

## Shared Ministries & Events

### Religious Education (Grades K-5)

- We will **not have class this week** in observance of Thanksgiving. We also will **not have class the week of December 4th** because of the Christmas Breakfast. Please enjoy the time with your family!
- We are hoping to have another **Epiphany pageant on January 8th**. The pageant will take place at the 8:30am Mass at Our Lady of Fatima. Any child from either parish is welcome to participate. Please contact Pat Policastro at 370-0027 or [ffk5@olfatima.cc](mailto:ffk5@olfatima.cc).

**Our Lady of Fatima:** Pat Policastro 370-0027  
**St. Helen's:** Kris Rooney 377-3119

### Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

- Reminder...There will **not be Youth Ministry** (grades 6-9) **on November 27th and 28th; and December 4th and 5th**. All sessions will resume on Sunday, December 11th and Monday, December 12th.
- Reminder...**11th Grade Confirmation Prep II will meet next Sunday, December 4th**, at Our Lady of Fatima from 6pm - 7:30pm in the church. Parents--If you have other young people attending faith formation on Sunday evening, they may be dropped off at 6:00pm as well. A safety monitor will be available from 6:00pm - 6:20pm.
- There is still time to sign up for our **3rd Annual Christmas Tree Sale**. This event will take place **Friday 12/9 from 3pm-7pm; Saturday 12/10 from 11am - 6pm and Sunday 12/11 from 11am - 3pm**. Contact Youth Ministry to sign up.
- **Upcoming opportunities for service**...Decorating for Christmas at St Helen's Church on December 18th at 11am; Community Toy Store Set Up at the Schenectady City Mission on December 20th at 6pm.
  - **Anna Denney** 377-3119 [youth1803@gmail.com](mailto:youth1803@gmail.com)
  - **Lisa Kuban** 370-0027 [ym612@olfatima.cc](mailto:ym612@olfatima.cc)

**Advent Afternoon for High School Girls** - Carondelet Hospitality Center on next Sunday, December 4 from 1 to 4:30. Meet other young people from around the area and give yourself the gift of some quiet time and some service. Contact Anna or Sr. Betsy at 346-6137, for brochure and permission slip.

### Adult Faith Enrichment

- A Play and Pray Time: **The Mom-Dad-Kids' Group**. Life can be both wonderful and exhausting all at the same time – especially if you a busy at-home Mom, Dad, or grandparent caring for little ones! Give yourself a morning break and come to our 'Mom's Group' on **Tuesday, November 29th at 10 am** at Fatima's Parish Center. Call Helen Moon at OLF's Parish office, 370-0027, if you have any questions or concerns.
- Sharing faith, insights and questions can be invigorating and fun! Come to a Scripture/Prayer group and let Scripture come alive with meaning and insights for you. We meet on Tuesday at 4:00pm OR 7pm (the RCIA process) OR Thursday at 1pm at Fatima's Community Room.



### Ho! Ho! Ho!

#### Annual Christmas Breakfast with Santa!

Join us on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am until 1:00pm at St. Helen's School! Special visitors from the North Pole will tell us the story of Saint Nicholas and to share some smiles. **Don't forget your cameras!** We will also make a special Christmas Greeting that will be sent to our Sister parish in Mexico. Sit back and enjoy being served a delicious breakfast of pancakes, sausage, coffee, tea, hot chocolate, milk and juice. Cost is \$15 per family (4+), \$5 for adult (12+) and \$3 for children (11&under). This event is sponsored by Youth Ministry.

**DEMONSTRATE YOUR THANKFULNESS.** Our Lady of Fatima and St Helen's rely on your contributions each week. These contributions help support the work of the church now and throughout the year. During this Thanksgiving season, please consider demonstrating appreciation for your own good fortune or good health by making an additional contribution, or, if you haven't done so already, by committing to a consistent on line giving plan. Both Our Lady of Fatima and St. Helen's offer parishioners a convenient, safe electronic giving option for making donations. Please contact Anne at 346-6137 or Tricia at 370-3136 for details.

