

SAINT HELEN

CATHOLIC

Clustered with

CHURCH

Sts. Edward and Lucy

12060 Kinsman Road, Newbury, Ohio 44065

Church Office 440-564-5805 Website www.sthelen.com

"The tomb of Christ, who is living, The glory of Jesus' resurrection; bright angels attesting, The shroud and napkin resting. Yes, Christ my hope is arisen; to Galilee he goes before you." -Victimae paschali laudes

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWBURY, OH

CHURCH OF ST. HELEN

Contact us at 440-564-5805. Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Website: www.sthelen.com

Pastor

Father Jay McPhillipsext. 203

Retired Priest in Residence

Father Walter Jenne

Pastoral Associates

Deacon Larry Somrack Isomrack@sthelen.com

Business Manager

Brianna (Steigerwald) Petrus.....ext. 209 bpetrus@sthelen.com

Parish Secretary

Heidi Smithext. 202

hsmith@sthelen.com

Parish Catechetical Leader

Maria Flauto.....ext. 205

mflauto@sthelen.com

Education and Outreach/RCIA

James Hoganext. 204

jhogan@sthelen.com

Youth Minister

Theresa (Zickert) deKromext. 248 tdekrom@sthelen.com

tackioni @stricici

Music Director

Jack Tayek jacktayek@gmail.com

Facilities Manager

Ken Moses

kmoses@sthelen.com

Administrative Assistant

Denise Milhollan

dmilhollan@sthelen.com

Bulletin Submissions

bulletin@sthelen.com

Please submit by Monday at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Space Requests

calendar@sthelen.com

Parish Council Members

Fr. Jay Bob McIlroy
Nancy Arndt Aaron Murray
Adam Bruening Zrinka Palmer
Eric Charmley Luke Reed
Diane Corrao Rachel Weaver
Suzanne Finnerty Sue White

Nathan Frania



Please contact us at 440-564-7125. Website: www.st-helen-school.com

Principal

Mr. Steve Martin.....ext. 211

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE BULLETIN?

Please send your request to Bulletin@sthelen.com.

WE ASK THAT YOU PAUSE A MOMENT AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL IN OUR PARISH ESPECIALLY:

Susan Amor, Wayne Ardo, Terry Aytay, Tim Bates, Denny Bergansky, Jules Berry, Addison Boehnlien, Katy Brent, Ken Bruening, Judy Burr, Debbie Cenkus, Cliff Cherni, Joe Chuckro, Marilyn Cillian, Ashley Elesh, Vicki Elesh, Domenica Farinacci, Bernice Fitch, Karen Franklin, Kathy Grabowski, Stewart Herring, Anne Holdsworth, Evelyn Jurkiewicz, Tyler Kopp, Joyce Knight, Hope Krawulski, Gary Kuchenbecker, Hiroko Lasher, Robert Lasher, Kathy Madda, Ed Marko, Dr. Ed Martin, Ellen McAuley, David McDonald, Frank Mocarski, Linda Mulacek, Jennifer Mynes, Sidney Mynes, Rod Nagy, Peggy Oram, Kevin O'Reilly, Jr., Eleanor Phillips, Kathy Principe, Laura Rado, Crystal Revnue, Tim Schaefer, Eileen Ricci, Evelyn Rowlands, Nancy Rycyna, Emil & Marge Saloka, Erin Scheffler, June and Hank Schiewe, David Sensibello, David Sichko, Paul Slansky, Carol Stebnicki, Jacki Stebnicki, Mary Stebnicki, Sandi Strichko, Diane Surdel, Zoey Swansiger, John and Lisa Tepfenhart, Bill Thomas, David Tommasone, Julie Torok, Donna Urquhart, Charlotte Whiting, Mimi Widmar, Kathleen Williford, Leda Wojtowicz, Colbie Wolfe and Gary Zagar. If your name needs to be removed from this list, please call the Parish Office.

BANNS OF MATRIMONY

I Andrew Edward Cavanagh and Magdelane Vash I

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE WEEKEND

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE WEEKEND OF	April 7, 2024
Collections	(141) \$ 9,265.00
Online Giving (donors)	(103) \$ 9,744.23
Total Regular Offertory Giving	\$ 19,009.23
Church Attendance	1,050
Easter Collection	\$ 30,706.50
Debt Prevention	(34) \$ 1.926.00

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of St. Helen!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE WHEN WRITING CHECKS TO ST. HELEN

Please remember to make all checks payable to "St. Helen." You can then write in the memo where the donation should go specifically. The bank is cracking down on how checks are written, and we will have to begin returning checks if written any other way.

