



Years ago, a woman at daily Mass approached me in the communion procession. She had her arms crossed, indicating she wanted a blessing instead of the Sacred Host. She had tears in her eyes. I gave her a little blessing. She returned the next day. And the next. The same thing repeated. After a few weeks, I asked her why she didn't receive Holy Communion. She said she wasn't Catholic yet and was preparing to become so. I asked her why she wanted to be Catholic. She said, "Because I long to be in a real communion with Christ and with everyone I love." That, I submit, is a darn good reason. A few months later, she became Catholic and received the Body and Blood of Christ with unspeakably great joy and still does to this day.

Saint Paul says of the Eucharistic bread, "Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?" For Paul, the answer is obvious. Yes, it is exactly that. Which is why he can say, "we, though many, are one body." Jesus is truly, really, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This is no magic trick, but a mystery of our salvation. He feeds us with the Sacrament of his body so that our communion with him — and with the other members of his body — is built up and becomes mature. That's why the Eucharist quenches our deep thirst for love and communion. The Body and Blood of Christ is the best reason to be Catholic. It's our participation of love in the one we love.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

June 11th, 2023

## CONTACT US | ST. HELENA PARISH

**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

### Mass Schedule

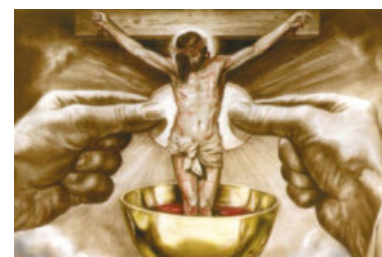
**Saturday** (vigil) 5pm, St. Helena  
**Sunday** 8:30am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)  
10:30am (2nd, 4th Sundays)  
**Tue** 7pm  
**Wed-Fri** 8:00am

### 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  
Or by appointment, call parish office

### Adoration

**Wed** 5pm-8pm



## ST. PATRICK'S 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

## FROM OUR PASTOR : A Tour Continued: Our Lady of Happy Meetings

Before making Benoite Her friend and the dispenser of Her graces, the Blessed Virgin strongly attached the shepherd girl's soul to Herself with irresistible attraction. Then, after two months of silence, She made her Her pupil and began to speak in order to teach, test and encourage her.

Putting Herself on the level of the mountain girl's uneducated mind, the Queen of Heaven condescended to familiarities that would surprise us if we did not know that Mary's goodness is boundless. One day our tender Mother invited Benoite to rest by Her side, and the weary child went peacefully to sleep on the hem of the Virgin's mantle. Another time, doing as mothers do to teach prayers to their children, She had her repeat, word by word, the [Litany of Loreto](#), then enjoined her to teach it to the girls of Saint-Étienne and go to church with them every evening to sing it there.

With the sweetness and patience of a mother, She formed her gradually in view of her future mission. The pious young girl was still uncouth, quite stubborn and readily impatient. Before the Virgin Mary personally revealed Her name, She initiated Benoite in the role she was to play all her life: to work at the conversion of sinners through prayer, sacrifice, and-----a special vocation-----exhortation, for God had granted her the charism of reading in hearts. Consequently, she was often given the heavy task of correcting souls and disclosing their sad condition to them. When needed, she would remind them of their forgotten or hidden sins and urge them to purify themselves of them.

A striking conversion, among many others, occurred to give credit not only to the Apparition, but to the seeress' clairvoyance as well. Benoite's employer, Mrs. Rolland, a woman who had no interest whatsoever in religion, wanted to see for herself what was going on at the site of the apparitions. One day before dawn she went in secret to the grotto, entered before Benoite, and hid behind a rock. Benoite arrived, and a few moments later she saw the Beautiful Lady.

"Your mistress is over there, hiding behind the rock," said Mary. "Tell her not to curse with the name of Jesus, because if she keeps it up there will be no paradise for her: Her conscience is in a very bad state; she should do penance."

