Sacrament Preparation: Confirmation & Eucharist NE CLASSES: EDGE

YEAR ONE PROGRAM BOOKLET

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- APRIL 16, 2024
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"In those days Jesus departed to the mountain to pray, and He spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, Jesus called His **Disciples** to himself, and from them He chose Twelve, whom he also named **Apostles**." ~~ Luke 6:12-13

The celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation are not intended to bring our formation as Christians to an end, but rather to begin a process of continuing education and formation that is life-long and that gradually unfolds the mystery of God's love and our response as we grow and mature. The Church refers to this life-long process as Mystagogy. All of the Sacraments are generous gifts from our loving God. Mystagogy invites us into a never-ending process of cherishing the gifts of the Sacraments of Initiation & continuously growing in our understanding of the power of God working in us as a result of our initiation into His Church. Understood in this light, Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are not seen as an end, but rather as a beginning. They are gifts of the Father that strengthen and support us in living faithfully our life in Christ. They are gifts to be continuously meditated upon and studied. Our understanding of them is meant to deepen as we grow and mature.

MASS ATTENDANCE

Every weekend and on Holy Days of Obligation

There is one thing that distinguishes us from other Christians – our devotion to the sacrament of the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith (CCC 1407).

A common complaint from teens (and some adults) is that Mass is boring. But, we, as the St. Helen Sacrament Preparation Team, believe if we truly understood what is happening during the Liturgy, we could never again say that Mass is boring.

God asks of every baptized *child of God* to spend time with Him and the Body of Christ, the Church, on Sunday and other Holy Days of Obligation actively participating in Mass (CCC 2187). This may upset some Catholics, but it is our obligation as Catholics, and therefore an expectation placed on the Disciples candidates. *If a youth in Sacramental preparation is not fulfilling their weekly Mass obligation and on Holy Days of Obligation, why are they preparing for the sacraments of Initiation?* This is not meant to be judgmental. Full, Active, and Conscious Participation in weekly Mass is vital to a youth preparing for Communion & Confirmation. We, the St. Helen Sacrament Preparation Team, do not want to water down or sugar coat our Catholic faith for our teens. We call them in Confirmation to be defenders of the Faith. Why would we not prepare them for battle?

MASS CARDS

To monitor weekly Mass participation, we have created weekly **Mass Cards** [samples below]. These **Mass Cards** may be found in the gathering space just inside the church.

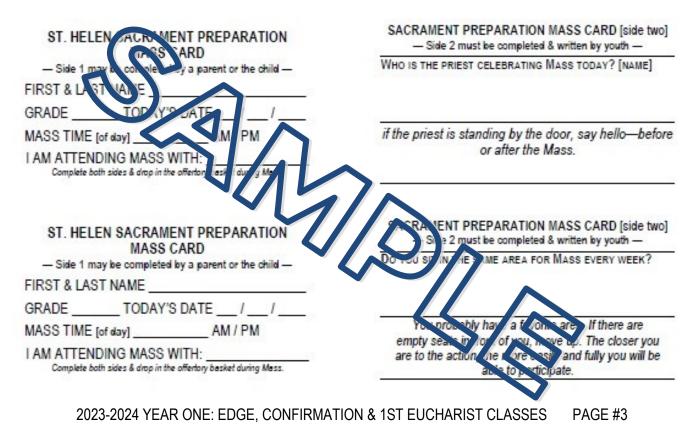
Each week: fill out the youth's information (name, class time, grade, etc) on side 1 of the card. Then, the **Year ONE Youth** writes the answer to this week's question which is located on Side 2 of the **Mass Card**. During the offertory, the **Year ONE youth** places the completed **Mass Card** in the basket.

If, as an Year ONE youth, you attend a weekly Mass *at another Catholic Church* with your family **other than St. Helen**, please *pickup that Parish's weekly bulletin/song sheet, write the full name of the youth* and turn it in to **Deepa Duran** at your next **Sacrament Class or EDGE event.**

If it seems that a parent/guardian is completing the **Mass Card**, the question answer[s] are wrong or the **Year ONE youth** is consistently missing weekly Mass, the Youth Minister, Deepa Duran, will schedule a family meeting—parent[s] and youth—to discuss whether the youth should continue in the **Year ONE** program or postpone the reception of their sacraments.

"Confirmed people are drawn into deeper participation in the life of the Church. They have a desire to be active in their own parish's ministries. They are not afraid to be identified as a member of the Church when they participate in community activities. They look forward to Sunday Mass, to celebrate the Lord's Supper with their brothers and sisters in Christ."

(The Catholic Faith Handbook for Youth, Brian Singer-Towns, St Mary's Press)



BAPTISMAL / BIRTH CERTIFICATE

If you have not turned in your child's <u>Baptismal / Birth Certificate</u>, a copy is due BEFORE the Tuesday Sacrament Prep class on November 14, 2023.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken at all **Sacrament Preparation**, **Year ONE** activities (Tuesday Sacrament Prep class, Wednesday EDGE Nights, etc). Partial attendance is regarded as non-attendance. Please make sure your **Youth** arrives <u>on time</u> and stays through <u>to the end</u> of the **Wednesday EDGE Nights, Tuesday Sacrament Prep class, Retreats, etc**.

It is understood that a parent and/or a sponsor will attend and participate in all of the **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** classes with their child[ren]. Please <u>arrive before</u> **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** class begins, so you can find your seat, get all of your materials, and get settled. **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** class will not begin until all families are present or accounted for.

TUESDAY SACRAMENT PREP CLASS

The dates for the **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** classes (6:30-8:30 pm in the Teen Center) September 2023-May 2024 are located on **pages 13-14** of this booklet.

