

Welcome!

**Sacrament of Reconciliation
(Confession)**

with Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament:

TUE: 6pm - 9pm

Daily Mass:

MON-THU: 7:30am

FRI: 9am

SAT: 8am

CIVIC HOLIDAYS: 9am

Everyone Welcome!

Rosary:

MON-THU: 8am

Everyone Welcome!

Sunday Mass:

SAT VIGIL:

4pm, 7:15pm

SUN MASS:

7:30am, 9am, 11am

Livestreamed at 4pm Sat.

New Parishioners:

We warmly welcome
new members.

Please call our office at
(203) 377-3133, ext. 101

Sacrament of Baptism:

SUN: 1pm, by appointment.
Pre-Baptismal instruction is
required for first-time parents.
Please call our office at
(203) 377-3133, ext. 101

Parish Office Hours:

MON-THU: 9am - 4:30pm

FRI: Closed

Location:

In Historic Nichols
220 Shelton Road
Trumbull, CT 06611
(203) 377-3133
www.stcathtrumbull.com
office@stcatherinetrumbull.com



@StCathTrumbull



TheParishofStCatherineofSiena

The Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena



ADVENT HAS A TWOFOLD CHARACTER,

for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.

For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.

- General Instruction of the Roman Missal



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: DEC 8, 2024

Father Joseph A. Marcello, *Pastor*

Father Joseph O. Ocran, *In Residence*

Deacon Patrick Toole, *Deacon of the Parish*

Robert J. Cavallero: *Director of Parish Operations, Ext. 102*
Zac Schurman: *Director of Sacred Music & Organist, Ext. 105*
Leah DeVito: *Director of Religious Education, Ext. 106*
Mary Ellen Kovacs: *Director of Pastoral Care, Ext. 104*
Kate Gombos: *Director of Communications and Digital Media, Ext. 107*
Ellen Moran: *Parish Office Manager, Ext. 101*
Marianne Stook: *Administrative Assistant, Ext. 112*
Rita Buchetto: *Parish Office Assistant, Ext. 109*
Eric Vogel: *Coordinator for Social Justice and Charitable Outreach*
Raymond Kingsbury: *Coordinator of Youth Ministry*
Denise Huertas: *Safe Environment Coordinator*

Michelle Powrie: *Principal, St. Catherine of Siena School
(203) 375-1947*

John W. Diercksen: *Chair, Parish Finance Council*

Atty. Joseph R. Tristine: *Chair, Pastoral Advisory Council*

Ross Bacarella: *Lay Member of the Parish Corporation*

Jeff Wright: *Lay Member of the Parish Corporation*



**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE
FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8, 2024**

- Mon, Dec. 9:** **THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
 7:30AM † Margaret Queenan, PhD
 12:10PM † Father Joseph Linck
 7:00PM Our Parishioners
- Tue, Dec. 10:** **ADVENT WEEKDAY**
Our Lady of Loreto
 7:30AM † Caroline Marchuk
 6:00PM-9:00PM *Adoration and Confession*
- Wed, Dec. 11:** **ADVENT WEEKDAY**
St. Damasus I
 7:30AM † Ian Austin
- Thu, Dec. 12:** **ADVENT WEEKDAY**
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
 7:30AM † Ronald J. Bianchi
- Fri, Dec. 13:** **ADVENT WEEKDAY**
St. Lucy
 9:00AM † Vincent & A.J. DiMasi
- Sat, Dec. 14:** **St. John of the Cross**
GAUDETE SUNDAY: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Anticipated)
 4:00PM † William Kelly
 7:15PM † Duane Howell
- Sun, Dec. 15:** **GAUDETE SUNDAY: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
 7:30AM † Matthew & Frances Barvenik
 9:00AM † Lee Romano
 11:00AM Our Parishioners

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

The Parish of St. Catherine of Siena prays for **Briana Constantini and Joseph Marzigliano (Bann II)** as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.



BAPTISM

The Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena warmly congratulates the family of **Owen Arthur Galaske**

who was Baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. We pray that the grace of this Sacrament will bear abundant fruit in his life and in the life of his family.



**THE PARISH OF ST. CATHERINE
OF SIENA WARMLY WELCOMES...**

...anyone who is new to our area, anyone who is searching for the truth, or anyone who is looking for a spiritual home. We are joyfully and faithfully Roman Catholic in belief and practice - a community of faith, worship, service, and formation - and with open hearts we invite all our brothers and sisters into a living and saving friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ, in the communion of His One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.

