WELCOME TO ST. HELEN!
If you are new to St. Helen Parish, please stop by the Parish Office during regular business hours to register, or register anytime at sthelen.com. We look forward to meeting you!

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses: 8:30, 11:15 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
First Friday Mass: 7:00 p.m.

DAILY MASS
Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.
Friday (During the school year), 9:00 a.m.
Saturday – 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Saturday: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday before each Mass by request

EUCHARISTICADORATION
Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m.-12:00 midnight in the Adoration Chapel

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE
(See bulletin and website for Holy Day Mass Schedule.)

BULLETIN DEADLINE:
Monday at 4:00 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT:
We, the people of St. Helen Parish, in union with the Holy Roman Catholic Church, believe that our parish mission is to proclaim the Gospel, to build a faith-filled community, to celebrate through worship, and to serve others in our community. Strengthened by the Eucharist and supported by each other with love, we desire to reach out to those in need through prayer, education and personal witness of our Catholic, Christian living.

BAPTISMS:
Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for a Baptism.

MARRIAGES:
Engaged couples should contact the Parish Office at least six months before their planned wedding date.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF ST. HELEN?
Please visit our website at sthelen.com and register on line or Call the parish office at 440-564-5805

VISITATION OF OUR SICK:
We are concerned and want to be advised when someone is ill at home or in the hospital or in a long-term care facility. If you or a loved one is unable to attend Sunday Mass due to extended illness, please call the Parish Office to be placed on the list for Friday Visitation of the Sick.

PREGNANCY HOT LINE:
1-888-619-7787
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 McPhillips,
ext. 203

Weekend Associate:
Father Jerry Bednar

Pastoral Associates:
Deacon Larry Somrack
lsomrack@sthelen.com

Parish Accountant:
Susan Kuchenbecker, ext. 209
skuchenbecker@sthelen.com

Administrative Assistant:
Brianna Steigerwald, ext. 202
bsteigerwald@sthelen.com

Director of Evangelization &
Coordinator of Religious Education
Maria Flauto, ext. 211
mflauto@sthelen.com

Education and Outreach/RCIA
James Hogan, ext. 204
jhogan@sthelen.com

Youth Minister:
Theresa Zickert, ext. 248
tzickert@sthelen.com

Music Director:
Jack Tayek
jacktayek@gmail.com

Facilities Manager:
Ken Moses
kmoses@sthelen.com

Bulletin Submissions:
bulletin@sthelen.com
Please submit by Monday at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Space Requests:
calendar@sthelen.com

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

Principal:
Mr. Patrick Gannon, ext. 216

School Secretary:
Judy Romagni, ext. 201

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE BULLETIN? Please send your request to Bulletin@sthelen.com

If your name needs to be removed from this list, please call the Parish Office.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE WEEKEND OF MAY 17, 2020

Regular Collection
Regular Envelope Giving (64 envelopes) ..................................$ 7,565.00
Online Giving (94 donors) ...........................................................$ 7,766.25
Total Giving ....................................................................................$ 15,331.25

Faithful parishioners viewing .........................................................560

The current outstanding balance for the mortgage is ..........$191,961.28

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

ST. HELEN OPENING THIS WEEK
Alleluia, let the glorious anthem rise! Starting on Monday, May 25th, the bishops of Ohio have given us permission to celebrate Mass publicly. The first day of public Mass is Memorial Day. That is certainly a fitting day for us to be able to freely give to God the worship due Him. Fr Jay has posted a video on the St. Helen YouTube channel entitled “Welcome Back” on the procedures for public Masses. Most of his message is geared toward weekend Masses, but much of that message applies to daily Mass as well.

The most important thing to understand is that we are asking people for Memorial Day, and then on weekends, to go to sign up genius and make reservations to come to church. You can go to our website at sthelen.com to make the reservation. Click on the “Sign up for Weekend Mass” button. If you do not have internet access you can call the parish office by the Friday at noon the weekend you want to sign up for and we will make your reservation. This is necessary because we need for the common good to maintain social distancing in order to protect the health of all of our parishioners.

This is an exciting time as so many of us will once again be able to gather as God’s family to receive the very Body and Blood of Jesus.

Let us continue to pray for wisdom for both our church and civil leaders that they will make wise decisions as we open up our churches and the rest of our society.

