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: <u>www.scoschurch.org</u> Email: office@scoschurch.org

PASTOR Rev. Chester Zalubski Email: frchester@scoschurch.org

Weekend Assistant Fr. Jerome Borski

Permanent Deacons Deacon Michael A. Meyer Email: deaconmike@scoschurch.org

Deacon Dennis K. Webster Email: deacondennis@scoschurch.org

Religious Education Director

Sandra Kopka (908) 735-4024 Email: stcscre@gmail.com

Music Director

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

Office Manager

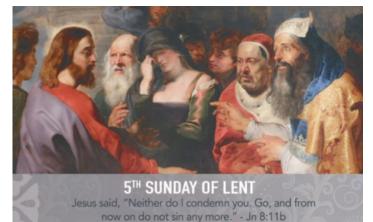
Jennifer Perna (908) 735-4024 Email: jperna@scoschurch.org

Office Assistant

Tee Andersen (908) 735-4024 Email: tandersen@scoschurch.org

Youth Ministry Director

Dawn Salerno (908) 477-0105 Email: dsalerno@scoschurch.org



April 6, 2025 Vol. 19

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.



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

Parish Gardener George Mehaffey (908) 581-2521

Parish Pastoral Council

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

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) 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

<u>Website</u> Ed Schilke (908) 886-3884

Wedding Coordinator Ellen McCarthy (908) 240-0583

Welcome Carol Rocha (908) 996-7612

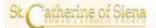
Youth Choir Lisa Sforza — Nancy Coletti youthmusic@scoschurch.org

IENA, PITTSTOWN,	NJ
W	eekly Schedule
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH/5	TH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00 AM	MULCHING THE PARISH GROUNDS
1:00 PM	PRESTON/KLEIN WEDDING
3:30 PM — 4:00 PM	RECONCILIATION
4:30 PM	MASS
6:00 PM — 8:00 PM	YOUTH GROUP MARCH MADNESS CHICK-FIL-A
SUNDAY, APRIL 6TH/5TH	SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00 AM	MASS
8:30 AM — 10:15 AM	2ND & 4TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION
9:30 AM	MASS
11:00 AM	MASS
12:00 PM	ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
12:00 PM	ROSARY SOCIETY MEETING
5:00 PM	LENTEN RETREAT
6:00 PM	ADORATION & RECONCILIATION
MONDAY, APRIL 7TH	
8:00 AM	MASS
6:30 PM — 8:30 PM	SPIRITUALITY MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH	
8:00 AM	MASS
12:30 PM — 2:00 PM	PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY
7:00 PM	KNIGHTS' BUSINESS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH	I
7:00 PM	MEN'S DISCUSSION PLANNING
7:00 PM	MASS
THURSDAY, APRIL 10TH	
8:00 AM	MASS
10:00 AM — 11:30 AM	SUNDAY SCRIPTURE DISCUSSION
6:00 PM	PICNIC MEETING (FH)
6:30 PM	SPIRITUAL STRENGTH TRAINING (PC)
FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH	
8:00 AM	MASS
6:00 PM — 7:30 PM	KIDS CLUB (PC)
6:00 PM	COMPLIMENTARY SOUP & FELLOWSHIP
7:00 PM	STATIONS OF THE CROSS/ RECONCILIATION
SATURDAY, APRIL 12TH	PALM SUNDAY
1:00 PM	EASTER EGG HUNT
3:30 PM — 4:00 PM	RECONCILIATION
4:30 PM	MASS
SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH/PA	LM SUNDAY
8:00 AM	MASS
8:30 AM — 10:15 AM	3RD & 5TH GRADE FAITH FORMATION
9:30 AM	FAMILY MASS/YOUTH CHOIR
11:00 AM	MASS/MARRIAGE BLESSING

