

Sunday, January 7, 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord

St. Helena Ministries		
Jan 13/14	5:00 Vigil	10:30 am
Usher	Volunteer	Bill Carruth
Collection		Dave Eberle Charlotte
EMHC		CarolLee Carruth
Lector	Volunteer	CarolLee Carruth
Gift Bearers	Volunteer	Carruth Family
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Ivan

Breakfast servers for December	
First one on the list contact the others	
Jan 7	K of C or No Breakfast
Jan 21	Colleen D, Kerry W, Angilette V, Theresa K.

Weekly Giving	
Sunday, Dec 31	
Adult	2758.00
Children	13.00
Plate	20.00
Total	\$2791.00
Thank you for your generosity!	

St. Patrick Ministries	
Sun Jan 14 8:30am	
Lector	Alivia
Gift Carriers	Kelly & Corrine
Altar Servers	Liam & Beckett

For the Month of January	
Collection Counters	Steve and Alan G
Church Cleaners	Gerri, Megan & Christy
Altar Society Mtg.	None this month

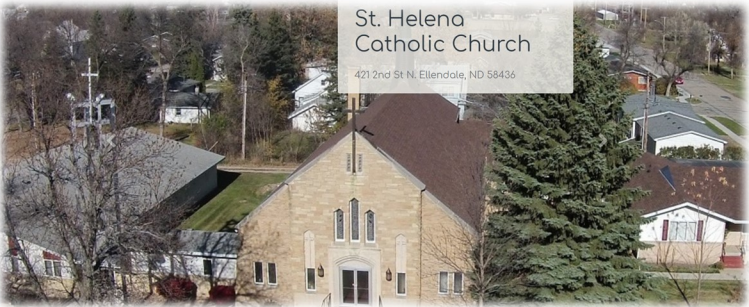
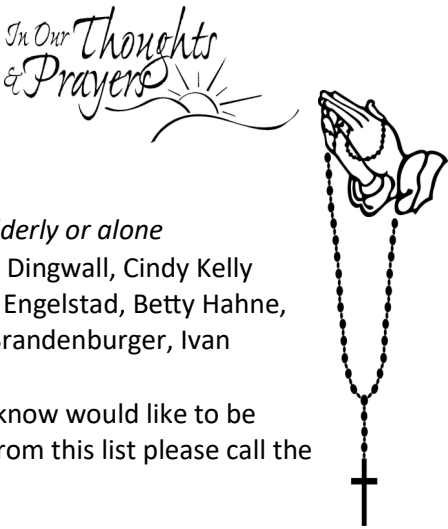
Please send bulletin submissions (by Noon on Thursday) or prayer line request to Fr. Parks or gusaas@drtel.net

Weekly Mass Intentions	
Tues. Jan 9	
7:00 pm (St. H)	+Sylvester & Marie Radermacher
Wed. Jan 10	
8:00 am (St. H)	+Deceased Volk Relatives
Thur. Jan 11	
8:00 am (St. H)	+Phillip and Agatha Herding
9:00 am (St. P)	+Donna Hamar
Fri. Jan 12	
8:00am (St H)	Priscilla Brandenburger
Sat. Jan 13	
5:00pm (St H)	+Lauren and Phyllis Zvorak
Sun. Jan 14	
8:30am (St. P)	+Mickey Thorpe
10:30am (St H)	All Parishioners

God’s Gift Appeal 2023		
This is MY BODY that is for you		
Report 1-4-23	St. Helena	St. Patrick
Amount	\$9050	\$13715.45
Participation	43.42 %	42.86 %
Goal	47.79 %	207.19 %
Thank you for your support!		

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, Paul Brandenburger, Ivan  
Widhalm, Dave Eberle.  
If you or someone you know would like to be added to, or removed from this list please call the parish office.



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

St. Helena Mass Schedule  
Saturday (vigil) 5pm  
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

**Meditation:**  
If Jesus truly is who he claims to be, the eternal Son of God and Savior of the world, then why is he not recognized by everyone who hears his word and sees his works? John the Evangelist states that when Jesus came into the world *the world knew him not and his own people received him not* (John 1:10-11). Jesus was born in obscurity. Only the lowly shepherds recognized him at his birth. Some wise men also found their way to Bethlehem to pay homage to the newborn King of Israel. These men were not Israelites, but foreigners. They likely had read and discussed the Messianic prophecies and were anxious to see when this Messianic King would appear. God led them by means of an extraordinary star across the desert to the little town of Bethlehem where Jesus was born. ...  
In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king. The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem



