

St. Catherine of Siena Church

A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH of PRAYER and FRIENDSHIP

Church and Parish Office

2 White Bridge Road
Pittstown, NJ 08867

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 245
Pittstown, NJ 08867

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
(Later by appointment)
Phone: (908) 735-4024
Fax: (908) 735-0355
Website: www.scoschurch.org
Email: scoscoffice@gmail.com

PASTOR

Rev. Chester Zalubski
Email: baca11963@yahoo.com

Weekend Assistant

Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski, DD
Bishop Emeritus

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Mike Meyer
Email: deaconmikemeyer@hotmail.com

Deacon Dennis K. Webster

(908) 236-6055
Email: denniswebster2@gmail.com

Parish Catechetical Leader

Sandra Kopka
(908) 735-5086
Email: stcscre@gmail.com

Music Ministry

Pat Prakopcyk
(908) 782-7043
Email: stcatmusic@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

Jennifer Perna
(908) 735-4024
Email: scoscoffice@gmail.com



December 5, 2021 Vol. 02

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Evening: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, and 11:00 AM
Daily: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:00 AM
Wednesday 7:00 PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Friday: 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Wednesday: 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM or by appointment

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

For registered and practicing parishioners (weekly attendance at Mass) by arrangement with Father Chester. Preparation classes are held at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month. Please call to register.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Engaged parishioners are requested to make arrangements with Father Chester at least one year in advance.

CARE OF THE SICK

Please notify the Parish Office for a visit for a homebound or ill individual. Call for a prayer intention to be included in the bulletin and/or weekly intentions. Please notify us when someone is hospitalized.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

Every family should be registered properly. Registration is necessary to qualify for the Religious Education Program and the reception of the Sacraments.

Certificates of eligibility for sponsorship for Baptism or Confirmation will be given only to active (weekly Mass attendance) registered parishioners.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, PITTSTOWN, NJ

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Servers

Cecile Sabatino
256-2085

Audio/Visual

Ken Mandoli
735-2879

Auditors

Maggie Marion
735-4024

Building Maintenance

Ray Ferraro
623-0345

Catholic Media

Denise Botto
996-6760

Decorating Committee

Donna Cahill
730-9384

Events Hospitality

Margaret Rocca
996-3226

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

John-Joseph Bober
713-9707

Family Mass

Celticstamper@gmail.com

Family Promise

Mary Jo Haggerty
892-3513

Food Pantry

Patty Battipaglia
735-6020

Knights of Columbus

Michael J. Iannozi
328-6605

Monthly Eucharistic Adoration

Mary Kauza 735-4582
Jane Ricketts 782-6216

Parish Landscape

Kevin Cahill
730-9384

Parish Pastoral Council

Denise Botto
996-6760

Parish Picnic

Debbie Fass
730-7303

Prayer Shawl

Donna Mustillo
237-0211

Printable Materials

Helen Nardone
391-0857

Readers

Robert Preston
510-2712

Right to Life Rep

Robert Keeling
812-1071

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Deacon Mike Meyer
Deaconmikemeyer@hotmail.com

Rosary Society

Jane Ricketts
782-6216

Sanctuary Guild

Kathy Mathews
735-9511

SCRIP Program

Jennifer Perna
208-0472

Social Concerns

Doreen Opeikun
507-6752

Dawn Salerno
477-0105

Stewardship

Lori Young
713-1997

Ushers

Rich Kopf
797-4607

Veterans Military Apostolate

Parish Office
735-4024

Website

Ed Schilke
713-4914

Wedding Coordinator

Ellen McCarthy
735-2028

Welcome

Carol Rocha
996-7612

Weekly Schedule

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH — 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH — 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS

8:00 AM — 9:00 AM 2ND GRADE RELIGIOUS ED

9:30 AM MASS

11:00 AM MASS

12:00 PM PARISH ROSARY AND ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

6:30 PM — 8:15 PM 8TH GRADE RELIGIOUS ED

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

8:00 AM MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

8:00 AM MASS

1:00 PM PRAYER SHAWL MEETING

3:30 PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

7:00 PM VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8TH — OFFICE CLOSED, IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:00 AM MASS

6:30 PM — 8:00 PM 3RD & 4TH RELIGIOUS ED

6:30 PM RECONCILIATION

7:00 PM MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

8:00 AM MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

8:00 AM MASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH — 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH — 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM MASS

9:30 AM MASS

11:00 AM FAMILY MASS

12:00 PM ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

After every weekend Mass, please join us for coffee, conversation, and SCRIP ordering in the kitchen area!