PrayerMINISTRY

Please remember in your daily prayers all the sick of our Parish and their caregivers, especially:
Marlene Roberts, Ernestine Gaudio, Ivan Capella, Sigrid Rogowski, Michael Fernandes, Rose Autuori, Jack Godo, Elaine Annick.
Contact Mary Ellen Kovacs, Director of Pastoral Care: (203) 377-3133, ext. 104.

Please remember in your prayers the family & friends of our Parish serving in the military. We pray for peace & for all serving in the military.

- ETV1(SS) Eli Bair, USN
- LCDR Robert C. Ballard Jr., USN
- Major Gregg Zavadsky, U.S. Army
- SPC Zachary Kaesmann, ARNG
- CPL Adam DePasacreta, USMC
- Riley Payne, Airman Recruit, USN
- Robert J. Thompson III, U.S. Army
- 2nd Lt Peter Sandri, U.S. Army



RESPECT LIFE

The white rose at the Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary reminds us all to pray for an increased respect for the gift of human life. This week, it is offered in memory of **Ronald J. Bianchi**



SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp, which indicates and honors the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist, burns this week in memory of **Ronald J. Bianchi**



❧ A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR! ❧

Dear Friends,

Already we have arrived at the Second Sunday of Advent! In today's Gospel we encounter the startling figure of St. John the Baptist. One of the most beautiful churches in the world named for him stands at the corner of East 76th Street and Lexington Avenue in Manhattan, **St. Jean Baptiste**. Its name is still in French, a testament to the Catholics of French ancestry for whom it was originally founded. When you walk through the front doors of St. Jean Baptiste, you are surrounded by vibrant colors, intricate stained glass, finely detailed mosaics, and beautiful statues, together with a palpable sense of peace and of the presence of the Lord. Whenever I am in New York City I always make it a point to visit this church. It is one of my favorites. This photo is of the statue of St. John the Baptist in that church.



I have always been moved by the two dedication plaques in the lobby of St. Jean Baptiste: one which honors the memory of Thomas F. Ryan, the financier who almost singlehandedly paid for the church, and the other which recalls Father Arthur Letellier, who was one of the church's early pastors.

The plaque for Mr. Ryan reads:

IN GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE OF
THOMAS FORTUNE RYAN
DONOR OF THIS CHURCH.
TO HIS PRINCELY GENEROSITY
PROMPTED BY A LIVING FAITH
THE CLERGY AND PEOPLE ARE DEEPLY INDEBTED.
OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY THAT
HIS SOUL MAY ENJOY FOR EVER
REFRESHMENT, LIGHT, AND PEACE.

And for Father Letellier:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
REVEREND ARTHUR LETELLIER, S.S.S.
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS PASTOR OF THIS CHURCH.
OUT OF HIS GREAT LOVE FOR THE BEAUTY OF GOD'S HOUSE
HE ERECTED THIS MAGNIFICENT TEMPLE
TO THE GLORY OF JESUS IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
EVEN TO HIS LAST BREATH HE SPENT HIMSELF
IN MAKING BETTER KNOWN AND LOVED
THE HIDDEN GOD OF THE TABERNACLE.
DIED SUDDENLY AUGUST 24, 1921.
R.I.P.

The church also houses a major relic of St. Anne, and also of St. Peter Julian Eymard, the founder of the Blessed Sacrament Fathers, who continue to staff the church today. Suffice it to say, St. Jean Baptiste is well worth anyone's time to stop in for some quiet time and to admire the architectural beauty of a church which is truly a "catechism in stone" and a place especially conducive to prayer. Every statue, every window, every color points to, and honors, the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. There is an enormous monstrance above the high altar, which is used on special occasions for Eucharistic exposition. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at St. Jean Baptiste every day.

This weekend, as St. John the Baptist calls out to us with his stirring and urgent message of conversion of heart, it is important for us to recall that the vocation of St. John the Baptist was precisely to point the way to Jesus, and to draw our attention to Him. John the Baptist didn't call attention to himself. "[Christ] must increase; I must decrease," he famously said. And that is true of all of us.

Over five years have passed since the completion of our CHRIST AT THE CENTER project of beautifying and enhancing the sanctuary of our church. This project was undertaken precisely to do what St. John the Baptist did: to point the way to Christ. Every statue, every carving, every color points to, and honors, the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, so as to "make better known and loved the hidden God of the tabernacle."

St. John the Baptist, pray for us!

God bless you!

Federico Marcello

Advent

A SEASON OF HOPE

20!24

NOTHING COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT THAN TO COME TO MASS TOGETHER AS A FAMILY!

