

St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727



December 18, 2016



Fourth Sunday of Advent

They shall name him Emmanuel,
which means "God is with us."

- Matthew 1:23

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-24

Diocese of Trenton
Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

Pastor
Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon

Weekend Assistant
Rev. Alfred Burke

Deacon
Deacon Daniel Sakowski

Director of Religious Education
Kyle Galante

Parish Office Secretary
Carol Morton

Religious Education Secretary
Janice Deakyne

Sacristan
Francine Gagliano

Music Director
Alice Kovach

Parish Trustees
Robert Mercado & Cindy Ventura

Weekend Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 4:30 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM

Weekday Masses @ Chapel: 9:00 AM
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Miraculous Medal Novena:
Monday, following 9:00 AM Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
1st Friday, following 9:00 AM Mass to 11:00 AM

Holy Day Masses:
As announced in the bulletin

Confessions:
Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Baptisms:
2nd Sundays

Parish Office Hours
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Religious Education Office Hours
Monday: 8:30 AM to 7:15 PM
Wednesday: 8:30 AM to 5:45 PM

Parish Website:
www.sienachurch.org

Mass Schedule:
732-938-5375 ext. 6

Parish Office:
732-938-5375

Last Rites:
732-938-5375 ext. 7

Religious Education:
732-938-6229

Deacon Dan:
732-938-5375 ext. 3

St. Vincent de Paul:
732-938-3454

Parish Bookkeeper:
732-938-5375 ext. 8

FAX Phone:
732-938-3260

Sacristan/Music Director:
732-938-5375 ext. 9



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 17, 2016

4:30 PM Robert Folino
(Michelle & Armando Negro)

Sunday, December 18, 2016

8:00 AM Eustace Nedd
(Nigel & Jacqueline Storey)

10:00 AM Hugh D. Tenore
(Pam & Leon Davison)

11:30 AM Frank Delibero
(Philip & Concetta Pondaco)

*Please join us at in the Chapel for a special
Benediction/Prayer Service Sunday during Advent
at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will follow.*

Weekday Masses @ St. Catherine's Chapel

Monday, December 19, 2016

9:00 AM Tito Arbatin
(Maria Reyes)

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

9:00 AM Frank Sardone
(Son, Frank & Family)

Thursday, December 22, 2016

9:00 AM "Living" Maryann O'Neill
(John & Mary Daley)

Friday, December 23, 2016

9:00 AM Nancy FitzGerald
(Husband, Dennis)

Baptism Classes:

Last Wednesdays of the month 7:00 PM *Church*

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

2nd/4th Sundays 11:30 AM *Church*

Legion of Mary:

Thursdays 10:00 AM *Conference Room*

Men's Prayer Group:

2nd Saturdays 9:00 AM *Chapel*

RCIA:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:00 PM *Classroom 10*

Rosary Altar Society:

3rd Wednesdays 7:00 PM *Church/Hall*
3rd Sundays 9:30 AM *Church* to pray the rosary

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

2nd Mondays 7:00 PM *Parish Hall*

Homebound Ministry:

If a homebound family member, friend, or neighbor would like to receive Holy Communion, visits, or calls, contact the Parish Office.

12/8/16 Immaculate Conception \$1,176.00

12/11/16 Weekly Religious Retirement \$7,504.00 \$1,684.00

12/25/16 Weekly & Christmas

Thank you for your generous contributions.

Religious Education Classes will NOT be in session the week of December 19 and 26. Classes resume starting Wednesday, January 4, 2017.



through the Sacrament of Baptism,
we welcomed to the Church:

Nicholas Michael DeFilippis

We ask God's blessings on these children and their families every day of their lives!

New Parishioners

ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH WARMLY WELCOMES
THE FOLLOWING NEW PARISHIONERS:

**Joseph, Melissa, Brady & Cassie Little
Dean Bruno, Christine Meola and Zoe Bruno**



of all our Parish family and friends, and especially the recently departed:

**Catherine Catrini
Catherine Marrone**

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

NEW ENVELOPES FOR 2017

We have changed envelope companies for 2017. Your NEW envelopes will be in a book for the entire year and will NOT be mailed to you anymore. Please pick up your books before or after mass in the Parish Hall this weekend. You can also pick them up during Parish office hours before the end of the year.

SPECIAL INVITE TO THE MEN OF ST. CATHERINE'S:

ALL ARE WELCOME! ICC Men's Cornerstone 2017 January 27/28 Weekend at Immaculate Conception Church Parish Hall, 316 Old Allerton Road, Annandale, NJ. Registration-\$55. REGISTER ONLINE at www.iccannandale.org/menscornerstone.aspx or call 908-894-2347. Space is Limited!!!

