

The Parish Communities of

Saint Helen

1803 Union Street
Schenectady, NY
www.sainthelenschurch.com



(518) 346-5137
(518) 377-3119
(518) 346-5390

Parish Offices
Faith Formation Offices
Fax

Our Lady of Fatima

2216 Rosa Road
Schenectady, NY
www.olfatima.cc



(518) 370-3136
(518) 370-0027
(518) 370-3137

Worship Times:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 10:00 AM
Tues/Thurs: 9:00 AM

Worship Times:

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 11:30 AM
Mon/Fri: 9:00 AM

Rev. Robert Longobucco

Pastor - Saint Helens

Deacon Thomas Sharrow

Deacon - Saint Helens

Deacon Richard Thiesen

Parish Life Director - Our Lady of Fatima

Rev. Robert Longobucco

Sacramental Minister - Our Lady of Fatima

Parish Staffs:

Mrs. Tricia Olson, Pastoral Assoc. Administration - OLF
Mrs. Anne Pomeroy, Pastoral Assoc. Administration - SH
Mr. George Bollock, Pastoral Assoc. Liturgy & Music - OLF
Mrs. Barbara Musial, Pastoral Assoc. Music - SH
Ms. Jennifer Chatain, School Principal - SH/OLF
Mrs. Anna Denney, Pastoral Assoc. Youth Ministry - SH/OLF
Mrs. Lisa Kuban, Pastoral Assoc. Youth Ministry - SH/OLF
Mrs. Helen Moon, Pastoral Assoc. Adult Faith Formation - SH/OLF
Mrs. Patricia Policastro, Pastoral Assoc. Faith Formation, K-5 - OLF
Mrs. Kristine Rooney, Pastoral Assoc. Catechesis - SH
Sr. Ellen Spellman, CSJ, Pastoral Assoc. Sacramental Preparation - SH
Ms. Jean Orthlieb, Pastoral Assoc. Pastoral Care - OLF
Sr. Betsy Van Deusen, CSJ, Pastoral Assoc. Evangelization - SH/OLF
Mr. Robert Christoffel, Pastoral Council President - SH
Mr. Eric Olson, Pastoral Council President - OLF

Sacraments:

Penance & Reconciliation (Confessions):

St. Helen's: Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:00 PM and *Our Lady of Fatima*: Friday - 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Infant Baptism: held on a regular basis; new parents attend one evening preparation session.

Call either Parish to register 4-6 weeks in advance.

First Eucharist, First Reconciliation(Confession) or Confirmation,

Contact either Religious Ed/Youth Ministry Office.

Matrimony: contact either Parish Office at least 8 months before the wedding.

Preparation sessions held in the Parish.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who want to be received into the Catholic Church.

Please call either Parish Center for more information.

Shared Ministries & Events

DEAR FRIENDS:

You may have noticed that we have not held our annual "Called to Serve" sign up for ministries yet. With our parishes in a state of transition, we have decided to delay the process this year until we can have more clarity about how each ministry will be affected by a merger. Some committees will be combined, others will be expanded and still others will be created. We have asked committee heads and members to remain in their positions at this time and continue their great work. Of course, the work of God moves right along. If you would like to join an ongoing ministry, just call either office and let us know and we will get you to work right away!

In an effort to update our communications, this weekend we ask if you would be willing to share your email with us. We will keep them private and not share them with any other organization or persons. (No matter how many times religious good catalogues ask us for them!!) We intend to send out just one weekly email with important information and events listed to keep you current about faith formation, special events and liturgies. Thanks for allowing us this opportunity to share the good works we are cultivating in the garden of the Lord!

Peace,

Fr. Bob and Deacon Dick

FROM FR. BOB: Well, professors have office hours. Fr. Bob is offering porch hours every Thursday from 3:30-5pm until the end of October. Stop by to chat, ask questions or hang out. Bring a sweater some hot chocolate and relax! Hope to see you at my house - 1805 Union Street on Thursday afternoons!

Faith Formation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (GRADES K-5)

The Faith Formation Program is underway! If you are new, it is never too late to register with us. Just call and we will get your child started. If you are already registered, be sure you have turned in your registration form with payment. We are blessed to share faith with your children!

First Reconciliation

In our parishes of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Helen's, the preparation for sacrament of Reconciliation ordinarily takes place when children are in the fourth grade.

Parent meetings are scheduled on the following dates - parents may choose one of these dates.

