

MASS INTENTIONS

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

IN DEFENSE OF MOTHER CHURCH

HOPE CORNER

MONDAY, JULY 17TH
RD & Elsie Bridges

TUESDAY, JULY 18TH
Donald Graves

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19TH
Mike Murphy, Jet Keen, Harrell Griffin, Dennis Mussare, Ann LaBarbera, Burrell Carter, Hazel Scioneaux, Mike Reid, Harold Wright, Antoinette Riley, Barbara Jean Roddy, Veda Misita, Russell Conger, Dora Jean Edwards, Anna Marie Tassin, Linda & Harold Brown, Michael Henry, David Paul Delaune, Billy Higgins, Harold Beard, Lori Sibley, Catherine Calamari, Tom Kopfler

THURSDAY, JULY 20TH
Eunice K. Van Zandt, Bobby Mixon, Mike Murphy, Ann LaBarbera, Harrell Griffin, Johnnie "Lil Man" Santangelo, Dora Jean Edwards, Harold Wright, Jet Keen, Beverly Esteven, Ann Marie Tassin, Jackie Hodges, Tommy Kopfler Jr., Russell & Dot Thompson Sr., Russell Thompson Jr., Dominick Cuti, Michael Henry, David Paul Delaune, Billy Higgins, Harold Beard, Souls in Purgatory, Lori Sibley, Jerry Trabona, Catherine Calamari

FRIDAY, JULY 21ST
Rose & James Webb

SATURDAY, JULY 22ND
John Vaccaro

SUNDAY, JULY 23RD
Vilcan Family

SUNDAY, JULY 23RD
The Alfaro Children

PRAYER LIST

John Chaucher, Ed Lorio, Alice Currier, Charles Bridges, Patsy Colgan, Brian Rueb, Karen Scheumacher, Douglas Hill, Doris Wright, Lori Sibley, Lucille Scheurer, Ashley Travis, Tisa Cooper, Judy Conerly, Nanette Fantauzzo, Jill Prescott, Nancy Brown, Jo Tick, Harold Collins, Frank Bellavia, Catherine Calamari, Jerry Trabona, Imelda Travis, Kenneth Travis, Jennifer Brown, Mike Potts, Richard Schwartz, Margaret Bailey King, Phillip Macaluso, Eve Jones, Patty Anzalone, Kay Bourgeois, Kelly Wayne Russell, Eric Tarver, Hank Schumacher, Henry McCabe, Virginia Carreca, Pam Elder, Ryan Jenkins, Frank Guzzardo, Fannie Guzzardo, Savina Campo, Katelyn Delbasty, Lorie Delbasty, Ronnie Delbasty, Diann Delbasty, Abram Cantu, Wanda Miles, Lucinda Voight, Mya Arrazate, Toney Cantu, Kenneth Hill, Conner Corkern, Raella Armand, Nolan Graham, Alice Perez, Frances Currier

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

For the period of January thru March 2023 St. Vincent de Paul made 36 home visits to our neighbors providing spiritual support and relief from some of the burdens of life totaling \$9,959.00 for the quarter. Here is a breakdown of some of the assistance given to our neighbors in need:

Utilities: \$7,886.00
Rent \$2,032.00
Prescription Drugs: \$341.00
Food: \$300.00

We appreciate all the support of our ministry as we seek to live our mission: Our mission, through person-to-person contact, mass feeding, sheltering and other channels, encompasses every form of aid which alleviates suffering and promotes dignity and integrity.

MINISTRIES AT ST. HELENA

Bereavement Ministry	Bible Study
Catholic Daughters	Full of Grace
Holy Face Devotion	Jr. Catholic Daughters
Knights of Columbus	Music Ministry
Nursing Home Ministry	Religious Education
Spanish Music Ministry	Spanish Prayer Group
St. Jude Bible Study	St. Vincent de Paul
Totus Tuus	Traveling Prayer Devotion
Youth	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Larry Touns, Peter Vangiel, James Hoover, Dennis Touns, William Graham, Vince Owen, Brandon Thompson, Jerry Dyer, Jamie Cutrer, Eric Russell, James Sylvester, Mark Prine, Robert Tillwell, Chris Bennett, Dwayne 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

