

"Glory to God in the highest"



Saint Helena Parish & Saint Titus Parish
Welcomes you to celebrate the birth of our Lord

Penance Services

Monday, December 16 - St. Titus 7pm
Tuesday, December 17 - St. Helena 7pm

Christmas Eve Masses- Tuesday,
December 24, 2024

4:00pm- St. Helena
4:30pm- St. Titus
6:00pm (Childrens Liturgy)-
St. Helena
8:00pm- Saint Helena

Christmas Day- Wednesday
December 25, 2024

12 Midnight - St. Titus
7:30am- St. Helena
9:00am- St. Helena
10:00am - St. Titus
11:00am - St. Helena

New Year's Eve, Tuesday
December 31, 2024
Solemnity of Mary (Vigil)

4:00pm - St. Helena

New Year's Day, Wednesday,
January 1, 2025
Solemnity of Mary

9:00am- St. Helena
10:00am - St. Titus
12:15pm - St. Helena

December 8, 2024

1489 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell .PA .19422



OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

ONE FAMILY

United as members of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, we are committed, as **ONE FAMILY**, to be messengers of God's love and presence in the world, and to welcome and invite others to become part of this family and this mission.

ONE HEART

Called by our Baptism to a life of service in the Lord, we are committed, with **ONE HEART**, to live in charity, practice the works of mercy, and work for peace and justice.

ONE FAITH

Strengthened by God's Word and nourished by His Sacraments, we are committed, in **ONE FAITH**, to promote lives of learning, living, and proclaiming the Gospel message, as we continue to grow in the knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of all that embodies these awe-inspiring truths.

PRIESTS/DEACONS:

Rev. Joseph W. Bongard: Pastor of St. Helena & Parochial Administrator of St. Titus
Rev. Samuel A. Verruni: Senior Priest
Rev. Dr. Kyle M. Adamczyk: Parochial Vicar
Msgr. Joseph J. Nicolo: Pastor Emeritus
Deacon A. Kenneth Belanger
Deacon Claude Granese
Seminararian: Przemek Rozestwinski

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: 610-275-7711
Web Site: www.sainthelena-centersquare.net
Email: parish@sainthelenachurch.org
Monday through Friday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Business Manager: Ms. Cathy Neugebauer
Parish Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Gina Malony
NEW REGISTRATIONS, call the office to make an appointment.

EDUCATION CENTER:

1499 DeKalb Pike Blue Bell PA 19422
Phone: 610-279-3345 <> Fax: 610-279-3272
School Principal: Miss Denise Britt
School Secretary: Mrs. Megan Tronoski
School Nurse: Mrs. April Maxwell

PREP (PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM):

Phone: 610-279-3870
Interim Dir. of Religious Education: Rev. Dr. Kyle Adamczyk

DIRECTOR of PARISH SERVICES:

Phone: 610-930-0349
Mr. Christian Thompson

FACILITIES MANAGER:

Phone: 610-322-5749
Mr. Vince Thompson

FACILITIES DIRECTOR:

Phone: 610-275-7711
Mr. Jay Maiale

GLUTEN SENSITIVE OR WHEAT ALLERGY?

Any individual in need of receiving a low-gluten host should get in the communion line of the Priest who is the Main Celebrant of the Mass and request one when presenting oneself for Holy Communion. At all Masses, the Main Celebrant will have a pyx containing low-gluten hosts. There is no need to pre-arrange or notify anyone before Mass.

