

St. Catherine of Siena Church

A ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH of

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

Fr. Jerome Borski

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: religioused@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 31, 2023 Vol. 05

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

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 30TH

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31ST — NEW YEAR'S EVE

8:00 AM MASS

9:30 AM MASS

11:00 AM MASS

MONDAY, JANUARY 1ST

OFFICE CLOSED

8:00 AM MASS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2ND

8:00 AM MASS

12:30 PM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

3:30 PM STEWARDSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3RD

6:00 PM — 7:30 PM 5TH & 6TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

6:30 PM — 7:00 PM RECONCILIATION

7:00 PM MASS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4TH

8:00 AM MASS

10:00 AM — 11:30 AM BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP HALL

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5TH

8:00 AM MASS

3:00 PM — 7:00 PM 1ST FRIDAY ADORATION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6TH

2:30 PM — 4:00 PM RCIA MARY & THE SAINTS

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7TH — THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 AM MASS

9:30 AM FAMILY MASS

11:00 AM MASS

12:00 PM ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

6:00 PM — 7:30 PM YOUTH GROUP

OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, January 1st

Readings for the week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Observances for the week of December 31, 2023

Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve

Monday: Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace

Tuesday: Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

Wednesday: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Thursday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Friday: St. John Neumann, Bishop

Saturday: St. André Bessette, Religious

Next Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

(C)LPi

St. Catherine's Family Mass

Come celebrate "FAMILY MASS," where youngsters serve as contemporary musicians, altar servers, ushers, readers, and offertory helpers.

Join us on **SUNDAY, January 7th at 9:30 AM** for our next Family Mass.

Please contact us at stcscre@gmail.com to volunteer at any Family Mass.



RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with four follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **February 2 – 4, 2024**. 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

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration



First Friday Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held on the first Friday of each month beginning at **3 PM** and ending with Benediction at **7 PM**.

Our next Eucharistic Adoration is **Friday, January 5th**

It is absolutely essential to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never unattended at any time during Adoration, please sign up in advance by using the sign-up link below.

Or call Mary Kauza at (908) 735-4582 or Jane Ricketts at (908) 782-6216 to sign up directly.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0544ADAA2BA1F94-first>

St. Catherine's Rosary Society Welcomes New Members



St. Catherine's Rosary Society warmly invites all parishioners to attend our next meeting on **Sunday, January 7th at 12 Noon**.

We are a spiritual and social group, dedicated to increasing devotion to Our Blessed Mother and her Rosary, as well as providing numerous fundraising activities for our parish.

For more information, please call Yasmine Hernandez-Manno (973) 229-4368

Youth Group Corner Upcoming Events



Jan 7th from 6 — 7:30 PM

Speaker Wayne Isbitski

Topic: Discipleship. Discussion: Is Jesus relevant in today's world? Our online lives are a constant distraction; texting, email, TikTok, Facebook, and scores of websites demanding our attention. If Jesus was still here on Earth today would he be on social media?

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)

Parish Center Campaign Corner
Parish Center Donation Recognition Opportunities:

With Township approval of our building plans, our attention is now focused on fund raising. To date, 181 Parishioners have pledged **\$629,908 against our goal of \$900,000.**

Thank You For Your Generosity!

We would like to acknowledge our donors for their generous gifts by offering permanent memorial plaques affixed on various building elements with your name or that of a family loved one memorialized.

Major gift levels will be \$10,000, \$15,000, \$20,000 & \$25,000, and above for specific rooms in the building.

There are additional gift levels ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 for windows, doorways, equipment, and furnishings.

Finally, a memorial paver garden with personalized paving stones in different sizes will be available for donation levels from \$250 up to \$1,000.

All donors, regardless of gift level, will have their name affixed to a plaque displayed in the lobby of the building. Any donors who have already provided gifts at these levels will have first right of refusal for recognition opportunities.

There will be more information available on our website and in Fellowship Hall. Please contact the Parish Office or fill out a pledge card, which is available at the entrances of the Church or in the Parish Office.

God bless you for your support of our Parish,
Father Chester

Campaign Report To Date:

Active Parishioners:	484
Pledges Received:	181
Campaign Goal:	\$900,000
Amount Pledged:	\$629,908
Amount Collected:	\$516,771

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.

Rosary for Life – January 19, 2024

Come Pray a Rosary for Life (in solidarity with those at the March for Life in Washington, DC and across the country). Bishop Checchio is scheduled to attend! Friday, January 19, 2024 at 1:00 PM on Main Street in Woodbridge. Park and meet in the St. James Parish parking lot at 12:45 PM (369 Amboy Ave, Woodbridge, NJ). There is a 12:10 PM daily Mass at St. James for those who wish to attend. For more information, contact amarshall@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543.