It is understood that a parent and/or a sponsor will attend all **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** classes with their child[ren].

and EDGE

As a Eucharist-centered movement within the Roman Catholic Church, **EDGE** leads middle school youth and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. With the Blessed Virgin Mary as our intercessor and guide, **EDGE** seeks to unleash the fullness of the Sacramental power present within the young Church.

Because of our deep Eucharistic devotion, **EDGE** has developed a spirituality that is: 100% Catholic, Obedient to the Magisterium, Centered on the Eucharist, Scriptural, Liturgical, Catechetical, Sacramental, Focused on social justice, and Comprehensive.

WEDNESDAY EDGE NIGHTS begin at 6:30 pm on Wednesday and ends at 8:00 pm. We meet for the EDGE Nights in the Teen Center.

Wednesday EDGE Nights are all year long. **Sacrament Prep youth** attend **SIX** specific EDGE Nights (referred to as AD EDGE Nights) during their **YEAR ONE** year. These **Wednesday AD EDGE Nights** supplement their **Tuesday Sacrament Prep** classes and also help to foster community among their peers.

The term "AD" refers to the particular Wednesday EDGE Night that <u>all</u> Sacrament Prep youth are required to attend and participate in.

The 2023-2024 EDGE Calendar is on pages 13-14 of this booklet.

GRACE CARDS

We recognize that there are times when family or an emergency can prevent an YEAR ONE from attending a scheduled activity. Therefore, each Sacrament Prep YEAR ONE youth will be given 3 Grace Cards* for their Sacrament Prep YEAR ONE year. On the Sacrament Prep, YEAR ONE Youth's <u>4th</u> absence, the Youth Minister, Deepa Duran, will schedule a family meeting—parent[s] and youth—to discuss whether the youth should continue in the YEAR ONE sacrament preparation program or postpone the reception of their sacraments.

*Grace Cards may only be used for **Tuesday Sacrament Prep YEAR ONE classes** OR **AD EDGE Nights.**

RETREAT

One of the components of the **Sacrament Prep**, **YEAR ONE** program is participating & attending an approved retreat. As an EDGE **Sacrament Prep**, **YEAR ONE** youth, we have a NET retreat on **Wednesday**, **October 4** from **4:30-8:30 pm** at **St. Helen**.

Your Sacrament Prep, YEAR ONE fees have paid for the October 4th retreat.

You are free to choose another retreat offered by another parish. *However, it will need to be preapproved by Deepa Duran, your St. Helen Youth Minister*. And, you will need to pay all the fees associated with the other parish's retreat.

CHOOSING A GODPARENT / SPONSOR

Hopefully you've thought a lot about what receiving the sacraments of initiation mean, and how the Holy Spirit will affect your life. You're required to have a godparent/sponsor—someone who guides you and shares the story of faith with you now and throughout your life.

SOME ADVICE TO THE YOUTH: You're looking for someone you trust, whose faith you admire and who will be there for you to help you grow in your Catholic faith as you continue to grow older.

SERVING AS A GODPARENT/SPONSOR COMES WITH GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES:

A godparent/sponsor <u>must be a Roman Catholic</u> because Godparents officially represent the Catholic Church by witnessing what it means to live a *baptized* life, *confirmed* in the Holy Spirit and faithfully participating in the sacraments of *Reconciliation* and the *Eucharist*, the source and summit of the Christian life.

GODPARENTS/SPONSORS TRUTHFULLY STATE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 8 I am at least 16 years of age.
- 8 I am a registered member of my parish.
- 8 I am an active member at my parish. [financial support and involvement in ministries]
- 8 I have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion and can show proof.
- 8 Relationship status*:
 - 8 I am married, and I married within the Catholic Church and can show proof.
 - or
 - 8 I am unmarried, nor am I cohabitating with my significant other [living together under the same roof: part-time, full-time, or occasional sleepovers].
- 8 I am committed to my Catholic faith.
- 8 I attend and participate in weekly Sunday Mass.
- 8 I receive God's mercy in Confession regularly and the Eucharist as often as possible.
- 8 I witness to the teachings of the Catholic Church by the way I life my life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

RELATIONSHIP STATUS NOTES:

- Those Catholics in second+ marriages must have had their previous marriage[s] annulled and their second+ marriage convalidated by the Catholic Church.
- Those Catholics presently in civil or common law marriages are not eligible to serve as a godparent or Confirmation sponsor.
- A godparent who is unmarried, must be living a life consistent with the single vocation as defined by the Catholic Church.
- Any single person cohabitating with another person, living in a romantic relationship or as a couple, is ineligible to minister as a godparent or Confirmation sponsor.

A GODPARENT/SPONSOR 'IN GOOD STANDING'?

Being a faithful 'Catholic in Good Standing' means we have a moral and spiritual obligation to follow and give our full agreement to the teachings and norms of the Roman Catholic Church. As Catholic Christians, we believe that our faith and works save us; because of the salvific work promised us by Jesus Christ. Founded in and intertwined with God's Ten Commandments, this is why we

- 8 fully and actively participate in the Liturgy of the Mass on Sundays;
- elebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly [every 1-2 months];
- 8 Tithe 3-10% to our parish weekly;
- 8 develop and maintain a personal relationship with God through daily prayer;
- and participate in the catechetical, sacramental, and communal life of our parish.

If you are living out your Catholic faith as a as a "CAFETERIA CATHOLIC" — someone who picks and chooses Church teachings according to what they want to believe or not believe — you may not exercise the ministry as a Baptism godparent or a Confirmation sponsor.

