

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.

Visit us on the web at
www.sainthelena.us

The Church of St. Helena

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 20, 2019

*"I tell you, he will see to it that justice
is done for them speedily.*

*But when the Son of Man comes,
will he find faith on earth?"*

(Lk 18:8)



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THE WORD

St. Therese of Lisieux (the Little Flower of Jesus) was a contemplative nun who lived in one convent in France for her entire life as a religious. She did simple things, like wash clothes and scrub floors. As a nun, she was never a missionary, a teacher, a nurse, or a social worker. However, she was proclaimed by the Church a "patroness of the missions."

Why? Because her prayers (and sacrifices) benefited the missions, and the Church wants us to follow her example of praying and offering sacrifices on behalf of missionaries throughout the world. The task of bringing men and women to the Lord is an enterprise of the entire Church.

In the first Scripture reading for this Sunday, we have Moses who raises his hands on a hill as the Israelites were engaged in battle. As long as Moses' arms were raised with the rod of God in his hand, the Israelites would be winning, but when he lowered them they started to lose. Moses' arms grew tired, so Aaron and Hur supported his arms, and the Israelites won. The enterprise of Moses involved the effort and labors of more than just Moses.

Then, in the Gospel for this Sunday, we hear our Lord encouraging us to be persistent in our prayers. This, indeed, is a quality of our prayer which we as a Church must have in pursuing the salvation of sinners which is a goal of World Mission Sunday, which happens to be this weekend.

The Church has missionaries throughout the world, people who have been sent to bring the saving message of Jesus Christ. We are to pray for them and offer sacrifices on their behalf. In fact Pope Pius XI talked about contemplative groups in relation to the apostolic ones when he said, "Much more is contributed to the growth and development of the Church by contemplative groups than by those who perform the actual labors, for it is they who call down from heaven the vivifying graces to irrigate the plowed fields of the other apostolic workers." (*Umbratilem*, 1924)

But, contemplative priests, sisters, and brothers are not the only ones who can "hold up the arms" of our missionaries. The elderly, the sick, the homemaker who works at home, the executive who sits in front of a computer, the factory worker who monotonously assembles products on an assembly line, the city worker who collects re-cycling, and every person in the state of grace who cannot be a missionary because of time, circumstance, or state of life.

This means intentionally offering our "prayers, works, joys, and sufferings" every morning, at every Mass, and throughout the day for the missions and the apostolates of the Church. We must be like the widow in today's Gospel who persists. Our Lord will listen and bless our missionary endeavors, both here at home and throughout the world.

John Sondag
Director of Religious Education

PASTOR'S REMARKS

1) This weekend we will have a second collection after Holy Communion to help support the Missions of our Church throughout the world. It is the annual World Mission Collection, our call to bring the message and gift of Jesus to others throughout the world. It is not just the work of our wonderful missionaries throughout the world, it is the work of each of us who have been gifted with our faith in Jesus, to bring the blessing of Jesus to others. Jesus chose it as his way to bring the Kingdom of God to others. Thank you for your generosity and dedication. It would be so much easier if Jesus did it himself, but he depends on us! - even here at home!

2) The parish choir is back in session. We are very grateful for their leadership and performance here at St. Helena. If you are interested in joining the choir, please call David Bartlett (651-239-6914) or visit with him before or after Mass up in the choir area.

3) Looking ahead, our parish Masses on Nov. 1, feast of All Saints, which is a Holy Day with obligation, will be at 8:00 and 10:00 A.M. and at 5:30 P.M. Because it's Halloween the day before (Oct. 31) we do not have an evening Mass on Oct. 31.

4) *Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearances but the Lord looks into the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)*

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.

QUILTING HAS STARTED—We are quilting again on Mondays from 9:00—11:30 A.M. and Wednesdays from 6:15—9:00 P.M. in the basement of the Parish Center. Please join us whenever it fits your schedule. We will tie and hand stitch quilts for the 2020 fall festival as well as hem and sew. You don't need to know how; we will be happy to teach you. Everyone is welcome. Call Lucy Koller (729-9445) or Kathy Wood (729-4167), if you have questions.

