

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.

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www.sainthelena.us**

The Church of St. Helena

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 25, 2019**

"People will come from the east and the west

and from the north and the south

and will recline at table in the kingdom of God.

For behold, some are last who will be first,

and some are first who will be last."

- Lk 13:29-30



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THE WORD

Father Augustus Tolton, the first American diocesan priest of African descent in the United States, lived from 1854 to 1897, and he is being proposed as a possible saint. One of the interesting facts of his life is that he was sent to Rome to study for the priesthood because seminaries in the United States where he applied would not accept him, but when he was finished with his seminary education, he was going to serve as a priest in the Africa.

Rome wanted the Church in the United States to have a priest and rid its attitude of prejudice. Cardinal Simeoni said: "America has been called the most enlightened nation in the world. We shall see whether it deserves that honor. If the United States has never before seen a black priest, it must see one now." Fr. Tolton was sent to Quincy, Illinois, where he encountered much racism, and he eventually transferred to Chicago where he became known for his preaching.

It seems that many in the Church in the United States were engaging in something that was contrary to our Sunday's Gospel (and Rome was attempting to correct). Our Lord says "And people will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south and will recline at the table in kingdom of God."

The Church has the mandate to preach the Gospel to every nation which implies all people. This Church is universal, and that's what the term "catholic" means. The Church's

message is for all people, at all times, and all cultures. The four marks of the Catholic Church are one, holy, catholic (with a small "c") and apostolic. These four marks are indicators that the Church is the true church. They point our noses in the right direction toward the truth.

For instance, if we were looking at religion, wouldn't it make sense that the One God, Who is pure truth would establish a church that had a message which was universally true for all people at all times. Its message would be the same for all people.

That's exactly what the Catholic Church has had for 2,000 years. Stealing, murder, adultery, abortion, racism, contraception, and euthanasia are wrong for every human being. And, the teachings about the Holy Eucharist, the resurrection of the body, and the eternal reward or punishment of sins are the same for all people at all times. These teachings do not change from society to society or from one era to the next. There are some churches of Protestant denominations who can't agree from one church on one block to the next what is their official teaching. Whereas the official teaching of the Catholic Church is proclaimed by the Pope and the Bishops (guided by the Holy Spirit) and can be known by all.

What a great gift from the Lord. It's a reason for being Catholic!

John Sondag
Director of Religious Education

PASTOR'S REMARKS

1) We are into the last week of August and certainly the beginning of fall! Enjoy the work in preparation for a different pace and routine. We have the Labor Day holiday on Monday, Sept. 1. The Parish Office will be closed. Our parish Mass is at 8:00 A.M. Tuesday, September 3, is the first day of the new school year for grades 1-8. Kindergarten will begin on Thurs., Sept. 5, with orientation day on Wed., Sept. 4. CCD classes for public school children will begin on Wed., Sept. 4, at 6:45 P.M. And of course, we are getting ready for our great parish festival on Sept. 13-14-15.

2) Thank you for your church support and generosity. Currently we are in deficit spending, but I am confident that if each of us make a serious effort to increase our offertory, together we can meet the challenges ahead of us.

3) *The kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of justice, peace, and the joy that is given by the Holy Spirit.*
Romans 14:17

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. Our first of six weekly sessions will begin at 7:30 P.M. on Mon-

day, September 23, 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 763-742-0752 or John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL CHILDREN—Public school children in grades one through eight can be enrolled in the 2019–2020 Wednesday Night Religious Education Program by calling John Sondag at 612-275-0431. This program begins on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:45 P.M. in the school.

REGISTER FOR THE 2019-2020 CONFIRMATION PROGRAM—Children in St. Helena parish in the eighth grade (and high school, if they have not yet been Confirmed) will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on May 19, 2020. If you are not in St. Helena grade school, please enroll now in the 2019-2020 Confirmation Program to prepare for the sacrament by calling John Sondag (612-275-0431).

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL—Anyone who purchases or sells their Raffle Tickets for "Autumn Daze" before 9:00 P.M. on Monday, September 9, is eligible for the an Early Bird Drawing for a \$25 gift certificate from Carbone's Pizza and Pub in Minneapolis. Turn your tickets into the collection or the Parish Offices.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30—WE NEED HELP TO INSERT THE “AUTUMN DAZE EXPRESS” IN PLASTIC BAGS—We need everyone’s help (young and old) to insert thousands of “Autumn Daze Expresses” into plastic bags on Friday, August 30 in Rowan Hall from 8:30 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Come for an hour or two or the whole day. Lunch will be provided.

DELIVER THE “AUTUMN DAZE EXPRESS”—We need many people to take a route to deliver the “Autumn Daze Express” at your leisure from Saturday, August 31 through Saturday, September 7. You can pick up routes on Saturday morning, August 31, from 8:30 A.M. until 12:00 Noon. (If you need to pick up a route at a different time, call 612-275-0431.)

DO YOU NEED HELP?—Parishioners who might be out of work, sick and unable to work, or struggling because of financial difficulties or other problems can notify the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish. Individuals (or families) can receive assistance from the conference which reaches out to those people in the parish who are having difficulties. (The names of the needy parishioners will be kept confidential.) For more information or to request help, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

THE NEXT TIME YOU’RE GROCERY SHOPPING —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.

A CRY ROOM FOR PARENTS WITH SMALL CHILDREN OR INFANTS—St. Helena Church offers a Cry Room for parents with small children or infants. It’s located 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.

A NURSERY SERVICE—St. Helena Church has a nursery service for small children (up to but not including first grade) during the 10:00 A.M. Mass on Sundays. There is no charge for the service. Parents may bring the children downstairs to the nursery before Mass begins, and an adult will watch your children for you while you attend Mass. If you have any questions, call John Sondag (612-275-0431).