**Boy Scout Troop 34**, ([www.troop34nisk.org](http://www.troop34nisk.org)) chartered by St. Helen's, will be holding its annual holiday wreath sale this Saturday, November 26th after the 4:30pm Mass and on Sunday, November 27th after the 10:00am Mass at St. Helen's. Next weekend, December 4th the troop will be at OLF, selling after the 8:30am and 11:30am Masses. The wreath sales are the Troop's sole fundraiser for the year, and sale proceeds benefit local scouting

# Saint Helen's

# Mass Intentions

Place  
Magnet  
Here

Masses held at **Our Lady of Fatima Church** are shaded.

Masses held at **St. Helen's Church** are not shaded



The **Bethlehem Tree** is up and filled with tags for those less fortunate. In addition to the regular agencies that we help, we have included several of our school families that were affected by the hurricane. Please take a tag off the tree, purchase that gift and return it, unwrapped, to church next weekend. If you take a tag and are unable to find that gift, feel free to substitute with a similar item. Thank you so much for your commitment to this project. If you have questions, please call Carol at 393-0918.

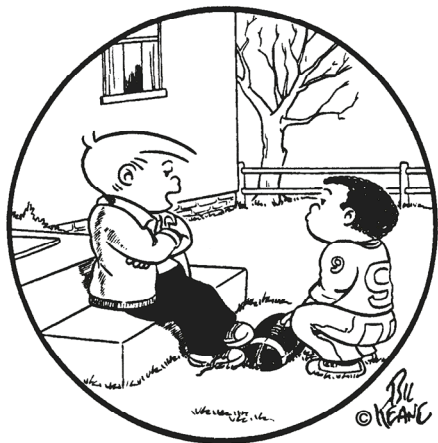
## ST. HELEN'S LITURGICAL MINISTERS

| Week of: 12/3-12/4             | Saturday 4:30pm  | Sunday 10:00am  |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>READERS:</b>                | Scott Bellcourt<br>Peter Coffey  | Fred Shellard<br>Larry Wyngowski  |
| <b>SERVERS:</b>                | Nicholas DeSano<br>Emily Johnson<br>Rebecca Scorzella<br>Emma Griffith | Cecelia Holodak<br>Olivia Mannato<br>Colleen McLoughlin<br>Nicholas Reyes |
| <b>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:</b> | Team I   | Team I  |

St. Helen's Parish Support

Due to the holiday, the November 20th collection will not be available until next weekend.

## THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Thanksgiving was okay, but I bet we'll have a lot more to be thankful for on Christmas."

from *The Joyful Noiseletter*  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

|             |              |  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| <b>SAT</b>  | <b>11/26</b> | <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>  |
| 4:30        | p.m.         | Lawrence Chamberland & Anthony Runfola (Family)<br>Christopher J. Ryan (Family)  |
| <b>SUN</b>  | <b>11/27</b> |  |
| 8:30        | a.m.         | Bob Goodwin (Joan Terwilliger)   |
| 10:00       | a.m.         | All Souls  |
| 11:30       | a.m.         | Nancy Brown (JoAnn. Cara, Kiley)<br>Armond Berti (Grace Riccobono)<br>Robert Beebe (Beebe & Grimmer Families)                      |
| <b>MON</b>  | <b>11/28</b> |  |
| 9:00        | a.m.         | Intentions for the People  |
| <b>TUES</b> | <b>11/29</b> |  |
| 9:00        | a.m.         | Frank & Helen Burgess (Family)<br>Edith Sherry (St. Helen's Bridge Group)  |
| <b>WED</b>  | <b>11/30</b> | <b>St. Andrew</b>  |
| 7:00        | p.m.         | Rosalie Castiglia (Cookie, Shelley, Eric, Jodie & Jade Marie)<br>Darrell Tubman (Meg & Paul Giannetti, Emily Ross, Michael Devlin) |
| <b>THUR</b> | <b>12/1</b>  |  |
| 9:00        | a.m.         | Thomas Perreault (Tiberio Family)<br>Lucas Romano (Feeny Family)   |
| <b>FRI</b>  | <b>12/2</b>  |  |
| 9:00        | a.m.         | Intentions for the People  |
| <b>SAT</b>  | <b>12/3</b>  | <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>   |
| 4:30        | p.m.         | Sean Valero (Kellish Family)<br>Joseph Early (Early Family)  |
| <b>SUN</b>  | <b>12/4</b>  |  |
| 8:30        | a.m.         | Bob Goodwin (Joe & Lisa)   |
| 10:00       | a.m.         | Natalie Carroll-Tuttle (Traci Johnson & Family)<br>Choy Chin & Shirley Chin (Family)   |
| 11:30       | a.m.         | Jack Van Kamerik (Wife, Irene)<br>Angelo Marotta (Grace Riccobono)   |

