

## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Father Mark Beard

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>**  
NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup>**

Father Mark Beard, Mike Murphy, Harrell Griffin, Ann Courtney, Joe & Sandra Schlumbrecht, Raella Armand, Jet Keen, Ronald & Hazel Scioneaux, Roland Bourgeois, Emanuel, Leona, Johnny Giglio, Barbara Broussard, Ann Danna, Alice & Radar Currier, James Dugar Sr., Myrza Ruiz, David Paul Delaune, Michael Henry, Billy Higgins, Harold Beard, Ashlee Travis

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Father Mark Beard, Nolan & Rosemary Graham, Mike Murphy, Raella Armand, Barbara Broussard, Arthur Jr., Annie, Jerry Zimmer, RD & Elsie Bridges, Rose & James Webb, Burrell Carter, David Paul Delaune, Michael Henry, Billy Higgins, Harold Beard, Ashlee Travis

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Joan Scarle

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>th</sup>**

Burrell Carter

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup> | 9:00AM ENGLISH**

Harold Griffin

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup> | 2:00PM SPANISH**

The People of St. Helena Church

## PRAYER LIST

Kelly Spinks, Donald Carter, JoJo Holden, Marilyn Dees, Jenna Blades, Alice Steven, George Ann Smith, Bella Ferris, Brody Ferris, Tina Hymel, Imelda Travis, Kenneth Travis, Shan Grout, Suzanne Bridgewater, Janett Relan, Brian Guichet, Henry McCabe, Hurlless Clouatre, Michelle Robbins, Doris Wright, Brent Covington, Josephine Capdeboscq, Lindsey Booty, Laura Faust, Halie Cox Wright, Sondra Sagnibene, Bronwyn Corcoran, Joan Scarle, Cindy Frazier, Eric Tarver, Savina Campo, Katelyn Delbasty, Lorie Delbasty, Ronnie Delbasty, Diann Delbasty, Shawn Delbasty, Patrick Delbasty, Wanda Miles, Mya Arrazate, Toney Cantu, Kenneth Hill, Conner Corkern, Alice Perez, Frances Currier, Jay Ardillo, Brian Rueb, Hank & Karen Scheumacher, Douglas Hill, Ashlee Travis, Tisa & John Cooper, Mac Perkins Jr., Greg Alack, Catherine Calamari



**We at St. Helena Catholic Church are committed to educating, directing, and sustaining all who visit, in particular those who draw near, to the teachings and traditions of Holy Mother Church; this Mission will be achieved by employing Cardinal virtues of Justice, Prudence, Temperance and Fortitude.**

## "Finish the Race"

**A Benefit to continue Fr. Mark Beard's vision at Our Lady of Hope. The life size Stations of the Cross and other ongoing projects.**

**Sunday, February 2, 2025  
3pm - 6pm**

Join us for powerful testimonies, and Live Auction at White Oak Estate & Gardens in Baton Rouge, LA. Tickets are \$250 per person.

To purchase tickets, contact OLOH at 601-202-3137. Tickets are limited.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Larry Toups, Peter Vangiel, James Hoover, Dennis Toups, William Graham, Vince Owen, Brandon Thompson, Jerry Dyer, Jamie Cutrer, Eric Russell, James Sylvester, Mark Prine, Robert Tillwell, Chris Bennett, Dewayne Spears, 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, Trent Smith, Andrew Zaffuto, Judson Sandifer, Blake Blades

Please call the Office if you would like to add or remove someone on the Service List.

## ANGEL WISH TREE WAS A SUCCESS!!!

Thank you for those that helped make Angel Wish Tree a beautiful success this year. We helped 22 children this year have a wonderful Christmas. Because of over \$1100.00 in donations, these children all received monogrammed blankets, jackets and stockings.

-Angel Wish Tree



## IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER CHURCH

### THE GEESE AND THE SNOW STORM

There was once a man who did not believe in either the virgin birth of Christ or the spiritual meaning behind it, and was skeptical even about God. He and his family lived in a farm community. His wife was a devout believer and diligently raised her children in the faith. He sometimes gave her a hard time about her belief and mocked her religious observances.

"It's all nonsense -- why would God lower himself and become a human like us? It's such a ridiculous story," he said.

One snowy day, she and the children left for church while he stayed home. After they had departed, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blinding snowstorm. He sat down to relax before the fire for the evening.

Then he heard a loud thump, something hitting against the window... And, still another thump. He looked outside but could not see anything. So he ventured outside for a better view. In the field near his house he saw, of all the strangest things, a flock of geese. They were apparently flying to look for a warmer area down south, but they had been caught in the snowstorm. The storm had become too blinding and violent for the geese to fly or see their way. They were stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter, unable to do more than flutter their wings and fly in aimless circles. He had compassion for them and wanted to help them. He thought to himself, the barn would be a great place for them to stay. It is warm and safe; surely they could spend the night and wait out the storm. So he opened the barn doors for them.

He waited, watching them, hoping they would notice the open barn and go inside. Nevertheless, they did not notice the barn or realize what it could mean for them. He moved closer toward them to get their attention, but they just moved away from him out of fear.

He went into the house and came back with some bread, broke it up, and made a bread trail to the barn. They still did not catch on.

Starting to get frustrated, he went over and tried to shoo them toward the barn. They panicked and scattered into every direction except toward the barn. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where there was warmth, safety, and shelter. Feeling totally frustrated, he exclaimed, "Why don't they follow me? Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm? How can I possibly get them into the one place to save them?"

He thought for a moment and realized that they just would not follow a human. He said to himself, "How can I possibly save them? The only way would be for me to become like those geese. If only I could become like one of them. Then I could save them. They would follow me and I would lead them to safety."

