



St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727

December 10, 2017
Second Sunday of Advent

Parish Office
(732)938-5375
Fax (732)938-3260

Religious Education Office
(732)938-6229

Email:
frontoffice@sienachurch.org

Website:
www.sienachurch.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday-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

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

Parish Office Secretary
Carol Morton

Director of Religious Education
Kyle Galante

Religious Education Secretary
Janice Deakyne

Sacristan
Francine Gagliano

Music Director
Alice Kovach

Parish Trustees
Robert Mercado & June Hankel

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

Baptisms:

2nd Sundays of the month 12:30 PM *Church*

Baptism Classes:

Last Mondays of the month 7:30 PM *Classroom 10*

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

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

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Holy Day Masses:

9:00 AM & 7:00 PM *Main Church*

Homebound Ministry:

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

Knights of Columbus

If interested, please contact Mark Dalton, Grand Knight 732-233-0842

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:

Pray Sunday, December 17, 11:00 AM before 11:30 AM Mass *Church*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

732-938-3454
2nd Mondays @ 7:00 PM *Parish Hall*

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 9, 2017

4:30 PM Robert Nagy
(Nancy Martinez)

Sunday, December 10, 2017

8:00 AM Philip & Stella Olenitsky
(Daughter, Helen)

10:00 AM Col. Dean Wright
(Anne Hilker)

11:30 AM Frances McKeon
(Susan Giakas)

Weekday Masses @ St. Catherine's Chapel

Monday, December 11, 2017

9:00 AM Virginia Franklin
(Homebound Ministry)

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

9:00 AM Hazel Bove
(Homebound Ministry)

Thursday, December 14, 2017

9:00 AM Dorothy Smith
(Homebound Ministry)

Friday, December 15, 2017

9:00 AM John Flannery
(Mary Flannery)



The Sanctuary light will burn the week of December 9 in memory of Rev. Charles J. Parr at the request of Fred & Sally Sisbarro



Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths. —Mark 1:3

First Reading — Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading — 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel — Mark 1:1-8

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

William & Marion Millington



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

Marie Maggio

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

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS:

MaryAnn Aulisi, Julia Barbato, Jean & Mike Burke,
Joseph Cocuzza, Kathleen Cottrell, Nancy Drake,
Bob Fort, Angie Gorda, Marlene Gravatt, Lori Jones,
Edward Kress, Barbara Lipari, Lauren MacArthur,
Teresa Magyar, Margie McCullam, Amber Painter,
Esther Peraza, Jeanette Picciani, David Piccolo,
Barbara Sansevere, Marie Selvaggi, Nancy Soper,
Ilona Supczynski, Sharon Watson-Pereira

Sunday Collection

Week of: 12/3/17

Weekly First Collection \$6,708.00

Maintenance & Repairs \$1,421.00

Next Weekend's Collection

Week of: 12/17/17

Weekly First Collection & Diocesan Assessment

Join us for an **Advent Series for our Parish Family**.
at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall on Tuesday, December
12. Together we will grow as a parish family as we
prepare our hearts to celebrate Christmas.

St. Catherine of Siena Parish, along with our sister
parishes of St. Veronica and St. William the Abbot,
will be presenting a Christmas Festival, "**This is
Christmas,**" on **Friday, December 15, at 7pm** in
our Parish Hall. This is a special event that shares
the gift of music in a warm community setting,
stirring the heart and drawing us into the true
meaning of Christmas. This community-wide event
will include choir performances, a tree lighting
ceremony, a cookie and cider reception, and St.
Nicholas as our special guest. We invite you along
with your friends and family to be a part of this joyful
celebration. Space is limited so to reserve a seat or
for any questions, please RSVP to
christmasfestival@sienachurch.org.



Saint Catherine of Siena's Christmas
Breakfast with Santa: Please come join
us on December 17, 2017 from
11:00AM – 2:00PM for our parish
"Breakfast with Santa." Hosted by The
Knights of Columbus, the event will be held in the
Parish Hall. There will be plenty of food, and Santa
Claus will be joining us for the kids. All are welcome.
Please bring any extra or unwanted coats, mittens,
scarves and hats supporting the "Share the Warmth"
campaign benefiting Joshua House in Farmingdale.

**CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL REQUESTS MUST BE
RETURNED BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, in
order for them to be included in the Christmas
bulletin. Any requests between 12/15 and 12/22
will be included in the December 31 bulletin, due
to deadlines.** Anyone wishing to make a donation
for Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one,
please fill out the form below and drop it off or mail it
to the Parish Office at 31 Asbury Rd., Farmingdale,
NJ 07727. Parishioners can also use the Christmas
flower envelope provided in their envelope mailing.

