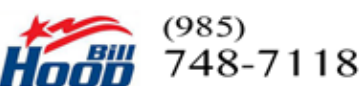
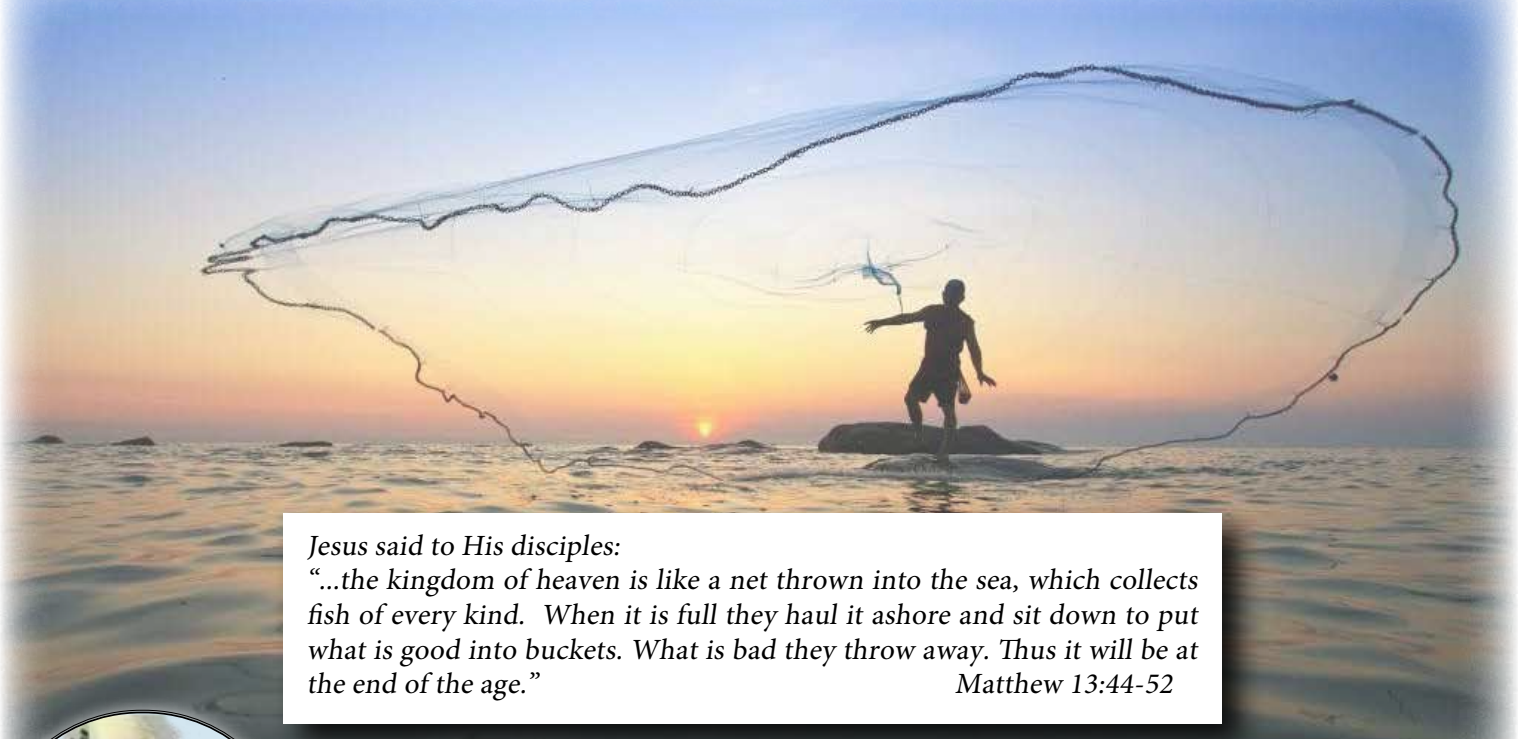