A few examples of a person living as a Cafeteria Catholic:

- 8 Supports the pro-choice movement [abortion and contraception]
- 8 Supports re-defining marriage
- 8 Is "living with" [cohabitating] someone else or only civilly married;
 - while engaging in intimate sexual relations (outside the Sacrament of Matrimony)
- 8 Is attending Mass only when they feel like it or it fits into their schedule.
- 8 Does not regularly receive God's mercy in Confession

If we do not understand the faith – we are called to take the time to be informed about it; participate in the religious education opportunities of our parish; and/or meet with a parish priest. Learn what it is that we believe, why we believe it, how do we live out our faith. We can also pray for the courage and perseverance, not only to live out the faith, but to proclaim it to a world that so desperately needs to hear the truth of God's message, now more than ever! May God continue to bless you in your faith journey and good works, as we collectively evangelize the Good News of Jesus Christ!

GODPARENT/SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY FORM DETAILS

It is up to the **YEAR ONE** youth to give their sponsor a **St. Helen Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility Form** to fill out and return to St. Helen (address: 5510 W. Cholla St, Glendale, AZ 85304 or fax: 623-412-1226 or email: dduran@sthelenglendale.org) This needs to be turned/mailed in **before the Tuesday Sacrament Prep class on November 14, 2023.** (forms can be found in the FORMS section of this booklet or online — <u>https://www.sthelenglendale.org/YM-SacPrep</u>. If you need extra forms, contact the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator, Deepa Duran.

In order for the **Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility** form to be considered **COMPLETE**, the following must be met:

- 1. Fill out the form completely.
- 2. **Obtain** the parish seal/signature from the Godparent's/Sponsor's parish [it is a raised embossment or decal]
- 3. **Submit** necessary sacrament documentation to dduran@sthelenglendale.org

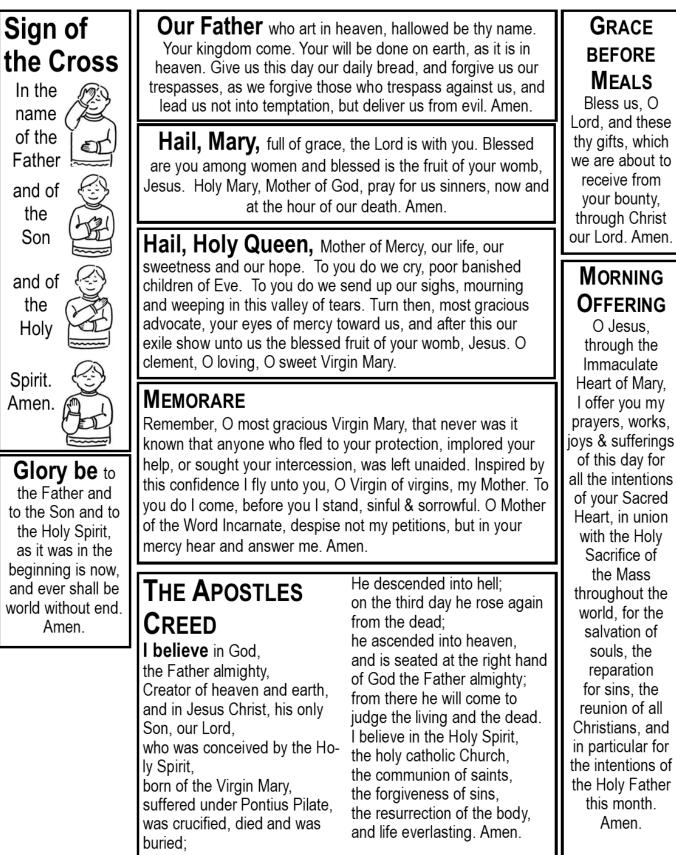
If you are unsure If the person you have chosen as your godparent/sponsor, please ask your Youth Minister, Deepa Duran.

Remember, your sponsor should be someone whose **Catholic faith you admire and want to strive after their example of holiness because he/she <u>is active</u> in their parish church and <u>can share</u>

<u>why</u> our Catholic faith is important in their daily life. You should also consider choosing someone <u>who lives close</u> enough to help in your preparation to receive the sacraments and beyond.



EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW THESE PRAYERS



EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD KNOW THESE PRAYERS

I **confess** to Almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, *through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;* therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, [At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, all bow.]

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Glory to God

in the highest. And on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify You, we give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the

Father: you take away the sins of the world. have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are Holy One, you alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High. Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father, AMEN.

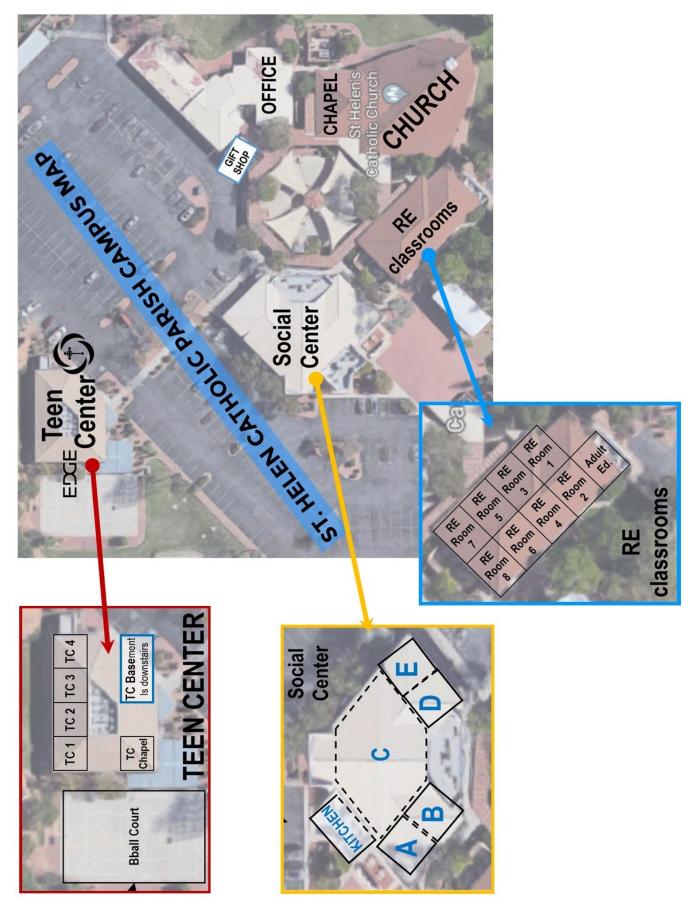
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he whom comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

