



**7th Sunday in Ord. Time
February 19, 2012**

St. Helena Church ~ A Tithing 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.

Declaración de Misión de Santa Helena

Nosotros, la parroquia de Santa Helena, estamos enraizados en Cristo Jesús y alimentados por la Eucaristía. Estamos conscientes de nuestra diversidad actual y de los cambios que nos enriquecen. Buscamos, con todo lo que Dios nos ha dado, vivir y compartir el Evangelio de amor creando un ambiente de acogida y una comunidad unida. Buscamos de integrar activamente en toda área de la vida a cada persona de toda edad, raza y cultura.

Giáo Xứ Thánh Helena – Giáo Xứ Thập Phân – Tôn Chỉ

Chúng tôi, Giáo Xứ Thánh Helena bắt nguồn từ Chúa Giêsu Kitô và được nuôi dưỡng bằng bí tích Thánh Thể. Chúng tôi nhận biết sự đa dạng của Giáo xứ và những thay đổi làm chúng tôi được phong phú hơn. Chúng tôi cố gắng, với tất cả những gì Chúa ban, sống và chia sẻ Tin mừng của Tình thương bằng cách xây dựng một cộng đồng hiệp nhất và chào đón mọi người. Chúng tôi luôn tìm cách kết hợp mọi người sống hòa đồng với nhau không phân biệt tuổi tác, sắc tộc hay văn hóa.

We Remember in Prayer... Our Sick

Winnie McGinty	Patricia Komly	Charles Ball
Theresa Palmer	Taryn & Jack	Betty Masi
Judy Koveseck	Bernie Black	Rita Voros
Donald Panaro	Charles T. Benner	Joseph Voros
Geraldo Acevedo	Tam Tri Nguyen	Roberta Pohl
Noreen Blyweiss	Barbara Eldred	Joan Schaller
Andre Clarke	Ellen Moffa	Eleanor Garin
Baby McClintock	Baby Avery William	Patricia Sobel
Joseph P. Kelly	Antoine Marthal	

We Remember in Prayer... Our Deceased

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.

Masses for the Week Feb. 19th to Feb. 26th

SATURDAY, Feb. 18, 2012

4:30pm Anna Minnick

SUNDAY, Feb. 19, 2012 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM Patrick McKee
9:30AM Personal Intention
11:15AM John L. Sullivan
12:30PM Juan Pablo Velez

MONDAY, Feb. 20, 2012

7:00AM Simon Toan Vu
8:00AM Efraim C. deRamos

TUESDAY, Feb. 21, 2012 St. Peter Damian

7:00AM James O'Donnell
8:00AM Maria Mai Lam



WEDNESDAY, Feb. 22, 2012 Ash Wednesday

7:00AM Maria & Dominic Nguyen
8:00AM Agnes Wholeb
9:00AM
7:00PM Joseph Chiet & All Souls



THURSDAY, Feb. 23, 2012 St. Polycarp

7:00AM
8:00AM Joseph Vinh Le

FRIDAY, Feb. 24, 2012

7:00AM
8:00AM

SATURDAY, Feb. 25, 2012

8:00am Edward & Anna Smakulski
4:30pm Dave Kelley

SUNDAY, Feb. 26, 2012 1st Sunday of Lent

8:00AM Dave Kelley
9:30AM Personal Intention
11:15AM Bill & Sarah Lehmann
12:30PM Divino Nino Jesus

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR THE WEEK**



SUNDAY, Feb. 19, 2012 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 43: 18-19, 21-22, 24b-25 2 Cor 1: 18-22
Mk 2: 1-12

MONDAY (20) Jas 3: 13-18 Mk 9: 14-29

TUESDAY (21) Jas 4: 1-10 Mk 9: 30-37

WEDNESDAY (22) Jl 2: 12-18 2 Cor 5:20-6:2
Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18

THURSDAY (23) Dt 30: 15-20 Lk 9: 22-25

FRIDAY (24) Is 58: 1-9a Mt 9: 14-15

SATURDAY (25) Is 58: 9b-14 Lk 5: 27-32



Why Do We Use Ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Ashes are placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday, in one of the most counter-cultural acts of our faith. It is done for two reasons: a personal act of remembrance and as a sign or a witness for others.

The ashes come from the burnt Palms from last year's Passion Sunday celebration, which begins Holy Week. So, these ashes bring us back to our last celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus for us. On this first day of Lent, we begin a journey of renewal - from death to life. This is a joyful season. We will make sacrifices, in order to try to let God reform our desiring, but this is a time for God to be generous to us.

When the ashes are placed on our foreheads, the minister says one of two formulas to help us remember who we are and the mission to which we are sent: "Remember, man/woman, you are dust and to dust you will return." "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."



We are reminded that we are creatures and that our lives were given to us. But, we are also reminded that our lasting home is in eternity, with God. This is not our lasting home.

