ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton



December 20, 2020 and Christmas Day 2020



"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - Lk 2:11-12

CONNECT WITH US

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH OFFICE

31 Asbury Road Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727 732-938-5375 Fax: 732-938-3260 www.sienachurch.org frontoffice@sienachurch.org

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Sunday—9:00 a.m.—12:45 p.m.

Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon, Pastor pastor@sienachurch.org

Weekend Assistant Rev. Alfred Burke

Deacon
Daniel Sakowski
deacondan@sienachurch.org

Pastor's Associate Laura Randazzo passociate@sienachurch.org

Parish Bookkeeper Rowell Reyes billing@sienachurch.org

Music Director
Doris Ramme
frontoffice@sienachurch.org

Religious Education Office 732-938-6229

Office Hours: Monday 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Wednesday 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Kay Hetherington, CRE cre@sienachurch.org

Janet Amato, Rel. Ed Secretary ccdnews@sienachurch.org

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND

Saturday/Sunday Vigil—4:30 p.m.

Sunday

8:00 a.m. / 10:00 a.m. / 11:30 a.m.

*8:00 a.m. Mass effective September 13, 2020

CONFESSION TIMESBy Appointment

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION CHURCH 31 Asbury Road 9:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m. Unless otherwise announced

WEEKDAY

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA Church 31 Asbury Road

Monday—9:00 a.m. Tuesday—9:00 a.m. Thursday—9:00 a.m. Friday—9:00 a.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH 31 Asbury Road Farmingdale

First Friday of the Month immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

Temporarily Suspended due to COVID-19 until further notice.

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHAPEL One West Main Street Farmingdale

Monday immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Mass

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Due to the pandemic, the traditional Simbang Gabi, the novena Masses in preparation for the Feast Day of Christmas introduced by the Filipinos in all parts of the world, most particularly in our county, changed. Following all restrictions and protocols, it began on December 15 and runs through December 23. All of the Masses are held at St. Benedict Church in Holmdel. I am scheduled to celebrate the Mass on December 21. Kindly look at our parish website for more details.

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

It is a fact that we use all kinds of imagery for holiness and commitment. Our readings for today use the imagery of the dwelling places of God. David did not simply go off and begin his great construction enterprise without checking with his advisor, the prophet Nathan. The Lord speaks to Nathan in a dream, and gives Nathan a message Because of this David does not get to finish the work, and it falls on his son, Solomon, to complete the building of the Temple in Jerusalem. His family line would be forever blessed, and this was achieved through the birth of Jesus.

Similarly, we use the image of the house for many aspects of our lives. Our political institutions are often named houses. "House of David" meant the entire chosen people of God rather than a building. For us as a faith community, our house of God can be both our physical place of public worship and the house of our hearts. Are we sometimes caught up in the architecture's trappings and lavish liturgy than the real meaning of our worship? What type of house can we make for God this Christmas, at the end of the year in which our own homes may have been places of refuge and safety but also places of restriction and confinement, away from family and friends? What did we learn about the things that make our houses good places to be? Were these physical items or ways we use our time? Should we ration our social media activity to present in real-time to others, or do new technologies offer us more opportunities to connect with those who are isolated and unwell? How can we be more fully the house of God as we go forth to love and serve the Lord this Christmas? We remember that the first house of Jesus was a stable and that he had to rely on strangers' for shelter. Are we able to take this as our model for our Christian life?

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS

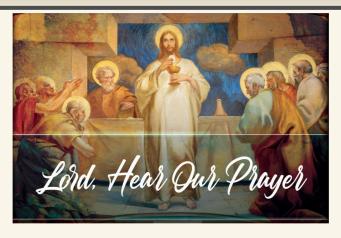
I want to share with you a beautiful story about a Buddhist monk who heard about Jesus. He decided to learn more about him, so he read the four Gospel accounts. He was extremely impressed with Jesus as a person and found his teachings deeply moving and relevant. When he had finished his investigations, he decided that Jesus was indeed an outstanding individual, but he could not accept the claim that Jesus was God in the form of a human being. The monk could not understand why God would choose to come into our world as one of us. His question was, what would be the point?

