

## Parish Staff

### Pastor

Rev. Richard Villano 729-7344

### Director of Pastoral Care

Virginia Tschida 729-7344

### Director of Religious Education

John Sondag 729-7321

### Religious Education Secretary

Nancy Stauner 729-7321

### Director of Music

David Bartlett 651-239-6914

### School Principal

Ellen Rian 729-9301

### Parish Secretary

Elaine Bruce 729-7344

### Business Manager

Mike Petruconis 729-7322

## Sunday Mass

Saturday 4:00 P.M.

Sunday 8:30 and 10:00 A.M.

## Daily Mass

Monday through Saturday 8:00 A.M.

## Holy Day Mass

Evening Before 5:30 P.M.

Holy Day 8:00 and 10:00 A.M.

## Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00–3:30 P.M.

## Sacrament of Baptism

A Baptism Preparation Program is required for all registered first-time parents. Please call the Director of Pastoral Care.

## Sacrament of Marriage

The bride or groom must be an active registered parishioner for at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding at St. Helena.

## Nursery

Services available during the 10:00 A.M. Sunday Mass.

## Parish Registration

To register in the parish, please fill out a registration form and return to the Parish Office. Registration forms are available at the entrances of the Church. Return completed form to the Parish Office.

**Email:** [church@sainthelena.us](mailto:church@sainthelena.us)

**Website:** [www.sainthelena.us](http://www.sainthelena.us)

# The Church of St. Helena

**Palm Sunday**  
**April 5, 2020**

*“Blessed is he*

*who comes in the name of the Lord.”*

-Mt 21:9



3204 E 43rd St • Minneapolis, MN 55406-3858 • (612) 729-7344

**THE WORD**

Innocent, but guilty! We Americans hate when someone who is innocent suffers unjustly. "Innocent until *proven* guilty" is ingrained in our fiber, and we can't stand when someone is convicted (particularly in the press) without due process or when someone has an unfair trial.

We also find it intolerable when someone at work is treated unfairly. We'll wring our hands when a relative or friend suffers an accident caused by a careless driver. And, we'll ponder how the Lord will allow innocent old people to contract a coronavirus and die from pneumonia.

This Holy Week, we ponder the mystery of our Lord's suffering humiliation, pain, and death as an innocent man. And the guilty party who caused this crucifixion is us by our sins. We are the ones ultimately responsible for His death.

Yet, in His innocence He shows His great love and mercy for us, His persecutors. He would not have had to suffer death to have redeemed us, but in the largess of His love, He proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that He loves us by dying on a cross.

However, the crucifixion is not the end of the story. Our Lord changes the injustice and evil of His death into life by rising on Easter morning.

This gives us great hope, for we now know that the hurts, injustices, and injuries that we endure can bring about good in the plan of salvation. We can offer our sufferings, whether physical, mental, or spiritual, and unite them to our Lord's suffering in order to help to bring about spiritual and physical good. We can offer our suffering as a prayer for the return of a sinner to the sacraments, the conversion of a non-believer, the work of missionaries, the labor of our clergy and religious, the faithfulness of married couples, the healing of a relative, or any spiritual or material need of a loved one.

St. Paul writes: "Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I complete what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church..." (Colossians 1:24)

The innocent suffering of the Lord won our salvation. Our innocent suffering joined to Christ's can connect the graces won by our Lord to others. Christ brought sense to this mystery. May our innocent suffering not be wasted, but be a means to a deeper love for the Lord and our neighbor.

John Sondag  
Director of Religious Education

**PASTOR'S REMARKS**

1) Until further notice from the Archbishop all Masses (including Holy Week), Stations of the Cross, programs, classes, events, Confession and gatherings of any kind are canceled at St. Helena Parish. Please check our web site or watch for emails for any changes pertaining to the Church calendar. Call the Parish Offices and leave a message if you have any questions. Someone will get back to you. The Church will remain locked until further notice. All funeral and burial requests will be directed to Virginia Tschida. Please call the Parish Offices and leave her a message. The funeral homes have been contacted and will direct all plans to our Director of Pastoral Care. Please continue to watch the news. At this time, our Archbishop is following all requests by our Governor.

2) *What good is it to profess faith without practicing it? Such faith has no power to save one, has it? So it is with the faith that does nothing in practice. It is thoroughly lifeless. Show me your faith without works, and I will show you faith that underlies my works.* James 2:14

**CHRISTIAN BURIALS**—The parish community prays that **Marie Perreault** may rejoice in the gift of everlasting life in the full embrace of God our Father, and that her family and friends and this community may trust more deeply in the promises of Jesus for eternal life.

And that **Betty Polunc** may rejoice in the gift of everlasting life in the full embrace of God our Father, and that her family and friends and this community may trust more deeply in the promises of Jesus for eternal life.

