## 2023-2024 St. Helen Theme

## The Theme:

St. Helen Catholic School has chosen "Jesus is the anchor of my soul" as the theme for the upcoming school year, drawing inspiration from Bible's Hebrews 6:19. This theme will serve as a unifying force and guide the entire school community towards a deeper connection with Jesus and their shared Catholic identity.

For students, the theme encourages a personal relationship with Jesus, helping them navigate the complexities of their academic and social lives. It reminds them to lean on their faith during difficult times, fostering resilience, character development, and a sense of purpose.

Teachers and staff are encouraged to embody Jesus's teachings of compassion, love, and service, providing a nurturing and inclusive environment for students to grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually. The theme reinforces the idea that their vocation is more than a profession but an opportunity to be instruments of God's love and grace.

Parents are invited to participate actively in their child's spiritual journey, creating a partnership between home and school. By embracing the theme, parents can deepen their own faith and serve as role models, reinforcing the values taught at St. Helen Catholic School.

Finally, the parish community plays a crucial role in supporting the school's mission. Through the shared theme, the entire community can come together, providing spiritual guidance, mentorship, and a sense of belonging to the students, teachers, and staff. The parish becomes an extended family, fostering a supportive network that strengthens the school's efforts to nurture the faith and overall well-being of all its members.

In summary, the theme "Jesus is the anchor of my soul" serves as a unifying force at St. Helen Catholic School, bringing students, teachers, staff, parents, and the parish community together. It reinforces the importance of faith, stability, and purpose in the lives of its members, fostering a sense of resilience, character development, and a strong community bond rooted in Christ's teachings.

## The Symbol:

By incorporating a symbol of an anchor surrounded by the Eucharist with a central cross, the school aims to emphasize the significance of the Eucharist as the most important part of the Catholic faith.

The anchor, traditionally symbolizing stability and hope, represents Jesus as the unshakeable foundation and source of strength for one's soul. It serves as a reminder that, in times of uncertainty and turmoil, Jesus remains steadfast, offering support and guidance to those who embrace Him.

The Eucharist, considered the most important part of the Catholic faith, holds deep spiritual significance. It represents the body and blood of Jesus Christ, offered in the sacrament of the Holy Communion. By incorporating the Eucharist into the symbol, St. Helen Catholic School emphasizes the centrality of this sacred sacrament in nourishing and sustaining one's spiritual life.

The cross positioned at the center of the symbol represents the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, showcasing His unwavering love and redemption. It serves as a reminder of the immense power of Jesus' sacrifice and the salvation it brings to humanity.

The combination of the anchor, Eucharist, and cross in the symbol signifies the interconnection of faith, stability, and the redemptive power of Jesus Christ. It visually reinforces the theme and encourages students, teachers, staff, parents, and the parish community to rely on Jesus as their anchor and to embrace the significance of the Eucharist in their spiritual journey.