

## From Our Pastor

We officially embarked on the Jubilee Year of Hope this past weekend. While included as part of all our Sunday liturgies, the 6:00 PM Mass on Sunday, December 29th, celebrated by Bishop Elias, Auxiliary Bishop of Newark and Regional Bishop of Union County, was the official Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year.

The theme of the Jubilee year is "Hope," which Bishop Elias beautifully captured in his homily.

Saint Helen has been honored as being named by the Archbishop as one of the four Pilgrimage Churches of the Jubilee Year here in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Pilgrims of Hope, all of us in the Archdiocese, will be able to make pilgrimage to our Church and participate and receive the special graces of the Jubilee Year.

Please visit our website and review all the information regarding the Jubilee Year and our designation as a Pilgrimage Church of the Jubilee.

As the Jubilee begins, I know you will all extend the warm "Saint Helen" welcome to those pilgrims who will be visiting our church over the next 12 months.

This new year is a time to not only welcome visitors to our parish, but also to open our hearts to all those whom the Lord will bring to us and maybe even those we may have "counted out" of our lives over the past year.

Let us make genuine connections both within and outside our parish and family community. Think about the new relationships we want to and can have with our fellow pilgrims. Let us take special

time during this Jubilee Year to be with each other and the Lord in new and grace filled ways.

I also want to invite all of you to Westfield's 38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Interfaith Commemorative Service.

Organized by the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Association of Westfield and rotating around the different congregations of Westfield, it will be held on Monday, January 20, 2025, at 2:00 PM here at Saint Helen.

The last time it was held here at Saint Helen was many years ago. The traditional march will begin at the MLK Monument at 1:00. After the march, all will gather here at Saint Helen for 2:00 PM. After the Service, there will also be a light reception following the Service. You are all most warmly invited to participate.

How special that it is celebrated here at Saint Helen as the Jubilee Year of Hope begins and as a Pilgrim Church.

We need your help in offering a warm welcome to our guests. More information is available at [MLKWestfield.org](http://MLKWestfield.org)

God Bless You All,  
Msgr. Tom



Thanks for joining us today!



### Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday - Saturday | 9am

### Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday | 5pm


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


\*Livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook

Reconciliation Saturday 4pm

### Follow Us On Social

 /sthelenwestfield

 @sainthelennj

 Parish Community of Saint Helen

 @sainthelennj

 @sainthelennj

### 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: Kids Corner runs 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.

### Next Steps

Want to learn more? Visit [sainthelen.org/more](http://sainthelen.org/more) to learn more about our events and programs!

# What's Happening

## Rome Pilgrimage Breakfast

Sun, Jan 12, 2025 | 9 AM-12 Noon | Gym

Join us for a light breakfast hosted by the 2025 Rome Pilgrimage/Service Trip Team. Bagels, Donuts, coffee, hot chocolate, games, fun for the kids! To learn how you can support this trip please visit [sainthelen.org/youth](http://sainthelen.org/youth)

## Sing N Pray

Music class for children ages 0-4! Experience 45-minute classes that provide an interactive environment for children to worship through singing and instrument play! Saturdays or Wednesdays from 10-11am, beginning January 4th and 8th. Cost is \$30 for the 6-week session. Learn more and sign up at [sainthelen.org/singnpray](http://sainthelen.org/singnpray)

## Everyday Contemplatives

Mondays beginning Jan 6 | 7pm

Everyday Contemplatives gathers weekly to rest in God's love and reflect on our experience of prayer and the wisdom of the contemplative tradition. Learn more at register at [sainthelen.org/contemplatives](http://sainthelen.org/contemplatives)

## Moms' Group

January 7, 2025 | 7:00 PM in the gym

Join us for a meaningful evening of giving back and connecting with one another. We'll be supporting moms at Mercy House by collecting baby essentials such as lotions, shampoo, socks, bibs, wipes, pacifiers, and more. Let's come together to make a difference while enjoying community. RSVP at [sainthelen.org/moms](http://sainthelen.org/moms)

## Middle School Retreat

Sun, January 12, 2025 | 11:45-5:30pm

The retreat is open to grades 5 through 8. We'll start with 12-noon Mass (check in at 11:45), then go from 1 to 5:30 pm. Cost is \$30. The fee covers all food, snacks and supplies for the retreat. Register: [sainthelen.org/youth](http://sainthelen.org/youth).