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

St. Patrick Mass Schedule  
Sunday 10:30am (1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays)  
8:30 am (2nd, 4th Sundays)  
Thursday 9:00am  
Adoration  
Wednesday 5pm-8pm  
St. Helena  
Confession Schedule  
Sundays after 10:30 am Mass  
By appointment - call parish office

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to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *"Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace"* (Thomas Aquinas).  
To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?  
www.dailyscripture.net



From Fr. Parks    The True Story of Our Lady of America.   Part II

The following story expresses Our Lady’s gratitude to the American Church for this honor and promises her special help and protection for these United States of America. It is the story of a Mother’s love for her children, especially her children in America, and her mandate from heaven that we in America, in particular, help her renew the face of the earth by assisting her in bringing America, and the whole world, back to Faith and Purity. She herself says she comes to America as a last resort.

Continued from last week

**February 3, 1957: Our Lady speaks on true peace and love.** Our Lady declares that peace must come from within, that to make our hearts more pleasing to her Son we must go to her, His Mother. She asks for a reform of life as proof of our love for her. She says, *“The Holy Trinity looks down with infinite delight upon such souls and makes them Its heaven upon earth.”* **March 1957: Our Lady pleads...** *O my sweet child, when will my desires be realized? ... O my little one, daughter of my Pure Heart, you must pray with greater fervor and offer yourself with greater love to the Heart of my Son.* **April 1957: Our Lady continues her warning.** *My sweet child, unless my children reform their lives, they will suffer great persecution. If man himself will not take upon himself the penance necessary to atone for his sins and those of others, God in his justice will have to send upon him punishment necessary to atone for his transgressions.* **May 8, 1957: Archangel Michael appears again.** *Do not delay or the time of grace will pass and with it the peace you seek. ...My little sister, the message is a clear one, there is no doubt. Make it known, do not hesitate. I, Michael, have spoken.*

**August 5, 1957: Feast of Our Lady of Snows and the Divine Indwelling.** Our Lady spoke on the great gift of the Divine Indwelling, sanctification from within. This is what she means by reformation and renewal. As Our Lady spoke this, she seemed at the time to be deeply occupied. Though the serenity of her countenance never left her, she spoke with a gravity that made her words all the more solemn. She seemed anxious to impress me with some idea of the greatness of this gift of God to us, namely, His Divine Presence within our souls through sanctifying grace.

**August 22, 1957: Feast of the Immaculate Heart.** Our Lady intensifies her plea for a reform of life. *“What I ask, have asked, and will continue to ask is reformation of life. There must be sanctification from within”.* ...She tells Sister to *“go to the Bishop. Tell him of the desires of my Heart. He will help you.”*

**September 16-27, 1957:** Our Lady’s admonition to priests to live lives of penance and self-denial, upholding the sanctity and dignity of their calling. *My dear daughter, sweet child, write my words carefully because they are of the utmost importance. I address them to my beloved sons, the priests, dedicated to the most intense and extraordinary imitation of my Son in the perfect carrying on of His Eternal Priesthood. Beloved sons, so cherished and greatly blessed among the sons of men, be careful to uphold the sanctity and dignity of*

*your calling. Let the faithful see in you the favored and especially loved imitators of the Son of God. Be modest in your dress and speech as becomes those of so exalted a vocation. The apparel and manners of a man of the world is not for you, who, though living in the world, must not take on its ways. Dear sons, I ask you to practice self-denial and penance in a special manner, because it is you who must lead my children in the way of peace. Yet this peace will come only by way of the sword, the flaming sword of love. If, therefore, you love my Son and wish to honor me, heed my admonition and be the first to give the example of a life of penance and self-denial. ... I am pleased, dearly beloved sons, by the honor and love you have until now accorded me. Will you now go further and honor me yet more by taking my words to your hearts and doing what I ask?* **October 7, 1957: Feast of the Holy Rosary and special message to her children in America.** *My beloved daughter, what I am about to tell you concerns in a particular way my children of America. Unless they do penance by mortification and self-denial and thus reform their lives, God will visit them with punishments hitherto unknown to them. My child, there will be peace, but not until my children are purified and cleansed from defilement and are made ready to receive this peace.*

