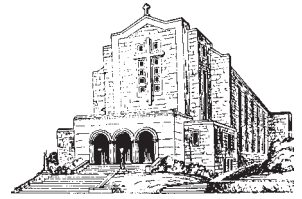




St. Helena Church

FIFTH STREET AND GODFREY AVENUE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19120-1497



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Pastor

REV. STEPHEN B. PERZAN

Parochial Vicar

REV. EDWARD A. PELCZAR

Residence

REV. JOSEPH V. CUMMINS, C.M.

Spanish Ministry

DEACON VICTOR I. SEDA

Parish Deacon

SR. SOPHIE YONDURA, ssj. D. Min.

Pastoral Care - Parish Services Director

MR. BRANDON WOLF

Seminarian

MR. ANDREW STARR

Seminarian

CAROL VOLPE

Principal

VERONICA DORAN

School Secretary

HELEN DEVLIN

School Secretary

SISTER MARIE ALBERT HETZEL, S.S.J.

Coordinator of School Development Fund

MELANIE CAPOFERRI

Music Director

LINDA HALEY

Business Manager

KATHLEEN GIACOMELLI

Office Manager

SR. JULIA WALSH

Catholic Social Services

SR. ANNA MARIE LESUTIS, RN, RSM

Parish Nurse Facilitator

Ann Farley

Parish Nurse Liaison

Rectory: 6161 N. Fifth St.

Phone: 215-424-1300

215-424-1301

Fax: 215-424-9152

Convent: 6127 N. Fifth St.

Phone: 215-924-2770

Jackpot Lottery: 215-424-2418

Web-site: www.sainthelenaparish.net

School: 6101 N. Fifth St.

Phone: 215-549-2947

Parish Nurse: 215-329-0110

CHURCH OFFICE

The church office in the rectory is open Monday thru Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, except for the 12:00 to 1:00 lunch hour.

MASSES

Saturday Vigil - 4:30PM Mass in English

Sunday - 8:00 AM Mass in English

9:30 AM Mass in Vietnamese

11:00 AM Mass in English

12:30 PM Mass in Spanish

Weekdays - 6:30, 8:00 AM

Saturdays 8:00 AM

Obligatory Holy Days - (except Jan. 1 & Christmas)

6:30, 8:00, 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM

First Fridays - 6:30, 8:00,

(also 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR)



SACRAMENTS

Confession

Saturdays 4:00-4:30 PM; 15 minutes after Mass (5:30 - 5:45)

Baptisms

Baptismal Preparation Classes the 1st Sunday of each month at 3:00pm in Room E. Please call the rectory to set up an interview with one of the priest before you begin planning for the baptism. Spanish Baptisms - 3rd Sunday of each month. English Baptisms - 4th Sunday of each month. Baptisms take place in the chapel at 2:00 pm

Christian Initiation of Adults

Sundays 11:00 AM Mass followed by session until 1:30 PM in Room E

Sick Calls

Priests & Eucharistic Ministers regularly visit shut-ins. Please phone the rectory if you are confined to the house or entering the hospital.

Parish Religious Education Classes

Sunday 9:15 AM - 10:30 AM

DEVOTIONS

Eucharistic Adoration - Every Thursday in Chapel 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM followed by Evening Prayer.

Daily Rosary - Monday through Friday after the 8 AM Mass

Miraculous Medal - Saturdays 7:45 AM

Our Lady of La Vang Devotions - Saturday 8:30 AM

Grupo Carismático - Tenemos circulo de oración en

español todos los miercoles a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia de abajo.

Estan todos invitados.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

Senior Citizens - 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month, 12 Noon Room 4 of the upper school.

Parent School Committee - meets monthly

Parish Council - meets six times a year

Finance Council - meets four times a year

Cub Scouts - Tuesdays, 7-8 PM - School Hall

Boy Scouts - Wednesdays, 7-9 PM - School Hall

Evangelization Committee - 3rd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM in Rectory Meeting Room.