12:00 PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

APRIL 6, 2025 — 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings for the week of April 6, 2025	
Sunday:	Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11 <i>Scrutiny:</i> Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13: 41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:12-20
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8: 21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
Next Sunday:	Lk 19:28-40/ls 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19- 20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/ Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49
Observances f	or the week of April 6, 2025
Sunday:	5 th Sunday of Lent
Monday:	St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest
Friday:	St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr
Next Sunday:	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



(C)LPi

Sunday April 6th Starting at 5:00 pm

Parish Lenten Retreat

Life is a Pilgrimage of Hope - A Reflection by Fr. Luke Mary Eletcher

5:00 PM – Reflection by Fr. Luke Mary Fletcher

6:00 PM – Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Reconciliation (4 Priests Available for confessions)



St. Catherine of Siena Church - 2 White Bridge Road Pittstown, NJ 08867



OF THE

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.

<u>April 11th</u> — Spirituality Committee, Bible Study, and Coffee Fellowship

April 6, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



What a blessing that we have so many good, holy priests faithfully serving in the Diocese of Metuchen in our parishes, hospitals and other important ministries! I write to remind you that we also have **forty retired priests** of our diocese who have dedicated many years of devotion to God and our parish communities.

While all of our retired diocesan priests receive a monthly stipend to assist them with expenses, some go to live with relatives, while twelve live at our *Maria Regina Residence for Retired Priests*. Here our retired priests live each day with dignity while being able to live in community with brother priests. Those who are physically able continue to generously help in so many ways—offering Mass at local parishes, hearing confessions and sharing their spiritual and administrative wisdom with their brother priests. They also spend time in prayer in their chapel praying for the needs of everyone in our diocese, including you.

Our retired priests have served so many people over the course of their ministry, nourishing our Catholic faith, educating our youth and serving the poor and vulnerable. *Next weekend, April 12 and 13, as we celebrate Palm Sunday*, the faithful of the diocese will have the opportunity to gratefully acknowledge the life-long dedication of these priests by contributing to the *Annual Collection for our Retired Diocesan Priests*. All funds raised through this collection will be used exclusively to assist our retired priests.

Thank you for your generosity. Please keep all of our priests in your daily prayers. Please also continue to pray for vocations from our local Church to the holy priesthood for service in our diocese.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA Bishop of Metuchen

Reminder: Kids' Club gathering, April 11th from 6 — 7:30 PM.



Snacks, Bible Readings, Games, and Prizes

ALL parish children in grades 3rd thru 7th are invited to attend any gatherings held on the 2nd Friday of each month. Meetings are now in the new parish center gathering hall.

Date for the next Kids' Clubs is: May 9th.

Call, text, email me with any questions, Debbie Fass (973) 222-8100 kidsclub@scoschurch.org

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT





Holy Thursday (April 17th) Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 PM

Good Friday (April 18th) Stations of the Cross at Noon Passion of Our Lord at 3:00 PM

Holy Saturday (April 19th) Blessing of Easter Food Baskets at 11:00 AM Easter Vigil Mass at 7:30 PM

> Easter Sunday (April 20th) 8:00 AM Mass 9:30 AM Mass 11:00 AM Mass

The office is closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday. Have a Blessed Easter!

Calling Men of the Parish to Small Christian Community

We have a goal of forming some small discussion groups for men in the parish. These provide an opportunity for us to informally share our faith with each other and seek God's invitation to us in our daily lives. All men are welcome, but it would be great if we could also involve our younger guys, as they navigate their faith journeys as husbands and fathers.

There will be two information meetings: **7:00 PM on Monday, March 31st, and Wednesday, April 9th** in Fellowship Hall, where you can learn more.

If you are interested in attending please contact Paul Manley at (908) 202 4646 or at **paulmanley@embarqmail.com**.

The Mowing Ministry is looking for some good people to help us out once a month. Training and equipment will be provided. Please contact Pete Walter at pete.walter29@gmail.com or call (908) 328- 4528.

