

SAINT HELEN CHURCH VOLUNTEER MNISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

LITURGY

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, contact Matthew Buentello at 281-485-9088 or matthew@sthelenchurch.org.

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, contact Matthew Buentello at 281-485-9088 or matthew@sthelenchurch.org.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

This ministry participates in Masses when there are insufficient Ordinary Ministers (priests and deacons) to assist in the distribution of Communion during Mass; it assists 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 St. 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, contact Matthew Buentello at 281-485-9088 or matthew@sthelenchurch.org.

Ushers

This ministry 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 by St. Helen. For more information, contact Matthew Buentello at 281-485-9088 or matthew@sthelenchurch.org.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

This ministry welcomes the children 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, contact Julie Martinez at 281-485-5457 or Julie@sthelenchurch.org

Arts and Environment

This ministry assists in weekly and seasonal decorating of the Church. For more information, please contact Toni Theriot at 281-705-1888.

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, contact Cindy Schmidt at 281-992-7304 (home), 713-409-8417 (cell) or by email at nemecfam@oplink.net.

Adult Mixed Choir

This ministry is open to adults who enjoy group singing. The choir rehearses Wednesday at 7:30-9:00 pm in the Choir Room. The adult choir sings at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses on Sundays. The adult choir also sings at Holy Day Masses and special events. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

Sr. High Choir (9th-12th Grade)

This ministry is open to young adults in the 9th-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 information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

Novus Kapelle (3rd-8th grade)

This ministry is open to children in the 3rd-8th grades. (Audition is required) The choir sings once a month at the 11:00 am Mass throughout the year. Rehearsals are the first and third Thursdays at 5:00 pm. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

Spanish Choir

This ministry is open to adults and children. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights 7:00-8:30 pm. The choir sings each Sunday at the 1:00 pm Spanish Mass and other special occasions. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

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 will. 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 information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

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 as Mass. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

ADULT EDUCATION / MINISTRIES

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 Eucharistic Table. For information, contact Donna Patlach at 281-485-8867 or donna@sthelenchurch.org.

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 7:30-9:30 pm. For information, contact Donna Patlach at 281-485-8867 or donna@sthelenchurch.org.

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 information, contact Donna Patlach at 281-485-8867 or donna@sthelenchurch.org.

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 information, contact Brian and Tina Little at 281-773-4014 or btlittle2@me.com.

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 information, contact Donna Patlach at 281-485-8867 or donna@sthelenchurch.org.

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 information, contact Julie Martinez at 281-485-5457 or julie@sthelenchurch.org.

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 9:15-11:00 pm during the fall and spring. For information, contact Tina Little at 281-773-4014 or btlittle2@me.com

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 information, contact Paul Ambro at paul.ambro@gmail.org.

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 6:00-7:30 am. For information, contact Rick Eckelcamp at 832-978-5514 or reckelkamp@sbcglobal.net.

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 information, contact Pattie Courtin at 281-433-4002 or pcourtin1@comcast.net.

St. Helen 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 first Saturday morning Mass. For more information please contact Lupe Macias at 832-279-3922 or sheandhe4631@gmail.com or Veronica Munoz at MunozV@pearlandisd.org.

Spanish Prayer Group

This ministry meets every Thursday evening at 7:00 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 Gabriel Arreola at

Catholic Christian Family Movement—(MFCC)

This Ministry works with the Hispanic community to help families strengthen their Christian and Family values through bi-weekly preparation. Using a 15 theme manual together with bible passages to help the formed groups analyze what the Word is telling them in relation to the theme. For more information contact Gerardo and Carmen Martinez 281-639-8210 or e-mail: amadogmtz1@live.com.

YOUTH EDUCATION / MINISTRIES

CCE (Pre-K-5th Grade & Special Needs)

Faith Formation for Pre-K through 5th Grade and Special Needs. CCE seeks to help the entire St. Helen Community grow in the knowledge, unity, love and peace of God as proclaimed to us by the gospel of Jesus Christ and to live as His disciples in our world today. Faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church, we invite adults, young adults, youth and children to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the catholic faith community.

Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to:

Catechist, Catechist Aide, Office Helper, Babysitter, Language Translator, and Vacation Bible School. Contact Julie Martinez at 281-485-5457 or Julie@sthelenchurch.org for information.

Junior High Youth Ministry (Grades 6-8)

The Mission Statement of St. Helen Youth Ministry: "The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but also in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ." – Saint John Paul II. Faith Formation for Grades 6-8. Meets every Wednesday evening during the school year.

Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to:

Small Group Catechist, Small Group Catechist Aid, Babysitter, Keynote Speaker, Worship Leader, Kitchen Help, and Retreat Volunteers. Contact Chloe Barnes at 281-485-0222 or chloe@sthelenchurch.org for more information.