**SPIRITUALLY ADOPT A DYING PERSON WHO'S DYING ALONE**—There are some people who are dying alone from the Coronavirus. Through your prayer, spiritually adopt a person somewhere in the world who may have no family or friends to be with them at the moment of death or who is unable to have the sacraments of the Church.

**WAYS TO WATCH AND LISTEN TO MASS**—During this time that Mass is suspended, the faithful are asked to find a Mass on TV, the radio or online and make a Spiritual Communion. Where that is not an option, it would be appropriate to pray the Liturgy of the Hours or the Rosary. For ways to watch or listen to Mass, visit [archspm.org/live](http://archspm.org/live).

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER:**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT UPDATE**—All volunteers who have regular interaction with youth and vulnerable adults need to be certified under the Archdiocesan Safe Environment standards. Together we can work to protect God's children and the most vulnerable among us. Thank you for your shared commitment to the achievement of this goal. In addition, the Archdiocesan Victim Assistance line is 651-291-4475.

**SENIOR LUNCH FOR APRIL—CANCELLED**—The Senior Lunch scheduled for April 15 has been cancelled.

**QUILTING CANCELLED**—The Monday morning and Wednesday evening Quilting has been cancelled until further notice.

**DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS—CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

**MEN'S BREAKFAST—SATURDAY, APRIL 25—CANCELLED BECAUSE OF THE CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS.**

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?**—The Church of St. Helena has a program that prepares people to become Catholic. For more information, call Fr. Villano or John Sondag at 612-729-7344.

**BUY A GIFT CARD FOR GROCERIES FOR NEEDY PERSONS**—Purchase a gift card for groceries and give the card to the parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference which can give it to a needy person or family. Place the card in an envelope marked "St. Vincent de Paul Conference" and put the envelope in the collection or bring it to the Parish Offices.

**ARE YOU A PARISHIONER WHO NEEDS HELP?**—Parishioners who might be out of work, sick and unable to work, or struggling because of financial difficulties or other problems can receive help from the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish which reaches out to individuals and families in the parish who are having difficulties. (Your name will be kept confidential.) If you need more information or help, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**A NURSERY SERVICE DURING THE 10:00 MASS—CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**—Because of the Corona Virus, the nursery on Sunday mornings is cancelled until further notice.

**ASSIST THE NEEDY OF THE PARISH**—The St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish reaches out to needy individuals or families who need assistance. Conference members visit their homes to assess how they can be of service and in a very personalized and confidential way give them help. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**ST HELENA MUSIC TROOP—WILL RESUME WHEN THE CORONA VIRUS RESIDES.** You can be a part of the St. Helena Music Troop which goes to nursing homes to entertain their residents twice a month during the fall, winter and spring. Musicians can be beginners or professionals, young or old, and do not have to come each time we perform. The people who entertain do not play music as a group but individually play the piano, band or symphonic instruments, or sing. If you are interested in participating, please call John Sondag (612-275-0431). We will resume when the Corona Virus resides.

**2020 "AUTUMN DAZE" FESTIVAL:  
SEPTEMBER 18, 19, & 20, 2020**

**FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS**—The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is offering a virtual Holy Week retreat and inviting all to participate. The week-long retreat – planned and organized by Bishop Andrew Cozzens – begins Palm Sunday (April 5) with Mass from the Saint Paul Seminary and culminates with the Easter Vigil Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Paul April 11. Each day has two parts: Mass or prayer at 9:00 A.M. followed by directed Lectio Divina. The evening session will begin at 7:00 P.M. and consist of conferences from Archbishop Bernard Hebda, Bishop Cozzens, Father Charles Lachowitz and Father John Ubel. All of the events will be live streamed or recorded and available on the Archdiocese's website for all who would like to participate.

"Holy week is the most sacred time of the year for Catholics and this year it may be that most of us are confined to our homes," Bishop Cozzens said, "It could be a great opportunity to enter into prayer and contemplation of the great mysteries of our faith. Each day of Holy Week we plan to offer an opportunity to enter more into the mystery of Christ's love and redemption. We will offer time to join in prayer, including the mysteries of the Sacred Triduum, as well as inspirational conferences to help us meditate on how we can become better disciples of Jesus through these mysteries." For more information, check the Archdiocese's website, [archspm.org/holyweek](http://archspm.org/holyweek).