ACT OF CONTRITION

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong & in failing to do good, I have sinned against you, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, & to avoid whatever leads me to sin.

St. Michael the Archangel

defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



2023-2024 YEAR ONE: EDGE, CONFIRMATION & 1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES PAGE #12



YEAR ONE PROGRAM ~ FALL 2023 CALENDAR

Forms can be found online: <u>https://www.sthelenglendale.org/YM-SacPrep</u> **Questions:** Call Deepa Duran (623-500-3207) **Email:** dduran@sthelenglendale.org

Wednesday EDGE Nights and AD EDGE Nights are attended by the Youth only.				
EDGE Night	Wednesday, September 13	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
AD EDGE Night	Wednesday, September 20	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, September 27	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night / Retreat**	Wednesday, October 4	**4:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, October 18	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
AD EDGE Night	Wednesday, October 25	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, November 8	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
YEAR ONE Class	Tuesday, November 14	6:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
A Parent/Sponsor and Youth are to attend all Tuesday classes.				
A Parent/Sponsor a	and Youth are to attend <u>al</u>	Tuesday classes.		
Baptism / Birth Cert	and Youth are to attend <u>all</u> ificate is due before/on Tues., N Eligibility form is due before Tu	lovember 14, 2023.		
Baptism / Birth Cert	ificate is due before/on Tues., N	lovember 14, 2023.		
Baptism / Birth Cert Godparent/Sponsor	ificate is due before/on Tues., N Eligibility form is due before Tu	lovember 14, 2023. Jes., April 23, 2024.		
Baptism / Birth Cert Godparent/Sponsor AD EDGE Night	ificate is due before/on Tues., N Eligibility form is due before Tu Wednesday, November 15	lovember 14, 2023. Jes., April 23, 2024. 6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		

We recognize that there are times when family or an emergency can prevent an St. Helen **YEAR ONE** Sacrament Prep Youth from attending a scheduled activity.

Therefore, each St. Helen **YEAR ONE** Sacrament Prep Youth will be given **3 Grace Cards*** for their St. Helen **YEAR ONE** Sacrament Prep year. On the St. Helen YEAR ONE Sacrament Prep Youth's <u>4th absence</u>, the Youth Minister, Deepa Duran, will schedule a family meeting—parent[s] and youth—to discuss whether the youth should continue in the 2023-2024 St. Helen **YEAR ONE** Sacrament Prep gragmant or postpone the reception of their sacraments.

*Grace Cards may only be used for Tuesday YEAR ONE classes or AD EDGE Nights. Grace Cards MAY NOT BE USED for the retreat requirement.

E DGEYEAR ONE PROGRAM ~ SPRING 2024
~ Wednesday EDGE Nights, Tuesday Year One Class, etc.

EDGE Night YEAR ONE Class	Wednesday, May 1 Tuesday, May 7	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center) 6:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday May 1	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Centor)		
YEAR ONE Class	Tuesday, April 30	6:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, April 24	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility form is due before/on Tues., April 23, 2024.				
YEAR ONE Class	Tuesday, April 23	6:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, April 17 6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Ce			
A Parent/Sponsor <u>and</u> Youth are to attend <u>all</u> Tuesday classes. Godparent/Sponsor Eligibility form is due before/on Tues., April 23, 2024.				
YEAR ONE Class	Tuesday, April 16	6:30-8:30 pm (Teen Center)		
AD EDGE Night	Wednesday, April 10	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, March 13	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, March 6	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, February 28	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, February 21	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, February 7	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
AD EDGE Night	Wednesday, January 31	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		
EDGE Night	Wednesday, January 17 Wednesday, January 24	6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center) 6:30-8:00 pm (Teen Center)		



St. Helen Catholic Parish

5510 West Cholla Street, Glendale, AZ 85304 623-979-4202 Fax 623-412-1226 www.sthelenglendale.org

GODPARENT/SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY

Age 7 through Adult

To be completed by the Catholic Godparent/Sponsor

Email Documentation to dduran@sthelenglendale.org

GODPARENT/SPONSOR INFORMATION

First Name	_Last Name	Con	tact #	
Mailing Address		City		State
Email:		Country	_ Zip Code	
Person to whom I will be Godparent/Spor	nsor:		Age of Perso	n

In accepting this responsibility, I can truthfully state the following:

I am a practicing Roman Catholic in both word and deed.
<i>I am a fully initiated Catholic.</i> (Please submit a copy of your Baptismal Certificate, complete with notations of your reception of the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Email documentation to dduran@sthelenglendale.org)
<i>I attend Mass:</i> weekly;twice a month;monthly;occasionally; do not really attend Mass.
I am at least 16 years of age.
<i>I am:</i> Single; Married; Widowed; Divorced
If married, were you married in the Catholic Church? Yes No If yes, what year?

