

Parish Staff

Parochial Administrator
Rev. Michael Daly 729-7344

Director of Pastoral Care
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
Jane Hileman 729-9301

Parish Secretaries
Elaine Bruce 729-7344
Polly Millea 729-7344

Business Manager
Lisa MacKenzie 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.

Sacrament of Penance

Monday—Saturday 8:30–9:00 A.M.
Saturday 3:00–3:30 P.M.

Adoration

Fridays 9:00 A.M.—9:00 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
Website: www.sainthelena.us

The Church of St. Helena

The Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022

*“I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier
than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the
thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the
Holy Spirit and fire.”*

-Lk 3:16bc



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FR. DALY BREAD – **Baptism:** *I praise you, because I am wonderfully made* (Ps. 139:14)

Why was Jesus baptized? Even John the Baptist wonders at Jesus' approach for baptism because he was sinless and had no need to repent. As Archbishop Fulton Sheen puts it, "The object of his baptism was the same as the object of his birth, to identify with sinful humanity." Our Lord's descent into the water expresses his assumption of our guilt and anticipates his death, burial, and descent into hell – the lowest point of that downward trajectory. Our Lord's ascent out of the water expresses his resurrection into God's glorious majesty as a beloved Child of God!

Have you ever noticed that Jesus' temptation immediately follows his baptism? At his baptism Jesus identifies himself with sinful humanity. In the desert he experiences temptations of sinful humanity *for our sake*, to give us an example of how to resist temptation.

Notice his childlike simplicity and obedience. He possesses complete confidence and trust in His Father, who says of Him, *This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased* (Mt. 3:17). In Jesus' confrontation with Satan, Jesus does not rely on his own strength or wisdom; he rests secure in the Father's words at the Jordan. Moreover, in response to each temptation, Jesus does *not* dialogue with the devil; He does *not* enter into a debate. He does *not* prove himself smarter or more clever than Satan; He does *not* outwit or overwhelm the Father of Lies. Before ever a word passes from Jesus' lips, he quotes God's words of Scripture with a childlike confidence in their power to save.



How different we are. We carelessly place ourselves in occasions of sin and do not dismiss sinful suggestions immediately, but give the evil one more and more room to maneuver. Our Savior's simplicity teaches us to trust *less* in our own virtues and *more* in our status as Children of God. Everything necessary to triumph over temptation was granted us at Baptism.

Baptism is not only the beginning of Christian life but also the pattern of it. Our dying and rising is constant and continual. Each day we die—to our selfish desires, to our pride, to the world's temptations—so that we can rise in being united with Him. Only if we are willing to descend into the waters with him *daily*, resisting the world, the flesh, and the devil, then will we be able to rise from them with Him as well. *I will proclaim the decree of the Lord, he said to me, "You are my son; today I have begotten you"* (Ps. 2:7).

Peace,
Fr. Michael

PASTOR'S REMARKS:

Men's EXODUS90 (begins January 17)—The main reason men make an Exodus is this: **they want to grow**. Research shows that habits can be dramatically transformed in a span of 90 days. Exodus90 offers a **path to freedom**: freedom from unwanted habits and an ability to be who they were truly called to be: Men in Christ. Men of the Church. Men for Others. Please contact Brian Deeny at 612-296-6797, or the parish office to sign up.

Lake Nokomis Pond Hockey Tournament (January 21-23)—Come cheer on our Saint Helena Hockey Squad (including yours truly) and support the renovation of our Bethlehem Adoration Chapel. Please contact the parish office for the game schedule and/or donations to the chapel.

Brillante Children's Art Workshop (February 1-4)—*after school* 3:30-5:30PM in Rowan Hall, for grade school & high school students. Mandy Hain is the artist who will be painting the triptych icon for the new Saint Helena Bethlehem Adoration Chapel. This will be a wonderful introduction to iconography, as well as a beautiful meditation on the Christmas Season (which can extend to February 2)! Please contact the parish office to sign up your children.

SENIOR LUNCH—Senior Lunch will be held on January 19th, the third Wednesday of January. Join us at noon for good food followed by bingo in Rowan Hall. The cost is \$6 and no reservations are required.

