

# St. Helen Church



Opened - October 2, 1938

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Est. as a Parish - January 1, 1986

**Pastor:** Rev. Krzysztof Szczepanik

**Office Administration:** Shannon Deveau-Patrick

## Office hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm  
Closed on Mondays, Thursday and all Statutory holidays

**Website:** [www.sthelenscatholic.ca](http://www.sthelenscatholic.ca)

**Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/sthelenscatholic](http://www.facebook.com/sthelenscatholic)

## Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am

## Weekday Masses:

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am

(unless otherwise posted in the bulletin)

## Adoration:

Daily after morning Mass weekdays

## Sacraments

### Baptism:

1st & 3rd Sunday at 12:30 pm  
Call parish office.

### 1st Communion & Confirmation

Contact the Parish Office.

### Reconciliation:

Every Saturday 4:00pm - 4:30pm or by  
appointment with the priest.

### Marriage:

Arrangements six months in advance.  
Marriage preparation is required.

### RCIA & RCIC:

Contact the Parish Office.

### Anointing of the Sick:

Please let us know when someone has  
a serious or prolonged illness or is to  
have surgery. This sacrament  
celebrates the healing of mind and  
body and the forgiveness of sins.

### Catholic Funeral Rites:

When a death occurs in your family,  
please call the Parish Office and we  
will assist you in making the  
necessary liturgical arrangements.

### Chronic Care Facilities:

Pastoral visits are made monthly.  
Reception of Holy Communion is  
available to residents.

### Homebound:

Notify the Parish Office when serious  
illness occurs. When the sick, aged or  
incapacitated are confined to home for  
an extended time, pastoral visit can be  
arranged.

## Schools

### St. Mark School

Principal: Jennifer DeCoff  
Vice-Principal: Joe Tolomeo

### St. Edward School

Principal: Maria Romano

## Contacts

### Music Ministry:

Anthony van Engelen  
[advel@yahoo.com](mailto:advel@yahoo.com)

### Ministry Scheduling & RFM:

Rebecca Williams ~ [ministryscheduling@sthelenscatholic.ca](mailto:ministryscheduling@sthelenscatholic.ca)

### Fundraising Events:

[office@sthelenscatholic.ca](mailto:office@sthelenscatholic.ca)

### Facility & Grounds Maintenance:

Craig Luey  
[craig.luey@gmail.com](mailto:craig.luey@gmail.com)

### Catholic Women's League:

Anna Sabucco  
[asabucco@hotmail.com](mailto:asabucco@hotmail.com)

### Knights of Columbus:

Ray Francoeur  
[avalanche1950@yahoo.com](mailto:avalanche1950@yahoo.com)  
289-700-6342

### SVDP:

Lorraine Martin ~ *contact parish office*

### Prayer Warriors/Requests:

Sandra Mactaggart ~  
[sandbmac@gmail.com](mailto:sandbmac@gmail.com)

*Kindly complete the following and place in the collection box.*

*Envelopes will be on the round table in the foyer the following weekend.*

New Parishioner\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to use offertory envelopes\*

Change of address

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Moving

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

# Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year B

## March 24, 2024

### Mass Intentions March 26- 31, 2024

As we gather, let us remember and pray for . . .

Tue.~ 9:00am	+ Dinie Mensiuk <i>(by Nancy Winslow)</i>	Mar. 26th
Wed. ~ 9:00am	+ Rosalie D'Orio <i>(by Giuseppina &amp; Gennaro Elia)</i>	Mar. 27th
<b>Thurs.</b> 7:00pm	<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b> + Robert Curik <i>(by Anjela Curik)</i>	Mar. 28th
<b>Fri.</b> 3:00pm	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> Good Friday Service	Mar. 29th
6:00pm	Stations of the Cross	
<b>Sat.</b> 11:30am	<b>EASTER VIGIL</b> Blessing of the Easter Foods	Mar. 30th
8:00pm	Pro Populo Dei	
<b>Sun. ~</b> 9:00am	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> + Pat Burns <i>(by Kelly Burns)</i>	Mar. 31st
11:00am	+ Richard Moyer <i>(by Nancy Winslow)</i>	

### PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS

Lord Jesus Christ, You love Your church and those called to share your priesthood. With our love and prayers, we join You in asking our Heavenly Father to continue to pour out His gifts of holiness, compassion and ardent zeal on your priests everywhere. Inspire each of them to offer his life as an "Ambassador of Christ," bringing reconciliation and healing to the world.