ST. HELENA MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday - Saturday: 9:00 AM Chapel
Saturday: 4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM
Holy Days: Vigil: 7:00 PM,
Holy Day: 9:00 AM, & 12:15 PM

ST. TITUS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 10:00AM
Holy Day: 10:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

St. Helena - Saturday at 3:00 PM in the Church
St. Titus - Saturday at 3:30 PM in the Church
or call St. Helena Parish Office to make an appointment

ST. THERESA CHAPEL HOURS:

The Saint Theresa Chapel is open Monday - Friday from 6:30 AM to 9:00 PM; Saturday from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM and Sunday from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

SPIRITUAL DEVOTIONS:

Eucharistic Adoration: Mon-Fri 9:30 AM-7:30 PM
Most Holy Rosary: Mon-Sat 8:15 AM (Chapel)
Wednesdays: 11:30 AM (Grotto)
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Mon-Sun 3:00 PM (Chapel)
followed by recitation of Rosary

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Baptisms are celebrated every Sunday *after* the 11:00 AM Mass. Please stop by the Parish Office for information on scheduling Baptism for your child.
A Pre-Baptism class is required for parents & optional for Godparents, and are usually offered the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Convent. Call the Parish Office to register for a class.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

At least 6 months prior to your desired wedding date, contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment with a Priest.
The Archdiocese of Philadelphia requires that all couples attend a Pre-Cana class before marriage. At this time we ask you to go to Archphila.org, under Marriage preparations to take the class on-line.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

Arrangements can be made by calling the Parish Office.

PARTNER PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., December 7 - St. Ambrose

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Living & Deceased Members of the Saint Theresa Guild
4:00 PM - St. Helena Church
† Anna & Anthony Cianciulli, Sr.
Req. by her Family
4:30 PM - St. Titus
† Charles & Theresa Connell
Req. by the Connell Family

Sun., December 8

7:30 AM - St. Helena Church
† For the People of the Parish
9:00 AM - St. Helena Church
† Landon Vargas
Req. by his Family
10:00 AM - St. Titus
† Victoria McCracken
Req. by the McCracken Family
11:00 AM - St. Helena Church
† Jose Manuel Folhadelha Oliveria
Req. by Michele & Frederick Oskanian

Mon., December 9

The Immaculate Conception of the BVM

8:00 AM - St. Titus
† Steffie Olsovsky
Req. by her Family
9:00 AM - St. Helena Church
† Joyce Bastian
Req. by St. Helena Parish Office
12:15 PM - St. Helena Church
† Lucy & Samuel Verruni

Tues., December 10 - Our Lady of Loreto

8:00 AM - St. Titus
† Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Titus
9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Ken McNelis, Jr.
Req. by Barbara Fritz

Wed., December 11 - St. Damasus I

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Rev. John T. Coates 12th Anniversary
Req. by his Flock

PARTNER PARISH MASS INTENTIONS Continued

Thur., December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 AM - St. Titus
† John McGarvey
Req. by Kevin Tickner
9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Elizabeth Harris
Req. by Cathy Neugebauer

Fri., December 13 - St. Lucy

8:00 AM - St. Titus
† Mitch Budzilowicz
Req. by Mark & Rosemary Dillon
9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Anne Nolen
Req. by Dennis & Alex Nolen

Sat., December 14 - St. John of the Cross

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel
† Living & Deceased Members of the Saint Theresa Guild
4:00 PM - St. Helena Church
† Louis & Dorothy Jarusik
Req. by Linda Daniels
4:30 PM - St. Titus
† Michael Higgins
Req. by the Higgins Family



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TITHE!

A tithe is a portion (10%) of your income given to your church. (The word tithe literally means tenth in Hebrew.) Because the custom of tithing is biblical, many Christians and Jews practice it as part of their faith.

Collection for weekend of December 1, 2024

PLATE: \$ 17,997
E GIVING: \$ 7,564
MAIL-IN: \$ 1,701

Envelopes Returned: 403
E Giving: 149

Prayer for the Sick



In your charity, please pray for our sick & home-bound parishioners, as well as those living in health/nursing facilities.

