

**9th Sunday in Ordinary Time
March 6, 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. 6th to Mar. 13th

SATURDAY, March 5, 2011

4:30PM Ty Nguyen

SUNDAY, March 6, 2011 9th Sunday in OT

8:00AM Genevieve M. Black

9:30AM Personal Intention

11:00AM Andrew Balitzky

12:30PM Olivia Ladavid Arcila

MONDAY, March 7, 2011 Sts. Perpetua & Felicity

6:30AM Patricia Fischer

8:00AM

TUESDAY, March 8, 2011 St. John of God

6:30AM

8:00AM Maria Mai Lam

WEDNESDAY, March 9, 2011 Ash Wednesday

6:30AM

8:00AM

9:00AM Michael Lydon

7:00PM

THURSDAY, March 10, 2011

6:30AM

8:00AM

FRIDAY, March 11, 2011

6:30AM

8:00AM

SATURDAY, March 12, 2011

8:00AM Joseph Chiet & Rosa

4:30PM Walter Patrick

SUNDAY, March 13, 2011 1st Sunday of Lent

8:00AM Fr. Thomas Gaynard

9:30AM Personal Intention

11:00AM Bridegett McGoldrick

12:30PM Anna Rosa Deariva

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

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

Grace Sweeney

Charles T. Benner

Charles Ball

Joseph Voras

Rosa Di Nicola

Roberta Pohl

Geraldo Acevedo

Tom Petroski

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, March 6, 2011 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 11: 18, 26-28, 32 Rom 3: 21-25, 28 Mt 7: 21-27

MONDAY (07)

Tb 1: 3; 2; 1a-8

Mk 12: 1-12

TUESDAY (08)

Tb 2: 9-14

Mk 12: 13-17

WEDNESDAY (09)

Jl 2: 12-18

2 Cor 5; 20-6;2

Mt 6: 1-6, 16-18

THURSDAY (10)

Dt 30: 15-20

Lk 9: 22-25

FRIDAY (11)

Is 58: 1-9a

Mt 9: 14-15

SATURDAY (2)

Is 58: 9b-14

Lk 5: 27-32

9th Sunday in Ordinary Time February 27, 2011

Reading: Mt 7: 21-27

Jesus said to his disciples... "Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise person who built their house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock."

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

In today's gospel Jesus gives the listener a brief parable about a house. Home is a place where we go to find shelter, protection, warmth and safety. Hence, Jesus uses a house image, as if to say, "Make my words your home: live in them; be nourished by them; seek their guidance in hard times; discover in my words the warmth of God's acceptance when you fail; and find in them God's strength when you need it. Make my words your home, they will not let you down. Residing in my words will enable you to stand firm during hard times." Jesus says that the floods came to both those who heard his words and acted on them and those who did not. Faith is no guarantee that we will not have to deal with storms of one kind or another in our lives. The difference is that if we take to heart what Jesus has said and fashion our lives according to his teachings, we will have a solid foundation on which to stand as we face the stormy winds of sickness, persecution, disappointment, failure and criticism.

Action response:

From now on, reread the Sunday gospel sometime during the week. Ask yourself, what "What is Jesus saying to me in this reading?" "What needs to change in my life to grow in this Word?"

Call to Conversion and Holiness



The Sacrament of Confession What comes first?

Cardinal Rigali's Pastoral Letter outlines the initiatives being undertaken for our local Church. The motivation for this entire pastoral effort is the Christian call to conversion and holiness. It would be tempting for any of us to want to "jump ahead" to the holiness part! It seems so much more attractive and positive. But this is not the message of Jesus and it is He whom we are called to follow. In the parable of the two houses exposed to the winds and the rain (Matthew 7:24-27), Jesus reminds us that it was the foundation that made all the difference. Both houses were exposed to the same dangers but only the one with the firm foundation remained standing. The foundation for holiness must be conversion because that is the constant call of Jesus, just as it was for His herald, John the Baptist. This is not a discouraging thought but an exciting challenge to be honest in examining ourselves in the light of the gospel.