EMAIL SCAMS

Once again, we have been made aware that scammers are using Father Chester's name and fake email address asking our parishioners for money, Amazon cards, or gift cards.

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY!

Father Chester would **NEVER** email you asking for money or gift cards. He would call you or speak to you directly.

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 tasacal@outlook.com or Lucia Sciancalepore at lucia.sciancalepore3@gmail.com.

Ministry Information Weekend

"As Each One Has Received a Gift, Use it to Serve One Another as Good Stewards of God's Varied Grace."

Please consider joining a ministry to help add spiritual vitality to our faith community. Ministry leaders will be available following Mass the weekend of **January 27th — 28th** to discuss opportunities to serve in a Ministry.

Stop by for a cup of coffee and conversation in Fellowship Hall. Ministry sign-ups will be held following Mass the weekend of **January 27th — 28th.**

Not a Parishioner? Stop by the Weekend of January 27th — 28th and speak with one of our Welcome Committee Members.

*Are you celebrating your
Wedding Anniversary in January?*

**JOIN US ON JANUARY 14TH
AT THE 11:00 AM MASS
TO RECEIVE A
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY BLESSING.**

All 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 send your names, and wedding date to the parish office in an envelope marked "Anniversary Blessings".



PLEASE NOTE:

WE WILL BE OFFERING A MARRIAGE CELEBRATION MASS, 11 AM, ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH THROUGHOUT 2024. SIGN UP IN THE "ANNIVERSARY BOOK" LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

Mass Intentions

Saturday: December 30, 2023

4:30 PM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

Sunday: December 31, 2023

8:00 AM Eric Bobal
r/o Donna & Dominic Mustillo

9:30 AM Andrew Hannalla
r/o Fr. Chester

11:00 AM Anna Teets
r/o The Paulmeno Family

Monday: January 1, 2024

8:00 AM Steve Stefanakis
r/o The Sciancalepore Family

Tuesday: January 2, 2024

8:00 AM Ellen McCarthy Birthday Blessings

Wednesday: January 3, 2024

7:00 PM The Opeikun Family
r/o The Quick & Sullivan Families

Thursday: January 4, 2024

8:00 AM Rev. J. Maciej Melaniuk

Friday: January 5, 2024

8:00 AM Katharine Lawrence Birthday Blessings

Saturday: January 6, 2024

4:30 PM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

Sunday: January 7, 2024

8:00 AM Andrew Hannalla
r/o Margaret Rocca

9:30 AM The Piotrowski Family
r/o Dennis & Kathleen Webster

11:00 AM Micheal Zeccola
r/o Karen & Ed Trzepla

From the Pastor's Desk The Holy Family

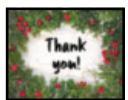
As we know our Christmas Season continues, and today we celebrated the feast of the Holy Family, the family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the family that makes this Season possible. Our Holy Father Pope Francis has a great love for the family unit. He has challenged us to strive for spiritual unity and for the strengthening of families by following the example of the Holy Family.

He stated, "Dear Families, you know very well that the true joy which we experience in the family is not superficial; it does not come from material objects, from the fact that everything seems to be going well. True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons, something which we all feel in our hearts and which makes us experience the beauty of togetherness, of mutual support along life's journey. But the basis of this feeling of deep joy is the presence of God, the presence of God in the family and his love, which is merciful, and respectful towards all."... "But if God's love is lacking, the family loses its harmony, self-centeredness prevails and joy fades. But the family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world. It is the leaven of society as a whole. Dear families, always live in faith and simplicity, like the Holy Family of Nazareth."

At this time of the year, many of us make resolutions to renew or revitalize our lives in certain ways. We may resolve to lose weight, or exercise more frequently, or be more punctual. But if we are honest with ourselves, many of us have to admit that we fail to reflect on ways that we can renew or revitalize our lives spiritually. One way we can embrace spiritual renewal is by praying each day as a family. It may be before meals. It may be at a certain time in the day. We are busy people, with different schedules, often going in different directions within our family unit. So it may require some discipline and structure to make the time to pray together, but hopefully, it will be spiritually beneficial.

The New Year provides us with a great opportunity to meet the challenge presented to us by Pope Francis. It is the challenge to more effectively live our faith and set a good example for those families we encounter in the course of our daily lives. We pray that families will embrace the call of Our Holy Father for spiritual unity as we begin the New Year.

Fr. Chester



The collection for December 17th was \$4,026.00 (125 envelopes). The December 24th and 31st collections will be posted in the January 7th bulletin.



On-Line Giving for December 17th was \$4,061.00(108 donors). December 24th and 31st collections will be posted in the January 7th bulletin.

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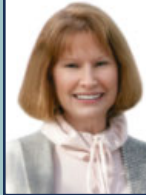
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Manager, NJ Lic. No. 2631

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Director, NJ Lic. No. 4888

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