

SAINT HELENA CHURCH
Blue Bell . PA

June 1, 2025



That they may all be
one, as you, Father, are in
me and I in you.

JOHN 17:21



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 Przemek Rozestwinski
 Deacon Claude Granese
 Deacon A. Kenneth Belanger, Retired

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
 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: 10:00 AM
 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 at 610-275-7711.

PARTNER PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., May 31 - Visitation of the Blessed Mother

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel

† Living & Deceased Members of the
St. Theresa Guild

4:00 PM - St. Helena Church

† Florence & Joseph McGeehan
Req. by Sandy McGeehan

4:30 PM - St. Titus

† Philip, Chuck & Jerry Woods
Req. by the Woods Family

Sun., June 1

7:30 AM - St. Helena Church

† For the People of the Parish

9:00 AM - St. Helena Church

† Anthony Duca
Req. by Patricia & Timothy Rench

10:00 AM - St. Titus

† Jack Fessler
Req. by the Fessler Family

11:00 AM - St. Helena Church

† William Batcheller
Req. by the Batcheller Family

Mon., June 2 - Sts. Marcellinus & Peter

8:00 AM - St. Titus

† Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Titus

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel

† Michael Rosa 43rd Birthday
Req. by Judy & Steve Rosa

Tues., June 3 - St. Charles Lwanga

8:00 AM - St. Titus

† Andrew Granese
Req. by the Granese Family

9:00 AM - St. Helena Church

† Sally McNelis
Req. by Ken McNelis

Wed., June 4

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel

† Jan Kleinguenther
Req. by his Wife

Thur., June 5 - St. Boniface

8:00 AM - St. Titus

† Joseph Brennan
Req. by the Kolendas Family

9:00 AM - St. Helena Church

For the Intentions of Al Quinde
Req. by Diane Molitoris

PARTNER PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

Fri., June 6 - St. Norbert

8:00 AM - St. Titus

† Bernice Fees

Req. by Charlie Fees

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel

† The Nolen & Colonnello Families
Req. by Dennis & Alex Nolen

Sat., June 7

9:00 AM - St. Helena Chapel

† Living & Deceased Members of the
St. Theresa Guild

4:00 PM - St. Helena Church

† Jack Schmidt
Req. by the Schmidt Family

4:30 PM - St. Titus

† Ruth & Bill Ruths
Req. by the Van Buren Family

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, Dave Colman, Juan Barba, Sue Eason,
Lorraine Perri, Mike Piskai, Jr., Linda Weikert,
Patty Kurkowski, William Lawrence, Joan DiDonato,
Kristen Gilia, Al Slusarz, Bruce Shepherd,
Jong Soo Sohn, Carletta Sohn, Kevin Hogan,
Charlotte Yacovelli, Sr. Fran Reinhardt O.S.F.,
Marsha Tinti, Richard Kellerman, William Yacovelli,
Danny Matoney, Nicolette Theisen, Nancy Matozzo,
Sarah Jammer, Anthony Grasso, Thomas Grasso,
Kaye Grasso, Serli Pucci, Fernando Sonsini.



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



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

ALL OUR BELOVED DECEASED

THOMAS S. McKEON

FLORENCE COOPER

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

MEMORIALS FOR THIS WEEK



The Sanctuary Candle in the Church & Chapel burns in honor of

**ALL PHILADELPHIA ARCHDIOCESAN
PRIESTS AND DEACONS**

Req. by the Parishioners of
St. Helena & St. Titus

Requirements for Sponsorship

The Code of Canon Law specifies the requirements for serving as a godparent or sponsor. Canon Law (Church Law) references are Canons 851.2, and 872-874. Godparents and sponsors must meet all of the following requirements, so please review them carefully before choosing godparents and sponsors.

The requirements to be a godparent/sponsor:

Must be someone other than the parent of the one to be baptized.

Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Must be at least 16 years of age.