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS:

Jean & Mike Burke, Joseph Cocuzza, Kathleen Cottrell, Carmen Devaux, Nancy Drake, Bob Fort, Virginia Franklin, Lois Hradil, Angie Gorda, Marlene Gravatt, Lori Jones, Edward Kress, Charles Lambert, Lauren MacArthur, Teresa Magyar, Betty McCann, Margie McCullam, Amber Painter, Esther Peraza, Jeanette Picciani, Barbara Sansevere, Nancy Soper, Ilona Supczynski


**Christmas
Schedule...**
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Christmas Eve

4:00 PM

6:00 PM (Children's Mass)

12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM

New Year's Eve

4:30 PM

New Year's Day

8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM

EPIPHANY MASSES

Saturday, January 7

4:30 PM

Sunday, January 8

8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

On the 2nd & 4th Sundays at the 11:30 am Mass, all children in grades K-4 (ages 5-10) are invited to participate in CLOW. Young children are given the opportunity to listen to a children's version of the Sunday readings and Gospel stories at their own level of understanding and participate in activities that bring the readings to life. Each Sunday's Liturgy of the Word is enriched and modified to make it important and relevant to the lives and experiences of young children. After the Opening Prayer the Priest will call the children forward along with the Catechist for a special blessing, before being dismissed to classroom 1. Children are returned to their parents in the Church before the Presentation of the Gifts. No prior sign-ups are required. Please visit sienachurch.org for a list of yearly meeting dates. For more information email cLOW@sienachurch.org.

Calling All Catholic Men: The Knights of Columbus are welcoming all men over the age of 18 to become members of the St. Catherine of Siena council here at our church. Devoted to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, with over 1.8 million members world-wide, the Knights of Columbus strives to be a positive Catholic presence in both our parish and community. If you wish to join, email kofc@sienachurch.org or call (732) 835-2049.

*The Monmouth County Simbang Gabi Community
 Invites all to the 2016 Simbang Gabi
 (Christmas Novena of Masses)*

Monday, Dec. 19, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

St. Clement's Church
 172 Freneau Ave, Matawan

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016, Mass @ 7:00P

Church of St. Catherine of Siena
 31 Asbury Rd., Farmingdale
 Fr. Angelito I Anarcon

Fr. Gregg Abadilla

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

Holy Innocents Church
 3455 W. Bangs Ave, Neptune
 Fr. Lines Dela Cruz

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

St. Benedict Church
 165 Bethany Rd., Holmdel
 Fr. John Michael Patilla

On the final night of Simbang Gabi, there will be a grand Christmas celebration in the Reception Hall of St. Benedict.

Please join us 30 minutes before every mass for the Holy Rosary and Confession



CONTACT:

Jhun Allanigue (732) 829-1612

"MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!
CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN
 Join us for Food, Games and Fun as we celebrate our Savior's birth on Sunday, January 1st from 1-4 pm in St Veronica's Cafeteria. The event is free. Each family is invited to bring an unwrapped baby gift that will be donated to a crisis pregnancy center.

(For example; diapers, clothes, food)
 Please respond by Dec 26 with number and ages of children attending to help us plan activities. Space is limited. For more information or to respond call 347-631-8092 or email svmcg21@yahoo.com. Parents must stay at party to supervise children.

St. Catherine's is in need of additional Ushers to help at all masses. Anyone over age 12 can sign up or for those receiving Confirmation, you can get service hours. Call [732-492-6861](tel:732-492-6861) or email scottrubinson@gmail.com.

Important Parish Information

Parish Registration ... WELCOME to the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Family. In order to serve you better, we ask that you please take a few moments to register, to be recognized as a practicing member of the Parish. To register and receive offertory envelopes for your tax deductible donations or to inquire about our various ministries please call 732-938-5375 or email us at frontoffice@sienachurch.org. For address or other changes, including a change in Parish, please call the Parish Office. We look forward to meeting you and seeing you at our services. Thank you and God Bless.

Young Adults ... who are still living at home with their parents, who have graduated from college, and/or who are employed full-time, should register with the Parish under their own name.

Weddings ... Please call the Parish Office *one year in advance of desired wedding date, BEFORE completing any other arrangements (reception hall, etc.)*.

Baptisms ... The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 2nd Sundays at 12:30 P.M. or can be celebrated during Sunday Mass. Arrangements must be made in advance. Prior to scheduling the baptism of your child, sponsor letters, donation, and attendance at a Baptism Preparation Class is mandatory for parents. Godparents/sponsors are also encouraged to attend. Classes are held in the Church at 7:00 P.M. on the last Wednesday of each month. To sign up you must fill out the registration form on our website for the date you wish to attend or email deacondan@sienachurch.org.