Readings for the week of December 5, 2021

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
 Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Observances for the week of December 5, 2021

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent
 Monday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
 Tuesday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 Wednesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Thursday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
 Friday: Our Lady of Loreto
 Saturday: St. Damasus I, Pope
 Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

(C)LPi

**Advent Adoration, Retreat, and Reconciliation
 December 19th at 5:00 PM**

Join us for “The people in darkness have seen a great light.” A journey from darkness to the Light of Christ at an Advent retreat with Lisa Lee and Deacon Mike Meyer on Sunday, December 19th at 5:00 PM in the Church.

Light refreshments will be served prior to retreat from 4:30-5:00 PM in the kitchen area.

Eucharistic Adoration will take place during the retreat.

Our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service will immediately follow Adoration and the retreat, with 3 priests hearing confessions from 6:00-7:00 PM.



The Parish Office Is Closed

Wednesday, December 8th for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception — Holy Day of Obligation



Vigil Mass will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, December 7th

Mass will be at 8 AM & 7 PM on Wednesday, December 8th

Family Advent Wreath Lighting

Our sign-up sheet for the Family Advent Wreath Lighting is located in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider signing up.

Lighting of the wreath takes place at the beginning of each weekend Mass. We ask that you arrive approximately 10 minutes prior to your Mass.



The Winners of the NJ Right to Life Raffle are...

1st Prize 2022 Volvo — Mario Bernardo, Glen Gardner, NJ

2nd Prize \$1,000 ShopRite Gift Certificate — Vincent Narcisi, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ

3rd Prize \$750 ShopRite Gift Certificate — Frank Rooney, Cinnaminson, NJ

4th Prize \$500 ShopRite Gift Certificate — Rich Hayek, Passaic County, NJ

Thank you to all who participated in the NJRTL Car Raffle Fund Raiser



**The “Oplatki”
 or
 “Christmas Wafers”**

is available and located in the Narthex for \$1.00 Donation



Christmas Cookie Exchange

**December 19th
after the 11:00 AM Mass**

Join your fellow parishioners for coffee/tea/hot chocolate and holiday conversation.

Bring 2 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies with recipes to share (if possible) and an empty container to fill up for the holidays.

Please bring your cookies downstairs before Mass for early set up.

If interested please contact:

Doreen Opeikun cell 908-507-6752 or email doreenope@gmail.com

Dawn Salerno cell 908-477-0105 or email dawnsalerno@verizon.net

St. Catherine's Family Mass

Bring the whole crew out for

St. Catherine's Family Mass

Sunday, December 12th at 11 AM

**to celebrate St. Nicholas, a man of faith
who lived his life devoted to Christ!**



Here's the scoop:

Calling all 5th graders to volunteer to serve as ushers, readers, offertory helpers, and altar servers (if trained). **Please call or text Katharine Lawrence at 908-892-1526 to volunteer for this Family Mass.**

All children, please bring a special unwrapped gift to be brought up during the Offertory.

Gifts ideas:

- toiletries
- socks for all ages, including baby
- small, boxed food items
- small package of diapers and wipes

We will be expecting a special guest to be with us during this Mass. Goodie bags for all kids!

St. Nicholas takes us to the heart of Christmas and honors the Christ Child who selflessly gave the greatest gift of all – Himself!



We are happy to welcome our recently baptized at St. Catherine of Siena:

Paul Edmund Vayleux

baptized on November 20, 2021



**Rosary Society Giving Tree
November 20-December 5**

Last weekend for the Giving Tree

Please take a tag from the tree, return the unwrapped gift, along with the gift tag, and place it under the tree

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP THE GIFT! Gift cards should be placed in the basket under the tree.