year? (Please submit a copy of your Baptismal Certificate, complete with notation of your reception of the Sacrament of Matrimony. Email documentation to dduran@sthelenglendale.org)

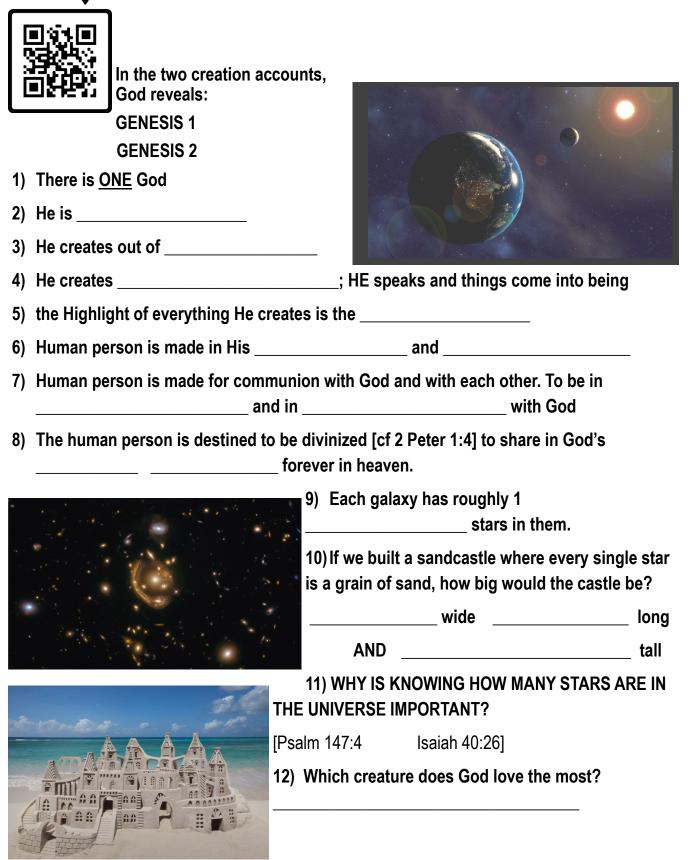
I am not cohabitating (living with significant other/boyfriend/girlfriend).

Statement of Godparent/Sponsor

I recognize that in accepting the role of Godparent/Sponsor, I become responsible to be a model and example of faith to the newly Baptized/Confirmed as a committed and active Catholic and to be a support in the practice of our mutual faith. I hereby assure that I am committed to my Catholic faith, that I am myself baptized and confirmed in it, and that I meet my fundamental obligations as a Catholic by participating in Sunday Mass, by receiving the Eucharist as often as possible and Penance as necessary, by being open to the Word of God as revealed in Sacred Scripture and taught by the Church, by witnessing to the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and by seeking to be of service to others for love of Him.

Signature of Catholic Godparent/Sponsor		Date Signed		
Name of Your Home Parish				
Address	City	State	Zip	
Pastors must ascertain the spiritual qualifications of G	Godparents/Sponsors.			
AFFIX CHURCH SEAL		Circulture of Dester	an Dala sata	
HERE		Signature of Pastor	-	
		Date: /	/	

2023-2024 YEAR ONE: EDGE, CONFIRMATION & 1ST EUCHARIST CLASSES PAGE #16



SCAN ME

DISCIPLES CLASS: CAPTURED

Kerygma WHY IS THERE SOMETHING RATHER THAN NOTHING?

Tonight's session is Sin and its consequences, or why is everything so messed up? What the hell happened?

Tonight's class, we're talking about the NEWS. Focusing on: The Enemy [Satan] The of the Fall THE ENEMY'S: HOLY SPIRIT, reveal, show me: : RULER OF THIS WORLD [and write it down] **REASON FOR REBELLING: HE HATES US** NAMES: Satan [accuser] & Devil [divider] WHERE IS HE ACCUSING ME RIGHT **ROOT STRATEGY: Father of Lies** NOW? TACTICS WHAT LIE IS CRIPPLING ME RIGHT HE ACCUSES NOW? HE LIES HE DIVIDES WHERE IS THE ENEMY CAUSING HE **DIVISION IN MY LIFE RIGHT NOW?** HE TEMPTS HE DISCOURAGES WHERE IS THE ENEMY FLATTERING MY GOAL FOR YOUR LIFE: he wants to destroy EGO RIGHT NOW? you and to separate us from GOD WHAT TEMPTATION IS STRONGEST Sin and Death are _____. It's not **RIGHT NOW?** enough to repent, we need to be RESCUED WHERE AM I MOST DISCOURAGED **RIGHT NOW?** THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE FALL DEATH SIN

Kerygma WHY IS THERE SOMETHING RATHER THAN NOTHING? WHY IS EVERYTHING SO MESSED UP? WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED?

WHAT, IF ANYTHING, HAS GOD DONE ABOUT SIN & DEATH?ISAIAH 49:24-261) What's the big deal about being a GOEL?



The FATHER poses the question: Who will go and get him? Who will bring him back? Who will bring him home?

The him is ______. Or you or me. And, the SON in the Center, has his head turned to the right towards the FATHER, as if to say to the FATHER, "I will" [pointing at himself] "I will go and get him. I will bring her back. I will bring him home."

And, the HOLY SPIRIT has his head down because the SPIRIT knows the COST of it takes for someone to do that.

WHY DID JESUS COME TO RESCUE US?Luke 11:21-22Who is the strongman?______Who is the one stronger than the strongman?______

"Enemy occupied territory – that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has **landed**, you might say **landed in disguise**..."