|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <div>Mark Campo<br/>Vice President.....<br/>Mobile (985) 969.2760<br/>mcampo@sbscopiers.com<br/>202 Market St.<br/>Hammond, LA 70401<br/>(985) 345.9515<br/>1800 W. Causeway Appr.<br/>Ste. 108, Mandeville, LA<br/>70471<br/>(985) 626.1103</div> <div><br/><b>Canon</b></div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <div><br/><b>Cory B. Blunk</b><br/>ATTORNEY AT LAW<br/>(985) 247-7500<br/>blunklaw@gmail.com<br/>P.O. Box 277<br/>100 East Oak Street<br/>Amite, LA 70422</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <div><br/><b>Currier</b><br/>Dental Studio<br/>Megan H. Currier, DDS<br/>985-345-1180<br/>908 W. Morris Ave.<br/>Hammond, LA 70403</div>                                                                                                                                                               | <div><br/><b>TheFirst</b><br/>Just the Bank for You!<br/>www.TheFirstBank.com</div>                                      |
| <div><b>GEORGE'S HOME APPLIANCE SERVICE</b><br/>(985) 878-3316<br/>SERVICE FOR MOST BRANDS</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <div><b>This space available.</b><br/>Contact St. Helena Catholic Church<br/>985-748-9057</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <div><br/>(985) 748-7118<br/><b>Everything Automotive</b><br/>Under One Hood.<br/><br/>www.hoodautomotiveamite.com</div>                                                                                             | <div><br/><b>Mike's Catfish Inn</b><br/>1009 West Oak • Amite, Louisiana<br/><b>985-748-5126</b><br/>CLOSED MONDAY</div> |
| <div><br/><b>Malnar Electric</b><br/>NOW HIRING<br/>985-878-3970</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <div><b>HOMETOWN FARM &amp; GARDEN</b><br/><br/>301 NW Central Ave<br/>748-9347 748-7106<br/>Selling Lumber &amp; Propane<br/>OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <div><br/><b>Faust Farms</b><br/>Amite, Louisiana</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <div><br/><b>EDWARDS &amp; STEVENS</b><br/>LAW FIRM<br/>Bradley A. Stevens<br/>Attorney at Law<br/>(985) 747-1088</div>  |
| <div><br/><b>McKneely</b><br/>Funeral Home<br/>Amite &amp; Kentwood<br/>748-7178, 229-5111<br/>www.mckneelys.com</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <div><br/>FRANK LOPINTO<br/>Cell (985) 969-4212<br/>Bus. (985) 748-8636<br/>Fax (985) 748-9054<br/><b>AMITE LIVESTOCK SALES, INC.</b><br/>P.O. Box 219, Amite, Louisiana 70422<br/>website: amitelivestocksales.com<br/>Livestock Sales Every Tuesday @ 11:30am &amp; 1st Saturday @ 12:30pm<br/>Private Sales Every Day<br/>JONATHAN LOPINTO<br/>Cell (985) 969-4230<br/>ED LOPINTO<br/>Cell (985) 517-5919</div> | <div><br/><b>women's life ministries</b><br/>Pregnancy Center<br/>Teresa Ragusa - CEO<br/>109 E. Mulberry St. Amite, La. 70422<br/>Tel: 985-747-0602 / Fax: 985-747-0308<br/>Email: womenslifeministries@yahoo.com</div>                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <div><b>Jim's Paint, Body &amp; Glass, LLC</b><br/>We Now Do Inspection Stickers &amp; Windshields<br/>We accept all Insurance<br/>55461 E. Durbin Rd.,<br/>Independence, LA<br/>Ph: 985-878-2329 or 985-969-5916<br/>Fax: 985-878-4420</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <div><br/><b>THE VENUES</b><br/>by Elizabeth Buzza<br/>THE BERRY BARN   THE GREENERY   WEDDINGS &amp; EVENTS</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <div><br/><b>PRECISION</b><br/>LEVELING, LLC</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <div><br/><b>Faith guides your life,<br/>why not your financial<br/>decisions?</b><br/>For over 140 years, the Knights of Columbus<br/>has been committed to helping families plan<br/>their financial future and achieve economic<br/>security, a tradition carried on today through<br/>its insurance products.<br/><b>Book a complimentary financial<br/>needs analysis today.</b><br/>David Barnes<br/>Assistant General<br/>Agent<br/>985-517-7881<br/>david.barnes@kofc.org<br/>No purchase necessary.<br/>1 Columbus Plaza, New Haven, CT 06510</div> | <div><b>B.B. Construction, LLC</b><br/>Commercial and Residential Metal Buildings<br/><br/>Blaine S. Bourgeois<br/>Owner<br/>14513 Milbar Road<br/>Kennerwood, Louisiana 70444<br/>Cell: 985-969-8274<br/>Office: 985-229-1254<br/>Fax: 985-229-3333<br/>bbconstructionllc@att.net</div>                                                                                                                        | <div><br/><b>Thrift-Town Health Mart</b><br/>PHARMACY<br/><br/>Ray Glasgow, R.Ph.<br/>985-748-8191 • 1-800-598-9501<br/>www.thrifttownrx.com<br/>512 N. 2nd St. • Amite, LA 70422 • ray@thrifttownrx.com</div> |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <div><b>This space available.</b><br/>Contact St. Helena Catholic Church<br/>985-748-9057</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <div><br/><b>Pink Agave</b><br/>122 W. Oak Street, Amite, LA 70422-2716<br/>St. Helena Catholic Church<br/>Knights of Columbus, Council 10911<br/><br/>For Membership information<br/>call 225-324-5784</div>                                                                                                               | <div><b>JEFF &amp; ARLENE ALSTON</b><br/>15003 TONEY ROAD<br/>INDEPENDENCE, LA 70443<br/>Phone: 985-969-3323<br/>985-969-3328<br/>jalston520@gmail.com<br/>Arlenealston26@gmail.com</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <div><br/><b>Full of Grace, Inc.</b><br/>fullofgraceorg.com<br/>St. Joseph Pavillion<br/>St. John Vianney Villa - Priest Retirement Home</div>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • JULY 26, 2026



