

St. Catherine of Siena

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



September 20, 2026 VOL. 43 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessings on CATECHETICAL SUNDAY



Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM
and 11:00 AM

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday 8:00 AM

Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM
or by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday: 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM
(Later by appointment)

Contact Us!

Phone: (908) 735-4024

Website: www.scoschurch.org

Church and Parish Office

2 White Bridge Road

Pittstown, NJ 08867

Email: office@scoschurch.org

Our Staff

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Email: frchester@scoschurch.org

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Email: deaconmike@scoschurch.org

Deacon Dennis K. Webster

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"A Roman Catholic Parish of Prayer and Friendship"

Welcome!

St. Catherine of Siena Church | Pittstown, NJ

PARISH REGISTRATION & ELIGIBILITY

It is necessary for every family or individual to be a registered and active member of our parish for **3 months** in order to request Baptism for your child and for us to testify to your ability to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation. Registration is required to qualify for Religious Education and the reception of the Sacraments. Please contact the office or our website for a registration form. Completed registration forms **MUST** be handed to the Pastor during a weekend Mass. Emailed or mailed registrations forms will not be accepted.

SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Baptism

For registered and active parishioners (weekly attendance at Mass) by arrangement with the office. Preparation classes are held at 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of each month. Please call to register.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday at 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM or by appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples are required to make arrangements **one year** prior to the date of marriage. **One party must be a registered and active member of this parish.**

Sacrament 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.

Stewardship

In-Pew Collections

The collections for September 6th were \$5,391.00 for the regular collection and \$931.00 for Religious Education. The collection for September 13th was \$4,780.00 for the regular collection.

Online Donations

Online giving for September 6th was \$4,250.00 and the September 13th was \$3,178.00.



Pastor's Letter

Catechetical Sunday - September 20th

For many years now, the Church in the United States has designated the third weekend of September as "Catechetical Sunday" to coincide with the beginning of the new school year.

Here is a timely quote from the national catechetical office of the US Catholic Bishops on religious education:

Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church makes clear, "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life . . . her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis" (no. 7). This ministry of teaching in the name of the Church has a profound dignity, which is why catechists are formally commissioned by the Church. It is only fitting that we set aside a day to highlight this ministry and invite the entire church community to think about our responsibility to share our faith with others.

Parents are truly the primary catechists of their children. They prepare the soil and plant the first seeds of faith. On Catechetical Sunday, we not only highlight the work of catechists in parishes and schools, but we also commend parents and guardians and encourage them to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed on to the next generation. This is why the rite of blessing of catechists used on Catechetical Sunday includes a blessing of parents and guardians.

Our parish is so fortunate to have wonderful people in the religious education program. We are blessed to have Mrs. Sandra Kopka, the Catechetical Director. We are also extremely blessed to have Peggy York 2nd grade, Joanne Hyland 3rd grade, Janise Nelson 4th grade, Bill Staats 5th grade, Anthony Roberts 6th grade, Liz Strauss 7th grade, and Catherine Sutter and Tara Lainge 8th grade as volunteer catechists who give of their time, energy, and talents to share the Catholic faith with the children entrusted to their care. Please keep all these dedicated people in your prayers for a successful ministry.

I hope and pray that all the young people of our parish will take part in the activities of this exciting ministry; but we need their parents to encourage them!

Once again, on behalf of the entire parish, we extend our thanks to our Catechetical team for their dedication to our children.