In particular, please remember the following individuals:

Patrick Banicki, Ed Mitchell, Sr., Dave Colman, Juan Barba, Lorraine Perri, Mike Piskai, Jr., Karen Meenan, Mary Trodden, Linda Weikert, Carol Berardelli, George Cooper, Sr. Fran, Joan, Patty Kurkowski, William Lawrence, Joan DiDonato, Steve Malek, Casey Interrante, Alec Jensen, Rose O'Donnell, Kristen Gilia, Bruce Shepherd, Jong Soo Sohn, Carletta Sohn, Betty DeBlasio, Shannon Sanfilippo, Nicolette Theisen.

To add a name, please call the Parish Office at 610-275-7711. Names will remain listed for 2 weeks.

MEMORIALS FOR THIS WEEK



The Sanctuary Candle in the Church burns in memory of,

LONDON VARGAS

REQUESTED BY HIS FAMILY

The Sanctuary Candle in the Chapel burns in memory of,

SUZANNE & JIM BOTTINGER

Requested by Anne Marie & Les Schmalbach



A Candle burns at St. Joseph in memory of

CHUCK SLOBODZIAN

Requested by Lucy, Jamie & Bella



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please pray for all our military Personnel.

Lord God, Almighty Father, Creator of humankind and Author of peace, we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask You to bless the members of our Armed Forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To You be all glory, honor and praise now and forever. Amen.

LTJG Rebecca McCool, LT. Brendan Koch, ENS John W Bushner, CPT Christopher Rongione

Bread & Wine



The Bread & Wine this week is offered in memory of

Jim Smith

Requested by Tom & Ceil McGeehan.

St. Andrew Christmas Novena Prayer

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.

In that hour vouchsafe, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother.

Amen.



In your Christian charity and mindful of the Communion of Saints, please pray for

ALL OUR BELOVED DECEASED
INCLUDING

MARGARET JACKSON

GREGORY LOEPER

ANDREA CAPERILLA

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER



Save the Date!

Feast Day Celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe!

Our Blessed Mother, under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe, is the Patroness of the Americas and of the Unborn. Join us in the Chapel to pay homage to her on **Monday, Dec. 9th at 7:00 PM.** We will sing & pray for the unborn, for parents who have lost a child, for those struggling with infertility and those who have had a miscarriage. Afterwards, we'll enjoy churros & hot chocolate!

PARISH EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

- Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM - Church
- Blessing of Expecting Mother's
- Lantern Sale: After All Masses - Narthex
- Brother House Winter Drive: After All Masses Narthex
- Youth Group: 7:00 PM - Convent
- Robotics: 8:00 AM - Cafeteria
- Advent Evening Prayer: 6:00 PM - Chapel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9

- Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the BVM: 9:00 AM - Church (Whole School)
- Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the BVM: 12:15 PM - Church
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: 12:30 PM - Lady of Fatima
- CYO Basketball: 5:00 PM - Rec. Center
- Robotics: 6:00 PM - Cafeteria
- Daisy/Brownies: 6:15 PM - Library
- Adult Education: 7:00 PM - Convent
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Service: 7:00 PM - Chapel

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Mommy & Me: 10:00 AM - Our Lady of Mercy
- Walking with Purpose: 1:00 PM - Convent
- Adult Basketball: 5:30 PM - Rec. Center
- PREP Classes: 6:00 PM - Education Center
- PREP Confessions: 6:30 PM - Church
- 3 on 3 Basketball: 7:30 PM - Rec. Center

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- *SHS Christmas Show*: 6:30 PM - Social & Rec. Ct.
- Knights of Columbus: 7:00 PM - Our Lady of Mercy

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Walking with Purpose: 9:00 AM - Convent
- *SHS Christmas Show*: 6:30 PM - Social & Rec. Ct.
- RCIA: 7:00 PM - Our Lady of Mercy

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Senior Club: 10:00 AM - Empress Room
- *Christmas Movie Night*: 6:30 PM - Social & Rec. Center
- Dress Rehearsal for Concert: 6:30 PM - Church