Sunday, October 2, 2011 at St. Helen's Church (chapel)
11:10am-12:10pm

Sunday, October 16, 2011 at OLF 9:45am-10:45am

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

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12)

What a great first week!! Youth Ministry sessions have begun! If you still need to sign up your child(ren) for our program, please contact Lisa or Anna!

Our first **Middle School Retreat** for grades 6 - 8 is next Saturday, **October 2nd from 8:30am - 1:30pm** in the Our Lady of Fatima Parish Center. Please contact Lisa or Anna to sign up!

What is a Mission Trip?? If you would like to learn more about our Spring Habitat for Humanity Trip, join us for our first meeting on Sunday, October 2nd at 12:15pm in the St. Helen's Parish Center.

- **Anna Denney** 377-3119 youth1803@gmail.com
- **Lisa Kuban** 370-0027 ym612@olfatima.cc

Adult Faith Enrichment

SCRIPTURE/PRAYER GROUPS. Do you ever have any questions about the Sunday readings at Mass? Come to a Scripture/Prayer group and let Scripture come alive for you with meaning and insights. We meet on Tuesday at 4:00pm (note time change) or Thursday at 1:00pm or 7:00pm (The RCIA process) at Fatima's Community Room. Sharing faith, insights and questions can be life-giving and fun!

RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) sessions have begun and you are invited to come and learn more about our Catholic faith. Are you an adult who would like to be baptized, or receive First Eucharist or be confirmed? Or would you like to grow in your faith and find meaningful conversation about things that matter? You are welcome to join us: Thursdays at 7:00pm in Fatima's Community Room. Discover just how life-giving our faith can be! Call Helen Moon at 370-0027, if you have any questions.

PRE-BAPTISM PREPARATION. There will be a pre-baptism program on Wednesday, September 28th at 7:00pm in the OLF Community Room. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Helen Moon at 370-0027 if you are planning on attending.

COMMUNITY ANOINTING OF THE SICK - Next Sunday at 2pm many priests from the Schenectady Deanery will gather for a Mass and service of Anointing of the Sick at St. Helen's Church.

ALL COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE (ACE). We rescheduled last week's meeting for this Monday September 26th at 7:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima Community Room. Please come if you are interested in being part of the planning process! With questions, call Kris Rooney at 377-3119.

Saint Helen's

A Memorial Mass for Elizabeth (Betty) Marx who died on 8/25/11 will be held Tuesday, Sept. 27th at 9:00am at St. Helen's Church. All are welcome to attend.

ST. HELEN'S LITURGICAL MINISTERS

| Week of: 10/1-10/2 | <u>Saturday 4:30pm</u> | <u>Sunday 10:00am</u> |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| READERS: | Paul Gochenaur Antoinette Kranz | Nicki Foley Julianne Gorsage |
| SERVERS: | Mila Stafford Colby Carach Alexis Dean CJ Dean | Nikolas Dobies Jaclyn Dobies Shannon Foley Regina Foley |
| EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: | Team I | Team I |

| St. Helen's Parish Support | This year's collection | Last year's collection |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 9/18/11 | \$8,591 | \$7,938 |

Shared Ministries (continued)

A Family Perspective by **Bud Ozar**
 In today's gospel Jesus asked, "What is your opinion?" Why do we think our opinion is dogma or fact? An opinion is only how we perceive a situation or how we feel comfortable doing something. Don't argue over or become divided by "your opinion."

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday:

Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

Gospel of the Week: Matthew 21:28-32

Question for Adults – What vineyard are you being called to work in?

Question for Children – When you are asked to do something do you do it without protest?

OPEN HOUSE

Notre Dame – Bishop Gibbons School
 2600 Albany Street, Schenectady, NY
 Wednesday, October 12, 2011
 5:00pm till 7:00pm

ND-BG cordially invites your family to experience all the resources our school has to offer. Meet the Faculty, Administration, Students and Parents, Review the curriculum, Tour the school.

