



**3rd Sunday of Lent
March 27, 2011**



**Welcome to
St. Helena Church**



**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 Mar. 27th to Apr. 3rd

SATURDAY, March 26, 2011

4:30PM Marie Troegler

SUNDAY, March 27, 2011 3rd Sunday of Lent

8:00AM Marta Pham Thi Ninh

9:30AM Personal Intention

11:00AM Sarah J. Lehmann

12:30PM Horacio Batero

MONDAY, March 28, 2011

6:30AM

8:00AM Maria Dat Le

TUESDAY, March 29 2011

6:30AM

8:00AM Maria Cuc Le

WEDNESDAY, March 30, 2011

6:30AM Frank J. Schaller, Sr.

8:00AM Joseph Chiet & Rosa

THURSDAY, March 31, 2011

6:30AM

8:00AM Anna Smakulski

FRIDAY, April 1, 2011 St. Francis of Paola

6:30AM

8:00AM Gerard Fenano

9:00AM Joseph Bockius

7:00PM James C. Allen (22nd Anniv)

SATURDAY, April 2, 2011

8:00AM Thomas That Nguyen

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

***Please remember in your prayers the
deceased members of our parish, families,
friends and benefactor, especially William
Fisher and Grace Sweeney.***

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, March 27, 2011 3rd Sunday of Lent

Ex. 17: 3-7 Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8 Jn 4: 5-42

MONDAY (28)	2 Kgs 5: 1-15b	Lk 4: 24-30
TUESDAY (29)	Dn 3: 25, 34-43	Mt 18: 21-35
WEDNESDAY (30)	Dt 4: 1, 5-9	Mt 5: 17-19
THURSDAY (31)	Jer 7: 23-28	Lk 11: 14-23
FRIDAY (01)	Hos 14: 2-10	Mk 12: 28-34
SATURDAY (02)	Hos 6: 1-6	Lk 18: 9-14

SUNDAY, March 27, 2011 3rd Sunday of Lent

John 4: 5-42

Jesus said: "whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst". Then the Samaritan woman went back to the town and told the people about Jesus. Many began to believe in him and said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of your word; for we have heard for ourselves."

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

Who is the thirsty one in John's narrative? Why the woman of course. Judging from her disconnected life, her thirst is deeper than just her need for physical water. Jesus notes the thirst that he alone can satisfy; for he is the source of the water that will not disappoint or run out. Jesus goes wherever thirsty people can be found and offers water that will not run dry. What happens to the woman as a result of her encounter with Jesus and his gift of living waters? She rushes off to tell her townspeople what she has found - or rather about the **One who found her!** The Samaritan woman is a model for us for she is the first in a long line of witnesses to the new life we have in Jesus. We are her descendants, for God has found us and offers us life giving waters. We have drunk of these waters starting at our baptism. We cannot keep to ourselves what we have discovered in Jesus. We know the thirsts of people close to us, they express it in words like: "I am lonely", "my faith has dried up for me," "I don't know what my purpose in life is," "I feel confused . . . broken . . . unsure." We know where to go because we have been to the well and found Jesus offering us living waters. Like the Samaritan women we are to invite others to drink from the well as well.



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.

Our Goal is 60....we need 26 more participants to reach our Goal.

The Actual Donation Process



Registration

Our staff and volunteers will sign you in and go over basic eligibility and donation information. You will read information about donating blood, and will be asked to show a donor card, driver's license, or other form(s) of ID.



Mini-Physical

You will answer some questions during a private and confidential interview about your health history and places you have traveled. We will check your temperature, pulse, blood pressure and hemoglobin level present in a sample of blood.



The Donation

The actual donation takes about 8-10 minutes, during which you will be seated comfortably. The process is safe and sterile. Red Cross staff and volunteers will be available if you have any questions. Certain donation types, such as platelets, red cells or plasma, can take up to two hours.



Refreshment

After donating, you should have a snack and something to drink in the refreshments area. You can leave the site after 10-15 minutes and continue with your normal daily activities. Enjoy the feeling of accomplishment knowing that you have helped save lives.