OFFERED FOR: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____

OFFERING: _____ (Suggested Offering: \$10)

Dear Parishioners,

Today we are glad to welcome our little kids for the Children's Liturgy at the 11:30 Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. We continue to invite our beloved parents who want their children to be involved and participate in the Mass at their early age inasmuch as this is a wonderful opportunity for them to learn and be familiar with the Liturgy.

This week, on Monday and Wednesday afternoon, our CCD students together with the whole parish are celebrating an Advent Penance Service. We have visiting priests in the area to help us to hear confessions and give absolution. This event is an excellent way to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Let us concentrate on our relationship with God and our neighbor as we renew our commitment with the Lord by acknowledging our own weaknesses and faults. The Lord God invites us, he offers his mercy, understanding, and forgiveness through the sacrament of God's love, the sacrament of penance and reconciliation.

This coming Friday at 7 PM, our parish together with our neighboring parishes, St. William the Abbott and St. Veronica, are happy to invite everyone to participate, join and watch a Christmas Musical event. This will take place in the Parish Hall at 7 PM. As one family of God, let us celebrate the season of Christmas by singing Christmas Carols together, enjoying fellowship and having some light refreshments. Kudos to our hard working committee, the musical ministries and performers who have given us their time and lend us their precious talents, skills and experience so as to make this event an enjoyable and festive celebration. Thank you so very much.

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent.

As we read the opening of the Gospel of Mark today, it introduces us to the two great figures that stand at the beginning of the Christian story, namely, Jesus and John the Baptist. All four evangelists witness to the truth that you cannot tell the story of Jesus without first speaking about John the Baptist. It is the wonderful figure of John that introduces the grown up Jesus in all the Gospels. John worked no miracles, held no office and does not belong to any religious party. Yet his value for Jesus was so unique, for he stands as the only religious leader that Jesus ever sought out and spoke of with deep affection and admiration. In fact he is described as a voice crying out in the wilderness, a large presence that dominates the emptiness of the wasteland.

John the Baptist is a waiting figure, God's watchman, but his waiting is anything but passive. He does not go to the wilderness to sit in solitude and wait for the one who is to come, rather the word of God invades his whole being, calling the people of Israel to a radical change of heart in readiness for the approach of the Lord. From the wilderness his voice has a powerful reach. It attracts a people who have grown accustomed to the silence of God, a people who are hungry to be nourished again by what they recognize to be God's own word.

People respond to the strong preaching of John by confessing their sins to him and undergoing a baptism of repentance. To the word of God spoken through John, people give their own word to change their lives. Their change of heart is shown in their public baptism, which would have taken place at one of the fords in the Jordan river. John's baptism marks a new beginning for them.

Hence John's way is a challenge to all of us, that is, to foster the greatness in others without feeling threatened about the value of their own contribution, to be free to celebrate the importance of others because of a sense of our own worth and value before God. Amen.

May God bless us,
Father Angelito

Christmas 2017 Worship Notes

Christmas (a holy day of obligation) falls on a Sunday this year. so please take note of the following in chronological order. It is necessary to attend **TWO Masses** in order to satisfy both the Sunday obligation and the Christmas holy day obligation.

- Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23 at 4:30 PM satisfies the Sunday obligation and does not satisfy the Christmas obligation.
- Sunday Masses on December 24 at 8:00, 10:00, and 11:30 AM satisfy the Sunday obligation and do not satisfy the Christmas obligation.
- Christmas Vigil Masses on Sunday, December 24 at 4:00 and 6:00 PM satisfy the Christmas obligation and do not satisfy the Sunday obligation.
- For example, if one goes to Saturday, December 23 at 4:30 PM and the Sunday, December 24 Mass at 4:00 PM, then that person has satisfied the Sunday obligation and the Christmas holy day obligation.
- For example, if one goes to the Sunday, December 24 Mass at 4:00 PM and to no other Mass on Sunday morning the 24th nor to a Vigil Mass on Saturday the 23rd, then that person has satisfied the Christmas obligation but not the Sunday obligation.
- Since the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on Monday, January 1, 2018 is not a holy day of obligation this coming year, we will still have regular 9 AM Mass in the Chapel.

