

January 2020



## The Disciple

### St. Helen Parish - The Year of Vocations

Jesus told His Disciples, "I came to serve, not to be served."

A vocation is a call to serve. It is a profession, an urge, a predisposition to undertake a certain kind of work. It is a choice for which you are particularly suited. The central question always is, "How best can I serve my God and others?"

If you feel a calling to the married life, there are many Church ministries from which to choose. Many are in need of your service, as a deacon, a Eucharistic minister, a visitor to the sick and aged, or an usher. Whatever you choose, do something that serves others. When you do this, you are serving God.

If you feel a calling to priesthood or religious life, ask questions and talk to priests or religious. They know that surviving isn't enough. They can help you come to know your vocation or career, or even your own true self.

Above all, start with prayer. Whatever your vocation, if you are good at what you do, it is a gift from God. Only through prayer will you be able to recognize what vocation gift He wants to give to you.

*Serra for priestly and religious vocations*

### St. Vincent de Paul Seminary Trip October 2019



Our next bus trip to St. Vincent de Paul Seminary is Wednesday, February 12th.  
Please call the parish office to reserve your spot, 772-567-5129.

# St. Helen Planning Committee Update #9

This is the quarterly update on the efforts of the St. Helen Planning Committee. Any comments, questions or concerns are welcome to be directed to Fr. Nelson or Deacon Dave at the Church office.

## Church Renovations

- ♦ The communion railing and the ambo in the sanctuary will be modified in line with the changes to the sanctuary completed early this year. This work is scheduled to be completed in February 2020. Completion of the painting of the rest of the inside of the Church is presently on hold pending additional information on more urgent parish needs.
- ♦ The installation of a retractable video screen is still planned but there is nothing new to report in that regard.
- ♦ The improvements to the St. Helen pavilion are completed. Four park benches have been ordered with two to be installed around the pavilion and two along the sidewalk leading up to the pavilion. We plan to have a ceremony to bless and dedicate the improvements to the pavilion once the benches are installed.

## Development of a Master Plan

- ♦ The committee has proceeded with drawings for the new school building. The architect has submitted the first rendering and is presently working on a site plan, placing the school building on St. Helen property. The committee has requested and will receive a few site plan suggestions.
- ♦ It is the intent of the committee to recommend that should a new school building plan proceed that it be done on the concept that St. Helen Catholic School be considered a "regional" school. This would mean that several of the area parishes would cooperate in joint administration and oversight of the school.

## Offsite Locations

- ♦ St. Helen Outreach: In addition to the current location for Outreach at 1031 18th Street, St. Helen will be leasing a small office in the newly renovated facility of United Against Poverty ("UP"). UP is a non-profit independent organization that has for many years provided considerable assistance for those in need in our community. St. Helen Outreach Ministry has worked in collaboration with UP for some time. UP provides support for food purchases, job employment, career skills, crisis management and other related areas. Our physical presence in their new location will provide a means of closer collaboration and cooperation. Several other community organizations will also be subleasing from UP which further broadens our involvement and support for the needy in our community. We expect our office to be up and running in mid-January. All are welcome to the UP open house planned for January 25th beginning at 9:30am at 1400 27th Street, Vero Beach.
- ♦ St. Helen Religious Education: It is presently our plan to move this critical ministry back on the church campus with the expiration of the current off-site lease in June 2020. These plans are still being developed.

## Major Maintenance Items

Our church grounds and facilities are maintained by a dedicated staff managed by Tom Sangbush. Though this area is limited by staff time and financial resources they consistently keep our campus in good repair and appearance. Of importance going forward is the roof in the Parish Center. We are in the last years of the expected life of the roof and have had to rely on the current roof guarantee to do needed repairs and maintenance on the roof. We anticipate that this roof and the attached air conditioner units on the roof to the building will need to be replaced perhaps during 2020. The estimated cost is in excess of \$200,000.

