

# 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](http://www.scoschurch.org)  
Email: [office@scoschurch.org](mailto:office@scoschurch.org)

## PASTOR

**Rev. Chester Zalubski**  
Email: [frchester@scoschurch.org](mailto:frchester@scoschurch.org)

## Weekend Assistant

**Fr. Jerome Borski**

## Permanent Deacons

**Deacon Michael A. Meyer, D.Min.**  
Email: [deaconmike@scoschurch.org](mailto:deaconmike@scoschurch.org)

**Deacon Dennis K. Webster**  
Email: [deacondennis@scoschurch.org](mailto:deacondennis@scoschurch.org)

## Religious Education Director

**Sandra Kopka**  
(908) 735-5086  
Email: [stcscre@gmail.com](mailto:stcscre@gmail.com)

## Music Director

**Pat Prakopcyk**  
(908) 782-7043  
Email: [stcatmusic@gmail.com](mailto:stcatmusic@gmail.com)

## Office Manager

**Jennifer Perna**  
(908) 735-4024  
Email: [jperna@scoschurch.org](mailto:jperna@scoschurch.org)

## Office Assistant

**Tee Andersen**  
(908) 735-4024  
Email: [tandersen@scoschurch.org](mailto:tandersen@scoschurch.org)

## Youth Ministry Director

**Dawn Salerno**  
(908) 477-0105  
Email: [dsalerno@scoschurch.org](mailto:dsalerno@scoschurch.org)



February 23, 2025 Vol. 13

## 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  
**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 Wednesday 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

Mark Kubian  
(732) 297-9425

### Audio/Visual

Ken Mandoli  
(908) 735-2879

### Auditors

Maggie Marion  
(908) 735-4024

### Bible Study

Teri Saccal  
(908) 229-9355  
Lucia Sciancalepore  
(201) 970-5072

### Building Maintenance

David Perna  
(908) 296-5120

### 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

### Kids Club

Debbie Fass  
kidsclub@scoschurch.org

### Knights of Columbus

Ken Mandoli  
(908) 507-1554

### 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

### Lectors

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

Yasmine 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

### Spirituality Committee

Mark Salerno  
(908) 477-5039

### Social Concerns

Doreen Opeikun  
(908) 507-6752

### Stewardship

Lori Young  
(908) 246-6690

### Ushers

Rich Kopf  
(908) 797-4607

### Veterans Military Apostolate

Mark Kubian  
(732) 297-9425

### Website

Ed Schilke  
(908) 886-3884

### Wedding Coordinator

Ellen McCarthy  
(908) 240-0583

### Welcome

Carol Rocha  
(908) 996-7612

### Youth Choir

Lisa Sforza — Nancy Coletti  
youthmusic@scoschurch.org

## Weekly Schedule

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

#### 2ND COLLECTION FOR YOUTH GROUP MINISTRY

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

#### 2ND COLLECTION FOR YOUTH GROUP MINISTRY

8:00 AM MASS

8:30 AM — 10:15 AM 2ND & 4TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION

9:30 AM FAMILY MASS/YOUTH CHOIR

11:00 AM MASS

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

8:00 AM MASS

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

8:00 AM MASS

12:30 PM — 2:00 PM PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

7:00 PM KNIGHTS' SOCIAL & DEVOTION

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH

12:00 PM ROSARY SOCIETY BOOK CLUB

7:00 PM MASS

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH

8:00 AM MASS

10:00 AM — 11:30 AM SUNDAY SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

8:00 AM MASS

### SATURDAY, MARCH 1ST

9:00 AM — 12 PM DEACON CANDIDATE WORKSHOP

3:30 PM — 4:00 PM RECONCILIATION

4:30 PM MASS

### SUNDAY, MARCH 2ND

8:00 AM MASS

8:30 AM — 10:15 AM 3RD & 5TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION

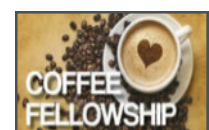
9:30 AM MASS

11:00 AM MASS

12:00 PM ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING

5:00 PM YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE

**Please join us after every weekend Mass for coffee, conversation, and SCRIP ordering in Fellowship Hall!**



**FEBRUARY 23, 2025 — 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Readings for the week of February 23, 2025**

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15: 45-49/Lk 6:27-38  
 Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29  
 Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/ Mk 9:30-37  
 Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175/Mk 9:38-40  
 Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mk 9:41-50  
 Friday: Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/Mk 10:1-12  
 Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18/Mk 10:13-16  
 Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

**Observances for the week of February 23, 2025**

Sunday: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Thursday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
 Next Sunday: 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(CLP)

**2025 Lenten Obligations**



1. The days of both fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday (March 5) and Good Friday (April 18).
2. The other Fridays of Lent (March 7, 21, 28; April 4 and 11) are days of abstinence.
3. Fasting in the Roman Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal with two smaller meals which together do not equal the size of your full meal. The obligation of fasting applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.
4. Abstinence in the Roman Catholic tradition means to abstain from eating meat (beef, chicken, pork, turkey, etc.). The obligation of abstinence applies to all Catholics who have reached the age of 14.