Christmas Schedule 2017

Evening Prayers and Benediction

Sunday, December 10, 17 @ 7:00 PM in the CHAPEL
Followed by fellowship and refreshments

Advent Reconciliation

Monday, December 11 @ 4:30 PM & 6:00 PM CHURCH
Wednesday, December 13 @ 4:30 PM CHURCH

Simbang Gabi

Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 PM, Recitation of Rosary, Mass @ 7:30 PM
Followed by fellowship and food

Reconciliation

Saturday, December 16, 23, 30 @ 3:30 – 4:00 PM

Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00 PM

6:00 PM (Children's Mass)

12:00 Midnight

Monday, December 25, Christmas Day

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

New Year's Day

9:00 AM @ Chapel

EPIPHANY MASSES Saturday, January 6 @ 4:30 PM

Sunday, January 7 @ 8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM

AN ADVENT EXPERIENCE

St. Catherine of Siena Church

7 PM PARISH HALL
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017

Join us for a 3-week, video based study on formed.org to create an Advent to remember for our parish family. Meditate on the reason for the season with **ANIMA**— a visually stunning and thought provoking series of videos with accompanying discussion guides.



WEEK THREE

Explore how we are called to be the light of the world.

For more information, please contact Barbara Ust at barbaraust411@gmail.com

St. Catherine of Siena Church



Join us for

Simbang Gabi

Tuesday December 19th

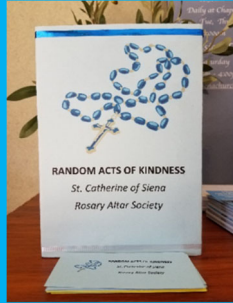
7:30 PM Mass with 7:00 PM Recitation of the Rosary

Fellowship & Food to follow in our Parish Hall

Simbang Gabi or “Mass of the Rooster,” is a tradition held by the Filipinos to prepare for the birth of Jesus. This tradition began in the mid-1600s in the Philippines where church bells would start ringing as early as 3:00 AM, awakening people for 4:00 AM Mass, to allow farmers to attend Mass before going off to work in the fields in the early morning hours.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact

Laura Randazzo at pastoralcouncil@sienachurch.org



The Rosary Altar Society will continue the Random Acts of Kindness project until May when we will offer up all of these kind acts to Mary in conjunction with the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Look for the small box on the table in the narthex, write your random act of kindness on one of the little cards by the box, and drop the card into the box.

December 10, 2017- 2nd Sunday of Advent - Year B



Sharing the Gospel

Imagine John the Baptist is preaching today. He is preaching not only to you, but to people watching television at home. You and your family are down by the river having a picnic. John says, "Tell God that you are sorry for your bad behavior." John warns, "Stop sinning. Follow God's commandments." You say: "Count me as a child of God. Wash me with the waters of God's baptism."

Prayer

Lord, I repent of my sins. Bathe me with your waters of forgiveness.

Family Prayer

Every day I will tell God that I am sorry for my sins.



Are you interested in getting together with a group of women to explore your faith? Would you like to see how Scripture applies to your everyday life?

If so, we invite you to consider joining Walking with Purpose at St. Catherine of Siena.

Opening Your Heart, our 22-week foundational Bible study is designed for women new to Walking with Purpose as well as those with more Bible study experience. Purchase the Opening Your Heart study guide at

<https://wppstore.com/collections/study-guides>.

Weekly group sessions began on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 in our Parish Hall at 10 a.m. The 22-week 2018 evening program is now forming. For registration and program information, please e-mail wpp@sienachurch.org or visit the parish website, sienachurch.org.

