

## Parish Staff

*Parochial Administrator*  
Rev. Michael Daly 729-7344

*Pastor Emeritus*  
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*  
Joel Swanson 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.

**Email:** [church@sainthelena.us](mailto:church@sainthelena.us)  
**Website:** [www.sainthelena.us](http://www.sainthelena.us)

# The Church of St. Helena

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
July 25, 2021

*“When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples,*

*“Gather the fragments left over,*

*so that nothing will be wasted.”*

-Jn 6:12



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## THE WORD

Growing up near St. Louis, Missouri, I had the pleasure of occasionally attending the Municipal (Muny) Opera Theatre which didn't really have operas, but presented musicals, like *My Fair Lady*, *Music Man*, and *Sound of Music*. These were performed outside, under the stars in a large amphitheater with a seating capacity of 11,000.

I can remember that at the start of the performance the conductor of about 50 members of the St. Louis Symphony would enter the orchestra pit in a white coat (it was summer) and lead the orchestra in a prelude (or overture) of the musical themes of the show. Of course, the melodies would return once the performance got under way as the musical would develop.

A similar phenomenon will take place in this Sunday's Gospel of St. John. We'll hear about the loaves and fish being multiplied, and this reading is a prelude to next several Sundays' Gospels when we'll hear about the miracle of the Holy Eucharist in Jesus' famous discourse in chapter six of St. John's Gospel.

In this Sunday's Gospel, our Lord miraculously multiplies the bread and fish to feed abundantly approximately 5,000 people. In next Sunday's Gospel, we hear about the Holy Eucharist when our Lord talks about how simple bread and wine will be changed into His Body and Blood—another miracle that takes place at every Mass.

The miracle of the loaves and fish paves the way for a greater miracle, the Holy Eucharist, and sets the theme for

what our Lord will teach in the discourse on that same Sacrament: Each time the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, our Lord miraculously gives Himself to us Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. (That means totally - what more could He do for a gift to us?) And, He could only do this, if He were God. But, this seems so incredible; however, if God is almighty and all-powerful, it is possible. And since He can neither deceive nor be deceived, it has to be true, because He, as God, said so.

However, what does this mean for us? When Jesus fed the five thousand, there were many leftovers—in other words, there was a superabundance of the food He provided. This prefigures the discourse on the Holy Eucharist in which our Lord promised us eternal life for those who eat His Body and drink His Blood.

What more could we ask for? By Jesus' death and resurrection, Jesus' Body and Blood won redemption for us, and by receiving the Holy Eucharist, we are binding ourselves more closely and intimately with the Lord and His graces won by that redemption. How, then, could God our Father refuse eternal life to someone so closely bound to His Son? I would say that's a superabundant gift.

Stay tuned for the next four weeks to discover other themes hidden in the prelude of the miracle of the loaves and fish. See if you can find more.

John Sondag  
Director of Religious Education

**BAPTISM**—The parish community rejoices in the recent baptism of *Marnie Rose Herkenhoff*, daughter of Joseph and Sara Herkenhoff. By God's gift through water and the Holy Spirit they have been gifted with everlasting life in Jesus Christ, to celebrate life in the midst of the Church. May they always be faithful members of His body.

**THE LORD IS CLOSE TO THE BROKENHEARTED...PSALMS 34-18**—If you or someone you love is grieving the loss of a child or children to abortion, come and experience the compassionate mercy of Jesus Christ on our confidential weekend retreat. Rachel's Vineyard Twin Cities' retreats are open to anyone impacted by abortion—women, men, grandparents, siblings, and health care professionals. The next retreat is July 30—August 1, 2021 in the Twin Cities area. For more information contact Nancy at [rachels@vineyardmn.org](mailto:rachels@vineyardmn.org), or please call 763-250-9313 or see [222.rvineyardmn.org](http://222.rvineyardmn.org).

**FESTIVAL DROP-OFF**—If you plan to deliver items after our business hours, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431 to schedule a drop-off time.

