

# St. Helen Roman Catholic Parish - Oracle



66 E. Maplewood St.  
 Oracle, AZ 85623-6148  
 Phone: (520) 896-2708  
 FAX: (520) 896-2631

Visit our Website:  
<http://www.sthelenparishoracle.org>  
 To add, change or contribute information for the website please contact the Parish Office at St. Helen's e-mail address:  
[sthelensmission@msn.com](mailto:sthelensmission@msn.com)

**SUNDAY & MONDAY, DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2017**      **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Ambrose O. Nwohu.....520-896-2708  
 Parish Secretary & Compliance Representative: Gloria Acosta .....520-896-2708  
 Parish Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday..... 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
 Priest: Tuesday - Friday.....9:30 a.m. - 12 noon & 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
 Director of Religious Education: Mary Telles: Wednesday.....520-896-2708

### MASS SCHEDULE


Saturday (Mass of Anticipation).....5 p.m.  
 Sunday.....8 a.m. & 10 a.m.  
 Monday thru Friday.....8 a.m.  
 First Friday of the Month Anointing of the Sick and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.....8 a.m.  
 All Holy Days of Obligation.....9 a.m. & 7 p.m.  
 Pray the Rosary.....1/2 hour before each Mass



**Parish Board of Directors**  
 Rev. Msgr. Ambrose O. Nwohu, President  
 Manuel Navarro, Treasurer  
 Carmen Trejo, Secretary  
 Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, D.D.  
 Rev. Msgr. Jeremiah McCarthy




\*\*\*\*\*SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION\*\*\*\*\*



*Holy Matrimony*

**Marriage Preparation**  
 Diocesan regulations require that you see a priest at least *four months* before your wedding date.



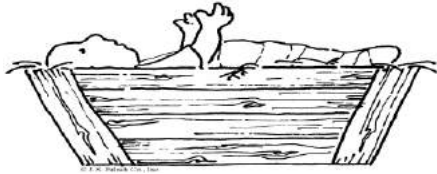
*Baptism*

**Baptismal Preparation**  
 Please call for arrangements at least *two months* prior to the date of Baptism. Baptisms are scheduled for the third weekend of each month.



*Reconciliation*

**Reconciliation/Confession**  
 Saturday from 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
 Any other time by appointment.



## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

The child to be born will be called holy,  
the Son of God.—*Luke 1:35*

### GOD'S PROMISE

The lengthy passage from Samuel is a wonderful exposition of God's promise to the house of David: that his throne would forever be gloriously occupied by his descendants. Hidden in the mystery of the prophecy is the promise of the Savior, the Messiah, Son of God and Son of David. The prophet Nathan, speaking in God's name, poetically turns around David's plan to build a house for God, and announces God's plan to build a "house," that is, a dynasty for David. From this house of David will come the Messiah, the Christ, not in kingly splendor as David ruled, but as a humble man, destined to rule forever and over all. When God gives a gift, it's amazing what we are given—so different from what we ever could have imagined.

Four weeks of Advent have built up to this day, this day on which we celebrate the coming of Jesus into humanity. But the world has been prepared for this for much longer than four weeks—indeed, for much longer than the nine months since Gabriel visited Mary. Matthew traces Jesus' genealogy back forty-two generations, placing Jesus in a direct line with David as well as with Abraham. This account also serves to show how God has sustained a covenant with the people throughout all of history, a covenant culminating in the birth of the Son. As Isaiah had prophesied, God is with us.

*Deadline for bulletin announcements is 2 p.m. on Tuesday*

### MASS INTENTIONS

*Offered for our beloved dead as well as our living ones.*

*May the souls of our faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**Sunday, December 24 – 8 a.m. – Alexandra Nugent by Julie & Greg Maraston**

### VOCATIONS CRUCIFIX

At each Mass, the family taking the crucifix should designate another family to carry the crucifix home the following week.  
**Please return the crucifix before the beginning of each Mass.**

### INFANT BAPTISMS

Instructions for infant Baptisms are on the first and third Thursday of the month (after initial registration) at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall.  
***It is mandatory that parents and Godparents attend.***

### Weekly Collections

12/16 & 12/17, 2017

Parish Offertory - \$1,039.00  
Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass - \$278.00  
Christmas Flowers - \$225.00  
St. Helen Maintenance - \$175.93

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

### Sanctuary Lamp



*Please stop by the parish office to reserve dates for the Sanctuary Lamp. The Sanctuary Lamp may be reserved by more than one persons for the same dates.*

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Ill and/or homebound:** Patricio Ortiz, Paul and Brenda Bilek, Allison Gomez, Lawrence Ortiz, Martin Romero, Susie Molina, Payton Roberts, Rosa Santos, Evodio Barrientos, Rico Guerrero, Raymond Laase, Tom & Carmen Garcia, Dora Chavez, Lynne Cunningham, Mollie Clark, Michael Hilimire, Bea Marquez, John Hughes