Jesus said to His disciples:  
“...the kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age.”  
Matthew 13:44-52



# The Church Bulletin

Serving the communities of St. Helena Catholic Church,  
Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church and St. Dominic Catholic Church

The Office is located at 122 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street Amite, LA 70422  
**Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 3:00pm, Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm**

• STAFF •

Pastor, Rev. Reuben Dykes  
Parochial Vicar, Rev. Emilio Gomez  
Deacon, Eddie Renz Jr.  
Retired Deacon, Nat Garofalo  
Retired Deacon, Stephen Ourso  
Office Administrator, Laura Faust  
Administrative Assistant, Shana Bender  
Reception, Susan Higgins  
MD Sacramental Coordinator, Joyce Paille  
SHCC Sacramental Coordinator, Trudy Currier  
DRE, Brogan Webb  
Assistant DRE/Youth, Brooke Danna  
Music Director MD, Tony Anzalone  
Music Director SHCC, Danny Keen

• MASS SCHEDULE •

Mater Dolorosa  
Wednesday - Friday 8:00am  
Monday, Tuesday No Mass  
Saturday Vigil 4:00pm  
Sunday 11:00am  
1st Saturday Mass 8:00am  
St. Dominic  
Tuesday 6:00pm  
Sunday 8:15am  
St. Helena  
Monday, Wednesday - Friday 7:30am  
Tuesday No Mass  
Saturday 4:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am  
Sunday Spanish 12:30pm  
First Saturday Mass 9:00am in Spanish

• CONFESSION SCHEDULE •

Mater Dolorosa  
Wednesday- Friday 7:00-7:45am  
1st Saturday 7:00-7:45am  
Saturday 3:00-3:45pm  
St. Dominic  
Tuesday 5:00-5:45pm  
Sunday 7:00-7:45am  
St. Helena  
Monday, Wednesday - Friday 7:00am  
Wednesday 5:00pm  
Saturday 3:00-3:45pm  
Sunday 8:00-8:45am

• FOLLOW US ON •

**SOCIAL MEDIA**  
sainthelenacatholicchurch  
materdolorosacatholicparish  
Website <https://sth-mdc.org>

• PHONE •

St. Helena 985-748-9057  
Mater Dolorosa 985-878-9639  
Mater Dolorosa School 985-878-4295

• PHONE •

Welcome To Our Growing Parish Communities!

