

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: office@scoschurch.org

PASTOR

Rev. Chester Zalubski

Email: frchester@scoschurch.org

Weekend Assistant

Most Reverend Paul G. Bootkoski, DD
Bishop Emeritus

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Michael A. Meyer, D.Min.

Email: deaconmike@scoschurch.org

Deacon Dennis K. Webster

Email: deacondennis@scoschurch.org

Religious Education Director

Sandra Kopka

(908) 735-5086

Email: religiously@scoschurch.org

Music Director

Pat Prakopcyk

(908) 782-7043

Email: musicdirector@scoschurch.org

Office Manager

Jennifer Perna

(908) 735-4024

Email: jperna@scoschurch.org

Office Assistant

Tee Andersen

(908) 735-4024

Email: tandersen@scoschurch.org

Youth Ministry Director

Dawn Salerno

(908) 477-0105

Email: dsalerno@scoschurch.org



December 3, 2023

Vol. 01

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

Kelly Wojtal
(908) 892-4574

Audio/Visual

Ken Mandoli
(908) 735-2879

Auditors

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

Sandra Kopka
religioused@scoschurch.org

Family Promise

Mary Jo Haggerty
(908) 892-3513

Finance Council

Mike Wojtal
(908) 310-7488

Food Pantry

Patty Battipaglia
(908) 735-6020

Knights of Columbus

Ed Schilke
(973) 886-3884

Monthly Eucharistic Adoration

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

Parish Gardener

George Mehaffey
(908) 581-2521

Parish Pastoral Council

Denise Botto
(908) 996-6760

Parish Picnic

Debbie Fass
(973) 222-8100

Prayer Shawl

Donna Mustillo
(908) 237-0211

Graphic Materials

Helen Nardone
(908) 391-0857

Readers

Robert Preston
(908) 510-2712

Right to Life Representative

Robert Keeling
(908) 812-1071

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Deacon Mike Meyer
deaconmike@scoschurch.org

Rosary Society

Yasmin Hernandez-Manno
(973) 229-4368

Sacristan

Margaret Rocca
(908) 996-3668

Sanctuary Guild

Kathy Mathews
(908) 735-9511

SCRIP Program

Robin Potempa
(908) 310-4273

Social Concerns

Doreen Opeikun
(908) 507-6752

Stewardship

Lori Young
(908) 713-1997

Ushers

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

Youth Choir

Lisa Sforza
youthmusic@scoschurch.org

Weekly Schedule

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

3:00 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL FOR CHRISTMAS DAY
3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION
4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

8:00 AM MASS
9:30 AM MASS
10:15 AM 2ND, 3RD, & 4TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION CLASS
11:00 AM ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY MASS
12:00 PM ROSARY SOCIETY LUNCHEON
7:00 PM — 7:45 PM YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE
5:30 PM — 6:45 PM YOUTH GROUP

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4TH

8:00 AM MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

8:00 AM MASS
12:30 PM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
3:30 PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

6:00 PM — 7:30 PM 7TH & 8TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES
6:30 PM — 7:00 PM 7TH & 8TH GRADE ADVENT RECONCILIATION STUDENTS ONLY
7:00 PM MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH

VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
8:00 AM MASS
10:00 AM — 11:30 AM BIBLE STUDY
7:00 PM VIGIL MASS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH — OFFICE CLOSED IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:00 AM MASS
6:15 PM — 7:00 PM 3RD & 4TH GRADE ADVENT RECONCILIATION
7:00 PM MASS — ALL RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

12:00 PM MIA LEONE BAPTISM
3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION
4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH — GIVING TREE COMES DOWN

8:00 AM MASS
9:30 AM MASS
11:00 AM MASS
12:00 PM CHRISTMAS DAY CHOIR REHEARSAL
7:00 PM — 7:45 PM YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

DECEMBER 3, 2023 — 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday:	Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37
Monday:	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Observances for the week of December 3, 2023

Sunday:	1 st Sunday of Advent
Monday:	St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	St. Nicholas, Bishop
Thursday:	St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Friday:	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday:	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
Next Sunday:	2 nd Sunday of Advent

(C)LPi

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.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!!!**



**The Knights of Columbus Pasta Dinner
was able to raise \$400 towards our
new Parish Center.**

kofc.org/joinus

Mega 50/50 winners:

1st place - Kevin Cahill

2nd place - Ron Dietrich

3rd place - Mr Gromlowicz



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

Gianna Catherine Pezik
November 18, 2023

Charlotte Rose Barnes
November 25, 2023

Eliza Clare Dumville-Vayleux
November 25, 2023

Mia Grace Saverino
November 26, 2023



Rosary Society Giving Tree November 21st — December 10th

Our Annual Giving Tree will be set-up in
the Church Narthex on
November 21st through Noon on
December 10th.