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

**2021 AUTUMN DAZE \$10,000 RAFFLE**—We have a great start to achieving our goal by Festival time. At almost 10%, we're well on your way. See chart below. Each ticket is still \$100, but instead of offering 100 tickets for the first session, 200 WILL BE SOLD. The winner of that drawing will receive \$10,000. You can get your raffle ticket early. Stop by the Parish Offices or call 612-729-7344 to purchase a ticket. Or call 651-260-5722 or 612-275-0431, and we'll arrange for you to purchase one or more tickets to enter the NEW AND IMPROVED \$10,000 RAFFLE.



**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.

**IF YOU ARE A PARISHIONER WHO NEEDS HELP—**Parishioners who might be out of work, sick and unable to work, or struggling because of financial difficulties or problems can receive assistance 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 more information or help, please call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?—**The Church of St. Helena has a program that prepares people to become Catholic. It’s held on Tuesday evenings, at 7:30 P.M. in the Parish Offices. If Tuesdays are impossible for any individual, another time can be negotiated. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH—**The Church of St. Helena offers a program that helps people to know more about the Catholic Faith and have their questions answered. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**HELP THE NEEDY THROUGH 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 Thursday, July 29, at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Offices. For more information, call John Sondag at 612-275-0431.

**ALL PARISHIONERS—PLEASE PICK UP YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS IN THE BACK OF CHURCH—**You can pick up your raffle tickets in the back of church on this weekend and next weekend. You’ll save the time of some volunteer who will have to deliver them to you, if you don’t pick them up. There are some great prizes for the raffle, so purchase the tickets or sell them to your friends and relatives.

**PURCHASE YOUR "AUTUMN DAZE" BUTTONS—**They are such a deal that you’ll want to buy several! The cost is \$1 a button. Each button is worth a free pop at the festival and a chance to win \$10.

**ENRICH YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH—**You can bolster and enliven your faith by purchasing and listening to some CDs displayed at the handicap entrance to the church. These summer months of leisure and vacation may be a good time to deepen your reflection on Christ, His teachings, and the teachings of the Church.

**PRAY THE VIRTUAL ROSARY—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.

**SUMMER FESTIVAL SALE—**Go to [www.sainthelena.us](http://www.sainthelena.us) and click on Summer Festival Sale to discover many household items, furniture, toys, and more being sold by Autumn Daze.

**ARE YOU CLEANING YOUR GARAGE OR ATTIC?—**Donate good, used furniture and household items to the “Autumn Daze” Festival for the Auction, Attic Treasures, and some of the other areas and endeavors of the festival. 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.)

**CASES OF POP FOR “AUTUMN DAZE”—**You can donate cases of cans of pop (Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Sierra Mist, and Brisk Lemonade). If a store has a sale on pop, pick up some cases for the “Autumn Daze” Festival. Bring the pop to the Parish Offices.

**DO YOU HAVE A GIFT CARD FOR A RESTAURANT THAT YOU’RE NOT GOING TO USE?—**The restaurant is a good one, but it’s out of the area or serves food that your diet restricts. Donate that gift card to the “Autumn Daze” Festival. We can use it as a prize or in some other area connected with the festival. Just put it in an envelope labeled “Autumn Daze,” and drop the envelope in the collection or bring it to the Parish Offices.

**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.

**WE NEED CROCHETED, EMBROIDERED, OR KNITTED ITEMS—**The Harvest Gift Shoppe at "Autumn Daze," can use items that are crocheted, embroidered, or knitted. Donate your crafted items to the Festival on Friday, September 17 or Saturday, September 18.