St. Helena (SHCC)

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 28, 2026

7:30am +Savina Campo

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

7:30am +Tommy Bellavia

Thursday, July 30, 2026

7:30am +Hank Schumacher

Friday, July 31, 2026

7:30am +Jacob Gifford

Saturday, August 1, 2026

4:00pm +Father Mark Beard, +Harold & Flo Beard, +Father Howard Adkins, +Ray Smith, +Ronnie Noble, +Jet Keen, +Betty Pousson, +Joan Scarle, +Gayle Currier, +Dwayne Ardeneaux, +Savina & +Steve Campo, +Woodrow Ford Jr., + Clark Colgan, +Paul Walther, +Jacob Gifford, +Louis Blanchard, +Charles Currier, +John Campo Sr., +Thomas Bellavia, +Harrell Griffin, +Douglas Barman, +David Paul Delaune, +Michael Henry, +Bill Higgins, Conversion of Sinners, Nancy Barman, Theresa & Mike DeLatte, Henry & Juanita McCabe

Sunday, August 2, 2026

9:00am +Father Mark Beard, +Harold & Flo Beard, +Father Howard Adkins, +Ashlee Travis, +Charles Currier, +Louis Blanchard, +Frances Jones, +John Campo Sr., +Joan Scarle, +Savina Campo, +Dwayne Ardeneaux, +Beverly Esteven, +Jacob Gifford, +Tommy Bellavia, +Gayle Currier, +Alice Perez, +Loretta Genco, +John & +Rose Pitkethly, +David Paul Delaune, +Michael Henry, +Bill Higgins, Conversion of Sinners, +Souls in Purgatory, Julian Bourg

Sunday, August 2, 2026

12:30pm The People of the Parish

JULY 26, 2026

17<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called."

Are you being called to help feed the people of God as a priest or religious brother or sister?

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225-336-8778 or via email: [ablount@diobr.org](mailto:ablount@diobr.org)

Please remember to pray for all the sick who could not worship today because of illness, especially .....



Gail Keller, Lindsey Booty, Eric Tarver, Kenneth Hill, Connor Corkern, Frances Currier, Jay Ardillo, Brian Rueb, Karen Schumacher, Mac Perkins Sr., Angela Perkins, Jacqie Sticker, Ramona Kaul, Juanita Dugar, Catherine Calamari, Cameron Tarver, Rosalina Rotolo, Paul Kluka, Mitchell Warren, Rayford Conerly, Jerry Aucoin, Suzanne Bridgewater, Henry McCabe, Imelda & Kenneth Travis, Josephine Capdeboscq, Hurless Clouatre, Tracy Brumfield, John Brumfield, Susan Brumfield, Chris Burden, Susan Reid, Matt Smith, Rickey Robertson, Madonna Liuzza, Lance Joiner, Owen Clotiaux, Danny Vicknair

Mater Dolorosa (MD) St. Dominic (SD)

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

SD 6:00pm +Rodney Firhmann & Charles Baglio Jr.

Wednesday, July 29, 2026

MD 8:00am +Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, July 30, 2026

MD 8:00am Special Intention

Friday, July 31, 2026

MD 8:00am JoAnn Zeringue & Family

Saturday, August 1, 2026

MD 4:00pm Tommy Sharp, +Jason Baglio, +Vincent Calcagno Sr., +Dale Brouillette, +Brandon Duncan, +Anthony Laciura, Jeffrey Sensency, +Sam & Phine Guzzardo, +Mickey Guzzardo, +Diane Crowe, +Chris Paille, +Loretta Genco

Sunday, August 2, 2026

SD 8:15am +Beth Boudreaux, +Bob Drude, +Cherish Phipps, +Gilbert Boudeaux Sr., Taix Family, Geaude Family, Douglas Crayton, Seerie, Sandy Husser, Baglio Family

Sunday, August 2, 2026

MD 11:00am The People of the Parish

Heavenly Father, creator of mankind, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask You to bless all members of our Armed Forces. Please be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. We ask this in Your Holy Name. Amen.