## CHURCH APP

Enjoy daily readings, the gospel, prayers, calendar of parish events, inspirational messages and much more!

1. Text APP to 88202
2. Download MyParish App
3. Select St. Helen Vero after opening

Website:

[www.sthelenvero.org](http://www.sthelenvero.org)

*LIKE us on Face Book:*

*@sthelenvero*



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### JANYARY

- 4th: Quarter Auction
- 5th: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 11th: Confirmation Retreat
- 12th: Marriage Blessing at Angelic Café
- 18th: Oldies Dance
- 18th: Catholic Men's Rally
- 19th: Stand for Life
- 19th: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 20th: CCW Card Party
- 26th: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 31st: Confirmation

### FEBRUARY

- 2nd: Marriage Blessing at Angelic Café
- 8/9th: Men's CRHP Retreat
- 16th: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 20th: Serra Ministry Event
- 29th: Marriage Prep Class

### MARCH

- 1st: Marriage Blessing at Angelic Café
- 7th: SHCS Gala at Oak Harbor
- 8th: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 14/15: Women's CRHP Retreat
- 21st: CCW Fashion Show
- 22nd: K of C Pancake Breakfast
- 28th: Ladybug Easter Sale
- 28th: Oldies Dance

## PARISH LIFE... BE A PART OF IT!





# CRHP / CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH RETREAT

*All men and women of the parish are welcome to enjoy a weekend retreat!*

**Men's CRHP Retreat: February 8th & 9th / Contact: Sal, 772-226-7735, E: [bucacci@gmail.com](mailto:bucacci@gmail.com)**

**Women's CRHP Retreat / Save the date March 14th & 15th**

We would like to formally invite you to attend an amazing weekend with a group from St. Helen Catholic Church. You will experience a sense of fellowship that is unique to the ministry called "Christ Renews His Parish", or CRHP for short. Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) is a parish renewal process.

With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and the direction of our Pastor, the CRHP team has selected YOU to participate in this *weekend of renewal*. The great part is – all you need to do is *show up and be there!* There is no charge for the weekend. All meals and accommodations will be provided. There are no expectations placed upon you. We just ask that you make the time to focus on how YOUR faith may be strengthened by joining in this renewal process. We can assure you that, because the weekend is centered in Jesus Christ, you will be touched in some way to become a better Catholic.

**Do you love social media? Do you like to take pictures? Are you a good writer? Do you enjoy graphic design? If you answered YES to ANY of these questions please consider volunteering for our Communications Team.**

**Contact Laura Lewis at the parish office if you are interested, 772-567-5129 or [LLewis@sthelenvero.org](mailto:LLewis@sthelenvero.org)**



**SAVE THE DATE**  
ST. HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
*Glitter & Gold*  
**GALA**  
A BENEFIT DINNER - DANCE & AUCTION EVENT  
Oak Harbor Club  
4755 S Harbor Drive  
Vero Beach, Florida  
7 MAR ..... 6 PM  
\$120 per person  
Open Bar & Valet Parking  
All proceeds benefit St. Helen Catholic School



**St. Helen Music Ministry performed at Carnegie Hall for the "Sounds of the Season Concert" featuring the holiday music of Mark Hayes and Pepper Choplin.**

**Pictured from L to R: Emily Dreher,  
Luz Molina-Lopez, Dolores Mark, Cheryl Dreher,  
Composer / Director Pepper Choplin,  
John Herron, Marie Cibotti & Gloria Allen.**

# FROM LISA BELL / PRINCIPAL, ST. HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

## Happy New Year!

It is hard to believe that half of the school year is already behind us and what a great year it has been! First and foremost, I would like to recognize **Maria Morgan** who was honored by the Diocese of Palm Beach with the Lumen Christi Award at the Lumen Christi Gala in December. Maria began her career at St. Helen School in First Grade, where she taught for twenty-one years. She currently teaches middle school Spanish and serves as the assistant to the principal, Curriculum Leader and Student Support Coordinator for our school.

