



# St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727

December 17, 2017  
Third 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  
February 11 @ 7:00 PM *Parish Hall*

## Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, December 16, 2017**

4:30 PM Helen Barton  
(Dennis & Kathy Barton)

**Sunday, December 17, 2017**

8:00 AM Eustace Nedd  
(Storey Family)

10:00 AM Luigi D'Onorio DeMeo  
(Fred D'Onorio DeMeo)

11:30 AM Annunziata & Carmelo DeGrande  
(DeGrande Family)

### Weekday Masses @ St. Catherine's Chapel

**Monday, December 18, 2017**

9:00 AM Grace Rippel  
(John & Stephanie Harakal)

**Tuesday, December 19, 2017**

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

**Thursday, December 21, 2017**

9:00 AM Dorothy Smith  
(Anne Hilker)

**Friday, December 22, 2017**

9:00 AM Margie Gulfin  
(Martinez Family)

**Immaculate Conception** \$1,183.00

**Sunday Collection**

**Week of: 12/10/17**

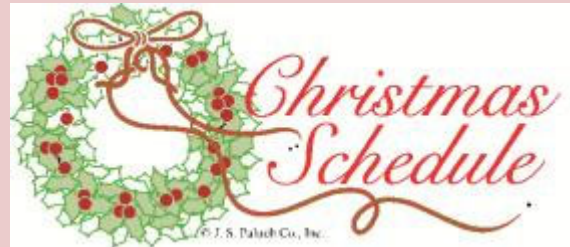
**Weekly First Collection** \$5,063.00

**Religious Retirement Fund** \$1,693.00

**Next Weekend's Collection**

**Week of: 12/24/17**

**Weekly First Collection & Energy & Fuel  
Christmas**



## Christmas Schedule 2017

### **Evening Prayers and Benediction**

Sunday, December 17 @ 7:00 PM in the  
CHAPEL

Followed by fellowship and refreshments

### **Simbang Gabi**

Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 PM, Recitation  
of Rosary, Mass @ 7:30 PM

Followed by fellowship and food

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday, December 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



Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

**First Reading** — Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

**Second Reading** — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Gospel** — John 1:6-8, 19-28



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.

### **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

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

**Richard Gibbons**

**Tim, Rebecca & Jacob Nash**

**Joseph, Karen, Kristen & Gabriella Nuzzolese**

**Louis Nuzzolese & Dana McGrath**

Dear Parishioners,

Today is a big treat for our little kids as the Knights of Columbus are serving breakfast, and children can have their picture taken with Santa. We are in the joyful season of Advent and as Christmas draws near, let us have fun and celebrate this Sunday as one family of God. As a faithful community of St. Catherine Parish, let us express our deepest thanks and immense gratitude to our own council, the Knights of Columbus as they provide us with food and joy and fellowship today. Many thanks to all of you.

The parish congregation at the 11:30 Mass today is so happy to welcome the first and second grade students from our Religious Education Program. It is fun to see them together with their faith-filled parents and their dedicated teachers as we celebrate this Sunday Liturgy. The Holy Eucharist is the food that nourishes and sustains our physical and spiritual lives; let us continue to receive Jesus in his most precious Body and Blood.

On Tuesday at 7 PM, all of us are invited to participate with our yearly Simbang-Gabi (Novena Mass). Although it is considered a Filipino tradition, each of us is most welcome to be involved as we prepare for the coming of our Lord. Following the Mass, there is going to be some food and fellowship in the Parish Hall.

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent.

The Gospel today begins with the absence of the light. As we have heard, John the Baptist is a witness to speak for the light, but he is not the light in person. John is a rugged figure whose role is described by the evangelists as laying low mountains and hills, shaping a path through the wasteland. When faced with critical opposition, he points away from himself to his work in preparing for the one to come.

John keeps on saying "I am not" in order to point to the one who can say "I am." The identity of the one coming after John is unknown, but John is clear in his own mind that he is not the light. He must make way for the light, create a space for the light to shine through. When people finally see the light, his own task is finished.

John the Baptist's task can be appreciated completely only when the light does come in the person of Jesus. Only then can people realize the true value of John's worth and the unique place this man has in the Christian tradition. It is quite interesting to recall that John's stature among his own people was so great that many of them came to believe that he was the messiah. Even, in the early Church, some time after the completion of Jesus' ministry, there is a sectarian Baptist group who still holds on to the belief that John, not Jesus is the Christ. That is the reason why the fourth Gospel has to emphasize John's role, that John is a witness to the light.

Here is the challenge for all of us, like John, we are asked to make way for the light. No one among us is the light. Our role is to let the light shine through the chunks of solid darkness that litter our human landscape. That appears to be a humungous task besides which our own abilities and commitment look so small. Then, who are we to compete in such huge darkness?

Advent calls on us to make what contribution we can. To first check ourselves and work quietly on the darkness that hides within us, the selfishness, the unforgiveness, and the lack of love that keeps the light of good news from so many people. Looking at the bigger picture, the social issues like justice and peace which require the witness of a caring community, we are challenged by the Gospel to work together. Amen.

