

# **Volunteer Ministries and Organizations**



## **Saint Helen Catholic Church**

*SEPTEMBER 2015*



## **Saint Helen Volunteer Ministries and Organizations**

### **LITURGY:**

#### **1. Altar Servers**

This ministry is open to all young people, male and female, who have completed the sacrament of Communion. The servers reverently assist the priests in the celebration of the Mass by serving at weekend and special occasion Masses. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

#### **2. Lectors**

This ministry proclaims the Word of God as scheduled at a designated weekend Mass and on certain Holy Days. The lector must prepare for his/her assignment approximately one week ahead. Must have the confidence to proclaim the Word in front of the assembly, be familiar with the Word in your personal prayer life, be actively living your faith (enabling you to proclaim the faith from your heart because you are exercising it), be willing to attend training and be willing to develop your proclamation skills on your own, if needed. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

#### **3 Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

This ministry participates in Masses when there are insufficient Ordinary Ministers (priest and deacons) to assist in the distribution of Communion during Mass; it assist the priests in bringing Communion to the sick or elderly. Must have a profound belief and respect for the presence of Christ, must be 18 or a high school senior, registered at Saint Helen with no impediments. If married, your marriage must be blessed by the Church. All must be approved by the pastor and commissioned by the Bishop and have a sense of commitment and responsibility to this ministry. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

#### **4 Ushers**

This ministry is consists of dedicated men and women who assist the priests and parishioners as they participate in the various liturgies at St. Helen. Their duties include helping to seat parishioners during Mass and directing flow at Communion time, collecting and securing the offerings and performing other functions during special liturgies such as Christmas, Easter, First Communions, Confirmations and any Diocesan functions hosted at St. Helen.. For more information, please contact Jack Hardig at 281.481.0825 or [jhardig@jhardig.com](mailto:jhardig@jhardig.com).

**5. Children's Liturgy of the Word**

This ministry welcomes and presents the scripture message for the particular Sunday to the children according to their development level and understanding and offers prayer and reflection for the children. For more information, please contact Julie Martinez at 281.485.5457 or email [julie@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:julie@sthelenchurch.org).

**6. Arts and Environment**

This ministry assists in weekly and seasonal decorating of the Church. For more information, please contact Toni Theriot at 281.412.0121

**7. Altar Linen Care**

This ministry seeks volunteers to launder and iron the purificators and corporals used for Mass according to the specific guidelines of the Church. Training is provided on how to care for these special linens that contain the Eucharistic species. Volunteers commit their time on a rotating schedule and perform their work in their own homes. For more information, please contact Cindy Schmidt at 281-992-7304(home), 713-409-8417(cell) or email [nemecfam@oplink.net](mailto:nemecfam@oplink.net),

**8. Ministry of Care-Homebound and Nursing Homes**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion take the Body of Christ to the sick and elderly of the parish who are unable to attend Mass. Parishioners in need may contact the Church Office at 281.485.2421 and the office will contact the head of this ministry to arrange for volunteers in various parts of the city to deliver our Lord to those who have requested it. This ministry is particularly in need of those who are available during the day so they can access the Church and the homebound during that time. For more information or to volunteer, please contact the Church Office at 281.485.2421.

**9. Ministry of Care-Hospital**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion take the body of Christ to the sick confined in hospitals and unable to attend Mass. Parishioners in need may contact the Church Office at 281.485.2421. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Maria King at 281.482.6277 or email [angelnose@comcast.net](mailto:angelnose@comcast.net).