If there will be two Godparents (for Baptism), one must be male and one must be female.

A Godparent/sponsor must be leading a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken; therefore, if married, must be married in the Church. If single, must be striving to live a chaste life and cannot be living with a person outside of marriage.

Must be a practicing Catholic, registered in a parish, who regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and receives the Holy Eucharist. Registration in their local parish is encouraged so that they may participate fully in the life of the Church through their parish.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

JUNE 7 & JUNE 8

CELEBRANTS & DEACONS

Saturday, June 7

4:00 PM Fr. Joe (Deacon Claude)

4:30 PM Fr. Sam

Sunday, June 8

7:30 AM Fr. Kyle

9:00 AM Msgr. Beach

10:00 AM Fr. Sam (Deacon Claude)

11:00 AM Fr. Joe (Deacon Ken)

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.

How to set up for Electronic Giving:

In just a few minutes, you can greatly enhance your personal stewardship efforts by logging on to

ParishGiving.org

and begin making your weekly offering through Parish Giving.

We no longer send envelopes to the parishioners who give electronically.



John Shapiro's 13th Annual SUPERHEROES 5K

Saturday, June 7, 2025

8:30 am: 1 Mile Run/Walk

9:00 am: 5k Run

10:00 am: Kids Fun Run

Start/Finish • Saint Helena School
1499 DeKalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA

Race Information & Registration
www.johnshapirosuperheroes.org



Prizes Awarded to
BEST DRESSED
SUPERHEROES!

PARISH EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

- Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM - Church

MONDAY, JUNE 2

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Prayer Shawl Ministry: 12:30 PM - Lady of Fatima
- Daisy/Brownies: 6:15 PM—Library
- Pre-Baptismal Class: 7:00 PM - Our Lady of Mercy

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Church
- Adult Basketball: 5:30 PM - Rec. Center
- 3 on 3 Basketball: 7:30 PM - Rec. Center

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Ministry Mtg.: 7:00 PM - Empress Room
- Superhero Packets: 7:00 PM - Science Room

THURSDAY, JUNE 5

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- CYO Banquet: 6:00 PM - Empress Room
- RCIA: 7:00 PM - Our Lady of Mercy

FRIDAY, JUNE 6

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- NOON DISMISSAL
- Senior Board Mtg.: 10:00 AM - Our Lady of Mercy
- Brownies: 12:00 PM - Art Room
- Superhero Packet Pick Up: 4:00 PM - Library
- 8th Grade Dance: 6:30 PM - Social & Rec. Center

SATURDAY, JUNE 7

- Daily Mass: 9:00 AM - Chapel
- Men's Fellowship Group: 7:00 AM - Convent
- Superhero Run: 8:30 AM - St. Helena School
- Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM - Church

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

- Masses: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 AM - Church
- Youth Group: 6:00 PM - Convent



PRE-CANA CLASSES

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia requires that all couples attend a Pre-Cana class before marriage.

To register go to the Archdiocese website: Archphila.org, under Marriage preparations to take the class on line.



Saint Helena

CCD

(CONTINUING CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT)



Registration for 2025-2026
Levels 1-8 is NOW open

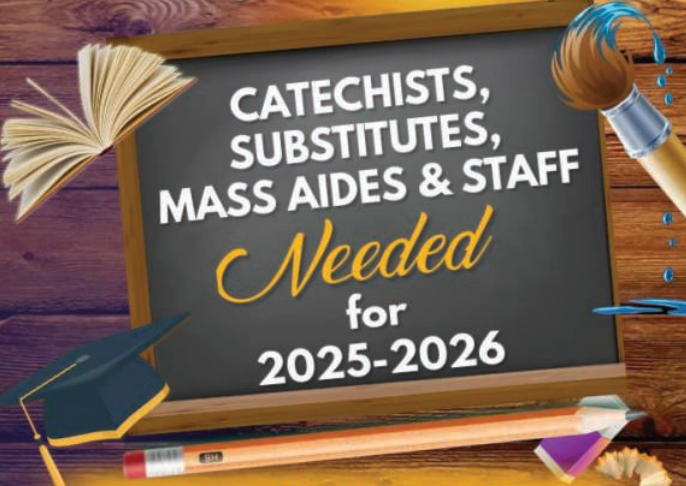
New Level 8: Faith in Action!
(This level is optional for children who would like to continue learning and growing in Faith. It is oriented in service and on hands mission work)