God Bless,
Fr. Chester Zalubski, Pastor

Masses & Intentions

September 20, 2026 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 19

4:30 PM † Margaret Rocca
r/o The Family

Sunday, September 20

8:00 AM † The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

9:30 AM † Michael Piotrowski & Family
r/o Dennis & Kathie Webster

11:00 AM † John & Catherine Raymonds
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

Monday, September 21

8:00 AM † Stephen Ferrantino
r/o Vita Foote

Tuesday, September 22

8:00 AM † Albina Krowicki
r/o The Baker Family

Wednesday, September 23

8:00 AM † Sandra Kopka Birthday Blessing
r/o St. Catherine's Parish

Thursday, September 24

8:00 AM † August Dorflinger
r/o Maryjane & Bill Staats

Friday, September 25

8:00 AM † Stanley Kozal, Jr
r/o The Mauro & Pasculli Families

Saturday, September 26

4:30 PM † Sr. Renata Zalubska
r/o Margaret Rocca

Sunday, September 27

8:00 AM † The Parishioners of St. Catherine's

9:30 AM † Rick Webster
r/o Betty & Fred Mariani

11:00 AM † John Towey
r/o Patricia Krummenacker

Weekly Readings & Observances

Sunday, September 20

Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

Monday, September 21

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13
St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist; National Migration Week

Tuesday, September 22

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday, September 23

Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6
St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

Thursday, September 24

Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc/Lk 9:7-9

Friday, September 25

Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22

Saturday, September 26

Eccl 11:9-12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45
Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs

Sunday, September 27

Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday

Life Chain - October 4, 2026

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by participants of all faiths, especially the Christian community, that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death. Official locations will be announced soon!

Official locations can be found at: <https://diometuchen.org/events/lifecchain2026>


CAR RAFFLE
Tickets to be sold by the Knights of Columbus
after all Masses at St. Catherine's
October 10-11 and 17-18



Tickets \$10 each
Be the Winner!

1st Prize | 2027 Volvo XC40 AWD SUV
Valued at \$44,650.00
2nd Prize | Shoprite Gift Card | Valued at \$1,000.00
3rd Prize | Shoprite Gift Card | Valued at \$750.00
4th Prize | Shoprite Gift Card | Valued at \$500.00

Winning ticket to be drawn 10 pm, November 20, 2026
at Maggiano's Little Italy, Bridgewater, NJ
Winner need not be present.

Proceeds benefit New Jersey Right to Life, the state's oldest and largest pro-life organization.



We are happy to welcome
our recently Baptized at
St. Catherine of Siena:

Amelia Grace White
September 13, 2026



We are happy to welcome
our recently Baptized at
St. Catherine of Siena:

Dean Kinglsey Gernon
September 12, 2026

Pray For Our Parishioners

- Pat Cerria
- Merci Spinks
- Jeff Coletti
- Gail Jacobsen
- Carol Way
- Our Youth
- Our Grandparents

Don't Forget To Sign Up For Our
MARRIAGE BLESSING MASS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11TH
at the 11:00 am MASS



Send us your name and wedding date to
Tee at: tandersen@scoschurch.org



We are saddened to
announce the deaths of

Robert Sterlacci, brother of
Marybeth Moore, who passed
away on June 25, 2026

Jeffrey Thompson, brother of
Robin Potempa, who passed
away on September 10, 2026

Ministries & Organizations

St. Catherine of Siena Church | Pittstown, NJ



Ministry List

We are an active parish with over 35 ministries for adults and children. Please join us! To find out more, contact the parish office at (908) 735-4024 or visit our website at www.scoschurch.org.

Altar Servers
Audio/Visual
Auditors
Bible Study
Building Maintenance
Catholic Media
Coffee Fellowship
Decorating Committee
Events Hospitality
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Family Mass
Family Promise
Finance Council
Food Pantry
Graphic Materials
Kids Club
Knights of Columbus
Lectors
Little Sprouts
Monthly Eucharistic Adoration
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)
Parish Groundskeeping
Parish Pastoral Council
Parish Picnic
Prayer Shawl
Right to Life Representative
Rosary Society
Sacristan
SCRIP Program
Spirituality Committee
Social Concerns
Stewardship
Ushers
Veterans Military Apostolate
Website
Wedding Coordinator
Welcome
Youth Choir

SIENA SENIORS

**NEW
MINISTRY**

Join us as we launch a new and much-requested monthly ministry for older adults who are seeking social and spiritual connection, educational opportunities, and engaging activities. You are warmly invited to attend our first meeting and planning session on Wednesday, September 16th, 11:30-1:30. Bring your brown bag lunch and your ideas and suggestions, as we explore how best to meet the needs of our senior parishioners. Drinks and snacks will be available. For more information, please contact Jane Ricketts, (908) 399-4985.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA KIDS' CLUB

ATTENTION 2ND THRU 5TH GRADERS WE HAVE CHANGED THE GATHERING DAY TO THURSDAY AND ARE NOW INVITING 2ND GRADERS!!

Kids' Club now meets the 2nd Thursday of each month. There seemed to be a great deal of conflict with sports schedules on Fridays so I'm trying something different this year. Our **first meeting is October 8th from 6-7:30 in the Parish Center**. Future meeting dates for the Kids' Club are: **November 12, December 10, and January 14**.

Sixth and Seventh graders can earn service hours by assisting me with the younger kids. Please notify me or Mrs. Kopka if you are interested. The Kids' Club is a young spiritual group who gathers together to learn about our faith along with fun games, crafts and food. Since we meet around "dinner" time, I will provide different foods during our monthly meetings and I will occasionally ask for food contributions. It is important for me to know of food allergies. I would also appreciate knowing of interest in this program, so please kindly let me know so I can plan ahead. I look forward to seeing you in October.

Blessings,

Debbie Fass

Call or text me at (973) 222-8100; Email: kidsclub@scoschurch.org



An Evening with "Catherine of Siena" October 7th at 7:30 PM

Come spend an evening with Saint Catherine of Siena on **Wednesday, October 7th at 7:30 PM** in the Parish Center as we explore the incredible life of our parish patroness. Deacon Mike will lead the conversation to help us learn about the amazing young woman whose devout life influenced popes and resulted in her recognition as a Doctor of the Church. All are welcome, not only those that chose to read her biography. While we learn about Saint Catherine and discuss her biography, we will also get to enjoy some traditional treats like Panforte, Ricciarelli and Cantucci, recipes associated with her native Tuscany in Italy. If you have questions, contact Mark Salerno for more information (mark.salerno@outlook.com)

JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND KEEP UP THE FIGHT FOR LIFE

New Jersey is the Abortion Capital of the United States, and we need to TAKE UP THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST, and STOP THIS Destruction of HUMAN Life.

Metuchen Diocese Chapter Knights of Columbus has been raising funds since 2010 to purchase Ultra Sound Machines for pro-life centers and have purchased 17 machines since then.

Our Council will be collecting donations towards these machines after all masses on Oct 3-4 • Right to Life Sunday. Please be generous and donate what you can to save these innocent lives.



Blessing of the Animals...Calling All Animal Lovers



Please join us in celebration of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi for The Blessing of the Animals on **Saturday, October 3rd at 10:00 AM** in the parking lot. Please make sure all pets are secure/leashed and we ask that you clean up after your pet.

The Feast of St. Francis is a day inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, whose life exemplified harmony between humans and nature.

Francis of Assisi was a poor man who astounded and inspired the Church by taking the Gospel literally—not in a narrow fundamentalist sense, but by actually following all that Jesus said and did, joyfully, without limit and without a mite of self-importance.

Events Calendar

September 20, 2026 | 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Saturday, September 19

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM Reconciliation
4:30 PM Mass

Sunday, September 20 - Parish Picnic

8:00 AM Mass
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM 3rd, 5th & 7th Grade Faith Formation
9:30 AM Family Mass
11:00 AM Mass

Monday, September 21

8:00 AM Mass

Tuesday, September 22

8:00 AM Mass
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM Prayer Shawl (FH)
7:00 PM Knights' Social & Devotion (FH)

Wednesday, September 23

8:00 AM Mass
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM 8th Grade Faith Formation

Thursday, September 24

8:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM - 11:30 PM Sunday Scripture Discussion (FH)

Friday, September 25

8:00 AM Mass
6:00 PM Jones/Kratina Wedding Rehearsal
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Ladies Night Out (FH)

Saturday, September 26

1:00 PM Jones/Kratina Wedding Mass
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM Reconciliation
4:30 PM Mass

Sunday, September 27 - Pancake Breakfast

8:00 AM Mass
8:15 AM - 10:15 AM 2nd, 4th & 6th Grade Faith Formation
11:00 AM Mass
12:00 PM Mia Marie DeRites Baptism

St. Catherine's Rosary Society News

As the summer winds down, it's time to think about our Rosary Society gatherings! Below is the schedule of upcoming meetings. Weather permitting, the Wednesday evening meetings will be held outside at the Mary Statue. Sunday meetings will be held in Fellowship Hall.

October 7th, Wednesday @ 6:00 PM
November 1st, Sunday @ 12 Noon
December 6th, Sunday @ 12 Noon
January 3rd, Sunday @ 12 Noon

All parishioners are welcome to join us – come see what we're all about!
Questions? Contact Peggy York at (609) 865-4996 or yorkp7777@gmail.com



SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 27TH

following all Masses
IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Enjoy pancakes (regular and chocolate chip),
scrambled eggs, sausage, toast,
juice, coffee, and tea



SPONSORED BY
THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 15217



Silver and Gold ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

OCTOBER 18, 2026 - 3:00 PM

Couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 50th or 60+ wedding anniversaries are invited to attend this special prayer service. Registration is required. Free-will offerings are appreciated. For questions, please email magnese@diometuchen.org or call 732-562-1543.

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi
32 Elm Ave. Metuchen, NJ 08840



2026 Blue Mass

Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi
548 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840

Wednesday, October 21, 2026
at 10:30 a.m.

* Law enforcement officials are asked to be seated in the Cathedral by 10:15 a.m. sharp.

Very Rev. Jonathan S. Taborsky will celebrate the 14th Annual Blue Mass at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen. Gathered together with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement officials, we will honor and pray for those law enforcement officials of all faiths who live and work in the Diocese of Metuchen.

New Jersey Department of Corrections
2026 Host Agency

Scan for more information
and to become a member
732-243-4521 or visit
www.diometuchen.org/bluemas



Feminine Genius Brunch

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854

Event Highlights:
• Fellowship & Music
• Hot Brunch
• Prayer & Reflection

Visit www.diometuchen.org/humanity/femininegenius for more information.



"Discovering God's Purpose in the
Different Seasons of a Woman's Life"

GUEST SPEAKER: Danielle Bean

Author, speaker, and host of the
Girlfriends podcast

COST: \$35 PER PERSON
Scan QR to register.



The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world.

Our local council #15217 will be holding a membership drive after all Masses the weekend of October 10/11, 2026.

If you become a member of our council you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way.

If you would like to join today simply go to KofC.org/joinus and enter our council # for local information.

NJ BISHOPS' MASS FOR LIFE

Thursday, October 8, 2026 | 9:30 a.m.
Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
151 N. Warren Street, Trenton



NEW JERSEY MARCH FOR LIFE

*The NJ Rally & March for Life will begin at 11 am at the Statehouse Annex, a short walk from the Cathedral

DIOCESAN BUS TRIP TO TRENTON, DEPARTING FROM PISCATAWAY

Travel as a group to the Mass & March! Bus registration is \$20 per passenger. Reserve your spot now! Seating is limited. Full itinerary available on registration page.

Scan the QR to register for the Bus Trip, or visit:
www.diometuchen.org/events/nj-bishops-mass-for-life



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As a member of the St. Catherine's family, I'm honored to help my fellow parishioners navigate the real estate market with integrity and care. Whether you are growing your family or downsizing for retirement, I am happy to be of service.

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St. Catherine of Siena Church, Pittstown, NJ

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