- C.S. LEWIS, MERE CHRISTIANITY

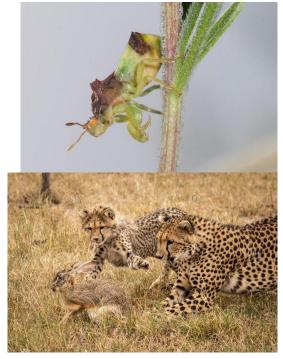
DISCIPLES CLASS: RESCUE

Look at JESUS on a Cross, and ask yourself: Is JESUS the Hunted or the Hunter? Is He a Victim or is he the Aggressor?



What is an AMBUSH PREDATOR?

What is JESUS' Camouflage?



DISCIPLES CLASS: RESCUE

WHAT WAS JESUS DOING ON THE CROSS?

1ST] SHOWING US THE _____

2ND] BECOMING ______; MAKING ATONEMENT FOR US

3RD] GOING TO ______ TO _____ US

The Power of Death could not be conquered unless Our Lord took on the human form and lived in this world and died on the cross. — St. Ephrem

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE?

1) _____ the Enemy [Colossians 2:15]

2) destroyed _____ [Isaiah 25:8-9]

- 3) Transferred us from ______ kingdom of sin & death into the house of the FATHER [Colossians 1:13-14]
- 4) Gave us ______ to the FATHER [as His adopted sons/daughters in the Kingdom]
- 5) ______ us [2 Corinthians 5:17]
- 6) Rendered ______ powerless [Romans 6:6-7]
- 7) Gave us authority over the Enemy in HIS Name. [Luke 10:19]
- 8) _____ us on mission to get HIS _____ back

[Matthew 16:18; Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:18-20]

"Enemy occupied territory – that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us to take part in a great campaign of sabotage." – C.S. LEWIS, *MERE CHRISTIANITY*

We are RESCUED, we are rescued, so as to RESCUE and bring people back to God. Will you go and get them? Will you bring them back? Will you bring them home?

DISCIPLES CLASS: RESPONSE



Jesus is standing on the Enemy's head. The man and the woman are Adam and Eve. Jesus is saying, "Take my hand and let me pull you out of the tomb." He does not want us stuck in the muck and the mire.

What is our appropriate response? What is that Jesus most wants? He wants faith, our surrender. He wants us to Trust in Him.

I Invite you if you are willing, ONLY if you're willing, to surrender to Him right now.

To say, "Lord, here is my life and you can have it."

THE PRAYER. Is on the reverse side of

this artwork. I'm going to invite you to make the sign of the cross, open your heart, [kneel], and honestly, earnestly, pray this prayer out loud with us in the chapel.

God, I believe that out of Your infinite love You created me. I'm sorry for all the times I have believed the enemy's lies that You are not a good Father and don't love me. Please forgive me for all of my sins. Thank you for sending Jesus, THE Ambush Predator, to rescue me from Sin, Death, Hell, and Satan. I choose this day to place Your Son, Jesus, at the center of my life. And, so, today, here and now, I surrender to You, Jesus and desire Your lordship over every area of my life. I ask You now to flood my soul with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Help me to know my true identity as a beloved son/ daughter. Help me to know that I matter and I am worth dying for. Recreate me to be the person You destined me to be. Please use me as an instrument in Your merciful hands to rescue others and to help recreate this world that You so love. Amen.

10 COMMANDMENTS

	1ST: I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD, YOU SHALL NOT HAVE STRANGE GODS BEFORE ME.	6TH: YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.	
MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD	2ND: YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF THE LORD YOUR GOD IN VAIN.	7TH: YOU SHALL NOT STEAL.	ΥM
ITH GOD	3RD: REMEMBER TO KEEP HOLY THE LORD'S DAY (SUNDAY).	8TH: YOU SHALL NOT LIE.	MY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHE
MY RELATION	4TH: HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.	9TH: YOU SHALL NOT DESIRE YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE.	ITH OTHERS
ATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS	5TH: YOU SHALL NOT KILL.	10TH: YOU SHALL NOT DESIRE YOUR NEIGHBOR'S GOODS.	
	MY RELATIONS	HIP WITH OTHERS	

PREPARING OUR HEART FOR CONFESSION



All of us make mistakes sometimes. We may say unkind words to somebody in the heat of anger or may tell a lie to try to avoid getting in trouble. None of us, not even your favorite grownups are perfect. And, we constantly need God's help to be the kind, loving people He created us to be. When we make choices that hurt other people, hurt ourselves, or hurt our friendship with God, we call those '**sins**'. Whatever sins you have, you can be sure that God loves you and wants to help you make better choices in the future. In fact, He loves you so much, that He

gave the Catholic Church a very special gift called the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we spend time with God, talk about our sins, ask God to forgive us, and then we let God's grace help us make better choices. Think of it like going to the doctor when you are sick. You tell the doctor what's going wrong, and the

doctor gives you medicine to help you feel better in the future.

Today, we're going to spend some time thinking about what we want to say sorry for. We'll start by asking God to help us examine our hearts, and then, we'll think about ways we haven't lived up to who God wants us to be. Let's begin...

+ In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Loving God, I want to love you more. As I prepare my heart for confession, help me remember the times I made the wrong choice and be with me as I ask for forgiveness for those sins. I know that you are waiting for me in the sacrament of Reconciliation, ready to forgive me and to give me the grace I need to choose to do better. Amen.

Find a comfortable, quiet spot. It may help to think about any sin that comes to mind. After reading the questions, you can answer them silently in your mind or write your thoughts in a journal. Remember that the answers to these questions are private. You don't have to share them with anyone except the priest who hears your confession.