Please sign-up using the QR-CODE above

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PREP is now CCD
(Continuing Catholic Development)



**CATECHISTS,
SUBSTITUTES,
MASS AIDES & STAFF**
Needed
**for
2025-2026**

If interested please contact
PREP@Sainthelenachurch.org or use the
QR-CODE below

**Sundays 9:30AM-10:45AM .
Masses 11:00AM-12:00PM**

"The primary goal in the education of children is to
teach, and to give the example of, a virtuous life."
Saint John Chrysostom



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Vacation Bible School 2025

Radical Ride: On the Wings of Prayer

Children will **travel the world** with **Amazing Angels** and **Super Saints**, discovering the **power of prayer** and how to bring it into their everyday lives!

Each day is packed with:

- ◇ **Faith**-filled lessons that inspire
- ◇ Creative **Crafts** to take home
- ◇ Exciting **Games** to get moving
- ◇ Uplifting **Music** to sing & dance
- ◇ Delicious **Snacks** to fuel the fun

When? August 4th to 8th, 9am to 12pm

Where? Saint Helena Education Center

Who? All rising K — 5 grade students
(going into 2025/2026 school year)

For Teens: All rising 6 — 12 grade students are welcomed as Teen Leaders

Cost? \$40 for Child Campers and \$20 for Teen Leaders

Registration is now 100% online — Please scan the QR code to register!
We are currently at **51%** capacity. Registration closes July 5. Please sign up today!

Contact: Christian Thompson 610-930-0349 or cthompson@sainthelenachurch.org



Saint Helena Youth Group

Open to all teens in 7th—12th grades...and friends!

We seek to empower our youth to live their lives to the fullest potential, which is only done through a relationship with Jesus. A soul in a state of sanctifying grace radiates the love and life of the Holy Trinity. What better way to live! We teach – through example, prayer, and teaching – that all of us, especially our teens, have a particular purpose and reason for being here. One of our goals is to help teens realize that they do have a purpose in life. Most teens don't believe there is a purpose to their lives. We teach that their purpose that is so much deeper than sports, academics, or friend circles – rather, the true purpose is one that comes from being a beloved child of God. This is how we empower our young people!

Our next meeting is....

Sunday, June 8

All teens and friends are invited to join us for a "Pentecost Party"



Young Women's Book Study

"Sincerely, Stoneheart"

Unmask the Enemy's Lies, Find the Truth that Sets You Free

Insights for a Woman's Heart based on C.S. Lewis's

"The Screwtape Letters"

All young adult women ages 18 to late 30's are invited to journey on this engaging story of the battle for the human heart.

What to expect:

- Weekly reflections and insights
- Faith-filled conversations
- Fellowship, prayer, and community rooted in Christ

What to bring:

- Please purchase in advance a copy of "Sincerely, Stoneheart"

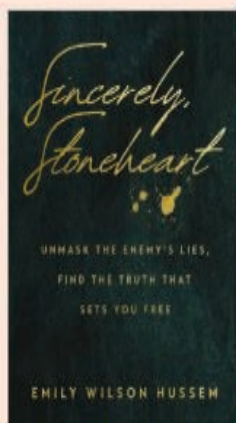
SEVEN MONDAY EVENINGS - STARTING JUNE 23

7:00 PM - SAINT HELENA CONVENT

1301 YOST ROAD

Contact - Gabrielle Thompson

gmboscaino@gmail.com



Young Men's Book Study

"The Great Divorce" by C.S. Lewis

All young adult men (18 to late 30's) are invited to journey on an extraordinary meditation of good and evil, grace and judgment. Through the work of C.S. Lewis, we will unpack the themes of Catholic spirituality and authentic manhood.