Liturgy Committe - 1st Tuesday of the month, 7:00 PM in the Rectory Meeting Room

SERVICE MINISTRY

(Community Neighborhood Organizing) - Meets Monthly

Aid for Friends - an organization providing the elderly with food and friendship

Parish Nurse Facilitator - Sr. Anna Marie Lesutis, RSM, 215-329-0110

WE WELCOME NEWCOMERS! PLEASE PHONE 215-424-1300 TO MEET WITH A PRIEST.



January 4, 2009

Feast of the Epiphany

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 of Jan. 4th to Jan. 11th, 2009

SATURDAY, Jan. 3, 2009 *Most Holy Name of Jesus*
4:30PM Stephen Kopiec

SUNDAY, Jan. 4, 2009 *Epiphany of Our Lord*
8:00AM (E) Thanksgiving for Doan Nguyen Family
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Marie P. Sheeron
12:30PM (S) St. Helena Parishioners

MONDAY, Jan. 5, 2009 *Saint John Neumann*
6:30AM Helen Gill
8:00AM Vincent Tuan Nguyen

TUESDAY, Jan. 6, 2009 *Bl. André Bessette*
6:30AM Stephen J. Pokorny
8:00AM Michael Moffitt

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 7, 2009 *St. Raymond of Peñafort*
6:30AM Mass of Thanksgiving
8:00AM Joseph Owens

THURSDAY, Jan. 8, 2009
6:30AM Thanksgiving Chi Pham Family
8:00AM Thanksgiving for Doan & Nguyen Family

FRIDAY, Jan. 9, 2009
6:30AM John L. Tetley
8:00AM Dominic Quoc The

SATURDAY, Jan. 10, 2009
8:00AM Peter & Anna Ky Nguyen
4:30PM Stephen Yhost

SUNDAY, Jan. 11, 2009 *Baptism of Our Lord*
8:00AM (E) John & Marie Nguyen (5th Anniv)
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Denise Lanzaro
12:30PM (S) St. Helena Parishioners



Wise Men Still Seek Him

After Jesus was born, some wise men heard that a King had been born. They wanted to find the King so that they could worship and honor him.

They went to Jerusalem and asked some priests there if they knew where to find the King. The priests knew where Jesus was to be born, because they had been told by the prophet

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 are strengthened, where families are bonded, where the 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 and those who care for them

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Margaret Barr | Patricia Komly |
| Veronica Hellwig | Charles Ball |
| Martha Skinner | Cindy Halleck |
| Judy Kovescsek | Marie Halleck |
| Chiet Doan | John Adair |
| Helen Robinson | Alton Fenstermaker |
| Noel Lopez | John Quinn |
| Rita Klienknecht | Bob Moffatt |
| Joan A. Lowery | Marie Riehl |
| Lawrence Arockiaswamy | Bill Sadler |
| Emma Vockenhuber | Madelyn Burke |
| Charles T. Benner | Joseph Langan |
| Robert F. Taylor, Jr. | |

We Remember in Prayer

Those who have died, especially the names mentioned on our Christmas Flower envelopes.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, Jan. 4, 2009 *Epiphany of Our Lord*

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Isaiah 60: 1-6 | Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6 | Mt. 2: 1-12 |
| MONDAY (05) | 1 Jn 3: 22-4:6 | Mt 4: 12-17, 23-25 |
| TUESDAY (06) | 1 Jn 4: 7-10 | Mk 6: 34-44 |
| WEDNESDAY (07) | 1 Jn 4: 11-18 | Mk 6: 45-52 |
| THURSDAY (08) | 1 Jn 4: 19-5:4 | Lk 4: 14-22 |
| FRIDAY (09) | 1 Jn 5: 5-13 | Lk 5: 12-16 |
| SATURDAY (10) | 1 Jn 5: 14-21 | Jn 3: 22-30 |

Micah, so they told the wise men that they would find the new King in Bethlehem. As you know, the wise men did not have a map to guide them to Bethlehem, but they had something even better. God gave them a star to guide them. So the wise men followed the directions that the priests had given them and followed the star that God gave them and it led them right to Jesus. When they found him, they gave him gifts and bowed down and worshiped him. Wise men today are still seeking for Jesus. We don't look for him in Bethlehem, because he is no longer there. He is on his throne in heaven. We don't need a map to help us find him -- we don't even need a star to help us find him. We can find our way to Jesus by reading God's Holy Word! The Bible is our map and our star that leads us to Jesus.