At that moment, he stopped and considered what he had said. The words reverberated in his mind: If only I could become like one of them, then I could save them. Then, at last, he understood God's heart towards mankind... and he fell on his knees in the snow.

**1st Saturday Mass January 4, 2025  
8am at Mater Dolorosa Church**

**The Office will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> thru January 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
We will reopen Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

**NO daily Mass Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Mass on Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

## HOPE CORNER



**Our Lady of Hope Catholic Retreat Center**  
Chatawa, MS - (601)-202-3137 - Ourladyofhopems.com  
**Upcoming Retreats: Register at ourladyofhopems.com/events**

### OLOH Full of Grace Gift Shop

**New Year's Schedule**  
December 31<sup>st</sup> | Closed  
January 1<sup>st</sup> | Closed

### Perkatory Coffee Shop

**Sunday Special**  
Hot Chocolate & Powdered Cappuccinos  
**Buy One Get One Free**

### OLOH LADIES BOOK CLUB

**Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
8:00am - 3:00pm**  
Book of the Month:  
*Unshakable Hope in the Midst of the Storm* by Fr. John Riccardo

Speaker of the Month:  
Dina Dow - Diocese of Baton Rouge  
Director of the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis

## IN THE KNOW...

### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup>**

**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD**

**Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Eve**

6:30pm Vigil Mass - St. Dominic, 7:00pm Spanish Vigil Mass - St. Helena

**Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Day**

7:30am Mass - St. Helena, 8:00am Mass - Mater Dolorosa

**NO CONFESSIONS ON**

**January 1<sup>st</sup> & January 2<sup>nd</sup>**

### ENCOUNTER NIGHTS AT MATER DOLOROSA CHURCH

Adoration, Praise, and Music | Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the Month | 5:30pm-7:00pm

### NEW YEAR'S ADORATION

Come join us as we bring in the New Year in the Adoration Chapel on New Year's Eve from 11:30pm till 12:30am. Spend one hour with Jesus as you pray for family, friends, and yourself.

**Gates will be closed, please have your swipe key with you to get in.**

St. Helena Catholic Church will host it's annual

### LSU Baseball Fundraiser

Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6pm-9pm. \$125 per couple. Call 985-474-4225 for tickets. Tickets include Appetizers, Dinner and Address by Head Coach Jay Johnson.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS STATE COUNCIL

**Catholic Youth Leadership Award for High School Seniors**  
Deadline: January 25, 2025 Local Award: \$250 Diocesan Award: \$1,000  
State Awards - 1st Place: \$5,000, 2nd Place: \$3,000, 3rd Place: \$2,000  
Apply at: louisianakc.org/For-Members/Programs/CYLA



### CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE/SPONSOR RETREAT

February 22, 2025 | 9am-3pm | Lunch provided | 4pm Mass attended together.

### RESPECT LIFE MASS

January 25, 2025 | 8:30am at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge.  
Celebrated by Bishop Michael Duca  
Join us, following Mass, for fellowship, coffee and hot chocolate before we join thousands of others for the Louisiana Life March beginning at 10am on the State Capitol Lawn.

**IN THE KNOW...**

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY (WEDDINGS/CONVALIDATIONS)**  
6 Months in Advance

**PARISH OFFICE NOTIFICATION**

We are asking that you notify the Parish Office if a family member is Ill, Homebound or Hospitalized.

**CAMPUS TOURS**

Plan a Tour on our beautiful Campus. For information, please go to website [www.sthelenachurch.net](http://www.sthelenachurch.net) and click on link.

**BAPTISMAL SEMINARS**

Please contact the Church Office in advance to register for a class.

**TRAVELING STATUE PRAYER DEVOTION**

If you would like to sign up for the Traveling Prayer Devotion and host one of the Marian statues in your home, please contact one of the following:

**Catherine Calamari (504 -236-8983)**

*For the Families of St. Helena*

**Yvonne Hulsey (985-969-5058)**

*For the Souls in Purgatory*

**Wendy Danna (985-687-8208)**

*For the return of our Lapsed Catholics  
Prayer for Priest*

**Judy Williams (985-969-4511)**

*For St. Helena Church  
Our Children of St. Helena*

**Lupe Calderon (985-222-8096)**

*For St. Helena Church  
For the return of our Lapsed Catholics  
Prayer for Peace*

**"I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly."**  
John 10:10



PRO LIFE

DECEMBER 29, 2024  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

"I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great." If you feel God is offering you the gift of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life as a sister, brother, or consecrated virgin, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225-336-8778 or via email: [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org)

Audio & Written versions of Father Mark's Homilies are available on our website, [www.sthelenachurch.net](http://www.sthelenachurch.net).

Please support the local businesses who place Ads in our Bulletin.

**This space available.**  
Contact St. Helena Catholic Church  
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St. Helena Catholic Church  
Catholic Daughters of America  
Court #2536  
Meetings held every 2nd Monday of the Month.

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301 Market St.  
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December 29, 2024  
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[www.sthelenachurch.net](http://www.sthelenachurch.net)

**Feast of the Holy Family**

*...He said to them, "Why were you looking for Me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?"*  
- Luke 2:41-52



**MASS SCHEDULE:**

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:30am  
Tuesday No Mass  
Saturday Vigil 4:00pm  
Sunday 9:00am  
Sunday Spanish 2:00pm

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE:**

Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 7:00am  
Tuesday No Confession  
Saturday Vigil 3:00pm  
Sunday 8:00am  
Sunday Spanish 1:00pm

**1<sup>st</sup> SATURDAY MASS: 8:00am at Mater Dolorosa in Independence**

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm | Friday 8am-12pm**