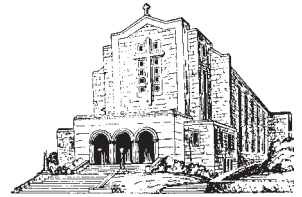




St. Helena Church

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.

November 2, 2008

All Souls Day

**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 Nov. 2nd to Nov. 9th

SATURDAY, Nov. 1, 2008

4:30PM Officer Chuck Cassidy (1st Anniv)

SUNDAY, Nov. 2, 2008 *All Souls Day*

8:00AM (E) Dominic & Maria Nguyen
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Tran Family
12:30PM (S) St. Helena Parishioners

MONDAY, Nov. 3, 2008 *St. Martin dePorres*

6:30AM Rev. John P. McGinty
8:00AM Michael Weid

TUESDAY, Nov. 4, 2008 *St. Charles Borromeo*

6:30AM Father Thomas Gaynard
8:00AM John Baptize Family

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 5, 2008

6:30AM Father Albert DiGiacobbe
8:00AM John Baptize Family

THURSDAY, Nov. 6, 2008

6:30AM All Souls/Doan Nguyen Family
8:00AM Anna Vo Vi Bich

FRIDAY, Nov. 7, 2008 *First Friday*

6:30AM Father John Donohie
8:00AM Patricia Scott
9:00AM Mary Condran
7:00PM All Souls/ Doan Nguyen Family

SATURDAY, Nov. 8, 2008

8:00AM Peter Chanh Nguyen
4:30PM Joseph Lowery

**SUNDAY, Nov. 9, 2008 *Ded. Of the Lateran
Basilica in Rome***

8:00AM (E) St. Helena Parishioners
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Sarah J. Lehmann
12:30PM (S) Rodolfo Velez

**Opps! Did you forget? Today
ends Daylight Savings Time.**

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

We Remember in Prayer

Those who have died, especially our family and friends.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, Nov. 2, 2008 *All Souls Day*

Wisdom 3: 1-9	Romans 5: 5-11	Jn 6: 37-40
MONDAY (03)	Phil 2: 1-4	Lk 14: 12-14
TUESDAY (04)	Phil 2: 5-11	Lk 14: 15-24
WEDNESDAY (05)	Phil 2: 12-18	Lk 14: 25-33
THURSDAY (06)	Phil 3: 3-8	Lk 15: 1-10
FRIDAY (07)	Phil 3: 17-4:1	Lk 16: 1-8
SATURDAY (08)	Phil 4: 10-19	Lk 16: 9-15

All Souls Day

November is the month in which we remember with loving gratitude the deceased members of our families, our friends, and co-workers who have gone before us. The Church wisely invites us to connect with our loved ones who have died, to remember them with compassion and prayerful care. This is the season to intentionally give our loved ones into the care of a God of mercy and tenderness. We might pray in the following way for our beloved dead: to remember what they looked like and then to picture them in the arms of God; to see this Compassionate God carefully and lovingly wiping away any tears that might still be on their faces; to notice how God offers them a great welcome; and then to entrust them into God's care; finally, to offer a prayer of thanks for the gift of having had these people as part of our life. Eternal rest grant to each of them, O Lord, and may they rest forever in your peace. Amen.

048 St. Helena – Rt. P



Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States

Faithful Citizenship: An Exploration of Sacred Scripture and Tradition



How Does the Church Help the Faithful Address Social & Political Questions? Part 2

Doing Good and Avoiding Evil

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good. (Rom 12:9) There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God and neighbor. Such actions are so deeply flawed that they are always opposed to the authentic good of persons. These are called “intrinsically evil” actions. They must always be rejected and opposed and must never be supported or condoned. . . . Opposition to intrinsically evil acts that undercut the dignity of the human person should also open our eyes to the good we must do, that is, to your positive duty to contribute to the common good and to act in solidarity with those in need. (Faithful Citizenship, no. 22, 24)

Two temptations in public life can distort the Church’s defense of human life and dignity: The first is a moral equivalence that makes no ethical distinctions between different kinds of issues involving human life and dignity. . . . The second is the misuse of these necessary moral distinctions as a way of dismissing or ignoring other serious threats to human life and dignity. . . . We are not factions, but one family of faith fulfilling the mission of Jesus Christ. (Faithful Citizenship, no. 27-28, 29)

The negative precepts of the natural law are universally valid. They oblige each and every individual, always and in every circumstance. It is a matter of prohibitions which forbid a given action *semper et pro semper*, without exception, because the choice of this kind of behavior is in no case compatible with the goodness of the will of the acting person, with his vocation to life with God and to communion with his neighbor. . . .

On the other hand, the fact that only the negative commandments oblige always and under all circumstances does not mean that in the moral life prohibitions are more important than the obligation to do good indicated by the positive commandment. (Pope John Paul II, *Veritatis Splendor* (1993), no. 52)

Making Moral Choices

For this command which I enjoin on you today is not too mysterious and remote for you. . . No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out. Here, then, I have today set before you life and prosperity, death and doom. If you obey the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin on you today, loving him, and walking in his ways, and keeping his commandments, statutes and decrees, you will live and grow numerous. . . Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the LORD, your God, heeding his voice, and holding fast to him. (Dt 30:11, 14-20)

A well-formed Christian conscience does not permit one to vote for a political program or an individual law which contradicts the fundamental contents of faith and morals. The Christian faith is an integral unity, and thus it is incoherent to isolate some particular element to the detriment of the whole of Catholic doctrine. A political commitment to a single isolated aspect of the Church’s social doctrine does not exhaust one’s responsibility towards the common good. (*Doctrinal Note on Some Questions Regarding the Participation of Catholics in Political Life*, no. 4)