One day, while he was walking along a path through the woods, thinking about this puzzle and totally absorbed in his meditation, he discovered that he had wandered into an area very close to a nest of ants, and the insects were all around his feet. His arrival had caused panic: the worker ants were scurrying back to the safety of their nest, the larger soldier ants had come out to face the danger, and the scene was one of utter confusion. The monk was upset that he had unwittingly been the source of such terror and stepped to normal, and the ants went about their business again. The monk thought, "How could I reassure these creatures that I mean them no harm? The only way would be to get down to their level and communicate with them in their own language." And suddenly, he had the answer to the mystery which had baffled him.

Many people thought Christmas is a celebration chiefly for children, but we might remember that the Christian faith is for the adults. As we grow in age and understanding of the world around us, our relationship with God can develop and deepen as well. Perhaps if we think more about our faith as a relationship with God, it might help us in this regard. Keep in mind that Jesus is the Emmanuel, God with us, present to us when we pray, and when we celebrate the Eucharist together. Christmas is the beginning of the Jesus story, which continues in each of us. Amen. Have a blessed and Merry Christmas to all!

Father Angelito

MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY · DECEMBER 19

4:30 PM

+ Julia Pondaco r/b The Pondaco Family

SUNDAY · DECEMBER 20

8:00 AM

+ Frank Sardone r/b The Sardone Family

10:00 AM

+ Patricia Roberts r/b Joann Farinella

11:30 AM

+ Jaqueline Tompkins *r/b The Doran Family*

MONDAY · DECEMBER 21

9:00 AM

+ Flora Folia r/b JoAnn Sos

TUESDAY · DECEMBER 22 9:00 AM

Nancy Fitzgerald *r/b Teresa Porter*



THURSDAY · DECEMBER 24

2:00 PM

+ Suzanne Marie Jaffrenou Bonner *r/b The Religious Education Ministry*

4:00 PM

+ Wayne Sos r/b Loving Wife, JoAnn

6:00 PM

+ Giuseppe & Benedetta Cosentino r/b Kristin & Phillip Natilli

8:00 PM

+ Eleanor & Rodney King r/b Daughter, Suzanne

FRIDAY · DECEMBER 25

8:00 AM

+ Frank Percaccio r/b Mary Ann Percaccio

10:00 AM

+ Angelo & Antoinette Pennetti & Family r/b Libby Miller

11:30 AM

+ Sal Remigio

r/b The Martinez Family

LORD HEAR OUR PRAYER.

Please pray for the sick, the homebound and those who have asked to remember them in prayer. Continually keep in prayer all those who serve in our Armed Forces and all health care workers. For prayer requests, living intentions and Mass intentions, please call the Parish Office.

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

SUN 12/20 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk

1:26-38

MON 12/21 Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

TUE **12/22** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56

WED 12/23 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

THR 12/24 Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk

1:67-79

FRI 12/25 Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt

1:1-25 or 1:18-25. Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

SAT 12/26 Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt

10:17-22

SUN 12/27 Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps

105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-

12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Thursday: Christmas Eve

Friday: The Nativity of the Lord (holy day of obligation)

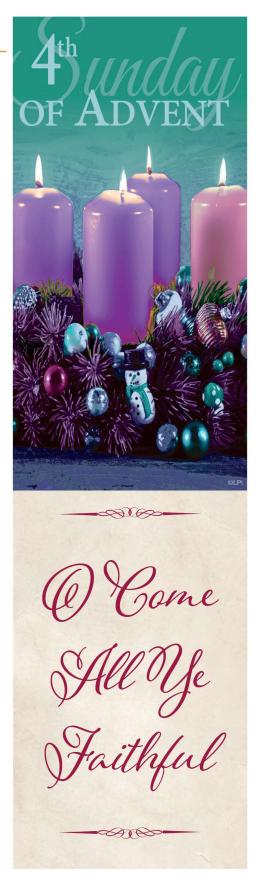
Saturday: St. Stephen, the First Martyr

Next Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?



REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Christmas Prayer For World Health

Come, Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace and Beloved Savior, come into our hearts this unique Christmas Season of 2020 and fill us with Your gifts of love and joy.

With You, we seek refuge during this Coronavirus Pandemic.

With Mary and Joseph, we rejoice and thank you. With the Angels and saints in heaven we sing "Peace On Earth."

Continue to unite all people in peace and shed Your light of understanding and faith upon this World, as we cope with this pandemic.

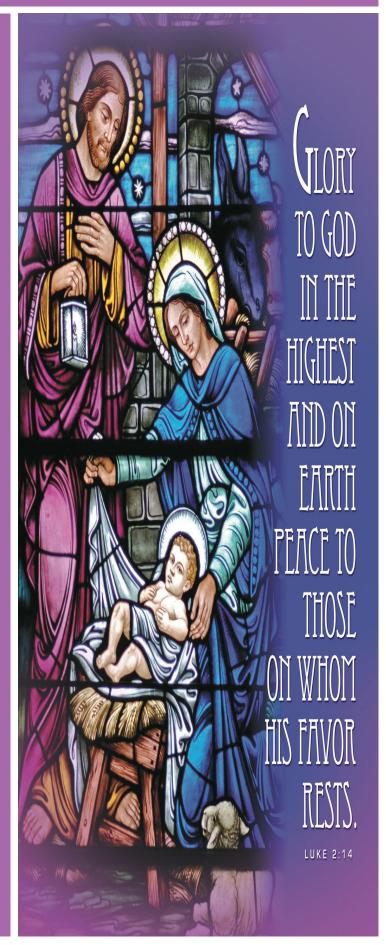
With the Magi and the Shepherds, we bow before You with hearts full of wonder.

Help us to follow You faithfully and to share the Good News of Your coming.

With You, we ask Your protection of our families, our nation and the world against this virus, please restrain our fears and anxiety.

Grant that health, the fruit of life, may reign throughout the world.

Amen.



CHRISTMAS AT ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH



DOORS WILL OPEN 1/2 HOUR BEFORE THE START OF EACH SCHEDULED MASS

MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

2 PM

4 PM

6 PM

8 PM

Additional Overflow Mass at 2 PM & 4 PM in the Parish Hall

Christmas Day 8 AM 10 AM 11:30 AM

Additional Overflow Mass at 10 AM & 11:30 AM in the Parish Hall

For those who are not feeling well, those with underlying health conditions or in a high-risk category, one should stay home and avoid any public gathering. We strongly encourage you to watch or participate in Mass remotely.

For those who choose to attend Mass in person, for everyone's protection, please be aware of the following:

- Please wear a face mask at all times in the Church
- Please enter through the front door and use the hand sanitizer
- Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet at all times
- Bring your own hand sanitizer that can be used before receiving Holy Communion.
- No public gatherings, or greetings (handshakes, hugs, etc.) at Church entrance and Church property.

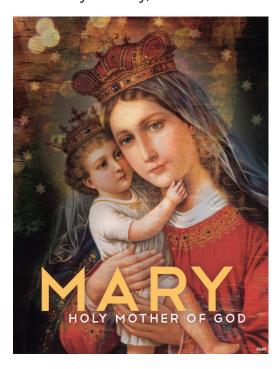
A full listing of the directives issued by Bishop O'Connell and St. Catherine of Siena Parish Re-Opening Protocols can be viewed at our website, **www.sienachurch.org**.

Should you have any questions, please call the parish office at 732-938-5375.

Thank you for your understanding.

PARISH NEWS

St. Catherine of Siena Parish Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



CELEBRATION OF THE MASS 9:00 AM Friday, January 1, 2021

Holy, Mary, Mother of God, Pray for Us.