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sat at 4:00pm & 7:15pm ; Sun at 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am
DAILY MASS: Mon – Thu: 7:30am, Fri: 9:00am, Sat: 8:00am



ADVENT ADORATION & CONFESSION

During one of the most hectic times of the year, we're happy to provide this oasis of peace and quiet, in the presence of Our Lord Himself, in the Blessed Sacrament.

Tue, Dec 10 & 17:
Adoration & Confession 6-9pm

ADVENT MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA Saturday, December 7, 5:15pm

Please join us for a beautiful concert of Advent music for organ and soprano performed by **Olivia Ericsson**, mezzo-soprano, and our Director of Sacred Music, **Zac Schurman**, who has an advanced degree in organ performance from The Juilliard School in NYC!



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Mass: Mon, Dec 9, 7:30am, 12:10pm & 7:00pm

Our Blessed Mother, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, is the Patroness of the USA. Our celebrations will honor Our Lady & ask her protection on our country, our families, & our parish.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING, CAROLS & COCOA! Sat, Dec 14, 4:00 pm

Join us for a special tradition at St. Catherine's. Following the 4pm Mass on Sat, Dec 14, we'll go to the front lawn for our Ninth Annual Tree Lighting! Hot Chocolate & Cookies to follow!



CHRISTMAS OPLATKI

Available in the Sacristy after Mass or at the Parish Office.
\$2 per package.



GIFTS DUE NEXT WEEKEND! ANNUAL PARISH GIVING TREE

St. Charles Borromeo Parish: Look for a Green Tree on the Giving Tree.

Blessed Sacrament Parish: Parishioners are especially requesting hats and gloves. Look for a Yellow Bulb on the Giving Tree.

St. Mary Parish gives a gift to their Rel Ed students. Look for a Red Ornament on the Giving Tree.

Convent of Mary Immaculate gives a gift to their preK and First Holy Communion children. Look for a Brown Gingerbread Man on the Giving Tree.

The McGivney Center hosts an annual "McGivney Christmas Store" where kids can "purchase" gifts for their family & friends. Kids earn "bucks" to spend at the sale through good report cards, helping others, and good deeds. Look for a Blue Angel on the Giving Tree.

WAYS TO DONATE:

Deliver unwrapped gifts with the ornament securely attached to the gift.

Drive Through Donations: Sat, Dec 14, 10am-12pm. *Saturday only.*

At All Masses: through Dec 15.

Financial Donations: Use online giving (link on parish website). Or mail a check to the Parish Office, payable to St. Catherine of Siena. Write "Giving Tree" in the memo line. Surplus funds will be directed to the organizations listed above.

Questions: Christmas
@stcatherinetrumbull.com

If you or someone you know is in need of help this Advent and Christmas Season, please let us know.



❧ Christmas 2024 Mass Schedule ❧

Christmas Eve

Tue, Dec 24 • 4pm in the Family Center,
*6pm in the Church

The Midnight Mass of Christmas

*12:00 Midnight. *Prelude music begins at 11:30pm*

Christmas Day

Wed, Dec 25 • 9am, 11am (NO 7:30am)

Festive Mass with Soloists and Instrumentalists at 11:00am

** The 6pm Mass and Midnight Mass will be livestreamed on our Parish Website and YouTube Channel.*



The Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God

*A Holy Day
of Obligation*

Vigil Mass

Tue, Dec 31, 5:00pm

Wed, Jan 1, 2023
(New Year's Day)

Mass: 9am, 11am
(NO 7:30am)

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Do you know a high school student who loves to hang with friends, have fun, and enjoys a yummy treat too?

Tell them about Youth Group – every Sunday, from 6-8pm.

UP NEXT: DEC 8: Gingerbread Bash at 8am *special time*.
DEC 15: Fitness & Faith, Ultimate Frisbee. DEC 22:
Christmas Party & Secret Santa. DEC 29: *No Meeting,
Christmas Break.*

INFO: RKingsbury@stcatherinetrumbull.com



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SAINT AND SEEK:
Come *SEEK* the window for **Mother Teresa** & *GET* a little gift from us! Any Saturday or Sunday Mass in December!

HELP WANTED!

Rel Ed is hiring a **Head Catechist** to oversee the Rel Ed program during class time. Responsibilities include: coordination of catechists, management of the building during class time, attendance management, communication with families, curriculum development, ensuring that the teachings of the Catholic Church are effectively communicated to students. Approx 10hrs/week, paid. Contact Leah DeVito for information.

SACRAMENT REGISTRATION:

- First Reconciliation Registration is due Dec 9. Forms were emailed to families.
- First Holy Communion Registration was due Dec 6. Confirmation registration was due Nov 13. If you haven't submitted, please do so ASAP.

