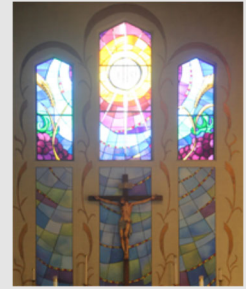


# St. Catherine of Siena Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton

31 Asbury Road • Farmingdale • New Jersey 07727 • [www.sienachurch.org](http://www.sienachurch.org)

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9 am—2 pm • Sun: 9 am—12:45 pm



December 1, 2019

## FIRST SUNDAY

of

# Advent



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You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come.

Matthew 24:44

### PARISH INFORMATION PASTOR

Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon

### WEEKEND ASSISTANT

Rev. Alfred Burke

### DEACON

Daniel Sakowski

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday—4:30 p.m.

Sunday

8 a.m. /10 a.m. /11:30 a.m.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday

3:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

### HOLY DAY MASSES

MAIN CHURCH

9 a.m. /7 p.m.

### ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHAPEL

One West Main Street

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday—9 a.m.

Tuesday—9 a.m.

Thursday—9 a.m.

Friday—9 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE: 732-938-5375 • OFFICE OF REL. ED: 732-938-6229 • PARISH FAX: 732-938-3260

## MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY · NOVEMBER 30

4:30 PM

Mary A. Flannery • Bernadette Massey & John Szalinski  
Mary A. Flannery • Marcia Grivalsky & Simona Ascher

SUNDAY · DECEMBER 1

8:00 AM

Sharon Storey • Mom & Dad

10:00 AM

John J. Flannery • Mary Flannery  
Thomas Ayala • Granddaughter, Ani

11:30AM

Mary Obrochta • Roy & Terri Murray  
Jose Martinez Sr. • Donna Lee

MONDAY · DECEMBER 2

9:00 AM

Mary Obrochta • Terri Murray

TUESDAY · DECEMBER 3

9:00 AM

Eileen A. Haclerio • Anne Hilker

THURSDAY · DECEMBER 5

9:00 AM

Sally Carlson • John & Stephanie Harakal

FRIDAY · DECEMBER 6

9:00 AM

Delores Zarrow • Betty & Luis Cartagena



May the Good Lord Bless  
all the Faithful Departed,  
and Especially:

**Esther Peraza**

May her Soul and the Souls  
of all the Faithful  
Departed, through the  
Mercy of God,  
Rest in Peace.



Please join us for on **Monday, December 9** for Mass to  
honor the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother.  
Mass is held in our Church at 9:00 am & 7:00 pm.

**Please Pray for the Sick and All Those Who Have Asked for Our Prayers**

MaryAnn Aulisi, Peter Bennett, Colette Blair, Victoria Bott, Frank Bracco, Mike Burke, William Clemens,  
Keith Dice, Nancy Drake, Bob Ebhar, Cyril Elias, Sharon Foster, Cheri Gargiulo, Marlene Gravatt,  
Norma Jean Hall, John Hart, Lori Jones, Ann Johnston, John Keegan, Charlie "Butch" Lavin,  
Barbara Lipari, Lauren MacArthur, Teresa Magyar, Margie McCullam, Linda Moore, McKenna Murray,  
John O'Leary, Amber Painter, Jeanette Picciani, David Piccolo, Mary Rossiello, Barbara Sansevere,  
Nancy Soper, Ilona Supczynski, Melissa Tortorello, Giuseppe Turriciano, Isabel Wallace,  
Phyllis Weissblum.

## OUR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

Today marks the beginning of a new calendar year for the Church, Year A: Sunday Cycle. It's the first Sunday of Advent. Advent season, as we know, calls all of us to prepare and be ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus. Hence, we have reconciliation and penance services combined for the parishioners and our very own religious education students. The first service starts at 4:30 P.M. tomorrow and the next one is at 6:15 P.M. in the Church. To accommodate the other religious education classes we will to give another window of opportunity to our parishioners who want to come to the sacrament. We are glad to have my brother priests helping us as they hear confessions and give absolutions to our penitents. We are grateful and appreciate their generosity of time to the parish community.