Examples of checks that we <u>cannot</u> deposit: St. Helen Catholic Church, St. Helen School, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Helen Building Fund, St. Helen Angel Fund, etc. As always, we are so grateful for the generosity of this community!

ONE MORE DAY! APRIL 15 DEADLINE...

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO DONATE AND CLAIM A 2023 TAX CREDIT!

Donations made by April 15, 2024, may be eligible for a dollar-for-dollar tax credit, and the fund will be available for scholarships in 2024-2025! There are multiple ways to donate:



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Office of Catechetical Services Collection: May 11-12, 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 14, 2024

A Reflection from Fr Jay – The Eclipse

In Chapter 12 of the book of Revelation, we read a great sign of the Blessed Mother, "a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth" (Rev 12:1-2). Revelation goes on to describe another "sign in the sky" when it says, "Then another sign appeared in the sky; it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven diadems" (Rev 12:3).

Interestingly enough, I am told that on the day of the eclipse, there was also a comet visible with binoculars that has been nicknamed "the devil's comet" (its real name is P12/Pons-Brooks). This comet shows up close to earth every 71 years or so and will be closest to earth on April 21st of this year. It is nicknamed the "devil's comet" because it has occasional outbursts that make it appear like it has two horns.

There has been a lot of speculation about this eclipse and the comet, tying them to Revelation 12:1-5. There were many who were calling this "the Jonah eclipse," since the eclipse was to have "totality" over seven cities in the United States with the name "Ninevah" – two in totality and five very near totality. "Ninevah" is the name of the city that Jonah was sent to preach, too. In Jonah's preaching, we are told, "Jonah began his journey through the city, and when he had gone only a single day's walk announcing, 'Forty days more and Nineveh shall be overthrown' the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth" (Jonah 3:4-5).

Some people are speculating that these two phenomena could be "signs from God that we need to repent." There is no doubt that the entire western world, once called "Christendom," needs to repent. These nations have strayed very far from the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The question is, "do these signs in the sky constitute a warning from God?"

Maybe, maybe not. Certainly, when we look at the Bible, we see that God used "signs in the sky" to announce significant events relating to both salvation and punishment. At the birth of Jesus, God sent a star that guided the Magi to Israel. That star appeared a couple of years before the birth of the Lord. In Luke 21:11, it says, "There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky" and in verse 25, Luke goes on to say that Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves." In the year 70 AD, when the Romans destroyed the city of Jerusalem, the Jewish historian Josephus wrote of "strange signs in the sky" for months before the city was destroyed. Many of the citizens of Jerusalem saw the movements in the heavens as a sign of their vindication that God was going to intervene to save the city. Christians, on the other hand, saw it as a sign of "God's judgement" coming upon the city. At that point, all the Christians left Jerusalem. While nearly a million people were killed when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in the year 70 AD, scarcely any Christians died. They knew it was going to happen and all left town.

Is the eclipse with the "devils comet" coming (we could also throw in the earthquake of the east coast last week into the mix) a sign from God? I cannot answer that in a definitive way since I am not a prophet, but I do find myself pondering all the "coincidences." The eclipse occurred on the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, the day after Divine Mercy Sunday. In St. Faustina's diary, she related that she was told that the "time of mercy" will precede "the time of judgement." Jesus indicated to her that "the time of mercy" is drawing to a close. The revelations to St. Faustina are, of course, "private revelations" and as faithful Catholics, we are not bound to believe any "private revelations." However, Faustina has been declared a saint, the Church has instituted a "Feast of Mercy," and the events of the eclipse and the "devil's comet" are occurring right after the Feast of Mercy.

I believe these issues are worth pondering. But as faithful Catholics, we do not want these events to rob us of our peace. Whether you see these "signs" as significant or not, the fact is Jesus Christ is on the throne. He promised to make all things work out right in the end for those who love Him (Romans 8:28), and He promised to be with us always (Matthew 28:20). Whether these "signs in the sky" have any significance to the timing of God's judgement upon the world or not, all we need to do is cling to the Lord and live out our faith in a life of love and we will be fine. As the Divine Mercy picture of the Lord states, "Jesus I trust in You." Let us all trust in the Lord and be at peace!

