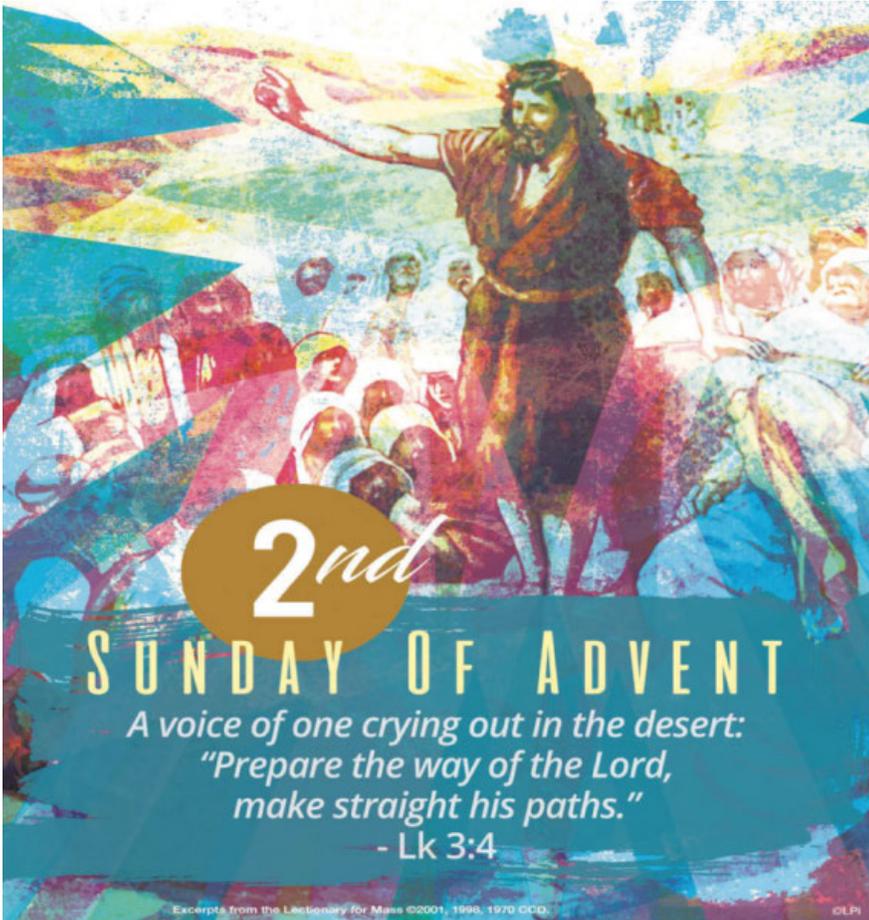




ST. HELENA ST. PATRICK &

WELCOME TO OUR PARISHES!



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Sometimes, especially when life gets overwhelming and difficult, we can find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable. Wallowing in this uncomfortable darkness seems to be our norm and it's difficult to see a way out of, or through, this experience. If we listen carefully enough, we will hear God's voice calling out deep within, beckoning us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Faith tells us that God has already begun the creation of a good work in us and is with us, bringing it to completion, until Christ Jesus comes again. It is this light of God's glory for which we are asked to pave the way and straighten the paths of our lives so that it can shine. With all that life can ask of us and bring to us, it is our task to constantly discern what is of value. So that we do not get so weighed down by things that we no longer see, or feel, God's salvation.

DEC 4/5 2021

CONTACT US |

St. Helena Catholic Church
421 2nd St N, PO Box 796
Ellendale, ND 58436
701-349-3297

St. Patrick Catholic Church
207 Monroe St N
Fullerton, ND 58441

Fr. Patrick Parks
Cell Phone: 701-261-4816 or
Patrick.Parks@fargodiocese.org

ST. HELENA PARISH

Mass Schedule

Saturday (vigil) 5pm, St. Helena

Sunday 8:30am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)

10:30am (2nd, 4th Sundays)