We observe Sundays in Advent with some important liturgical activities like the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying together as a Christian Community the Evening Prayers, Adoration, and Benediction, which starts at 7 P.M. in the Church. Please come and join us.

There is a story told by Daniel Webster, a famous lawyer, and statesman in the 19th century. It is all about the reason why he worked so hard. He narrated an incident that happened when he was a child at home on a poor farm. His father left him and his brother Ezekiel for the day with instructions on the work they had to do. When his father returned and saw the job undone, he questioned his sons about their laziness. "What have you been doing, Ezekiel?" "Nothing, sir," replied Ezekiel. "Well, Daniel, what have you been doing?" "I've been helping Ezekiel, sir." We are often told that we must be alert and be ready. But ready for what? At this time of the year, people are getting ready for Christmas, for winter, and for dark days. Some people are preparing for death, while some are preparing for a new life in their families. Life goes on amid all this coming and going.

In the days of Noah, everyone is busy with the normal routines, such as eating and drinking, making new relationships and holding on to old ones. In the midst of all this normal business, we find an old eccentric man who is busy with his family building a boat in spite of the fact that there is nowhere in sight to sail it. In the end, Noah is the one who is ready because he is alert to the instructions that God, the Father gave to him.

We all know today that the catastrophe we face is not a flood but a lot of things like nuclear war, terrorism, etc. It could be argued that the only people who are prepared for that are the military who maintain a total watch around the clock. The entire Western defense system follows the advice to be vigilant, stay awake, and to be ready. Noah built an ark to ride out the disaster of the flood. But no one can ride out a nuclear catastrophe, for there is no place to flee. There is no shelter deep enough. There is no sanctuary from dangerous storms. But, there is another way to prepare for peace.

God has not advised to us build a boat, buy a parachute, or construct an air raid shelter. Instead we are being called to listen to the Lord. As Isaiah says, "he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." Probably none of us will be here to see that blessed day that Isaiah describes. "Nation will not lift sword against nation. There will be more training for war." From the Gospel, we see Jesus himself seemed to think that war would be a permanent feature on the human landscape, and we know that history has not contradicted him.

That is the reason why we have to pay attention to the word of the Lord. As St. Paul says in today's second reading, "You know the time has come: you must wake up now." When people are engaged full-time, satisfying their own craving, they are not disposed to face reality and take responsibility for their own actions.

Here is how you can make life enjoyable. All you have to do is pay attention. When we get bored with life, it is because we don't take the time to understand it's meaning. Every moment of our life, we are making decisions about how to live. The most important of all is the decision to look for God's purpose in every moment of our lives, or the decision to ignore God. When we get bored, we start looking for some dramatic change in our lives. We want to get away from where we are. We can be so concerned with being somewhere else that we end up not being anywhere.

Meanwhile, life goes on. We are warned against looking for signs of the Lord's return. Then again, it would be foolish to think that anything on this earth lasts forever. So Jesus is telling us to concentrate on the ordinary things of life and to be at peace with our neighbor. He will come again, but he will come in his own time. Amen.

May God bless you,

Father Angelito



*Let Every Heart Prepare*

**Advent Reconciliation**

**Mon., Dec. 2—4:30 p.m. & 6:15 p.m.**

**Tues., Dec. 10—4:30 p.m.**

**Saturday's —3:30 p.m.**

*ADMINISTRATION AND STEWARDSHIP*

**Weekly Collections & Attendance**  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS**  
**HELP AND SUPPORT!**

**Weekly First Sunday Collection**  
**Saturday/Sunday, Nov 16/17 2019**

4:30 PM Mass	\$1,718.00	156 people
8:00 AM Mass	\$1,238.00	107 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$1,488.00	148 people
11:30 AM Mass	\$1,139.00	143 people
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$5,583.00</b>	<b>554 people</b>
<b>Online Giving</b> Nov 11—Nov 17	<b>\$1,607.00</b>	<b>76 donors</b>

**Second Collection**  
**Diocesan Assessment** **\$1,135.00**

Due to an early bulletin deadline for our Thanksgiving Holiday, the parish Weekly Collections and Attendance for Nov. 23/24 will be reported in the December 8th bulletin.