George Van Zandt, Larry Toups, Peter Vangiel, James Hoover, Dennis Toups, William Graham, Vince Owen, Brandon Thompson, Jerry Dyer, Jamie Cutrer, Eric Russell, James Sylvester, Mark Prine, Nic Edwards, Jake Cristina, Scott Swilley, Angie Swilley, Chris Brunet, Jacob Rankin, James Michael Dupuis, Daniel Mays, Jim Bravis Redmond Jr., Daniel Santora, Jerry Simmons, Wesley Corkern, Lucas Edward Thigpen, John Accord, Maxwell Conger, Kyle Joseph Rosalies, Jordon Quinn, Adrian Gonzalez Moreno, Sgt. Matthew Vallot, Lt. Molly Fekete, Wesley Corkern, Jacob Frazier, Braeden Hallmark, Andrew Zaffuto, Blake Blades, Aivah Noble, Jared Guidry, Dillon Guidry, Jonah Brumfield, Joshua Aikman, Braxton Greenlee



Greetings Parishioners,

As we continue preparing for another school year, we are excited to share that our faculty is now fully staffed with dedicated, faith-filled educators who are committed to forming the hearts, minds, and souls of our students.

At Mater Dolorosa Catholic School, our mission is to form students in Jesus Christ, instill strong leadership qualities, and promote academic growth and excellence. Every aspect of school life reflects this mission as we partner with parents in the sacred work of educating the whole child.

A Catholic education is about much more than academics. It teaches children that they are loved by God, created with purpose, and called to live lives of faith, service, integrity, and compassion. These values prepare our students not only for future success but also to become faithful disciples and servant leaders within our families, parishes, and communities.

Enrollment for the 2026-2027 school year continues, and we are thankful for the many new families who share our mission and are joining our school community. We still have limited openings in select grade levels, but those spaces are filling quickly. We invite you to schedule a personal tour and experience the difference for yourself.

Thank you to our parish families, alumni, volunteers, and benefactors for your continued prayers and support. Together, we are building a community where Christ is at the center of all we do.

As St. Elizabeth Ann Seton beautifully said, "Be children of the Church." May God continue to bless our school, our parishes, and all the families we are privileged to serve.

In Christ,  
Melissa Capadona, Principal, Mater Dolorosa Catholic School

Wilson's

Heating & Cooling

Certified Maintenance & Repair

Wyatt Wilson (985)286-3392 [wilsonsheatandcooling@gmail.com](mailto:wilsonsheatandcooling@gmail.com)

Drive-In DRUG STORE

228 South First Street • Amite, Louisiana 70422  
Phone: (985) 748-8307 • Fax # (985) 748-3089  
[driveinrx@gmail.com](mailto:driveinrx@gmail.com)

FERRIS • HUSTLER • MARUYAMA • Stihl

EASTSIDE GARAGE INC.

Outdoor Power Equipment Sales & Service

Website: [eastsidegarageinc.com](http://eastsidegarageinc.com)

RHETT WALLACE LONDON WALLACE III EAST CHESTNUT STREET AMITE, LOUISIANA 70422

Wilson & Son's Garage

985-320-6959

Harry McKneely & Son

FUNERAL HOMES & CREMATORY

Hammond & Ponchatoula

[www.harrymckneely.com](http://www.harrymckneely.com)

(985) 345-5804

2000 N. MORRISON HAMMOND, LA 70401

Lance Vicknair, OWNER

THE BOSTON

RESTAURANT

St. Vincent de Paul

Call 985-747-2223 for assistance.

Smitty's

SUPPLY, INC.

ROSELAND, LA 985.748.9687

St. Helena Catholic Church

Catholic Daughters of America

Court #2536

Meetings held every 2nd Monday of the Month.

piggly wiggly

INDEPENDENCE LOCATION

345 W. Railroad

985-878-4306

7:00am-9:00pm 7 days of week

PAUL'S PHARMACY

985-878-4401

8:00am-6:00pm Monday-Friday

8:00am-2:00pm Saturday

SAVE BIG AT THE PIG!

Big Sam's

CAR CARE

985-748-8532

204 W. Palmetto St., Amite, LA 70422

This space available.

