

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



As I sit to write this note this morning, chainsaws are whining and cutting trees from in front of the rectory and the front of our beautiful church is being revealed. The question, "Father, are you going to replace the trees with new trees?" Yes, as a natural born conservationist, the trees taken down purposefully, will be replaced with Dogwoods that will line Bellefonte Avenue. Other plants and scrubs are also going to be planted beginning in October.

Back home in Maine, Labor Day was marked naturally. Officially we arrived at fall this past week and the weather has certainly begun to feel like it. There is a nip in the air, and an occasional chilly wind. And the thought some of us may dread, "Winter is coming." I cannot help but see this change of season as an opportunity for us to make a change in our lives.

When I have approached individuals to ask for their cooperation with trash on the property or asked that the "gifts" that have been left on the lawn get picked up, I hear, "Jesus Christ....." you can fill in the rest.

Let's talk about this as it relates to this weekend's gospel. When we speak the name of Jesus it is to be used in prayer or praise or petition as it was in the gospel. Any other use of His Holy name is a sin. The end. "Thou shall not take the name of the Lord in vain." It's in the big ten - and no I am not referring to football, I am referring to the commandments. "Father, I don't know why I do it, I just do." You and your soul deserve better. Don't blame others or habit for your sin, just confess it and be free.

We have confessions here at St. Helena, on Saturday morning after the 9 am mass and Saturday afternoon beginning at 3:30 pm. And I will hear your confession any other time that I am available, or you can make an appointment. Opportunity abounds around here.

A simple note this week, which can have a profound impact on so many lives and so many souls - May the name of Jesus be praised!

Fr. Hanley

When we start mass, I say, "Let us begin as we begin all good things, "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."" Whenever we begin anything, it is very easy for us to forget that our ability to do anything begins with God's blessing. We live, breath, pray, hope, experience joy, experience sorrow and everything else that happens in our lives starts and ends with God. Nothing escapes his gaze.

Offertory Collection

The offertory collection for the weekend of **September 8, 2024** was \$5,207.00 and the online collection was \$2,637.00 for a total of \$7,844.00.

Thank You!

2025 MASS BOOK opens for the month at noon.

9/30 - September 2025

10/7 - October 2025

11/4 - November 2025

12/2 - December 2025

Due to the Eucharistic Congress in Ocean City, MD on October 5th, Bishop Koenig in his May 29th letter to priests, has asked us to cancel all Saturday evening Masses in the parishes. **There will be no 5:00 pm Mass held on October 5th.**

Weekly Intention

Saturday, September 28th

5:00 pm (CH) Sean Locke

Sunday, September 29th - 26th SUNDAY/

ORDINARY TIME

7:00 am (RW) Joseph Ahh Do

Living Intention

9:00 am (CH) Frederick J. Konitzer

11:00 am (CH) People of the Parish

4:00 pm (CH) KOC 75th Anniversary

Monday, September 30th

9:00 am (CH) William McLaughlin

1st Year Anniversary

Tuesday, October 1st

9:00 am (CH) William McLaughlin

Wednesday, October 2nd

9:00 am (SR) Allison DiMauro

4th Anniversary

Thursday, October 3rd

9:00 am (CH) The Sedivec-Christie Family

Friday, October 4th - FIRST FRIDAY

9:00 am (CH) Katherine Mary Seitz

Saturday, October 5th

9:00 am (CH) Paul O. Knight

Sunday, October 6th - 27th SUNDAY/

ORDINARY TIME

7:00 am (CH) William Becker

9:00 am (RB) Dianne Wolf

11:00 am (CH) People of the Parish

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 29th - 26th SUNDAY/

ORDINARY TIME

2nd Collection - Share in the Spirit

12:15 pm Confirmation Meeting (School)

4:00 pm KOC 75th Anniversary Mass (Church)

Monday, September 30th

6:00 pm Youth Choir (Church)

6:30 pm Religious Ed. Classes (School)

6:30 pm Scripture Study (Religious Ed. Office)

6:30 pm Weekly Walk (School Parking Lot)

Tuesday, October 1st

10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting

2:00 pm Parish Social Ministry (RE Office)

6:30-7:30 pm Open Prayer (Church)

7:00 pm Christian Form. Meeting (RE Office)

Wednesday, October 2nd

After 9:00 am Mass - Stay to Pray the Rosary

6:30 pm MOHC/Lector Training (Church)

Thursday, October 3rd

5:30 pm Bingo (Masci Hall)

7:30 pm Adult Choir (Church)

Friday, October 4th - FIRST FRIDAY

9:30 am Adoration & Confession (Church)

Saturday, October 5th

10:00 am Animal Blessing (Near Rectory Garage)

2024 Eucharistic Congress (Ocean City, MD)

Sunday, October 6th - 27th SUNDAY/

ORDINARY TIME

2nd Collection - Maintenance & Repair

11:00 am Children's Liturgy (Church Crying Room)

Food Collection/Baby Bottle Distribution

- All Masses

Please Pray for our Sick Parishioners

Ruth Bower, Geri Crockett, Julia Davis, Toni Di Lezio, Sr., Susan Denis, Carly Fedena, Jim Fedena Sr., Paul Farren, Sr., Mary Gabel, Regina Gemignani, Michael Giberson, Patti Grimes, Felicia Hallahan, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Charlie Lafferty, Leila Lahan, Thomas Leo, Joseph Lichota, Aliyah Miller, Sara Murphy, Alex Newton, Dave Pacitti, Jane Parsons, Fr. Roy Pollard, Bridget Robinson, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma & Wally Schock, Eva Smith, Frank Sullivan, Janet Szubieolski, Mary Tabler, Catherine Thomson, Rose Marie Turcol, Catalina Weddle, Vaughn Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Kathy Hope, Donna Dougherty, Gerri Fedena, Joseph Coen, Mary Smith, Peter Lauer, Robert Pagenkemper, Evelyn Deeney, Chuck Williams, Eve Archangelo, Kay Volk, Gay Meriggi, Pamela Grow, Walter Thomas, Abigail Cushing, Susan Watkins, Dorothy Medeiros, Juliann Congo, Catherine Williams, Janice Tigani, Staci McCoy, Carrie Spurlock, Dawn Williams, Tom Cassidy, Florence Morales, Paul Gildea, Thomas Trojak, Linda Lotsis & our friends at the Kutz Home.