The Rosary Society's Giving Tree will be
decorated with Christmas gift tag
requests from the:

**Friendship Center for New Beginnings
Parishioners Who Are in Need
Veteran's Haven North
Family Promise**

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.

This is a wonderful time to share our blessings
with others who are in need.

Donate to the Giving Tree Using the Giving Tree SCRIP
Order Forms located in a basket under the tree, in the
display racks, or on the SCRIP table in Fellowship Hall.

**All gift card orders MUST be placed by
December 4th to be included in the
Giving Tree Collection**

**Drop Order Form With Check In Collection Basket or
SCRIP Box In Fellowship Hall**



Youth Group Corner Upcoming Events

Dec. 3rd from 6 — 7:30 PM

Guest speaker Don Nuzzio, who studies life on the sea
floor. Please bring a nonperishable food item to help restock
Food Pantry after Thanksgiving.

Dec. 17th from 6 — 7:30 PM

Christmas Celebration-White Elephant \$15 budget/Bible
Bingo/DJ Matt/Gingerbread Nativities & Houses.

Jan 7th from 6 — 7:30 PM

Talk about Mission trip to Appalachia and Weekend Retreat
with Newark Diocese.

Jan 21st from 6 — 7:30 PM

Weekly Youth Meeting Plan WWE Jesus vs Satan.

**We are always happy to accept dinner donations for
youth group meetings! (Pizza/Subs/Salads/Tacos)**

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Campaign Report to Date will be Updated and Posted in the December 10th Bulletin.

Please contact Wayne Isbitski for questions at wisbit@yahoo.com or (908) 642-5031

Please send all donations to the office or drop in collection basket.



The Parish Office Will Be Closed On Friday, December 8th for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

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

Masses will be at 8 AM & 7 PM on Friday, December 8th

**Parish Reconciliation, and Advent Adoration
December 17th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM**

Join us on Sunday, December 17th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM in the Church for Reconciliation and spend time with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration.



*Thank you...
Anthony & Jennifer Natalizio
for our wonderful
Christmas Tree Light display.*

The 2023 Catholic Calendars are here!

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

New Bible Study at St. Catherine's

Are you looking to have a better understanding and connection to the Sunday Mass Readings? If so, join us as we gather to discuss and share these weekly passages.

Join us weekly on **Thursday at 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM** in Fellowship Hall.

For questions, please contact Teri Saccal at tasaccal@outlook.com or Lucia Sciancalepore at lucia.sciancalepore3@gmail.com.

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

1st Prize 2023 Volvo — Theresa Petrucci, Bergen County

2nd Prize \$1,000 ShopRite Gift Certificate
Lois Jarmicki, Hunterdon County.

3rd Prize \$750 ShopRite Gift Certificate
Curt Muklevicz, Ocean County.

4th Prize \$500 ShopRite Gift Certificate
Theresa Celli, Burlington County

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



We are saddened to announce the death of:

**Joel Pagano, father of
Guy Pagano, who
passed away on
November 13, 2023**

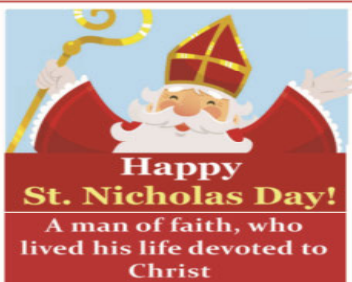
*"Marriage is a sacred bond between two imperfect people which is made possible by a perfect God, and held together with limitless love, unshakable faith and undying devotion for one another."
- Pope Francis*

*Beginning in January 2024,
St. Catherine's will be offering a special wedding anniversary blessing to couples during our monthly Marriage Celebration Mass held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at the 11 am Mass.*

Married couples are invited to join us in this celebration of their marriage vocation by sharing your names and wedding date in our "Anniversary Book" located in the Narthex of our Church. Or, you may submit your information to the parish office. Please note on the envelope "Anniversary Blessings".

