

For the 2025–2026 school year, St. Helen Catholic School has chosen the theme “**Rooted in Christ,**” inspired by the scripture passage from *Colossians 2:7*: “*Rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*”

This theme not only grounds us in our faith but also ties beautifully to our local community. Most people don’t realize what makes Indian River Citrus—grown right here in our area—famous around the world. The secret lies in our dry soil. Because the soil lacks water, the citrus trees must grow their roots deeper into the ground to survive. While this means the trees produce fewer pieces of fruit than trees grown elsewhere, each piece of fruit contains more natural sugar than any other citrus in the world. That’s why Indian River Citrus is known as the sweetest and the best.

The lesson for us is powerful: when we are deeply rooted in Christ, the fruit of our efforts is richer and more meaningful. Just as the citrus tree produces fruit of unmatched sweetness by digging its roots deep, so too do we as a school community produce the greatest results when our lives and learning are firmly rooted in faith.

This year also marks the beginning of our capital campaign to build the new St. Helen campus. For 85 years, our school has been a deeply rooted part of the Vero Beach community—nurturing generations of students in faith, knowledge, and service. As we look ahead to this exciting new chapter, **Rooted in Christ** reminds us that it is through our faith foundation that we will continue to grow and flourish.