We are reminded that our call is to turn away from sin and to believe the Good News of our salvation in Jesus. This is a joyful reminder. It challenges us, for sure, but reminds us of why we want to turn from sin.

Finally, we wear our ashes as a sign. It is not a boastful sign through which I say, "Look at me and see how holy I am." No, it is much more like, "I'm willing to wear this sign in the world and say that I've been reminded of where I come from and where I am going. And, I've heard the call to turn away from a life of sin and to give my life to living the Gospel of Jesus." And, occasionally, in this world which is too often caught up in the denial of death, I might be required to answer the question, "What's with the smudge on your forehead?"

Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with your whole heart, with fasting, and weeping, and mourning; Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God. For gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and relenting in punishment. - Joel 2:12-13

Fasting in the Spirit of Lent

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?...” Isaiah 58:6

During Lent, our Church calls us to fast. The practice brings us to a greater awareness of our own spiritual poverty as well as reminding us of the poverty that exists in the world around us. Fasting is one of the ways we remind ourselves of our shortcomings in service to others. As we fast, give alms and pray, we are led to show love for others who lack the basic essentials for life. It is through these actions that we are led to transformation.



St. Helena Alumni Beef and Beer



Calling All St. Helena School Alumni and Parishioners!!!

WHAT: St. Helena School Alumni First Annual Beef and Beer
WHEN: Saturday, March 3, 2012
TIME: 6:30pm to 10:30pm
WHERE: St. Helena School Hall (5th and Spencer Streets)
HOW: For Tickets and Information
e-mail pjs.shs70@gmail.com



Cost: \$25.00 per person

Tickets are also available at: St. Helena School
6101 N. 5th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19120
Attention: Sister Marie Albert, SSJ
Alumni Office – 215-549-8299



Good News to Share



We are happy to inform you that the name submitted to the Archdiocese for the merging of Incarnation of Our Lord School with St. Helena School for the 2012-2013 school year has been accepted. The new name will be ***Saint Helena-Incarnation Regional Catholic School***. Please continue to pray for the principals and teachers of both schools. We will keep you posted as things develop.



Catholic Social Teaching

CST

Seeing the destruction caused by elevating the profit motive and the marketplace as the supreme good, the bishops of the United States remind us that the human person must be the priority for those committed to the common good. “The economy exists to serve humans, not vice versa. Workers and their families must be our first priority.” (USCCB Labor Day Statement, 2011) (*Compliments of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia: www.ssjphila.org*)

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



	2/14/10.....\$5947.00
	2/13/11.....\$6093.00
	2/12/12.....\$4475.00
Number of Envelopes from Mass 226	Loose Collection from Mass \$1141.00
Envelope Collection from Mass \$3075.00	Drop Off Collection \$259.00
Aging Priest Collection.....\$1334.00	



Last But Not Least



Today we celebrate the **7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**. Today's gospel narrates to us the cure of the paralytic who was brought on a mat by his four friends to Jesus. Since it was physically impossible for them to approach Jesus they went to the roof, made a hole in it where they could bring the paralytic down through the rope to where the Lord was teaching. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "My son, your sins are forgiven". This scandalized the Pharisees for it is only God who can forgive sins. In order to show them that He is indeed God and a Messiah who has the power to forgive and to heal, he said to the paralytic : "Stand up, pick up your mat and go home". As we prepare to begin Lent, let us pray for peace and unity of the world, healing and reconciliation among nations, groups and individuals whose relationship is characterized by divisions and conflicts. Pray also for the conversion of sinners and for the sanctification and salvation of the whole humanity. In particular, I exhort you to pray for the Church specially for the priests: "We are used to asking the priests to pray for us. In these trying times for them and for the Church as a whole, I am asking you to pray for them".

Next Sunday, the 2nd collection will be for the annual Fuel envelope **for those who have not yet dropped of their envelope**. I know that you have been generous to the many collections over the past months. I thank you for your continued support. I do hope that you will be able to continue your generosity with the Fuel Collection. Whatever you give, is greatly appreciated.

Finally, **Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. We will distribute ashes after the Homily at the 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am and 7:00pm Tri-lingual Masses**. Lent is a time when we prepare as a faith community to meet the risen Christ at Easter. It is a time for conversion, where we acknowledge and turn away from whatever keeps us from living the Gospel, a time to remind ourselves that we are called to lives rooted in right relationship with God and neighbour. As we prepare to meet Christ in his resurrected glory, we pray for a change of heart towards greater love of God and neighbour; we fast from self-indulgence and indifference to the poor and suffering; and finally, we share our food, our wealth and our time with others in need. **Over these 40 days, may the Holy Spirit give us the strength to act justly, the courage to love tenderly and the faith to walk humbly with our God, that we might rejoice in the triumph of God's justice in Jesus at Easter**. Thanks for reading and have a great week!

Your Brother & Shepherd,
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh