

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2017 **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**


Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Ambrose O. Nwohu.....520-896-2708
 Parish Secretary & Compliance Representative: Gloria Acosta520-896-2708
 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.



**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 31, 2017**

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared
in the sight of all the peoples.

—*Luke 2:30-31*

BEARERS OF THE WORD

The Church has placed a number of notable feast days immediately after Christmas. The feasts of Stephen, John the Evangelist, and the Holy Innocents form a summary of the life lived in Christ, the Word made flesh. What do these have to do with the feast of the Holy Family, which crowns the Octave of Christmas? These feasts remind us that suffering will occur in fulfilling the mission of Christ, and that we are all called to be bearers of this Word whose birth we celebrate.

We also see this manifested in the lives of Joseph and Mary, both of whom took social and religious risks in obedience to the will of God, and both of whom were open to the word of God sent to them from on high. In these ways they prefigured the life of Jesus himself.

Most likely, few of us found ourselves at Mass this past Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, but the essence of these feasts and the essence of the holiness of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus remain central, a holiness we celebrate today.

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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.*

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 12/24 & 12/25, 2017

Parish Offertory - \$2,024.00

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 3rd 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 Davies; 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.

YOU HAVE UNTIL APRIL 15TH TO MAKE A TAX CREDIT CONTRIBUTION

Arizona's Catholic Tuition Support Organization (CTSO) for the Diocese of Tucson is helping students attend Catholic schools regardless of their race, religion, national origin and economic status, etc. Take advantage of the Arizona Tax Credit Program by directing your tax dollars to CTSO, and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit or visit the CTSO website at www.ctso-tucson.org.

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!

2018 SECOND COLLECTIONS (*Diocesan)

January 6 & 7 – St. Helen Building Fund
January 20 & 21 – Catholic Relief Services*
February 3 & 4 – St. Helen Building Fund

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

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.

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Pray for us,
Oh Holy Mother
of God!
May we be made
worthy
Of the promises
of Christ.



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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

Call Mary Telles for information – 896-2708

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

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105*.

Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]
Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Monday: Mary, the Holy Mother of God;
The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord;
World Day of Prayer for Peace;
New Year's Day

Tuesday: Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church
Basil died 1 Jan. 379; hermit who became bishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia; noted for his learning; foe of Arianism; wrote a rule on monasticism; source of Eucharistic Prayer IV; along with St. Gregory Nazianzen, St. Athanasius, and St. John Chrysostom; considered one of the four great doctors of the Eastern Church.

Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; died 1821; raised Episcopalian; wife and mother of five children; foundress of the first congregation for women religious in USA, the Sisters of Charity, devoted primarily to the education of the poor and to teaching in parochial schools, first native born citizen canonized (1975).

Friday: St. John Neumann, Bishop (USA); died 1860; missionary from Bohemia; C.S.S.R. bishop of Philadelphia; known for his holiness and learning; promoter of parochial schools; authored two German catechisms; first American bishop canonized (1977).
First Friday

Saturday: St. André Bessette, Religious (USA); died 1937 at age ninety-one C.S.C.; orphaned at age twelve; known as a healer and the "Miracle Man of Montreal" where he founded the oratory of St. Joseph, to whom he was dedicated and fostered devotion; over one million people paid their respects at his death.
First Saturday

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There's no more unusual setting to celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family than Barcelona, Spain and the towering unfinished sandcastle known officially as the Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Familia. In 1882, the plan was hatched to build a vast place of worship in reparation for the revolutionary and liberal leanings of the city. The modern artist Antoni Gaudi dedicated his life to the project, living in the building, attending Mass daily, and giving up his personal wealth. When people pressed him to pick up the pace, he responded, "My client is not in a hurry." (Gaudi's cause for beatification is moving along, and he could be the first professional artist and architect to be beatified.) The Spanish Civil War, a disaster for the Catholic Church in which thousands of priests, brothers, and nuns were murdered, halted work in 1935. In the 1950s work began anew, speeded up by computers in the 1980s. Still, the final stage of construction is not due to end until 2026. If the original methods had stayed in place, it would take several hundred more years to complete the plan. So far there are eight towers, with four to go. The highest steeple is three feet shorter than the nearest hill, since the architect didn't want his work to surpass God's artistry. The three faces of the basilica each have three doors, with the faces named Passion, Nativity, and Grace. The interior is crammed with geometric figures that almost seem to spin, crazy-quilt windows, spiral staircases, and jumbles of statues and figures. Although inspired by ancient Gothic cathedrals, the style is called Expressionist, and very little is left unexpressed by the masonry. If you can't afford a visit, Sagrada Familia maintains a web site, and virtual visits are free.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Diocese of Tucson