Recommendation for Sponsorship ... In order to be a godparent/sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, a person must have received all their Sacraments through Confirmation; be at least 16 years of age; if married, be married in the Catholic Church; attend Mass faithfully (*showing attendance through the use of your church envelopes or the welcome envelopes located in the narthex*); be a registered, actively participating parishioner for a minimum of six (6) months. Please stop by the Parish Office to fill out a form to be recommended for sponsorship. All requests will be seen by the Pastor and you will be notified when your form is ready.

St Catherine's Online! ... www.sienachurch.org. Check out our website for all the latest Parish info, including Parish Policies, Church Bulletin, Religious Education Calendars, Closings and Delays, Minister Schedules, and more.

Altar Flowers can be offered in memory of a deceased loved one or for any special intention (except during Lent & Advent). Offering: \$50/basket. To arrange for Altar Flowers, please call the Office @ 732-938-5375.

Prayers for the Sick... A list of prayers for those who are ill appears in the bulletin weekly. To have a family member included on this list, please call the Office @ 732-938-5375.

Parishioners with Celiac Sprue.. An extremely low-gluten (37 micrograms) host is available for those in need. *Please notify the Celebrant or the Deacon prior to the beginning of the Mass you are attending.* Look on our website under "Sacraments."

Bulletin Submissions... Because of the deadline assigned to us by the bulletin company, all information **must be submitted to the Parish Office 2 weeks in advance**. Articles given later will be included in the bulletin for the following week.

Electronic Giving... www.parishpay.com or call 866-PARISH-1

Remember Us in Your Will... A simple charitable bequest can provide very meaningful support for St. Catherine of Siena Church. An up-to-date will can protect your loved ones and your dreams; let you, not the state, determine how your assets will be distributed; help you leave a legacy through charitable gifts; help you minimize estate taxes; assure those charities you value will continue.

St. Vincent de Paul Society has a website, donatetosvdp.org. There is a link to make donations directly to SVDP using PayPal. A link for Amazon Smile makes your Amazon.com purchases a donation. For use of church envelopes, please make checks out to *Society of St. Vincent de Paul*.

Dear Parishioners,

Once again I would like to remind registered parishioners who are using envelopes to please pick them up in the Parish Hall after Mass. Instead of mailing these envelopes to you, we decided to hand them to you personally, for it is more cost effective. Please be advised and thank you so much for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. We appreciate all your great support to the parish community.

The Novena Mass for Christmas (Simbang-gabi), which has been announced before, is going to be this Tuesday, at 7 P.M. Before the Mass starts, we have some dedicated priests to hear confessions and give absolution to anyone who wishes to avail themselves of the healing sacrament. Also, as we have done before, our Rosary Altar Society is leading the recitation of the Holy Rosary prior to the celebration of the Holy Mass. Everyone is cordially invited to join the fellowship and refreshments following the Liturgy.

Today is the 4th Sunday in Advent.

As a priest for several years, friends, parishioners, other People, especially women, who are looking for an ideal man as their husband, when they asked me who is the saint I could recommend that might be able help them, I would usually suggest St. Joseph. Why? Because when we hear the Gospel for this Sunday, we found out that Joseph was a man of deep faith inasmuch as he listened to the voice of God. Obviously, he struggled to make sense of the message that Mary had given him. Sometimes Joseph heard God speak to him through his dreams, at other times in a moment of quiet prayer, sometimes at the end of the day when he looked over the events of work, relationship and family. He knew that God is a God of mystery and that in history God had always called his people to take risks and live with the uncertain nature of life.

Joseph wondered why God was testing his faith. After thinking hard, he thought that the easiest way would be to forget Mary and abandon her and start all over again. However, he loved her so much. He knew that she was honest, true and had great integrity. While having this turmoil in his mind, he was wondering what God wanted him to do. He was just asking God why it has to be so complicated, after all, he is ready to marry Mary. He struggled with God in prayer and went to sleep. But the following morning he awoke from his dream and understood those words the angel had spoken concerning Mary, that God had conceived in her through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In our lives, we oftentimes encounter difficult situations in our relationships with others and sometimes within the family. It could be in different ways, like perhaps a child is born with a disability. A mother develops dementia. These trials and challenges in life are events that can disturb our common patterns of life. So we asked God why they have happened and sometimes our belief and faith in God is questioned. I recommend Joseph not only to be the Holy man that can intercede to those looking for a spouse but most importantly as an example who teaches us that it is in these times we are called to pray more fervently and seek the power of the Holy Spirit to help us trust more deeply in God. We know it was not easy for Joseph; it is never easy, but we know that if our hearts are open to God, God will be with us to carry the heavy burden on our shoulders. Amen.

May God bless us,
Father Angelito