CELEBRATE WITH US !

**Sunday
December 3rd
11:00 AM
Family Mass**



**Happy
St. Nicholas Day!**
A man of faith, who
lived his life devoted to
Christ

We are expecting a *special guest* to be with us during Mass and all will have an opportunity to take photos with him and the children after Mass.

A specially decorated area will be set up in the Fellowship Hall for photos, so bring your cameras and cell phones.

Hospitality will also be provided in the Fellowship Hall as well as **goodie bags for all the children.**

Calling all 8th Graders who need confirmation service hours. Volunteer as ushers, readers, offertory helpers, altar servers (if trained), and hospitality. Email Sandra at religioused@scoschurch.org

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday: December 2, 2023

4:30 PM William Merten
r/o Bernie & Larry Remaly

Sunday: December 3, 2023

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

9:30 AM Anthony Nigro
r/o The Stewardship Committee

11:00 AM Sebastiano Fialla
r/o The Erling Family

Monday: December 4, 2023

8:00 AM Marie & Richard DeFuccio
r/o Joan & Jim Flotteron

Tuesday: December 5, 2023

8:00 AM David Button
r/o Linda & Fred Button

Wednesday: December 6, 2023

7:00 PM Antonio Rofrano
r/o Ortensia Clancey

Thursday: December 7, 2023

8:00 AM Deacon Mike Meyer Birthday Blessings

7:00 PM Catherine Shockley
r/o Jennifer & David Perna

Friday: December 8, 2023

8:00 AM Carol Kopf
r/o Bernie & Larry Remaly

7:00 PM Samuel Schofield
r/o Bob & Dori Schofield

Saturday: December 9, 2023

4:30 PM Mary Errico
r/o The Baker Family

Sunday: December 10, 2023

8:00 AM Jose Matos
r/o The Koretzky & Matos Families

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

11:00 AM Jonathan Thomas Birthday Blessings
r/o The Thomas Family

From the Pastor's Desk

First Sunday of Advent

As we know, a new Church Year has commenced as we have entered the season of Advent. Integral to the season of Advent is the **Advent Wreath**, which has a long Catholic tradition. The Wreath is displayed prominently in front, on the left side of the Sanctuary. It typically has four candles that are lit progressively during the Sundays of Advent. The first candle is the Prophecy Candle or the Candle of Hope. It reminds us that we can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. The second Candle is the Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation. We remember the words of the Prophet Isaiah who said, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight paths for him." The third candle is the Shepherd Candle or the Candle of Joy. We reflect on how we joyfully anticipate the coming of the Christ Child. The fourth candle is the Angel Candle or the Candle of Love. We reflect on how the angels announce the coming of the Savior, sent by God because He loves us. These candles can also help us reflect on the desire to see the light of Christ shine through the darkness of our lives.

In the midst of this season of Advent, we celebrate on Friday, December 8th, the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**. Catholics believe that from the moment of her conception, Mary, the mother of Jesus, was preserved from original sin. It is most appropriate that this feast falls during the Advent season. During this season, we are called to have a generosity of spirit. Mary had this spirit as she generously accepted the call from the Angel Gabriel to bring the Christ Child into this world.

**Masses for the Immaculate Conception are:
the Vigil — Thursday, December 7th at 7:00 PM
and Friday, December 8th at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM.**

As we celebrate this great feast, and as the season of Advent continues, we are challenged to avoid secular distractions as we strive through prayer and acts of charity to truly prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord.

Fr. Chester



The collections for November 19th were \$3,834.00 (114 envelopes) for the regular collection and \$1,234.00 (50 envelopes) for the Works of Mercy Campaign. The November 26th collection was \$2,448.00 (105 envelopes) for the regular collection.



On-Line Giving for November 19th was \$3,807.00 (115 donors). On-line Giving for November 26th was \$3,073.00 (100 donors).

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