***Please help keep our prayer list current. To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please call the parish office. In order to ensure an updated prayer list, names will be listed for two months and then removed.***

**Our Service Men & Women:** Ignacio Madrid, Nathan Jackson, David Navarro

*Faithful Departed: Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them*

**DECEMBER 2017 CALENDAR**

**Every First Friday – 8 a.m.- Anointing of the Sick and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Holy Days of Obligation – Masses 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.  
Adult Formation (Scripture) Classes with Msgr. Ambrose – Tuesdays, 7 p.m.  
Choir Practice – Saturdays, 9 a.m.  
Womens' Prayer Group – Tuesdays from 12 noon to 1 p.m. 896-9031  
Finance Committee – Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 6:30 p.m.  
Parish Council – As announced  
Liturgy Committee – As announced

**Second collection for Building Fund - Every first weekend of the month . Parish Maintenance Second Collection six times/year.**

**St. Helen Offices & Ministries**

Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson – Ellie Brown 896-3530  
Finance Council Chairperson – Manny Navarro 896-2469  
Compliance Representative – Gloria Acosta 896-2708  
Liturgy/Bereavement - Mary Buzan 730-8929  
Choir Director – Ellie Brown 896-3530  
Sacristan/Altar Servers – Tony Telles 896-9031

**Religious Education**

**Gr. 1&2** Angelica Saldivar 388-1979  
Vincent Valdez 388 3032  
**Gr. 3 thru 8** Debbie Gutierrez 520-404-2763  
Maria Martinez 896-2142  
**Gr. 4,5,6** Leonor Berumen 241-4793  
**Gr. 7&8** Allison Lapa 896-2148  
Phyllis David 896-3169

**Confirmation Class** Mary & Tony Telles 896-9031  
Social Justice – Mary Ellen Kazda 896-2955  
St. Helen's Food Bank – Helen Alvarez 404-4817  
Knights of Columbus – Johnnie Seballos 520-603-5584  
Cursillo Movement Leaders – Mary & Tony Telles 896-9031  
Adult Catechesis – Msgr. Ambrose O. Nwohu 896-2708  
Kitchen Angels 520-400-4404  
Church Cleaning/Furnishings/Environmental Design (Volunteers needed)



**Christmas Flower Remembrances**

Jesus & Felix Sandoval, Frank & Lucy Sandoval, Gil Self by Mary Castillo;

Manuel P. Apodaca by Gloria Apodaca & Family;  
Charles & Fedelia Clark, Hank & Jean Neottl by Charles & Michelle Clark; Jonathan & Elizabeth Nwohu, Catherine Nwosu, Augustine Nwohu by Msgr. Ambrose; Pedro & Esperanza Lucero by Gloria Acosta; Moreno Family, Rudy & Margie; Brown Family, Steve, Ellie, Gilbert, Erica, Olivia, Kayla, Jordan and all souls in purgatory by Ellie Brown; Jenny & Lino Chavez, Georgia Barajas, Felix Marquez, by Yolanda Marquez; Juanita Martin, Fidela Hall, Lisa Berumen by L.& L. Berumen; Louise Schluttenhofer by Susan Daviess; Alex & Milo Candelaria by Donna Candelaria; Sabrina Ann Garcia, Arley Iverson, Ortencia Munoz by David & Anita Garcia; Richard Kelly, John & Elizabeth Juhara by Michael & Colleen Juhara.

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE... TOGETHER WE CAN SAVE CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND IT WILL NOT COST YOU A DIME!**

Find out how you can help save Catholic education through Arizona's Catholic Tuition Support Organization (CTSO). Please pick up a brochure that will explain how you can get a dollar-for-dollar tax credit or visit the CTSSO website at [www.ctso-tucson.org](http://www.ctso-tucson.org). Make your contribution by April 15, 2018 for the 2017 tax year.

*Our food pantry needs supplies of non-perishable food items. If you know of any family who needs help please call 896-2540. All information will be held strictly confidential. Monetary donations also gratefully accepted.*

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY MORNING SOCIALS**

**Thank you!**

**2017 SECOND COLLECTIONS (\*Diocesan)**

December 9 & 10 – Seminarian Education \*  
December 16 & 17 – St. Helen Parish Maintenance

*Envelopes for PARISH special collections in rack back of the church.*

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017**

Vigil of Christmas  
Mass – 11 p.m. (Midnight Mass)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2017**

Christmas Day  
Masses 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Saturday and Sunday Masses will be held as usual, Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2018**

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God will be held at 10 a.m.

**TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

**Psalms** — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

**Second Reading** — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

**Gospel** — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE NOW**

Please collect your new envelope box, located at the back of the church. If you are not receiving envelopes and wish to, please call the office. If you no longer wish to receive them also please let us know.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Merry Christmas and Thank You for your year-long support! Your CCD Teachers and Students*

*"The Catechist is one who guards the memory of God and who knows how to awaken it in others." – Pope Francis*