ROSARY BEFORE DAILY MASS—The Rosary is recited Monday through Saturday before Mass at 7:25 AM. All are welcome to join.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS—Thanks to all who contributed to the Christmas poinsettias in memory of your loved ones. Your generosity made our church look beautiful. Those who offered a memorial may pick up a plant from the table located at the east sacristy door entrance. The door will be open from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. from January 10 through January 14. For your own safety, please **do not** go on the altar to remove plants.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING (NFP)—Classes teach couples the Church approved methods on how to achieve or postpone pregnancy while embracing the beauty of God's gift of sexuality. For a complete list of classes offered throughout the Archdiocese, please visit: archspm.org/family or call 651-291-4489.

COME TO DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE AFTER THE 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M. MASSES—EVERY SUNDAY— Everyone is invited to “Doughnuts and Coffee” downstairs in Rowan Hall after the 8:30 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. Masses on Sunday mornings. It’s a great way to meet and visit with parishioners.

WOMEN’S BREAKFAST—CHANGE OF DATE—THIS SATURDAY—JANUARY 15—The Women’s Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, January 8, has been change to January 15, at 8:30 A.M. in Rowan Hall with Heidi Geibel, Ph. D., speaking on “Surprising Lessons from Living Saints.” The cost is \$5 for the breakfast. Complimentary tickets are available for those who have difficulty paying. Participants are invited to come to the Mass at 8:00 A.M. in church before the Breakfast. Registrations should be made before 12:00 Noon on Friday, January 14, by calling 612-729-7321.

MEN’S BREAKFAST—SATURDAY, JANUARY 29— Attend the next men’s Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, January 29, 2022, at 8:30 A.M. The cost of the breakfast is \$5. Participants are also invited to attend the 8:00 Mass in church before the breakfast. Registration should be made before 12:00 Noon on Friday, January 28, by calling 612-729-7321.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES CONTINUE ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS—In-person religious education classes for elementary and junior high students are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:45 P.M. in the downstairs of the church and Parish Office Building. If you would like to enroll your child, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?—Please let that individual know that the Church of St. Helena is again offering a program that prepares people to become Catholic. To take the program does not mean that you must become a Catholic. It is held on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm in the Parish Office Building. Also, if Tuesday evenings are impossible to make, another time can be arranged. For more information, call Fr. Daly or John Sondag at 612-729-7344.

DO YOU KNOW ANY PARISHIONER WHO NEEDS HELP?—If you know parishioners who might be out of work, sick and unable to work, or struggling because of financial difficulties, please let the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish know about those individuals. The Conference reaches out to individuals and families in the parish who are having difficulties. (Your name and the referral’s name will be kept confidential.) Please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431 to give the Conference information.

DEEPEN AND ENRICH YOUR FAITH ON THE INTERNET. GO TO ‘FORMED’—Explore the beauty of the Faith at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies...there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church. Registering on Formed is easier than ever! Just go to

FORMED.org/signup Enter our parish zip code or name to select your parish. Enter your name and email.

YOU CAN BE PART OF THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE—The St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish reaches out to 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. The next meeting is this Thursday, January 13, at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Offices. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

PRAY THE VIRTUAL ROSARY ON FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00 P.M.—You can pray the Rosary with parishioners on Fridays at 7:00 P.M. Call 612-275-0431 to get the Zoom ID and Password.

FOOD SHELF—Reminder-The Church of St. Helena continues to collect items for the food shelf. Non perishable food and personal items, (shampoo, toothpaste, paper products) may be dropped off by the elevator on the Church level. *“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers, you did for me.’ Matt 25:40*

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.

WOMEN OF ST. HELENA—PRAYER GROUP NOW MEETS ON MONDAYS—On Monday morning a group of women meet at Church after the 8:00 Mass for quiet time, and prayer. Please call Barb Kaluza at 612-721-2504 or Shirley Balster at 612-722-8847 for more information.