**November 22-23, 1957: Mary appears as Our Lady, the Immaculate Tabernacle of the Indwelling God.** Our Lady appeared, standing on a globe, her right foot resting on a crescent moon, the left on the snout of a small fire-breathing dragon. She was dressed all in white and her hair could be seen through her transparent veil which was long enough to half envelope the globe. The veil was held about her head by a wreath of white roses, and a white rose rested on each foot. On her breast, the Triangle and the Eye, the symbol of the Divine Indwelling, could be visibly seen. A strong beam of light shown from the Divine Presence within Our Lady onto the globe at her feet. Then halfway around the figure of Our Lady above her head appeared a scroll on which were written in letters of gold the words: *“All the glory of the King’s daughter is within.”* Though it did not appear that her lips moved, I heard these words quite plainly: *“I am Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling, handmaid of Him Who dwells within.”*

**February 11, 1958: Our Lady renews the Fatima promise.**

*My Immaculate Heart will win in the end, and the Spirit of Christ will dwell in the hearts of men. Those in whom this Spirit is not found will be condemned to eternal hellfire.*

To Be Continued

PARISH EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENT

**Sun Jan 7**                      **RCIA class at the church center 6:00 -7:30 pm**

**Tues Jan 9**                      **Adoration after Mass with Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary for World Peace**

**Wed Jan 10**                      **Adoration 5:00 - 8:00pm, Simple Supper 5:30 - 6:30pm**  
**K-6 CCD 6:30 -7:30pm, 7-12 grades CCD 6:00 -7:30pm**

**Jan 14—19**                      **Fr. Parks in Mundelein, Illinois for last spiritual direction class**

ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

**Help Needed** Starting in January we will be needing more volunteers for our Wed. evening Simple Suppers. If you are able to help contact Colleen D.

St. Helena Raffle 2024

We are seeking donations for the 2024 raffle that will be held on September 15, 2024. Any individual interested in donating, please let Kathy, Michele or Bernie know.

Daily Quote from the Early Church Fathers:

*The glory of Christ's divinity is revealed,*  
by Chromatius (died 406 AD)  
"Let us now observe how glorious was the dignity that attended the King after his birth, after the magi in their journey remained obedient to the star. For immediately the magi fell to their knees and adored the one born as Lord. There in his very cradle they venerated him with offerings of gifts, though Jesus was merely a whimpering infant. They perceived one thing with the eyes of their bodies but another with the eyes of the mind. The lowliness of the body he assumed was discerned, but the glory of his divinity is now made manifest. A boy he is, but it is God who is adored. How inexpressible is the mystery of his divine honor! The invisible and eternal nature did not hesitate to take on the weaknesses of the flesh on our behalf. The Son of God, who is God of the

universe, is born a human being in the flesh. He permits himself to be placed in a manger, and the heavens are within the manger. He is kept in a cradle, a cradle that the world cannot hold. He is heard in the voice of a crying infant. This is the same one for whose voice the whole world would tremble in the hour of his passion. Thus he is the One, the God of glory and the Lord of majesty, whom as a tiny infant the magi recognize. It is he who while a child was truly God and King eternal. To him Isaiah pointed, saying, 'For a boy has been born to you; a son has been given to you, a son whose empire has been forged on his shoulders (Isaiah 9:6).'" (excerpt from TRACTATE ON MATTHEW 5:1)  
[Note: Chromatius was an early Christian scholar and bishop of Aquileia, Italy. He was a close friend of John Chrysostom and Jerome. He died in 406 AD. Jerome described him as a "most learned and most holy man."]    www.dailyscripture.net

A little Christmas Trivia

“On the First Day of Christmas, my true love gave to me, A partridge in a pear tree...” According to a Roman Catholic symbolic interpretation, who does the partridge represent in the carol “The Twelve Days of Christmas?”  
Answer: **Jesus**  
Between 1558 and 1829, English Roman Catholics could not practice their faith publicly. An anonymous person is said to have written this carol as a catechism song. There are two levels of meaning.

The first is the superficial meaning about a surfeit of gifts. The second level is a purported hidden meaning known only to members of the Roman Catholic church. Each element in the carol has a key word for a religious reality which children could easily recall.  
  
The partridge is Jesus Christ. He is aptly represented as a partridge, a bird which will pretend to be injured in order to draw predators to itself and away from its young. By offering Himself on the Cross, "He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou

trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler." (KJV Psalms 91:4)  
  
The pear tree is the Cross itself. When King David needed to free his people from the Philistines, the Lord told him, "And when thou shalt hear the sound of one going in the tops of the pear trees, then shalt thou join battle: for then will the Lord go out before thy face to strike the army of the Philistines." (2 Samuel 5:24) (Note in some versions the "pear tree" is listed as "Mulberry tree" or a "Balsam tree".    www.funtrivia.com

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