Faith & Charity Catholic Appeal

St. Helena's goal is \$67,933.00

Thank you!

Parish Social Ministry needs sewers to sew for Stockings for Soldiers.

There is a pattern and instructions on their website, www.stockingsforsoldiers.org or you can contact us. All stockings should be dropped off to the rectory porch on or before the weekend of October 5th/6th. Thank you!

Religious Education

Confirmation Meeting for Candidates and Sponsors (and/or a parent if sponsor has not been chosen yet) today (SUNDAY) at 12:15 pm in Masci Hall.

Youth Group Taco Dinner/Information Night is cancelled because of a conflicting event in Masci Hall. We will meet on Sunday, October 13th, at 7:00 pm in Religious Ed.

THANK YOU.... How do you properly thank people for ALWAYS helping when you ask???? We had a wonderful picnic yesterday THANKS to all of you the parishioners for attending and welcoming Fr Hanley to St. Helena's Parish. This picnic wouldn't be possible without the Knights of Columbus (Christopher Council) who help us every year (they purchase and cook the food). To Nancy and Ray Cobb - you are indispensable and always are there to help me in everything I do. Thanks to our Picnic Committee (Suzanne, Joyce Lawless, Kathy Sandrian, Pat, Paul and Julie Penna, Paul and Eileen Duke, and Patty Keen) and the various parish committees for dropping off salads, water and desserts and making it a huge success. But "special" thanks go to Joyce, Kathy and Trish Julien for taking care of the "KP" duties throughout the picnic and staying late until everything was cleaned up!!! Thank you ALL from the bottom of my heart.

Ms. Hummy

Knights of Columbus 75th Anniversary Mass



Please join the Knights of Columbus, Christopher Council #3182 in celebrating their 75th Anniversary at St. Helena at a Mass TODAY, Sunday, September 29th, at 4:00 pm (that Mass counts as your Sunday obligation). Christopher Council was founded in this Parish 75 years ago and has been helping the Parish and its priests, as well as performing works of charity and service since that time. There is a wine and cheese reception following the event at Masci Hall and all are invited. This is a perfect opportunity to say "Thanks" to the Knights of Columbus for all they do and have done for our Parish, our Church, and the community.

From Our Parish

- † Please be advised that Fr. Hanley will **NEVER** send an email or text requesting funds or gift cards, nor will any person on the staff. Please share this information with anyone that you feel may be vulnerable.
- † **ALTAR CANDLES:** Please do not blow out the candles on the Altar. The Altar Clothes have become stained by the oils in the candles. Please use the Candle Snuffers located in the Sacristy.
- † **OPEN PRAYER:** Tuesdays only from 6:30-7:30 pm. Options - rosary, quiet prayer, and more. Uncomfortable about coming? Come anyway. Ask for Laura when you arrive. Enter through church door marked with a yard sign.
- † **RECTORY HOURS** are Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 2:00 pm and Friday 8:30 am - noon.

**For more information,
please check out our website.**

Share in the Spirit 2024



Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the diocesan Share in the Spirit tuition assistance collection last week. For those of you who have not yet participated, you may still contribute to the Share in the Spirit collection for tuition assistance. Please drop your envelope in the collection basket or parish office, visit the Share in the Spirit website at <https://www.cdow.org/share-in-the-spirit> and click on “**Ways to Give**”, or scan the QR code below. This important collection supports the mission and ministry of our Catholic schools by assisting parents who seek a Catholic education for their children but who struggle to afford the full cost of tuition. Your support is gratefully appreciated.



Bottles for Babies in Support of Birthright

The entire month of October is dedicated as “Respect Life Month.” Throughout the month, baby bottles will be available at each exit. We ask that you take a bottle and fill it with loose change or cash. You can also write a check if you prefer. Please read the insert and fill it out if you would like to receive a tax credit. Containers for collection are available at each entrance and in the main vestibule.

All bottles should be returned no later than November 2nd/3rd.

Questions? Please contact Carol Ann Plunkett at **302-383-0708** or at the **parish outreach office**.

Thank you for your generous support of pregnant women and their babies!

Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids

Times are still difficult for many in the Claymont and surrounding area. The goal of the **Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids program** is to ensure that no child in our community goes without a warm coat during the winter season. Last year, with the assistance of our fellow parishioners, Christopher Council donated well over 300 winter coats to children in need. We would like to surpass this number this year. With your help we can achieve this goal. You may donate NEW cold weather coats, hats, gloves/mittens, or scarves at one of our donation boxes at Holy Rosary or St. Helena churches. Or a monetary donation can be made online at <https://2024-coats-for-kids-christopher-council-3182.cheddarup.com> or scan the QR code. Thank you for considering this request.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! No group sharing required. The next weekend is November 1-3, 2024 at the Brighton Suites in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. For information or to register visit our website <http://www.wwme.org>.