DAILY & WEEKEND MASS ONLINE AT https://www.sthelen.com/daily-mass-recordings.html: We will continue to record daily and weekend Masses and upload them on our website.
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
MAY 24, 2020

A REFLECTION FROM FR. JAY...
American Freedom
This weekend we honor the brave men and women who sacrificed everything to secure our freedom. Until recently, most of us have taken that gift very much for granted. This weekend we remember how freedom is not free—there has been a heavy price to be paid.

One of the hallmarks of American culture has been religious freedom. In all honesty, that freedom has been under assault for years. There are politicians who want to force us to pay taxes to be used for abortion. About 10 years ago the Federal government tried to force Catholics and others of good will to pay for health care plans that violate our moral beliefs; specifically they tried to force Catholics to pay for abortion inducing drugs and contraception which denies God’s plan for the generation of the human race.

In the midst of this pandemic we also see attacks on religious freedom. In Ohio the government did not mandate that religious services cease (the Catholic bishops of Ohio chose for the common good to cooperate with the governor, but there was no mandate stopping religious freedom) but that has not been the case in many states. Even after much of the economy has been opening many governors are trying to prevent religious gatherings. The parking lots at Walmarts across the country have been packed, but “don’t you dare go to church.” Even churches that had “parking lot services” where no one got out of their cars or violated social distancing were harassed by some police departments.

The truth is there are many in our culture who are not only “non-religious,” they are very much anti-religious. They hate God and have no respect for people who choose to obey and honor God. What are we to do?

We need to “live our faith out loud!” We need to unapologetically say to people, “God bless you” instead of generic phrases like “have a nice day.” We need to let others see joy in our life and let them know that our joy comes from our faith in Jesus Christ.

This weekend our nation celebrates the brave men and women who stood up against the evil of fascism, communism, and tyranny. Now it’s our turn! We cannot be intimidated by those who try to silence us. We cannot be silent in the face of evil. We cannot vote for those who promote evil.

When we speak on the dignity of all human life from the moment of conception to the time of natural death we are told, “Don’t force your morality on us.” And yet many of these same people have no qualms about forcing their immorality on us. If they had their way, we would be required to pay taxes to pay for abortion. In some school districts young people who attempt to form prayer groups are harassed by administrators. Many school districts undermine the moral teachings of God as they attempt to form children in their own image.

This weekend we are reminded that “freedom is not free.” It takes courage and determination to stand up against evil. It often requires great sacrifice to stop the spread of evil. It’s our turn now! We most likely will not need to lay down our lives to stand up against evil (as the men and women we honor today did), but we will face rejection and mockery. As we remember the brave men and women who sacrificed everything for our freedom, let’s honor them by standing up for freedom and against evil today! God bless you!

A NOTE
FROM THE DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
On April 27th, Gov. Mike DeWine extended his executive statewide “Stay Safe” order through May as the coronavirus continues to impact Ohio. In addition, the Catholic bishops of Ohio extended the temporary suspension of all publicly celebrated Masses/liturgies until May 25th with the hope of publicly celebrating together the solemnity of Pentecost on the weekend of May 30th and 31st. The bishops said their move was made “out of deep concern for the common good, as well as the physical and spiritual well-being of all the people of Ohio.” Each of the Ohio bishops once again is dispensing the Catholic faithful who live in their respective dioceses and all other Catholics currently in their territories from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass during this time. The bishops asked for the cooperation and adherence of all the faithful to the governor’s directives during this period.

You can read the full article at this site - https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/news/2020/04/28/catholic-bishops-extend-suspension-of-publicly-celebrated-masses-liturgies-through-may-29

MAIL IN OFFERTORY DONATION:
If you prefer to mail in your offertory rather than give online, you are welcome to address the envelope to St. Helen Church at 12060 Kinsman Rd., Newbury, OH 44065.

ONLINE GIVING OPTION: With our main community gathering suspended until next weekend, the safest way for you to continue to offer your financial support is through online giving. Online Giving can be accessed either on our St. Helen’s app, through the St. Helen’s webpage, or by going directly to this link: https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/2967

These are all secure and easy to use digital ways to donate. This convenient system does not require you to contact your bank to sign up or to make changes. You can use any of your checking, savings or credit card accounts and the funds will be automatically transferred to our parish bank account. This system is more convenient for the parish than electronic checks from your bank. Additionally, it is convenient for you because you can make changes at any time. Online Giving also helps you maintain your giving throughout the year. This will help the parish with cash flow during this unsettled time. If you are able to continue your financial support, we encourage you to use the Online Giving Option. We are truly blessed by your abundant generosity.
AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:
When we cannot receive Holy Eucharist in person - “My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.”