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Men's Fellowship Group: 7:00 AM - Convent
- Pinewood Derby: 9:00 AM - Cafeteria
- Vigil Mass : 4:00 PM - Church
- Ladies of Helena Lantern Sale: After Mass - Narthex
- Brother House Collection: After Mass - Narthex

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM - Church
- Ladies of Helena Lantern Sale: After All Masses Narthex
- Brother House Winter Drive: After All Masses Narthex
- **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**: 2:00 PM - Church
- Advent Evening Prayer: 6:00 PM - Chapel
- Youth Group: 6:00 PM - Convent

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

DECEMBER 14 & 15

CELEBRANTS & DEACONS

Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM Fr. Msgr. Beach

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM Fr. Kyle

9:00 AM Fr. Sam

11:00 AM Fr. Sam (Deacon Ken)

Lectors

Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM A. Ilano, T. Pantaleo

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM J. Bond, T. Donohue

9:00 AM C. Buzad, K. McGowan

11:00 AM M. Saunders, M. Voigt

Ministers of Holy Communion

Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM J. Coyle, J. Eisele, T. McGarvey, T. Smith

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM D. DeBrakeleer, K. Krumenacker, J. Schmidt

9:00 AM J. O'Doherty, J. Waitkus, M. Watts

11:00 AM Deacon Ken, T. Gallagher, M. Okenquist, V. Thompson

Altar Servers

Saturday, December 14

4:00 PM J. Koop, A. Morris, A. Rose

Sunday, December 15

7:30 AM D. Pedicino, G. Van Dam, L. Yun

9:00 AM R. Hillsley, M. Hoy, N. Hoy, K. Lynch

11:00 AM N. Pantaleo, Q. Pantaleo, J. Romano



Ladies of Helena Fundraiser Memorial Christmas Lanterns

The Ladies of Helena are offering
Memorial Christmas Lanterns for a 2nd year.

These lanterns are a wonderful way to remember your loved one during the Christmas holidays.

Each lantern includes a battery-operated light and will be displayed outside of Saint Helena Church during the Masses from Christmas Eve through New Year's Day.

The name of the person to be remembered will appear on a tag attached to each lantern.

\$25.00 for each Lantern *(1 Name Per Lantern)*
Cash or check made payable to Saint Helena Church

Complete the form below and drop off with payment at Saint Helena's Parish office or with Ladies of Helena in the vestibule after upcoming Masses.

Deadline for all orders is Sunday, December 15, 2024

Pickup: Lanterns only (*shepherds crooks not included*) can be picked up in the Rectory office from January 6, 2025 until January 10, 2025. 10am-3:00pm

Questions - please contact: Carolyn Dittrich 215-688-2488 / dittrichcarolyn@gmail.com
or Tish Barnett 610-277-5692 / lab1125@yahoo.com

rev6



Yes, I would like to order a **Memorial Christmas Lantern** for \$25 per lantern

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Name of Deceased to go on lantern tag *(Maximum of 25 characters)*

Please print clearly

ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

Miss Britt's Mercy Minutes: Exciting Saint Helena School Happenings

This week, we celebrated a significant step in the faith journey of the children in our parish as they received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Through this sacrament, the children have experienced God's love and mercy, deepening their relationship with Him.

Please keep our children in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith and prepare for their First Holy Communion in May.

In addition, this week, we are happy to share news that our school's annual Santa Shop was a wonderful success! Children in Grades PreK3 through Grade 8 had a great time selecting thoughtful gifts for their family members, all while experiencing the spirit of giving.

A great big thank you goes out to our amazing Home and School parents for organizing this special event and to everyone who supported it. Your dedication and generosity made it a memorable experience for our students and their families.

I hope everyone continues to enjoy the Christmas season.