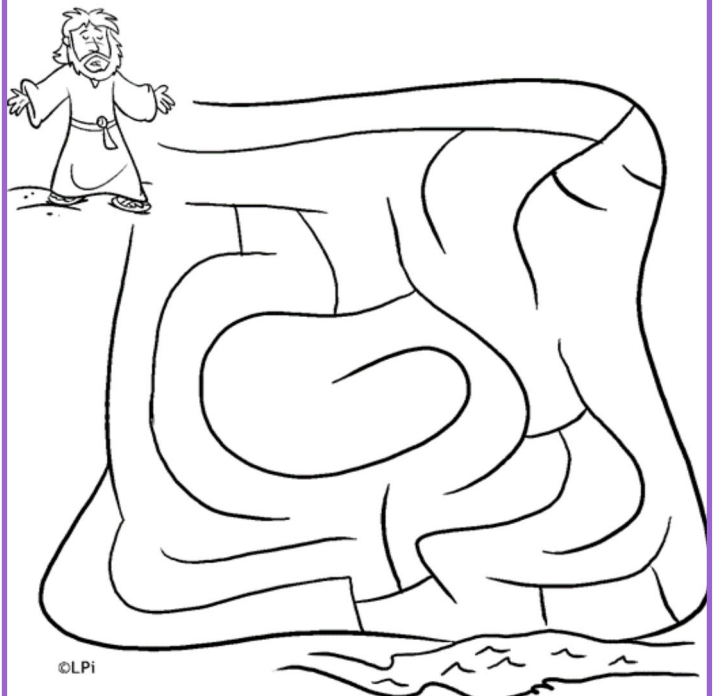


Cantors and Choir members are needed for St. Catherine's Music Ministry. If you would love to be part of our ministry of giving to the Glory of God through music please come and join us! We are planning for special liturgies, a possible concert series, and the Advent and Christmas season. Contact our Music Director, Alice, at akovach9@aol.com to sign up and begin a journey of learning and growing with your Parish. The choir meets on Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the Church.

SMART PHONE USERS We now have a mobile App! Go to **SCOSNJ.Catholic.Cloud** right on your iPhone or Android to get it. It's free! You'll be able to get up-to-the-minute announcements, check out the Mass schedules, call the parish office with one push of a button and more. We'd like your feedback!

Puzzle

Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.



©LPi

Please pick up your 2018 offertory envelopes from the Parish Hall this weekend.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will meet Sunday, December 10th at the 11:30 am Mass. All children in grades K-4 (ages 5 -10) are invited to participate. Young children are given the opportunity to listen to a children's version of Sunday's 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. To sign up for this month's sessions, please email clow@sienachurch.org.

As we begin this season of Advent, evangelization parish efforts to reach out to those Catholics whose connection with the Church has become weak or has been broken are underway. Parishioners are urged to support this evangelization initiative with their prayers and by inviting inactive relatives, friends, and neighbors back to the Faith. All those who are away are lovingly invited to come to their family in faith, to find healing, answers, love and support. This Holy season of Christmas promises to be an exciting time for evangelization and our parish will be offering a Christmas Festival, called "This is Christmas" on Friday, December 15th at 7 pm in our Parish Hall. Please join us as we welcome returnees and new parishioners with enthusiasm, love, and joy.



We invite all parishioners to join the Society as we pray the Rosary on Sunday, December 17 at 11:00 am before the 11:30 am Mass at the Church.

Do you have an extra Nativity set? We would like to put one in each Religious Education Classroom. Please drop it off to the Office or bring it when you come to Mass. Thank you. Kyle Galante, 732-938-6229.



By the end of November, a total of 116 parishioners had registered on formed.org and averaged about 9 visits per registration. The short

Opening the Word videos for each week continue to be very popular although parishioners are viewing, listening to, and downloading a wide variety of offerings from the site. Not registered yet? Go to formed.org and use parish code QCVKRC to register (or click on the graphic or the links to FORMED on the church website at sienachurch.org and the parish code will be entered automatically for you.)



The Upper Room Spiritual Center is sponsored by the Diocese of Trenton. The following programs will be offered in December at the Upper Room Diocesan Spiritual Center, Neptune, NJ. To register for all programs please call (732)922-0550 or email office@theupper-room.org one week in advance.

Advent Taize Prayer

Come for a refreshing evening of communal contemplative prayer using the beautiful chants of the Taizé community. This Advent evening of prayer will include...psalm singing, Scripture readings, silence, and prayer at the crèche.

Monday, December 11, 7:30pm–9:00pm

Free Will Offering

Centering Prayer

Come to learn and pray with Fr. Thomas Keating (DVD) as he leads us deeper into our center and transformation in Christ.

Tuesday, December 12, 10am - 2pm, \$35-\$50

A Men's Spirituality Discussion Group

Our desire is to grow in spirit and move closer to God by generating loving, supportive discussions on all things spiritual. The meeting will begin with a brief prayer, a passage from scripture, spiritual book, article, or song lyric that will initiate the discussion.

Wednesday, December 13, 7:30pm-9:00pm, \$10

Knitting and Prayer

Learn how to combine your knitting/crocheting skills, prayer and compassion and be rewarded with the satisfaction of creating a prayer shawl. Little or no experience required.

Wednesday, December 13, 1:30-3:30pm

Free Will Offering

Advent Retreat Day: Welcoming Jesus Anew

Jesus said that if we welcome him into our minds and hearts we will find in him the ultimate solution to all our vexing problems. Not overnight, of course, and probably not in the four weeks of Advent. But finally, yes – and in the process peace and joy increasing by the day.

Thursday, December 14, 9:30am–2:00pm, \$50 - \$75