**10. Adult Mixed Choir**

This ministry is open to adults who enjoy group singing. The choir rehearses Wednesday at 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in the Choir Room. The adult choir sings at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses every Sunday of the month except the 1st Sunday. The adult choir also sings at all Holy Days and special events. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**11. Sr. High Choir (9th—12th grade)**

This ministry is open to young adults in the 9th through 12th grades. Rehearsals are scheduled at 4:00 pm on Sunday; the choir then sings at the Sunday 5:00 pm Mass. And other special occasions. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**12. Novus Kapelle (3rd—8th grade)**

This ministry is open to children in the 3rd through 8th grades. (Audition is required) The choir sings once a month at the 11:00 am Mass throughout the year. Rehearsals are scheduled each month and take place the week prior to the performance. As rehearsal times will vary, parents will be notified at the first of the month via email of rehearsal times. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**13. Spanish Choir**

This ministry is open to adults and children. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The choir sings each Sunday at the 1:00 pm Spanish Mass and other special occasions. For more information, contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253. or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org)

**14. Cantors**

This ministry brings the song of assembled community to life and assists the assembly so that their song may become prayer. Must be open to the Lord in your life and have an innate sense of hospitality, possess self-confidence, reliability, flexibility, be able to think on your feet and be willing to study, practice and prepare well. Requires a pleasant singing voice that is steady and on pitch, a sense of rhythm and tempo and at least a general knowledge of music and the basic ability to read musical notation. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**15. Instrumentalists - Handbells**

This ministry is open to young people in high school and adults and consists of brass and wind ensembles and handbells. These musicians perform as needed at Mass. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**16. Schola**

This men's choir chants at the 5:00 pm Sunday Mass once a month and on certain Holy Days. The Schola sings traditional music for the Catholic Liturgy (chants and motets). Rehearsals take place prior to the Mass for which the Schola will sing. For more information, please contact René Mondragon at 281.412.5253 or email [rene@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:rene@sthelenchurch.org).

**ADULT EDUCATION / MINISTRIES:**

**17. Adult Formation / RCIA**

This ministry (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) prepares adults who wish to join the Catholic Church, become baptized and make a formal profession of faith, being Confirmed and taking an active part at the Eucharist Table. For more information, contact Donna Patlach at 281.485.8867 or email [donna@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:donna@sthelenchurch.org).

**18. Unitas**

This ministry provides an opportunity for the engaged couple to meet with other engaged couples as well as members of St. Helen who serve as married mentor couples, presenters and hospitality team members. Couples attend seven sessions designed to: help couples build faith and spirituality in their relationship, develop an understanding of communication, family of origin, conscience development, intimacy building and family formation and establish ties with the Church community. Sessions are on Thursday 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. For more information, please contact Misty Hitt at 281.412.0016 or email [damdhitt@comcast.net](mailto:damdhitt@comcast.net).

**19. Sponsor Couple for Marriage**

This ministry provides marriage preparation sessions for those couples unable to attend the Unitas sessions. This preparation involves private meetings with a parish "sponsor couple" and being given material to read and personally reflect on. For more information, please contact Donna Patlach at 281.485.8867 or email [donna@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:donna@sthelenchurch.org).

**20. Marriage Encounter**

This ministry is aimed at revitalizing Christian marriage. It is a time for several married couples to be alone together, rediscover each other and focus on their relationship for an entire weekend. By continuing the techniques acquired throughout the weekend, spouses grow closer together to live a more joyful and purposeful life. Encounters are held regularly at retreat houses. For more information, please contact Brian and Tina Little at 281.485.5648 or email [btittle2@me.com](mailto:btittle2@me.com)

**21. Natural Family Planning (NFP)**

This ministry is for engaged and married couples to learn the practice of achieving or avoiding pregnancies according to an informed awareness of a woman's fertility, based on Catholic Church teaching regarding natural family planning. Basic instruction is a series of three meetings spaced at monthly intervals with reading material provided. For more information, please contact Brian and Kesa Young at 281.485.4028 or email [kbyoungfamily@gmail.com](mailto:kbyoungfamily@gmail.com)..

**22. Baptism Team**

This ministry teaches baptism preparation classes for parents and godparents and reverently assists the priest or deacon when they are performing baptisms. For more information, please contact Julie Martinez at 281.485.5457 or email [julie@sthelenchurch.org](mailto:julie@sthelenchurch.org).