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS



LADY GOLFERS

The 2024 golf season is about to begin! The St. Helen Ladies' No Pressure Golf League will hold a pre-season meeting at Pleasant Hill Golf Course, Aquilla Road, Chardon on Tuesday, April 23 at 9:00 a.m. Weather-permitting, a practice round will follow, then another practice round on April 30. Official league play will begin Tuesday, May 7. All skill levels are welcome. If interested, please contact Paula Reilman at 440-338-4238 or paula.reilman@gmail.com.

ST. HELEN'S MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

The Men's Golf League will meet for a brief meeting and practice round on Monday, April 22 at 3:30 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Golf Course. League play will start Monday, April 29. This is fun, no-pressure league open to all skill levels. Email Rick Reilman at rick.reilman@gmail.com to get weekly updates, and to reserve a spot in the league.

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWBURY, OH

GRANDPARENTS!

Have you ever thought that you have a "Vocation" as a Grandparent? You do! God's plan is that you have a unique role in the life of your grandchildren and that they benefit greatly by your love and example. St. Helen's wants to support you in your "grandparenting." We invite you to come to our Grandparent Group on Thursday, April 18th in the Life Teen Center at 8:45 a.m. We will pray for our grandchildren and have a discussion of great topics in the book "The Catholic Grandparents Handbook." We know that grandparenting has joys and sorrows, but faith, prayer and community will help you as you continue to love and care for your grandchildren. Coffee and tea will be provided.

WOMEN OF ST. HELEN

Do something special for yourselves and our church! Become active members of the Ladies Guild. You're automatically a Guild member by virtue of being a woman parishioner; however, we need you to activate your membership through remitting a \$5.00 contribution fee. You can join with other members that are working to build St. Helen's community through friendship, spiritual reflection, fundraising and support of parish needs recommended by our pastor, Father Jay. If caring for the altar linens, priest/server vestments, sending cards, serving funeral luncheons, helping with the Christmas Luncheon, Fr. Jay's Birthday Breakfast, or the Knights of Columbus Golf Outing is something you could do – We Want You! We Need You! We Thank You!

SAVE THE DATE! SAINT HELEN'S FAMILY PICNIC IS ON SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2024

Don't miss the amazing St. Helen Parish Picnic on Sunday, July 21st from 12:30-7:00 p.m. at beautiful Wiegand's Lake Park! You will enjoy "all-you-can-eat" food, paddleboats, swimming, and a corn hole tournament, Chinese and silent auction will provide fabulous, fun options! And there will be a cake walk! We will have an extraordinary magician, games for the kids, amazing balloon art and face painting. You will have a great time! Buy tickets online or at the door after Mass starting June 22. \$15.00 per person. Children under 6 are FREE! The last day to purchase tickets will be July 14th. No tickets will be sold the day of the picnic.

COMMITTEE FORMING FOR OUR 75TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

In August, St. Helen will kick off our 75-year Anniversary of worshipping and growing in faith together. If you are interested in serving on the committee to plan events for a yearlong celebration, please call the Parish Office and let us know. We'll begin meeting in the next couple of weeks.



SAVE THE DATE:

Vacation Bible School will be June 17-21 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. This is open for all children in our parish who will be in Kindergarten through 5th grade for next school year (2024-2025). We will be taking the kids into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At *Totally Catholic Scuba VBS*, kids will

be immersed in the Sacred Scripture and discover what living water is really all about! Look for registration information starting in May.

BLOOD DRIVE SUCCESS! THANK YOU!

Our March 24 Blood Drive collected 30 units of blood that will help at least 100 people in need. Thanks to all who were able to donate! Mark your calendars for the next Drive to be held in the gym on June 26, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. All our Blood Drives support St. Helen School!

ST. HELEN PARISH LIBRARY NEWS

LENTEN CHALLENGE!

If you have been charting your prayers, works of mercy, sacrifices and almsgiving this Lent on the Parish Library Challenge form, we pray that you have grown closer to God and others. Please stop by the parish library Sunday, April 14 or 21 to pick up your coupon to DS Cakes and Sweets!