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

WHY THE ROAD TO HELL IS WIDE AND MANY WALK ON IT

We love distraction and don't listen. Even when saving knowledge is offered to us, we are too often tuned out, distracted, and resistant. ADHD is nothing new in the human family. God said through Jeremiah, To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Behold, their ears are uncircumcised, they cannot listen; behold, the word of the LORD is to them an object of scorn; they take no pleasure in it (Jeremiah 6:10). Jesus invoked Isaiah to explain why He spoke to the crowds only in parables: For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed (Is 6:10).

We are opinionated. We tend to think that something is true or right merely because we think it or agree with it. There is nothing wrong with having opinions, even strong ones, about what is right and true, but if God's Word or the Church's formal teaching challenges your opinion, you'd better consider changing it or at least making distinctions. The last time I checked, God is just a little smarter than we are. His official teaching in the Scripture and the Doctrine of the Church is inspired; we are not. Scripture says, All we, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way (Is 55:8). Can the pot say to the potter, "You know nothing"? (Is 29:16) Woe to those who quarrel with their Maker, those who are nothing but potsherd among the potsherd on the ground. Does the clay say to the potter, "What are you making?" (Is 45:9) Despite this, many go on with their own opinions and will not abide even the clear correction of God.

We have darkened intellects due to unruly and dominating passions. Our strong and unruly passions cloud our mind and seek to compel our will. Too easily, without training and practice in virtue, our baser faculties come to dominate our higher faculties, making unreasonable demands for satisfaction. We love to tell ourselves lots of lies. We suppress the truth and our senseless minds become darkened (Romans 1:21). The Catechism says, The human mind ... is hampered in the attaining of ... truths, not only by the impact of the senses and the imagination, but also by disordered appetites which are the consequences of original sin. So it happens that men in such matters easily persuade themselves that what they would not like to be true is false or at least doubtful (CCC #37). The Second Vatican Council, in Lumen Gentium 16, says, But very often men, deceived by the Evil One, have become vain in their reasoning and have exchanged the truth of God for a lie, serving the creature rather than the Creator.

We are lemmings. We are too easily swayed by what is popular. We prefer modern notions to ancient and tested wisdom. Tattoos, tongue bolts, and piercings are in? Quick, run out and get one! Whatever the fad or fashion, no matter how foolish, harmful, or immodest, many clamor for it. Hollywood stars get divorces and soon enough everyone is casting aside biblical teaching against it. The same goes for many other moral issues. What was once thought disgraceful is now paraded on Main Street and celebrated. Like lemmings, we run along with the crowd to celebrate what was once called sin (and is still sinful). Instead of following God, we follow human beings. We follow them and the "culture" they create, often mindlessly.

If all this isn't enough, consider a "few" others: We are so easily, in a moment, obnoxious, dishonest, egotistical, undisciplined, weak, impure, arrogant, self-centered, pompous, insincere, unchaste, grasping, harsh, impatient, shallow, inconsistent, unfaithful, immoral, ungrateful, disobedient, selfish, lukewarm, slothful, unloving, uncommitted, untrusting, indifferent, hateful, lazy, cowardly, angry, greedy, jealous, vengeful, prideful, envious, contemptuous, stingy, petty, spiteful, indulgent, careless, neglectful, prejudiced, and just plain mean.

So, if the road to destruction is wide (and Jesus says it is), don't blame God. The road is wide for reasons like these. We are a hard case; we are hard to save. It is not that God lacks power; it is that we refuse to address many of these shortcomings. God, who made us free, will not force us to change.

We ought not to kid ourselves into thinking that we can go on living resistant and opposed to the Kingdom of God and its values, yet magically at death we will suddenly want to enter His Kingdom, which we have resisted our whole life. Jesus said that many prefer the darkness. Is it really likely that their preference will suddenly shift? Will not the glorious light of Heaven seem harsh, blinding, and even repulsive to them? In such a case is not God's "Depart from me" both a just and merciful response? Why force a person who hates the light to live in it? I suppose it grieves God to have to abide such a departure, but to force a person to endure Him must be even more difficult. I am sure it is with great sadness that God accepts a person's final no.