The employer, who had heard everything, tearfully promised to amend. And she kept her word.

News of the apparitions began to spread; people were talking about them all over. Many believed in them, but several others were incredulous and treated the shepherd girl as a false mystic. Among the many people who supported Benoite were the little girls of St. Stephen's who, like her, loved Mary with all their

heart. To repeat what we summarized above, the Blessed Virgin said to her, "Tell the girls of St. Stephen's to sing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin in the church every evening, with the permission of the Prior, and you will see that they will do it." Indeed, once they had learned their "lesson," the Litany was chanted every evening with great devotion. It might be interesting to point out here that Laus is in the diocese of Embrun. Since 1638, the year of the consecration of France to Mary by King Louis XIII, the Litany of Loreto had been chanted regularly in the cathedral of Embrun. As reports of the apparitions took on greater expansion, François Grimaud, the magistrate of Avançon Valley, a good Catholic and a man of integrity, decided to conduct an investigation. After serious examination he concluded that Benoite was not deceiving anyone, nor was she an impostor, or mentally ill. He also observed that Benoite had not asked her Lady to reveal Her identity, so to speak. At the magistrate's request, although personally it cost her a great deal, Benoite was obliged to ask: "My good Lady, I and all the people in this place are hard put to know who You are. Might You not be the Mother of our good God? Please be so kind as to tell me, and we will build a chapel here to honor You." The heavenly apparition replied that there was no need to build anything there because She had chosen a more pleasant spot. Then She added, "I am Mary, the Mother of Jesus. You will not see Me here any more, nor for some time." Benoite did not see her heavenly Mistress for an entire month. This cast her into such profound sorrow that without the assistance of Heaven, she would not have survived. On September 29, 1664, on the other side of the stream, halfway up the hill that led to Laus, she recognized the Blessed Virgin. "Oh, good Mother!" she exclaimed. "Why did You deprive me of the joy of seeing You for so long?" Then she crossed the swollen stream and threw her- self at the feet of the Queen of Heaven. The Blessed Virgin made this reply: "From now on, you will see Me only in the chapel that is in Laus." And Mary showed her the path that went up and over the hill toward Laus, a village the young girl had heard about but never visited, as she actually lived in the village of St.-Étienne d'Avançon.

In 1640, some pious mountain people had built a little chapel dedicated to Notre-Dame de Bon Rencontre (Our Lady of Good Encounter) deep in the solitude of Laus. They had done so for the purpose of gathering there to pray when high water would prevent them from going to the parish church in Saint-Étienne. Exteriorly, the humble thatch-roofed structure looked like all the other small houses; just over two meters square, it had a plaster altar whose only ornaments were two wooden candlesticks and a pewter ciborium. That is where the Queen of Heaven awaited the young shepherd girl, as in a new stable of Bethlehem. **TBC**

- 6/13 - Adoration after Mass with Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary for World Peace

### The Priesthood and the Eucharist

"These two Sacraments were born together," wrote St. John Paul II of the priesthood and the Eucharist, "and their destiny is indissolubly linked until the end of the world."

The Eucharist is such a beautiful example of how God, conscious of our limitations, bends to meet us. He once came to us cloaked in the flesh, that we might recognize Him. Now He comes as the very means by which we nourish ourselves: food and drink, the most familiar and comforting thing in the world to us. How easy He makes it to fulfill his command that we become one with Him. How generous He is to make such a sacred thing also accessible.

We can say the same of the priesthood, and of the men He calls to its number. How generous of

Him to make such an accessible thing — our sons, our brothers, our uncles, our cousins — sacred. How generous of Him to allow these human creations — who share in our own faults — to be the means through which He comes to us in the Eucharist.

Without the Eucharist, we would have no eternal life. Without priests, we would have no Eucharist. On this, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, let's give thanks for our priests, and redouble our prayers that God will send us good and holy ones — manna from Heaven in our wandering exile.

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day." — John 6:54 ©LPi

### Real Presence

#### Question:

How do you explain "Real Presence" to children?