FIRST, THINK ABOUT YOUR FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD.

Do you remember to pray everyday? And, go to church every Sunday?

Spending time with God is really important if we hope to be a good friend to God. If you don't talk to God everyday or miss church on Sundays, that would be a good thing to talk to God about. You can tell God in Reconciliation that you are sorry and you want to spend more time with him.

When you go to Mass, do you pay attention? Do you treat God's house with respect? Do you always say God's name with love?

We always want to treat God with respect and love. And, that means acting nicely in church and being careful with our words. If you act really loud in church or use God's name when you stub your toe, you can tell God that you are sorry and ask Him for forgiveness.

NOW, THINK ABOUT YOUR FRIENDSHIPS WITH OTHERS.

Do you speak kindly to others including your classmates, siblings, and grownups? Do you treat other people with kindness and respect?

God made all of us and loves us so much. So, when we love the people around us, it's a way we can show our love for God. If you're ever mean to someone with your words or your actions, you should ask God for forgiveness, and for the grace to be kind in the future.

Do you feel happy for others when they have good luck? Do you forgive others when they make a mistake?

Sometimes we can carry mean feelings in our heart that makes us angry with others. If you get jealous when other people have nice things or if you stay angry even after someone has said sorry, you should talk to God about that in Reconciliation. He can help you practice Joy and Forgiveness.

Do you always tell the truth? Are you honest in school when you take tests or do homework?

It's always better to be honest even if it seems like telling a lie would help you stay out of trouble or get you something you want. If you have told any lies, you can tell God that you are sorry and want to be honest in the future.

Do you listen to the rules at home and at school? When the grownups who take care of you give you directions, do you follow them?

Sometimes it's hard to have to do what other people tell you to do. But, God gave you grownups who love you and want what's best for you. We show our love for them and for God when we follow the rules that are there to keep us safe. If you have trouble following the rules or listening, you can talk about that in confession and ask God to forgive you.

FINALLY, THINK ABOUT HOW YOU TREAT YOURSELF.

Do you take good care of your mind and body? Do you give it what it needs to be strong and healthy?

God made every inch of you and taking care of yourself is one way to show God how thankful you are. If you skip brushing your teeth, only eat junk food, or stay up past your bedtime every night, you can ask God for help to do a better job of taking care of yourself in the future.

Do you love yourself as God loves you?

God loves you more than you could ever imagine. God does not want you to think mean things about yourself or put yourself down. He wants you to trust that you are good, just as you are. Think of it this way: you should never say anything to yourself that you wouldn't want to say to your best friend. You can share during Confession any unkind things you might have said to yourself and ask God to help you love yourself.

Let's take some time to think through each of these areas one more time.

Take note in your mind or on paper with what stands out. That's what you'll want to talk to God about when you go to Reconciliation.

First, you can talk to God about your friendship with Him. You can tell Him you are sorry if you forget to pray, miss Mass, misbehave in church, or use God's name carelessly.

You can also talk to God about your friendship with other people. You can tell Him you are sorry if you're mean to others or carry anger or jealousy in your heart. You can also ask His forgiveness if you have lied or cheated or if you have broken the rules at home or at school.

And, lastly, you can talk to God about how you treat yourself. You can tell Him you are sorry if you don't take good care of your brain or your body.

Remember, Reconciliation is a gift. It's normal to be a little nervous. But, God is always so excited to get to spend this time with you. He loves you so, so much. Nothing you talk to God about in Confession will make Him love you any less. God knows that He has the perfect medicine for your sins and can't wait to give you all the grace you need to love Him, to love others, and to love yourself. Let's end our examination with the **ACT OF CONTRITION**, the prayer you will pray at the end of Confession:

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and in failing to do good, I have sinned against you, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.

+ In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO CONFESSION

(take this with you into the confessional))

- The Priest will welcome you to the Sacrament of Confession.
- When you are ready to begin, you begin with the SIGN OF THE CROSS:

+ In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

• The priest will then say these or similar words:

May God, who has enlightened every heart, help you to know your sins and trust in His mercy.

[The priest may read a scripture passage at this time.]

• You say these or similar words:

Don't be afraid to ask the priest for help.

"This is my first confession"

or "My last confession was _____ (weeks, months, years) ago" THEN

"My sins are: (tell your sins simply and honestly from your heart)" *THEN*

"For these and all the sins I cannot remember, I am truly sorry."

- Listen to the advice the priest gives [helps you grow in grace with God, others, & yourself.]
- The priest will propose a penance for you. [The penance takes into account your personal situation and supports your spiritual growth. Your penance may be a prayer, an offering, work of mercy, service, or sacrifice.] Make sure you understand what your penance is before praying the ACT OF CONTRITION.
- The priest will then ask you to pray an ACT OF CONTRITION:

