

**NOVEMBER 27, 2011 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**SUNDAY November 27, 2011 -First Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM Mary Petti r/o The Brescher & Telesnick Fam.  
 10:30 AM Katherine Onulak r/o The Petercsak Fam.  
 12 Noon Carmen Rosa Navarro r/o Wilma Encinas & Fam.  
 5:00 PM Mary Hanzl r/o Carl & Sandra Demko

**MONDAY - November 28, 2011**

8:30 AM Esther Johns r/o The O'Brien Family

**TUESDAY -November 29, 2011**

8:30 AM Frank Imbriacco, Jr. r/o Eleanor & Steve Nemickay & Family

**WEDNESDAY - November 30, 2011 - St. Andrew**

8:30 AM Robert Coleman, Jr. r/o Mom, Dad & Family

**THURSDAY -December 1, 2011**

8:30 AM Angela & Joseph Passaro r/o Family

**FRIDAY - December 2, 2011**

8:30 AM Mary & Peter Manikas r/o Daughter, Jo Amborsio & Family

**SATURDAY - December 3, 2011**


**8:30 AM FOR THE MEMBERS OF ST. HELENA PURGATORIAL SOCIETY**  
 December 2011- December 2012  
 John Sabine r/o Family  
 John & Rose Bacha r/o Family  
 Michael & Anthony DiAntonio  
 Joan Duffy r/o Family  
 Chester Wolenski r/o The Williamson Family  
 Matthew Wang r/o The Ambrosio & The Mier Families  
 Anna Aloe r/o Vito S. DeGironimo, Jr.  
 Thomas & Catherine Adamski r/o Daughter, Mary Adamski  
 Louise Blonna r/o Gloria Kowalski  
 Eva Keller r/o Fr. Anthony M. Sirianni  
 Robert Malinconico r/o Pudgy & Judy

5:00 PM Mary Celine Heindel r/o The Sheckler Family

**SUNDAY December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM George Kaffenberg, Jr. r/o Edward Horvath  
 10:30 AM Piedra Castro, Cathy Morera & Dora Delgado r/o The Sanchez Family  
 12 Noon Michael Lacko r/o Pat Mangandlo  
 5:00 PM Adriano Carvalho r/o Family

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALIZATION**

 In addition to the Christmas Flower envelopes you will find in your packet, we have Christmas flower envelopes in the vestibule of the church. If you would like to make a donation toward Christmas flowers in memory of someone, please put the name(s) in the space provided (please print clearly.) Donations must be received by December 14th in order to place your memorial in the bulletin.

**ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE**

Dec. 3 5:00 PM Villanueva, Dias, Quaglieri  
 Dec. 4 8:00 AM Vaz, E. Desouza, Neves, Vaz  
 10:30 AM Walsh, Thangaraj, Manuel, Nath  
 12 Noon Ibuna, Daoud, Yorke, Resil  
 5:00 PM English, Houghton, Olandres, English  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**READER SCHEDULE**

Dec. 3 5:00 PM J & M Maldony  
 Dec. 4 8:00 AM D. Fardin  
 10:30 AM J. Thomas  
 12 Noon K. Whitaker, G. Monteleone, Jr.  
 5:00 PM K. Casem  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**EM's - EUCHARIST**

Dec. 3 5:00 PM \*K. Healey, T. Clark, A. Camardella  
 Dec. 4 - 8:00 AM \*I. Quevedo, C Bustria  
 10:30 AM \*M. Capellupo, B. Yunker, R. Houghton  
 12 Noon \*F. Perlin, G. Monteleone, Jr., M. Garcia  
 5:00 PM \*E. Schmidt, L. Brandi  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**EM's - PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Dec. 3 5:00 PM \*F. Milek, L. Radler, R. Milton, M. Maldony  
 Dec. 4 8:00 AM \*F. Klinga, A. D'Amico  
 10:30 AM \*M. Ojeda, F. McGrath  
 12 Noon \*A. Garon, T. Chan  
 5:00 PM \*C.Y. Fan, J. DiBella