**ASH WEDNESDAY  
March 5th**

**8:00 AM**      **Mass**  
**Noon**        **Mass**  
**4:30 PM**     **Service**  
**7:00 PM**     **Mass**



The Hope House of St. Magdalen's Church is asking for our help to replenish their Food Pantry. They are in need of non-perishable food (canned goods, rice, peanut butter, etc). Please drop off your donations in the designated bins in Fellowship Hall.



**SAVE THE DATE For Our Parish Picnic  
Sunday, September 21st**

Committee members are needed in order for this to be a success. Watch for future bulletin announcements for meeting dates. Call, text, or email me if you are interested in helping at: Debbie Fass (973) 222-8100 or at [kidsclub@scoschurch.org](mailto:kidsclub@scoschurch.org)



**St. Catherine's Rosary Society  
Welcomes New Members**

St. Catherine's Rosary Society warmly invites all parishioners to attend our next meeting on **Sunday, March 2nd at 12 Noon.**

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

**St. Catherine's Soup & Stations**

**6 PM:** *Join us for complimentary soup and fellowship*

**7 PM:** *Pray the Stations of the Cross*

**All are welcome; please join us.**



**March 7th** — Knights of Columbus, Veterans Apostolate, and Right to Life

**March 14th** — Religious Ed and Youth Ministry

**March 21st** — The Rosary Society, Monthly Eucharistic Adoration, and Wedding

**March 28th** — Lectors and Decorating

**April 4th** — Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist, Prayer Shawl, and Social Concerns

**April 11th** — Spirituality Committee, Bible Study, and Coffee Fellowship

**Come and Join us in Song!**



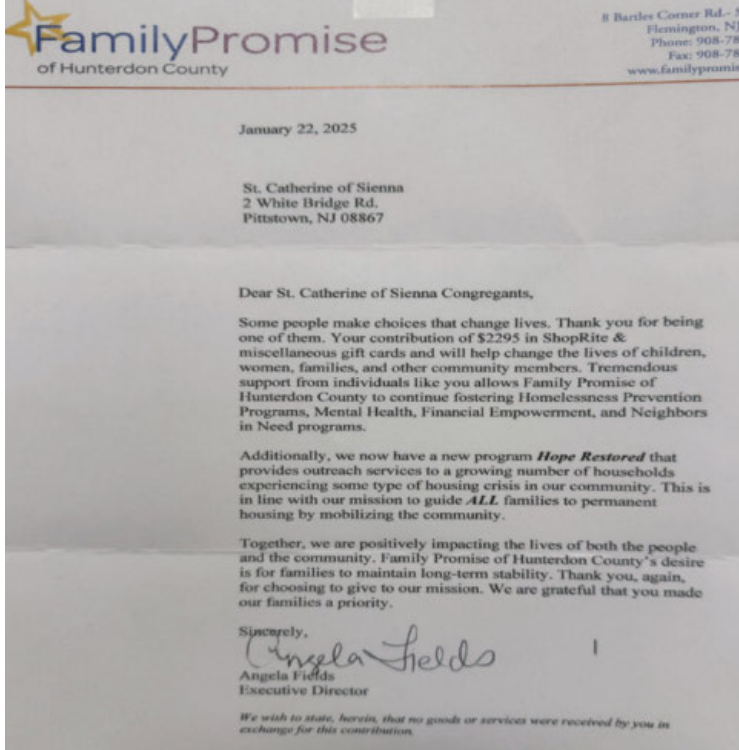
The **ADULT CHOIR** is ready to expand the ministry. This can be a great opportunity for those who love to sing!

Please contact our Music Director, Pat Prakopcyk at the following email [stcatmusic@gmail.com](mailto:stcatmusic@gmail.com)



**Saturday, September 13, 2025** – Mass with Bishop Checchio at the [Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Asbury, NJ](#). An opportunity for a local Jubilee pilgrimage for those who perhaps cannot attend the Washington pilgrimage the following week.

**Saturday, September 20, 2025** – Diocesan Jubilee Pilgrimage to the [Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC](#).



**Silver & Gold & 5-Year Wedding Anniversary Celebration**

You are cordially invited to celebrate your **25th, 50th, 50+ or 5th Wedding Anniversary** with the Church of Metuchen and renew your marriage vows with Bishop James F. Checchio at a special **Evening Prayer Service at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen on Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM.**

The Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service will again include couples celebrating 5 years of marriage. Registration is required. Please register online at: <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>.

If you are unable to access, please contact the Family Life Office at (732) 562-1543 or [amarshall@diometuchen.org](mailto:amarshall@diometuchen.org).

Registration will close on October 10, 2025. Although no fee is required, in the past many Jubilarian couples have given a donation of gratitude to the Church in memory of this special occasion.

Donations of Gratitude may be made online at <https://www.diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration> or calling (732) 562-1543.

**Quakertown Fire Company — Lock Box Project**

The Lock Box Projects, provides residents 65+ with a secure way for emergency responders to access their homes quickly without causing damage in urgent situations.

