

# ST. HELEN STAFF & MINISTRIES

<b>PRIEST</b> REV. FR. THEODORE LANGE tlange@archdpdx.org	541-367-2530
<b>DEACON</b> REV. ROBERT MALONE	541-409-3690
<b>OFFICE SECRETARY</b> JENNIFER GUSTOFSON sweethomecatholicchurch@gmail.com	541-367-2530
<b>BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR</b> LIN GAGNER	541-401-5676
<b>SPIRITUAL DIRECTION</b> JIM LAWRENCE	704-280-3620
<b>PRAYER CHAIN</b> CONNIE BURES	gilbertbures@comcast.net
<b>LITURGY COMMITTEE</b> DONNA SHORT	541-409-2557
<b>ST. HELEN PASTORAL COUNCIL</b> DEACON MALONE DEBBY LAWRENCE BARB SNOW	ANITA AZARENKO MARIE MARVIN TOM YATES
<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> LIN GAGNER GREG GOFF ALBERT RULE	BRYAN GARDNER LEO FERNANDEZ MILT MORAN

**SHEM REPRESENTATIVE**  
DEBBY LAWRENCE 704-617-2272

- FAITH FORMATION**
- **GRADE 3-6** contact Sharon Malone
  - **FIRST RECONCILIATION/HOLY COMMUNION**—contact Katie Goff
  - **MIDDLE SCHOOL**—contact the office
  - **HIGH SCHOOL/YOUNG ADULTS**—contact Gert Helvey
  - **OCIA**—meets Sundays at 10:30am. Contact Jim Lawrence, Anita Azarenko, or Deacon Malone for more info.

LECTORS' SCHEDULE	
<b>SAT, DEC. 21—5:30pm</b> Albert Rule, Tom Yates	<b>SUN, DEC. 22—9:00am</b> Jim Lawrence, Milt Moran
<b>TUES, DEC. 24—9:00pm</b> Jody Seward, Greg Goff	<b>WED, DEC. 25—9:00am</b> Anita Azarenko, Fran Sperle
<b>SAT, DEC. 28—5:30pm</b> Marie Marvin, Kathy Shantz	<b>SUN, DEC. 29—9:00am</b> Bryan Gardner, Gavin Gardner

<i>Birthdays This Week</i>	<i>December Wedding Anniversaries</i>
12/22 Sharon Malone	
12/23 Jamey Eddings	12/17 Keith & Patricia Wolf
12/24 Bud Baumgartner	
12/24 Kelly Haynes	12/20 Robert & Robyn Adams
12/28 Mark Phoenix	12/28 Jeff & Nanette Holmes

## ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

Please give to the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal today! We are united in Christ, in our one mission, and you are part of it. The Church needs you! Visit [JesusChangesEverything.church](https://jesuschangeseverything.church), or call (503) 233-8336. Please remember to include the name of our parish, "St. Helen, Sweet Home," with your donation.

Appeal goals as of December 13th: Archdiocese 70.38% - St. Helen 86.17% - Holy Trinity 61.17%

<b>MUSIC MINISTRY</b> LIN GAGNER DONNA SHORT	541-401-5676 541-409-2557
<b>FUNERAL COORDINATOR</b> KATHY IVES	541-401-0446
<b>COMMUNION TO THE SICK</b> KATHY IVES	541-401-0446
<b>HOSPITALITY COORDINATORS</b> HEATHER MCLAUGHLIN (VOLUNTEERS) RATHBONE FAMILY (SUPPLIES)	541-401-3396 509-270-9842
<b>KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS</b> K of C meets on the 2nd Monday of the month in the hall at 6:30pm. The K of C breakfast will be held after Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month.	
ALEX PAUL (GRAND KNIGHT) KYLE SULLENS (MEMBERSHIP)	541-409-8025 541-570-5711
<b>WOMEN OF ST HELEN</b> Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in the Hall.	CONNIE BURES gilbertbures@comcast.net
<b>SEEKERS AT THE WELL</b> GERT HELVEY	541-510-1909
<b>SUNDAY GOSPEL STUDY</b> Meets Thursdays at 6:30pm in the hall.	JIM LAWRENCE 704-280-3620
<b>PRAYER FOR FAMILIES</b> Meets 4th Monday of the month, 6:30pm in the conference room. Contact Anita Azarenko.	
<b>PRAYERS FOR PEACE (ROSARY/DIVINE MERCY)</b> Fridays from 2:30 to 3:30pm in the Church, with Adoration.	ANITA AZARENKO 541-908-3041
<b>WALKING WITH PURPOSE</b> Women's Bible Study meets Saturdays, 3-4pm in the Hall	VAL GOFF 816-589-7572

