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23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

“For where two or three are gathered
together in My name,
there am I in the midst of them.”
Matthew 18:15-20

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 1st 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
Music Director Spanish, Francisco Picado
Music Director Spanish, Jessling Picado
Music Director Spanish, Casimiro Villa

• PHONE •

Office 985-748-9057 ~ 985-878-9639
Mater Dolorosa School 985-878-4295

• 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>



Welcome To Our Growing Parish Communities!

St. Helena (SHCC) Mass Intentions	Mater Dolorosa (MD) St. Dominic (SD) Mass Intentions
Monday, September 7, 2026 7:30am +John Campo Sr. Wednesday, September 9, 2026 7:30am +Sonny Campo Thursday, September 10, 2026 7:30am +Jacob Gifford Friday, September 11, 2026 7:30am +Joan Scarle Saturday, September 12, 2026 4:00pm +Father Mark Beard, +Harold & Flo Beard, +Father Howard Adkins, +Joan Scarle, +Dr. Derris Ray, +Dwayne Ardeneaux, +Jacob Gifford, +Douglas Barman, +Betty Pousson, +Savina & +Steve Campo, +Louis Blanchard, +Charles Currier, +Gayle Currier, +John Campo Sr., +Thomas Bellavia, +Hank Schumacher, +Edith Cuter, +Patrick Falcone, +Clark Colgan, +Paul Kluka, +David Paul Delaune, +Michael Henry, +Bill Higgins, Conversion of Sinners, Nancy Barman, Melissa Gray Sunday, September 13, 2026 9:00am +Father Mark Beard, +Harold & Flo Beard, +Father Howard Adkins, +Clay Reagan, +Ashlee Travis, +Harrell Griffin, +Charles Currier, +Louis Blanchard, +John Campo Sr., +Joan Scarle, +Savina Campo, +Dwayne Ardeneaux, +Tommy Bellavia, +Gayle Currier, +Alice Perez, +Frances Jones, +Paul Kluka, +Maria Angel Pineda, +Catherine Campo Adomities, +David Paul Delaune, +Michael Henry, +Bill Higgins, +Souls In Purgatory, Melissa Gray Sunday, September 13, 2026 12:30pm The People of the Parish	Tuesday, September 8, 2026 SD 6:00pm +Hank Schumacher Wednesday, September 9, 2026 MD 8:00am +Rose Liuzza Thursday, September 10, 2026 MD 8:00am Special Intention Friday, September 11, 2026 MD 8:00am The People of the Parish Saturday, September 12, 2026 MD 4:00pm +Hailey Anzalone, +Tom, Louise, Sam & Vince Garafola, +Tony, Viola & Neno Domiano, +Chris Paille, +Katie & Charlie Varisco, Sr., Tommy Sharp, +Jason Baglio, +Vincent Calcagno, Sr., +Loretta Genco, +Sal Perise, Cindy Price, +Dennis & Fain Moulard, +Keith Larussa Sunday, September 13, 2026 SD 8:15am Larry & Patty Dunn, Ethan & Sierra Dunn, Michael Baker, Edwin Neill, +Cherie Culbreath, Jimmy Husser, Leo & Darlene Talamo Sunday, September 13, 2026 MD 11:00am The People of the Parish
Please remember to pray for all the sick who could not worship today because of illness, especially  Rayford Conerly, 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, Granger Family, George Ann Smith, Virginia Guzzardo, Margie Lacaro, Gail Keller, Lindsey Booty, Eric Tarver, Kenneth Hill, Connor Corkern, Frances Currier, Jay Ardillo, Brian Rueb, Karen Schumacher, Mac Perkins Sr., Pat Bender, Brenda Perret, Kurt Mashon, Cathy Phillips, Charlotte Gill, Pam Elder, Juliette Luper, Erma Clark, John Pritchett, Ramona Kaul, Juanita Dugar, Catherine Calamari, Doris Wright, George Van Zandt, Bob Kahle, Frank & Fannie Guzzardo, Tammy Gee	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 SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME “He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.” If you feel Christ encouraging you to be a transformative instrument 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 Cover Image: private owned



Greetings, Parishioners,

What a blessing it has been to welcome our Eagles back to Mater Dolorosa Catholic School for the 2026–2027 school year! Our classrooms are once again filled with the excitement of students learning, growing in faith, and discovering the gifts God has given them.