Contact St. Helena Catholic Church

985-748-9057

Diocese of Baton Rouge, 10th Annual  
CONVOCAION  
CELEBRATING CATECHISTS

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor"*  
Luke 4:18

Saturday, August 22, 2026

\* 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Baton Rouge



Retired Archbishop  
Alfred Clifton Hughes  
Archdiocese of New Orleans



Bishop Michael G. Duca  
Diocese of Baton Rouge



Fr. Joshua Johnson  
Propaedeutic House Director  
Office of Vocations & Seminarian



SCAN OR  
CLICK HERE  
TO REGISTER  
[diobr.org/convocation](http://diobr.org/convocation)



\* Doors Open at 7:30AM

Scan to register today!  
Medjugorje  
Pilgrimage 2027  
June 2 - 11, 2027  
Father Reuben will be leading parishioners of St Helena, Mater Dolorosa, and St Dominic on our 2027 Pilgrimage to Medjugorje and Dubrovnik.  
Pricing is Land Only. Flight booked individually closer to travel time. Non-refundable \$500 per person deposit due at registration.  
Questions? Email Sandy Barnes at [sandy.barnes@3dtravelcompany.com](mailto:sandy.barnes@3dtravelcompany.com)



[www.2026tours.com/frreuben](http://www.2026tours.com/frreuben)  
Password: Francis206

Baptism Seminars

If you are in need of a Baptism Seminar, please call the Church Office (985) 748-9057 to register.



The Seminar dates are:  
Monday, August 24, 2026 - 6:00pm at Mater Dolorosa

Ministries

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETINGS AT ST. HELENA

Every Monday in classroom 203 at 5pm. We are open to all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving their neighbor.

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. HELENA

In classroom 101 after 7:30am Mass. All are welcome to attend the Bible Study.

MATER DOLOROSA ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS

Will be held on the second Thursday of the month at 5:30pm at Mater Dolorosa Church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETINGS

- Amite Knights of Columbus #10911 meets the first Tuesday of the month in classroom 101. Rosary 6pm, meeting 6:30pm.
- Independence Knights of Columbus #5627 meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6pm in the KC Hall.
- Visit our Facebook page at [Knights of Columbus St. Helena Council No 10911](#)

ST. HELENA CDA MEETINGS

Have you thought about becoming a Catholic Daughter? Please join us at 5:30pm in classroom 101 every second Monday.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Mater Dolorosa Collections

7/19/2026

\$ 6,340.00

Poor Relief

\$ 756.00

The second collection at Mater Dolorosa NEXT weekend (8/2) is for Facilities & Maintenance.

St. Helena Collections

7/19/2026

\$ 9,541.87

Poor Relief

\$ 2,783.00

Mission Appeal- Uganda

\$ 200.00

The second collection at St. Helena NEXT weekend (8/2) is for Facilities & Maintenance.



TRUE DISCIPLE GIFT SHOP

Located on the St. Helena Campus

Monday-Saturday 8am-3pm, Sundays after 9am Mass

1-504-615-5478



THIS SUNDAY, July 26<sup>th</sup> in memory of  
Fr. Mark's 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday!!

Come celebrate with us at the Gift Shop after 9am Mass  
and get a free Diet Coke & bag of Peanut M&M's.

This Week's Readings

MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026

Jeremiah 13:1-11; Deuteronomy 32; Matthew 13:31-35

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

Jeremiah 14:17-22; Psalm 79; Matthew 13:36-43

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2026

Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; Psalm 59; John 11:19-27

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2026

Jeremiah 18:1-6; Psalm 146; Matthew 13:47-53

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2026

Jeremiah 26:1-9; Psalm 69; Matthew 13:54-58

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2026

Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Psalm 69; Matthew 14:1-12

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026

Isaiah 55:1-3; Psalm 145; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

Ministers Schedule for August 1-2, 2026

St. Helena

| MASS       | DEACON | LECTORS                  | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS                            | ALTAR SERVERS                     | SACRISTANS |
|------------|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 8/1 4:00pm |        | J. Redmond, R. Snyder    | J. Williams, R. Mitchell, V. Pritchett, T. Durnin | C. Thompson, H. Bishop, R. Menard | C. Hayden  |
| 8/2 9:00am |        | M. Giardina, G. Giardina | L. Langston, S. Ware, G. Kellem, B. Donahue       | A. Vosbein, O. Spitale, TBA, TBA  | T. Hymel   |

