

Sunday, February 18, 2024 First Sunday of Lent

St. Helena Ministries

Feb 24/25	5:00 Vigil	10:30 am
Usher	Volunteer	Bryson Geffre
Collection		Richard R & Jeff U
EMHC		Lori Wald
Lector	Volunteer	Jeff Ulmer
Gift Bearers	Volunteer	Rick & Mary Ulmer
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Ivan

Breakfast servers for February

First one on the list contact the others	
Feb 18	Kathy M, Brenda H, Dina D, Gloria P
March 3	CYO Courtney D, Kali & Macy N

Weekly Giving

Sunday, Feb 11	
Adult	1024.
Children	3.
Plate	106.
Total	\$1133.00

Thank you for your generosity!

St. Patrick Ministries

Sun Feb 25	8:30am
Lector	Alivia
Gift Carriers	Tim & Gerri Glynn
Altar Servers	Allen / Alex

For the Month of February

Collection Counters	Alan and Christy
Church Cleaners	Faye and Amy Gramlow
Altar Society Mtg.	Following mass Feb. 11

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

Weekly Mass Intentions

Tues. Feb 20	
7:00 pm (St. H)	Ann Parks
Wed. Feb 21	
8:00 am (St. H)	+ Sylvester & Marie Radermacher
Thur. Feb 22	
8:00 am (St. H)	+ Marv Grueneich
9:00 am (St. P)	Steve Peterson
Fri. Feb 23	
8:00am (St H)	+ Deceased St. Helena Parishioners
Sat. Feb 24	
5:00pm (St H)	+ Micky and Jeff Thorpe
Sun. Feb 25	
8:30am (St. P)	+Moch Family in Memory of Gracie Syverson
10:30am (St H)	All Parishioners

2024 God’s Gift Appeal

Blessed to Give

Commitment weekend Feb. 24-25, 2024

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Brother Knights please take 20 minutes to offer a rosary

- Perpetual Rosary for Vocations Feb. 26 & 27, 2024
- Perpetual Rosary for Respect Life May 10 & 11, 2024


Please Pray

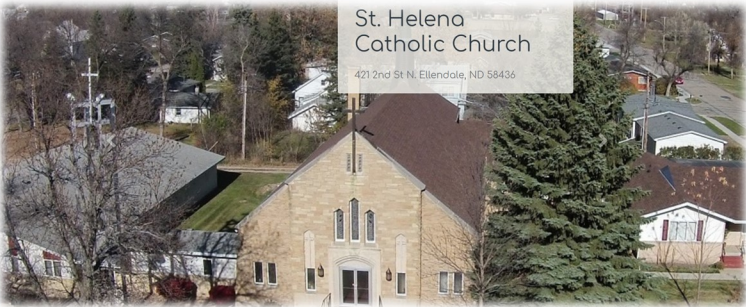
...for all who are sick, elderly or alone

Joanne Brokaw, Loretta Dingwall, Cindy Kelly Heupel, Val Hunt, Carla Engelstad, Betty Hahne, Ashtyn Hatlewig, Paul Brandenburger, Ivan Widhalm, Dave Eberle, Marlon Steinwand.

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

In Our Thoughts & Prayers





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



St. Patrick Catholic Church
207 Monroe St N.
Fullerton, ND 58441
701-349-3297

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

Adoration
Wednesday 5pm-8pm
St. Helena

St Patrick 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
Website: sthelenascatholicparish.org

Sunday, February 18, 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Repent and Believe in the Gospel

Meditation: What is the significance of Jesus spending 40 days and nights of solitude, prayer and fasting in the Judean wilderness? In the Old Testament 40 days was often seen as a significant period of testing and preparation for entering into a covenant relationship with God. In the days of Noah, God judged the earth and destroyed its inhabitants in a great flood because of their idolatry and total rejection of God. Noah and his family were spared because they obeyed God and took refuge in the ark for 40 days. When the flood subsided God made a covenant with Noah and promised that he would not destroy the human race again. Jesus came to fulfill that promise.

Forty days of retreat to seek the face of God
When God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt he brought them into the wilderness of Sinai. Moses went to the mountain of the Lord at Sinai and remained there in prayer and fasting for 40 days (Exodus 24:18). At the conclusion of this 40 day encounter God made a covenant with Moses and the people. After the prophet Elijah had confronted the sin of idolatry (the worship of false gods) in the land of Israel and destroyed the 400 priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40), he fled into the wilderness and journeyed for 40 days to the mountain of God at Sinai (1 Kings 19:8). There God spoke with Elijah and commissioned him to pass on the work of restoring the worship of the one true God in the land. After Jesus was anointed by the Spirit in the waters of the Jordan River, he journeyed to the wilderness of Judea for 40 days to prepare himself for the mission which the Father sent him to accomplish - to offer up his life as the perfect atoning sacrifice for our sins. Through the shedding of his blood on the cross he won for us a new and everlasting covenant which fulfilled and surpassed all the previous covenants which God had made with his people.

www.dailyscripture.net

True Story to be continued next week—

From Bishop Folda — On Ash Wednesday

Dear friends, today we begin the great season of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we enter a time of deeper prayer, penance, and charity, or almsgiving. The sign of ashes that we receive is a reminder that we must die to ourselves and to our sins so that we may rise up to eternal life in Christ. The whole season is a time of grace and a time of conversion. Our Lenten observances really have one purpose, and that is to bring us into a closer relationship with God. We are called to repent of our sins so that we may receive Christ more fully into our lives.