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE	
<b>SAT, DEC. 21—5:30pm</b> Albert Rule	<b>SUN, DEC. 22—9:00am</b> Elena, Xandri, Wes
<b>SAT, DEC. 28—5:30pm</b> Albert Rule	<b>SUN, DEC. 29—9:00am</b> Elena, Xandri, Brady
SUNDAY HOSPITALITY TEAMS	
Sunday December 22	Paul Nichols & Heather McLaughlin
Sunday December 29	Debbly & Jim Lawrence

Collection—Dec 14th & 15th \$ 2318.00	
2nd Collection— Retirement Fund for Religious \$ 921.00	
Thank you for your generosity!	

 **St. Helen's 2024 goal for the Archbishop's Catholic Appeal is \$12,000. Thank you for your generosity, and 2024 God bless you!**



**WELCOME!**

**Mass Times:**

Tuesday ..... 5:30 pm  
Wednesday ..... 8:30 am  
Thursday ..... 8:30 am  
Friday ..... 8:30 am  
Saturday Vigil ..... 5:30 pm  
Sunday Mass ..... 9:00 am

**Christmas Eve Caroling.....8:30pm**  
**Christmas Eve Vigil Mass.....9:00pm**  
**Christmas Day Mass.....9:00am**

**Reconciliation:**

30 minutes before Sunday mass and every weekday mass

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month, 4:00—5:00pm,

**Adoration:**

- 30 minutes before weekday Masses
- Every Friday from 2:30 to 3:30pm with Prayers for Peace
- 1st Friday from 9:00 to 10:00am
- 1st Saturday from 4:00 to 5:00pm

**Prayer Chain:**

Email prayer requests to our Prayer Chain coordinator Connie Bures at [gilbertbures@comcast.net](mailto:gilbertbures@comcast.net)

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday—Friday: 8am—12:30pm

**Contact Info:**

**Address:**

600 6th Avenue  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

**Phone:**

541-367-2530

**Email:**

[sweethomecatholicchurch@gmail.com](mailto:sweethomecatholicchurch@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[sweethomecatholicchurch.com](https://sweethomecatholicchurch.com)

# Saint Helen Catholic Church

(Established 1953)

600 6th Avenue  
Sweet Home, OR 97386

**DECEMBER 22ND, 2024**  
**4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

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## Our Mission Statement

We the parishioners of Saint Helen and Holy Trinity feel we are called by God to live our Faith through the example of Jesus Christ. We seek to create a loving atmosphere in which to praise God. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit we will continue to develop active ministries to achieve peace and justice through love of neighbor.



**Stay Connected**—Do we have your email? Weekly bulletin and announcements are sent out by email through Flocknote. You can call, email, or visit us in the office.