Topics of discussion:

- Finding purpose in a vocation
- Romantic relationships
- Family commitments
- Physical, emotional, psychological health and wellness
- Struggles with addictions and vices

What to bring:

- Please purchase in advance a copy of "The Great Divorce"

FIVE MONDAY EVENINGS

STARTING JUNE 30

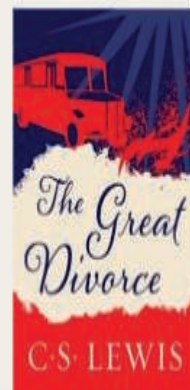
7:00 - 8:00PM

ST. HELENA CONVENT

1301 YOST ROAD

Contact - Christian Thompson

cthompson@sainthelenachurch.org



Saint Helena Young Adult Group

NEW TO THE AREA? BACK HOME AFTER COLLEGE? LOOKING FOR A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY?

Our young adult group meets for prayer, discussion, service, and social outings — all centered on growing together in our Catholic faith. If you're in your 20's or 30's, you're welcome to be part of our Christ-centered community!

Email Christian to join our *GroupMe* for updates on our meetings and events.

cthompson@sainthelenachurch.org

Our next events are...

Wednesday, June 4 — Rosary & Water Ice

Thursday, June 26 — Outdoor rosary walk

Our previous events were...

Thursday, May 22 — Service Night (making pasta dishes for the homeless)

Wednesday, May 28 — Lectio Divina & Ice Cream Sundaes



RESPECT LIFE CORNER

Philadelphia March for Life - The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia and the Office for Life and Family of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia announce that the 2025 Philadelphia March for Life is planned for **Saturday, June 7**. The day begins at 8:00 AM with

Mass celebrated by Archbishop Nelson Pérez at the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul. At 9:00 AM, the March for Life begins at the Cathedral and proceeds to Independence Mall with several stops along the route. If you are not able to march, just join us for the rally with music & Speakers at 10AM at Independence Mall. For additional information, visit

ProLifeUnion.org/Events or PhillyCatholicLife.org.

Bereavement Retreat

Mary, Mother of the Redeemer

1325 Upper State Rd., No. Wales, PA

June 7, 2025 | 9:30 AM—12:00 PM

Join us for a transformative mini retreat, “**Longing for Heaven: The Hope of Reuniting with Our Loved Ones,**” where you’ll deepen your faith through Eucharistic adoration, sacred scripture, uplifting music, and heartfelt small group discussions. Experience a morning of spiritual renewal as we reflect on the hope of eternal life and the joy of reuniting with those we love. **Light refreshments will be served.** There is no charge for this retreat. For more info. & to register, contact Mary Coakley at mary_coakley@yahoo.com



HELP KEEP ST. HELENA BEAUTIFUL BY ADOPTING A GARDEN!

The Garden Club maintains various flower beds on the Church campus grounds. We are asking for your help in keeping our gardens looking beautiful. Maybe a family or a Church ministry group could adopt one of the gardens to upkeep during the spring, summer, and fall months. We are asking that the gardens are weeded weekly or as needed. If area is dry when you are weeding, please water. Please start as soon as possible. Initial weeding and mulching was done which should make it much easier to keep up.

If you can help, please call Theresa Smith at 215-646-7636 or email at theresacssmith@verizon.net.

