



Pastor: Father Robert Simon
frbobsimon@gmail.com

Youth Minister: Katie Phillips
youthministry@northpoconocatholic.com

Religious Education: Sandra Czyzyk
religious-ed@northpoconocatholic.com
570.848.1258 press 2

Music Director: Paul Lukasiewicz
musicministry@northpoconocatholic.com

Safe Environment Manager: Pam Julian
safeenviron@northpoconocatholic.com
570-842-4561

Bookkeeping: Katie Phillips
bookkeeping@northpoconocatholic.com

Bulletin: Mary Franceschelli
parishoffice@northpoconocatholic.com

Pre-School: Lisa Sgobba
preschool@northpoconocatholic.com
570.848.1258 press 1

Sacristans:
Helen Marx
James Cawley

Please.....help us pass the word

St. Catherine's is live-streaming Daily (now at 8am) [except Thursdays] & Sunday Mass (Saturday 5pm). They can be seen on our parish website:

www.northpoconocatholic.com and
our Facebook page.

Mass may be viewed later on YouTube
Search North Pocono Catholic Media

Reservations for Weekend Masses may be made by registering online or by contacting Mary no later than 7pm the evening before. This helps the volunteers to prepare for the next day's liturgies.

Please make others aware of this, so they are able to join us spiritually or in person.

If you need to reach Father Simon, please call the parish office.

If you have a question for the office, please feel free to contact Mary at 570-842-4381 or text to 570-840-6468

Stay tuned for any new updates from the parish and diocese.

The Church of Saint Catherine of Siena
PO Box 250—220 Church Street
Moscow PA 18444
Phone: 570-842-4561 Fax: 570-842-6648
www.northpoconocatholic.com

A Roman Catholic Parish Community Serving the People of North Pocono in the Diocese of Scranton

NOVEMBER 29, 2020
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

You are at the eye doctor and it's time for the peripheral vision test. You know the one. It's where you put your head up to a contraption and have to click a switch every time you see a squiggly line. If you don't concentrate and maintain optimal focus, you will miss them and skew the outcome of the test. You can easily find yourself with a diagnosis that really isn't accurate! Concentration and focus are key to succeeding with this evaluation. They are also key to developing a healthy, vibrant spiritual life. If we do not bring our full consciousness to the task, concentrate with all our might, be watchful and vigilant, we are not going to see God's loving presence flashing before our eyes!

That's why we need Advent. Let's face it. We can easily get distracted, focus on nonessential and superficial things and lose touch with what really matters. Our attentions wander. We daydream and even become a bit overwhelmed and tired. All of the stresses and demands of life consume us and we find ourselves constantly trying to play catch up rather than relishing the moment of the now. "Now" moments are so fleeting. They flash before us like those squiggly lines on a screen. Present moments go as quickly as they come but it is important to discover them and rest in them as often as we can. Though gone in a flash, these now moments of encounter with God teach powerful lessons and offer a grounding in truth that can be found nowhere else. It's the grace of Advent to become watchful and attentive because we are never sure when God will surprise us.

God loves surprises and love thrives on them! God's now moments of surprises come as tender instants of intimate connection where I find profound peace, experience joy, and rest in love. These are Advent times reflective of the now moments when Christ first was born, when God surprises us during every time we care to watch and when the great surprise of Christ's second coming dawns upon us all. But, to discover the grandeur and experience the awe of these now times, we have to be ready. We have to want to be there. We have to believe. And, we have to have the desire to soak in as much as we can in the time we have before us.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK
NOVEMBER 30—DECEMBER 6, 2020

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

CLARE STACHNIK (Morning Mass Crew)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

ANGELO, ANNA & ANELIO LISANDRELLI
(Maria Scheller & Family)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

ALBERT DeNUNZIO, SR. (Kate Tierney)
rescheduled

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

EDWARD BLASKO (Sandra & Bob Collins)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5—5PM

CHESTER MICHAEL OSTROWSKI II
(Mary & Sal Gretkowski)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6—9AM
FOR THE PEOPLE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6—11:30AM
JOHN TOVCIMAK
(Lucille & Bernie Przywara and Family)

IMPORTANT NOTICES REGARDING MASS
Cold & Flu Season

If you are not feeling well (coughing, sneezing, etc.), out of an abundance of caution and care for fellow parishioners, please remain at home.

- **RESERVATIONS ARE STILL REQUIRED FOR ALL WEEKEND MASSES**
- If you choose to remain in your vehicle, you can listen to any live-streamed Mass on station 102.7FM (Cath Net Radio Chatter with the Angels & Saints) on your radio .
- We thank everyone for their patience in making reservations for Mass
- **IF YOU REQUIRE GLUTEN FREE HOST, PLEASE NOTIFY THE GREETER AS YOU ARRIVE FOR MASS**

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:16b-17,19b; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken,
from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse your power,
and come to save us.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts,
look down from heaven, and see;
take care of this vine,
and protect what your right hand has planted
the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your help be with the man of your right hand,
with the son of man whom you yourself made strong.
Then we will no more withdraw from you;
give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters:

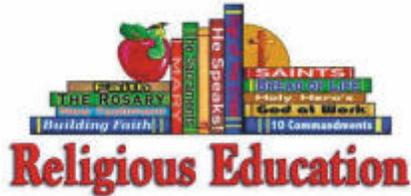
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"



**God Bless
Asha Chiara Tiwari
and
Andrew Jarbola V
who have received the
Sacrament of Baptism**



**TODAY—Sunday, November 29
NO CLASSES
THANKSGIVING WEEKEND**

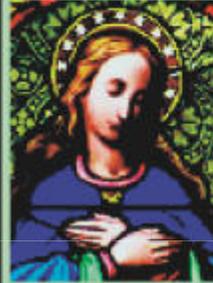
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**Sunday, December 6**

**Grades 1—5 (L-Z) will meet in Kelly Hall  
10—11am**

**Grades 6,7,8 (L-Z) will meet in Kelly Hall  
7—8pm**

## **Did You Know...**



**You May Make a Gift  
to Your Parish  
or to the Diocesan  
Annual Appeal  
Directly From Your IRA**

If you are 70½ or older and have a traditional individual retirement account, you can use all or part of your *required minimum distribution* to support your parish or the Diocesan Annual Appeal without having to count the transfers as income for federal tax purposes.

