








ST. HELEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SAPIENTIA FILIIS SUIS VITAM INSPIRAT

2025 - 2026 Annual Impact Report










Mission

St. Helen Catholic School is committed to
educating the whole person to see with Christ's eyes.



Vision

St. Helen Catholic School is a place where God permeates all that we do while we foster joyful disciples who know, love, and serve Christ and one another.



"St. Helen Catholic School exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ who know, love, and serve Him"

Dear Friends of St. Helen Catholic School,

It is a great joy to have my first experience as pastor of a parish with a school be here at St. Helen! As I prepared to make the move to St. Helen, several former pastors, good friends of mine, shared with me the excellent reputation of our school, and particularly of our talented and dedicated principal, Mary Kay Sims. It has been a joy to work with her, as well as our School Advisory Board, teachers, and staff as we began the school year. Blessing our school on the feast day of St. Helen was a wonderful way to start our year together! It has been exciting to meet many of our parents and students, whether in our meet and greet events at the beginning of the year, in the carpool line, or at Friday school Masses, and I look forward to the year.

As an extension of our parish's mission, St. Helen Catholic School exists to make disciples of Jesus Christ who know, love, and serve Him in their brothers and sisters, and who see the world with Christ's eyes. I'm grateful for all those whose love, generosity, and sacrifices have brought us to where we are, and I look forward to all the Lord has in store for the years to come. Blessings and prayers!

In Christ,
Fr. Jonathan Raia
Pastor

Dear SHCS Community,



Reflecting on this past year fills my heart with immense gratitude for the abundant blessings God has bestowed upon our school family. It is a true joy to watch our young people grow in faith, character, compassion, and academic achievement.

Our nurturing environment exists because of the shared devotion of our entire community. Every day, our students are surrounded by extraordinary love and support as we walk alongside one another—using our unique gifts to guide them through every milestone, celebrate their successes, lift them up, and help them discover their God-given potential.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our dedicated faculty and staff. Their unwavering commitment ensures our school remains a sanctuary of learning and faith, and it is an absolute gift to work alongside educators who lead with such deep devotion and enthusiasm. I am equally grateful for the steadfast support of our School Advisory Board, our Parent Teacher Organization, our Parish staff, our school parents and grandparents, and our extended parish family.

Thank you for being such an integral part of St. Helen Catholic School. May God continue to pour out His blessings upon our community and guide us in the year ahead.

Sincerely,
Mary Kay Sims
Principal

"Our nurturing environment exists because of the shared devotion of our entire community."

Service







In a powerful display of community spirit and faith in action, students, families, and staff at St. Helen Catholic School successfully collected over 1,300 non-perishable food items. The massive collection directly benefited The Caring Place, a local non-profit dedicated to fighting food insecurity within the Georgetown community. The two-week initiative transformed the school into a hub of charity. Our faith teaches us to feed the hungry and look after our neighbors. Seeing our students from pre-kindergarten to eighth grade carry boxes into the school with such joy shows they truly understand the value of service. House Council members helped load the 1,300 collected items into a delivery truck bound for The Caring Place. St. Helen Catholic School is deeply proud to serve its community by living out the gospel values of charity, compassion, and selfless service every single day.

SHCS National Junior Honor Society put their faith into action by assembling hundreds of essential hygiene kits to support the vital work of Catholic Charities. The hands-on service project brought together our students to provide comfort and dignity to local individuals experiencing homelessness and hardship.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES CENTRAL TEXAS
ENGAGE. EDUCATE. EMPOWER.





Representatives from Catholic Charities visited the school to collect the donations, expressing deep gratitude for the students' hard work. The completed hygiene bags were distributed immediately through local shelters and outreach programs, ensuring that neighbors in crisis receive the immediate care and support they deserve.

St. Helen Catholic School proudly supports Catholic Charities of Central Texas and will continue to help them live out their mission.

Service

The Holy Cross Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) truly lived out our Catholic mission of selfless service and leadership. These student leaders have shown what it means to be the hands and feet of Christ. We are incredibly proud of their dedication to scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character, and we look forward to seeing how they continue to bless the world around them.







Demonstrating a profound commitment to putting their faith into action, these four students collectively dedicated a remarkable 1,415 hours of service to our school and local communities. They were recognized at the Diocesan St. Thomas Aquinas Mass with Bishop Daniel Garcia.

At our annual Convocation Mass, we proudly honored and recognized our dedicated teachers for their milestone years of service. These exceptional educators have given years of combined expertise, passion, and love to nurturing the hearts and minds of our students. We extend our deepest gratitude to these faithful servants for their enduring dedication to Catholic education and for continually inspiring our students to grow in knowledge and faith.