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Parishioners please join us to

Pray the Parish Rosary

Sunday, December 5th

following the 11:00 AM Mass

Rosary Society Projects Help the Local Community

The Rosary Society members donated 10 huge baskets with food for Thanksgiving, including frozen turkeys, and other cooking supplies. These baskets were given to families in the parish and at the Union Township school.

Many years ago, the Rosary Society provided the parish with a poor box and since that time has helped to distribute the funds that have been donated by parishioners. We wish to thank the parish for the donations made this past year. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able to donate money to a local family in need and additional monies to the Open Cupboard, a community food pantry located in Clinton.

May God bless you for sharing what you have with those in need.



Mass Intentions

Saturday: December 4, 2021

4:30 PM Stephanie & Frank May
r/o Bernie & Larry Remaly

Sunday: December 5, 2021

8:00 AM Robert Greenwood Gorton
r/o The Innocenti Family

9:30 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

11:00 AM Florence Wurster Birthday Blessings
r/o Marge Tosco & Family

Monday: December 6, 2021

8:00 AM Antonio Rofrano
r/o Ortensia Clancey

Tuesday: December 7, 2021

8:00 AM John Opeikun
r/o The Opeikun Family

7:00 PM Brian Erling
r/o The Erling Family

Wednesday: December 8, 2021

8:00 AM Veronica April
r/o Joseph April

7:00 PM Joseph Zaleski
r/o David & Jennifer Perna

Thursday: December 9, 2021

8:00 AM Mary Errico
r/o The Baker Family

Friday: December 10, 2021

8:00 AM The Kennedy Family
r/o The Salerno Family

Saturday: December 11, 2021

4:30 PM Eleanor Bachenberg
r/o Beth Burkey

Sunday: December 12, 2021

8:00 AM Jose Matos
r/o Koretzky & Matos Family

9:30 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

11:00 AM Samuel Schofield
r/o Bob & Dori Schofield

From the Pastor's Desk *Immaculate Conception*

This week, on Wednesday, December 8, we celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Not only is this a great feast of our Lady in its own right, but it is under the title of her Immaculate Conception that the United States is dedicated to our Lady as our patroness - it is our national feast day.

Here are 7 things you need to know about the teaching and the way we celebrate it.

1. Who does the Immaculate Conception refer to?

There's a popular idea that it refers to Jesus' conception by the Virgin Mary. It doesn't. Instead, it refers to the special way in which the Virgin Mary herself was conceived. This conception was not virginal. (That is, she had a human father as well as a human mother.) But it was special and unique in another way.

2. What is the Immaculate Conception?

The dogma of the Immaculate Conception, proclaimed by Pope Pius IX in 1854 says:

The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.

3. Does this mean Mary never sinned?

Yes. Because of the way redemption was applied to Mary at the moment of her conception, she not only was protected from contracting original sin but also personal sin.

4. Does this mean Mary didn't need Jesus to die on the Cross for her?

No. Mary was immaculately conceived by a singular **grace** of God and **by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ**, dying on the Cross for us.

5. How does this make Mary a parallel of Eve?

Adam and Eve were both created immaculate--without original sin or its stain. They fell from grace, and through them mankind was bound to sin.

Christ and Mary were also conceived immaculate. They remained faithful, and through them mankind was redeemed from sin. Christ is thus the New Adam, and Mary the New Eve.

6. Was it necessary for God to make Mary immaculate at her conception so that she could be Jesus' mother?

No. The Church only speaks of the Immaculate Conception as something that was "fitting," something that made Mary a "fit habitation" (i.e., suitable dwelling) for the Son of God, not something that was *necessary*.

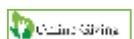
7. How do we celebrate the Immaculate Conception today?

In the Latin rite of the Catholic Church, December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. In the United States and in a number of other countries, it is a **Holy Day of Obligation**.

Fr. Chester



The collections for November 21st was \$3,786.00 (113 envelopes) for the general collection and \$1,350.00 (47 envelopes) for the Works of Mercy Campaign. November 28th was \$3,873 (106 envelopes) for the general collection.



On-Line Giving for November 21st was \$4,364.50 (118 donors) and November 28th was \$3,327.00 (117 donors).

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