PRESTON SUPER STORES: During the month of May, Preston Super Stores is offering free service to any St. Helen Parishioner that is struggling financially. Just mention that you are a part of St. Helen. To schedule a service, please contact Paula Reilman at 440-338-4238 or paulareilman@gmail.com.

PARISH COUNCIL: If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any of these Parish Council members. See the website for email contact information.

CHAIRPERSON: Jeff Cicchella

A MESSAGE FROM PROJECT HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS: We wanted to take some time to share with you how God can use a crisis as a great opportunity to show His love to others! When the Governor began to share Dr. Action’s “stay-at-home” order, it became immediately apparent we had to do something quickly for those who have no home. It costs us an extra $2,675.90 per week to address this pandemic through our expansion efforts. We pray it will not be for the long-term. If you are not in a position of struggle and have not had an opportunity to give, please consider any amount as an Easter gift to our guests. Project Hope for the Homeless is now offering 18-hour shelter for our adult with and 24/7 for our family wing, and 24/7 on weekends for both groups. Salvation Army joined us by continuing their day services which include hot lunch for 6 hours each day, including weekends. We thank you for empowering our guests with hope. We are encouraging online donations due to reduced office hours. Please consider an online donation by visiting www.projecthoperothomeless.org/donate

LADY GOLFERS: We are ready for the 2020 golf season to begin! The St. Helen Ladies’ No Pressure Golf League will hold a pre-season meeting at Pleasant Hill Golf Course (Aquililla Rd, Chardon) on Tuesday, May 26 at 9:00 a.m. We are a small league, so we can hold our meeting on their deck or in the pavilion to maintain “social distance”. Weather permitting, a practice round will follow. Official league play will begin Tuesday, June 2 if the weather cooperates. We would love to have new members! All skill levels are welcome. If interested, please contact Paula Reilman at 440-338-4238 or paulareilman@gmail.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL in these unprecedented and rapidly changing times, we want to reach out to the parish to the greatest extent possible. If you are facing a financial pinch or know of a parishioner in such a situation, please know that St. Vincent de Paul will attempt to help. We also know it is difficult to ask for help and you can be assured of confidentiality. Please contact a parish administration person with whom you are most comfortable. You may also contact Jim Bottger (440-564-5628) or jimbottger@roadrunner.com.

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE:
The “Seven Sisters Apostolate” of St Helen’s is looking for women of prayer to dedicate one holy hour a week for a designated priest. The commitment is for one year; resources and support are available. May is considered the “month of discerning” for interested women; your weekly hour of prayer would begin in June. If you are interested, please contact Mary Milko at 240-481-9462 or Mariah Dragolich at 440-359-1982. You can also find information about the apostolate at sevensistersapostolate.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:
We are selling our annual Cash Bonanza Charity Tickets, which help charities throughout Ohio, and here locally. Tickets are $5.00 and can be purchased by contacting Mike Kalal. Thank you for your continued support, helping those in need. Tickets need to be turned in by Monday, June 8th. The drawing date has been extended to June 27, 2020 in Columbus due to the pandemic. The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic Men’s Organization, 18 years and older, building faith in our volunteer works in our parish, school and community. For more information, please contact Mike Kalal at 440-552-4276 or mckalal73@gmail.com.

“IT’S A MATTER OF LIFE...”
Civilized societies restrict individual freedoms when that “choice” would harm an innocent person. Does a man have the freedom to rape a woman if that is his choice? After all, it is his body, why do we have a right to tell him what to do with it? Why do we have a right to impose our morals on him? By emphasizing a rapist’s right to choose, we clearly are completely ignoring the rights of the woman. The pro-choice position always overlooks the victim’s right to choose. Women don’t choose rape. Africans didn’t choose slavery. The Jews didn’t choose gas chambers. And babies don’t choose to be aborted.

