

A SAVIOR
IS BORN!

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St. Helen Parish

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Christmas 2022 - A New Era



Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ, but it also signifies the beginning of a new era! Time and history are calculated by B.C. and A.D., or anno Domini – “in the year of the Lord”. In the wider world BCE or Before the Common Era has come to replace “Before Christ”. For us Christians, however, the birth of Jesus defines history and is the beginning of a new epoch.

Perhaps it is fitting, then, that my first letter to our “Family of Parishes” comes at Christmas. Our five parishes – St. Anthony, St. Helen, Holy Angels, Immaculate Conception, and St. Mary – have entered a new era, a new epoch. History is being created. For the first time, each parish is celebrating Christmas not merely as a parish but as a Family of Parishes. Just like the birth of Jesus had implications that were not clearly understood at his birth, we too do not understand all the implications of our new-found identity. But as a people of faith, we embrace our new identity in the same way people of faith embraced the Savior of the world at his birth.

As wonderful as the Christmas story sounds, it is a complex and complicated story. Jesus’ family was on the move trying to complete a census when time came for his birth. When the time arrived, there was no room for Him. Ultimately, he was born in a stable and laid in an animal trough. Instead of royalty and the privileged, it was poor shepherds to whom his birth was announced. Instead of being raised in a palace, the family had to migrate and take refuge in a foreign land. Today, there is a tendency to romanticize this story, to read it like a fairytale; a tendency to decorate the real story with a lot of glitter, glamour, and lights. But we know the real story. It is a story of discernment, of carrying out God’s will, of making hard decisions. It is a story that invites people to faith, conversion, and redemption. Ultimately, it is a story of undying hope, lasting peace, and inexpressible joy.

I have no illusions that at the end of my life I will write a fairytale or some romanticized history of the “Family of Parishes”. Rather, our new identity is a complex and complicated reality. However, just like that first Christmas, this too is an invitation to faith, conversion, and redemption. The most important realization to which we can arrive is the realization that Christ himself is with us. Christmas is the assurance of “Emmanuel,” who is “God with us.” In fact, every Christmas is a reminder that no matter how complex and complicated things get, we are not alone. The Word has become flesh and now dwells among us. This is our hope! This is our peace! This is our joy!

It's Christmas 2022. We are on the cusp of creating history. As complex and complicated as it seems, let us begin this new era with faith. With Christ in our midst, I am certain that unending hope, lasting peace, and inexpressible joy are not far behind.

I wish everyone of you a blessed and peaceful Christmas. May the New Year be the harbinger of every blessing you have desired. Time and history belong to Jesus Christ. To him we do homage!

Fr. Satish Joseph
Pastor, NE7 Family of Parishes

ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH • RIVERSIDE, OHIO

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

No 9:00 am Mass at St. Helen

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

9:00 am Eliza Continho (Maria Zimmer)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00 am Kim Burkhardt (Peggy Burkhardt)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 am Gloria Johnson (Peggy Burkhardt)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 am Michael Bissacco and Lincoln Pratt
(Anne Bissacco)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00 am Myrna Nelson (Rose Prado)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:30 pm IC Charles Deutsch (Deb & Jon Danner)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 am Charles & Helen Dalbey Anniversary
(Strathearn Family)

Weekday and Saturday Intentions are remembered at the Masses at Immaculate Conception

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 am Mass—Fr. Len ([Live Stream](#))

MONDAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26-30

9:00 am-Daily Mass at Immaculate

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 —Fr. Len

10:00 am—Quilters in Quilting Room

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27—Fr. Uriel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28—Fr. Len

10:00 am—Quilters in Quilting Room

10:00 am—Book Club—HR

10:00 am—Lectio Divina via Zoom

1:30 pm—Centering Prayer CH

NO SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

7:00 pm—Choir practice

7:00 pm— Booster Club—EW

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29—Fr. Len

6:00 pm—Reconciliation at IC — Fr. Len

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30—Fr. Len

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:30 pm—Fam Parishes Mass at IC—Fr. Satish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 am Mass—Fr. Obermeyer (live streamed)

Priest's schedules are tentative & subject to change.

READINGS FOR JANUARY 1

Numbers 6:22-27

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

HELP

**DESPERATELY
NEEDED
FOR CHURCH
CLEANING**

**Every other Friday.
Please call the parish
office if you can
spare a few hours!**

**With heartfelt thanks
STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE
December 17 and 18
\$5,124.00**

WITH SINCERE THANKS

to all who helped to decorate our church and sanctuary so beautifully, to all who helped in any way with our liturgical celebrations, to our wonderful musicians and sacristans and maintenance staff, to all who sang and worshipped so joyfully. . . You made our Christmas Masses and time together sacred!