In making these decisions, it is essential for Catholics to be guided by a well-formed conscience that recognizes that all issues do not carry the same moral weight and that the moral obligation to oppose intrinsically evil acts has a special claim on our consciences and our actions. These decisions should take into account a candidate’s commitments, character, integrity, and ability to influence a given issue. In the end, this is a decision to be made by each Catholic guided by a conscience formed by Catholic moral teaching. (*Faithful Citizenship*, no. 37)

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What from the readings resonated with you? Challenged you?
2. Why is it important for Catholics to both fight evil and to work for good? How do the negative and positive commandments work hand in hand? How do you personally work to avoid evil and do good?
3. Have you or anyone you know ever fallen victim to either of the two temptations in public life mentioned in Faithful Citizenship? Describe. How are each of these temptations a distortion of the Church’s defense of human life?
4. The Church has always been clear that it does not support any party or endorse any candidates, but how can the Church’s teachings help guide our decisions about voting?



School News



- ◆ **Save a Date for Spaghetti...** St. Helena School Parent Association will hold a Spaghetti Dinner, complete with live music and entertainment on Saturday, November 15th from 5:00-7:00pm in St. Helena School Hall. Get set for delicious food and fun.



Eucharistic Exposition and Time of Prayer



At the request of Cardinal Rigali, all parishes are asked to have a period of Eucharistic Exposition on Sunday, November 2nd. We invite you to join us on *Sunday, November 2nd from 4:00pm to 5:00pm for a Holy Hour to pray through the intercession of the Holy Souls for our country. At 5:00pm, we will pray Evening Prayer for the Feast of All Souls.* Come and pray for your deceased relatives and friends. *Coffee and light refreshments will follow in the gathering space.*

SSJ Chance Drive



The Annual Sisters of St. Joseph Villa Chance Drive is underway. **Our Sisters of St. Joseph will sell their chances the weekend of Nov. 8th & 9th.** Chances are \$1.00 each or a book of 6 for \$5.00. See posters at the entrance of the Church for more information.



St. Vincent de Paul Annual Clothing Drive will take place on Wednesday, November 19th from 9:00am to 2:00pm. The truck will be parked in the upper part of the school yard nearest the church.

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

Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report

10/29/06.....	\$5851.00
10/28/07.....	\$6533.00
10/26/08.....	\$6612.00

<i>Number of Envelopes from Mass</i>	326	<i>Loose Collection from Mass</i>	\$2022 .00
<i>Envelope Collection from Mass</i>	\$4059.00	<i>Drop Off Collection</i>	\$486 .00
<i>Children's Envelopes</i>	\$45.00		

Knock...Knock Jokes to help you get through the Week...



Knock Knock! Who's there? Police. Police who? Police let us in; it's cold out here.
 Knock Knock! Doris. Doris, who? Doris locked, that's why I had to knock!
 Knock Knock! Who's there? I love. I love who? I don't know, you tell me!
 Knock Knock! Who's there? Norma Lee. Norma Lee who? Normalee I don't go around knocking on doors, but do you want to buy a set of encyclopedias?

Last But Not Least

"In commemorating the death of loved ones and placing them and our prayers for them before God we express in a beautiful way our belief in eternal life."

It is part of the task of being a Christian to bear witness to what Christ has done in our lives. As priests, we are privileged to be part of families and share many of life's situations with them, particularly their experiences of death and grief. In our Catholic tradition, **November is a special time for remembering those who have gone to eternal life with God.** These inaugural days of November help us to remember all those who have come before us, but should also point our minds and hearts toward the future that awaits *us* as well – eternal life with God. It is important and proper to **pray for the dead** because, even if they died in grace and in friendship with God, perhaps they still have need of a further purification to enter into the joy of heaven. Don't forget to say some extra prayers for your deceased loves one during the coming month of November. **The All Souls Day envelopes will remain on the Altar for the Month of November. A reminder that all Masses return to the Lower Church this weekend.**

My sincere thanks to all who participated in any way in last Sunday's **Second Annual Alumni Communion Breakfast...over 200** former students and parishioners attended the 9:30 Mass which was followed by breakfast in the school hall...what a wonderful event this was...**thanks to Father Steve, Sister Marie Albert, the Alumni Committee, the caterer, the servers and all those in attendance...**I truly believe this affair well surpassed our goal of trying to connect people from the past to those of the present in an effort to help keep our school a vital place for our children to grow spiritually, academically and socially...may the Lord bless all of you for your dedication and continued support of St. Helena School.

Thanks to all for your continuing support of our parish through your donations to our **Annual Census Appeal...**our **total to date is \$12,137.00** (last year we collected \$19,015.00)...if you have not yet **returned your Census Card**, please do so as soon as possible so that we may update our records...keep in mind that your generous donations help us to continue the many Ministries here at St. Helena. May the Lord bless you for your generosity!

Flu shots will be given on **Sunday, November 2nd at the rectory** beginning at **10:00am until 2:00pm.** We have a total of 250 shots to distribute...our goal is to serve as many of our elderly parishioners and those with health problems as we can...we will give out the shots for as long as they last. **All applicants will be asked to fill out a form upon arrival at the rectory.** Thank you for your patience and understanding. Thanks for reading...have a great week!

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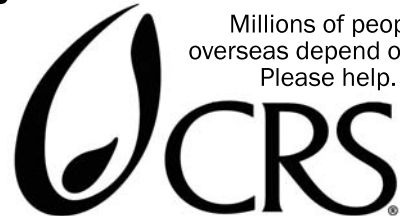
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