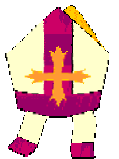
EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING

The Holy Family welcomed the Magi on Epiphany. There is a beautiful tradition that has been inspired by this event. Take some chalk and either have it blessed by your pastor or say your own blessing over it with your family. Ask God to welcome strangers to your home during the coming year. Finally write these numbers and letters over the front door of your home: 20 + C + M + B + the last digits of the current year. The letters represent the traditional names of the Wise Men--Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

MYRRH AND FRANKINCENSE

The gifts brought by the Magi were both appropriate and expensive. The value of gold is obvious but what of the other presents? Myrrh is an aromatic substance made from the sap of Myrtle balsam trees found in India, Africa and Saudi Arabia. It is a natural antiseptic and useful as a medicine. Egyptians used myrrh for embalming mummies. It is now used for toothpaste and mouthwash. Incense is a hardened gum that also comes from trees found in the same areas. The word "Frank" comes from an old French word that means "marked." It is a stamp that the incense is "free" from contaminants or "pure". (Franking is still used for free mail rights given to members of Congress.) Incense was used primarily to cover up the smells caused by animal sacrifices. Hence it was connected with worship.

Attention Parents of Children Making Reconciliation and Confirmation



There will be an important parent meeting for Reconciliation on January 12, 2009 at 7:00PM for parents of children making and on an important parent meeting for Confirmation on January 14, 2009 at 7:00PM for parents of children making.
One parent MUST ATTEND these meetings.

Welcome Back and Happy New Year

We welcome back our St. Helena PREP children, members of our RCIA Program, and St. Helena School Children, Teachers and Staff. It is our hope that this New Year will bring you and your families inner peace and many new adventures in the year 2009. PREP classes & our RCIA classes resume on Sunday, January 4th at the regular times. Our school children will return to school on Monday at their regular time. *Our Jackpot Lottery will resume on Thursday, January 8th at the regular time in Room 4.*



048 St. Helena – Rt. P



Christmas Flowers in Loving Memory of...



Kenneth Zitomer
 Mary Zitomer
 Florence Pearson
 Lowery & Koehler Families
 Thomas O'Sullivan
 Hans Kiehl, Johann & Maria Ritter
 Timothy Mather, Sr.
 Anna & Charles Petrovich
 Wingert, Hayes, Watts-Neils, Carberry,
 Messmer, Fiss Families
 Cybak & Breslin Families
 Edna & Harry Eldred
 Josephine Carona
 Jose M. Rivera
 Lehmann Family
 Christopher Tran Family
 Aurea Albaladejo Family
 Gendron & LeMorvan Families
 Nga Nguyen Family
 Noel Estampa Family
 Clementine Nelson
 Christopher Fredericks
 David Miller
 Tony Tong Family
 Schembs & Tetlow Families
 Renz & Griffin Family
 Tony Kovscek
 Maria Luisa Vasquez
 Lewandowski Family
 Quyen Thanh Le Family
 Lien Truong Family
 Leggett & GoPaul Families
 Matsko, Boyarski, & Knelly Families
 McNally & Tieg Families
 Peter Nguyen
 Catherine Anh Nguyen
 Hamberger, Ralston, Blaess Families
 Hai Đa Minh & Tô Ma
 Joseph Chiet Doan Family
 McClyment & Panaro Families
 Marie Healey
 Aicher Family
 Charles Flanagan & Nora Dempsey
 Shead & Smakulski Families
 Jane Speiser
 Alven Family
 Quan Nguyen Family
 Thuc Pham Family
 Huan Van Nguyen Family
 Frye Sisters
 Anna & Gottlieb Kugler
 Carbine & Voscavage Families
 Cush Family
 Teel & Gladu Families
 Felipe Sotomayor
 Dolores Cassidy Family
 Efraim C. deRamos
 Devlin & Hladyk Families
 William Scott Family
 Robert Moffatt Family
 Joseph Mullany Family
 Felino Reyes Family
 Pokorny & Fitzmaurice Families
 Martijn Hermse
 Thomas Loeffel
 Bac Van Nguyen Family
 Metz Family
 Khai Nguyen Family
 Lam Tran Family
 Ales & Patrick Family
 Marie Callahan

