of Gethsemane

Dice



Two dice have become Passion symbols because the soldiers cast lots for his garments. "And they crucified him, and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each would take." (Mark 15: 24) A precedent was found in Psalm 22:18 "they divide my garments among them, and for my raiment they cast lots."

Spear

The spear or lance used to pierce the side of Christ while he was on the cross (John 19:34) is one of the Instruments of the Passion. It is often shown with the sponge on a reed.



Crown of Thorns and Nails



Mark 15:17-18 And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on him. And they began to salute him, 'Hail, King of the Jews!'"

Mark 15:22-24 "And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mingled with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him." Jesus was born the King of Kings. Yet the only crown he ever wore on this earth was a crown of thorns and the only time he was lifted up was when he was nailed to the cross. This crown and these nails represent the kingly garb that Jesus gave up to suffer for our sins.



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St. Helena Parish is a Tithing Parish since Jan. 19, 2003. God has provided for us in wonderful ways and we are committed to "making a return to the Lord for all His goodness to us." All we are and have is due to God's goodness.

Stewardship Report



3/28/09.....	\$5953.00
3/28/10.....	\$6507.00
3/27/11.....	\$5789.00

Number of Envelopes from Mass	324	Loose Collection from Mass	\$908.00
Envelope Collection from Mass	\$4167.00	Drop Off Collection	\$694.00
Fuel Collection.....	\$4137.65	Church in Europe.....	\$1068.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$1488.00	Children's Envelopes.....	\$20.00



Last But Not Least

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday of Lent. Today's gospel centers on the analogy and distinction between physical and spiritual blindness, as do most of the Gospel miracle stories where Jesus heals blind people. The early Christians saw physical blindness as a metaphor for the spiritual blindness which prevents people from recognizing and coming to Jesus. These stories testify, therefore, to the power of Jesus to heal not just the blindness of the eye but, above all, the blindness of the heart. When Jesus comes to us how does he come? Every time we receive the sacraments Jesus comes to us and there is a visible sign of Jesus coming to us invisibly through his sacrament.

This Thursday is a special day in the life of our Church. Forty-five of our parish children will receive the *Sacrament of Confirmation by his Eminence Cardinal Justin Rigali at 4:00pm in the Upper Church.* Please pray for these children and their families. I invite all to join us as we welcome Cardinal Rigali who will administer the Sacrament to our parish children.

I would like to thank the 55 courageous people who signed up to give blood this Sunday at our annual blood drive in the school hall. This gift will be a blessing to those who will receive it. If you did not sign up and would like to donate blood, please know walk-ins are welcome.

During the *Heritage of Faith, Vision of Hope Campaign*, you, the parishioners of our parish *pledged \$782,646.00.* Our *goal was \$475,000.00.* We have *in the Archdiocesan Trust Fund 32% of the pledges received thus far.* We have been notified that 28 people whose pledges total \$55,670.00 to this campaign has yet to be received. I do understand that some who pledged to this campaign did pass away or are financially unable to fulfill their obligation. *I would like to personally thank all who have donated and continue to donate to this Campaign.*

Don't forget to participate in the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. English will take place at 12:30pm in the Chapel, Spanish will take place at 7:00pm in the Chapel, and Vietnamese will take place at 7:00pm in the Lower Church.

Finally, I would like to thank the *Ladies of the Sacred Heart from our Spanish Community who refinished the Sacred Heart statue in the Lower Church.* It has brightened up the Lower Church. Once again, thank you for your generosity. Thanks for reading and have a good week and holy Lent.

Your brother and shepherd,
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

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