Academically our students are focused and working hard. I am pleased to report that 54% of our students made the honor roll and in October, we inducted nine new members into the National Junior Honor Society. Congratulations to inductees Isabelle Burgener, Capri Crespo, Mayra Fajardo, Wyatt Friedberg, Nicholas Griffis, Jackson Harbin, Nicolas Montealegre, Diami Perez, and Marina Skowron.

The Harvest Festival took place in November, and I am pleased to report that our students sold over \$60,000.00 in presale vouchers. Congratulations to the top sales winner, Olivia Lewis, who sold \$3,440.00 in vouchers and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner, Quincy Frandsen, who sold \$1,780.00 in vouchers. We are so thankful for all of our parents and students who volunteered and helped make this event such a success.

Coming up this month will be our School Open House which takes place on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, and will kick off Catholic Schools Week. This is a great opportunity to come and visit the campus. The Knights of Columbus will host a pancake breakfast, and the school Falcon Shop will also be open.

The Glitter & Gold Gala will take place on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at the Oak Harbor Club in Vero Beach and will feature dinner, dancing, silent and live auction. The ticket also includes an open bar and valet parking. Special thank you to our Platinum Sponsor, Dr. Michaela Scott. Proceeds from this event have an immediate and positive impact on our students and faculty.



We invite all parishioners to join us in this faith-centered academic endeavor. We have several wonderful events planned this year and would welcome your participation and support. Visit our website at [www.sthelschoolvero.org](http://www.sthelschoolvero.org) to request a tour of the school or for more information. You can also text "Give" to 772-571-4665 to make a financial contribution in support of Catholic education.

We thank you for your time, talent, and treasure. Every prayer, every minute, every dollar, makes a difference, and we are grateful for your support.

In gratitude for your continued prayers.  
Lisa Bell, Principal

# RESPECT LIFE

Tom Dalton & Char Bever at the Ministry Fair



## Spiritual Adoption Program at St. Helen Parish!

Everyone loves the beauty and innocence of a baby. As an expression of that love, and due to the overwhelming positive response in 2018, the Spiritual Adoption Program will be returning to St. Helen Parish for 2020.

Our parishioners will have the opportunity to once again "spiritually" adopt an unborn child who is newly conceived this month and whose identity is known to God alone. Not all newly conceived babies are allowed to be born. In fact, more than 100 thousand babies worldwide lose their lives to abortion each day. It is these babies who you are being asked to "adopt" and to pray for.

You may adopt a child individually or as a family by signing up during the weekend of January 25-26. You will be asked to name the child for whom you will be praying, thereby giving the baby the humanity he or she deserves. You will be asked to pray daily for your unborn child and for all unborn children, for the power of prayer is great.

You will receive monthly reports through the parish bulletin describing your baby's development and your child will be born in October 2020.

There are millions of unborn babies desperately in need of your prayers. Won't you please "spiritually adopt" one and share the love of life that God has given you?

Every child deserves to be loved...by someone.

For more information on the St. Helen Respect Life ministry call Marie, 772-473-9269 or Susan, 848-459-7165.

## THE FOURTEENTH ANNUAL INDIAN RIVER COUNTY ECUMENICAL STAND FOR LIFE

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, FROM 2 to 3 PM**

**Route 60 at 20<sup>TH</sup> Street on both sides of the road going west**

**Men, Women & Children of ALL faiths are encouraged to take a stand to restore respect for ALL human life.**

## **WOMEN. . . FIND YOUR PURPOSE. FEED YOUR SOUL. - A Powerful Catholic Study Just for You!**

Did you know that God created you for a very special purpose and mission, and that your womanhood is part of His plan? In this Women of Grace® Foundational Study Series you will embark upon a nine-week journey of discovery and transformation as you explore the great call and gift of your femininity. Along the way, you will meet some of the great women saints, learn from the wisdom and guidance of Holy Mother Church and begin to unpack the treasures of Sacred Scripture. By looking to the Blessed Virgin Mary who is our exemplar, you will find a spiritual path that leads you to the heart of the Father and the abundant life of Jesus Christ. Ultimately you'll discover your great dignity and vocation as a daughter of God and the feminine genius that is yours by virtue of your gender.

