



**SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH**  
 547 Washington Street, Norwood, MA 02062  
 781-762-6080, parish@stcatherinenorwood.org  
 www.stcatherinenorwood.org



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**PARISH SCHEDULE**

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday: 4 p.m.  
 Sunday: 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday-Friday: 6:45 a.m.  
 Saturday: 7 a.m.

**Solemnity of Mary, January 1st:** 4 p.m. Vigil on  
 December 31st. Mass at 10 a.m. on the 1st.

**Holiday Masses:** 9 a.m.

**Rosary:** Daily at 6:20 a.m.

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Thursdays 7:15 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 First Friday/Saturday 6 p.m. - 6:25 a.m. in church

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays: 3-4 p.m. in  
 chapel. Please enter through main church sacristy  
 door and follow directions.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** 1 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th  
 Sunday of each month. Parent Pre-Baptism class is  
 held on the 1st Sunday of the month. Please call  
 781-769-5354 ext. 273.

**Sacrament of Matrimony:** Engaged couples must  
 contact one of the parish priests at least 8 months  
 prior to making other wedding plans.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Please contact one of our  
 parish priests.

**Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, 781-762-6080**  
 Rev. Stephen Donohoe, Pastor  
 Rev. Anthony Medeiros, Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. Thomas Sullivan, Parochial Vicar  
 Rev. Mr. Frank Tremblay, Deacon  
 Mrs. Doris Hallee, Pastoral Associate 781-769-5354 x273  
 Mrs. Leah Ramsdell  
 Director of Religious Education and Youth Faith Formation  
 781-769-5354 x233  
 Mr. Joseph Scolastico, Director of Music/Organist x126  
 Mrs. Stephanie Beatrice-Gonzalez  
 Children's Choir Director/Cantor  
 Mr. Bob Calarese, Parish Business Manager  
 Mrs. Diane Butts, Parish Bookkeeper  
 Mrs. Laura Hayes, Administrative Assistant  
 Mrs. Amy Campbell, Administrative Assistant

**St. Catherine of Siena School, 781-769-5354**  
 Ms. Beth Tanner, Principal  
 Mrs. Anne Noah, Vice Principal  
 Mrs. Betsy Narciso, Director of Advancement x271  
 Mrs. Linda Canniff, Director of Tuition and Financial Aid x275  
 Mr. John Farrell, Director of Facilities & Grounds x269

**St. Vincent de Paul Society, 781-414-2744**

**Our Mission:** St. Catherine of Siena Parish is a Roman Catholic community established in Norwood, MA in 1890. Responding to our baptismal call to holiness, we seek to live the teachings of Christ in the Roman Catholic tradition through worship, education, service and evangelization.

**All are welcome in Christ!** "...To those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints with all who are invoking the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place... Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to God continuously for you because of the grace of God that has been given to you in Christ Jesus. By that grace, in all things, you have become wealthy in him... He too will strengthen you, even until the end, without guilt..." Introduction of First Letter of Saint Paul to Corinthians

**DECEMBER 20, 2020**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

In Blaise Pascal's work, *Pensees*, he says: "What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself."

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one's soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there's a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary's call to be the Mother of God. "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come.

©LPi

**Please honor all safety protocols while in church:**

- Masks are required.\*
- Please do not remove safety rope marking off pews.
- Maintain social distance of at least six feet between members of different households.
- Approach the Holy Communion stations in a **SINGLE FILE** line using the arrows on the floor as guides.
- If you are feeling ill or are experiencing any flu-like symptoms, please do not come to church. (See questionnaire to the right.)

\* Children two and under are exempt. For children ages 3-5, masks are at the discretion of the parents.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE: 2 P.M., 4 P.M., 6 P.M.**

**CHRISTMAS DAY: 7 A.M., 9 A.M., 11 A.M.**

*Please note: There will be no 6:45 a.m. Mass on Christmas Eve and there will be no Midnight Mass this year.*

All Masses will be celebrated in the church, with overflow seating available in the cafeteria. The cafeteria will show the livestream of Mass in the church, and Holy Communion will be distributed at the appropriate time.

It is essential that Mass attendees adhere to social distancing and capacity restrictions. Once capacity is reached in the church (approximately 150 people), additional attendees will be directed to the cafeteria.

To help us be better prepared, we ask you to please let us know what Mass you plan to attend. This can be done online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090e4aa4a628a4fc1-contact> (this link can be found on our website), by emailing [parish@stcatherinenorwood.org](mailto:parish@stcatherinenorwood.org), or by calling the parish office at 781-762-6080 ext. 110.