**23. Mom's Bible Study**

This ministry participates in Catholic Bible studies, the source of spiritual and emotional nourishment for mothers. In addition to presenting informal discussion topics in a warm and inviting atmosphere on the role of motherhood and faith formation for children, mother-to-mother support is available for issues regarding raising children of all ages. The group meets every other Wednesday at 9:15 am during the fall and spring. For more information, contact Macie Ingram at 806-535-0853 or email [macieingram@hotmail.com](mailto:macieingram@hotmail.com) or Margot Bravo and 281.809.3264 or email [mbravo99@gmail.com](mailto:mbravo99@gmail.com).

**24. Catholic Scripture Study**

This ministry focuses on studying and discussing the Bible and our Catholic Christian faith in order to understand and live out God's Word in a fuller way. The format includes a weekly reading assignment with questions for reflection and discussion. Meetings are on Tuesday from 7:30-9:00 pm during the fall and spring. For more information, contact Paul Ambro at [paul.ambro@gmail.com](mailto:paul.ambro@gmail.com).

**25. That Man Is You**

This ministry is a 26-week interactive, world-wide, men's Bible Study program focused on the development of men in the modern world. It combines the best research from science with the teachings of the Catholic faith and the wisdom of the saints to develop the vision of authentic men capable of transforming society. This ministry meets Thursday morning from 6:00 am to 7:30 am. For more information, please contact Rick Eckelkamp at 832.978.5514 or email [reckelkamp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:reckelkamp@sbcglobal.net) or James Stryk at 281.992.7335 or email [jastryk@comcast.net](mailto:jastryk@comcast.net).

**26. Women's Day of Prayer and Spiritual Retreats**

This ministry conducts an annual day of prayer at St. Helen during the Lenten Season which includes a well-known speaker, fellowship and lunch. This ministry also offers nearby spiritual retreats several times a year. For more information, please contact Janet Huber at 281.435.6717 or Patti Courtin at 281.433.4002 or email [pcourtin1@comcast.net](mailto:pcourtin1@comcast.net).

**27. St. Helen's Rosary Prayer Group**

Members of this ministry join together in praying the Rosary and other Marian prayers to unite their intentions together and to pray on behalf of their individual families, our parish family and the extended families of believers throughout the world. They pray after the daily Masses and have a special prayer service and potluck meal once a month following the 1st Saturday morning Mass. For more information, please contact Lupe Macias at 832.279-3922 or email [heandshe4631@gmail.com](mailto:heandshe4631@gmail.com) or Irma Pina at 713.482.9072 or email [irmapina44@gmail.com](mailto:irmapina44@gmail.com).

**28. Little Saints Group**

This ministry offers mothers with young children and infants the opportunity to meet for play time, faith activities and social time. This ministry meets Tuesday morning at 10:00 am. For more information, contact Laura Ambro at 281.455.1641 or email [lauraambro10@gmail.com](mailto:lauraambro10@gmail.com).

**29. Spanish Prayer Group**

This ministry meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 pm in Helena Hall. Everyone is invited to share the teachings of scripture and personal testimony. Together, they praise and thank God. For more information, please contact Miguel Franco at 832.768.7335.