Ms. Williamson - 5 Years of Service



Mrs. Beyer - 5 Years of Service

Faith Formation

It was a year of spiritual growth for our 2nd grade students as they encountered Christ's healing love and real presence in the sacraments. With hearts full of joy and anticipation, these young disciples made their First Reconciliation and received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Guided by their teachers and families, our students spent months preparing to open their hearts to Jesus. We pray that the grace of these sacraments may continue to strengthen them as they grow in faith, walk in friendship with the Lord, and become active witnesses of His love in our school community.







Our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students stepped out of the classroom and into a powerful experience of faith at the diocesan Eucharistic Rally. Gathering alongside peers from across the diocese, our middle schoolers spent the day in fellowship, dynamic worship, and deep prayer, culminating in a beautiful liturgy and adoration led by the Bishop.

This historic event offered our young people a unique opportunity to encounter the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and to experience the vibrant, universal nature of the Catholic Church. We pray that the spark ignited at the rally continues to burn brightly in our students' hearts, inspiring them to be joyful witnesses of Christ in our school and beyond.

Faith Formation







Our 5th grade students embarked on a memorable four-day journey of faith, science, and discovery at the Camp Kappe Youth Retreat Facility. Attending the acclaimed School of Environmental Education (S.E.E.) program, our young scholars stepped directly into God's great outdoors to study botany, wildlife, and life cycles through immersive, hands-on learning. Guided by the principles of caring for our common home, our students returned with a deeper appreciation for the wonders of the natural world and a renewed commitment to protecting God's-given resources.

As a meaningful rite of passage before graduation, our 8th grade class traveled to the Texas Hill Country for a transformative spiritual journey at Eagle's Wings Retreat Center. Nestled in the peaceful, natural beauty of Burnet, Texas, this special retreat offered our graduates a sacred space to pause, reflect on their shared years of Catholic education, and look forward to the adventures of high school.







Extracurricular

Austin Christian Athletic Association

ACAA

SHCS is a member of the Austin Christian Athletic Association, where our 5th through 8th grade students compete in cross country, volleyball, flag football, basketball, soccer, and track. It was a historic year for our athletes, highlighted by several championship victories. The junior high girls brought home the 1st-place trophies in both volleyball and basketball, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and determination on the court. Adding to the school's triumph, our cross country team also secured a 1st-place finish, outrunning the competition to claim the league title. Congratulations to all of our student-athletes and coaches for their hard work and commitment to excellence both on and off the field!

















Extracurricular

Our 2nd through 8th grade students showcased their incredible vocabulary and composure at St. Helen Catholic School Spelling Bee. Students from every grade level stepped up to the microphone, handling challenging words with impressive confidence and grace. After several intense, nail-biting rounds, a 4th-grade student claimed 1st place to become this year's Ultimate Spelling Champion! We are incredibly proud of all our participants for their hard work, courage, and dedication to academic excellence.





Middle School



4th & 5th Grade



2nd & 3rd Grade



SHCS offers "The Knight School" to students grades PK through 5th. This unique program transforms chess into a fun, fast-paced game that promotes critical thinking, sportsmanship, and strategic planning. The club helps students build confidence and academic discipline in a supportive environment. They learn to master the board while embracing the values of fellowship and intellectual growth.

Events













Our school community brought vibrant energy and creativity to this year's Parish Fall Festival by hosting a pumpkin decorating booth. This festive fundraiser brought together students, families, and parishioners of all ages to transform ordinary pumpkins into colorful, imaginative masterpieces. The booth served as a joyful bridge between our school and parish ministries, fostering a wonderful spirit of fellowship while raising vital funds to support our Parish. Thank you to the dedicated parent volunteers and enthusiastic students whose hard work made our booth a standout success and a beautiful showcase of our community's shared joy.

Our school community spread immense holiday cheer by participating in the annual Georgetown Christmas Stroll Parade at the historic downtown square. Marching through "The Most Beautiful Town Square in Texas," our enthusiastic students proudly represented our school with joyful smiles and festive carols. The beloved community event provided a wonderful opportunity to share our vibrant school spirit, connect with local neighbors, and celebrate the true joy of the Christmas season with the wider Georgetown community.