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St. Helena Parish Important Dates/Information

March 28 th	First Communion Parent Meeting 7:00pm Room 4
March 29 th	Olney Senior Program Silk Flower Arrangements 10:15am to 11:30am St. Paul's Lutheran Church 5 th & Nedro
March 31 st	Confirmation Retreat Day 9:00am to 2:30pm
April 3 rd	St. Helena Church Annual Blood Drive 9:00am to 3:00pm

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 New Year's Resolutions

It would be interesting to take a poll asking people about their New Year's resolutions. What were they? Have they kept them? Have they stopped using that credit card? Have they lost that weight? The fact that we make jokes about all of this reminds us of the reality: most New Year's resolutions are probably broken, sometimes very quickly! The Church, whom we call our loving Mother, knows us too well to use New Year's resolutions as tools for the spiritual life. Instead, she gives us the Sacrament of Reconciliation because it corresponds so well to the reality of life. If we have broken our resolution to be faithful to God's commands and the message of Jesus in the Gospels, we do not have to wait a year to begin again. We can do that whenever we go to Confession! What a wonderfully realistic, and merciful, way of beginning again!

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



Veronica's Cloth

Saint Veronica was a pious woman of Jerusalem who, moved with pity as Jesus carried his cross to Golgotha, gave him her veil that he might wipe his forehead. Jesus accepted the offering and after using it handed it back to her, the image of His face miraculously impressed upon it.

Lord Jesus Christ, your face is everywhere where suffering exists and you await me to wipe away your blood and tears. Every time I have the courage and compassion to wipe your suffering face, your image and likeness will be imprinted on my soul. I will be transformed, so that you will live and love in me. Help me then to reveal your loving and beautiful face to others. Help me to see you present in others. It is your face, O Lord, which I seek.

Story of a Relic

History records the existence of this relic from the fourth century, but only from the Middle Ages was it strongly linked to the Passion of Christ. From the 12th century until 1608, it was kept in the Vatican Basilica as a popular goal of pilgrims, mentioned in Canto XXXI of Dante's "Paradise." When the part of the Basilica containing the relic was scheduled to be torn down for remodeling, the relic disappeared overnight. According to records in the monastery, the wife of a soldier sold the veil to a nobleman of Monoppello in 1608 to get her husband out of jail. The nobleman, it turn, donated it to the Capuchins. In 1618, it was placed in a walnut frame adorned in silver and gold between two sheets of glass. It remained in the monastery every since. Fr. Pfeiffer invested 13 years of searching through archives to prove that this is the same cloth that disappeared in 1608.

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



3/22/09.....	\$5953.00
3/21/10.....	\$6636.45
3/20/11.....	\$6054.00

Number of Envelopes from Mass	324	Loose Collection from Mass	\$1285.00
Envelope Collection from Mass	\$4557.00	Drop Off Collection	\$206.00

Fuel Collection.....\$3,962.65	Church in Africa.....\$1,025.00
Easter Flowers.....\$700.00	Children's Envelopes.....\$6.00



Last But Not Least

Today we celebrate the 3rd Sunday of Lent. The overwhelming image that we are faced with today is one of thirst. Jesus' meeting with the woman takes place around a well. Their conversation begins around the topic of water. So Jesus wanted a drink, and the Samaritan woman, tired of coming to the well so often, wanted to find a source of living water so she wouldn't have to bother hauling it up from the well and back to her home. In fact, she was so concerned about getting water, that, at first, she was not able to understand that Jesus was talking to her about a deeper thirst. In our Scriptures today, we see that thirst really means desire. And we all know the power of desire in our lives. Desire moves us to work, to love, to even kill. Desire can bring disaster into our lives, or it can give us life that is overwhelming. As we move into the 3rd week of Lent, let us focus on our own desire to be united with Jesus during Holy Week.

I am very happy to see about 12 to 14 people taking advantage of our *special program entitled "Lifting Up Our Hearts"* which introduces you to the new Roman Missal and the changes that will begin Advent 2011 in our Mass. This program is offered on Saturday mornings during the 6 weeks of Lent from 11:00am to 12:00Noon in the Rectory basement meeting room.

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 all those who made a pledge to our *Heritage of Faith, Vision of Hope Campaign*. During the Campaign, *our parish pledged \$782,646.00...our goal was \$475,000.00.* We are still working on the first of the 4 projects (case statements). These improvements consisted of...a new organ for the Lower Church, bringing the original Baptismal Font to the Lower Church, update to our Sound System (we are still working on this) and the Shrine to St. Joseph. Our parish is so blessed to have such generous parishioners and I am most grateful. I understand that times are hard, and understand that some have not been able to continue with this pledge due to family circumstances. If you are able to make a small contribution towards your pledge, I encourage you to do so. *I would like to personally thank all who have donated and continue to donate to this Campaign.* If you have any questions about the Campaign, feel free to call the rectory and I will be happy to talk with you. Thanks for reading and have a good week and holy Lent.

Your brother and shepherd,
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

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