**Let us Remember the Sick in our Prayers:** Mark Barsotti, Mary Grace Doherty, Tom Grogan, Stacey Hopkins, Ruth Janiec, Eileen Kilrain, Edward Kleinkauf, Liam Lambeth, Pat Moskwa, Mary Catherine Muccigrosso, Kevin Olsen, Marian Smialek.

## Shared Ministries (continued)

**Landings Team** will meet on **Thursday, December 1st at 7:00 pm at Our Lady of Fatima.**



**St. Helen's School Holiday Meal Planning Fundraiser.** Due to popular demand the deadline for the Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser has been extended. The Honey Baked Ham Company will be donating 50% from each \$25 gift card sold between now and December 25th. Please contact the school at 382-8225 to purchase one of these gift cards.

**ANNUAL BUS TRIP TO NYC:** There are limited seats still available and only **1 week left** until the trip to NYC. The trip is on **Wednesday, December 7th.** The bus leaves St. Helen's parking lot at 6:30am and returns approx. 11:00pm, with a drop off and pick up around Radio City Music Hall. The cost for this transportation only trip is \$36pp. Please call to reserve your seat today 346.6137.



### SAVE THE DATE: CLUSTER SENIOR/MEMORIES GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

**When: Wednesday, December 14, at 11:30am**

**Where: Our Lady of Fatima's Parish Center.**

**Entertainment** by the NDBG Cinderella Performers. Price is \$12.00pp. Please RSVP by **December 8th.**

## PLEASE READ

During the snow and ice season the following policy regarding our daily 9:00 AM Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday is in effect:

*If the Niskayuna and/or the Schenectady School Districts are closed or delayed by 2 HOURS because of winter storms then there will be NO daily Mass that day. If the weather forces closures and cancellations then it is safe to assume that we should stay home rather than risk an accident either driving or walking to church.*



## Our Lady of Fatima

**PASTORAL CARE.** We thank all catechists and children in the Faith Formation program for the wonderful Halloween cards and artwork which we sent to parishioners who are homebound or in nursing homes. We have received many expressions of appreciation, and we want all the children and their teachers to know how happy they have made the recipients.

On a similar note, we thank the recently enlarged stamping group for their efforts in creating beautiful fall and Thanksgiving cards. A number of people from St. Helen's Bereavement Committee have joined the group, which is open to anyone with an interest in the craft and in helping to extend the love of our communities to those who cannot participate as they once did.



### SING WITH THE CHOIR THIS CHRISTMAS!

If you would like to sing with the choir and can't make a long-term commitment, you can still join us at the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Mass. There will be 4 rehearsals held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. You need to attend 3 of the 4 rehearsals on December 1, 8, 15 & 22. Hope you can join us. Contact George Bollock if interested.

[liturgy@olfatima.cc](mailto:liturgy@olfatima.cc) or [gbollock@nycap.rr.com](mailto:gbollock@nycap.rr.com)

### Our Lady of Fatima Parish Support

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### A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel tells us to "Be watchful." This comes natural to families. Parents are watchful of their children's health, grades and friends. Children are watchful of parental moods. Today's gospel encourages us to use this ability to see God acting in the innocence, tenderness, love and forgiveness of your family.