On another note:

- Devin Barkmeyer** has received a David Diehl Leadership Scholarship to LaSalle College High School.
Abby Farrell has received a Golden Panther Scholarship to Pope John Paul II High School.
Michael Inforzato has received a Golden Panther Scholarship to Pope John Paul II High School.
Zoe Lonergan has received a President's Scholarship to Pope John Paul II High School.
Stephen Masucci has received a David Diehl Leadership Scholarship to LaSalle College High School.
Logan Rush has received a Crusader Scholarship to Lansdale Catholic High School.
Andrew Tedesco has received a St. Therese Scholarship to Lansdale Catholic High School and an additional grant in the name of Sister Cathe Shoulberg to LaSalle College High School.
Hayden Vargas has received a David Diehl Leadership Scholarship to LaSalle College High School.

Have a great week!

Miss Denise Britt

dbritt@sainthelenaschool.org



JOIN US FOR A

GRINCHMAS

MOVIE NIGHT

HOSTED BY

THE PARISH OUTREACH COMMITTEE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
6PM - 8PM

ST. HELENA SCHOOL GYM

OPEN TO ST. HELENA,
PREP, AND PARISHIONER
CHILDREN, GRADES
PREK-5

\$5 per child/\$10 per family
Visit St. Helena Church
website to register!

Advent Prayer for Children

My little Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You for this Advent season. Please help me to understand all that You have done for me. Your loving mother held You in her heart and brought You into this world. Help me to do the same.

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and my God. Draw me close to You and help me to see my sins so that I can change the things that You want me to change.

Mother Mary, pray for me this Advent so that I may do all that God wants me to do. You said "Yes" to all that God asked of you. Please pray for me that I may do the same.

Come, Lord Jesus,

Come, Lord Jesus,

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

I love You, Jesus.

Amen.

BROTHER HOUSE

The Legion of Mary Brother House serves the homeless and poor men in Norristown. *Dressy clothing and suits are not needed.* Please donate ONLY MEN'S CLOTHING in good condition: *Jeans, sneakers, work boots, belts, khakis, shorts, reader glasses, thermals, sweatshirts, sweatpants, hoodies, hats & caps, gloves, backpacks, canes and walkers, coats & jackets (for any season), small luggage.*

NO women's clothing.

NO socks or underwear at this time.

Donations can be dropped off in our Information Room, in the Church. For Large donations contact us at LOMBrotherHouse@gmail.com

As always we are grateful for all donations.
What you do for the best of my brother...



Youth Group News & Updates

Our youth group has three goals for all our teens:

1. Help them to become disciples of Jesus Christ
2. Foster their personal and spiritual growth
3. Teach responsible participation in the Church

Open to all teens in 8 - 12 grades and their friends. Come for as many or few nights as you can.

Each night includes a prayer lesson on the Sunday Gospel, a small service activity, games, and food all centered on building healthy relationships for teens with each other, themselves, and with God.

What's happening with our teen group?

Dec 8 - Immaculate Conception Potluck Dinner

In honor of the Immaculate Conception, we will be hosting a Potluck Dinner. All teens are invited and asked to bring a dish to share. Come and eat!

Jan 12 - Embracing Our Baptismal Call

We'll reflect on the Baptism of Jesus to see Jesus' love, the beginning of his mission, and the unity of the Trinity. We'll explore our baptism, our call to live in love and service, and our invitation to join in Jesus' mission to share God's love with all.

Feb 2 - The Presentation: Walking in Faith

We'll reflect on the Presentation of Jesus and how to offer our own lives to God. This doesn't just mean going to church but giving our hearts, minds, and actions to Him each day. We'll also write cards for our elderly and homebound friends in the community to brighten up their days.

Meetings are Sundays 7 to 8:15pm in the Parish Convent (1301 Yost Road).

Scan the QR code to learn about our group and to sign up for text communications.

Contact: Christian Thompson
cthompson@sainthelena church.org



There is still time to... Make this the best Advent of your life!



Advent is the time when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus but so often we lose sight of this season because get caught up in festive busyness and we find ourselves no more prepared and transformed on Christmas Day than we were at the start of Advent.