All Masses will be available via livestream as well, and you are welcome to watch from the comfort and safety of home.

**If you have any of the following symptoms, *no matter how mild*, please do not come to church:**

- Fever
- Sore throat
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Muscle aches
- Nausea/diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion not related to allergies

**Please also stay home if any of the following apply:**

- You have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- You have been told by a doctor you need a COVID-19 test.
- You have been tested for COVID-19, but you have not received your results.
- You have travelled outside of Massachusetts within the past 14 days and are subject to the state's travel order (see [Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) for details).

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19

7 a.m. Ms. Elena Rose Iacono

4 p.m. John J. Weiss, Sr.

Sunday, December 20

7 a.m. Pro Populo

9 a.m. Lawrence C. Maher

11 a.m. Fernando DeCosta (2nd Anniversary)

Monday, December 21

6:45 a.m. All Deceased Members of the Luongo

Family

Tuesday, December 22

6:45 a.m. Carole O'Loughlin

Wednesday, December 23

6:45 a.m. All Members of the Iacono Family (Living)

Thursday, December 24

4 p.m. Christmas Eve

6 p.m. Christmas Eve

Friday, December 25

7 a.m. Christmas Day

9 a.m. Christmas Day

11 a.m. Christmas Day

We are now accepting Mass intentions through March 2021. Please email parish@stcatherinenorwood.org or call 781-762-6080 ext. 110.

## Week of December 20th

The Altar Bread and Wine are offered in memory of Pasquale Cirillo.

The Sanctuary Candles in the church and chapel are lit in memory of Pasquale Cirillo.

**Grand Annual Appeal:** As we approach the end of the year, we ask you to consider making a tax deductible donation to our Grand Annual collection if you have not already done so. To date, we have received \$120,700 from 479 donors. Our goals are \$170,000 and 520 donors. All gifts, no matter the amount, are gratefully accepted and appreciated. We hope that all households that are able will participate. Thank you to everyone who has already contributed.

## GIVING

Thank you to everyone who has continued to support our parish during this difficult time. We are grateful for your generosity.

At this time, we are not going to be passing the offertory basket at Mass. Baskets are placed at the exits at the end of Mass, and you are welcome to leave your donation in one of them. Other options include:

1. Online Giving -- For those who are able, online giving is a great way to regularly support our parish whether you are able to attend Mass or not. Just visit our website at: [www.stcatherinenorwood.org](http://www.stcatherinenorwood.org) and click on Online Giving or scan the code shown here to get started.

2. If online giving is not an option for you, you can mail your envelopes or drop them off

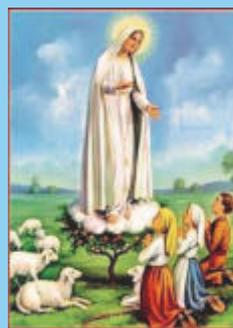
at the rectory using the mail slot in the front door. For security reasons, we ask you to not leave envelopes in the external mailbox. Thank you!



## A Note from Music Director Joe Scolastico

One of the most popular Advent hymns is "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." While this hymn is sung by many, both Catholic and Protestant, some may not know about its history. The text is a Latin paraphrase ("Veni, Veni, Emmanuel") of the "O Antiphons." Besides the Mass, the church has another liturgy known as the Liturgy of the Hours, which are services of psalms, canticles, readings and prayers to be sung or recited at several times during the day. Evening prayer is called Vespers, and during Vespers, the Magnificat of the Blessed Virgin Mary (My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord...) is sung or said. An antiphon or response is sung or recited before and after the Magnificat. A week before Christmas, the antiphons for the Magnificat all begin with the interjection "O" followed by a title for Christ: *O Sapientia* ("O Wisdom"), *O Adonai*, *O Radix Jesse* ("O Root of Jesse"), *O Clavis David* ("O Key of David"), *O Oriens* ("O Rising Sun"), *O Rex Gentium* ("O King of Nations"), and *O Emmanuel* ("O God with Us"). Ironically, the hymn usually begins with "Emmanuel," while that antiphon is given for the night before Christmas Eve. The text was translated by John Mason Neale and Henry Sloan Coffin. The melody is from a 15<sup>th</sup> century Paris Processional. (Source: <http://religiousaffections.org/articles/hymnody/o-come-come-emmanuel/> )

## FAMILY ROSARY MISSION



**Family Rosary Mission** is a new initiative inviting families to pray the Rosary. Each Sunday, one of our parish families will lead the Rosary at Saint Catherine Church at 4 p.m. All families are invited to pray with them either at home through live streaming (available through the parish website) or in person in the church.