Mary, Mother of all Priests, inspire us to live in peace and joy and pray this prayer with us. Amen.

### POPE FRANCIS' MARCH INTENTION

*For the New Martyrs*

We pray that those around the world who risk their lives for the Gospel, will inspire with their courage and missionary work.



### WEDNESDAY EVENING FELLOWSHIP

Please join us Wednesday **MARCH 27** for the Metanoia video series. We meet from **7:00pm to 8:30pm** in the Angelina Prokich Memorial Great Hall for an evening of light treats, a short video, and a discussion with old and new friends. Whether you are able to join us for 1 or all 10 evenings, know you will always be welcome. For more information please contact Kelly at [sthelensalpha@gmail.com](mailto:sthelensalpha@gmail.com)



This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of

**ROBERT CURIK**

The Sanctuary Lamp burns to remind us of Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar.

### SANCTUARY LAMP

We have an opening for the Sanctuary Lamp for **June 16, 23 and 30, 2024**. If you would like to book the lamp in memory of your loved one or any intention please contact the office sooner rather than later as the year is filling up. Cost is \$35.00 per week.

### DIOCESAN SEPARATED & DIVORCED HEALING MINISTRY SUPPORT GROUP

Meetings are on the second and fourth Monday of the month (except holidays from 7:00pm to 9:00p.m. at Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls. Meetings are held both in person at Mount Carmel and virtually via Zoom platform. **Next meeting March 25 Topic: Gifts of the Holy Spirit** To register for virtual attendance, or for more info, call 905-684-0154 or email [separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com).



### **THANK YOU FOR GIVING FROM THE HEART TO SHARE LENT 2024**

Development and Peace - Caritas Canada thanks you for supporting the **Reaping our Rights** campaign with your Share Lent donation. Thanks to your generosity, our parish collected so far **\$2,152.70**.

This sum will help support our sisters and brothers in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. If you have not yet had a chance to give, you can still place your Share Lent envelope in the offertory or donate online at [devp.org/give](http://devp.org/give). Thank you for continuing to pray for all those who are working to build a world of peace and justice.



**NO BINGO THIS WEEK**

## PALM SUNDAY

I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. I know that I shall not be put to shame. (Isaiah 50)

Jesus humbled himself. Therefore God highly exalted him. (Philippians 2)

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Mark 14)



There is a certain incongruity about today's Palm Sunday liturgy. We begin with a sense of celebration: we carry palm branches and echo the *Hosannas* (from the Hebrew "God save [us]") shouted by the people of Jerusalem as Jesus enters the city. But the Passion story confronts us with the cruelty, injustice and selfishness that lead to the crucifixion of Jesus. We welcome the Christ of victory, the Christ of Palm Sunday – but we turn away from the Christ of suffering and of the poor, the Christ of Good Friday. These branches of palm are symbols of that incongruity that often exists between the faith we profess on our lips and the faith we profess in our lives.

In his account of the Passion, Mark portrays a Jesus who has been totally abandoned by his disciples and friends. There is no one to defend him, to support him, to speak for him. He endures such a cruel and unjust death alone. Yet, amid the darkness, a light glimmers: The prophecy of a new temple "not made by human hands" is fulfilled in the shreds of the temple curtain; a pagan centurion confesses his new-found realization that this crucified Jesus is indeed the "Son of God"; and a member of the Sanhedrin, Joseph of Arimathea, is emboldened to break with his fellow councillors and request of Pilate the body of Jesus. The Passion of Jesus should be a reason for hope and a moment of grace for all us as we seek the reign of God in our own lives – however lonely and painful our search may be.

