



# Saint Catherine of Siena Parish of Bay City

2956 EAST NORTH UNION ROAD | BAY CITY, MICHIGAN 48706

## WELCOME

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Closed for lunch from

12:00 - 1:00 PM

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday**

5:00 PM

**Sunday**

8:30 AM | 11:00 AM

**Tuesday**

6:30 PM

**Wednesday**

12:00 PM

### RECONCILIATION

**Saturday**

4:15 PM and by appointment.

### PARISH STAFF

**Sister Christine A. Gretka**

Director of Parish Life

**Rev. James Wm. Bessert**

Sacramental Minister

**Kim Germain**

Parish Secretary/Receptionist

**Lori Marsh**

Director of Faith Formation

**James Rabideau**

Music Minister

**Joseph Stanolis**

Coordinator of Pastoral and

Liturgical Ministries

**Debbie Knox**

Parish Bookkeeper

**Judy Kram**

Faith Formation Secretary

**Dan Velasquez**

**& Chance Stodolak**

Maintenance

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Saint Catherine of Siena Parish of Bay City is a welcoming and empowering community built on faith and centered around the celebration of the Eucharist, hearing and responding to the voices around us, providing for all spiritual and material needs as graciously as we can. We pray that our patron, Saint Catherine of Siena, will intercede for and assist us in fulfilling our mission.*

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021

**SECOND SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

*A VOICE OF ONE CRYING OUT IN THE DESERT:  
"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD,  
MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.  
EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED  
AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW."*

—LUKE 3:4-5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



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## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

**TUESDAY, DEC. 7—6:30 PM**

**Sacristan**

D. Asch

**Lector 1**

J. Piggott

**Lector 2**

R. Campbell

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8—12:00 PM**

**Sacristan**

K. Asch

**Lector 1**

S. LaBo

**Lector 2**

R. Sporman

**EM of Holy Communion**

J. Stanolis

**Cross Bearer**

D. Knox

**SATURDAY, DEC. 11—5:00 PM**

**Sacristan**

J. Stanolis

**Lector 1**

R. Sporman

**Lector 2**

D. Stanolis

**EM of Holy Communion**

J. Bailey, S. LaBo

**Ministers of Hospitality**

D. Gerulski, P. Koczenasz, J. Solinski

**Cross Bearer**

M. Windy

**Candle Bearers**

A. & R. Gurnee

**SUNDAY, DEC. 12—8:30 AM**

**Sacristan**

Y. Neil

**Lector 1**

H. Gill

**Lector 2**

K. Wahr

**EM of Holy Communion**

S. Rajewski, R. Rivard

**Ministers of Hospitality**

M. & N. Suchy, B. Walters

**Cross Bearer**

Needed

**Candle Bearers**

F. & S. Toevs

**SUNDAY, DEC. 12—11:00 AM**

**Sacristan**

Sr. C. Gretka

**Lector 1**

C. Krawczyk-Miller A. Miller

**Lector 2**

A. Miller

**EM of Holy Communion**

P. & N. Samolewski

**Ministers of Hospitality**

J. & P. Kwapiszewski, D. Rivet

**Cross Bearer**

M. Cole

**Candle Bearers**

G. & J. Vozniak

As of November 24th we have received 53% of our pledges for a total of \$51,470.80.

Thank you!

Please help us reach our goal of \$97,421.00

## WEEKLY PARISH SCHEDULE & SCRIPTURE READINGS

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5—2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6**

8:30 AM † Mass—For the intention of William and Stella Bushong

9:30 AM CGS / Faith Formation

**9:40 AM Catechism 101 Topic: Real Presence**

11:00 AM † Mass—For the intention of Richard Talaga

12:00 PM Youth Ministry

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 6**

**Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7—VIGIL: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [cf. Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14**

6:30 PM † Mass

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8—SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38**

12:00 PM † Mass

2:30 PM Art & Environment Meeting

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9**

**Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15**

10:00 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Choir Practice

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10**

**Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19**

7:00 PM—11:30 PM Christian Coffee House

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11—VIGIL: 3ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13**

11:00 AM First Reconciliation

5:00 PM † Mass—For the intention of the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Family

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12—3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6**

8:30 AM † Mass—For the intention of our Parish Homebound

9:30 AM CGS / Faith Formation

11:00 AM † Mass—For the intention of Leo and Lynn Thiel

12:00 PM Youth Ministry

## STEWARDSHIP

**NOVEMBER 21, 2021**

\$7,750.00

**FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE**

\$230,060.04

**BUDGETED YEAR-TO-DATE**

\$233,205.00

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021**

\$13,025.06

**FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE**

\$243,085.10

**BUDGETED YEAR-TO-DATE**

\$244,310.00

*thank you*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for our homebound and sick, including Larry R. Duchane, Sally Duchane, Betty Gladden, Rita Korinek, Becky Kruzell, William Korinek, Helen Loughner, Charlene Miller, Terry Stevens and Laurie Watts.

Email: [office@scsparish.com](mailto:office@scsparish.com) or call: 684-1203

Prayer Line: call or text Janet Dine 493-4546

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office if you would like to be strengthened by this sacrament.

## PASTORAL PONDERINGS

**This weekend we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent.** The key figure in today's Gospel is John the Baptist. We are told that the word of God came to John, son of Zechariah, in the desert. He proclaimed a baptism for the repentance of sin. Luke quotes the following words of the prophet, Isaiah, in referring to John: "*A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'*" This Advent Season, let us take to heart the message of John to "prepare the way of the Lord" by looking into our hearts and reflecting upon our need for conversion. Perhaps we may choose to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. Especially note the opportunities for the sacrament of Penance listed in today's bulletin. **Please pray for the children of our parish who will be making First Reconciliation next weekend.**

**The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary occurs on December 8.** It is a holy day of obligation. Mary, under the title of the *Immaculate Conception*, is the patroness of our country. There are two opportunities for attending Mass at our parish: **Tuesday, December 7, 6:30 PM Vigil Mass**—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and **Wednesday, December 8, 12:00 Noon Mass**—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Please join us for Eucharist as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary who was sinless from the moment of her conception: Mary, the humble servant of God, and most worthy vessel to bear his Son, Jesus, our Savior, who was born into our world so that we might know God's great love for us.

**As of this writing, (November 23 – early deadline), our new sound system is fully installed.** When initially installed, the amplifier came "DOA" from the factory, and so, a temporary amplifier had to be installed and a new one ordered. The sound is much improved with the new 8-channel amplifier. **If you watch Mass via livestream, it can now be accessed both through You Tube (search Saint Catherine of Siena Parish of Bay City, MI) or through Saint Catherine of Siena Facebook page.** For closed caption, press the small "cc box" to activate it on your computer or phone. Once again, I would like to thank all who use the pink envelopes for our development fund. Thus, we were able to provide the parish with a much-needed new sound system.

**Last week I gave the answer to some titles given to Jesus and asked if you were able to think of any additional ones.** Here are some other titles for Jesus: *Rabbi, Master, Word of God, the Christ, Redeemer, Lamb of God, Light of the World, Lord of Life, and King of Kings.* **This week's question is: If you had to name a patron saint or saints for Advent, who would they be? Why?**

**Blessings on your Advent Season!**  
**Sister Chris Gretka, CSJ**

## NEWLY BAPTIZED



Theodore Clayton Campbell was welcomed into the Body of Christ through the waters of baptism on Sunday, November 28th. We congratulate Theodore's parents Brett and Nichole on their commitment to raise him in the beliefs and traditions of the Catholic Church.

## PARISH & MINISTRY NOTES

### GIVING TREE

Our parish Giving Tree will be located in the gathering space of church until December 19th. Please select a tag from the tree and purchase a gift for the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission or the Bay County Foster Closet. Return your item, unwrapped with the tag attached, by noon on December 20. Gifts may be placed under the tree or brought to the parish office during the week.

### ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING

December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM there will be a short meeting in the Parish Center followed by the showing of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* Please remember to bring your \$3-5 Kris Kringle exchange gift. Refreshments will be served. Our December Community Service Collection is for feminine hygiene items to be given to the Women's Shelter. If you have not yet come to a meeting, please consider joining us for a bit of holiday cheer! **It is highly recommended by the CDC, because of the high rise in Covid cases and the upcoming flu season, that masks be worn in indoor public spaces.** If you have questions or wish more information, please call Ilene Dowling: 989-684-7863 or Flo Willard: 989-686-5532.

### WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to Rick & Julie Ricard and Matt, Melissa, Madelyn & Leighton Gorske who have recently joined the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Community. We are happy that you are here!

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Liturgical Ministry sign up sheets for the Christmas liturgies are located in the gathering area of church. Please take a moment to see where you can help and sign up early. You may also contact Kim in the parish office to be added to the schedule: [kim@scsparish.com](mailto:kim@scsparish.com). Thank you!

### DIOCESAN NEWS

#### RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

A special basket will be located near the baptismal font next weekend for the Religious Retirement Fund. Your gift helps to provide funds for medications, nursing care, and more. Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests by giving generously to this special collection. A flier is located in the gathering space with more information.



## **Advent Opportunities for Spiritual Enrichment Saint Catherine of Siena Parish**

**A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP GRUSS: "As the State of Michigan is experiencing a significant increase in positive COVID cases and we are entering into the cold and flu season, we are reminded to take all precautions in protecting ourselves and our faithful from becoming ill and, possibly being hospitalized...The MDHHS has issued a Public Health Advisory recommending that all persons aged 2 and older, regardless of vaccination status, should wear facemasks at indoor gatherings."**

*Saint Catherine of Siena Parish has been a safe environment in which to worship. Please help us continue to keep it safe.*



### **Sunday and Weekday Eucharistic Celebrations**

<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>5:00 PM Mass</b>
<b>Sundays</b>	<b>8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>6:30 PM Mass</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>12:00 Noon Mass</b>

### **Sacrament of Penance**

<b>Saturdays</b>	<b>4:15 PM</b>	<b>Individual Confession Saint Catherine of Siena Parish</b>
<b>Sunday, December 12</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Our Lady of Peace Parish Penance Liturgy with Individual Confession</b>
<b>Sunday, December 19</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>	<b>Saint Jude Thaddeus Parish Penance Liturgy with Individual Confession</b>

### **Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Holy Day Masses**

<b>Tuesday, December 7</b>	<b>6:30 PM Mass</b>	<b>Vigil of the Immaculate Conception</b>
<b>Wednesday, December 8</b>	<b>12:00 Noon Mass</b>	<b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception</b>

## Christmas Season Mass Schedule

**A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP GRUSS:** "As the State of Michigan is experiencing a significant increase in positive COVID cases and we are entering into the cold and flu season, we are reminded to take all precautions in protecting ourselves and our faithful from becoming ill and, possibly being hospitalized...The MDHHS has issued a Public Health Advisory recommending that all persons aged 2 and older, regardless of vaccination status, should wear facemasks at indoor gatherings."

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**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24      5:00 PM Mass      SIGN-UP REQUIRED\***  
**Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24      8:00 PM Mass      SIGN-UP REQUIRED\***  
**Nativity of the Lord: Mass During the Night**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25      10:00 AM Mass      SIGN-UP REQUIRED\***  
**Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord**

*\*Sign-up is required once again this year to make sure that all who wish to attend Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day have a seat.*

*The plan is to accommodate (not discourage) all who desire to attend Mass.*

*You may sign up by visiting our parish website: [www.scsparish.com](http://www.scsparish.com).*

*If you are unable to access the internet, please call the Parish Office: 989-684-1203 with your name, phone number, the Mass you would like to attend and the number of people attending.*

## **Christmas Season Masses**

Sunday, December 26	8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, January 1	5:00 PM Mass Vigil Mass: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
Sunday, January 2	8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
Saturday, January 8	5:00 PM Mass Vigil Mass: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord
Saturday, January 9	8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



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