PETE'S BOUTIQUE—St Peter's in Richfield invites parishioners from neighboring churches to shop at the 41st annual Pete's Boutique on Saturday, October 26, from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Shop for handmade treasures, one-of-a-kind holiday gifts and home-baked goodies. St. Peter's is located at 6730 Nicollet Avenue South, just south of the Academy of Holy Angels. Call 612-767-1781 for more information.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST—SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9—Come to the next Women's Breakfast scheduled for Saturday, November 9, at 8:30 A.M. in Rowan Hall. The cost is \$5 for the breakfast. 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, November 8, by calling 612-729-7321.

MEN'S BREAKFAST—THIS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26—The first Men's Breakfast of this season will be held on Saturday, October 26, at 8:30 A.M. The speaker is Mathew Lu, Ph.D., who will talk about "Can We Know God by Natural Reason?" The cost of the breakfast is \$5. Participants are also invited to attend the 8:00 Mass in church before the breakfast. Registrations should be made before 12:00 Noon on Friday, October 25, by calling 612-729-7321.

PRE-SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM—If you are parents with rambunctious 3, 4 and 5-year-old children, you can enroll them in the Pre-School Religious Education Program in Rowan Hall on Sunday mornings during the 10:00 A.M. Mass. The tuition for the school year until May is \$50 (although no child will be deprived of religious education because of finances). To register, come downstairs to Rowan Hall before the 10:00 Mass on Sunday, or call John Sondag (612-275-0431).

A GOOD BOOK—The book entitled *Outlines of the Catholic Faith* can be found in the book rack in the back of the Church. We would appreciate a free-will donation of \$2 to cover the cost of the book.

EVERYBODY IS WELCOME AT DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS—Come to Doughnuts and Coffee in Rowan Hall every Sunday after the 8:30 and 10:00 Masses. There's a free-will offering, but if you forgot your wallet or purse (or can't afford to make an offering), just come and enjoy the doughnuts. It's a great way to meet and visit with parishioners.

DISCOVERY—Whether you are Catholic, haven't been to Church in a while, are non-Catholic, or want to help others discover the Lord, come check out our new Discovery small-group sessions! We will encounter the love, forgiveness and salvation offered in Jesus Christ and gain a deep and lasting conversion of heart and life while making new friends. Join us for the last two of six weekly sessions which will begin at 7:30 P.M., on Mondays, October 21 and 28, in the Parish Offices. Bring your friends, neighbors, and family members! There is no cost and you will receive a participant guide. Donations, however, will be accepted. If you would like to check us out, call Ruth Caron at 763-742-0762 or John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

PEOPLE WHO NEED 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 help, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

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

PURCHASE A GIFT CARD FOR GROCERIES—Buy 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.

CRY ROOM FOR PARENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN OR INFANTS—You can find the "Cry Room" in the front of the church, if you go through the side door by the Baptismal font. After you go through the door, turn left, go up a small series of steps, open a door, and you'll enter a room where you can be close to the altar and that has the prayers miked into it, you can see everything that's happening, and your little ones can cry or talk without disturbing others in the main part of the church.

ST. HELENA CHURCH HAS A NURSERY SERVICE AVAILABLE DURING THE 10:00 SUNDAY MASS—St. Helena Church offers a nursery service for small children (up to but not including first grade) during the 10:00 A.M. Mass on Sundays. There's no charge. Parents may bring the children downstairs to the nursery before Mass.

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. We meet Thursday, October 24, at 6:30 P.M. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

ST. HELENA MUSIC TROOP—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. If you are interested in participating, please call John Sondag (612-275-0431).