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

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| SAT | 9/24 | Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| 4:30 | p.m. | Michael Farina (Parents Mary Louise & Stephen) Christopher Ryan (Family) |
| SUN | 9/25 | |
| 8:30 | a.m. | Bertha Stebbins (Daughter, Genevieve) Carl & Florence Garkowski (Family) Deceased Members of Sarsfield & Kleinkauf Families (Bonnie Kleinkauf) |
| 10:00 | a.m. | Kenneth Staley (Wife, Elizabeth) Ruth Kim (Kellish Family) |
| 11:30 | a.m. | George Hall (Friends) Roland Faulkner (Beebe & Grimmer Families) Enrico Sciocchetti (Mary & Fred Schiazza) Dr. Thomas Oram (Joanne, Cara & Kiley) |
| MON | 9/26 | St. Cosmas & St. Damian |
| 9:00 | a.m. | Bob Goodwin (Cecilia & Francis Rakvica) |
| TUES | 9/27 | St. Vincent de Paul |
| 9:00 | a.m. | Memorial Mass for Betty Marx |
| WED | 9/28 | St. Wenceslaus & St. Lawrence Ruiz |
| 9:00 | a.m. | Liturgy of the Hours-Morning Prayer |
| THUR | 9/29 | St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael |
| 9:00 | a.m. | Angela Walsh (John & Lena Jersen) John Prendergast (Tiberio Family) |
| FRI | 9/30 | St. Jerome |
| 9:00 | a.m. | Mary Loll (Bill & Mary Jane Beaulieu) |
| SAT | 10/1 | Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| 4:30 | p.m. | Deceased Members of Corridore & Caruso Family (Mary Caruso) Charles & Bertha Bertuch (Mr. & Mrs. Richard Gawron) |
| SUN | 10/2 | |
| 8:30 | a.m. | Bob Goodwin (Barbie & Jorge) Joseph D. Romand (Dot & Bill Dever) Connie Wood (Mom Rakvica & Brothers) |
| 10:00 | a.m. | John Kiernan (Family) Angela Serafini (Masullo Family) |
| 11:30 | a.m. | Robert Johnson (Family) Phyllis Shelmidine (Helen & Joe Moon) Frederick Martynuska (Helen & Joe Moon) |

Let us Remember the Sick in our Prayers: Mary Grace Doherty, Stacey Hopkins, Ruth Janiec, Eileen Kilrain, Edward Kleinkauf, Liam Lambeth, Mary Catherine Muccigrosso, Kevin Olsen, Marian Smialek, Anthony Tulio.

Shared Ministries (continued)

OUR 2011 FALL PARISH PICNIC was a big success with over 300 parishioners joining in a celebration of food, fun, and community. Thank you to all of the following vendors who supported us with many generous donations and gifts:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Kristen's Hair Salon | Town House Diner |
| Niskayuna Co-op | Teresa's |
| Burnt Hills Café | Blue Ribbon Diner |
| Stoney Lane Tavern | Cleopatra's Salon |
| Scotti's Restaurant | The Point Diner |
| Lansing Farm | Marty's Hardware |
| Bellevue Café | Hannaford |
| Dominican Retreat & Conference Center, | |
| Niskayuna Wine & Liquor | |
| Freeman's Bridge Wine and Liquor | |

THE E TEAM'S SUMMER SERVICE PROJECT collected back to school supplies for Emmaus House, the Catholic Worker House in Albany and medical supplies for Schenectady Free Clinic. From Diana Conroy of Emmaus House – "Thanks so much for your generous donation of school supplies. We supplied full backpacks to almost 50 kids. All the kids (and parents) were thrilled to carry such awesome backpacks filled with such great stuff! We will save some to give to kids new to the area and to replace worn out items throughout the year. The remaining supplies have gone to one of our cash-strapped neighborhood schools, Albany Free School, as well as the Faith Formation program at Our Lady of the Americas Shrine."

E TEAM/COUNCIL will meet this Monday, September 26 at 6:30 in the Parish Center at St. Helen's. If you are handy with technology, want to share the excitement of what is happening in our parishes or want to lend a hand, come on and join us!

"Been away from the church for awhile?" Give Landings a call! JoAnn 377-1417 or Laurene 281-1820.

The following programs will be offered by the **Consultation Center of the Albany Diocese** during October:

- "De-Clutter, De-Stress Your Life" on Tuesday, October 4 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
- Creating a Personal and Spiritual Care Plan Inspired by Poetry, Guided Meditation and Creative Journaling" on two Wednesdays, October 5 and 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
- "Storying the Martha and Mary Archetypes Within" on four Wednesdays, October 5, 12 19 and November 2 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Filing 101: Keep It Simple!" on Monday, October 17 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

All programs will be held at the Pastoral Center, 40 North Main Ave. For registration call 489-4431.

Our Lady of Fatima

HAVE YOU NOTICED?

Throughout the year our offertory fluctuates a great deal from week to week. There are many reasons ... our people may be out of town on vacation ... or have gone to warmer climates in the cold weather ... or we may experience a hurricane (Irene!) or a snowstorm. In all of these instances, we generally see a dramatic decrease in our weekly offertory. Many times, we never make up those shortfall weeks. As you know, our offertory is our primary source of parish income.