SPRING CLEANING

As you start your Spring Cleaning, keep your eye out for library books that you borrowed from St. Helen's Parish Library. We'd love to have any of our books that you discover! How can you tell if it belongs to St. Helen? Check the back cover of the item and search for the white label with black text. The name of the library is on the label. Thanks!

A BEATITUDE

The St. Helen Parish Library Board states: "Blessed are those who honor our policy that we do not accept donations of books, etc."

We wish everyone a very blessed Easter Season!

GROWING IN FAITH AND VIRTUE

St. Helen's website has great information for growing in your faith. Check out the Resource to Grow in Your Faith page on www.sthelen.com You can find the page under Faith Formation or use the button at the bottom of the home page. Also, stop by our Library! Never stop growing! Our Parish has so many great ways to connect with each other and grow in our love for God and each other.

JOIN US! GROW IN YOUR FAITH!

CROSS TRAINING for friends and families meets with James Hogan after the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass in the 8th grade classroom.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Bride's Room. **Men of all ages welcome!**



This is a photo from this past weekend's Men's Bible Study group! A testimony to our vibrant parish life!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY meets Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Bride's Room. **Women of all ages welcome!**

ST. HELEN SCHOOL NEWS



ST. HELEN SCHOOL NOW ENROLLING!

St. Helen School is now enrolling for the 2024-2025 school year! Thanks to the incredible

generosity of our parish and school community in the Angel Fund, and in combination with the recent expansion of the EdChoice State Scholarship, St. Helen School is once again offering \$0 parent tuition commitments for all K-8 families for 2024-2025! For more information, or to schedule a tour, please visit St-Helen-School.com or call the front office at 440-564-7125.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER **APRIL 14, 2024**

TASTE OF KINDERGARTEN

Calling all future Kindergartners! On April 19 from 8:00-10:00 a.m., all prospective Kindergarten students will have the opportunity to experience the day in the life of a Kindergartner at St. Helen School! Students will enjoy class time and activities with Mrs. Charmley. Parents are encouraged to attend a brief informational meeting with Mr. Martin from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

St. Helen School is looking for substitute teachers who can help cover classes when teachers fall ill or are unable to come into school. Requirements include a bachelor's degree and Virtus Training. For more information, please contact the school office at 440-564-7125.

SUPPORT OUR UNICYCLE TEAM!











\$10

IT'S ALL ABOUT LIFE!



SAVE THE DATE – 4TH ANNUAL BIRDIES FOR BABIES GOLF SCRAMBLE

Friday, June 7, 2024 | 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Location: Sleepy Hollow Golf Course

9445 Brecksville Road, Brecksville, OH, 44141

The 4th Annual Birdies for Babies Golf Scramble is Friday, June 7, 2024, at 8:00 a.m., with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start at Sleepy Hollow Golf Course. All proceeds from the Scramble benefit mothers and babies. Scramble tickets include 18 holes of golf with a cart, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (on course and at meals), and lunch for each registered player. The Scramble will also feature skill prizes and a raffle of unique packages along with "Lunch-only" tickets for non-golfing guests of players or sponsors.

CLEVELAND DIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

COMPANIONS ON THE JOURNEY DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP

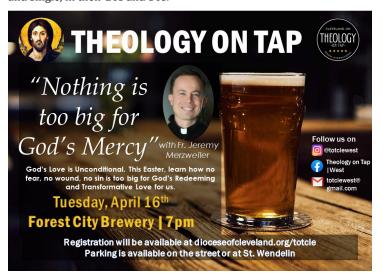
Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday of every month, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Meet in Holy Angels Community Room, 18205 Chillicothe Road, Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44023. Loved ones with dementia are welcome and meet separately. For more information, please email JoAnn Fariello at Companions@holyangelschurch.com.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION APRIL 2024

The Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings and Memorial events throughout the year. The next Grief Support meeting is Sunday, April 21 at 3:00 p.m. for in-person support (at six locations), and 5:00 p.m. for virtual support and the topic is "Mother's Day and Grief." For details, visit https://www. clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx. For more information or questions, call Rhonda at 216-930-4866.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

A discussion series for Catholic young adults and their friends, married and single, in their 20s and 30s.