## **YOUTH EDUCATION / MINISTRIES:**

- 30. CCE: Julie Martinez, 281.485.5457 or email julie@sthelenchurch.org.**
- A. Catechist, pre-K—5th grade**  
This ministry helps with students' religious education and acts as a mentor to the children. Classes begin in September of each year with registration in July and August.
  - B. Catechist Aide, pre-K — 5th grade**  
This ministry assists the catechist in the classrooms with the students' religious education and helps the children with their classroom needs.
  - C. CCE Office Helper (Helping Hands)**  
This ministry assists with clerical duties in the CCE office, monitors the hallways and helps in the classrooms. This ministry also assists with setting-up or storing items for various, once a month, functions.
  - D. CCE Traffic Helper**  
This ministry directs vehicle traffic before and after CCE classes to protect the children.
  - E. CCE Baby-Sitting**  
This ministry assists with child care for Catechists during CCE or various other functions as needed.
  - F. Language Translator**  
This ministry assists with translations; especially needed is bilingual English/Spanish.
  - G. Vacation Bible School**  
This ministry offers a 1-week program in the early summer for children 3 years through 4th grade. Older children are encouraged to volunteer their assistance. The program offers fun, games, arts/crafts, children's liturgy, music and fellowship.
- 31. Catholic Christian Family Movement  
(Movimiento Familiar Catolico Cristiano-MFCC)**  
This ministry works with the Hispanic community to help families strengthen their Christian Values through a bi-weekly preparation. For more information, please contact Jose and Giselle Chapa at 281.935.4026 or email chapajose\_72@yahoo.com.

**32 Jr. High Ministry— Grades 6 - 8**

James Carrasco, 281.485.0222 or email james@sthelenchurch.org.

- A. **Small Group Minister (aka Catechist)**
- B. **Small Group Assistant (aka Catechist Aide)**
- C. **Baby-Sitting**
- D. **Traffic Helper**
- E. **Keynote Speaker**  
A speaker to give the Wednesday evening teaching, topics will vary.
- F. **Worship Leader**
- G. **Kitchen Cook**
- H. **Mission Night**
- I. **Yearly Retreat**  
Volunteers to staff the Spring weekend retreat.

**33. Sr. High Ministry—Grades 9 - 12**

Jeanette Velasquez: 281-485-0022  
or email Jeanette@sthelenchurch.org

- A. **Small Group Minister (aka Catechist)**
- B. **Small Group Assistant (aka Catechist)**
- C. **Baby-Sitting**
- D. **Traffic Helper**
- E. **Keynote Speaker**  
A speaker to give the Sunday evening teaching, topics will vary.
- F. **Kitchen Cook**
- G. **Quinceanera**  
Assists young women who will be approaching their 15th birthday and wish to plan for their Quinceanera.
- H. **Kidz Harbor**  
Volunteers to assist the youth in helping the Kidz Harbor Shelter.

**51. Priests Meals Ministry**

Volunteers in this ministry provide home-cooked meals to the priests in our parish twice a week and make a commitment on a rotating schedule. For more information, please contact Jamie Horne at 281.386-9031 or email wifejamie@aol.com.

**PARISH ORGANIZATONS:**

**52. Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

This ministry was founded in 1903 and is the largest national organization of Catholic women in the world. The purposes of the Order are exclusively religious, charitable and educational, with the motto "Unity and Charity". Court St. Helen was instituted at St. Helen Catholic Church on February 25, 1990, and supports the parish through donations and charitable works. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday on each month in the evening at 7:30 pm. For more information, please contact Shirley Hunter at 281.485.5406 or email slejsal@yahoo.com.

**53. Knights of Columbus**

This Fraternal Order seeks to promote faith, fellowship and philanthropy through the Order's principals of charity, unity and fraternity. Meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at the K of C Hall on Hatfield Road. K of C , Fr. Eugene Heyck Council #8960, 3rd Degree, meetings monthly. Bishop Wendelen J. Nold Assembly, 4th Degree, meets monthly, promoting the spirit of patriotism through it activities in the Church in community. For more information, please contact Ralph Aulds at 281-788-7636 or email raulds@aulds-garner.com.

**54. Columbian Squires**

This ministry is open to young boys 10-18 years of age who have received their first Communion. They are primarily given opportunities to develop and grow to be productive citizens and enhance leadership skills by participating in athletic, recreational, community, social, family and spiritual activities. For more information, please contact Al Stryk at 281.485.4095 or email alstryk@sbcglobal.net.