Senior High Youth Ministry (Grades 9-12)

The Mission Statement of St. Helen Youth Ministry: "The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch but also in communion and intimacy with Jesus Christ." – Saint John Paul II. Faith Formation for Grades 9-12. Meets every Sunday evening during the school year. Confirmation preparation is a two year requirement for grades 10-11 for non-Catholic school students For more information on the sacrament of Confirmation for High School Students, contact Brittany Garcia at 281-485-0222 or brittany@sthelenchurch.org.

Volunteer opportunities include but are not limited to:

Small Group Catechist, Small Group Catechist Aid, Babysitter, Keynote Speaker, Worship Leader, Kitchen Help, Retreat Staff, Quinceanera Assistants, and Kidz Harbor Volunteers. For more information, contact Brittany Garcia at 281-485-0222 or brittany@sthelenchurch.org.

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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. St. Helen School teaches Catholic values, strengthens students' faith, focuses on educating the entire person and witnesses to the presence of Jesus in the world. St. Helen School serves students in grades PK3-8th. 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 TCCED and AdvancED (formerly Southern Association of Schools). St. Helen School is one of the few schools in the nation to be designated as a "Green Ribbon" school because of its earth-friendly projects and recycling efforts.

Volunteer opportunities include:

Assisting the faculty with retreats, tutorials, food drives and charity projects, in addition to our annual school/parish Msgr. Braden Gala. Volunteers can also join the school board and assist in the classroom once they successfully complete a discernment process and the VIRTUS Program. For more information, contact Dr. Phyliss Coleman at 281-485-2845 or pcoleman@sthelencatholicschool.org.

Check us out on Facebook or our webpage at www.sthelenchurch.org and click on the St. Helen Catholic School tab.

PARISH SERVICES/MINISTRIES

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.

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.

Annual Parish Picnic

The Parish Picnic is held on the grounds of St. Helen in September and requires many volunteers. For more information, contact the Church Office at 281-485-2421.

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. For more information, contact Ethel Wind at 281-485-9796 or windewnd@aol.com.

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. For information on volunteer opportunities, contact Ann Strouhal at 281-489-1121 or pastrouhal@yahoo.com.

Disaster Relief Team

The ministry helps the community mobilize for any disasters (by nature or man-made). For information, contact Church Office at 281-485-2421 or frjim@sthelenchurch.org.

Funeral Meals

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 a meal to the family and guests. This ministry needs volunteers to bring covered dishes and also chairpersons who will take turns throughout the year (one month) organizing and mobilizing the teams who will serve the families. For information, contact Nita Ankenbruck at 281-485-1703.

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 homebound. Volunteers deliver meals on week days, two people per route. For information, contact Dora Clark at 281-918-6792 or ddclardd@yahoo.com or David Darnell at 832-665-0067.

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 provide free blood pressure screenings after Masses on the first Sunday of the month (except in January and July) and hosts an annual health fair each fall. For information, contact Grace Campos at 832-613-7578 or [gcampos@earthlink.net](mailto:gccampos@earthlink.net) or Anita Francisco at 832-715-5424 or Eva Lebiga at 713-598-2847.

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 a priest. For information on volunteering, contact Steffani Polasek at 281-844-4802 or steffani.polasek@gmail.com.

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP)

The mission of this Society is to bring the face of God to each person and serves thousands of people annually. SVDP is open four days a week for two hours. Meetings are held monthly. For information, contact Donna Janak at 281-489-0383 or dmjanak@gmail.com.

Super Seniors

This social ministry is open to all ages 55 and older. They meet on the first Wednesday of every month. Meetings include a short business meeting, an occasional speaker and games. They also plan field trips to interesting venues. For information, contact Kathy Lynch at 281-485-4000.

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. This ministry is in particular need of those who are available during the day so they can access the Church and the homebound during that time. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

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. For information, contact René Mondragon at 281-485-9088 or rene@sthelenchurch.org.

St. Helen Social Club

This social group is open to all adults. Events are planned the second Friday of every month. Activities include dancing, wine tasting, game night, movie night, sports night and more. For information, contact Charlie and Ashley Jarell at thejarrellfamily6@gmail.com

Traveling Chalice for Vocations

This ministry offers families the opportunity to take the Chalice home for a time period and during that time to pray as a family for religious vocations. For information, contact Helen Drab-Stigant at jim3helen@aol.com.

Priest Meals Ministry

Volunteers in this ministry provide home-cooked meals for the priests in our parish once a week. For information, contact Jamie Horne at 281-386-9031 or wifejamie@aol.com.

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 Church on February 25, 1990 and supports the parish through donations and charitable works. Meetings are held every 3rd Monday evening of the month. For information, contact Gigi Lampson at 713-817-9003 or gmlamp@yahoo.com.

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 at the K of C Hall on Hatfield Road. For information, contact Michael Rodriguez at 713-885-1274 or mnmrod@comcast.net.

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 information, contact Al Stryk at 281-485-4095 or alstryk@sbcglobal.net.