

From Our Pastor

Our Parish Community does so many impactful things to fulfill our mission to serve others. So, it was heart touching not only to experience the Service Auction, but to reflect on the process that got us there as well as the outcome.

While some of the financials are still being finalized, we raised approximately \$55,000 for the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless! The money goes to sustain a two-family home, Helen House, which allows two homeless families to reside in for up to 18 months.

The money donated to the Coalition is providing an opportunity for homeless families who might not otherwise have a means to rent a home on their own and to get them “back on their feet”.

This event is a huge undertaking requiring extensive time and talent. Thank you to all the families and sponsors who donated 31 live auction items, 102 silent auction items and numerous items for the Tricky Tray. To put this all together we are so very grateful to the Service Auction Committee led by Michael and Helen Bielen with the indispensable assistance and guidance of Marilyn Ryan. The work of coordinating volunteers, prize management and gift preparation took many months.

We also had approximately 40 adult volunteers and 15 high school students who a

helped out the evening of the Service Auction with meal preparation, kitchen support, selling tickets, prize running, auction spotters, check-in, check-out, auction set up and clean-up.

Our auctioneer, Mike Marino, a comedy auctioneer often left us in stitches, as everyone bid joyfully for so many auction items.

This event is such a beautiful testament to the heart and soul of our parish community. It certainly brought together our time, talent and treasure. A heartfelt thank you to all who helped and participated in this vital outreach ministry of Saint Helen.

On another note, May is Mental Health Awareness Month and we will begin the month with a Prayer Service for Emotional Wellness on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 7:00PM in the church.

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may be received by those needing emotional and physical wellness. We will come together to pray for healing with a focus on emotional wellness and mental health as well as the pain and isolation that can so often be present. There will be refreshments immediately following the Prayer Service.

As we enter the month of May,
May God Bless You All,
Msgr. Tom



Parish Community of Saint Helen

Thanks for joining us today!



CORNERSTONE & KEYSTONE



Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Saturday | 9am

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday | 5pm

Sunday 8am | 10am* | 12pm | 6pm


*Livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

Reconciliation Saturday 4pm

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New? Welcome!

We're so glad you are visiting us today! Text CONNECT to 908-860-8444 to get a virtual connect card and learn more about our parish community!

Have Kids?

We have amazing programs for kids at Saint Helen during our 10am Sunday Mass most weekends! Check out Kids Corner in Meaney Hall across the parking lot for ages 2 through Kindergarten. For Grades 1-4, we have Children's Liturgy of the Word at our 10am Sunday Mass most weekends.

Next Steps

Want to learn more? Visit sainthelen.org/more to learn more about our events and programs!

What's Happening

Mental Health Awareness Month May 1, 2024 at 7:00pm

Join our kickoff for Mental Health Awareness Month with a Prayer Service for Emotional Wellness. In the pain and isolation that often accompany mental illness, we come together for healing.

Last Call For Cameo's Concert Saturday, May 11, 2024 | 7:00pm in Meaney Hall

Saint Helen presents New Jersey's premier 50's-60's doo-wop group "The Cameo's". Tickets are \$30 per person and available online at sainthelen.org/comeos, or in-person at the parish office front desk. Join us for this exciting and memorable concert event.

Sister Pat's Pickleball Tournament Saturday, May 18, 2024 | 9:00am

Gear up for a day of pickleball with a purpose at Tamaques Park in Westfield, NJ. With all proceeds going to Sister Pat's Kids camp. Learn more and sign up at sainthelen.org/pickleball

Everyday Contemplatives Wednesdays at 7pm in the Rm 102/103 4/25 - 5/29

Do you crave a moment of calm in the midst of your busy week? Come and experience the gift of contemplative prayer led by Patrick Manning. We will gather weekly to rest in God's love and reflect on our experience of prayer.

The Art of Accompaniment May 7, 2024 | 7:00pm in the Gym

Join us for a panel discussion on the Art of Accompaniment. We'll be joined by Milissa Else, Liz Greenop, and Mark Cantine, sharing insights on walking spiritually alongside others.