**55. Kislap ng. Sta. Elena**

This is a Filipino-American ministry organized in 1991 and meets the 1st Friday of each month except July and November. The mission is to foster spiritual growth, become active parishioners, form the Filipino-American community and respond to the spiritual, social, cultural, educational and physical needs of it members. The ministry has many activities including celebrations of Filipino religious traditions, retreats, social events and fundraisers. For more information, please contact George Tomlinson at email Marylou.tomlinson@sbcglobal.net or call 281.782.0961.

**45. Prayer Blanket Ministry**

This ministry gives handmade blankets to adults and children who are ill or in need of comfort. These blankets have a scripture theme and are blessed by the priest. This ministry meets once a month during the day. One does not have to sew to participate. For more information, please contact Steffani Polasek at 281.844.4802 or email [steffani.polasek@gmail.com](mailto:steffani.polasek@gmail.com).

**46. St. Vincent de Paul Society**

The mission of this Society is to bring the face of God to each person and serves approximately 4,000 people annually. Volunteers assist the economically disadvantaged three days a week, two hours each day. Meetings are held twice monthly. For more information, please contact Gina Millett at 281.485.2976 or email [gina.millett@yahoo.com](mailto:gina.millett@yahoo.com).

**47. Super Seniors**

This social ministry is open to all ages 55 and older. They meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Meetings include a short business meeting, an occasion speaker and games. They also plan field trips to interesting venues. For more information, please contact Kathy Lynch at 281.485.4000 or email [nanlynch@att.net](mailto:nanlynch@att.net).

**48. Traveling Chalice for Vocations**

This ministry offers families the opportunity to take the Chalice home for two weeks and during that time to pray as a family for religious vocations. For more information, please contact Diana Sanchez at 281.485.1015 or email [jundin1943@yahoo.com](mailto:jundin1943@yahoo.com).

**49. Ministry of Care (Bereavement)**

This ministry is dedicated to providing love and support to families who have recently suffered a loss of a loved one. Members of this ministry help by supporting caregivers of the terminally ill, serving as host for funeral services, coordinating with the Funeral Meals ministry and reaching out to families following the death of their loved one. For more information, please contact Kay Ann Kernek at 281.485.1392 or email [kernekcpa@yahoo.com](mailto:kernekcpa@yahoo.com).

**50. Ministry of Meals**

This ministry provides home-cooked meals to anyone who has experienced a life changing event, including a new baby, surgery, chemo therapy treatments or some other event that makes it hard to cook a meal. For more information, please contact Sarah Yap at 832.379.4795 or email [bennysmom213@gmail.com](mailto:bennysmom213@gmail.com).

**I. Yearly Retreat**

Volunteers to staff the Spring weekend retreat.

**J. Reginas**

Volunteers to be female ministers for the 9th—12th grade ladies gatherings.

**SAINT HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL:**

**34. Saint Helen Catholic School (SHCS):  
Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 through 8th grade.**

Catholic schools continue to be the most effective means available to the Church for the education of children and young people who are the future of the Church. Saint Helen School teaches Catholic values, strengthens students' faith, focuses on educating the entire person and witnesses to the presence of Jesus in the world. Currently, Saint Helen Catholic School serves 350 students in grades PK3-8th, utilizing two facilities— the main campus and the middle school building (FLC). We employ only certified and degreed instructors. Using the Archdiocese curriculum, the school embraces a Christian environment with a rigorous academic program to help grow your children in wisdom, age and grace.

Check us out on Facebook or our webpage at [www.sthelenchurch.org](http://www.sthelenchurch.org) and click on the St. Helen Catholic School tab. The school is fully accredited through the TCCED and AdvancED (formerly Southern Association of Schools). Saint Helen Catholic School is one of only 63 schools in the nation to be designated as a "Green Ribbon" School because of its earth-friendly projects and recycling efforts.

The school affords a variety of opportunities to volunteer, such as assisting the faculty with retreats, tutorials, food drives and charity projects, in addition to the major fund-raiser, the Monsignor Braden Dinner Dance. Volunteers can also join the school board and assist in the classroom once they successfully complete a discernment process and the VIRTUS (Protecting God's Children) Program. For more information, please contact Dr. Phyliss Coleman at 281.485.2845 or email [pcoleman@sthelencatholicsschool.org](mailto:pcoleman@sthelencatholicsschool.org).