With your help, we can really do something about this. Both our parishes offer, as an option, electronic giving through your bank deposit account. Here's how it works: You decide on how often and in what amount you would like your account debited for your offertory contribution. We suggest monthly as an efficient way for both you and the parishes. We can even handle special collections. Your bank then sends the funds electronically to our parishes' accounts where your contribution is recorded. You can change the frequency or amount at any time. If you would still like to place something in the collection basket, there are laminated cards in the church gathering spaces that say: "I give electronically." It's as easy as that! Just contact either parish office to sign up. Thank you for your continued support.

WE WELCOME into our Christian Community Daniella Marie Piccirillo, daughter of John & Kristen Piccirillo.

| Our Lady of Fatima Parish Support | This Week's Collection | Weekly Budget | Difference |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|------------|
| 09/18/11 | \$7,287.50 | \$7,140.00 | +\$223.60 |

Community News

VOLUNTEER IN SCHOHARIE

For anyone who is interested in helping in Schoharie with people affected by Hurricane Irene, the Schoharie Reformed Church has a volunteer station behind the church. It is the meeting place for everyone who wants to volunteer to sign in, get oriented, and get an assignment. The assignments right now range from helping move stuff out, to mucking out basements, to demo work on buildings. Contact numbers are 390-8529, 390-8826 or 390-2811.

SHARING OUR STORIES-A Community Celebration and Fundraiser will be held on Thursday, October 6th from 5:30 -8:00pm at the Water's Edge Lighthouse Restaurant, Freeman's Bridge Road in Glenville. Sponsored by Catholic Charities Senior Services in Schenectady to benefit programs and services for seniors and to share stories of some amazing senior volunteers. Please call to reserve a place: 372-5667.

Community News

OCTOBER 2011 MINI-NEWS The Home Furnishings Program

In case you haven't heard...With the help of SICM summer interns and other volunteers, we served a record number of clients this summer, caught up on our backlog of referrals, and cleared out a lot of space in our warehouse.

So yes, we are back in business, accepting donations!

- Our biggest furniture need: dressers
- Desperately needed housewares: cutlery and towels
- Teams also desperately needed for truck runs. Driver and 2 able-bodied helpers per team. Willing to work three-hour shifts. Flexible times

We can't pick-up/deliver without your help!

Please volunteer if you are able. Call 346-2444 or email homefurninc@aol.com. And check out our website: schenectadyhomefurnishings.org

Thank you to our Sponsor:
Park Building Supplies
707 Kings Road
Schenectady, NY

THE DOMINICAN RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

in Niskayuna is offering the following programs in October:

- **September 30-October 2**, Weekend Retreat for Women "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has prepared..."
- **October 4**, 6:30-8:00pm, Soup with the Saints "Kateri Tekawitha"
- **October 5**, 9:45am-3:00pm, Senior Day of Reflection
- **October 11**, 6:30-8:00pm, soup with the saints, "Elizabeth Ann Seton"
- **October 18**, 6:30-8:00pm, Soup with the Saints "Andre Bessette"
- **October 22**, 10:00am-3:00pm, Fall Grounds Day
- **October 27**, 7:00-8:15 pm, "Sung Vespers in the Spirit of Taize"
- **October 29**, 10:00am-3:00pm, Autumn Day of Retreat for Men and women "Creation and Creativity"

For more information or to register for one of these programs call 393-4169 or visit their website at www.dslcny.org.

PASTA DINNER sponsored by St. Anthony's Sacred Heart League will be held at St. Anthony's Church Hall, Seward Place, Schenectady on Friday, October 14th, 4:00-8:00pm and Saturday, October 15th, 4:00-8:00pm. Adults \$10, Children under 12 years, \$5. Takeouts will be available.

Calendar of Events

Items in Blue take place at Our Lady of Fatima.
Black type, indicates St. Helen's Church

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 9/25 RE/YM 1:00pm Journey Mtg. | 9/26 YM 10:00am Bereavement Committee Mtg. 6:30pm E-Team Mtg. 7:00pm ACE MTG. 7:45pm Volleyball | 9/27 3:00pm Rosary RE |
| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
| 9/28 7:00pm Pre-Baptism Mtg. | 9/29 8:40am Rosary for Peace 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Virtus Training 7:00pm Karate 7:00pm Landings | 9/30 |
| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | COMING |
| 10/1 9:00am BB (Gym) | 10/2 RE/YM 1:00pm Journey Mtg. 2:00pm Deanery Anointing | |