

# 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



He Is Risen!

*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\*

Change of address

Moving

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# Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - Year B

## March 31, 2024

### Mass Intentions April 1 -7, 2024

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

Mon.~	..... <b>EASTER MONDAY</b> .....	<b>Apr. 1st</b>
9:00am	+ Joseph Galligan <i>(by Angus Reid)</i>	
Tue.~	.....	<b>Apr. 2nd</b>
<b>6:00pm</b>	+ Maria Seneca <i>(by Steve &amp; Kate D'Onoforio)</i>	
Wed. ~	.....	<b>Apr. 3rd</b>
9:00am	+ Nicandro Elia <i>(by Peter &amp; Viola Izzo)</i>	
Thurs.	.....	<b>Apr. 4th</b>
9:00am	+ Toni Lamers <i>(by Josie &amp; Vern Dell)</i>	
Fri.	.....	<b>Apr. 5th</b>
9:00am	+ Betsy Lamer-Muileboom <i>(by Josie &amp; Vern Dell)</i>	
<b>Sat.</b>	.....	<b>Apr. 6th</b>
9:00am	+ Pietro & Ursula Elia + Michael & Olga D'Alessio <i>(by Louis &amp; Connie Elia)</i>	
5:00pm	Pro Populo Dei	
<b>Sun. ~</b>	..... <b>DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY</b> .....	<b>Apr. 7th</b>
9:00am	+ Bernadette Driscoll <i>(by Sharon Driscoll)</i>	
11:00am	+ Louise & Romano Ballatori <i>(by Ricci Family)</i>	

### ST. HELEN PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

After much anticipation, training and discussions St. Helen Parish has Pastoral Council. The members are: **Anthony van Engelen, Marcel & Carol van Ruyven, Rebecca Williams, Veronica Haining, Kelly Burns, Loredana Pijl, Georgina Belanger.** Each parish in our diocese was asked to have PPC to support and help pastors in running pastoral endeavours of parish community. To have an input or to hear from the parishioners PPC did set up the box at the office window where you can drop off any suggestions/ideas you might have. Thank you to the members who came forward and offered to help.

### 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.



This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns in memory of

**PATRICK BURNS**

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 April 8 Topic: Identifying Our Losses.** To register for virtual attendance, or for more info, call 05-684-0154 or email [separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com](mailto:separatedanddivorced@saintcd.com).

**CWL MEETING** will take place on **Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>** following the **6:00pm Mass.** Laura Dumas, director of [StartMeUp Niagara](http://StartMeUpNiagara.com), will be giving a presentation about the organization and it's role in helping the disadvantaged in our community. Please remember to bring your donations to this cause.

### POPE FRANCIS' APRIL INTENTION

*For the role of women*

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



### **THURSDAY MORNING BINGO**

**In the St. Helen Church Hall  
4106 Mountain Rd., Beamsville, ON  
Doors open at 10:00am, Bingo games start at 11:00am  
Delicious Lunch Available**

### **FRIDAY EVENING BINGO**

**Pizza available at 6:00pm, games start at 7:00pm**

## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. (Acts 10)

Seek the things that are above, where Christ is. (Col 3)

According to the Scripture: Jesus must rise from the dead. (John 20)



While the Easter mystery does not deny the reality of suffering and pain, it does proclaim reason for hope in the human condition. The empty tomb of Christ trumpets the ultimate **Alleluia**: that love, compassion, generosity, humility and selflessness will ultimately triumph over hatred, bigotry, prejudice, despair, greed and death. The Easter miracle enables us, even in the most difficult and desperate of times, to live our lives in hopeful certainty of the fulfillment of the resurrection at the end of our life's journey.

The Risen Christ is present to us in the faithful witness of every good person who shares the good news of the to bring resurrection into this life of ours: to rise above life's sufferings and pain to give love and life to others, to renew and re-create our relationships with others, to proclaim the Gospel of the empty tomb.

The empty tomb of Easter morning is God's vindication of his Son's life among us: that no tomb can contain the mercy and hope of God. The Christ who challenged us to love one another is risen and walks among us! All that he taught – compassion, love, forgiveness, reconciliation, sincerity, selflessness for the sake of others – is vindicated and affirmed if he is truly risen. The empty tomb should not only console us and elate us, it should challenge us to embrace the life of the Gospel. With Easter faith, we can awaken the promise of the empty tomb in every place and moment we encounter on our journey through this life.

Easter is about resurrection - not just resuscitation, not just about coming back from the brink, not just about bouncing back from a difficult situation, not just about a near miss when we've been spared the worst that can happen. In fact, the pre-requisite for resurrection is that the worst - devastating loss and death - happens. And we are changed by the experience.

**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, accommodations, and meals. Please visit [www.ceeest.org](http://www.ceeest.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 adults and \$30 students. Purchase tickets at [chooselife.ca/events](http://chooselife.ca/events) or call Nancy Winslow at 905-563-7096.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ....

*We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!*

These words of our Holy Father Saint John Paul II, remind us of who we are as we come to celebrate the greatest event the world has ever seen. **Christ is Risen, He defeated death and He reigns forever!**

What a message of hope for all of us. My friends, Easter reminds us that hope should **never** be lost, for as dark as the road may seem, there always lies light at the end of it. That light is our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who brings so much needed solace and peace to this world of ours. I want to wish to all the families in our parish community, a joyful Easter. May all your prayers be fulfilled and may wonderful blessings be upon you and your loved ones this day and throughout the entire Easter season. **Christ is Risen. Alleluia!**

*Father Krzysztof*



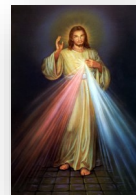
## DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE MASS

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.

**WINE AND CHEESE EVENT** **Maplecrest Village Retirement Residence** invites you to join them for a fun and free Wine & Cheese event on **April 3, 2024** from 1:00pm to 4:00pm at Maplecrest Village Retirement Residence 85 Main St. E. Grimsby. To RSVP call 905-945-7044 or email [info@maplecrestvillage.ca](mailto:info@maplecrestvillage.ca).

## FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024

During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy He asked on numerous occasions that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy and that this feast be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. The liturgical texts of that day, the 2nd Sunday of Easter, concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, the Tribunal of the Divine Mercy, and are thus already suited to the request of Our Lord. This Feast, which had already been granted to the nation of Poland and been celebrated within Vatican City, was granted to the Universal Church by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on 30 April 2000. In a decree dated 23 May 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that **"throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind will experience in the years to come."** These papal acts represent the highest endorsement that the Church can give to a private revelation, an act of papal infallibility proclaiming the certain sanctity of the mystic, and the granting of a universal feast, as requested by Our Lord to St. Faustina. Everyone is welcome to **St. Joseph Parish** for Divine Mercy Sunday starting at **2:30pm**.



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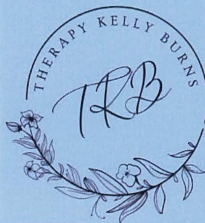


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