#### Answer:

The first Communion class is filled with excitement to the point of bursting! They are just awestruck by every new thing they learn about Jesus. Their enthusiasm is contagious as they rattle off the names of the things in church, the vessels and vestments used at Mass, and the names of their pastors and priests. Of course, they know Christ can do anything because he's God. He comes to us in holy Communion because he loves us so much that he wants to be with us. And he comes to us in the form of bread and wine. We really receive him in the Eucharist. Sometimes it is easier to explain this to children than to adults. Their

faith and trust in Jesus is not limited by the questions and doubts that often come with the question of how he does it. Rather, they focus on the question "why," and the answer is something they can easily grasp: love. Christ wants to be with us because he loves us. Nothing is purer in truth or in faith. Not even the theological explanation of transubstantiation, or philosophical reasoning or symbolic references, come close. Christ takes on the form of bread and wine to be simple and approachable, so that no one is afraid or turned away. His love for us is complete and total. We try to love him the same way in return. For a child, it is simple. For us adults, we keep trying. "Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 18:3). ©LPi

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Grand Forks

Msgr Dan Pilon 701-361-2051 or

BE line 701-277-8784

& please leave a message



Extending our Prayers and Sympathy to the family of Angela Mastel

Eternal rest grant unto her,  
O Lord,  
and let Your perpetual light  
shine upon her.  
May her soul and the souls  
of all the faithful departed  
rest in peace. Amen.

Visitation 5-7pm  
Prayer Service 7pm  
Monday, June 12  
Hoven Funeral Chapel

Funeral 10:30am  
Tuesday, June 13  
St. Helena's Catholic Church

# ST HELENA MINISTRY SCHEDULE

<b>June 17/18</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>
Usher	Volunteer	Matt Thorpe
Collection		Rick Ulmer Ross Seefeldt
Lector	Volunteer	Michele Thorpe
<b>EMHC</b>		Matt Thorpe
Gift Bearers	Volunteer	Davis Family
Altar Servers		Annah

## Breakfast servers for June

First one on the list contact the others

June 18	Mary J, Darcy S, Kristi G, Angilette V
July 2	No Coffee and Rolls

# WEEKLY GIVING

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 28</b>	<b>June 4</b>
Adult	1096.00	1412.00
Children	37.12	4.00
Plate	144.00	56.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1277.12</b>	<b>1472.00</b>

Thank you for your generosity!

# ST. PATRICK MINISTRY SCHEDULE

## Sunday June 18 (10:30am)

Lector	Gene
Gift Carriers	Megan Peterson Family
Altar Servers	Porter, Katie

## For the Month of June

Breakfast Server	Alan and Christy
Collection Counters	Amy A & Ruby
Church Cleaners	Corrine and Kyle Glynn Fam
Altar Society Meeting	None this month

### God's Gift Appeal 2023

*This is MY BODY that is for you*

Report as of 6-2-23

St. Helena's: \$7500. 40.79% participation, 39.6% of goal  
St. Patrick's: \$10,925. 35.71% participation, 165.04% of goal

Thank you for your support!



## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

**Tues. June 13** **Funeral for Angie Mastel**

10:30am (St H) +Angie Mastel

**Wed. June 14**

8:00 am (St H) +Susan Lacina

**Thur. June 15**

8:00 am (St H) +Phyllis Zvorak

9:00 am (St P) +Shannon Glynn

**Fri. June 16**

8:00am (St H) +Todd Kester

**Sat. June 17**

5:00pm (St H) Jesse Blake

**Sun. June 18**

8:30am (St. H) +Jeanette Stromme

10:30am (St P) All Parishioners

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**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Please Pray

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

Joanne Brokaw, Loretta Dingwall, Cindy Kelly Heupel, Val Hunt, Carla Engelstad, Betty Hahne, Ashtyn Hatlewig, Marv Grueneich, Paul Brandenburger, Larry Ulmer.

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





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