***TO EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN" ...A TIME TO BE HEALED"***

**PRAY FOR THE SICK DAILY** Edith Dellapietro, Cheryl Pandolfo, Anita Mitchell, Michael Giovanniello, Guy Gebler, Sal Medina, George Cote, Jack Ford, Jeremy Osmo, Kathleen Grasso, Eddie & Erica Breitenfelder, Dorothy Purzynski, Rose Pepe, Terry Shanahan, Baby Peyton, Michael Pugliese, Jean Hillyer, Alan Patrusevich, Siobhan McGovern, Shannon McGovern, Pauline Gillick, Karen Staggard, Barbara Menge, Catherine Yascur, Kathleen Grasso, Laurie Battison, Hubert Scheuers, Trevor Calise, Matthew McGrath, Peter Lukawski, Lenora Klopchin, Bill Hillyer, Joanna O'Connor, Raymond Lynch, Cathy Gaynor, Pauline Lechner, Virginia Comito, Star Adams, Frank Viglianti, Rita Montalto, Sister Clare Greco, Lisa Olsen, Jaimie Falstrault, Leticia Klatt

**All powerful and ever living God, the lasting health of all who believe in you, hear us as we ask your loving help for the sick; restore their health that they may again offer joyful thanks in your church. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son who lives and reigns in you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.**

***The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful.***

**- James 5:16**

NOVEMBER 27, 2011 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday marks the first week of Advent. Advent comprises the four weeks prior to Christmas when the days are short and weather is cold. It is a time of waiting and preparation. The gospel reminds us to "Be watchful! Be alert!" For we do not know when the Lord is coming." When I was nine years old we would spend weekends with my grandparents in Brooklyn. One of my favorite times was to sit with my twin brother in my grandparents' bedroom and look out the window waiting for them to come off the subway and come home from work. It was the same place we sat as we waited for my Uncle Joe to come home from the Marines after my grandfather died. I remember the excitement we felt and the tears and joy as we celebrated his homecoming. It was truly like Christmas morning! This weekend also marks the beginning of the Christmas rush when stores and everyone are counting the number of days to Christmas and children are making their lists. Children know that they have to prepare for Christmas. They write letters to Santa and try extra hard to be good. As adults we also know that we have to prepare for Christmas. But too often we focus on the material side of things; we get so caught up with the "details" of the holiday – writing cards, shopping, decorating the tree, etc. that we lose sight of the real meaning of advent, a time to prepare for the birth of the Christ child. Jesus invites us to step out of our self-centeredness and to be more God-centered by finding time to prepare a spiritual gift to the Lord on his birthday. How do we do that? We can make sure we attend mass on weekends and maybe one day during the week, or say the rosary or read scripture. Advent is a time when we can revitalize our relationship with the Lord through quiet reflection. It is a time for prayer, and to ask for forgiveness through the sacrament of reconciliation. It is a time to offer thanks for the many blessings God has given us. As you light the first candle on the advent wreath, take a moment to reflect on the real meaning of advent and encourage your family to spend some quiet time in preparation for the Lord.

This weekend the Catholic Church introduces the new Roman Missal, the first changes to the mass since Vatican II in the early sixties. The revised version of the Roman Missal was announced in 2000 by the late Pope John Paul II and includes updated translations of the mass from Latin that will more closely align the English spoken mass to the Latin. I realize that change is not easy, as most of us participate in the mass by rote. But this is an opportunity to deepen our participation in the Sacred Liturgy of our Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Eucharistic Adoration -**

**Tuesday - 9 AM- 5 PM**

**Rosary of Our Blessed Mother at**

**4:00 PM**

**for the Intention of Respect for Life  
JESUS is waiting for YOU! Come**



*Tuesday to visit Him. He longs to see you  
and embrace you with His love.*

**COLLECTION DATA FOR THE  
WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 20TH  
IS NOT AVAILABLE DUE  
TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**

## I AM TRULY HUMBLLED BY YOUR GENEROSITY

**THANK YOU** I want to thank all the parishioners who have decided to make tithing a part of their lives. Being someone who tithes myself, I understand the sacrifices you are making. I am truly blessed to be a part of St. Helena Parish and to be a part of your lives. God Bless you and your families.