We invite you to take some time to reflect and listen to what God is telling us through Scripture in order to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus. We will meet each week of Advent to watch a short video reflection and to pray over and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings.

Meetings will be 7:00 to 8:00 PM in the parish convent.

While we have already started, you are more than welcome to join us for the remaining two weeks. You are sure to gain some peace and hope from our time together!

Remaining Weekly Meetings and Theme

Mon, Dec. 9 — Be attentive in your heart

Mon, Dec. 16 — Trust in God, not in outcomes

Contact: Christian Thompson at 610-275-7711



Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to sign up or learn more!



*All Are Invited to the
St. Helena Christmas Concert
“A Candlelight Christmas”
December 15, 2024 in
St. Helena Church
From 2 to 3 PM*




*A free-will offering will be
graciously accepted.*

Adult Faith Formation Winter Series
Save the Dates!

What Does it Mean to Be Saved?

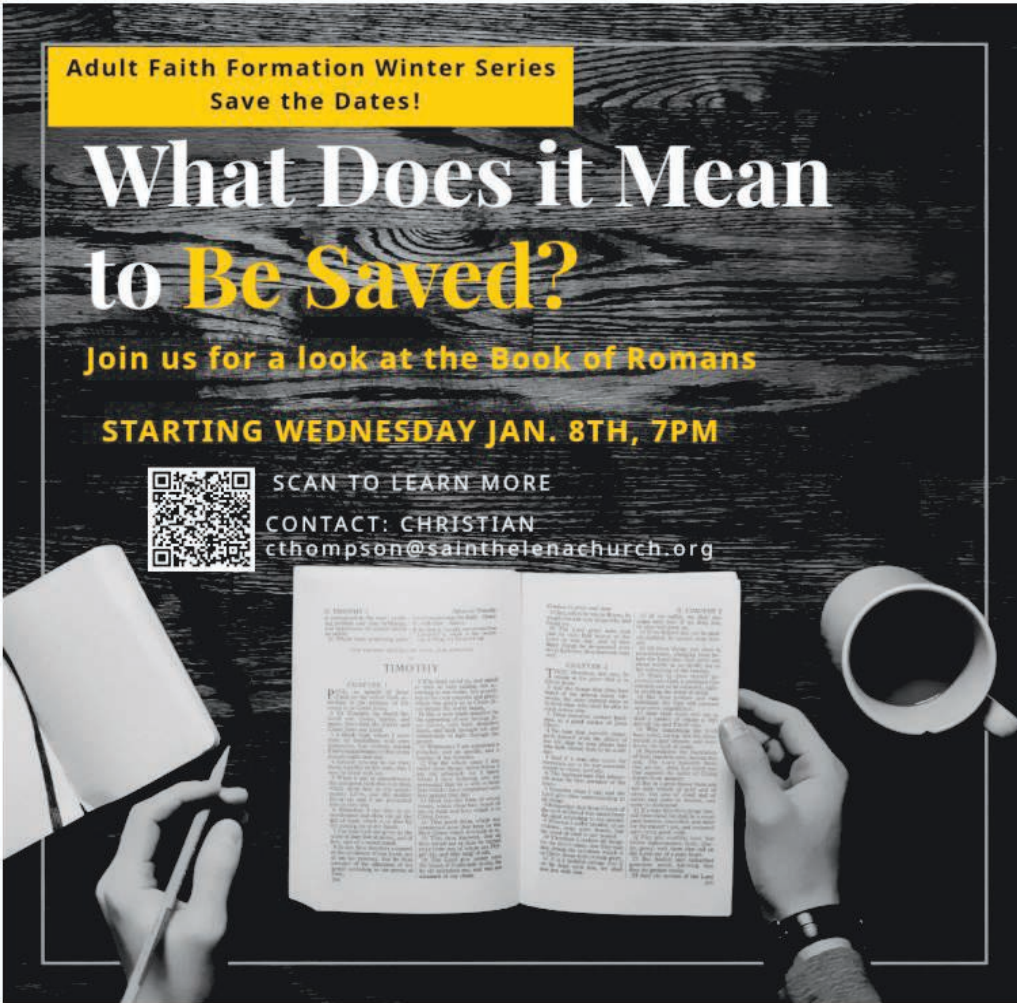
Join us for a look at the **Book of Romans**