This 9 session study program will be offered once a week on Friday's from 10 to Noon beginning February 7, 2020 in the St. Francis Room of the CLC.

**YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE.** Attend the Informational session on Friday, January 24, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. in the St. Francis Room of the CLC. Cost of study materials and ordering information will be available at that time. You may also contact Jackie Cammarene at 772-794-7626.





## SERRA VOCATION MINISTRY by Maxine Gallagher

Happy New Year! The Serra Vocation Ministry had a busy fall beginning on October 9<sup>th</sup>, when 40 parishioners from St. Helen, St. John of the Cross and Holy Cross parishes traveled by bus to St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton, Beach, FL. They attended Mass with the seminary community and toured the facility guided by Father Kevin and two seminarians from our diocese, Max Villwock and Joshua Martin. The day provided an excellent snapshot of seminary life. ***If you missed this trip, another is planned for Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>.***

In November the parish celebrated Vocation Awareness Week with witnesses by our priests during all Masses and several vocation related events for our children, youth, adolescents and parents. ***Fiat Fest*** provided an opportunity for youth grades 6-12 to learn about religious life while sharing a meal with priests, deacons, religious sisters and seminarians. They listened to witnesses followed by a lively Q & A session. Many of the kids had never seen a sister in a religious habit and the sisters were a BIG hit! Stay tuned for more events like this one!



It is a known fact that parish youth programs are key to fostering vocations. Currently St. Helen parish has a middle school group (grades 6-8) that meets twice a month on Friday evenings, and a high school group meeting every Sunday for dinner after the 5 p.m. Mass. A meal team ministry, the *Youth Group Kitchen Angels*, is being formed jointly by the Youth Group and Serra Vocation Ministries to provide meals for the Sunday high school group. If you are wondering what you can do to support youth ministry, sign up! You can help this important ministry from the comfort of your kitchen and...no meetings to attend! You will also be gifting the youth group leaders with extra time for planning and ministering to the attendees. For additional information, please refer to the parish bulletin or parish web site under Youth Ministry or Serra Vocation Ministry. If cooking is not your thing, consider signing up to be a Youth Group Prayer Warrior at [kjordan@sthelenvero.org](mailto:kjordan@sthelenvero.org).

## WELCOME SEMINARIAN ARMANDO LEON



My name is Armando Leon. I am originally from Cuba, and I am 31 years old. I was a Salesian brother for a few years, working in Cuba and the Dominican Republic. In 2012, I earned a Licentiate in Philosophy from the Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. In August 2016, I enrolled in St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami, and I began the formation process to discern my vocation to the diocesan priesthood. In 2017, I became a seminarian of Palm Beach Diocese and began my theological studies at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach. As part of my formation process, I am now assigned to St. Helen Parish in order to have a pastoral experience in the Diocese of Palm Beach. Thank you for receiving me, and please, pray for me.

***Please welcome Armando, he will be with St. Helen Parish  
January through July.***

# The Disciple

Parish Newsletter of  
St. Helen Catholic Church

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[www.sthelenvero.org](http://www.sthelenvero.org)

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## OPEN HOUSE



ST. HELEN  
CATHOLIC  
SCHOOL

Sunday, January 26, 2020

9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- K-5 Self Contained Classrooms
- 6-8th Grade Middle School Model

Religion K-8th Grade



Spanish K-8th Grade



Safe & Secure Campus



# YOU'RE INVITED!

School Tours

Falcon Shop

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast

Follow Us: @shcsvero