Mater Dolorosa • St. Dominic

| MASS        | DEACON     | LECTORS    | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS | ALTAR SERVERS                         | SACRISTANS |
|-------------|------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 8/1 4:00pm  | Dcn. Eddie | D. Varisco |                        | V. Greenfield, G. Finch               |            |
| 8/2 8:15am  | Dcn. Eddie | B. Flynn   | C. Hamilton, L. Dunn   | L. Boudreaux, J.M. Boudreaux          |            |
| 8/2 11:00am | Dcn. Eddie | G. Durham  | E. Mendez, Ja Costa    | J. Messina, B. Franicevic, G. Dufrene |            |

FOCUS ON FASTING

JULY INTENTIONS

- As we celebrate our nations 250th year, that we never take for granted the freedoms we have and of Gods great love and mercy that He pours out upon us daily.
- For constancy and dedication in our prayer life to enrich our faith, hope, and love.
- For an increase in priestly vocations.
- For the hastening of the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
- For the Grace of the New Pentecost to be poured out upon our parish communities.



PRO LIFE



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated regularly throughout the year. Expectant parents should contact the Parish Office for information concerning Pre-Baptismal Preparation.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY (WEDDINGS/CONVALIDATIONS)

Contact the Parish priest at least six (6) Months in advance from the date desired.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please notify the Parish Office if a family member is ill, homebound or hospitalized.

ENCOUNTER  
THE PRESENCE OF JESUS



3rd Thursday of each month  
Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church

5:30pm-7:00pm

Join us: August 20<sup>th</sup>, September 17<sup>th</sup>, October 15<sup>th</sup>



**HOLY FACE DEVOTION**  
at St. Helena Catholic Church  
Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> • 6:00pm



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
**This weekend after the Masses**, you will see an easel at the back of the Church. On the easel are the names of the children that received school uniforms this week. If you would like to give a donation to help this worthy cause... place your donation in one of the envelopes provided and mail or drop in collection. Thank you for your help.



**SEMINARIAN APPRECIATION PARTY**  
We have enjoyed getting to know Riley Menard this summer. Let's celebrate and send him off for his second year in Seminary.  
**FRIDAY, JULY 31<sup>st</sup> • 6PM**  
Stop by St. Helena Catholic Church Hall and wish him well!

**FIRST SATURDAY MASS**  
**AUGUST 1, 2026**  
Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church in Independence  
7am Confession • 8am Mass  
  
St. Helena Catholic Church in Amite  
8am Confession • 8:30am Rosary • 9am Spanish Mass

**IN LOVING MEMORY**  
*Father Mark Beard*  
7/26/61 - 8/2/23  
*After 9am Mass Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>*  
  
Join us at St. Helena to pray a Rosary under Mary's Pavillion for Father Mark Beard.



**Jesus the Way; Jesus the Truth; Jesus the Life...**

Welcome back to another edition of *Jesus the Way; Jesus the Truth; Jesus the Life*. As a reminder, these articles are a deep dive into a particular part of the Sunday readings meant to help you pray with Sacred Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ.

What were we made for? Sometimes our difficulties in life can make us think that God is against us; our prayers for relief from burdens are not being answered and it seems like all hope is lost. Some of us even question if God created us knowing that some would reject His grace of eternal salvation. What, then, is God's plan for me?

While the answer to this is a mystery that has not fully been revealed, some questions can be answered through a study of predestination in what Paul writes to the Romans. The Greek word used here is *proorizó* which means to “determine before” (Strong’s Concordance). Many of our non-Catholic brothers and sisters would use this definition to prove that God does indeed create humans knowing and ordaining that some will enter into His heavenly kingdom while some would be created to spend eternity in hell. This, however, is not true. In fact, Paul’s next words in Romans say quite the opposite. Paul writes that *those [God] foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son* (Romans 8:29). The purpose that God creates us is to be conformed to His Son and spend eternity with Him. While the Catholic Church teaches that hell is real and that hell is occupied, God does not predestine, or create, souls specifically for hell.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church, quoting St. Athanasius, specifies “...the Son of God became man so that we might become God” (CCC 460). God has ordained that every soul be created with the capacity to be conformed to Christ; it is in your power to choose to be conformed.

