



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 Michael A. Mever. D.Min.

Email: deaconmikemeyer@hotmail.com

Deacon Dennis K. Webster

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

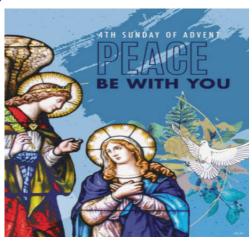
Email: scoscoffice@gmail.com

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Jim Murray

(973) 370-2532

Èmail: StCatherine@boldym.com



December 18, 2022

Vol. 04

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.



PARISH MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Servers

Kelly Wojtal (908) 892-4574

Audio/Visual Ken Mandoli

(908) 735-2879

<u>Auditors</u> Maggie Marion (908) 735-4024

Building Maintenance Ray Ferraro

(908) 623-0345

Catholic Media Denise Botto (908) 996-6760

Coffee Fellowship Teri Saccal (908) 229-9355

Decorating Committee

Donna Cahill (908) 730-9384

Events Hospitality Margaret Rocca (908) 996-3226

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

John-Joseph Bober (908) 713-9707

Family Mass
Celticstamper@gmail.com

Family Promise Mary Jo Haggerty (908) 892-3513

Food Pantry Patty Battipaglia

(908) 735-6020

Knights of Columbus Robert Keeling

Robert Keeling (908) 812-1071

Monthly Eucharistic
Adoration
Monthly Eucharistic

Mary Kauza (908) 735-4582 Jane Ricketts (908) 782-6216

Parish Landscape Kevin Cahill (908) 730-9384

Parish Pastoral Council
Denise Botto

Denise Botto (908) 996-6760 Parish Picnic Debbie Fass

Debbie Fass (908) 730-7303

Prayer Shawl Donna Mustillo (908) 237-0211

Graphic Materials Helen Nardone (908) 391-0857

Readers Robert Preston (908) 510-2712

Right to Life Rep Robert Keeling (908) 812-1071

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Deacon Mike Meyer
Deaconmikemeyer@hotmail.com

Rosary Society Jane Ricketts (908) 782-6216

Sanctuary Guild Kathy Mathews (908) 735-9511

SCRIP Program Robin Potempa (908) 310-4273

Social Concerns Doreen Opeikun (908) 507-6752 Dawn Salerno (908) 477-0105

Stewardship Lori Young (908) 713-1997

<u>Ushers</u> Rich Kopf (908) 797-4607

Veterans Military Apostolate

Parish Office (908) 735-4024

Website Ed Schilke (908) 713-4914

Wedding Coordinator Ellen McCarthy (908) 735-2028

Welcome Carol Rocha (908) 996-7612

Weekly Schedule

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH

10:00 AM CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE

2:30 PM — 4:00 PM RCIA FELLOWSHIP HALL

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH — 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 AM — 9:00 AM 2ND GRADE FAITH FORMATION

8:00 AM MASS

8:30 AM — 10:15 AM 3RD GRADE FAITH FORMATION

9:30 AM MASS 11:00 AM MASS

12:00 PM COOKIE EXCHANGE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

8:00 AM MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20TH

8:00 AM MASS

12:30 PM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
3:30 PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

6:00 PM — 7:30 PM 7TH & 8TH FAITH FORMATION

CLASSES

6:30 PM—7:00 PM RECONCILIATION

7:00 PM MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

8:00 AM MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

8:00 AM MASS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHRISTMAS EVE

3:30 PM CHILDREN'S PAGEANT

6:00 PM MASS MIDNIGHT MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

4:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

CHILDREN'S MASS

8:00 AM MASS 10:00 AM MASS



The 2023 Catholic Calendars are here!

Please take 1 or 2 for your family. They will be available all month in the Narthex.

DECEMBER 18, 2022 — 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the week of December 18, 2022

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/Rom

1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-

17/Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-

12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk

1:46-56

Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and

14/Lk 1:57-66

Saturday: *Morning*: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps

89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Next Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 *Night*: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn*: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 *Day*: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3])/ Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Observances for the week of December 18, 2022

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

Wednesday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the

Church

Friday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Saturday: Christmas Eve

Next Sunday: The Nativity of the Lord

(C)LPi

To meet the increased needs of the community, Catholic Charities Food Pantry and Thrift Store, located in Phillipsburg, need volunteers for the following:

Food Pantry

- Open from 10 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday
- Volunteers to unpack donated and purchased food
- Volunteers to sort and stack food on pantry shelves
- Volunteers to prepare grocery bags for our clients
- Breakdown empty boxes and carry them to trash bins
- Provide basic case management services and have an awareness of local resources or be willing to learn

Thrift Store

- Open from 11 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday
- Help sort and put donated items on the shelves
- Help price the items donated to the store
- Help the customers with any questions they may have about the items purchased

Call Maria Hunter (732) 738-1315 or email mhunter@ccdom.org



Holy Day Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th:

3:30 PM Children's Pageant

4:00 PM Children's Mass

6:00 PM Mass Midnight Mass

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th:

8:00 AM Mass 10:00 AM Mass





Thank you...

Anthony & Jennifer Natalizio
for our wonderful

Christmas Tree Light display.

Lecture Series: "The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church" January 17, 2023, at 7 PM Presenter: Very Reverend Timothy Christy Location: Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen

Fr. Christy, Rector of the Cathedral, will be exploring the USCCB's document on the Eucharist. As Christians, we know that we need Christ to be present in our lives. He is

our very sustenance as he reminded us: unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you (John 6:53). The Lord accompanies us in many ways, but none as profound as when we encounter Him in the Eucharist. Please join Fr. Christy for this important event.