#### **VITURAL HOLY WEEK:**

##### **Palm Sunday, April 5:**

9:00 A.M. Mass from the Saint Paul Seminary

7:00 P.M. Opening retreat conference – Archbishop Hebda

##### **Holy Monday, April 6:**

7:00 P.M.. Retreat Conference – Father Charles Lachowitz

##### **Holy Tuesday, April 7:**

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer from the Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist, St. Agnes – Followed by directed Lectio Divina on the Gospel of the day, John 13

7:00 P.M. Retreat Conference – Father John Ubel

##### **Spy Wednesday, April 8:**

9:00 A.M. Morning prayer from St. Paul Seminary— Followed by directed Lectio Divina on the Gospel of the day, Mt 26:14-25

##### **Holy Thursday, April 9:**

9:00 A.M Morning prayer from St. Paul Seminary – directed Lectio Divina on John 13

7:00 P.M. Mass of the Lord's Supper Cathedral of St. Paul – Archbishop Hebda presiding

##### **Good Friday, April 10:**

9:00 A.M. Morning Prayer – Cathedral of St. Paul – Followed by directed Lectio Divina on Passion

7:00 P.M. Celebration of the Lord's Passion – Basilica of St. Mary – Bishop Cozzens presiding

##### **Holy Saturday, April 11:**

9 a.m. Morning Prayer – Cathedral of St. Paul, directed Lectio Divina following – Holy Saturday reading

8:30 p.m. Easter Vigil Mass – Cathedral of St. Paul – Archbishop Hebda presiding



**SCRIPTURE # 1045**

**Isaiah 50:4-7  
Phillipians 2:6-11  
Mt 26:14—27:66**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**8:00 AM**

<b>Monday</b>	†	<b>Catherine Bitzan</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	†	<b>Ellen Carvatt</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	†	<b>Tom Gallagher</b>
<b>Thursday</b>		<b>Holy Thursday</b>
<b>Friday</b>		<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Saturday</b>		<b>Holy Saturday</b>

**SACRISTY AIDES**—Virginia Tschida, (Linens)  
Mary DeLuney

**WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*April 6:* Is 42:1-, Jn 12:1-11  
*April 7:* Is 49:1-6, Jn 13:21-33, 36-38  
*April 8:* Is 50:4-9a, Mt 26:14-25  
*April 9:* Ex 12:1-8, 11-14, 1 Cor 11:23-26,  
 Jn 13:1-15  
*April 10:* Is 52:13—53:12, Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9,  
 Jn 18:1—19:42  
*April 11:* Gn 1:1—2:2 , Gn 22:1-18, Mt 28:1-10  
*April 12:* Acts 10:34a, 37-43, Col 3:1-4 , Jn 20:1-9

**PARISH CALENDAR**

*April 6 — April 13*

**April 6**  
 Quilters, Parish Office, 9:00 am-*CANCELLED*

**April 7**

**April 8**  
 Quilters, Parish Office, 6:30 pm-*CANCELLED*  
 Rel. Ed. & Conf. Classes, School, 6:45 pm-  
*CANCELLED*

**April 9**  
 Holy Thursday Mass, 7:00 pm-*CANCELLED*

**April 10**  
 Good Friday Liturgy, 3:00 pm-*CANCELLED*  
 Stations & Veneration of the Cross, 7:00 pm-  
*CANCELLED*

**April 11**  
 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter at  
 7:00 pm *PENDING*

**April 12**  
 Easter Sunday Masses at 8:30 & 10:00 am-  
*PENDING*  
 Coffee/Donuts after 8:30 & 10:00 Masses, RH  
*CANCELLED*

**April 13**  
 Quilters, Parish Office, 9:00 am-*CANCELLED*

**ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS**

St. Helena Catholic Community:

In preparing our school column, I've never been more aware of the fact that by the time this is published things may be different in our community. I pray that everyone is finding solace in prayer and remaining hopeful in the face of this worldwide disaster. Jesus, I trust in you.

\* St. Helena teachers and students completed two weeks of e-learning with success, and I have heard ample amounts of praise for our teachers. With Governor Walz's announcement closing through May 1st, before Spring break, we assessed our results, weighed feedback, and looked realistically at expectations for teachers, students, and parents. Our school parents also deserve lots of praise! They have navigated new technology and created learning hours at home with grace. I am looking forward to the day when we are all back in the school building together.

Ellen Rian, Ed.S  
Principal

**LITANY IN TIME OF NEED**—Archbishop Bernard Hebda asks that the students from every Catholic school in the twelve-county territory of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis and the faithful set aside time every day, wherever they may be, to join together in offering the "Litany in Time of Need." Please join us by tuning in to Relevant Radio Station 1330am, [relevantradio.com](http://relevantradio.com), or the Relevant Radio App, where the litany will be broadcast each day at 11:05 a.m. What a wonderful sign of unity it will be to have all of you join our young people who were sent home from our schools, praying together at the same time for protection and help. View the "Litany in Time of Need" online or download at [archspm.org](http://archspm.org).

**BAPTISM**—A Baptism Preparation Program is required for all registered first-time parents. To register for the classes, please call Virginia, the Director of Pastoral Care, at 612-729-7344.

**DO YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER NEED A VISIT?**—If you or your loved one will be hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Eucharist, let us know. Keep in mind hospitals and healthcare facilities cannot contact us. We need to be contacted by family. Please call the Director of Pastoral Care, Virginia, at 612-729-7344.

**PRAYER CORNER** We know that your rulings are just ones, Lord, and so we ask for your mercy; treat us gently and we will not be put to shame.