St. Helena Men's Group

Please consider joining the St. Helena Men's Group. We are open to all men of the parish. We gather every Saturday morning between 7:00 and 8:00 AM in the convent. After the opening prayer, we read and reflect upon that Sunday's readings and consider their meaning and application to our lives. As men searching for stronger faith, we encourage each other and often speak about subjects that should be important to Catholic men in today's world: Do I look for opportunities in my daily life or at work when I could help lead someone to Christ? How can I pray better and lead my family in prayer? What can I focus upon in the coming days or weeks that will help bring me and those around me closer to God? In essence, the men's group is an opportunity to spend some time with other Catholic men, refocus each week on what is truly important, and support each other through the trials and challenges that we all face. Please consider joining us on any Saturday morning, as we never take a week off!

Contact Joe Bushner at bushners@comcast.net for more information



MARTIN SAINTS
CLASSICAL HIGH SCHOOL
A CHESTERTON ACADEMY

Fiber Arts Summer Workshop**Sewing, Embroidery, and Weaving**

June 9th-13th, 2025 | 9 am-2:30 pm

Open to ages 8-15 | BYO Lunch

3000 Keenwood Rd. East Norriton PA

\$275 (tools & materials included)



Scan QR to Register

Contact Mrs. Holly Guertin | hguertin@martinsaintsclassical.org

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.



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.

THE SHEPHERD IS LOOKING FOR LOST SHEEP



Please help identify people who once attended Saint Helena or Saint Titus Parish and have not been here for months or years. The parish would like to reach out and invite our people home. Thank you for your

help. Simply fill this out and drop it in the collection basket.

NAME: _____

Phone # (& or) Address: _____

Comments: _____

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.

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,000 to be used for the general purposes of Saint Helena Parish."

A Jubilee Year of Hope 2025



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

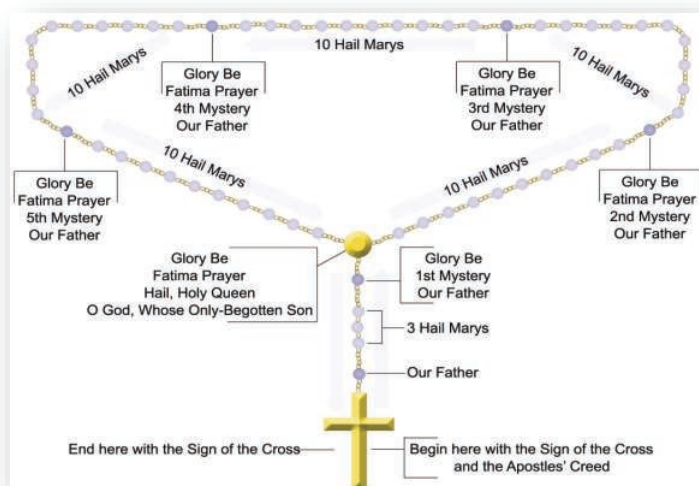
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

On May 9, 2024, Pope Francis released a Papal Bull of Indiction which formally announced the Jubilee Year of Hope. The document was entitled *Spes non confundit* -- "Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5). In it, Pope Francis writes on the reasons for this theme for the Jubilee Year: In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years.... For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the "door" (cf. Jn 10:7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as "our hope" (1 Tim 1:1). Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to

Jubilee Year of Hope Continued

apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope. ...



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.

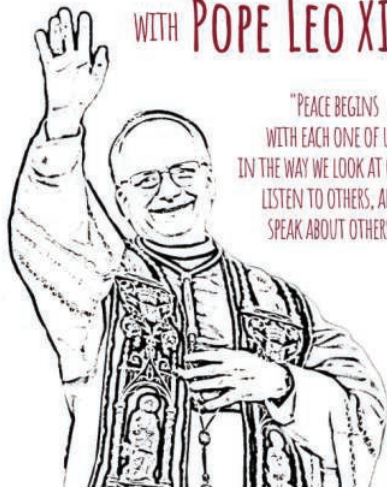
BEQUESTS

**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

INTRODUCING

DRAWING GOD WITH POPE LEO XIV



Hello, Friend!

