Merry Christmas

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) with Adoration of the **Blessed Sacrament:** TUE: 6pm - 8pm

Daily Mass: MON-THU: 7:30am FRI: 9am FIRST 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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: JAN 5, 2025

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 JANUARY 5, 2025

Mon, Jan. 6: St. André Bessette 7:30AM [‡] Elizabeth Kenny

Tue, Jan. 7:St. Raymond of Peñafort7:30AM* Mary R. Apicella6:00-8:00PMAdoration and Confession

Wed, Jan. 8:

- Thu, Jan. 9:
 - 7:30AM ⊕ William Saray
- Fri, Jan. 10:
 - 9:00AM 🕆 John Ryan Ross
- Sat, Jan. 11:THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
(Anticipated)4:00PM⊕ Deceased Members of
the Thibodeau Family
7:15PM7:15PMOur Parishioners

Sun, Jan. 12:THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD7:30AM☆ Ellen Ivanovich9:00AM☆ Frank Ruggiero11:00AM☆ Francis Boyle

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS:

Celiac disease affects many people. Those suffering from Celiac cannot ingest gluten. If you or a family member would benefit from a low gluten host or from the Precious Blood at the celebration of the Eucharist, please see a Priest or Deacon in the Sacristy before Mass.

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 Leonard P. Marcello, Sr.

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 the **Ernest A. Greywacz**





...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.

Prayer MINISTRY .

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, Daniel Gray.

PASTORAL CARE: Please contact the Parish Office to let us know if you have a family member in the hospital. Due to confidentiality regulations, we are not consistently notified by hospitals, and are often unaware of hospitalizations unless we are notified by the family. *Contact Mary Ellen Kovacs, Director of Pastoral Care:* (203) 377-3133, ext. 104.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day The Parish Office will be CLOSED on Mon, Jan 20, 2025 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It will reopen on Tue, Jan 21, at 9am. Daily Mass on Mon, Jan 20, will be at 9:00am.

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 1st Lt Peter Sandri, U.S. Army



CHRISTMAS AT ST. CATHERINE'S

From our altar to your home, we hope that your Christmas celebration was filled with God's many blessings and great joy!.



Social Justice and Charitable Outreach LOVE THY NEIGHBOR BABY ITEMS & TOILETRIES DRIVE: FEB 1 & 2



We all know how a hot shower makes us feel renewed and refreshed. Our brothers and sisters most in need require the basics to be healthy, clean and comfortable. Please consider helping them feel that same sense of renewal by donating toiletries.... And baby supplies this winter in a special drive we're calling *Love Thy Neighbor.* What a beautiful way to celebrate the Gift of Motherhood.

Every little bit helps and makes a difference.

BENEFITS: St. Charles Borromeo Church; Blessed Sacrament Church; St. Mary Church; The Thomas Merton Center; The Convent of Mary Immaculate.

Baby Related Items, Including: Baby Illness: baby Tylenol, nursing bottles; baby OraGel; pedialyte; baby thermometers; medicine droppers; nasal aspirator; **Bedding:** crib or toddler bedding & blankets; baby towels & washcloths; **Cleaning supplies**: baby laundry detergent; baby shampoo/soap; **Food**: Baby Formula/ Food/Cereal; **Diapers/Wipes/Clothing**: Diapers of all sizes (including size 7 diapers); baby wipes; diaper creams; baby clothing of all sizes (*new or gently used*) *Thank you for considering the dignity of these moms & babies while considering what to donate.*

Items Requested: Oral Care: toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash; Soap & Cleansers: bar soap, liquid soap, body wash, facial cleansers, cleansing wipes, baby wipes; Hair Products: shampoo, conditioner, hair brush, comb; Lotions: hand and body lotion, hand sanitizer, sunscreen; Shaving Supplies: disposable razors, shaving cream; Deodorant; Feminine products: Pads, tampons, feminine wash; Nail Care: nail files, nail clippers, tweezers; Paper Products: paper towels, toilet paper, diapers 4-5-6. Note: trial/travel or regular size items welcome and appreciated. The Merton Center could use travel-sized shaving cream.