So, how do we become conformed to Christ? The answer to this lies in the study of Jesus in the gospels and participation in His Church (mainly, prayer and the reception of the Sacraments). The best way to begin conformity to Christ is to learn what He did. How did He respond when He was being falsely accused? How did He care for the poor? How did He pray? What was His relationship with God the Father like? These are all questions that help us learn to be like Christ, an *alter Christus*.



**EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS**  
"THE CHURCH EXISTS TO EVANGELIZE." POPE SAINT PAUL VI

**WHAT WILL PSR LOOK LIKE?!**  
**CHECK IT OUT!!**  
**DROP OFF SCHEDULE:**

- k-6th graders are dropped off in classrooms by 5pm
- 7-9th graders are dropped off in Hall by 5pm

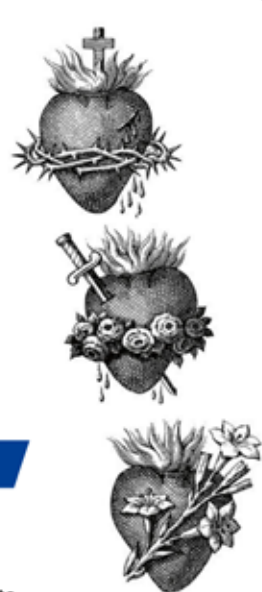
**DINNER SCHEDULE:**

- 5-5:30pm all 7-10th graders and parents eat in Hall (parents will drop students off in the Hall, stay for brief meeting)
- 5:30-6pm all 1st-3rd graders and parents invited to eat in the Hall
- 6-6:30pm all 4-6th graders and parents are invited to eat in the hall
- After dinner students will return to class until 7pm
- Kindergarten eats in their classroom at 5:30, parents can not join

**WHERE SHOULD PARENTS BE?**

- Parents are not required to stay
- Parents are invited to eat with their students at the designated times
- During the rest of PSR all parents are encouraged to shop at the gift shop, go to the coffee shop, pray in the Church, or walk our gardens.

Call the office for more information - (985) 748-9057





**YOUTH NIGHTS**  
**JR. HIGH SCHOOL • GRADES 5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> • 5pm-7pm**  
July 26<sup>th</sup> Jr. High Night at St. Helena  
August 9<sup>th</sup> Jr. High Night at St. Helena  
  
**HIGH SCHOOL • GRADES 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> • 5pm-7pm**  
August 2<sup>nd</sup> High School Night at St. Dominic  
August 16<sup>th</sup> High School Night at St. Helena  
  
If you would like to join Remind, text 81010.  
To provide a meal for the Youth, contact Brooke at 985-474-9281.

**OCIA**  
**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**  
Do you know someone who wants to learn more about our Catholic Faith? If so, encourage them to call the Church Office and register for the OCIA Inquiry Sessions. CLASSES WILL BEGIN IN AUGUST



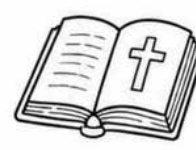
**THE MASS DETECTIVE**

**FIND THESE CLUES DURING MASS:**

☐ 1. What color was Father's vestment?  
\_\_\_\_\_



☐ 2. What Gospel was read?  
\_\_\_\_\_



☐ 3. How many times did we kneel?  
\_\_\_\_\_



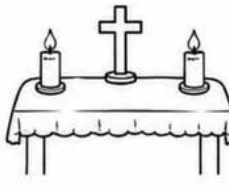
☐ 4. How many times did we stand?  
\_\_\_\_\_



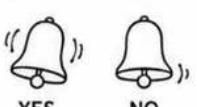
☐ 5. How many people did you wave to (or waved to you) during the Sign of Peace?  
\_\_\_\_\_



☐ 6. How many candles were on the altar?  
\_\_\_\_\_



☐ 7. Did you hear the bells during Mass?  
YES NO



☐ 8. What prayer did everyone pray before Communion?  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