### 2011 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

#### *In Faith, With Hope*

Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal sustains the work of several Diocesan offices and departments that provide the spiritual, pastoral and intellectual formation, as well as practical tools to assist the clergy and lay leaders of the local parishes in areas such as: **Evangelization, Catechesis, RCIA, Stewardship, and Worship & Liturgical Formation.**

To date, the Development Department has received pledges totaling \$41,252.65 and payments totaling \$35,018.44 from 204 parishioners. This represents 47.3% of your \$87,300.00 goal. Thank you for your efforts

### THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is Thursday, December 8th and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass Schedule is as follows: December 7th at 7:30 PM and December 8th at 8:30 AM & 7:30 PM.

### PRAY THE ROSARY AS A FAMILY

The St. Helena Legion of Mary is offering families a wonderful opportunity to introduce or maintain Marian Devotion in their own home by bringing the travelling Blessed Mary Statue to their home for a week. For details, and to schedule your visit, please contact Yvette Martinez @ 908.251.5111 or Jesse Fernandes @ 732.382.9887.



### THANK YOU

We would like to thank all who came out to donate at our Fall Blood Drive last Saturday, November 12th. It was a beautiful fall day and the turnout was good. We collected 50 units of blood. We thank you all again and hope to see all who came this time, and many more, at our Spring Blood Drive which is set for March 17, 2012. Again, thank you.

## NOVEMBER 27, 2011 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Today is the first Sunday of Advent—the New Year. It is a time we prepare our hearts and souls for the coming birth of Christ. It is a time of expectation, of watchfulness, and a time of self-examination. We examine our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure and consider how we are using all three for the proclaiming of God's kingdom. - from Sixty-Second Stewardship Sermons by Charles Cloughen, Jr.

### ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

Lord God,

Let your blessing come upon us  
As we light the candles of the wreath.

May this wreath and its light  
Be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation,  
May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

*Every Saturday - 3:30 - 4:30 PM*

&

*Wednesday, December 21st  
7 PM until as needed*

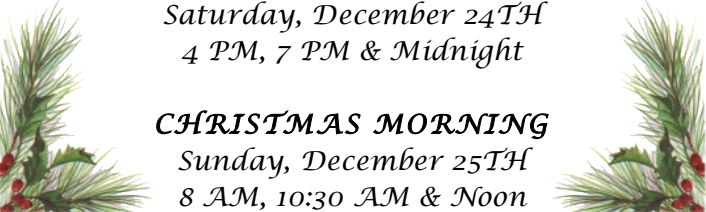
### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

*Saturday, December 24<sup>TH</sup>  
4 PM, 7 PM & Midnight*

#### CHRISTMAS MORNING

*Sunday, December 25<sup>TH</sup>  
8 AM, 10:30 AM & Noon*



### THE GIVING TREE

YLF has set up a Giving Tree in the main entrance of the church. The gifts collected will be donated to the Robert-Wood Johnson AIDS Christmas Party. Simply take an ornament from one of its branches, purchase an item or two listed on the tag, and deliver your item back to the Church no later than December 4th. Thanks for all of your support!



### ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS:

Please join us, next Sunday, December 4, at 2 PM for Advent Lessons and Carols. Come enjoy Scripture readings by our Youth Group and music performed by the St. Helena School Handbell Choir, our joint choirs, and YOU! (There will be a number of "sing-along" pieces, so start practicing!) The service will include lighting of the Advent wreath and a talk by Fr. Anthony. A freewill offering will be taken for the benefit of the music program.