Khoi Vu Family
 Ky Nguyen Fmaily
 Danilla & O'Loughlin Families
 Edward Stec
 Louis Wesley Hill, Sr.
 Puripiscion Lotom
 Dai Nguyen Family
 Margaret McElroy
 Silas Chukwuani Family
 William Thomas Family
 Mary Harrington
 Joseph Duffey Family
 Anh Luong Family
 Hieu Trung Pham Family
 Mensah Family
 Todas Las Madres
 Silvanzo Neris & Julio Corde
 Arthur Jones Family
 Thomas & Rita Reilley
 Davidson Children
 Harry W. Hassey
 Andrea Rivers
 M. Rosa Family
 Harold Schaaf
 Stephen Yhost & Kopiec Family
 Peter Luât Nguyen
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Healey
 Sigmind Lampe
 Ruth & Larry Schmieg
 Elisabeth Dioulo
 Joseph Berry & Bertha Allen
 Mary Beth Sharp
 Margaret Fisher
 The Colleran Family
 The Moffitt Family
 Mary S. & James B. Garvin
 John Gill, Sr. Family
 Canh Nguyen Family
 Viet Nguyen Family
 Vincente
 Vien Nguyen Fmaily
 Van Nguyen Family
 Vincente
 Mawuenam Nukafu Family
 Dinh Thong Pham Family
 Tri Pham Family
 Chinh Vu Family
 Khan Nguyen Family
 Margaret & Larry Sheedy
 Hung Nguyen Family
 Tuan Cao Family
 John Palmrich Family
 Tam Vu Family
 Mien Nguyen Family
 Phuoc Nguyen Family
 Simon Nguyen Family
 Anne Donofry
 Catherine Benner
 Grace Taylor
 Raffo Conteras
 Phyllis Mitchell
 Josefa & Virginia Arocho
 Rodolfo Velez & Teresa Batista
 Afuelos Martinez & Hoyos
 Marjorie Parrish
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Quinn, Edward Quinn,
 Dorothy Quinn, Mr. & Mrs. Clint Ryan
 Daniell Callahan
 Rojeski Family
 Victor M. Rosado & Ellird Cruz
 Fail Family