PARISH & ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

THIS WEEK AT ST. HELEN

SUNDAY, Dec. 22 - 4th Sunday of Advent	
8:30 AM	Divine Mercy Chaplet, Reconciliation
9:00 AM	Holy Mass
10:00 AM	Religious Ed—no class
10:30 AM	OCIA

TUESDAY, Dec. 24	
7:30 PM	Christmas Eve Mass Rehearsal
8:30 PM	Christmas Caroling
9:00 PM	Christmas Eve Vigil

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25—Nativity of the Lord	
8:30 AM	Adoration, Rosary, Confessions
9:00 AM	Christmas Mass

THURSDAY, Dec. 26, St. Stephen	
8:00 AM	Adoration, Rosary, Confessions
8:30 AM	Holy Mass
6:30 PM	Sunday Gospel Study—canceled

FRIDAY, Dec. 27, St. John	
8:00 AM	Adoration, Rosary, Confessions
8:30 AM	Holy Mass
2:30 PM	Prayers for Peace, Adoration

SATURDAY, Dec. 28, The Holy Innocents	
5:00 PM	Divine Mercy Chaplet
5:30 PM	Vigil Mass

SUNDAY, Dec. 29 - Holy Family Sunday	
8:30 AM	Divine Mercy Chaplet, Reconciliation
9:00 AM	Holy Mass
10:00 AM	Religious Ed— no class
10:30 AM	OCIA—no class

CHRISTMAS SERVICES	
St Helen:	
Christmas Eve Caroling.....8:30pm	
Christmas Eve Vigil Mass.....9:00pm	
Christmas Day Mass.....9:00am	
Holy Trinity:	
Christmas Day Mass.....11:30am	



Reflection from Fr. Theo – 4th Sunday of Advent

Blessed and joyful Christmas week. Pope Francis keeps reminding around Christmas time, that in Jesus, God reveals his tender love for us. Various texts from the psalms and the prophets communicate a tenderness in God’s love as well. This is not a sentimental tenderness. Rather, it is the fruit of the Infinite Love and Mercy that God has for us. The gift of eternal life came at a great price, and in the Infant Savior we see God’s faithfulness to himself, and to us as well. Merry Christmas and let us Rejoice to unto us a Savior is Born, who is Christ the Lord!

- MEETINGS THIS WEEK
- **Prayers for Peace** meets on Fridays at 2:30pm in the church.
  - **Christmas Eve Mass Rehearsal** Dec 24th @ 7:30pm (Servers, Sacristan, Ushers, “Joseph” & “Mary”)
  - **Religious Ed** no classes this weekend or next, resumes January 5th

\*\*\* **HELP NEEDED**\*\*\* **CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

Decorating the church for Christmas will begin after Sunday Mass, December 22nd. We could use help with: taking down the advent wreath, putting up Christmas banners, Changing altar clothes, bringing decorations up from the basement, putting up the lit nativity, etc.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

A member of the Knights of Columbus has made a generous donation and covered the cost of the Keep Christ in Christmas signs. All parishioners are welcome to take a sign to display in their yard, free of charge. One sign per family, please.

**SHEM CHRISTMAS BOXES**

The Knights of Columbus and St Helen have committed to providing 50 food boxes for families in Sweet Home this year. The boxes will be distributed on **Monday Dec 23 between 4-7pm** in the parish hall.

50 Disposable Turkey Roasting pans	Healthy Snacks (granola bars, fruit snacks, crackers, apple sauce	Jam/Jelly, Honey
Peanut Butter	Bread	Mac & Cheese
Paper Towels	Canned Veggies & Fruit	Breakfast Cereal

The Knights of Columbus will be decorating Christmas Boxes after Mass on Sunday, December 22nd. They would greatly appreciate some extra help if you can join them in the Hall after Mass.

**THE WORD AMONG US**

It’s time to renew our annual subscription to The Word Among Us. The cost this year is \$36 for 12 issues. Please contact the office if you would like to begin receiving a monthly booklet with Daily Mass readings as well as insightful and encouraging Daily Meditations.

**HOSPITALITY**

The Hospitality team is looking for a new Coordinator. Please prayerfully consider serving in this very important Ministry. Contact Heather McLaughlin for more information 541-401-3396.

We are low on food supplies for fellowship after Masses. Hospitality would greatly appreciate food donations to re-stock the fridge. Thank you in advance!