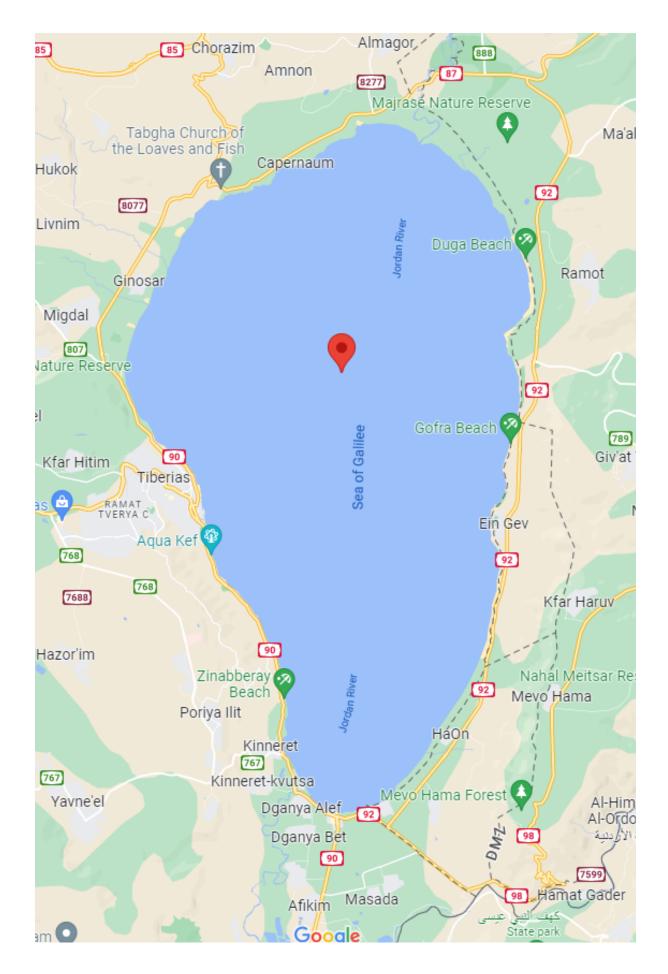
My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and in failing to do good, I have sinned against you, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.

• The priest, acting in the Person of Christ, prays the PRAYER OF ABSOLUTION over you:

You both Say: "AMEN."

- The priest will pray the Final Blessing.
- You can say: "Thank you, Fr. ______"

AFTER LEAVING THE CONFESSIONAL, spend some time with God thanking Him for his mercy and forgiveness of your sins. And, then, pray/do your penance.



St. Helen - 2023-2024 Liturgical Calendar								
Year	AUGUST	6 Transfiguration of the Lord	13 19th Sunday in OT	Sunday's a 20 20th Sunday in OT	and Holy Days of 27 21st Sunday in OT	Obligation	meaning Su	nary Time ndays are in gical time
2 0	SEPTEMBER 00	3 22nd Sunday in OT	10 23rd Sunday in OT 8	17 24th Sunday in OT 15	24 25th Sunday in OT	20	Obligatio)ays of n [additional ass we are
2	OCTOBER	∎ 26th Sunday in OT	O 27th Sunday in OT	15 28th Sunday in OT	22 29th Sunday in OT	29 30th Sunday in OT	obligated	to attend]
3	NOVEMBER	1 All Saints	5 31st Sunday in OT	12 32nd Sunday in OT	19 33rd Sunday in OT	26 Christ, the King of the Universe	-	Readings n Dec. 3
	DECEMBER	3 1st Sunday of Advent	8 Immaculate Conception	10 2nd Sunday of Advent	17 3rd Sunday of Advent	24 4th Sunday of Advent	25 Christmas	31 Holy Family
	JANUARY	1	7	14	21	28	<u> </u>	
2		Mother of God	Epiphany of Jesus	2nd Sunday of OT	3rd Sunday of OT	4th Sunday of OT		
0	FEBRUARY	4 5th Sunday of	11 6th Sunday of	14 Ash	18 1st Sunday of	25 2nd Sunday of	Hele D	
2	Y MARCH	OT 3 3rd Sunday of	OT 10 4th Sunday of	Wednesday 17 5th Sunday of	Lent 24 Palm	Lent 31	Holy Days of Obligation [additional days for Mass we are	
4		Lent 7	Lent	Lent 21	Sunday 28	EASTER	obligated Cycle B Sur	
	APRIL	Divine Mercy Sunday	3rd Sunday of Easter	4th Sunday of Easter	5th Sunday of Easter		Year 2 Dail	
2	MAY	5 6th Sunday of	12 7th Sunday of	19 PENTECOST	26 Holy Trinity		OT = Ordin meaning Sur chronolog	ndays are in
0	٦L	Easter 2	Easter 9	16	23	30	CHIONOLO	gical unie
2	JUNE	Body & Blood of Christ	10th Sunday OT		12th Sunday OT	13th Sunday OT		
4	JULY	7 14th Sunday OT	14 15th Sunday OT	21 16th Sunday OT	28 17th Sunday OT			

Books	of the O	LD TES	
Pentateuch	Historical books	Wisdom books	Prophetic books
Genesis	2 Kings	Proverbs	Joel
Exodus	1 Chronicles	Ecclesiastes	Amos
Leviticus	2 Chronicles	Song of Songs	Obadiah
Numbers	Ezra	Wisdom*	Jonah
Deuteronomy	Nehemiah	Sirach*	Micah
	Tobit*		Nahum
Joshua	Judith*	Isaiah	Habakkuk
Judges	Esther `*	Jeremiah	Zephaniah
Ruth	1 Maccabees*	Lamentations	Haggai
	2 Maccabees*	Baruch*	Zechariah
1 Samuel		Ezekiel	Malachi
2 Samuel	Job	Daniel `*	
1 Kings	Psalms	Hosea	

Books of (the NEW	TESTAMENT
GOSPELS	Letters	Catholic Letters
MATTHEW	Ephesians	James
MARK	Philippians	1 Peter
LUKE	Colossians	2 Peter
JOHN	1 Thessalonians	1 John
	2 Thessalonians	2 John
Acts of the Apostles	1 Timothy	3 John
	2 Timothy	Jude
Romans	Titus	Revelation
1 Corinthians	Philemon	
2 Corinthians	Hebrews	
Galatians 2023-2024 YEAR ONE: EI	DGE, CONFIRMATION & 1ST	EUCHARIST CLASSES PAGE #30