THE ST. HELEN SCHOOL “ROARIN’ 20s” GALA
The St. Helen School Gala is being rescheduled to an all-online auction. The St. Helen School Virtual Auction will be held June 15-24, 2020. If you purchased tickets to the original Gala event you should have received an email with information about your options. If you or someone you know purchased tickets but did not receive the email, please contact Barbara Somrack at barbara.somrack@gmail.com or 440-478-2913. Please check back for more details about this exciting new event coming soon.
### Happenings at ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekday</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Schedule/Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUNDAY, MAY 24</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Ascension of the Lord&lt;br&gt;Seventh Sunday of Easter</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – Mary Lou Caprez – (Gary &amp; Joann Ott)&lt;br&gt;11:15 a.m. – John &amp; Carol Rakoczy – (The Majeski Family)&lt;br&gt;5:00 p.m. – Clint &amp; Elizabeth Miller – (Liza Miller Greenway)</td>
<td>9:15-11:00 a.m. – Cross Training/Online&lt;br&gt;10:00-11:00 a.m. – Live Stream Mass&lt;br&gt;10:30-11:50 a.m. – Aquinas Academy/Online</td>
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<td><strong>MONDAY, MAY 25</strong>&lt;br&gt;Easter Weekday&lt;br&gt;Saint Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; Saint Gregory VII, Pope; Saint Mary Magdalene de’ Pazzi, Virgin</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. – Mary Stanek – (The Stanek Family)</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 p.m. – Men’s Bible Study/Online</td>
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<td><strong>TUESDAY, MAY 26</strong>&lt;br&gt;Saint Philip Neri, Priest</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – Nick Crea – (The O’Brien Family)</td>
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<td><strong>WEDNESDAY, MAY 27</strong>&lt;br&gt;Easter Weekday&lt;br&gt;Saint Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – Adam Burling (Living) – (The Burling Family)</td>
<td>6:30-7:30 p.m. – Woman’s Bible Study/Online</td>
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<td><strong>THURSDAY, MAY 28</strong>&lt;br&gt;Easter Weekday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – Lois Sustar – (Cathy Brent)</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY, MAY 29</strong>&lt;br&gt;Easter Weekday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – Judi Adams – (The O’Brien Family)</td>
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<td><strong>SATURDAY, MAY 30</strong>&lt;br&gt;Easter Weekday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. – The Parishioners of St. Helen&lt;br&gt;5:00 p.m. – Eloise Kuhen – (Gary &amp; Joann Ott)</td>
<td>8:00-8:30 a.m. – Mass/CH&lt;br&gt;3:00-4:30 p.m. – Confessions/CH&lt;br&gt;5:00-6:00 p.m. – Mass/CH</td>
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<td><strong>SUNDAY, MAY 31</strong>&lt;br&gt;Pentecost Sunday</td>
<td>8:30 a.m. – Bill Rotolo – (The Forlani Family)&lt;br&gt;11:15 a.m. – Fred Schneider – (Gary and Joann Ott)&lt;br&gt;5:00 p.m. – The Parishioners of St. Helen</td>
<td>8:30-9:30 a.m. – Mass/CH&lt;br&gt;9:15-11:00 a.m. – Cross Training/Online&lt;br&gt;10:30-11:50 a.m. – Aquinas Academy/Online&lt;br&gt;11:15-12:15 – Mass/CH&lt;br&gt;5:00-6:00 p.m. – Mass/CH</td>
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SCHOOL NEWS

WHAT'S BUZZING AT SCHOOL: We have completed our last week of instruction for this school year. I am so proud of our students, their families, and our teachers for all their hard work throughout this quarter and responding to the challenge of distance learning. Our Busy Bees and Little Hornets Preschool classes celebrated the end of the school year on Thursday with a parade celebration in the parking lot. Our Kindergartners celebrated the end of the school year on Friday with a parade celebration in the parking lot. Our Eighth Graders prepared a wonderful Virtual Field Day for our students on Friday. During these unprecedented times, we ask you to continue to pray for our students, our families, and our staff. We will continue to pray for you and your families. We will lift-up this current situation and pray for those who are ill, those who take care of them, and those who make decisions. Take care and God bless.

RE-REGISTRATION FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR: Registration for the 2020-2021 school year at St. Helen School is now open. If you need another copy of the re-registration form or if you are looking to register your child to our school for the first time, please contact the school office at 440-564-7125 or email pgannon@sthele.com for more information.

What if ‘peace of mind’ were one of the things you could pass along to your loved ones?
Call today to learn more about our fresh approach.

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