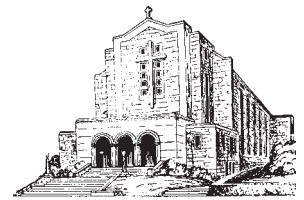




St. Helena Church

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.



December 14, 2008

Third Sunday of Advent

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 Dec. 14th to 21st

SATURDAY, Dec. 13, 2008 *St. Lucy*
4:30PM Joseph Owens

SUNDAY, Dec. 14, 2008 *3rd Sunday of Advent*
8:00AM (E) St. Helena Parishioners
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Ernest Lorenz
12:30PM (S) Margaret McNally

MONDAY, Dec. 15, 2008
6:30AM Maria Lam
8:00AM William Lawlor

TUESDAY, Dec. 16, 2008
6:30AM John L. Tetley
8:00AM Mary Rohrebacher

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17, 2008
6:30AM Holy Souls in Purgatory
8:00AM Bertha Allen

THURSDAY, Dec. 18, 2008
6:30AM Mary Frances McKenna
8:00AM St. Helena Alumni/ae

FRIDAY, Dec. 19, 2008
6:30AM Vincent Tuan Nguyen
8:00AM Fr. Paul Belchero, SJ

SATURDAY, Dec. 20, 2008
8:00AM Efraim C. deRamos
4:30PM Laura Killgallon

SUNDAY, Dec. 21, 2008 *4th Sunday of Advent*
8:00AM (E) St. Helena Parishioners
9:30AM (V) Personal Intention
11:00AM (E) Sarah J. Lehmann
12:30PM (S) John L. Tetley

Reflecting the love of Christ



The Bible tells us that "There was a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light: he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world." Who do you think the true light is that the Bible said was coming into the world? That is right! It was Jesus. Jesus is the light of the world.

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, Dec. 14, 2008 *Third Sunday of Advent*

Is 61: 1-2a, 10-11 1 Thes 5: 16-24 Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28

MONDAY (15) Nm 24: 2-7, 15-17a Mt 21: 23-27

TUESDAY (16) Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13 Mt 21: 28-32

WEDNESDAY (17) Gn 49: 2, 8-10 Mt 1: 1-17

THURSDAY (18) Jer 23: 5-8 Mt 1: 18-25

FRIDAY (19) Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25a Lk 1: 5-25

SATURDAY (20) Is 7: 10-14 Lk 1: 26-38

Reflecting the love of Christ (con't)

You and I need to be like John. The Bible says that we are to let our light shine, but we need to remember that "Our Light" is Jesus. We are not the light, we are just mirrors that reflect His light.

If we are going to reflect the light of Jesus, we must remember a couple of things:

- We must keep our faces turned toward Jesus.
- We must not let anything come between us and Jesus.

When we remember those two things, we will reflect His light to the entire world.

048 St. Helena – Rt. P



PLEASE SAVE THIS DATE – DEC. 22ND

We are in need of your help with our annual decorating of the church for Christmas. This year we will decorate on Monday, December 22nd at 7:00 pm...anyone who would like to help with this project is invited to meet us at the church...your help will be greatly appreciated.

2008 Winners and Final Results of EAGLES Game Day Pick Pool to Benefit St. Helena CYO

Picked 7 Winners

- #16 – Bill LePera - \$25
- #33 – Petroski - \$25
- #48 – Ms. Zimmerman - \$25
- #52 – Gus Ruckle
- #59 – Richard Teel, Fr.

Picked 6 Winners

- #18 – Joe Hause
- #23 – Sister Anna
- #27 – M. Sheeron
- #32 – Bill Kelly
- #35 – Mary Colleran
- #36 – Tom O’Malley
- #41 – Al
- #45 – Jim Pokorny
- #51 – Robert Zimmerman
- #2 – Jean Carbine
- #6 – Joan Lowery



- #11 – Michael Sweeney
- #15 – Bill LePera
- #13 – Gloria Jones

Picked 5 Winners

- #20 – David Schembs
- #24 – Donald McCallum
- #31 – Joseph Mullany
- #38 – Kathleen Boyle
- #40 – Marie Zitomer
- #43 – Merci Pokorny
- #44 – Monsignor Trinh
- #46 – Grace Sweeney
- #49 – Michael Jacobs
- #53 – Gus Ruckle

Picked 4 Winners

- #1 – Helen Devlin
- #4 – Joe Ettinger
- #7 – Joe Penrose
- #9 – Al Tiegs, Jr.
- #14 – Joe Hause

- #17 – Bill LePera
- #19 – John Devlin
- #21 – Timothy Schembs
- #25 – Linda Rogers
- #28 – Francis Boyle
- #34 – Joseph Farmer, Jr.
- #47 – Samuel Ashie
- #54 – Jean Berry
- #57 – Bill Eells

Picked 3 Winners

- #39 – Peg Graham
- #42 – Merci Pokorny
- #50 – Joanne Bordoni
- #55 – Michael Campbell
- #58 – Richard Teel

Picked 2 Winners

- #8 – Maryann Penrose

Picked 1 Winners

- #37 – Attracta



Have You Heard?