STARTING WEDNESDAY JAN. 8TH, 7PM



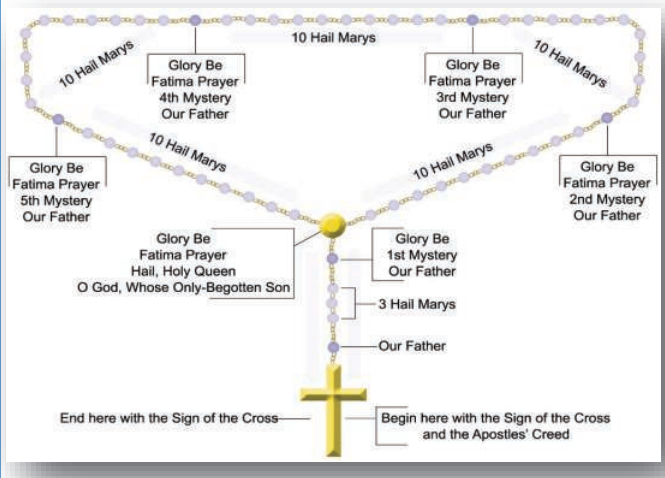
SCAN TO LEARN MORE

CONTACT: CHRISTIAN
cthompson@sainthelenachurch.org



WEDNESDAY ROSARY GROUP

The Wednesday Rosary at 11:30 AM is moving inside for the winter months and will move back to the Grotto in the warmer weather. All are welcome to join us. Bring your friends, family and children!



ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

PRESENTED BY
MARTIN SAINTS CLASSICAL
HIGH SCHOOL



Step away from the holiday rush and join us for a beautiful evening of scripture, song, and prayer. Led by the Martin Saints choirs and instrumentalists, this cherished tradition prepares our hearts to celebrate the true joy of Christmas. All are welcome.

Thursday, December 12th at 7 pm
3000 Keenwood Road, East Norriton, PA

SAINT HELENA YOUTH GROUP INVITES ALL TEENS
IN 8TH TO 12TH GRADES TO OUR...

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION POTLUCK DINNER PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
CELEBRATE WITH US FROM 7 TO 8.30PM
SAINT HELENA PARISH CONVENT

JOIN US FOR FOOD, FRIENDSHIP, FUN, AND FAITH

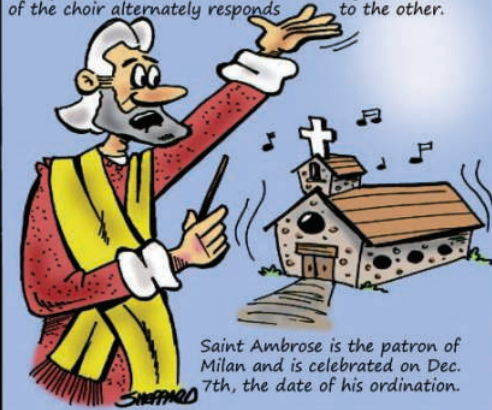


Let us know if you can make it.
Scan the QR code!

contact: Christian Thompson
cthompson@sainthelenachurch.org

SAINTS FUN FACTS

A successful lawyer prior to becoming a bishop, Ambrose was one of the four original doctors of the Church. Ambrose is traditionally credited with composing the "antiphonal chant," a method of chanting where one side of the choir alternately responds to the other.



Saint Ambrose is the patron of Milan and is celebrated on Dec. 7th, the date of his ordination.