Ways To Donate:

- **Contact Free Drive Through:** Sat, Feb 1, 10am-12pm, & Sun, Feb 2, 11am-12pm.
- At All Masses on Feb 1/2.
- Financial Donations: Checks payable to St. Catherine of Siena. Write "Baby Shower" in the memo. Or use our Online Giving Platform. Link on our Parish Website.

Please contact us if you know any mothers in need or would like to get involved. Most importantly, please pray for those most in need and for an increased respect in our culture for the gift of every human life, through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, Mary.

ERIC VOGEL, *Coordinator for Social Justice and Charitable Outreach:* **Caritas@stcatherinetrumbull.com**



WHAT ARE YOUR CATHOLIC New Year's resolutions?

- 1. I resolve to arrive at Mass early.
- 2. I resolve that, before arriving for Mass, I'll turn off my cell phone, leave it in the car, or put it on "silent."
- 3. I resolve to go to the bathroom before I leave home, so I don't have to stand outside the restroom during Mass.
- 4. I resolve to offer a friendly smile of encouragement to parents of young children during Mass.
- 5. I resolve to sing. Loudly!
- 6. I resolve to remain in my pew to sing loudly (*see above*) the whole recessional hymn.
- 7. I resolve to place my hymnal neatly back in the rack before I leave to make less work for the Welcome Team. A tidy church is a happy church!
- 8. I resolve to take one last peek at my pew before leaving to make sure that I haven't left any belongings. (*After all, a tidy church is …see above.*)
- 9. I resolve to only wear shorts to Sunday Mass if I'm under the age of five.
- 10. I resolve to be generous with my time and personal space when entering or leaving the church, in line for Communion, and when driving into and out of our parish campus.
- 11. I resolve to return to my pew to pray (and not dash out the door!) after receiving Holy Communion. After all, it is in that moment

when I am a Tabernacle for Christ.

- 12. I resolve to make room in the pew for anyone who wishes to join me.
- 13. I resolve to remember that I am an important member of my Parish Community and to support it with my time, talent, and financial resources to the best of my ability.
- 14. I resolve to take this bulletin home with me, cut out these resolutions, and tape them to my refrigerator so I don't forget them.

THIS SUNDAY: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: JAN 5, 2025

6TH ANNUAL EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION AND BLESSING OF CHALK Please join us at the 9:00am Mass on Jan 5, at which Fr. Marcello will inscribe the door of the church.

The **Epiphany Blessing of Chalk** and homes is an ancient tradition which places a reminder of God's pres-



ence at the entrance of a home, and places an entire family under His protection. After Mass, **take a piece of blessed chalk home with you** and use it to inscribe the door of your home – invoking God's blessings on your house and family – just as Father will inscribe the door of the church (see photo).

The Epiphany Blessing of a Home takes place as follows:

At a convenient time on the Feast of the Epiphany, all the members of the family should gather near the front door, and all begin with the Sign of the Cross: **In the Name of the Father**, **and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Then, the head of the household says: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered Him precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

Then all pray the **Our Father**.

Then the head of the household says: Let us pray: O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Then the head of the household *(if necessary climbs a stool or small ladder and)* using the blessed chalk, first writes the initials of the three Wise Men, connected with Crosses, over the inside of the front door, on the lintel, if possible. Then is written the current year, dividing the first two and last two numbers of the year so that they fall on both sides of the initials. It should look like this:

20 + C + M + B + 25

...with the "20" being the millennium and century, the "C" standing for Caspar, the "M" standing for Melchior, the "B" standing for Balthasar, and the "25" at the end standing for the decade and year. (Next year, it would be 20 + C + M + B + 25, and so forth).

When the initials have been inscribed above the door, all conclude with the prayer: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The blessing concludes with all making the Sign of the Cross: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

...and then **send us your photos** of your family inscribing the Epiphany Blessing, and we'll post them on our parish social media! Email photos to: <u>support@stcatherientrumbull.com</u>

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS:

Come learn more about the meaning & message of the upcoming weekend's readings!