OPERATION ANDREW DINNER—Monday, January 17, 6:00-8:00 P.M. at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center, Saint Paul. Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda and Father David Blume, Director of Vocations, invite men, ages 16 and older, who are discerning their vocations, to join them for dinner and conversation about priesthood and religious life. Typically, guests invite their pastor, youth minister or a religious brother to meet them at the Archdiocesan Catholic Center for the Operation Andrew Dinner. Online registration is required. For more information and to register, see *10000vocations.org*

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jan. 10: 1 Sm 1:1-8, Mk 1:14-20
 Jan. 11: 1 Sm 1:9-20, 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd, Mk 1:21-28
 Jan. 12: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20, Mk 1:29-39
 Jan. 13: 1 Sm 4:1-11, Mk 1:40-45
 Jan. 14: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a, Mk 2:1-12
 Jan. 15: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a, Mk 2:13-17
 Jan. 16: Is 62:1-5, 1 Cor 12:4-11, Jn 2:1-11



SCRIPTURE # 1022
 Is 42:1-4, 6-7
 Acts 10:34-38
 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11
 Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7
 Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	8:00	† Mary Chandler
Tuesday	8:00	Lynne & Luis Garcia
Wednesday	8:00	† Rev. Richard Villano
	9:30	St. Helena Volunteers
Thursday	8:00	Gregory Reamer
Friday	8:00	† Charles R. Young
Saturday	8:00	David Dwyer
Saturday	4:00	Sheila Ochs
Sunday	8:30	Phil Ochs
Sunday	10:00	St. Helena Parish

SACRISTY LINENS—Cheryl Griffith

PARISH CALENDAR

January 10

- Women's Prayer Group, Church, 8:30 am
- Quilting, Parish Office Building, 9:00-11:30 am

January 11

- Catechumenate Reception Program, Parish Office Building, 7:30 pm

January 12

- School Mass, Church, 9:30 am
- Quilting, Parish Office Building, 6:15-9:00 pm
- Rel. Ed. & Conf. Class, Rowan Hall & Parish Office Building, 6:45 pm

January 13

- St. Vincent de Paul Mtg, Parish Office, 6:30 pm

January 14

- Adoration, Church, 9:00 am—9:00 pm
- Virtual Rosary, 7:00 pm

January 15

- Women's Breakfast, Rowan Hall, 8:30 am
- Confessions, Church, 3:00 pm
- Mass, Church, 4:00 pm

January 16

- Mass, Church, 8:30 am & 10:00 am
- Doughnuts & Coffee, RH, after 8:30 & 10:00 Masses

January 17

- Women's Prayer Group, Church, 8:30 am
- Quilting, Parish Office Building, 9:00-11:30 am

Daily Mass, Monday-Saturday, Church, 8:00 am
Confessions, Mon.-Sat., Church, 8:30 am - 9:00 am

PRAYER CORNER

Lord God, we praise You for creating us, and still more for restoring us in Christ. Your Son shared our weakness: may we share His glory.

ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

St. Helena Makes Music

Greetings from the music department at St. Helena! After being in the parish with my family for 10 years, I am delighted to be teaching music classes K-8 for the school. It has been a lot of fun getting to make beautiful music at school. The primary grades did a lot of singing and playing games to learn notes, rhythms, and how to make music using our voices, clapping, and percussion. The junior high worked on composing songs and learning more about how notes work in a song to create melodies and harmonies. We also worked on rhythm compositions using different percussion instruments. We are working to build up a choir and a culture of singing after the COVID year in which no schools did any singing.

The St. Helena students were able to have a live, in-person Christmas Concert this past December 16, which was a great gift to all of us, most especially me! Back in September I was really hoping to have a safe concert to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas and to get the school kids and their families together at Christmastime. I am very grateful to God that we were able to pull it off after a lot of planning and consulting, and much practicing by our students. The schedule of the last week of school before Christmas break had to shift nearly daily to reflect the practices that we had, and all of the teachers pitched in to keep the school day flowing smoothly. The kids engaged in both their schoolwork and the work of getting the concert together in a great fashion. The concert itself was a great time to reflect on Jesus' birth in song.

Carolyn Reinhardt
 K-8 Music Teacher and Choir Director

Principal Update

I just finished my 70th thank you letter to donors of the Fr. Richard Villano Scholarship Fund. That does not reflect the unknown who gave \$270 in cash. It is a great tribute to the man and priest I am proud to call my boss and friend for the past 26 years. I will always be grateful to Fr. Daly for inviting me to dinner with Fr. Villano when I came back as principal. It was a great last supper.

Thank you to all who have given in Father's name. The total raised so far is \$11,498. In the words of my husband, "He was never one to enjoy any accolades or attention, but I know that he would approve of this fundraising endeavor bearing his name."

Jane Hileman, Principal