Use the QR CODE to download the application! Mail or drop off the form at 67 Quakertown Rd., Pittstown, NJ 08867. Our team will coordinate with you to install the lock box.



For questions, call us at (908) 735-5220

*Are you celebrating your Wedding Anniversary in March?*

*Join us on March 9th, at the 11:00 AM Mass to receive a Wedding Anniversary Blessing.*

All Sacramentally married couples are invited to join us in this celebration of their marriage vocation. Send your names and wedding date to Tee at [tandersen@scoschurch.org](mailto:tandersen@scoschurch.org)

**Our February Couples Anniversary Blessing**

*As these couples received a special blessing, please continue to pray for those united in the Sacrament of Marriage.*

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Colin & Donna Blanchard  | Larry & Bernadine Remyly |
| Ihor & Sandra Kopka      | Michael & Alice Romanek  |
| Matthew & Amanda Parisi  | Daniel & Donna Snyder    |
| Daniel & Elizabeth Perez | Kenneth & Mary Ann Weiss |
| Carl & Joyce Pocceschi   |                          |



**DATES TO REMEMBER & RSVP**

- February 28 – March 2** — RETREAT at St. John Paul II Youth Retreat Center in Kearny
- March 16** — Chick-Fil-A Party\* (*tentative*) in our NEW ROOM at the Parish Center
- April 13 — 17** — MISSION TRIP to Appalachia  
**IT IS IMPORTANT TO RSVP! PLEASE . . . with a YES, NO, MAYBE or I NEED MORE INFO**  
Call, Text, or E-mail Dawn at (908) 477-0105 • [dsalerno@scoschurch.org](mailto:dsalerno@scoschurch.org)

# Mass Intentions

## Saturday, February 22, 2025

4:30 PM Fr. Chester  
r/o Margaret Rocca & The Perna Family

## Sunday, February 23, 2025

8:00 AM Barbara Camel  
r/o Elena Koretzky  
9:30 AM John Lazorchak  
r/o Louis & Jeanne Ferrucci  
11:00 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

## Monday, February 24, 2025

8:00 AM John Berchman Meyer, Jr.  
r/o Clare & Tom Mangano

## Tuesday, February 25, 2025

8:00 AM Lawrence & Patricia Harding  
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

## Wednesday, February 26, 2025

7:00 PM Ann Preston  
r/o Rob Preston

## Thursday, February 27, 2025

8:00 AM Michael & Erica Piotrowski  
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

## Friday, February 28, 2025

8:00 AM Ed & Ellen Schilke  
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

## Saturday, March 1, 2025

4:30 PM Catherine Raymonds  
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

## Sunday, March 2, 2025

8:00 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's  
9:30 AM Pete Walter Birthday Blessing  
11:00 AM Angelina Simone  
r/o The DiFazio Family

## *From the Pastor's Desk* Ways to Properly Dispose of Sacramentals and Blessed Items

Within the Catholic Church, there are many items of devotion and piety that are used to draw us closer to God. Rosaries, sacred images, prayer cards, saint medals, and candles are 'sacramentals' that are common items in many of our Catholic homes.

But what happens when you no longer have use for these religious objects? Your palm from Palm Sunday is all dried out, but it was blessed during the Palm Sunday Mass. You realize you have 95 rosaries, but you really don't need more than five. Or your rosary has broken but you can't just throw it away, so you have a drawer filled with broken beads.

### ***Never Throw Religious Objects in the Trash!***

Sacramentals have a sacred purpose in supporting our journey to heaven. Through the intercession of the Church, sacramentals supply special graces to us. This is why the Church asks us to handle them with reverence, even in the process of disposal.

While all religious items should be treated with respect, when a religious object is blessed by a priest, it deserves special reverence. It would be inappropriate to throw these holy items in the trash!

Most Catholics know that the trash bin is not the place for blessed objects. But without guidance on their correct disposal, old and broken sacramentals tend to accumulate in a drawer or closet—never to be used again, but unable to be thrown away.

### ***Steps to Dispose of Religious Items***

Follow these simple steps to dispose of your blessed items:

- The best way to dispose of religious objects is to burn them to ash. This includes anything flammable such as a cord rosary, Palm Sunday palms, or a blessed image printed on canvas. Then, collect the ashes and bury them, preferably on church grounds, in a Catholic cemetery or in your garden under the tree where there is no traffic.
- If you are unable to burn your religious items, they should be disassembled as much as possible and reverently buried. That way they cannot be used for a profane purpose if uncovered in the future. This is how you would dispose of a rosary with beads or a metal chain.
- Broken statues and worn medals cannot be disassembled further, so these are generally laid to rest whole. Holy water should be poured directly into the ground. Again, this is preferably done on church grounds, in a Catholic cemetery or in your garden under the tree where there is no traffic.

But please don't bring them to the church and leave them in one of the closets. Church buildings are not a holy dumpster or a graveyard for broken holy items. Please, try to dispose of them at your home.

*Fr. Chester*



The collections for February 16th were \$2,875.00 (101 envelopes) and \$527.00 (33 envelopes) for the Catholic Spirit.



On-Line Giving for February 16th was \$3,682.00 (103 donors).

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