Youth Night Fiesta Sunday, May 5 at 7:00pm in the Gym

All high school youth, join us for our last Youth Night of the school year on Sunday, May 5th at 7 PM in the GYM- Cinco de Mayo! Food, fun, Piñata, prizes. Bring a friend! See our website for more info or contact Patti @ pgardner@sainthelen.org

Mass Intentions

Weekend of April 27/28

5:00pm - Gloria DaSilva

8:00am - Grace McGrath

10:00am - David Varoli

12:00pm - Robert Clinton

6:00pm - Daniel Lynch

Daily Mass Intentions

April 29 - Frank L. McGovern

April 30 - People of the Parish

May 1 - Mary Ann Kelly

May 2 - The Karwoski Fam.(Deceased)

May 3 - Caitlin Nelson

May 4 - Anna Drotar - Ivano

Weekly Mass Association:

Dorothea, Russ & Paul Fiedler

Paul L. Mulvee

Patrice Kaczka

Karen Murphy

Patrick Martin

Linda Manson

Adam Lupicki

Sanctuary Candle:

Gloria DaSilva

We're Hiring!

Saint Helen is hiring for two positions, Business Manager (Full-Time) and Assistant to the Pastor (Part-Time). If you, or anyone you know, may be interested in either role, please send them to our website at sainthelen.org/our-team to view full job descriptions and more information. Complete applications can be emailed to us at employment@sainthelen.org.

Carolyn Colonna will continue to be on the Saint Helen staff will be changing her role to Adult Faith Coordinator.

Stewardship Spotlight

Younger families at Saint Helen may know Margaret Manning from our CFC Family Ministry, which she and her husband Patrick attend regularly, bringing their three children Josie (nearly 3), Luca – age 5, and Emily – age 8.

CFC builds community for families to connect with one another, the less fortunate, and with God. Often, you'll see Marcos, an international student who has lived with them for three years, joining in parish activities too.

Others, of a more diverse age group, may be familiar with Margaret's stand-up comedy routine, warming up the Saint Helen audience for last Fall's night of comedy.

Readers of, "America," the Jesuit Review, know Margaret's touching and profound reflection of her and her husband Patrick's own experience with miscarriage.

Still others know Margaret as the Chaplain at the Center for Hope Hospice & Palliative Care in Scotch Plains, where she offers emotional and spiritual support for families and patients.

How can one person embody such diverse gifts... Love, Joy, Faith, Mercy? To question may be to doubt that God can create a distinct plan for each of our lives, rather than focusing on how we fulfill or express the gifts that have been given to each of us.

Margaret traces the patience and calming presence she brings to the elderly at the Center for Hope to her formative years when her grandmother lived with her parents and five siblings. Like others who are graced with that family structure, living in a multi-generational family unit diminishes the gap between years and experiences.

Stay Connected

Text the keyword to 908-860-8444 :

- CONNECT - Connect card for guests
- FAMILY - CFC Family Ministry updates
- HELEN - General parish updates
- KIDS - Kids corner updates
- SERIES - Message series updates
- GIVE - Give to Saint Helen
- YASH - Young Adult event updates

Ways To Give

- Online at sainthelen.org/give
- Text GIVE to 908-860-8444
- Venmo @sainthelennj
- Mail your contribution to:
1600 Rahway Avenue
Westfield, NJ 07090

Margaret describes that her relationships with her peers, particularly at Stonehill College, were very formative for her faith. She met her husband Patrick while in grad school at Notre Dame, where she earned her Master of Divinity degree, and together they subsequently moved to Boston where Patrick earned his Ph.D. at Boston College. Margaret has served in a variety of Catholic ministries – at parishes, educational settings, and in the community. Most recently she was a pastoral associate at Church of the Little Flower in Berkeley Heights.

Still, she kept hearing about Saint Helen's vibrant faith community. While on maternity leave, they visited Saint Helen and, like so many others, the Mannings decided that this was a parish they wished to explore further and, eventually, make their home after leaving Little Flower.

There is a holiness to Margaret's ministry and life, as God continues to rain down His extraordinary grace in the ordinary moments,