PRAYERS FOR:

Month of the Immaculate Conception

ST. HELEN MASS SCHEDULE

Mass Intention † = Deceased

- Especially pray for:
- Cathy Cornutt
  - Barbara Reed
  - Vicky Grant
  - Ray & Janice Novencido
  - Donna Hickey
  - Tony Avila, Jr.
  - Alex Ebat
  - Dawn Shaver
  - Lin Gagner
  - Kevin McLaughlin
  - Judy Richards
  - Bob Weidner
  - Benjamin Lopez
  - Rosemary Brown
  - Rachel VanDerlip
  - Gilbert Bures
  - Gus Hamilton
  - Janey Lidgrin
  - Shari Green
  - Damian Ciullo
  - Ray Marshall
  - Robert Adams
  - Tom Yates
  - Jim Settlemyer

And those in our Armed Forces:

- Matthew Morneault
- Jessica Allison
- Lt. Col. Manuel Robledo



<b>THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY</b>	
<b>SUNDAY, Dec. 22, 4th Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Holy Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY, Dec. 25, Nativity of the Lord</b>	
<b>11:00 AM</b>	Holy Hour of Adoration, Confessions
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Christmas Day Mass
<b>12:30 PM</b>	Novena to OLPH—Holy Trinity
<b>SUNDAY, Dec. 29, Holy Family Sunday</b>	
<b>11:30 AM</b>	Holy Mass

**HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION**

This will take place each Wednesday before Mass from 11:00am to 12:00pm. Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help is prayed after the Mass.

Sunday 9:00am	12/22	† Lazaro & Victorina Lacsena-Madrone
Tuesday 9:00pm	12/24	Lt. Col. Manuel Robledo & Troops
Wednesday 9:00am	12/25	Wilma Gingrich's Family
Thursday 8:30am	12/26	James Brown Jr.
Friday 8:30am	12/27	Jason & Zoey Ebat
Saturday 5:30pm	12/28	Steve & Melva Bates
Sunday 9:00am	12/29	James & Janae Bates

MASS INTENTIONS can be requested by contacting the office or using the cards and envelopes found next to the rosary stand. Just complete the request card with your contact info and the name of the person for whom you want the Mass, and drop it in the collection basket with your offering. Personalized Mass cards are available upon request.

“We ought to instruct with meekness those whom heresy has made bitter and suspicious and has estranged from orthodox Catholics, ... Thus, by whole-hearted charity and goodwill, we may win them over to us in the Lord.”

-St. Peter Canisius

KIDS FOOD PAK HELPS KIDS & FAMILIES IN NEED

During the school year, we collect food items like these in the barrel in our Hall to help local kids in need.

Individually packed cold or hot cereal	Ind. packed cheese & crackers	Ind. packed raisins or cranberries
Cup O Noodles or Ramen	Mac & Cheese or Rice-a-Roni	Canned Soups, stews, chili
Multigrain bars	Granola Bars	Fruit cups
Peanut Butter	Jelly/Jam	Applesauce cups
Mandarin oranges	Small tissue packs	Toilet Paper

SWEET HOME PREGNANCY CARE CENTER

We collect items to help the Sweet Home Pregnancy Care Center all year. Please bring diapers, baby wipes, and gently used baby and toddler clothing to the barrel in the hall.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

(Established as a Mission 1870)

104 Blakely Avenue

Brownsville, OR 97327

HOLY TRINITY MASS

Sun 11:30 am	12/22	Parishioners
Wed 11:30am	12/25	Fr. Jossey Kuriakose
Sun 11:30 am	12/29	Parishioners

MASS INTENTIONS To request a Mass, complete a request card, put it in the envelope with your offering, and place in the collection basket.

HOLY TRINITY MINISTRIES

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATORS

Neal & Susan Karo (541) 409-5059

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve LaCoste (541) 409-2222

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Heather Fleckenstein (541) 231-7833

MUSIC MINISTRY

Connie Scalf

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP:

The Novena is prayed after our 12:00 noon Mass on Wednesdays.

Holy Trinity's Sunday Collection

Dec. 15th \$ 374.00