**Upcoming Second Collection**  
**December 8 — Retirement Fund for Religious Retirement**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS**

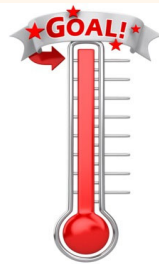
You are invited to honor your loved ones this Christmas by offering a Christmas Floral Memorial. Your name, along with the names of those you honor, will be published in our Christmas bulletin. To submit names, please use your Christmas Flower Envelope or pick up a form in the Narthex or Parish Office. Information is due no later than

**Thursday, December 5**

Donations begin at \$15. Please make check payable to St. Catherine of Siena Church. Note Flower Memorial in Memo.



**Our Parish Goal: \$44,000.00**



**2019**  
 As of November 18, 2019  
 Pledged Amount: **\$33,444.60**  
 Collected: **\$32,489.94**  
**Percent of Goal Raised 76%**  
 Donors: 146  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Pledge Balance As of November 18, 2019  
**\$954.83**

**2018**  
 As of November 19, 2018  
 Pledged Amount: **\$37,872.00**  
 Collected: **\$34,800.90**  
**Percent of Goal Raised 86%**  
 Donors: 169  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Pledge Balance As of November 19, 2018  
**\$2,636.10**

*The Annual Catholic Appeal is important.*

*As members of our diocesan family, we are called upon to love and serve all our brothers and sisters—both within our Catholic community & beyond. Your contribution to the Annual Catholic Appeal allows our diocese to continue to serve as a resource to the parishes and other organizations in their efforts to provide service, evangelization and outreach to people throughout Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth & Ocean Counties. Our single Act of Faith propels the works of love that build up our Church.*

*Above you will see the Annual Catholic Appeal comparisons from our parish 2018 vs. 2019 results to date. Unfortunately, we are behind from last year's pace, with 85% of goal at this point last year compared with 75% at present. Your contribution makes a difference!*

*Please help. Please contribute. Please make a pledge.*

Here at St. Catherine of Siena Church, we are always grateful and moved by the level of support you give to our parish. Thank you for this support, and may God continue to bless you and your family. Annual Catholic Appeal pledge cards are available in the Narthex and the Parish Office.

### Final Weekend for Giving Tree Gift Returns!



This is the final weekend for returning gift purchases for The Giving Tree recipients. Please be sure to bring your unwrapped bagged item/s with the original paper ornaments/s to the church vestibule by **12:30 pm this Sunday.**

For any questions, please call Andrea Zak 732-919-0716.

### St. Catherine of Siena Parish

Warmly Welcomes the Following New Parishioners:

**The Coppotelli Family**  
Donald, Margaret & Theresa

Shane Cooper  
Theresa Gagliano

With Warmth and Prayers,  
We Welcome You into  
Our Family of Faith.



Knights of Columbus **Sunday, Dec. 15**  
**Breakfast with Santa**  
After the 10 & 11:30 am Masses  
Parish Hall

*Save the Date*

**Simbang Gabi Novena Mass 7:30 pm**  
Tuesday, December 17  
7 pm Confession & Recitation of Rosary  
Fellowship Dinner  
Immediately Following Mass Parish Hall



*Prepare for the Lord's coming*



### St. Catherine of Siena Church Advent 2019

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1 • 7 pm • Church**

**Advent Benediction and Fellowship**

Hosted by the Ministries of Social Concerns,  
The Giving Tree, Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion &  
Walking with Purpose

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 • 7 pm • Church**

**Advent Benediction and Fellowship**

Hosted by the Ministries of Rosary Altar Society,  
Legion of Mary, Money Counters & Music Ministry