I read once that Lent is a season of “bright darkness,” and that might sound like a strange paradox, but it makes sense. Yes, Lent is more somber and penitential, but it

also opens the door to an outpouring of grace. Through the solemnity of Lent we are drawn more and more to the glorious eternal life that has been prepared for us. So, the “bright darkness” of Lent is actually a time of opportunity and hope. It’s an opportunity to let go of whatever holds us back from our Lord, sin or any undue attachment to material things. And it gives us great hope that new life in Christ awaits us through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

As we begin this holy season, let us do so with a spirit of openness to the grace that God wishes to give us. May God grant us all a blessed Lent!

God bless you,
- Bishop John T. Folda, Bishop of Fargo



PARISH EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENT

- Sun Feb 18 RCIA class at the church center 6:00 -7:30 pm
- Tues Feb 20 Adoration after Mass with Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary for World Peace
- Wed Feb 21 Adoration 5:00 - 6:00pm & 6:30– 8:00, Simple Supper 5:00 - 6:00pm, Stations of the Cross 6:00-6:20pm, K-6 CCD 6:30 -7:30pm, 7-12 grades CCD 6:00 -7:30pm
- Sat Feb 24 Ellendale Community Food Pantry workers needed 9:45– Noon
- Feb 26 and 27 Knights of Columbus Perpetual Rosary for Vocations

Volunteers are needed for the Ellendale Community Food Pantry. St. Helena’s is responsible for the month of February. We need 4-5 volunteers on Saturday, Feb 24th, 9:45am— Noon. Your help is greatly appreciated! Contact Michelle Thorpe if you can help—701 269 3662

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS	
Chad’s Electric 701 535 0011	Ellendale Pharmacy 701 349 3390
Hoven Funeral Chapel 701 349 3233	Z’s Fresh Market 701 349 3244
K Of C Insurance Joel Herman 701 219 5847	Merxbauer-Maier Dental 605 725 0800
St. Helena and St. Patrick 701 349 3297	Contact Fr. Parks to add your company

Simple Suppers What are they about?

Simple Suppers started many years ago in the Parish and have continued over the years. We are thankful for past parishioners and families that have taken on the mission to continue them. But what is a Simple Supper? A light meal served on **Wednesday evenings during Lent** at **St. Helena’s Parish Center from 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM**. Simple Suppers are for **BOTH St. Helena’s and St. Patricks’ parishioners, not only the CYO program**. Parishioners of all ages are invited to attend. We just ask that you sign up if you plan to attend so we can prepare enough food for the week. Sign up sheet is in the back of the church. We are asking families to work together as a team to prep, serve and clean up. Shared work makes the workload light for all. Food, labor and monetary donations are being collected to help defray the costs. Free will offering will be accepted. Please prayerfully consider this as part of your Lenten giving. If you are willing to help out, please reach out to Colleen Durheim. **2024 dates: Feb. 21, Feb. 28, Mar. 6, Mar 13, Mar 20**

Two conditions for the kingdom - repent and believe

How do we enter the kingdom of God? In announcing the good news of the Gospel Jesus gave two explicit things each of us must do in order to receive the kingdom of God: *repent and believe*. Repent means to turn away from sin and wrong-doing in order to follow God's way of love, truth, and moral goodness. When we submit to God's rule in our lives and believe in the Gospel message the Lord Jesus gives us the grace and power to live a new way of life as citizens of his kingdom. He gives us grace to renounce the kingdom of darkness ruled by pride, sin, and Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44) and the ruler of this present world (John 12:31). Repentance is the first step to surrendering my will and my life to God.

Repentance means to change - to change my way of thinking, my attitude, my disposition, and the way I choose to live my life - so that the Lord Jesus can be the Master and Ruler of my heart, mind, and will. Whatever stands in the way of God's will and plan for my life must be surrendered to him - my sinful pride, my rebellious attitude, and stubborn will to do as I please rather than as God pleases. If I am only sorry for the consequences of my own sinful ways, I will very likely keep repeating the same sins that control my thoughts and actions.

True repentance requires a contrite heart and true sorrow for sin (Psalm 51:17) and a firm resolution to avoid the near occasion of sin. The Lord Jesus gives us the grace to see sin for what it really is - a rejection of his love, truth, and wisdom for our lives and a refusal to do what he says is right and good for us. His grace brings pardon and freedom from guilt, and breaks the power of bondage to sin in our lives through the strength and help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. If we yield to the Holy Spirit and not to our sinful inclinations, we will find the strength and help we need to turn away from all wrong-doing and whatever else might keep us from living in his truth and love.

To *believe* is to take Jesus at his word and to recognize that God loved us so much that he sent his only begotten Son to free us from bondage to sin and harmful desires. God made the supreme sacrifice of his Son on the cross to bring us back to a relationship of peace, friendship, and unity with our Father in heaven. He is *our* Father and he wants us to live in joy and freedom as his *beloved* sons and daughters. God loved us first and he invites us in love to surrender our lives to him. Do you believe in the Gospel - the good news of Jesus Christ - and in the power of the Holy Spirit who transforms each one of us into the likeness of Christ? www.dailyscripture.net