Tue 7pm

Wed-Fri 8:00am

Confession Schedule

Saturday 3:30-4:30pm

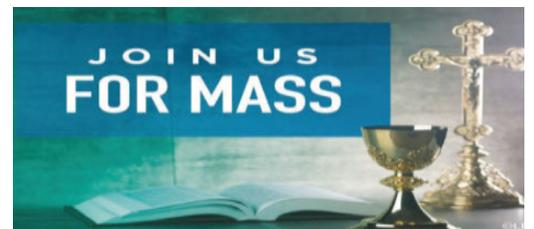
Sunday Before 8:30 am mass (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)

Tuesday 6:30-6:50pm

Wed-Fri Before 8:00 am daily Mass | By appointment, call parish office

Adoration

Wed 5pm-8pm



ST. PATRICK PARISH

Mass Schedule

Sunday 10:30am

(1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)

8:30 am (2nd, 4th Sundays)

Thursday 9:00am

Confession Schedule

Sundays after 10:30 am Mass

By appointment - call parish office

The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas.

The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

Even the individual evergreens that make up the wreath have their own meanings that can be adapted to our faith. The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering. The pine, holly, and yew signify immortality and the cedar signifies strength and healing. The pine cones that decorate the wreath symbolize life and resurrection. The wreath as a whole is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday.

Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets,

especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, also purple, represents faith. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is rose and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepard's Candle," and is rose because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of



Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

Extending our Prayers and Sympathy

To
Troy Bommersbach and Family
 At the loss of his father.
And Fr Gary Luiten and the loss of his Mother Kay
Morehead

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let the perpetual light shine upon them, may their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

12/7 Vigil Mass at 7pm

12/8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation—no class
Mass at 5:30pm St Helena. St Patrick 9am

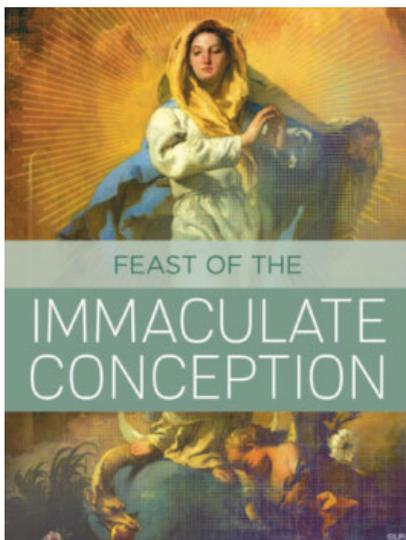
12/15 Penance Service

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY DAY MASSES

Vigil Mass

Tuesday, St Helena 7:00 pm

Wednesday— St Patrick 9:00 am
St Helena 5:30 pm



What is the Immaculate Conception?

The Immaculate Conception is a Catholic dogma that states that Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain. That's what "immaculate" means: without stain.

It's important to understand what the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception is and what it is not. Some people think the term refers to Christ's conception in Mary's womb without the intervention of a human father; but that is the [Virgin Birth](#). Others think the Immaculate Conception means Mary was conceived "by the power of the Holy Spirit," in the way Jesus was, but that, too, is incorrect.

The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings.

Protestants' Objections

Protestants' chief reason for objecting to the Immaculate Conception and Mary's consequent sinlessness is that we are told that "all have sinned" (Rom. 3:23). Besides, they say, Mary said her "spirit rejoices in God my Savior" (Luke 1:47), and only a sinner needs a Savior.

Let's take the second citation first. Mary, too, required a Savior. Like all other descendants of Adam, she was subject to the necessity of contracting original sin. But by a special intervention of God, undertaken at the instant she was conceived, she was preserved from the stain of original sin and its consequences. She was therefore redeemed by the grace of Christ, but in a special way—by anticipation.

Consider an analogy: Suppose a man falls into a deep pit, and someone reaches down to pull him out. The man has been "saved" from the pit. Now imagine a woman walking along, and she too is about to topple into the pit, but at the very moment that she is to fall in, someone holds her back and prevents her. She too has been saved from the pit, but in an even better way: She was not simply taken out of the pit, she was prevented from getting stained by the mud in the first place. This is the illustration Christians have used for a thousand years to explain how Mary was saved by Christ. By receiving Christ's grace at her conception, she had his grace applied to her before she was able to become mired in original sin and its stain.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that she was "redeemed in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son" (CCC 492). She has more reason to call God her Savior than we do, because he saved her in an even more glorious manner!