Deacon Patrick Toole will be leading an in-depth look at the readings for the coming weekend with explanation, prayer, & discussion. Study materials provided. FREE. No signups. Sessions resume Wed, Jan15. 6:30pm-8pm in the Church Hall



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: Next weekend'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 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."

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: SUN AT 9AM

Our 9am Sunday Mass focuses on helping our youngest parishioners develop a love for & understanding of Christ, His Word, & the Mass. Children ages 5-



Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena

Faith + Food + Fun

iends

10 join friends in the Church Hall following the opening prayers. They work with a catechist to understand the readings at an age-appropriate level. This is a formal worship experience adapted to make it relevant to the lives and experiences of children. Children return to Mass for the Consecration. The Playground is open after Mass! Come play with friends on our school's beautiful playground. INFO: LEAH DEVITO: leahcdevito@gmail.com

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 Sun, 6-8pm. NEXT MEETINGS: Sunday, Jan 5, 12

INFO: RKingsbury@stcatherinetrumbull.com



Saint!! December is for St. John Bosco. Come SEEK the window for St. John Bosco & GET a little gift from us!

SACRAMENT PREP: Info is on the parish website.

- All Confirmation Prep students should be • working on their community service hours.
- Confirmation Sponsor forms are due on Jan 8. .
- Mandatory Meeting with the Bishop for all • Confirmation Prep parents: Jan 22, 7pm.
- Gr 2: Reconciliation Workshop is Jan 30, 5:30-• 7pm. Mandatory for student and one parent

CLASS SCHEDULE: Jan 5, 7, 8.

RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION

and Seek!

SAINT AND SEEK:

New Month, New

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND SAVE THE DATES for these fun family events at St. Catherine's!

- **YOUTH ROSARY FOR LIFE: Jan 22** •
- SCOUT SUNDAY: Feb 23, 9am Mass •
- LENT FAMILY RETREAT: Mar 9, 9am Mass (or • Tue, Mar 11)
- FATHER-SON SUNDAY: Mar 16, 9am Mass
- SPORTS SUNDAY: Mar 30, 9am Mass
- HOLY THURSDAY PROCESSION: Apr 17 •
- MAY CROWNING: May 11, 11am Mass

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, 6-8pm; 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



Information: <u>LHurley@scsstrumbull.org</u>. 203-375-1947 stcatherinesienatrumbull.org

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS: Celiac

disease affects many people. Those suffering from Celiac cannot ingest gluten. If you or a family member would benefit from a low gluten host or from the Precious Blood at the celebration of the Eucharist, please see a Priest or Deacon in the Sacristy before Mass.



KNITTING & CROCHETING APOSTOLATE

Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to learn?

The Knitting & Crochet Ministry performs a vital ministry for our parish and the wider community. They work on an ongoing basis at home, making *hats* & *scarves, comfort hats* & *headbands, baby blankets, hats* & *blankets for babies, prayer shawls and more.*

In 2024, we're happy to report that our knitters and crocheters delivered more than 150 items for those in need in our

For information, contact **Wanda Tompkins** at (203) 372-5591.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

We are so fortunate to have the support of our advertisers, which offsets the cost of printing our bulletin! Please thank them when you can, and give them the support of your business.

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 Dec. 9, we have received \$122,390 in pledges from 267 families (82% of goal).

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

DONATE ONLINE at: stcathtrumbull.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.



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

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFERTORY! THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 14TH – 15TH WEEKLY: \$3,454 MONTHLY: \$260 ONLINE: \$8,998 TOTAL: \$12,712

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: \$1,411 Online: \$623

THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 21st – 22nd Weekly: \$5,188 Monthly: \$0 Online: \$8,227 Total: \$13,415

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be mailed to all parishioners who have contributed \$250 or more to the parish in 2024. Statements will be mailed by Jan 31, 2025. If you do not receive a statement, contact the parish office at (203) 377-3133 and a copy will be provided for you.

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





Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Church Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com