ARCHDIOCESAN SYNOD—Archbishop Hedbda has asked all parishioners to pray and take part in the Synod. There are several ways to participate:

- *Pray the Synod prayer daily.* (The prayer card can be found near the church exits.)
- *Attend an upcoming Prayer and Listening Event.* This is open to all parishioners.
- *Make your voice heard.* After attending a prayer and listening event you will be asked for your input on what is working and what's not in the Catholic Church. Our Archbishop wants to hear from you.
- *Watch for future announcements concerning the Synod.*

Learn more about the Synod at archspm.org/synod or call Virginia Tschida, St. Helena Synod Leader at 612-729-7344.



SCRIPTURE #1195

Ex 17:8-13
2 Tm 3:14—4:2
Lk 18:1-8

MASS INTENTIONS

8:00 AM

Monday	†	Marcella Highland
Tuesday	†	Ralph Mosiniak
Wednesday	†	Joseph Pianko
Thursday		Spencer Nelson
Friday	†	John McGlade
Saturday	†	Illuminada Buenaflor

SACRISTY AIDES—Barb Kaluza and Ann Gibney (Linens) Eloise McDonald

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

October 21: Rom 4:20-25, Lk 12:13-21
October 22: Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21
 Lk 12:35-38
October 23: Rom 6:12-18, Lk 12:39-48
October 24: Rom 6:19-23, Lk 12:49-53
October 25: Rom 7:18-25a, Lk 12:54-59
October 26: Rom 8:1-11, Lk 13:1-9
October 27: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18, 2 Tm 4:6-8,
 16-18, Lk 18:9-14

PARISH CALENDAR

October 21—October 28

October 21

-Quilters, Parish Offices, 9:00 am
 -Women's Prayer Group, Church, 6:30 pm
 -Evangelization Meeting, Parish Offices, 7:30 pm

October 22

-Catechumenate, Parish Offices, 7:30 pm

October 23

-Quilters, Parish Offices, 6:15 pm
 -Religious Ed. & Confirmation Classes, School, 6:45 pm

October 24

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

October 25

October 26

-Men's Breakfast, RH, 8:30 am

October 27

-Doughnuts & Coffee, RH, after 8:30 & 10:00 Masses
 -Pre-School Religious Education, RH, 9:45 am

October 28

-Quilters, Parish Offices, 9:00 am
 -Women's Prayer Group, Church, 6:30 pm
 -Evangelization Meeting, Parish Offices, 7:30 pm

ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

Middle School Language Arts

In Language Arts, we started the year with poetry. We read poems from Shel Silverstein, Emily Dickenson, Edgar Allan Poe, and Lewis Carroll to name a few. We slayed the Jabberwocky, tap, tap, tapped at a chamber door with a raven, listened to *Casey at the Bat*, and discussed our hidden faces with *Underface*. We considered our *Legacies* with Nikki Giovanni and analyzed figurative language and symbolism. We wrote *Where I'm From* poems and illustrated our final copies. Upon completing our poetry unit, we delved into NWEA/MAP testing and basked in the glory of our students' success. Following testing, we wrote expository essays about all the events in the school and parish this past month. From essays, we will move into a more creative activity, the 6-word memoir made famous by Ernest Hemingway.

Catholic Schools Summit of Excellence

All of our teachers and staff attended the Catholic Schools Center of Excellence Summit on Wednesday, October 16th, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. We celebrated Mass with Archbishop Hebda and were able to attend a wide variety of workshops, ranging in topics from faith & prayer, English language learners, cultural competency, mental health, marketing & development, and STEM lessons! It was a fabulous day of learning and networking with our colleagues.

School Mass and Turkey Bingo. Please join us!

- Friday, November 1—All Saint's Day Mass 10:00 A.M.
- Saturday, November 16 - Turkey Bingo

BAPTISM—A Baptism Preparation Program is required for all registered first-time parents. To register for the class, 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

Lord you accepted the perfect sacrifice of your Son upon the cross. Hear us during times of trouble, and protect us by the power of his name, that we who share his struggle on earth, may merit a share in his victory.