Dec 31 / Jan 1	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server	Lector	Live Streaming
Saturday, 4:30 PM at IC	Kathy Hendrixson Carolyn Howick Mary Jane Middleton	Breanna Mwaura	Mark Sheets (1) Michael Bassett (2)	
Sunday, 9:00 AM at SH	Pat Avey Ernesto Basto Maria Basto Santiago Basto Mary Heider Margie Keenan Lynn Middy	Unfilled Unfilled Brandon Schaefer Lilly Shepherd	William Flaute (1)	Josh Rauch

CHRISTMAS AND THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD • 12/25/22—1/1/23

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 am Charles & Helen Dalbey Anniversary
(Strathearn Family)

MONDAY, JANUARY 2

9:00 am Jean Knappe (Knapke Family)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 am Joe Walling & Keith Grimme (Jane Walling)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 am Jim Coyle (Veronica Caron)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 am Eloise Hilgefard (Jenni Hilgefard)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6

9:00 am Rosella Nickol (Joan Torres)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:30 pm Rosemary Schneider

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 am Patricia Jankay (Theresa Rice)

Weekday and Saturday Intentions are remembered at the Masses at Immaculate Conception

READINGS FOR JANUARY 8 Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 Matthew 2:1-12

SINCE THE NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY FALLS ON A SUNDAY, MONDAY IS THE DAY OF OBSERVATION. THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 2.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, January 6, beginning at 10 a.m.
Solemn Exposition beginning at 4:00 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 am Mass—Fr. Len ([Live Stream](#))

MONDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 2-6

9:00 am-Daily Mass at Immaculate

MONDAY, JANUARY 2 —Fr. Uriel

10:00 am—Quilters in Quilting Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3—Fr. Satish

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4—Fr. Len

10:00 am—Lectio Divina via Zoom

6:00 pm—Reconciliation

6:00 pm—St. Vincent de Paul Mtg—SJ1

7:00 pm—Choir practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5—Fr. Len

6:00 pm—Reconciliation at IC — Fr. Satish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6—Fr. Len

10:00 am—First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

4:30 pm—Fam of Parishes Mass at IC—Fr. Satish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 am Mass—Fr. Tony (live streamed)

10:00 am—Donut Sunday—SB

Priest's schedules are tentative & subject to change.

DONUT SUNDAY NEXT SUNDAY + POINSETTIAS AVAILABLE NEXT SUNDAY AFTER MASS

We close out our Christmas season **next Sunday** with the Solemnity of the Epiphany and will be taking down Christmas decorations during the week. You are welcome to take a poinsettia or two then and then enjoy donuts and fellowship in the Smith Bldg!

January 7 and 8	Eucharistic Minister	Altar Server	Lector	Live Streaming
Saturday, 4:30 PM	Deborah Danner Mary Heider Tom Mahle	Linda Dillon	Pat Schneider (1) Nora Marino (2)	
Sunday, 9:00 AM	Bryon Betsinger John Finnegan Mary Finnegan Grace Randall Abigail Randall Trenton Randall Billie Jean Szydlak	Giuli Adducchio Carmela Adducchio Jules Ikuzo Jolee Isaro	Kathy Snyder (1)	Jay Rutledge

December 25, 2022 NE7 FAMILY OF PARISHES ACTIVITIES January 1, 2023

Immaculate Conception Food Pantry

IC Food Pantry's goal is to serve both the parish community and the Belmont neighborhood

Because of God's Grace

Event: Mobile Meal program
groceries & block party for neighbors in need
Where: School Parking Lot
(enter through the drive between the church & the school)
When: January 19th (Third Thursday of each month)
Time: 6-7:00pm

Volunteers are needed!

Sign up at thebogg.org and click on the volunteer tab, scroll to our location/date & sign up.

Volunteers need to arrive at 5:45pm.
Please dress appropriately for the weather, rain or shine.
All are welcome!



ST. ANTHONY PARISH LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Tuesdays, at 7:00 p.m.

Please come and join us Tuesdays as we pray the Liturgy of the Hours. The prayers should last about 45 minutes. St. Anthony Church, 820 Bowen Street in Dayton.

HISTORIC ST. MARY CHURCH DAYTON

We welcome all to our annual Christmas Open House. Get away from the hustle of Christmas and spend some quiet time enjoying the splendor of this historic house of worship and see the large Nativity display covering a section of pews with over 100 statues! St. Mary has had this annual display for over 100 years!! Bring your camera, family, and friends!

Date/time: Dec. 26 & 27th 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM.
St. Mary is located at the corner of Xenia Ave and Allen St. in east Dayton.

Questions? Call our parish office 937-256-5633.

MAKING SENSE

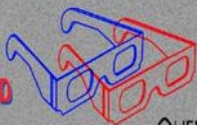
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6:30 - 8:30

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LIFE TEEN

Humanity is searching for something. Our restlessness is part of our human experience and in the culture of the world around us. The answer to this restlessness is God, and uniquely, the grace found through the sacraments.

The goal of *Making Sense* is for teens to understand how God's grace is found in the sacraments of the Church so that through the sacraments, teens will be better able to grow in their faith journeys

To register for this series please contact Marty at martybagatti@icparishdayton.org or 937-252-9919 x209

SAVE THE DATE:

The much anticipated ST HELEN BOOSTER CLUB FISH FRY will be returning on **Saturday, January 28, 2023**. Pre-sale tickets will be available in early January at the parish office and at the school office during regular hours. A vital part of our fish fry is the silent auction baskets. While we receive donations from various businesses in the greater Dayton area, we also ask our parishioners for any support they can offer. We are looking for items that can be incorporated into the various baskets that will be created. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office or school office. If you are unable to drop off your donation, Judy can be reached at (937)426 6262 (land line – no texting) or via email at mikejudybarker@yahoo.com to schedule a time for pick up. We ask that all donations be received no later than Friday, January 20, 2023. Thank you in advance for your generous support.



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