- ◆ Ascension of Our Lord Parish School is hosting a 50th Reunion for the Class of 1958 on Saturday, March 21, 2009 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm at Torresdale-Frankford Country Club (Grant & Frankford Ave). For more information call 610-888-9448 or write to runadvte@rcm.com
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul will be holding a clothing drive on Thursday, January 22nd from 9:00am to 2:00pm at Incarnation of Our Lord Church.



Third Sunday of Advent ~ Arrival in Bethlehem – December 14th

At last Mary and Joseph arrive in Bethlehem, now bustling with travelers. Tired and dusty from the trip, they search for lodging. Mary says they must hurry, for her baby will be born this night. But no one has room to take them in.

Holy God, disappointments are so hard. We cannot understand why we must endure hardship, even when we try to do your will, or why favor seems to go to those less deserving. Help us to remember that even our disappointments can serve to give you glory.



SSJ Villa Chance Drive Winners



Winner

Mrs. Margaret Mullen, NJ (\$10,000.00)
Clotilde Morse, Levittown (\$500.00)
Mr./Mrs. Michael McKeon, Philadelphia (\$500.00)
Volpe, NJ (\$500.00)
Lea McGovern, VA (\$500.00)
Leslie Lewis, NJ (\$500.00)
Veronica Furey, NJ (\$500.00)
Mike & Dolores Seif, Warrington (\$500.00)
Jeff Kostick, NJ (\$500.00)
Patrick Casey, NJ (\$500.00)
Kathy Misunas, NY (\$500.00)

Seller

Sr. Saint Thecla McCauley
Sr. Conradine Lehmann
St. Jerome Convent
SSJ Medford, NJ
Sr. Ann Muriel Ronan
Sr. Maureen Fichner
St. Ann Convent
Sr. Ann Seif
Sr. Mary Alice Snyder
Sr. Joan Krukoski
Sr. Eleanor Mary Bringenberg



Christmas Schedule 2008

Confessions

Saturday, December 21, 2008 4:00-4:30pm and 7:00-8:00pm (LC) (English, Spanish, Viet)
Saturday, December 28, 2008 4:00-4:30pm (LC)

Vigil of Christmas – Wednesday, December 24, 2008

6:00pm Mass in Eng (UC) 8:00pm Mass in Sp (UC) 9:30pm Mass in Viet (UC)

Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25, 2008

8:00am Mass in Eng. 9:30am Mass in Viet. 11:00am Mass in Eng. 12:30pm Mass in Sp.

New Year's Eve – Wednesday, December 31, 2008

4:30pm Vigil Mass in English for New Year's Day (LC)
11:00pm Vigil Mass to Welcome the New Year (LC)



New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1, 2009

8:00am Mass in Eng. 9:30am Mass in Viet. 11:00am Mass in Eng. 12:30pm Mass in Sp.

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



12/10/06.....\$6179.00
 12/09/07.....\$6263.00
12/07/08.....\$5876.00

Number of Envelopes from Mass	335	Loose Collection from Mass	\$1086 .00
Envelope Collection from Mass	\$4523.00	Drop Off Collection	\$235.00
Children's Envelopes	\$32.00		

Feast of the Immaculate Conception.....\$1386.00
Maintenance & Improvement.....\$1943.00
Christmas Flowers.....\$2628.00

Good Deeds: I went to Mass. I helped my mom and dad. I helped clean up the leaves. I gave money to the poor.

Attention Parents of Children Making Reconciliation and Confirmation

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



Last But Not Least



“Make St. Helena your Spiritual Home for Christmas.”

Today we celebrate the **Third Sunday of Advent**. As we wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Christ Child, I would like to take this opportunity to **thank** all of our **parish volunteers**: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Cantors, Organists, Ushers, Altar Servers, our cleaning crew who keep the floors in the church looking clean and bright, our landscape crew who work so hard to keep the parish grounds looking clean, neat and trimmed up, our school children who, through our Community Service Program, help to pick up the papers and trash that gathers around our compound, our few volunteers who show up when there are plumbing or electrical problems to take care of and anyone else who has given of their time and talents to keep things in good working order here at St. Helena...through your efforts, our parish has saved much money over the years.

Do you have a special talent that you could share with our parish...would you be willing to give some time to helping out when needed...sign-up sheets are available in the church today... there are many professions listed ...choose the one that best suits your talent and return it to us...we will begin to call people in January...lists will be set up so that when something goes wrong, we will know who to contact for help.... while we value your generosity in the collection envelopes, giving of your time and talents is also very important. **We will be looking for people who can help us with:** painting, carpentry, electrical work, plumbing work, brick pointing & sealing, tile work, masonry, marble work, snow shoveling and/or plowing, and any other talents you might have...we will also be looking for lectors, cantors, organists, ushers & choir members. Through your efforts, we will be able to keep our parish buildings in good repair while saving money which can be used for other necessities. I hope to hear from you. Thanks for reading, have a great week.

Your Brother & Shepherd, Rev. Msgr. Joseph Trinh

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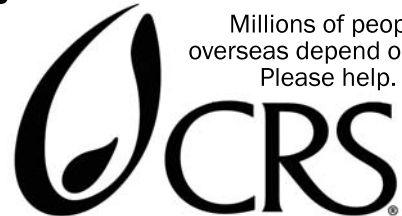
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