CLASSES THIS WEEK: No classes Sunday, Dec 8, Gingerbread Bash. Regular Classes on Tue, Dec 10 & Wed Dec 11.

LEAH DEVITO, DRE,
reled@stcatherinetrumbull.com



CONFESSION

We are happy to provide the schedule for the Sacrament of Penance at parishes in the area:

MON: Christ the King, 7-8pm;
cancelled on Holy Days & Civic Holidays

TUE: St. Catherine's, 6-9pm;
with Adoration

WED: St. Pius X, Fairfield, 7-8pm

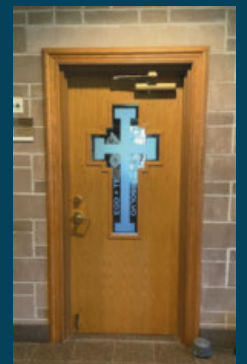
THU: St. Theresa, 7-8:30pm

FRI: St. Theresa, 7:30-8am & 4:30-5:30pm

SAT: St. Lawrence, Shelton, 4-4:45pm; St. Mark, Stratford, 3:30-4:30pm; St. Stephen, 3:30-4:30pm; Christ the King, 4:00-4:45pm; St. Pius X, Fairfield, 4:00-5:00pm; St. Theresa, 3:30-4:30pm

SUN: St. Lawrence, Shelton, 11-11:30am; St. Theresa, 7-7:30am, 8:30-9am, 10-10:30am, 11:30am-12:00pm

HAS IT BEEN A WHILE? Resources for adults, teens & kids are at stcathtrumbull.com to help you prepare.



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA SCHOOL:



Come work at the School! St. Catherine of Siena School is currently seeking:

1. A READING TEACHER OR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER (full time) to join our dedicated team.
1. SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS who are passionate about education and eager to support our students.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact:

Mrs. Michelle Powrie, Principal
mpowrie@scsstrumbull.org

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NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS:

Deacon Toole's Scripture Study will take a break during Advent. Sessions will resume on Jan 15. Please join us then!

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT.

Next week-end's Gospel reading is provided

here, so that we can think and pray about it, and be ready to receive it into our minds and hearts when it is proclaimed at Mass.

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people. *Luke 3:10-18*



2024 ANNUAL PARISH APPEAL



...is now in its 6th week. Thanks to your generosity in previous years, we were able to raise more than \$150,000 through this campaign, which enabled us to meet the ongoing, fixed costs of maintaining our beautiful parish campus and facilities, and to stay current with our other obligations. This year's goal remains at \$150,000, which will help us to meet these same goals. Our mission of faith, worship, and service here at St. Catherine's is a rock of stability for our parishioners and our larger community during these ongoing and challenging times.

As of Nov. 26, we have received \$111,240 in pledges from 246 families (74% of goal).

Together with our Parish Finance Council & Trustees, we ask for everyone's active participation in this year's Appeal.

DONATE ONLINE at: scathtrumbull.com

All of us make up St. Catherine's. Every gift counts. We are so grateful that you are a part of our Parish Community. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous support.

Giving Back to God



OFFERTORY: We are very grateful to everyone who is using our Online Giving platform. Your generous and steadfast support keeps our parish running. Use this QR code to make your weekly offertory gift to the parish. Thank you!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERTORY!

THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 23RD – 24TH
WEEKLY: \$4,875 MONTHLY: \$225 ONLINE: \$8,132
TOTAL: \$13,232

WE WILL REPORT OFFERTORY FOR
NOVEMBER 30/DECEMBER 1 ON DECEMBER 15.

YEAR END GIVING: Many parishioners use this special time to help support the Parish of St. Catherine of Siena and receive helpful tax benefits as well! **Potential Gifts may include:** The Annual Parish Appeal; Offertory & Gift Donations; Transfer of Securities (Stocks, Bonds & Mutual Funds). **The IRS allows a tax deduction of \$300 for individuals & \$600 for married filers for charitable contributions made in 2024!** Additionally, if you are 73 & older & have a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your retirement plan, you may benefit from a direct gift to St. Catherine's. Consult with your tax advisor or plan administrator. All gifts must be received or post-marked by Tue, Dec 31. *Don't miss this chance to maximize your charitable giving while receiving a potential immediate tax benefit before year's end!*

BOB CAVALLERO, Director of Parish Operations
RobertCavallero@stcatherinetrumbull.com

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The Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena

Energy Challenge

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(We encourage sharing this QR code with family, neighbors, and friends to maximize your church donation. This promotion ends October 31st, 2024.)

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