DATES TO REMEMBER & RSVP

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 5, 2025

4:30 PM Peter & Merrill Hennion r/o Stephanie & Mike Pierce

Sunday, April 6, 2025

- 8:00 AM Thank You to all the Decorating & Wedding Committee Members
- 9:30 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's
- 11:00 AM Veronica April r/o Jospeh April

Monday, April 7, 2025

8:00 AM A Special Intention r/o The Baker Family

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

8:00 AM Andrew J. Merkovsky, Jr. r/o St. Catherine's Parish

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

7:00 PM Helen Zrebiec. r/o The Baker Family

Thursday, April 10, 2025

8:00 AM Bill & Anne MacDonald r/o Andrew Merkovsky

Friday, April 11, 2025

8:00 AM Wilberto Hernandez r/o Yasmin & James Manno

Saturday, April 12, 2025

4:30 PM Jeffrey Walengewicz r/o Bernie & Larry Remaly

Sunday, April 13, 2025

8:00 AM	Jose Matos
	r/o The Koretzky & Matos Families
9:30 AM	Deceased Members of the Hahn Family r/o The Schilke Family
	The Parishianers of St. Cathorine's

11:00 AM The Parishioners of St. Catherine's



The collection for March 30th was \$4,080.00 (121 envelopes).

On-Line Giving for March 30th was \$2,842.00 (101 donors).

From the Pastor's Desk Traditional Blessing of Easter Food on Holy Saturday, April 19th at 11:00 AM

The Tradition! ... what's it all about?

When many of our Eastern European Ancestors came to this country a century ago, they brought with them some beautiful traditions which added a particular beauty to the Easter Holydays. Among the most popular is the Traditional Blessing of the Foods that would be eaten on Easter morning. After a strict Lenten fast and abstinence, specially prepared foods were made in advance for the blessing. A family basket would be filled with these foods and then covered with a crocheted cloth. Often the cloth had an Easter emblem or the words 'Christ is Risen' crocheted on it.

Each of these foods had a special significance. It sounds much like the special foods which our Jewish brothers and sisters use in the celebration of their Seder Meal. Remember, the basket does not contain ALL the food you will eat on Easter Sunday...just a symbolic portion. Below is a list of the traditional foods.

EASTER EGGS! Of course! Brightly colored, seasonal representations of the New Life that Jesus gave us in His Resurrection.

BABKA...a sweet, rich, yeast bread. It is usually round and has a golden crust. Often it has a cross of dough on the top surrounded by braids which can represent the crown of thorns.

OTHER BREADS...nut roll, poppy seed roll. Whatever Easter baked delights are of your own tradition.

KIELBASA and HAM ...lamb....a sign of abundance and that the 'Long Fast' is truly over.

CHEESE...especially a small round cheese.

HORSERADISH...(nothing is better with ham than beet horseradish)...Some add to their baskets a bit of vinegar or sour cream...it is all meant to represent the bitter drink given to the Lord when He called out from the cross, "I thirst!"

BUTTER....especially the butter formed in the design of a lamb. Christ is the Lamb of God!

SALT...as it gives zest to our foods and reminds us that Christ preserves us to life eternal.

And don't forget the Chocolate eggs, the Chocolate bunnies, and chicks, and a few jelly beans as well!

Add your Easter dinner wine!

Decorate your basket with family heirloom napkins or linen.

LET THE KIDS MAKE THEIR OWN BASKET! (After all so many of them gave up candy or sweets for Lent). If you have pets: don't forget a treat for them as well.

Enjoy the beautiful traditions of Easter! Pass them on to your children! In a way we are not only giving thanks to Almighty God for the Festival of Easter and the wonderful foods that accompany our holyday.....we are also remembering our ancestors and our grandparents and parents who handed down to us the rich traditions of a people who were so deeply faithful and so in love with the Church.

This Easter celebrate your ancestors—celebrate your family celebrate the eternal life won for them and for us by his passion, death, and resurrection!!!

Fr. Chester