The Gospel calls us to take on what Paul calls the "attitude of Christ Jesus" (Reading 1) in his passion and death: to "empty" ourselves of our own interests, fears and needs for the sake of others; to realize how our actions affect them and how our moral and ethical decisions impact the common good; to reach out to heal the hurt and comfort the despairing around us despite our own betrayal; to carry on, with joy and in hope, despite rejection, humiliation and suffering.

In our remembering the events of Holy Week, Jesus will turn our world and its value system upside down: true authority is found in dedicated service and generosity to others; greatness is centered in humility; the just and loving will be exalted by God in God's time.

Today's liturgy confronts us with the reality of the cross of Christ: by the cross, we are reconciled to God; by the cross, our lives are transformed in the perfect love of Christ; by the cross, Jesus' spirit of humility and compassion become a force of hope and re-creation for our desperate world.

**CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER (CEE)** is a Diocesan-approved marriage preparation program that provides quality marriage preparation in a weekend retreat format. The weekend is open to any engaged couple wanting to prepare for a deeper, more meaningful life together and who are considered free to marry according to the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. The current CEE weekend schedule for the Diocese of St. Catharines is **May 3-5, 2024** and **September 13-15, 2024** at Jericho House (10845 Rathfon Rd, Port Colborne). The cost is \$425.00 which includes all administration fees, meals and accommodations. Please visit [www.cceeast.org](http://www.cceeast.org) for more information and to register.

### **CHOOSE LIFE NIAGARA**

invites you to the **Annual Dinner Event** with speaker Blaise Alleyne on **Saturday, April 13**. Reception is 5:00pm Dinner 6:00pm at Club Roma in St. Catharines. Tickets are \$60.00 adults and \$30.00 students. Purchase tickets at [chooselife.ca/events](http://chooselife.ca/events) or call Nancy Winslow at 905-563-7096.



### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**MASS OF CHRISM** - Tuesday **March 26th** at 7:30p.m.

@ Cathedral of St. Catherine, St. Catharines

#### **HOLY THURSDAY, March 28th:**

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00p.m. followed by Adoration at the Altar of Repose - until 9:00p.m.

#### **GOOD FRIDAY, March 29th:**

Good Friday Liturgy at 3:00p.m.

Stations of the Cross at 6:00p.m.

#### **HOLY SATURDAY, March 30th:**

Blessing of Easter Foods - 11:30a.m.

Reconciliation - 12:00p.m. to 12:30p.m.

Easter Vigil - 8:00p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY** - 9:00am and 11:00a.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION** For the sake of our brothers and sisters enduring hardships, please give generously during our parish **GOOD FRIDAY** celebration on **March 29, 2024**. If you are unable to attend the service, you can contribute by e-transfer to [terresainte@bellnet.ca](mailto:terresainte@bellnet.ca) or online at [Commissariat.ca](http://Commissariat.ca).

### **DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE MASS**

His Excellency **Bishop Bergie** will celebrate the Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass at the Cathedral of St. Catherine of Alexandria on **Monday April 8, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.** The Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. Reception to follow.

**BREAKFAST THANK YOU!** Once again we would like to **THANK** our volunteers: Callie, Savannah, Dennis, Kelly, Jessie, Kevin, Dino, Joanne, Valentina, and Georgina for your hard work at making our breakfast last Sunday a great success!

### **PRAYER TEAM/ WARRIORS**

To become a member of this ministry or to submit your prayer request, please contact [sandbmac@gmail.com](mailto:sandbmac@gmail.com)





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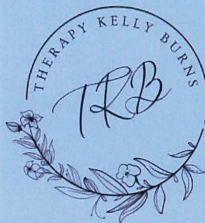


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