Yes, the road is wide that leads to destruction. It is wide because of us. The narrow road is the way of the cross, which is a stumbling block and an absurdity to many (1 Cor 1:23), who simply will not abide its message.

So, we ought to be sober about the Lord's lament. We ought also to be more urgent in our attempts to secure our own unruly soul and the souls of those we love for the Kingdom. The blasé attitude of most moderns is rooted in the extremely flawed notion that judgment and Hell are not real issues. That is a lie, for it contracts Jesus' clear word.

Why is the road to destruction wide? Because we are hard cases; we are difficult to save. We ought not to be unduly fearful, but we ought to run to Jesus in humility and beg Him to save us from our worst enemy—our very self. If you don't think you're a hard case, read the list above and think again.

Our Lady of Hope Catholic Retreat Center
Chatawa, MS (601)-202-3137

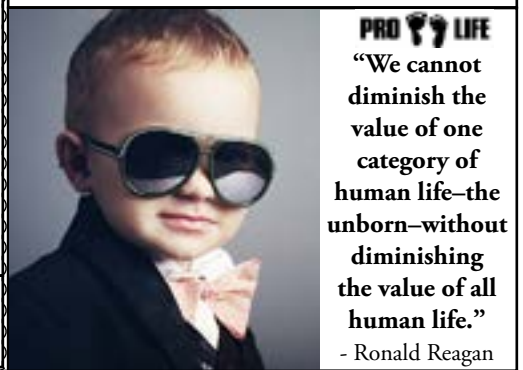
The Holy Mass: The Spiritual Foundation of the Mass and our Jewish Roots of the Liturgy

Join us for a Day and a Half Retreat with Fr. Mark Beard.

July 21-22, 2023

For more information, please visit ourladyofhopems.com/events

Our Lady of Hope - Full of Grace Gift Shop & Perkatory Coffee Shop
Monday-Saturday, 8am-3pm; Sunday after Mass
Stop by the Gift Shop for beautiful gifts, a peaceful atmosphere, and great coffee!!



IN THE KNOW...

YOUTH NIGHTS
Bring your youth to St. Helena this summer for great fun!!
Wednesday nights 6pm-8pm
Open to all children going into 6th-12th grade.

UNIFORM FOR KIDS FUNDRAISER

Our St. Vincent de Paul Ministry once again will be providing uniforms for children in need in the North Tangipahoa area. Last year, we distributed (2) uniforms to 490 kids at a cost of \$15/set. Please help us fund this effort for the 2023-2024 school year. A bulletin board with the child's name will be set up at the back of church July 15-31. Make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul Uniforms for Kids. You can return your donation in the box provided. Help Us Make a Difference

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPAGHETTI DINNER
Friday, July 28th | \$10 a Dinner
Tickets available at Church Office.

PSR Homeschool Packets are available for pickup at the Church Office and MUST be returned by August 11th.

FIRST COMMUNION SCHEDULE
Please note all dates below:

Class Spanish & English (2nd-5th gr. room 205)	August 19 th	9-10am
Class Spanish & English (6th-11th gr. room 101)	August 19 th	9-10am
English 1 st Communion Practice	August 19 th	10am
Spanish 1 st Communion Practice	August 19 th	10:30am

English 1st Communion Saturday August 27th at 4pm
Spanish 1st Communion Sunday August 28th at 1:30pm

IN THE KNOW...

PARISH OFFICE NOTIFICATION

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

BAPTISMAL SEMINARS

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

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY (WEDDINGS/CONVALIDATIONS)

6 Months in Advance

ST. HELENA TRAVELING 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

Judy Williams (985-969-4511)
For St. Helena Church

Yvonne Hulsey (985-969-5058)

For the Souls in Purgatory

Lupe Calderon (985-222-8096)

For St. Helena Church

Wendy Danna (985-687-8208)

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

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

TOURS & RETREATS

Plan a Tour or Retreat on our beautiful Campus.