In this wonderful season of welcome, join us in honoring the new pope of the Catholic Church, Pope Leo XIV. As you learn about the ways he will DRAW all of us closer to God, you just might discover that he is just like you and me...

The *Drawing God* book creates an opportunity to DRAW closer to God through our hearts, minds, and imagination. In the book, *Drawing God*, Emma, the young artist with a big dream, turns to God for inspiration as she decides to draw God. When her friends can't see God in her drawings, what does she do? Emma prays to God and asks for help. We can also pray to inspiring leaders of faith, like Pope Leo XIV. Let's imagine Pope Leo walking by our side in our faith journey, and ask him to help us draw closer to God.

We learn from the *Drawing God* book that everyone sees God differently. Emma quietly shares her contagious faith and helps her classmates open their eyes to God's presence. At first, her classmates don't understand and make fun of her. But her steady faith inspires a change of heart. Pope Leo tells us that through kindness and peace, each of us can make a difference, just like Emma. He says, "Peace begins with each one of us: in the way we look at others, listen to others and speak about others."

Everyone is invited! Children, parents, grandchildren, grandparents, and adults, come together to get to know Pope Leo and reflect on the ways he has already shown us how to DRAW closer to God. Explore this special **Drawing God with Pope Leo Kit** and join us as we creatively celebrate and welcome the Holy Father.

TIME TO LEARN!

Karen Kiefer
Author, *Drawing God*
Director, The C21 Center
Boston College

Megan Stevens
Assistant Director,
Children's Ministry Partnership
The C21 Center Boston College



***This kit can be printed either single or doublesided.**

The *Drawing God with Pope Leo Kit* is part of our new **Children's Ministry Partnership**.
Interested in more resources like these? Email stevenax@bc.edu



Lectio Divina: Pray Like an Augustinian

POPE LEO IS A MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF ST. AUGUSTINE, A COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE WHO DEVOTE THEIR LIVES TO SHOWING GOD'S LOVE TO THE WORLD. THE AUGUSTINIANS ARE INSPIRED BY ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO—HE'S A PERSON, NOT AN ANIMAL! ONE WAY ST. AUGUSTINE TAUGHT US TO PRAY WAS BY FOCUSING ON A BIBLE VERSE. HE SHARED THESE SPECIAL LATIN WORDS: LECTIO, MEDITATIO, ORATIO, AND CONTEMPLATIO TO GUIDE US TO READ, REFLECT, PRAY, AND THINK. LET'S TRY THIS TOGETHER!

LECTIO MEANS "READ."

READ THE SCRIPTURE SLOWLY OUT LOUD, AND NOTICE A WORD THAT CATCHES YOUR ATTENTION. CAN YOU DRAW WHAT THIS WORD MAKES YOU THINK OF?

MEDITATIO MEANS "MEDITATE," OR "REFLECT."

THINK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE AND IMAGINE GOD'S VOICE SPEAKING THESE WORDS TO YOU. CAN YOU DRAW HOW YOU FEEL GOD'S LOVE?

"YOU ARE PRECIOUS
IN MY SIGHT, AND HONORED,
AND I LOVE YOU.
DO NOT BE AFRAID.
I AM WITH YOU."

ISAIAH 43:4

CONTEMPLATIO MEANS "CONTEMPLATE," OR "THINK ABOUT."

BE STILL FOR A MOMENT, AND FEEL GOD LOOKING AT YOU WITH GENTLE LOVE. CAN YOU DRAW SOMETHING YOU LEARNED OR UNDERSTOOD THROUGH THIS PRAYER?

ORATIO MEANS "PRAY."

TALK TO GOD ABOUT THIS VERSE—YOU MIGHT ASK A QUESTION OR SAY THANK YOU. CAN YOU DRAW YOURSELF HAVING A CONVERSATION WITH GOD?

Pope Leo is the first American pope.

We want to welcome him and let him know how excited we are.

What would you say to welcome Pope Leo if you met him today?



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