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



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



Ash Wednesday March 9, 2011

Ashes will be distributed after
the homily at the 6:30am,
8:00am, 9:00am Masses and at
the 7:00pm Tri-lingual Mass.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. **Why we receive the ashes?** Following the example of the Ninevites, who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told "Remember, Man is dust, and unto dust you shall return." Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion. In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a penitential procession.

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Looking to Lent



St. Helena Church
will offer "Lifting Up Your Hearts"
Small Group sessions for Lent 2011

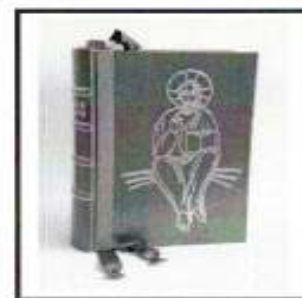
Who can participate in the "Lifting Up Your Heart" Small Group?

- + Anyone who would like to "do something" for Lent that will deepen his/her relationship with the Lord, especially by understanding the changes in the New Roman Missal for Mass.
- + Anyone who would like to learn about and practice the changes in the New Roman Missal with other parishioners.
- + Spouses, friends, and neighbors can come together!

What is the format for "Lifting Up Your Hearts" Small Group?

The Format is simple:

- + Opening Prayer
- + Explanation of the New Roman Missal
- + A comparison of the Old Missal responses to the New Missal Responses
- + Practice of the New Responses
- + Ways to share these new changes with your family and friends
- + Closing Prayer and Sending Forth



When Does the Group Begin and End?

- + Groups run for six 1 hour sessions for the six weeks of Lent
- + Groups begin on Saturday, March 12, and finish on April 16.

Time: Saturday's from 11:00am to 12 Noon

Place: Rectory Basement Meeting Room

Coffee & Refreshments provided



Sign Up with Sr. Sophie on the Weekends of
February 19-20 and February 26-27 All are invited!



Turn to Me
Về với ta
Vuelve a Mí



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



3/01/09.....	\$6358.00
2/28/10.....	\$8753.00
2/27/11.....	\$6054.00

Number of Envelopes from Mass	327	Loose Collection from Mass	\$1076.00
Envelope Collection from Mass	\$4835.00	Drop Off Collection	\$137.00

Fuel Collection.....\$2,823.65

Children's Envelopes.....\$6.00



Last But Not Least

Today we celebrate the 9th Sunday in Ordinary Time. “The Sermon on the Mount, which concludes in today's Gospel reading, is quite simply a masterpiece of moral and ethical teaching. It holds out the defining and absolute blueprint of how to live the life in the Spirit. It is the Magna Carta, if you like, of the Christian life. To live the Sermon on the Mount, to put the Beatitudes into practice, requires great courage; it requires us to die to our self and live for God. Yet the truth is, we find this difficult, and most of the time we are not prepared to pay the price, because it goes against the grain of our nature. We all know that in order for us to become masters of any craft or discipline we have to give ourselves over to practice, practice, practice. And practice, practice, practice means learning that vital skill of getting knocked down but getting up again. This is how it is with the Sermon on the Mount: the instant we dedicate ourselves to living it, we will fall and fail but in that falling and failure we find God's grace. But that is the point: we cannot live the Sermon on the Mount, we cannot reflect the Beatitudes in our lives, without the grace of God, without his mercy and kindness.

I would like to thank you for your contribution to the Fuel collection last weekend. If you cannot make a contribution at this time and would like to do so at a later date, please drop it off at the rectory. Once again, thank you for your help.

This coming Wednesday, *March 9th, is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent.* I encourage you to take advantage of the *special program entitled “Lifting Up Our Hearts”* which will introduce you to the new Roman Missal and the changes that will begin Advent 2011 in our Mass. This program will be offered on Saturday mornings during the 6 weeks of Lent from 11:00am to 12:00Noon in the Rectory basement meeting room.

Congratulations to our Confirmation Class who enrolled their names at the Inscription Service last Tuesday. At the entrances of the Church, you will find a basket with the names of the candidates who will be confirmed on April 7th by Justin Cardinal Rigali. I ask that you take a name and remember that candidate in your prayers during this final period of preparation.

Finally, please remember in your prayers the sick, the homebound, the poor, the needy and the homeless of our parish and city. Thanks for reading and have a good week and holy Lent.

Your brother and shepherd,
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

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