May God bless us,  
Father Angelito

# St. Catherine of Siena Church



Join us for ....

## Simbang Gabi

Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup>

**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](mailto:pastoralcouncil@sienachurch.org)*

### **PROPER UNDERTAKING**

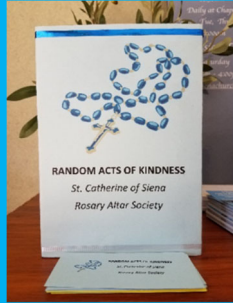
Never undertake anything for which you wouldn't have the courage to ask the blessings of heaven.

—Georg C. Lichtenberg

### **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 24<sup>th</sup> 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.



**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 17, 2017 – 3rd Sunday of Advent–Year B



**Sharing the Gospel**

John the Baptist prepared the way for the Messiah, Jesus Christ. He shouted in the desert, "Get your soul ready. The Lord is coming." Today John still warns you to get your soul ready for Jesus. Ask God to forgive you. Then forgive yourself and others. Shout to the world. Be a witness by your actions. Show that you believe in God. Then you will be ready when Jesus comes to take you to heaven with him.

**Prayer**

Lord, forgive me for all of my sins.

**Mission for the Week**

I will forgive others and ask them to forgive me when I hurt them.



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](mailto:wpp@sienachurch.org) or visit the parish website, [sienachurch.org](http://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](mailto: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.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** will meet Sunday, January 14th 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 [clov@sienachurch.org](mailto:clov@sienachurch.org).

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

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.



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.



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.)

**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!

**FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING CREMATION, THE FUNERAL LITURGY AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH ... a pamphlet "The Church and Cremation" is now available from our pamphlet rack located in the Church narthex. This, as well as other religious materials, are provided for our parishioners and visitors, free of charge. Why not take a look for yourself today?**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES, MONMOUTH COUNTY, REACHES OUT!** Our Outreach Services support local families, children and singles in need. We make holiday gifts and baskets, distribute back to school supplies, and organize coat and food drives. Learn more about what we do and how you can help. Your time and talent, great or small, can make a difference. For more information call Mary Lee at 732-241-5841 or email Mary at: [mlee502@gmail.com](mailto:mlee502@gmail.com).



### Parish Counseling Services

A collaborative program of the Diocese of Trenton/Catholic Charities.

The Diocese will provide 6 sessions with a licensed counselor.

- The fee is \$75 per session.
- If needed, financial assistance is available.
- The parishioner is always responsible for a \$25 co pay.
- Referrals must come through pastor or parish priest.
- Diocesan contact: Maureen Fitzsimmons 609-403-7129 or email [mfitzs@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:mfitzs@dioceseoftrenton.org)

Have you suffered an abortion? Experience God's love and mercy and begin the journey of healing. Please call the Sisters of Life: 866.575.0075 or e-mail: [hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org](mailto:hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org). For men, call Theresa Bonopartis at Lumina: 877.586.4621 or e-mail [lumina@postabortionhelp.org](mailto:lumina@postabortionhelp.org).

### OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or [abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org). The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

**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 Mark Dalton, Grand Knight @ [mmdd18@optonline.net](mailto:mmdd18@optonline.net) or call him at 732-233-0842.

Have you ever heard the initials RCIA? They stand for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, The Roman Catholic official collection of Rites for bringing adults into the Church. Here at St. Catherine of Siena, together as a team, we prepare individuals to be received into the church. We meet the first and third Tuesday of the month in the evening. If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning about becoming a Catholic, or a Catholic, who may not yet have received Sacraments, or to learn more about the RCIA process, email [RCIA@sienachurch.org](mailto:RCIA@sienachurch.org).

St. Catherine's Funeral Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist families in planning and making arrangements for the Funeral Mass and Wake Service of a deceased loved one. Members of the ministry should be compassionate, good at details, understanding and have a flexible schedule. It is a ministry where one can be of much needed assistance to families who are going through a difficult time. If you are interested in joining, call Terri at 732-462-7452.

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

Seeking fellow parishioners to participate and join in the pro life cause. Call 732-580-1387.

“**Legion of Mary Pilgrim Statue**” is available to visit homes in our Parish Community. If interested, call 732-616-3127 or email [pheathers7@yahoo.com](mailto:pheathers7@yahoo.com).

Help support our Food Drive. The Knights of Columbus are teaming up with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to collect canned and boxed food for our local community. Your food donations will help our local needy all year long. See the donation crate in the church's narthex.

Food donations to the church are distributed to the needy by the St. Vincent de Paul Ministry and by Joshua House. Thank you for your generosity.

### 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](mailto: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 Classroom 10 at 7:30 P.M. on the last Monday 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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; and assure those charities you value will continue.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** ... has a website, [donatetosvdp.org](http://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*.