This year, we embrace the theme “**Created with a Purpose. Called to Lead. Sent to Serve.**” inspired by Ephesians 2:10: “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works.” This message beautifully reflects our mission to **form students in Jesus Christ, instill strong leadership qualities, and promote academic growth and excellence.**

We extend our **deepest gratitude to the parishioners who generously provided tuition assistance to families in our school community.** Your generosity has made it possible for children to continue receiving a Catholic education at Mater Dolorosa. Your gift is more than financial assistance—it is an investment in a child’s faith, education, and future and a beautiful example of being **called to lead and sent to serve.**

Thank you to our entire parish family for your continued prayers and support of our school ministry. Please keep our students, families, faculty, and staff in your prayers as we begin this new school year.

Created with a Purpose. Called to Lead. Sent to Serve.

Blessings,
Melissa Capadona, Principal
Mater Dolorosa Catholic School



Wyatt Wilson (985)286-3392
wilsonsheatandcooling@gmail.com



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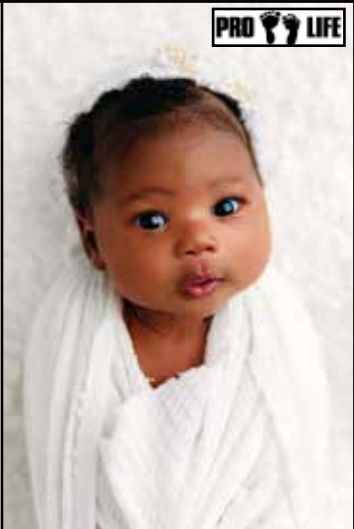
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TWO HEARTS
WOMEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
All women are invited to come together for
Breakfast, Fellowship & Prayer.

Saturday, October 3, 2026
9am-12pm
KC Hall, Independence, LA
Guest Speaker: Jennifer Prather

Limited seating available.
Please make reservations before September 26th

Please call or text Carol at 985-320-0051
or email to
womensprayerbreakfast24@gmail.com
Please call if cancelling your reservations.



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OCTOBER
24
2026

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Together, we build more than a school...
WE BUILD FAITH, LEADERS & FUTURES.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Mater Dolorosa Collections	8/30/2026	\$12,960.20
Poor Relief		\$ 612.00

The second collection at MD NEXT weekend (9/13) is for Mater Dolorosa School.

St. Helena Collections	8/30/2026	\$ 6,768.00
Poor Relief		\$ 1,736.00

The second collection at SHCC NEXT weekend (9/13) is for Facilities & Maintenance.

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Monday, September 7th

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September 4th-September 7th

This Week's Readings

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026
1 Corinthians 5:1-8; Psalm 5; Luke 6:6-11

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2026
Micah 5:1-4a; Psalm 13; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026
1 Corinthians 7:25-31; Psalm 45; Luke 6:20-26

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026
1 Corinthians 8:1b-7, 11-13; Psalm 139; Luke 6:27-38

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026
1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22b-27; Psalm 84; Luke 6:39-42

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
1 Corinthians 10:14-22; Psalm 116; Luke 6:43-49

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
Sirach 27:30-28:7; Psalm 103; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

MINISTERS SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2026					
Church	St. Helena	St. Helena	Mater Dolorosa	St. Dominic	Mater Dolorosa
Date Time	9/5/2026 4:00pm	9/6/2026 9:00am	9/12/2026 4:00pm	9/13/2026 8:15am	9/13/2026 11:00am
Deacon			Deacon Eddie	Deacon Eddie	Deacon Steve
Lectors	D. Lanier D. Murphy	B. Glasgow A. Toups	B. Thiel	J. Robertson	G. Durham
Eucharistic Ministers	T. Durnin R. LaBarbera V. Pritchett B. Donahue	C. Glasgow L. Langston T. Currier R. Currier		J. Morel K. Tassin	C. Coslan M. Vicknair
Sacristans	T. Nelson	T. Hymel			
Altar Servers	N. LaBarbera H. Bishop	A. Vosbein N. Dees O. Spitale	V. Greenfield G. Finch	J.M. Boudreaux L. Boudreaux	J. Messina L. Radford G. Dufrene

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.