### Scripture Readings for Next Sunday:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

**Gospel of the Week:** Mark 13:33-37

**Question for Adults** - Watch! What are you going to do this Advent to prepare?

**Question for Children** - A new season to get ready for Jesus. What are you going to do this Advent to prepare?

## Community News

**What:** Christmas at the Inn - Craft Fair

**When:** Saturday, December 3, 2011 10:00AM-3:00PM

**Where:** Schuyler Inn, 575 Broadway, Menands, NY

**Admission:** FREE

**Details:** Many interesting vendors will be available all day. There will be a silent auction all day and a live auction at 2:30. Food will be served.

Father Peter Young will be at the Schuyler Inn to greet all guests. All proceeds will go to the Father Peter G. Young Foundation. Father Young has been helping the addicted, the homeless, the veterans, and their families overcome their adversities. His organization spans the state from Brooklyn to Buffalo and helps over 5,000 a day.

### DECEMBER 2011 MINI-NEWS The Home Furnishings Program

**Yes, we are accepting donations!**

*Furniture most needed: kitchen tables and dressers*

*Housewares: we need everything:*

*Cooking utensils, especially spatulas*

*Large size pots & pans, baking pans*

*Pot holders & dish towels*

*Towels - bath, hand & washcloth*

*(not necessarily in sets)*

*Blankets & sheets, especially twin & queen sizes*

**Call 346-2444 to arrange a pick-up or drop-off at our warehouse or email [homefurninc@aol.com](mailto:homefurninc@aol.com)**

**Hope For People with Celiac Disease.** The Benedictine Sisters have developed a host that may be safely consumed by those who suffer from gluten intolerance. After ten years of research they have produced a host made from a mixture of wheat starch and pregelatinized wheat starch, which are extremely low in gluten. Produced and packaged in a dedicated environment, the hosts are hand made. Analyzed by the American Institute of Baking using the ELISA (enzyme-linked immuno sorbent assay) method, no gluten was detected in the host. Since the lowest limit of gluten detection of this analysis is 0.01% the hosts are labeled as having 0.01% gluten content. The actual content is likely lower because no gluten could actually be detected. To contact the Benedictine Sisters call 1-800-223-2772 or email [altarbread@benedictinesisters.org](mailto:altarbread@benedictinesisters.org).

Thank you to our Sponsor:

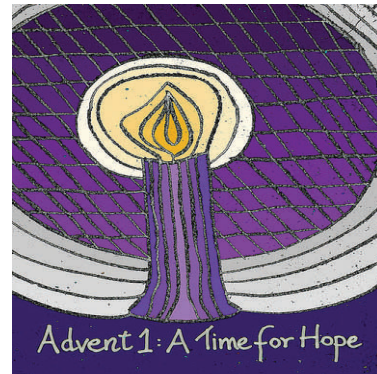
**G & M Auto Tech**

**1505 State Street**

**Schenectady, NY**

**382-9427**

**382-2478**



## Calendar of Events

Items in Blue take place at Our Lady of Fatima.

Black type, indicates St. Helen's Church

| SUNDAY    | MONDAY   | TUESDAY   |
|-----------|--|---|
| 11/27     | 11/28<br>10:00am Bereave-<br>ment Committee<br>Meeting<br>7:45pm Volleyball          | 11/29<br>3:00pm Rosary<br>4:00pm Scripture<br>Group.<br>6:30pm First Recon-<br>ciliation<br>7:00pm RCIA |
| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  |
| 11/30     | 12/1<br>1:00pm Scripture<br>Group<br>6:00pm Karate<br>7:00pm Landing<br>Team Meeting | 12/2  |
| SATURDAY  | SUNDAY   | COMING  |
| 12/3      | 12/4<br>9:00 am-1:00pm<br>Breakfast with Santa                                       |   |