For information, please go to website www.sthelenachurch.net and click on link.

ADORATION AT ST. HELENA Monday-Saturday 6am-6pm

We ask that you pray with us each week for one hour for Holy Mother Church and our Country. Please call to discuss a day you would like to pray and set up your hour.

English-Diane Murphy 985-320-7123 | Spanish-Beatriz Manriquez 985-415-5063

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (JULY 16, 2023)

Are you willing to sell everything you own and follow the Lord? Once you accept the Lord into your life as a priest, sister or brother - you will not miss those things you have 'given up'. Rather, you will rejoice in what you have 'found'. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Rev. Joshua Johnson at (225) 336-8778, jjohnson@diobr.org

Joe Goodson

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jalston520@gmail.com
arlenealston26@gmail.com

Audio & Written versions of Father Mark's Homilies are available on our website, www.sthelenachurch.net. Please support the local businesses who place Ads in our Bulletin.

BLUNK & MOLLAND ATTORNEYS AT LAW Cory B. Blunk 100 East Oak Street P.O. Box 277 Amite, LA 70422 Ph: (985) 247-7500 F: (985) 247-7501 www.blunkmolland.com	CURRIER Dental Studio Megan H. Currier, DDS 985-345-1180 2102 Rue Simone Hammond, LA 70401	TheFirst Just the Bank for You! www.TheFirstBank.com
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Mark Campo Vice President..... Mobile (985) 969-2760 mcampo@sbscopiers.com 202 Market St. Hammond, LA 70401 (985) 345-9515 1800 W. Causeway Appr. Ste. 108, Mandeville, LA 70471 (985) 626.1103	Kay C. Moser, DDS Family Dentistry 985-748-4652 416 N. Second St. • Amite, LA 70422	KENT VETERINARY CLINIC Office 985-748-8425 985-748-4628 P O Box 846 102 W. Factory St. Amite, LA 70422 Doug Kent, Jr., D.V.M. • Drew Doucet, D.V.M.
St. Vincent de Paul Call 985-747-2223 for assistance.	St. Helena Catholic Church Knights of Columbus, Council 10911 K of C For Membership Information call 225-324-5784	Faust Farms Fresh Louisiana
FRANK J. D'AMICO, SR. ATTORNEY AT LAW FRANK J. D'AMICO, SR. ATTORNEY AT LAW FDAMICO@FRANKDAMICO.COM 800 PONDCHARTAIN DRIVE • SUDELL, LOUISIANA 70488 PHONE: 985-645-0098 • FAX: 985-645-0034 WWW.FRANKDAMICO.COM	THE VENUES by Elizabeth Suggs	AMITE LIVESTOCK SALES, INC. P.O. Box 219 Amite, Louisiana 70422 website: amitelivestocksales.com Livestock Sales Every Tuesday @ 11:30 a.m. & 1st Saturday @ 12:30 p.m. Private Sales Every Day FRANK LOPINTO Cell (985) 969-4212 Bus. (985) 748-8636 Fax (985) 748-9054 JONATHAN LOPINTO Cell (985) 969-4230 ED LOPINTO Cell (985) 517-5919
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St. Helena Catholic Church
 122 S. First Street, Amite, La 70422
 (985) 748-9057 • Fax (985) 748-9094
www.sthelenachurch.net

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 16, 2023

"...Many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and hear what you hear but did not hear it." - Matthew 13:1-23

MASS SCHEDULE:
 Saturday Vigil 4pm; Sunday 9am; Sunday Spanish 1:30pm

DAILY MASS:
 Monday - Friday 7:30am; Thursday Spanish 6:00pm

CONFESSION:
 Wednesday 5-6pm; Thursday 5-6pm

1st SATURDAY:
 1st Saturday Mass 8am

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

OUR MISSION:
 We, at St. Helena Catholic Church, are concerned with educating, directing, and sustaining all who visit. In particular those who draw near to the teachings and traditions of Holy Mother Church. We strive to achieve this by utilizing the Cardinal Virtues of Justice, Prudence, Temperance and Fortitude.