But what about Romans 3:23, "all have sinned"? Have all people committed actual sins? Consider a child below the age of reason. By definition he can't sin, since sinning requires the ability to reason and the ability to intend to sin.

The objection is also raised that if Mary were without sin, she would be equal to God. In the beginning, God created Adam, Eve, and the angels without sin, but none were equal to God. Most of the angels never sinned, and all souls in heaven are without sin. Sinning does not make one human.

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was officially defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854. When Protestants claim that the doctrine was "invented" at this time, they misunderstand both the history of dogmas and what prompts the Church to issue, from time to time, definitive pronouncements regarding faith or morals. They are under the impression that no doctrine is believed until the pope or an ecumenical council issues a formal statement about it.

Actually, doctrines are defined formally only when there is a controversy that needs to be cleared up or when the magisterium (the Church in its office as teacher; see Matt. 28:18–20; 1 Tim. 3:15, 4:11) thinks the faithful can be helped by particular emphasis being drawn to some already-existing belief. The definition of the Immaculate Conception was prompted by the latter motive: Pope Pius IX, who was highly devoted to the Blessed Virgin, hoped the definition would inspire others in their devotion to her.

ST HELENA MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 11/12	(5:00pm)	(10:30 am)
Usher	Volunteer	Bill Carruth
Collection		Bob Radtke
Lector	Volunteer	Michelle Thorpe
EMHC	Volunteer	
Gift Bearers	Volunteer	Radtke Family
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Samuel R, Annah

St. Helena Breakfast Servers

Dec 5
Dec 19

WEEKLY GIVING

Sunday	Nov 21	Nov 28
Adult	1541.00	1533.00
Children	7.25	18.06
Plate	55.00	68.00
Total	1603.25	1619.06

Thank you for your generosity!

ST. PATRICK MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Sunday Dec 12th (8:30 am)

Lector	Chuck
Gift Carriers	Alivia and Allan
Altar Servers	volunteer

For the Month of December

Breakfast Server	Mona and Corrine
Collection Counters	Allen Glynn and Laura
Church Cleaners	Linda, Pat, and Virginia
Altar Society Meeting	Following Mass on Dec 12th

God's Gift Appeal 2021

Steadfast in Faith, Joyful in Hope

Report as of 11/19/2021

St. Helena's: 48% participate \$12,497.00 72% goal

St. Patrick's: 45% participation, \$11,725: 211% of goal,

Thank you for your support!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Tue. Dec 7 Vigil Mass

7:00 pm Special Intention

Wed. Dec 8 Immaculate Conception

9:00 am (St. P) †Joe Glynn

5:30 pm (St. H) †Frank and Ann Fettig + Fam

Thu. Dec 9

8:00am (St. H) +Lauren Zvoran

9:00 am (St. P) †Jeanne Glynn

Fri. Dec 10

8:00 am Jesse Blake

Sat. Dec 11

5:00 pm † Sylvester and Marie Radermacher

Sun. Dec 12

8:30 am (St. P) † Jeanne Glynn

10:30 am (St. H) † All Parishioners

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Please Pray

...for all who are sick, elderly or alone

Joanne Brokaw, Loretta Dingwall, Linda Siro, Cindy Kelly Heupel, Edna Scherman, Val Hunt, Carla Engelstad, Susan Lacina, Betty Hahne, Mary Jean McDonald

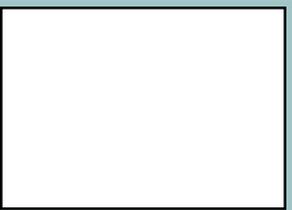
If you or someone you know would like to be added to, or removed from this list please call the parish office.



Participate in Weekly Mass
or the Rosary on the radio
Real Presence Radio
AM 1280/Fargo or AM 1370/Grand Forks
Sunday Mass 7am
Daily Rosary 8:30pm Lamb Radio
FM 88.9/Aberdeen - Sunday Mass (Sacred
Heart Parish, Aberdeen) 9:30am
Morning Prayers including Rosary 6am

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