Distributions must be sent directly to your parish or the Diocese by the plan administrator of your IRA.

For information, please contact  
**Jim Bebla,**  
Diocesan Secretary of Development,  
[Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org](mailto:Jim-Bebla@DioceseofScranton.org)  
**570-207-2250**

*During this Christmas season, it's a good time to ponder our many blessings and how we can share them to benefit others, including the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Community.*

### **HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED??**

- ◆ *Creating a special fund in honor of or in memory of a loved one? What is/was special to this person? Did they enjoy teaching or working with children? Was creating a beautiful garden something they treasured? Was music a passion of theirs? All of these areas of support at St. Catherine's, and other things of importance, can benefit from your generosity.*
- ◆ *Including St. Catherine of Siena in your will? Designating your bequest to an area of importance to you such as Youth Ministry; Religious Education; Vacation Bible School; etc.*
- ◆ *Donating appreciated securities to offset capital gains tax ?*
- ◆ *Establishing an annuity or trust fund and naming St. Catherine of Siena as beneficiary?*

*These are just a few examples of how you can make a meaningful gift that can have a lasting impact and show gratitude for the many blessings in your life. If any of these opportunities, or others, interest you, please see Father Simon.*

## REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT

Daily Advent Reflections by parishioners of Saint Catherine's can be found on our parish website....

[www.northpoconocatholic.com](http://www.northpoconocatholic.com)

## ST. CATHERINE'S YOUTH MINISTRY

remind  
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Search for St.  
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Youth Ministry &  
request to join

  
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### Notice

#### Regarding Reporting Sexual Abuse of a Minor

It is the policy of the Diocese of Scranton to report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual abuse committed by a priest, deacon, religious or lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton, you are encouraged to immediately report the matter to law enforcement. If any priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Scranton has cause or reason to suspect that a minor has been subjected to any form of abuse, including child sexual abuse, the matter will be reported to law enforcement. It is also the policy of the Diocese to adhere to all civil and state regulations. In accordance with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Child Protective Services Laws, reports of suspected child abuse should also be made immediately by phone to the 24-Hour Child Abuse hotline (ChildLine) at 1-800-932-0313 or electronically at [www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis](http://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis) To this end, the Diocese is equally committed to adhering to the norms of the Code of Canon Law and to upholding the tenets of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, which includes supporting victims of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, information regarding an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor should also be reported to the Victim Assistance Coordinator, Mary Beth Pacuska at 570-862-7551.



Flowers  
for the Blessed Mother  
are Offered in Honor of  
the Baptism of  
Asha Chiara Tiwari  
Requested by  
Her Grandparents  
Vincent & Maria  
Russoniello

Our Advent Wreath  
is Offered  
in Memory of  
Jim Lindner  
Requested by  
Linda Lindner & Family

Just a reminder.....

Poinsettias and some other  
Christmas flower sponsorships  
are still available. Contact  
Mary at 570-842-4381 or  
570-840-6468



**CONFESSIONS**  
*Confessions take place on  
Saturdays  
from 3:30—4:15pm  
In the Chapel*



**The Grief  
Support Group**  
Wednesday at 12:00pm

We are now back to meeting in the Carriage House. We ask that all wear a mask. All are welcome to attend.

**A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN  
TIME OF PANDEMIC**



O Mary,  
you always shine on our path as a sign of  
salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the  
Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain

Keeping your faith firm.

You, our loving Mother, know what we  
need,

and we are sure you will provide so that,  
as in Cana of Galilee,

We may return to joy and to feasting after  
this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father and to  
do as we are told by Jesus,  
who has taken upon himself our sufferings  
and carried our sorrows, to lead us,  
through the Cross,  
to the joy of the Resurrection.

Amen.

**PRAYER FOR RECEIVING  
SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**My Jesus,  
I believe that you are present in the  
most Blessed Sacrament.**

**I love You above all things and I  
desire to receive You into my soul.**

**Since I cannot at this moment receive  
You sacramentally, come at least  
spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were already  
there, and unite myself wholly to You.**

**Never permit me to be separated  
from You.**

**Amen.**



**PARISH OFFICE**

***Since the Parish Office is operating  
remotely.....***

**If you need to:**

- ⇒Schedule a Baptism**
- ⇒Purchase a Mass Card**
- ⇒Change your address or phone number**
- ⇒Register for Mass**
- ⇒Make a general inquiry**

**Contact Mary  
570-842-4381 or 570-840-6468**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**  
November 16, 2020

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Weekly Offering           | \$ 4,535.00 |
| Dues                      | \$ 1,582.00 |
| Care/Education of Priests | \$ 163.00   |
| Special Collections       | \$ 107.00   |
| Christmas                 | \$ 20.00    |

Thank you so much for  
your inspiring generosity.

**Diocesan Annual Appeal Update**

**Parish Goal** \$63,000.00  
**Pledges to Date** \$43,375.00

Please prayerfully consider making your  
pledge if you have not already done so.  
Thank you!

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Monday: St. Andrew, Apostle  
Thursday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest  
Next Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**



Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
Monday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

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