## CFC Family Ministry

January 10th | 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Join us for dinner, time with other families, playtime for the children, a speaker for the adults, service and prayer! A Registered Nurse will present on toddler behavior and health. Learn more and RSVP at [sainthelen.org/family](http://sainthelen.org/family)

# Mass Intentions

Weekend of January 4/5

5:00pm - Susan & Michael Mitro

8:00am - Frank Elleo

10:00am - Loretta Reif

12:00pm - George & Jean Holliday

6:00pm - Connie Scafidi

Daily Mass Intentions

Jan 6 - John Migneco

Jan 7 - Anthony E. Ferino

Jan 8 - The Intili Family

Jan 9 - People of the Parish

Jan 10 - Eolin Cappicille

Jan 11 - John H. Reed

Weekly Mass Association:

Dennis & Beatrice Rooney

Jerry Barton

Jose Riera

William Yirce

Joseph Ken Keller

Mary Casey

James Cavanaugh

Sanctuary Candle:

Richard J. Mastrangelo

## Saint Helen Voices

Thursday Rehearsals begin January 1/9/25 at 2-

4 PM or 6-8 PM in the Chapel. Connect and

create music to bring through the doors of Saint

Helen to the community around us! Open to all

adults. Learn more at [sainthelen.org/music](http://sainthelen.org/music)

## Walking With Purpose

Starts Jan 16 & 17, 2025

"Living in the Father's Love" a Walking With

Purpose study for women beginning January

16th and 17th! More than 100 women in the

parish participated in the last study. We have a

seat for you! Register at [sainthelen.org/www](http://sainthelen.org/www)

# Stewardship Spotlight

This summer, during the Church's Jubilee Year, a group of Saint Helen youth and adults will journey to Rome and Assisi on a unique pilgrimage that combines deep spiritual formation with hands-on service to those in need.

These young disciples will start each day celebrating Mass near our faith's most sacred spaces—from St. Peter's Basilica to historic churches throughout Rome.

They'll then put their faith into action, serving in local soup kitchens and food pantries alongside other youth from across the United States.

Pope Francis has called this Jubilee the "Year of Hope," and our youth and adults are answering that call. Through this experience, they'll not only explore the roots of our Catholic faith but also live out its teachings by serving those most in need.

You can support our young pilgrims in several ways. Join us next Sunday, January 12, from 9 AM to 12 Noon in the gym for a breakfast fundraiser. Bagels, donuts, coffee, and hot chocolate will be served; and activities for children.

You can also make a direct contribution through our website at [sainthelen.org/youth](http://sainthelen.org/youth) or via the QR code blow:



Most importantly, please keep our youth and adults in your prayers as they prepare for this transformative journey of faith and service.

# 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
- GIVE - Give to Saint Helen
- YASH - Young Adult event updates

# Ways to Give

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

# Save The Date

- The Cameos return Saturday, February 15th at 6:00pm. Tickets on sale Monday, January 6 at 10:30am.
- Sophomore “Over-Night” Retreat: Saturday, February 22-Sunday, Sunday 23, 2025
- The service auction will return on Saturday, March 1, 2025 at 6:00pm.
- Sister Pats Kids Camp is turning 40! Celebrate on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 6:30pm at Shackamaxon Country Club in Scotch Plains.
- Vacation Bible School
  - New Family Experience Sunday, June 29th - Wednesday, July 2nd from 5-8pm. Bring the whole family!
  - Summer Camp Experience: Monday, July 7th - Friday, July 11th from 9am-12pm. Ages 4 - 5th Graders