GEAUGA COUNTY HOME DELIVERED MEALS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The Geauga County Department on Aging needs Home Delivered Meal drivers in the Newbury meal route on Wednesdays and Fridays. The Meal routes start at the Chardon Senior Center, located at 470 Center Street, Building 8, in Chardon, Please contact Nathan Gorton at 440-279-2138, for additional information or to sign up to volunteer.



ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWBURY, OH

Happenings at ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH *April 14-21, 2024*

WEEKDAY READINGS	MASS SCHEDULE EVENTS	
Sunday, April 14 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48	8:30 a.m. – Josephine D'Amico (D) (Joseph D'Amico) 11:15 a.m. – Alfredo Finomore (The Family) 5:00 p.m. – Holy Souls in Purgatory (Patrick Hurley)	9:30-10:30 a.m. — Cross Training/8 Gr. Classroom 10:00-11:00 a.m. — PRS-EDGE/ Classrooms 10:30-11:15 a.m. — Aquinas/8 Gr. Classroom 8:00-10:00 p.m. — AA/Gym
Monday, April 15 Easter Weekday Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29	8:00 a.m. – Flora DiMattio (The Cassedy Family)	8:45-11:00 a.m. – Divine Mercy Cenacle/LTC 12:00-1:00 p.m. – Home School Theology/LTC 5:00-7:30 p.m. – Prayer Shawl/PH 6:30-9:00 p.m. – Testify Practice/CH 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Men's Bible Study/BR 7:30-9:00 p.m. – KOC Meeting/PH
Tuesday, April 16 Easter Weekday Acts 7:51–8:1a; Jn 6:30-35	8:00 a.m. – Edna Gulick (Fr. Jay McPhillips)	5:30-9:00 p.m. — Worship Dance/LTC 6:00-8:00 p.m. — LT Band/CH 6:30-8:00 p.m. — RCIA/BR 6:30-8:30 p.m. — Grieving with Great Hope/PH
Wednesday, April 17 Easter Weekday Acts 8:1b-8; Jn 6:35-40	8:00 a.m. – In Honor of Father Jay's 40th Anniversary of Ordination (The Legion of Mary)	10:00-11:00 a.m. – Fatima Hour/A 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Unicycle Practice/Gym 6:00-7:30 p.m. – Girls' Night Ministry/LTC 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Women's Bible Study/BR
Thursday, April 18 Easter Weekday Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51	8:00 a.m. – Lillian J. Cawley (Victoria Fedor)	6:00-7:30 p.m. – Guys' Night Ministry/LTC 7:00-9:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal/CH
Friday, April 19 Easter Weekday Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59	8:00 a.m. – Peggy Bruening (Diane Bruening)	
Saturday, April 20 Easter Weekday Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69	8:00 a.m. – Gary Zagar's birthday (L) (Mom & Dad Zagar) 5:00 p.m. – Jerry Stettina (Ed & Jeanette Presley)	9:00 a.m12:30 p.m. – Jesus Day/Bready Day/CH PH/ Kitchen 10:00 a.m12:00 p.m. – Unicycle Practice/Gym 3:30-4:30 p.m. – Confessions/CH
Sunday, April 21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18	8:30 a.m. – Kathryn & Jim Buckley (The Wanner Family) 11:15 a.m. – Joey Finomore (The Finomore Family) 5:00 p.m. – John Weber (Legion of Mary)	9:30-10:30 a.m. — Cross Training/8 Gr. Classroom 10:00-11:00 a.m. — PRS-EDGE/ Classrooms 10:30-11:15 a.m. — Aquinas/8 Gr. Classroom 8:00-10:00 p.m. — AA/Gym

CAMPUS KEY

A = ADORATION CHPL
BR = BRIDES ROOM
C = CAFETERIA
CF = CONFERENCE ROOM
CH = CHURCH
G = GYM

GCSC = GEAUGA COUNTY SAFETY CENTER
LTC = LIFE TEEN CENTER
R = RECTORY
S = SOCCER FIELD
SC = SCHOOL
SL = SCIENCE LAB

TL = TEACHER'S LOUNGE
PH1 = PARISH HALL BACK ROOM
PH2 = PARISH HALL MEETING ROOM
PO = PARISH OFFICE
MR = MUSIC ROOM
MC = MEDIA CENTER

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER **APRIL 14, 2024**



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