### VENDORS WANTED!

The St. Helena HSA will be running a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 3, 2011 from 9 AM to 3 PM in the school hall. Last year's event was a big success. There were crafts, toys, gifts, jewelry and fun stuff! The HSA will be selling food. If you would like to sell your merchandise at the bazaar, please contact Kathy Penevolpe at [201-390-5053](tel:201-390-5053) or [jakpen@gmail.com](mailto:jakpen@gmail.com).



### HOLIDAY 50/50

The tickets are \$2.00 each or \$50.00 per book. Please support our school by purchasing a ticket! The winner will be picked at the Christmas Bazaar held on December 3, 2011. Books may be picked up in the school office during regular school hours of 8 AM to 2:30 PM. Last year's cash prize was over \$13,000 and won by a school family. Please help support St. Helena School. For further information, please contact Jennifer Imbriacco at 732.548.1796. Thank you!

### BOY SCOUT CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Boy Scout Troop 66 will be selling beautifully decorated Christmas Wreaths after all Masses this weekend, Nov. 26th & 27th and Dec. 3rd & 4th. The freshly-made wreaths are 20 inches in diameter and are adorned with numerous pine cones and a beautiful ten-loop decorative bow. The wreaths are reasonably priced at \$17.00 and will be available before and after all Masses while supplies last. Thank you for supporting Boy Scout Troop 66!



*As generous distributors  
of God's manifold grace,  
put your gifts at the service of one another, each in the  
measure he has received.*

*- Romans 12:6-8*

NOVEMBER 27, 2011 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## **ST. HELENA RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

Women and men facing unplanned pregnancies need help – and **Life Choices Resource Center** is there for them. **St. Helena's Respect Life Group** is partnering with **Life Choices** to give parishioners the opportunity to play a part, **no matter how large or small**, in this life-saving ministry. Life Choices is a pro-life pregnancy help center founded on the Catholic principles that human life is sacred from the moment of conception. **All are invited to help; men, women and teens!** **Will you take a moment to reflect on how you can lend a hand in protecting God's unborn children? Volunteering is not a commitment; it's simply an openness to become involved.** There are no time commitments; you can volunteer once a month or once a year in any capacity; either office work or hands-on as a counselor. The Lord calls us all if you can answer, we'd love to have you. Please consider joining our team. **The more people involved, the more lives we can save and the more hearts we can change. Here are some ways you can help:** Offer Your Private Prayers For Babies & Clients, Join Us In Prayer At The Office (Rosary Tuesdays & Thursdays), Filing, Scanning Records, Community Liaison, Annual Banquet, Annual Walk, Accounting, Processing Baby Bottles, Spanish Interpreter, Light Cleaning, Community Events/Local Fairs, Bulk Mailings (*Folding, Stuffing, Labeling*), College Liaison, Counselor, Post Abortion Counselor, Help With Baby Shower, Knitting Or Crocheting Hats, Blankets, Booties & Pray Shawls, Licensed RN, Marketing/Communications, Ultrasound Technician, **As you can see, the need is great, so please feel free to help whenever or however you can.** Men and Women of All Ages **ARE INVITED TO HELP!** Will you please take a minute to reflect on how you can lend a hand in protecting God's unborn children? Volunteering is not a commitment; it's simply an openness to become involved at your convenience. AND, Yes, **Community Service Hours are Given!** If you are able to help please fill out the tear out below and return to Father Anthony at the rectory or place in the collection basket. Thank you.

**TEAR OFF**-----

PLEASE PRINT: I CAN HELP BY (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

-----  
Please call, visit or email us: Life Choices Resource Center, 503 Main St. Metuchen, NJ,(732)-516-0911 [lifecoices@optonline.net](mailto:lifecoices@optonline.net)  
"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace..." Peter 4:10