...employment opportunities at the Diocese

The following are employment opportunities currently available in the Diocese of Tucson. To view the job descriptions and information on how to apply, persons interested should refer to www.diocesetucson.org (Employment Opportunities).

Diocese of Tucson Pastoral Center:

- Office of Tribunal, Tucson, AZ – Tribunal Notary
- Office of Corporate Matters, Tucson, AZ – Executive Assistant
- **Schools & Parishes:**
- St. Augustine Catholic High School, Tucson, AZ – Bus Driver (Part-time)
- San Xavier Mission School, Tucson, AZ – Custodian (Part-time)
- St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Yuma, AZ – Full-Charge Bookkeeper
- Santa Cruz Catholic School, Tucson, AZ
 - Kindergarten Teacher
 - 3rd Grade Teacher
- Santa Cruz Parish, Tucson, AZ – Cook (Part-time)
- San Martin de Porres Parish, Sahuarita, AZ – Office Assistant (Temporary, Part-time)
- Santa Cruz Catholic School, Tucson, AZ – 6th Grade Teacher
- St. Joseph Catholic School, Tucson, AZ – 4th Grade Teacher
- St. Joseph Catholic School, Tucson, AZ – Teachers, K-4
- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School, Tucson, AZ
 - 3rd Grade Teacher
 - 6th Grade Teacher
- San Xavier School, Tucson, AZ – Receptionist (Part-time)
- Immaculate Heart Academy, Oro Valley, AZ – Computer Teacher (Part-time)
- Our Lady Queen of All Saints, Tucson, AZ – Parish Secretary
- St. John Catholic School, Tucson, AZ – Second Grade Teacher

RETRouvaille & MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER RETREAT NOTICES



Retrouvaille - Many couples continue to struggle in a marriage, not willing to give up on each other. There is hope! Retrouvaille is a program designed to help struggling marriages regain their health. It helps a husband and wife rediscover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication to build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Register for Retrouvaille Weekend Program beginning Friday evening, January 19 - Sunday, January 21. For confidential information Call 520-686-1598 or Visit: www.retrouvaille.org



As we celebrate Holy Family Sunday, let us remember that God's love for us is reflected in the love for each other in our family. Why not celebrate and encourage that love by giving your spouse the gift of a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWE) weekend? The next weekend is on January 26-28 at Mount Claret Retreat Center in Phoenix. To apply online, and for weekend dates visit www.wwearizona.com

The parishioners of St. Helen Parish thank the following advertisers for helping to sponsor our weekly bulletin



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*In God we trust,
all others
pay cash.
Sorry,
no debit or credit cards.*

Casa Rivera

A Mexican-American Family Restaurant
1975 American Avenue • Oracle, Arizona

Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday thru Friday
Closed Saturday

<p>Sunday Special BBQ Baby Back Ribs ½ Rack \$14.95 Full Rack \$21.95 <small>With corn on the cob and potato</small></p>	<p>Thursday Night Special 16 oz. Char-Broiled RIB-EYE STEAK \$21.95 <small>With soup or salad, baked potato and garlic bread</small></p>	<p>Friday Night Special Freshly Battered Cod Fillets <i>or</i> 7 Large Shrimp \$16.95 <small>With french fries, rice, chowder or salad</small></p>
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For TAKE-OUT Call
520 896-3744 or 896-3747


OLH ORACLE LAND & HOMES

1812 W American Ave Oracle, AZ

Office (520) 896-9099
Cell (520) 400-0242

Visit our Website
www.olhoracle.com
hv@olhoracle.com

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