FOCUS ON FASTING

SEPTEMBER INTENTIONS

~To find the depths and riches of Christ love within and to be transformed by His love.
~To be in total communion with Christ as we carry our cross.
~To pray for our young boys that they may be open to hear Gods calling to the Priesthood.
~For the Hastening of the Triumph of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
~For the New Pentecost to engulf our nation.

ENCOUNTER
THE PRESENCE OF JESUS

3rd Thursday of each month
Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church
5:30pm-7:00pm

Join us: September 17th, October 15th, November 19th, December 17th

OFFICE CLOSED

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2026

We will be closed in observance of Labor Day.

JOHN PAUL II RELIC TOUR

with the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary

7:30AM-11:00AM

MASS FOLLOWED BY VENERATION

St Helena Catholic Church
122 South 1st street Amite LA, 70422

5:30PM

VENERATION AND PRAYER

Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church
620 3rd St, Independence, LA 70443



September 17th, 2026

Mater Dolorosa Catholic School

DAD'S CLUB

Spaghetti Lunch

All donations go toward the purchase of a New Floor Scrubbing Machine.

 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, 2026

Pick-up at Mater Dolorosa Catholic School

10am-2pm



Help keep the Eagles soaring for the next 100 years

Donation: \$14.00

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th

We will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows at Mater Dolorosa.

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

"THE CHURCH EXISTS TO EVANGELIZE." POPE SAINT PAUL VI

YOUTH NIGHTS

JR. HIGH SCHOOL • GRADES 5th - 8th • 5pm-7pm

September 6th Jr. High Night at St. Helena

September 20th Jr. High Night at St. Helena

HIGH SCHOOL • GRADES 8th - 12th • 5pm-7pm

September 13th High School Night at St. Helena

September 27th High School Night at St. Dominic

If you would like to join Remind, text 81010.

To provide a meal for the Youth, contact Brooke at 985-474-9281.

Hail Mary,

Full of Grace,
The Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary,
Mother of God,
pray for us sinners
now, and at the hour of our death.

Amen.



PSR NIGHT

SEPTEMBER 13TH 5-7PM

Join us for another great night of PSR! All classes will be held on St Helena Campus

DINNER PROVIDED

Optional Bible Study, Prayer, and Shopping will be available for parents during PSR.



YOUTH EVENTS COMING UP

If interested for your youth to go to any of these events, contact Brooke at brooke@materdolorosa.net or call the Office.

OCT 10

HOPE YOUTH FEST

Open to all 7th - 12th grade.

Located at Our Lady of Hope Retreat Center, Osyka, MS.

OCT 28

TRUNK R TREAT • 5pm-7pm

Open to everyone.

Located at St. Helena Catholic Church, Amite.

NOV 7

ANGOLA RETREAT

Open to all 7th - 12th grade.

Located at 17544 Tunica Trace, Angola, LA 70712.

\$65.00 per person will include: transportation, shirt, breakfast & lunch.

NOV 14

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Required for Confirmation students.

Located at St. Dominic Catholic Church, Husser, LA 70442.

9:00am - 8:00pm, Mass included, lunch and dinner provided.

APR 10

ABBEY YOUTH FEST 2027!

Open to all 8th grade and up.

Located at the St. Joseph Abbey, 75376 River Rd, Saint Benedict, LA 70457. Go to abbeyyouthfest.com for more info.



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

Love as Fulfillment of the Law

As Paul begins today's readings, we are struck by his opening: "Owe no one anything except to love" (Romans 13:8). What is Paul trying to tell us? Is debt wrong? Today, we will dive a little deeper into Paul's point to the Romans.

In the previous verses, Paul is speaking about paying taxes and paying what is due to those who rightfully deserve it. However, as he starts his discourse on love, he switches to "Owe nothing but to love." Paul puts great emphasis on loving one another as the fulfillment of the Law because love does no harm to our neighbor.

Church Fathers, such as **Origen and Chrysostom**, point to Paul saying that love is the debt that can never be repaid. You will never love your neighbor enough to no longer owe him love. So, we owe one another not money, but love. Origen points to the debt as something simple: we can pay off monetary debt with time and work, and then we no longer owe anything. But love is an unending debt that we must always pay to our neighbors.

Ultimately, love is at the heart of our faith. We are unable to fulfill the commandments that Paul calls out unless we are filled with the love of the Holy Spirit. Without love, we can never truly follow the commandments and love our neighbor. Since love is necessary to fulfill the Law, **love is clearly the fulfillment of the Law.**