Events

Saints & Scholars
CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



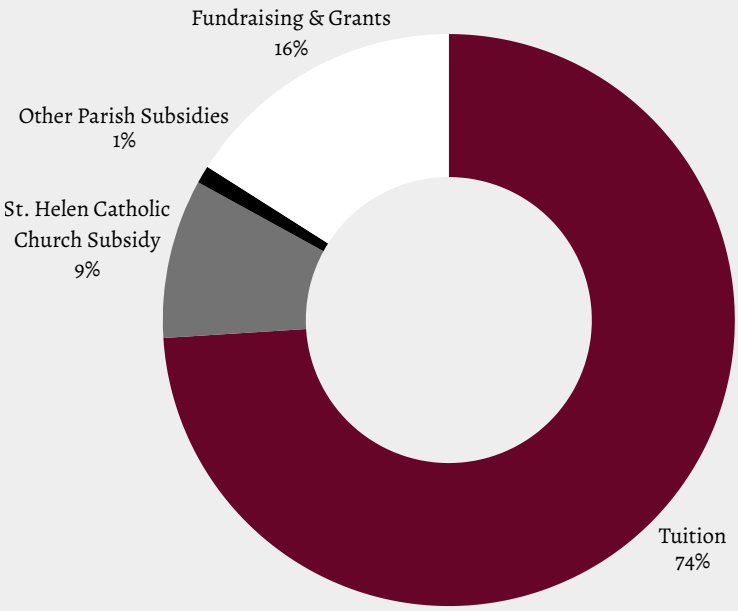
We were honored to nominate Donna Martin as our "unsung" hero for the Celebrating Catholic School Saints & Scholars Gala this year. Donna Martin recently retired from St. Helen Catholic School after an impressive 43 years of teaching in Catholic education. Her career spanned across multiple dioceses: four years in Massachusetts with the Diocese of Worcester, five years in the Archdiocese of Atlanta, and 34 years in the Diocese of Austin. Donna was one of the founding teachers at St. Helen Catholic School, where she spent over two decades teaching Kindergarten. Over the years, she became an integral part of the school community, taking on roles such as Religion Coordinator, serving on accreditation teams throughout the diocese, and assisting with countless other duties as needed. Donna's heart lies in nurturing faith. Creating a space where children and their families could grow in love for Christ and one another was her greatest joy. Donna's lifelong dedication to teaching, supported by her loving family and her husband, reflects a beautiful vocation rooted deeply in faith, love, and service. You will always be in our hearts, Mrs. Martin.



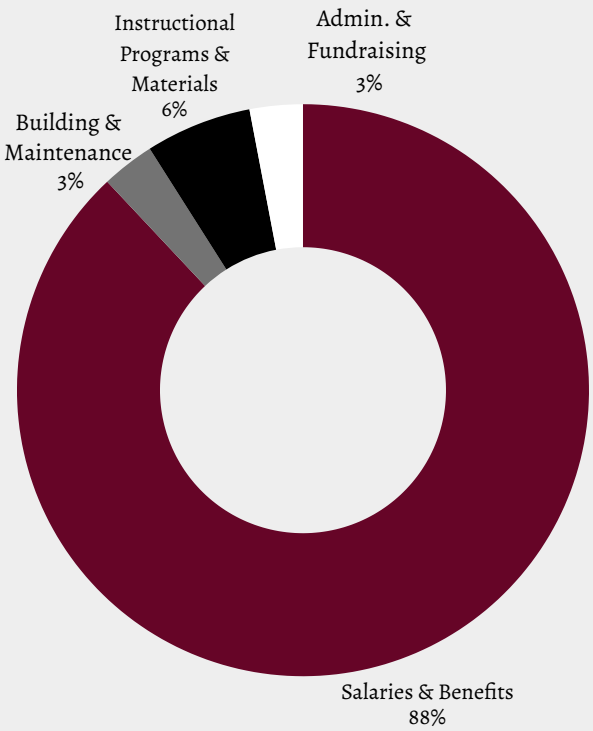
Income & Expenses

The summary below is an overview of the 2025-2026 St. Helen Catholic School operating budget.

Revenue



Expenses











The Lions' Pride Annual Fund continues to provide necessary resources to enrich the education of the students attending St. Helen Catholic School and bridge the gap between expenses and tuition. These funds ensure that we employ quality teachers and give them the tools and training to provide excellent instruction. At St. Helen, we are committed to providing a quality, affordable Catholic education to students in and around Georgetown. By donating to The Lions' Pride Annual Fund, you partner with us to ensure this tradition lives on for years to come.

Thank you for your support!!

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The Kenedy Foundation

Thank You!



Support St. Helen Catholic School

GIFTS TO THE LIONS' PRIDE ANNUAL FUND

We are grateful for the many ways you made a collective impact in 2025-2026 and would appreciate your continued support. The impact of your unrestricted gifts to our Annual Fund is expansive. Each student, teacher, and family benefits from your gifts. Every area of the school requires bolstered support to maintain the excellence that has already been achieved yearly. Your gifts increase the quality of each individual child's educational experience as St. Helen evolves to meet current and emerging needs to maintain a legacy for many years to come.

Gifts to the 2026-2027 Lions' Pride Annual Fund can be made by check or securely online.
visit www.shcslions.org
Mail to 2700 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, TX 78626
Attn: Development Office



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St. Helen Catholic School

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