## **PARISH SERVICES / MINISTRIES**

### **35. Pastoral Council**

The Pastoral Council assists the pastor to identify pastoral needs in the parish, helps the pastor plan pastoral programs and improve their services and coordinates with other ministries to develop any additional programs and/or services considered to be in the best interest of furthering the parish community spirit.

### **36. Vision Committee**

This committee assists our parish with evaluating current facilities for additional needs arising from projected growth in parish membership and associated ministries. This committee makes decisions related to building design and expansion and conducts any capital campaign needed to fund these projects. For more information, please contact Donnie Strouhal at 281.685.2493 or email dcstrouhal@aol.com.

### **37. Finance Council**

The Finance Council assists the pastor to identify pastoral needs in the parish, helps the pastor plan pastoral programs and improve their services and coordinates with other ministries to develop any additional programs and/or services considered to be in the best interest of furthering the parish community spirit.

### **38. Annual Bazaar**

The bazaar is held each year. This is the single largest fund-raising event for the Church and requires a tremendous number of volunteers. For example, the committee will need volunteers on the day of the Bazaar to staff the many food, games and concession booths and people are asked to contribute food and donations for sale in the booth and at the auctions. Anyone interested in being a part of Saint Helen Annual Bazaar may contact the Church Office at 281.485.2421 prior to June of each year.

### **39. Altar Committee**

This ministry consists of parishioners who clean the altar on a weekly basis. The committee is divided into 12 groups of approximately 8 members. Each group is assigned to clean the altar for one month of the year. This ministry is always looking for more volunteers so they can form more groups. For more information, please contact Ethel Wind at 281.485.9796 or email windewnd@aol.com.

### **40. Blood Drive**

This ministry, in coordination with the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, conducts blood drives 3 times a year at the Church; spring, late summer and winter. This ministry needs volunteers to participate in the phone banks that remind previous donors of upcoming drives, assist in sign-ups and provide lunch for workers at the spring and summer drives. For more information, please contact Ann Strouhal at 281.489.1121 or email pastrouhal@yahoo.com.

### **41. Disaster Relief Team**

This ministry helps the community mobilize for any disasters (by nature or man-made). For more information, please contact the Church Office at 281.485.2421 or email frjim@sthelenchurch.org.

### **42. Funeral Dinners**

This ministry works with families who have lost loved ones and who are having a funeral service at the Church. The ministry then purchases, cooks and serves meals to the family and guests. This ministry needs volunteers to bring covered dishes and those who assist in ordering certain foods but is especially in need of chairpersons who will take turns through-out the year organizing and mobilizing the teams who will serve the families. If you are interested in serving as a chairperson, who serves for one month, or in any other capacity, please contact Nita Ankenbruck at 281.485.1703 or email jla5950@sbcglobal.net.

### **43. Meals on Wheels**

This ministry works in conjunction with seven other Pearland Churches to provide lunches to those who are unable to fix their own meals or those who are unable to leave home to purchase food. The organization delivers up to 32 meals on weekdays, along two routes, two people per route. For more information, please contact Shana Kutac at 979.236.2090 or email lsu\_girl99@comcast.net.

### **44. Parish Nursing Ministry**

This ministry is comprised of registered nurses and support volunteers promoting awareness and appreciation to holistic health of parishioners through education, counseling, preventative care, resources and referrals. This ministry sponsors free blood pressure screenings after Masses on the first Sunday of the month, gives annual flu shots and staffs the annual Bazaar first-aid station. This ministry also promotes a spirit of caring, listening, helping and supporting the human person as an image of God. For more information, please contact Grace Campos at 832.613.7578 or email ggcamos@earthlink.net, Anita Francisco at 832.715.5424 or Eva Lebiga at 713.598.2847.