Christmas Cookie Exchange December 18th 12:00 Noon

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

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 RSVP By December 11th to:
Doreen Opeikun at (908) 507-6752 or email
doreenope@gmail.com



RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages

sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ.

RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 3 – 5, 2023**.

All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact:

Rich Colasuonno (732) 236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno (732) 672-0748 or email 3024@helpourmarriage.org.



We would like to welcome

The Leone Family
The Fikslin Family

to St. Catherine of Siena Parish.



Please consider joining us for the Annual Diocesan Respect Life Mass on Sunday, January 22, 2023 at 12:00 noon at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen.

Bishop James F. Checchio will be the celebrant. Youth who have been active in pro-life volunteering will be recognized. There will be a light reception immediately following the Mass. All are welcome to attend. For more information, contact

amarshall@diometuchen.org or (732) 562-1543.



The Knights of Columbus will be having a student bus and an adult bus leaving from Immaculate Conception Church, Annandale on January 20th. There will be a Mass at 6:00 AM and the busses will leave ICC at

6:45 AM and returning around 10:00 PM.

For additional information call Bill Smith at (908) 797-7359 or email smithbuilders@hotmail.com

Surviving Divorce March 2023

Surviving Divorce – For men and women seeking healing from separation or divorce. This 12-week program, while based on the teachings of the Catholic Church, is open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel and clarity after a divorce. Meetings will be held on Thursdays 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM beginning March 2, 2023 at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ.

For more information or to register contact Ro Bersch at (908) 313-5947.

St. Catherine's Youth Choir is inviting new members to join in singing at the Family Mass.

Rehearsals are held each Wednesday night at the church from 5:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Students in Grades 3 to Seniors in High School may come for auditions. If interested, please call or text Mrs. Lisa Sforza at (908) 310-3495.

Employment Opportunity - Advertising Representative

The Catholic Spirit, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Metuchen, seeks an Advertising Sales Representative to assist with the sale of advertising space. The ideal candidate will be responsible for initiating, developing, and closing sales of print media advertising in The Catholic



Spirit by creating and building effective client relationships with area businesses and organizations. Interested candidates should forward their resume

Employment Opportunity - Graphic Designer

The Catholic Spirit, the official newspaper of the Diocese of Metuchen, seeks a Graphic Designer to assist with the layout and design of its publication. The ideal candidate will have Adobe InDesign and Photoshop experience in a PC



environment, be familiar with all aspects of electronic publishing, be well-organized and reliable, and have a proven track record of meeting deadlines. Interested candidates should forward their resume to hr@diometuchen.org

Mass Intentions

Saturday: December 17, 2022

4:30 PM Linda Bronish

r/o Robert Bronish

Sunday: December 18, 2022

8:00 AM Jose Matos

r/o The Koretzky & Matos Families

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

11:00 AM John W. Raymonds

r/o St. Catherine's Parish

Monday: December 19, 2022

8:00 AM Terry Walck & Helen Ihling

r/o Elsie Studley

Tuesday: December 20, 2022

8:00 AM John Studley

r/o Elsie Studley

Wednesday: December 21, 2022

7:00 PM Robert Rocca

r/o The Family

Thursday: December 22, 2022

8:00 AM Grega Family

r/o Elsie Studley

Friday: December 23, 2022

8:00 AM Antonio & Rosa Rofrano

r/o Ortensia Clancey

Saturday: December 24, 2022

4:00 PM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

6:00 PM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

Midnight The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

Sunday: December 25, 2022

8:00 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

10:00 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's



The collections for December 11th will be posted in the December 25th bulletin.



On-Line Giving for the December 11th collection will be posted in the December 25th bulletin.

From the Pastor's Desk

A Tradition for Your F ve of Christmas

Many of you took "Oplatki" or "Christmas Wafers." Sharing the Oplatki on Christmas Eve Dinner is a millennia old tradition that began in Poland, Slovakia, and Lithuania.

At the Christmas Eve Meal one of the wafers or, a part of one, are placed on each person's plate. Before the meal, a prayer is said and then beginning with the father and mother of the house, a Sign of Peace is exchanged in the same manner and the wish of a Happy Christmas. Then each person, with wafer in hand, breaks off a part of the wafer from the other person and eats it. This continues until each person has greeted and eaten a part of the wafer of everyone present.

There are usually four wafers in the package: three white and one pink. The white are for the people at the Christmas Eve Dinner. The pink wafer is broken and a small piece is given to each of the animals in the house. On this night the animals are given special due. This is because of an old tradition which holds that since the animals were the first to welcome the Christ Child at His birth, they are given the blessing to talk on Christmas Eve Night.

What Traditions do you hold on this Holy Night for yourself and your family and are they about the reason of this season – the Love of God Made Flesh?

P.S. If you need a Prayer to begin The Christmas Eve Meal ...

Begin with The Sign of the Cross.

<u>All</u>: We gather together on this holy night for the sacred and joyful Christmas Eve Vigil. We Celebrate the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The love of God made Flesh.

Through the sharing of these holy wafers we praise God and forgive each other of all wrongs, real or imagined. As Christ loves and forgives us, so we love and forgive one another. Glory to God in the Highest and Peace to this family and all God's People. Amen.

Fr. Chester



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