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SAINTS FUN FACTS

Written and illustrated by John Sheppard

There is much legend surrounding St. Lucy, but one thing is clear. She believed in God, declared her beliefs and died for her beliefs. She was tortured and killed under the Christian persecutions of Diocletian.



She is the patron saint of the blind and those with eye trouble.



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CHILDREN'S TITHE

The Children of St. Helena are taught how to Tithe by bringing a non perishable item to Mass each week.

During the Mass they are asked to come forward with their gifts and place them in the baskets that are on the Altar steps. These non perishable items are then given to the Patrician Society, a local food bank.

We "Thank you" for helping to feed the least of our brothers.

CareNotes & Lighthouse Kiosk



The two Kiosk located in the Narthex contain CD's, Pamphlets, Prayer Cards, Books, and Rosary Beads.

We have two different programs, the CareNotes, a ministry of St. Meinrad Archabbey, are booklets written to provide uplifting guidance to those who are hurting. They are free to the public, however if you would like to make an offering please contact the Parish Office.

The Lighthouse program is through the Augustine Institute. These are available at a low cost that is printed on the Kiosk.

MEMORIALS AVAILABLE AT ST. HELENA

ANNOUNCED & UN-ANNOUNCED MASSES

Are available (\$20) in the Parish Office during business hours. We have Mass cards available for the Sick, Living & Deceased.

SAINT THERESA GUILD

Saint Helena Parish started a *Saint Theresa Guild* many years ago. We dedicate our Saturday 9 AM Mass to the living and deceased members of this Guild. The names of the members are in a book that is present at the Mass. To have the name of a friend or loved one entered into *Saint Theresa Guild* come to the rectory office during business hours. A donation of \$25 is requested.

CANDLES

Candles in the Church and Chapel can be purchased (\$20 each) in Honor or in Memory of a loved one. The candle will burn for a week, beginning Saturday's Vigil Mass till the following Saturday.

Candles are available in the Church at:

- The Sanctuary Candle
- The Blessed Mother Altar, up to 4 candles may be lit
- The St. Joseph Altar, up to 4 candles may be lit
- The Sacred Heart Statue on the Altar in the Narthex, up to 4 candles may be lit

Candles are available in the Chapel at:

- The Sanctuary Candle
- The Altar, up to 4 candles may be lit on the Altar

BREAD & WINE

The Bread & Wine can be purchased for a week (\$30) in Honor or in Memory of a loved one.

All Memorials can be purchased in the Parish Office during business hours.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

If you are interested in having fresh flowers placed on the Altar in either the Church or the Chapel, please call **THERESA SMITH** at 215-646-7636 to learn about details and availability.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REMEMBER SAINT HELENA IN YOUR WILL?

Ask your attorney to include such words as these in your will: "I give, devise, or bequeath to Saint Helena Church, 1489 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422, for its general purposes all, (or state a fraction or percentage) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate, whether real or personal." OR "I give to Saint Helena Church, 1489 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422 \$X..00 to be used for the general purposes of Saint Helena Parish."

BEQUESTS

The following people have prayerfully made bequests in their Wills to Saint Helena Church. Please remember them in prayer as well.

Kathleen Schoemaker, Margaret Donahue, Lorraine Gigliello, Margaret (Peg) Tannenbaum, John H. Quillinan, III, David R. Bright, Mary Ann Christ, Elizabeth Foster, Marie Sommers, Martin J. Payton, Jr., Wanda James, & Angela M. Holbrook

WE REMEMBER

and we gratefully acknowledge the following families who so thoughtfully asked that donations in memory of their loved one be sent to Saint Helena Church.

We ask that you please keep them in your prayers:

Kathleen & James Fenerty, Louis R. DiMaria, Jim Dougherty, Elsie McDermott, Rita Sciarra, Maria C. Salvitti, Dorothy Barry, John "Jack" Keidel, Edward Wykstra, Daniel Bagley, Frank Groarke, & Connie Swan.



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