If you have questions or would like to sign up to lead the Rosary with a group of friends or your family, please contact one of our parishioners listed:

Lorraine Allan: [Lma4171@gmail.com](mailto:Lma4171@gmail.com)

Judi Scherban: [Judith.scherban@gmail.com](mailto:Judith.scherban@gmail.com)

Leah Ramsdell: [ymindirector@gmail.com](mailto:ymindirector@gmail.com)

## PARISH OFFICE AND MASS CARDS

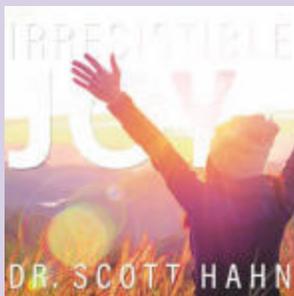
The parish office is currently closed to the public. Meetings with the priests are by appointment only. Please call 781-762-6080 and select ext. 112 for Fr. Donohoe, ext. 127 for Fr. Sullivan or ext. 115 for Fr. Medeiros.

**Introducing Contactless Pickup for Mass Cards:** Mass cards are now available for outside pickup only. They must be ordered IN ADVANCE by calling 781-762-6080 ext.110 or emailing parish@stcatherinenorwood.org. Mass cards will be available for pickup the next business day in the box outside the front door of the rectory. When ordering, please include what type of card you want (\$10 card for deceased; \$15 deceased enrollment; \$10 healing card), who the card is for and how you want the card signed (if desired). You are welcome to sign the card yourself if you prefer.) Please give your name as well. Cards waiting for pickup will be organized alphabetically. A payment envelope will be with your card. Please enclose payment (cash or check) and put the envelope through the mail slot in the front door.

**Parish Calendars for 2021 --** Parish calendars for 2021 are now available on the tables at all the church doors. Calendars are free, but we ask that you please only take one calendar per household so that everyone who wants a calendar is able to get one. If there are still calendars available on the tables after Christmas, you are welcome to take more. Thank you to our sponsors, Gillyooly Funeral Home and Kraw-Kornack Funeral Home. We appreciate your support.

## Augustine Institute

**Irresistible Joy by Dr. Scott Hahn –** All Catholics



have been called to participate in the New Evangelisation, but many of us hesitate. Dr. Scott Hahn reminds us that we can all share the Gospel by spreading its joy. The world offers countless pleasures, but only Christ can offer lasting joy, which

we all find irresistible. The more we enjoy being Catholic, the more contagious our faith will be, and the more we will win back the fallen away for Christ. *This item and others are available at the Lighthouse Catholic Media kiosk located at the front of the church. If you have any questions, comments or want to request any LCM items, please call Tim at 781-762-4451.*



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Cardinal Seán's dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will continue for the foreseeable future. Everyone is encouraged to consider their own health and personal circumstances in making the decision about whether to return to Mass at this time. Saint Catherine's will continue to live stream all Masses -- Saturday at 4 p.m., Sunday at 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., and daily at 6:45 a.m. Daily Mass is at 7 a.m. on Saturday.



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# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND FAITH FORMATION NEWS

## LIVING NATIVITY PRAYER SERVICE

Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>

4:30-5 p.m.



Parishioners of St. Catherine and St. Timothy parishes are invited to attend and participate in this wonderful event held on the side lawn area of St. Timothy's. Working within safety guidelines we hope to offer this opportunity for all parishioners, family and friends to come together to celebrate and pray!

Some details that may be helpful:

- The Outdoor Prayer Service will be about 30 minutes in length.
- Safe Distance Guidelines will be observed with families remaining together.
- Please wear a mask and dress warmly!

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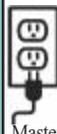
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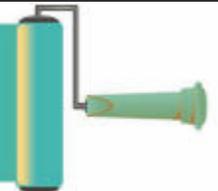
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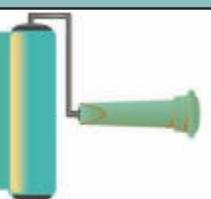
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# SAINT CATHERINE of SIENA SCHOOL

## SCS IS FULL OF CHRISTMAS JOY!

It's a special time of year at Saint Catherine of Siena School. Students have spent the past few weeks preparing to welcome Jesus and all of the blessings that he brings along. Christmas cheer has been brought to life in our hallways through school work and art! This year we are blessed to display the crèche from the Convent outside our main office. We are grateful and lucky to have such a beautiful gift left to us by the Sisters of Saint Joseph who dedicated themselves to SCS!