MUSICIANS, YOUNG AND OLD—You can be a part of the St. Helena Music Troop which goes to nursing homes to entertain their residents four times a month during the summer. 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).

HELP NEEDY INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES—You can be part of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference in the parish which 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. Our next meeting is on Thursday, August 29, at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Office Building. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?—The Church of St. Helena offers a program that prepares people to become Catholic which is held on Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. in the Parish Office Building. To take the program does not mean that you must become a Catholic. Also, if Tuesday evenings are impossible to make, another time can be arranged. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-729-7321.

DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE—THIS SUNDAY IN ROWAN HALL AFTER THE 8:30 AND 10:00 A.M. MASSES—Everyone is welcome downstairs in Rowan Hall. Free-will offering, so if you’re low on cash or forgot your wallet or purse, just come and enjoy the occasion.

WE NEED CASES OF POP FOR “AUTUMN DAZE”—This year, we are trying something new! We are only serving cans of pop and not having fountain pop this year at “Autumn Daze.” So, we really could use cases of cans of donated pop, particularly Pepsi products for the main food lines (Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mountain Dew, and Sierra Mist), but other products are fine for the Bingo Concessions and Outdoor Pizza Booth. If a store has a sale on pop, pick up some cases for the “Autumn Daze” Festival. Bring the pop to the Parish Office for “Autumn Daze.” We need lots of pop for “Autumn Daze.”

WINE FOR THE FESTIVAL—The next time you’re at a liquor store, pick up several bottles of wine to donate to the “Autumn Daze” Festival. They can be used for prizes and the basket auction. Bring the bottles to the Parish Offices.

WANTED: GOOD, USED HOUSEHOLD ITEMS AND FURNITURE—“Autumn Daze” Festival needs good, used furniture and household items for the Auction, Attic Treasure and some of the other booths. Bring the items to the Parish Offices or call 612-275-0431 to have them picked up. (No clothes, stoves, electronic musical organs, refrigerators, exercise equipment, or couches, please.)

WANTED: STUFFED ANIMALS AND GOOD, USED TOYS—We need good, used toys and stuffed animals for "Autumn Daze." You can bring them to the Parish Offices.

GOOD, USED BOOKS FOR THE FESTIVAL—Give your good, used books (fiction or non-fiction) to the "Autumn Daze" Bookstore. No romance novels, please. You can bring them to the Parish Offices, but if you need them picked up, call 612-275-0431.

**AUTUMN DAZE
SEPTEMBER 13, 14, & 15**



SCRIPTURE #1171

Is 66:18-21
Heb 12:5-7, 11-13
Lk 13:22-30

MASS INTENTIONS

8:00 AM

Monday	†	Amie Fogarty
Tuesday	†	Heidi Jantschik
Wednesday	†	Esther Gruidl
Thursday	†	Charles Stoick
Friday	†	Arlene Jaguszewski
Saturday	†	Florence Fienhage

SACRISTY AIDES—Virginia Tschida, (Linens)
Mary DeLuney

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS

August 26: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10, Mt 23:13-22
August 27: 1 Thes 2:1-8, Mt 23:23-26
August 28: 1 Thes 2:9-13, Mt 23:27-32
August 29: 1 Thes 3:7-13, Mk 6:17-29
August 30: 1 Thes 4:1-8, Mt 25:1-13
August 31: 1 Thes 4:9-11, Mt 25:14-30
September 1: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29,
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a,
Lk 14:1, 7-14

PARISH CALENDAR

August 26 – September 2

August 26

-Women's Prayer Group, Church, 6:30 pm
-"Autumn Daze" Band Practice, RH, 7:00 pm

August 27

August 28

August 29

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

August 30

-Bag "Autumn Daze Express", RH, All Day

August 31

-Pick up "Autumn Daze Express", RH, 8:30 am-Noon

September 1

-Donuts & Coffee after 8:30 & 10:00 Masses, RH

September 2

-Women's Prayer Group, Church, 6:30 pm

ST. HELENA SCHOOL NEWS

•Invitation to Tutor—Catholic Tutor Corps—Please consider contributing to the success of a student and enhancing the academic program at St. Helena by volunteering to tutor students. These one-to-one math or reading sessions have an easy commitment of two hours a week. Teachers, students, and tutors all benefit from this program! Please contact Jerry Johnson, parishioner/tutor, or the school office for more information or to sign up.

•Welcome to our new third grade teacher, Amanda Kintzi—Amanda grew up in Rosemount, Minnesota, where her love of teaching began at an early age. After graduating from Rosemount High School she decided to go to Saint Mary's University of Minnesota to make her dreams of teaching a reality. After graduation Amanda began her journey to find the perfect place for her teaching career to begin and was not disappointed when she found St. Helena.

Outside of the classroom, Amanda loves to spend time with her family, friends, and her puppy, Hattie. On most weekends, you can find her outside doing a variety of things like fishing, traveling, taking pictures, playing tennis and coaching soccer.

No matter what Amanda is doing she loves to bring her passion and energy with her. She cannot wait to bring those gifts into the classroom. She is beyond excited to begin the school year and is counting down the days until she meets her class!

•Thank You to Laura, Peter, Jane & Daniel Reinhardt and Kristine & Selene Herrera Sanchez for distributing National Night Out Flyers around the St. Helena neighborhood and to all of our parishioners who joined us.

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.

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.

PRAYER CORNER Lord, teach us goodness, discipline, and wisdom, and these gifts will keep us from becoming hardened by evil, weakened by laziness or ignorant because of foolishness.



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