**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.

**DO YOU HAVE OLD BASEBALL CARDS?—**This year, at the "Autumn Daze" Festival, we are going to have a new booth which will sell sealed envelopes having baseball cards. So, donate your good, used cards, and we can re-sell them. Bring them to the Parish Offices or call 612-275-0431

**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.

**“AUTUMN DAZE”  
SEPTEMBER 17, 18, & 19**



**SCRIPTURE # 1158**

**2 Kgs 4:42-44  
Eph 4:1-6  
Jn 6:1-15**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**8:00 AM**

**Monday** † Gary Neunsinger  
**Tuesday** For Our Bishops  
**Wednesday** † Richard Mosiniak  
**Thursday** † Michael McGlade  
**Friday** † Donna Schmidt  
**Saturday** † Ralph Mosiniak

**SACRISTY LINENS—Ann Holleschau**

**WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS**

*July 26:* Ex 32:15-24, 30-34, Mt 13:31-35  
*July 27:* Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28, Mt 13:36-43  
*July 28:* Ex 34:29-35, Mt 13:44-46  
*July 29:* Ex 40:16-21, 34-38, Jn 11:19-27  
or Lk 10:38-42  
*July 30:* Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37,  
Mt 13:54-58  
*August 1:* Lv 25:1, 8-17, Mt 14:1-12  
*August 2:* Ex 16:2-4, 12-15, Eph 4:17, 20-24,  
Jn 6:24-35

**PARISH CALENDAR**

*July 26*  
*July 27*  
*July 28*  
*July 29*  
-St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., Parish Offices, 6:30 pm  
*July 30*  
-Women's Prayer Group, Church, 8:30 am  
-Virtual Rosary, 7:00 pm  
*July 31*  
-Confession, Church, 3:00 pm  
-Mass, Church, 4:00 pm  
*August 1*  
-Mass, Church, 8:30 am & 10:00 am  
-Doughnuts & Coffee, RH, after 8:30 & 10:00 Masses  
*August 2*  
***Daily Mass, Monday-Saturday, Church, 8:00 am***

**PRAYER CORNER**

Lord God, maker of heaven and earth and of all created things, you make your just ones holy and you justify sinners who confess your name. Hear us as we humbly pray to you: give us eternal joy with your saints.

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## ***FR. DALY BREAD – Smells & Bells***

Evangelization is the Church's deepest identity, and it begins with prayer: *Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest"* (Mt. 9:37-38). Our liturgical prayer engages our senses because we are body and soul, like the incarnation: *the Word became flesh and dwelt among us*. The sights and sounds, smells and bells facilitate and elevate our conversation with God.

Psalm 140:1-2 – *I have cried to Thee, O Lord, hear me. Let my prayer be directed as INCENSE in Thy sight; the lifting up of my hands, as evening sacrifice*. The "sweet savor" of incense was used in Old Testament liturgy as far back as the time of Moses as an offering to God (see Exodus 30:34-37)...and its continued use was predicted, along with the Eucharistic offering, by Malachi (1:11). Frankincense as a sign of His Divinity was a gift the Magi brought to Baby Jesus (see Matthew 2:11). Even the angels in Heaven use incense, the smoke of which comes with the prayers of the Saints (see Revelation 8:3-4).

The Catholic Church still uses incense in accordance with prophecy of Malachi, the fragrant smoke symbolizing our prayers rising to Heaven and purifying what it touches. Incense is used during the Mass to bless the Altar when the priest first ascends to it, and, during the Offertory, to bless the bread and wine, the Crucifix and Altar (again), and the congregation. Incense is also used during the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, during processions, funeral rites and to bless things like relics, bells or the Gospel.

Church **BELLS** are used for different purposes—one bell or stroke pattern to announce death, another to call the faithful to prayer, another to announce the grade of the Feast being celebrated, etc. They were once used daily to announce the canonical hours and the *Angelus* prayer.

One of the most stunning uses of bells is their ringing at the elevation of the Host and the elevation of the Chalice in the Mass, an act that announces to the entire world that a miracle is taking place; it is to say, "Look at him, the Word made Flesh!" These "altar/*sanctus*" bells are specifically used to draw attention to the divine worship of God. At the sound of these bells, may all evil spirits be driven far away! May the sound of these bells be as pleasing to God as was King David's playing of the harp in the Old Testament.

In Christ, Fr. Michael





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