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 • 7 pm • Church**

**Advent Benediction and Fellowship**

Hosted by the Ministries of Religious Education,  
Readers, Altar Servers & RCIA

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 • 7 pm • Church**

**Advent Benediction and Fellowship**

Hosted by the Ministries of Hospitality,  
Knights of Columbus & Ushers

## SACRAMENTAL AND FAITH FORMATION

**ANOIDING OF THE SICK:** To schedule an anointing, call the Pastor's Office at 732-938-5375 OPT. 7.

**BAPTISM:** We celebrate Baptism on the second Sunday of each month at 12:30 PM or during the 11:30 AM Mass. Prior to scheduling the baptism of your child, sponsor certificates, donation, and attendance at a **Baptism Preparation Class** is required. Classes are held in Classroom 10 on the **4th Sunday of the month**. To sign up, please fill out the registration form on our website for the date you wish to attend. Godparents/sponsors are also encouraged to attend. **Baptism Arrangements must be made in advance by contacting the Parish Office.**

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

**MATRIMONY:** Couples planning a marriage must contact the Parish Office to begin marriage preparation at least one year before the anticipated wedding date.

**RCIA:** The process by which adults become Catholic and/or receive the Sacraments is called Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. RCIA meets the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM.

**SPONSOR CERTIFICATES:** In order to obtain a sponsor certificate at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, the following is required: **Registration in the parish for at least 6 months prior to the request; received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, & Confirmation; if married, married in the Catholic Church; be at least 16 years of age; attending Mass faithfully participating in the life of the Church, receiving the Eucharist and leading a life according to the teachings of the Church.** Please stop by the Parish Office to request a sponsor certificate. All certificates are approved by the Pastor.

**OBTAIN A MASS CARD:** We welcome all who would like to request their special intentions or deceased loved ones be prayed for at weekday or weekend Mass. Please call or stop by the Parish Office.

**PRAYER LIST:** Please call the Parish Office to request a name be added or removed to our prayer list.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA:** We welcome all on Mondays after the 9 am Mass in our Chapel.

**LOW GLUTEN HOST:** An extremely low-gluten (37 micrograms) host is available for those in need. Please notify the Priest or the Deacon prior to the beginning of the Mass you are attending.



St. Catherine of Siena Parish  
Welcomes the Diocese of Trenton  
We are honored to receive the  
Diocesan Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Torch

NOVEMBER 24 THROUGH DECEMBER 6

The Torch and Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will remain with us through December 6th in our Church for personal devotion during which time special intentions may be placed in the prayer basket next to the torch. All prayer intentions are brought to the Bishop's Noon Mass at the Cathedral on December 7.

### Parish Activities

**MONDAY, DEC. 2, 2019 • 6:00 p.m. &  
TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 2019 4:30 p.m.**

**Miracle of Roses—Church—Religious Ed. Students & Families**  
All religious education students will have a lesson on Our Lady of Guadalupe. The students will learn about intercessory prayer and how our Blessed Mother brings our intentions to her Son, Jesus, on our behalf. Students will be invited into our church to view the Torch and Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe at which time they will present a rose to our Blessed Mother and place their prayer intentions in the prayer basket.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 2019 • All are Invited  
Prayer Service —Church• 7 pm**

Our RCIA team and Legion of Mary members will host a moving prayer service, and lead a discussion on Our Lady of Guadalupe, her significance and how we can draw from Our Lady of Guadalupe's message.

**THURS., DEC. 5, 2019 • All are Invited  
Prayer Service —Church• 10 am**

Our Lady of Guadalupe has been a source of strength, protection & encouragement to remain faithful through trials & hardship. Our Rosary Altar Society, Legion of Mary & Respect Life members will lead the recitation of the Rosary, a discussion and prayer service to the unborn.

**FRI., DEC. 6, 2019 • All are Invited**

**Farewell Dinner/ Family Movie Night—Parish Hall• 6 pm** Hosted by our Knights of Columbus. All are invited for the conclusion of our parish hosting The Traveling Torch of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Join us in viewing the 5 star rated FORMED documentary, Guadalupe: The Miracle & Message.



**This is Christmas**  
**A Christmas Carol Festival**

**December 16**  
**6:30 pm**

**Parish Hall**  
**31 Asbury Road**  
**Farmingdale**

For more info,  
call 732-938-5375

**All are Welcome**

**Christmas Carols**  
A visit from  
St. Nicholas  
**Tree Lighting**  
Christmas Cookies