Wittwer & Penrose Families
 Ha Tran Pham Family
 Sr. Jane Immaculate, SSJ
 Eugenia Balonzo
 Alice Bender
 Minh Cao Family
 Francis Repsch
 Eloude Lubin Family
 Gloria Jones Family
 Grace Sweeney Family
 Marie Sheeron
 Tony Tong Family
 Schembs & Tetlow Families
 Renz & Griffin Family
 Tony Kovscek
 Maria Luisa Vasquez
 Lewandowski Family
 Quyen Thanh Le Family
 Lien Truong Family
 Van Nguyen Family
 Viet Nguyen Family
 Vien Nguyen Family
 Natividad Concepcion Family
 William & Catherine Gill, Daniel Gill
 Paul Fenstermaker
 Huan Van Tran
 Joseph Maria Linh
 Teresa & Anna
 Dominic Tran
 Joseph Torrens
 Heather McDonald
 Sara Smith
 Pius & Frances Westermann
 Van Luong Family
 Hien Ngo Family
 Thanh Xuan Nguyen Family
 Rep Tran Family
 Ngoc Tran
 Dien Nguyen Family
 Diep Nguyen Family
 Ban Nguyen Family
 Steve Pham Family
 Son Nguyen Family
 Han Pham Family
 Henry Vu Family
 Nancy Nguyen Family
 Phong Kim Vu Family
 Huong Nguyen Family
 Nhan Tong Family
 Quang Nguyen Family
 Hoa Tran Family
 Phuong Vo Family
 Phan Pham Family
 Phuong Tran Family
 Augustine Kebbie Family
 Augustine Garcia & Hector Aviles
 Ann Marie Lockiby Family
 Murphy & Graham Families
 Joseph Owens
 Marie, & Jose Lantin, Eusebio Esperanza
 Louie Liwanag Family
 Christine Clymer Family
 Thanh Nguyen Family
 Jesus Santiago
 Ramon Soriano Family
 Camelia Torres Family
 Nestaly Vasquez Family
 Trung Vu Family
 Xung Vu Family
 Victor Seda Family

048 St. Helena – Rt. P

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



| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 12/24/06..... | \$6404.00 |
| 12/23/07..... | \$6504.00 |
| 12/21/08..... | \$5926.00 |



| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Number of Envelopes from Mass | 287 | Loose Collection from Mass | \$1059.00 |
| Envelope Collection from Mass | \$3350.00 | Drop Off Collection | \$1506.00 |
| Children's Envelopes | \$11.00 | | |

Good Deeds: I went to Church. I helped wrap presents for my family. I went to the store with my family. I cleaned my room. I helped throw out the trash. I gave my friend a present for Christmas.



Last But Not Least



*“We saw his star at its rising
and have come to do him homage.”*

Today we celebrate the *Epiphany of Our Lord*.... as the three Kings came to worship, so we also come to sing the praises of the newborn King...may his peace and love fill our hearts throughout the coming year.

Happy New Year to all.... I hope you enjoyed your holidays...now it is time to get back to work...at this time I would like to thank the many people who joined together to make the Christmas Season a bright, beautiful one...to the twenty or so people who came to **clean and wax the church floors**...to those who came and **cleaned both upper and lower churches**...to the groups who **decorated the outside of the rectory and church** and who **set up the manger scene on the convent lawn**...to all who came out to **decorate and set up the manger scenes in both the upper and lower churches**...to our **organists and singers** who brought their beautiful music to our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services...**to those who donated items for the less fortunate** of our parish...to our **school children who collected hats and gloves for the homeless**....and to **all of our parishioners** who came out and joined with us to celebrate the Birth of the Lord, my sincere thanks...let me also say **thank you** for your **most generous donations** to our **Christmas Flower** collection and to our **Christmas Collection**...thank you for your kindness and generosity to our parish...lastly, let me say thank you to all who dropped off gifts at the rectory for myself and Father Steve...I hope in this New Year that the Lord will shower his blessings upon you and your families and that his peace and joy will fill your hearts in the year to come.

Just a few reminders: **Volunteer Sign-up Sheets** can still be turned in...please think about sharing your time a talents with our parish...I can promise you will not regret it...**Tax Letters** for donations for the 2008 tax year will go out the last week of January...all donations for 2008 received after January 10, 2009 will be credited to 2009. If you know of anyone who has moved, gone into a rest home or gone home to the Lord, please let the Parish Secretary know so that we may correct our records. Thanks for reading...have a great week!

Your Brother & Shepherd,
Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

048 St. Helena – Rt. P

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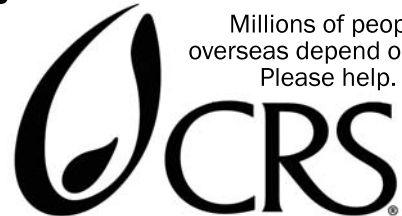
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