♦ HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 24, 2020, Friday, December 25, 2020 and Sunday, December 27, 2020.

The Parish Office will reopen on Monday, December 28, 2020 through Wednesday, December 30th.
The hours are 9 AM until NOON.

The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 31, 2020 and Friday, January 1, 2021.



With Joyful Hearts, We Welcome Our Newly Baptized.

Emelia Jade Almedia

We ask God's blessings on this child and the family every day of their lives!





CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS 2020

IN MEMORY OF

DEDICATED BY

Alcina Afonso, Henrique Afonso, Joao Cardoso, Preciosa Cardoso Julius Andrews, Elsie Andrews, Stanley Shirrepps, Isabel Shirrepps

Robert Andrews

Manuel & Marie Afonso

Bernardine Bennek, Richard Bennek, Arthur Baldarsari, Geraldine Baldarsari Michael and Patricia Baldasari

Adela Austria

Edwin and Tarcila Cabrera

John & Ellen Mahoney

Jerry & Mary Coleman

The Callari Family, The Cataffo Family

Joanne Callari

The Cocuzza Family, Greiner Family, Dressler Family

Marianne Cocuzza

The Coppotelli Family

Donald & Margaret Coppotelli

Veronika Bober, Marie Cullmann, Irene Cummings

Diane & Raymond Cullmann

The Deehan Family

Thomas & Ellen Deehan

The Diamond Family

Andrew and Patti Diamond

The DiLascio Family

DiLascio Family

Michele Savignano, Luigi D.DeMeo, Leiga D'Urso, Diamante D. DeMeo Emilio & Dolores D'Onorio De Meo

The DiBello Family

Louis & Margaret DiBello

Dietsch/Hogan Families

Dietsch/Hogan

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Wayne & Josephine Fanciullo

The Ferraro Family

Stephen and Megan Ferraro

Nicholas L.J. Felicione

Nicholas Felicione

Nancy & Chet Swistock

John and Francine Gagliano

The Genovese Family

Joseph & Mary Genovese

Connie Gersbeck, Thomas Gersbeck, Charles Gersbeck, Sr., Rosemarie Lanzarone Joseph Gersbeck

Peter & Josephine Greco, Rich & Violet Furjanic,

Peter & Laura Greco

Pamela Jude Muller, Joseph Greco



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John & Kathy Keegan

Kathleen & James Maher

Walter & Agnes Kelso

Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Kennedy,

Kevin & Deneen Marie Kennedy

Mrs. Angelina Martins-Zahn, Mrs. Rose Brescia

The Kessler Family Thomas Kessler

Newhim & Kneucker Family

Bruno & Helga Kneucker

The LaRocca Family

Ella LaRocca

The Lindon Family

Timothy and Luanne Lindon

Diamante Durso, Diamante Donorio DeMeo,

Anastasios & Rita Lyristis

Rita Durso, Luigina Donorio DeMeo

John & Tessie Zebrowski

Kenneth & Paula Magner

Ronald & Barbara Magner

Jose & Nancy Martinez

Consuelo Remigio, Sal Remigio, Vincenta Martinez, Jose B. Martinez, Sr.

Adele Melofchik, Eugene Melofchik

Greg Melofchik

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Anthony & Virginia Mielnicki

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Robert Gribbin, Helen Pflum

Michael & Lauren Misner

Marie Davis, Joseph Davis,

Joseph Gaffney, Mary Mueller

Robert & Debra Mueller

Roy Robert Murray, Murray Family, Grzybowski Family, Family & Friends Theresa Murray

Filipp & Maria Natilli, Michael A. Natilli, Guisseppe & Benadetta Cosentino, Thomas & Angela Mangano Philip & Kristin Natilli



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS 2020

IN MEMORY OF

DEDICATED BY

Truat Nguyen, Nguyet Nguyen, Nhien Nguyen, Minh Nguyen

Dinh & Trinh Nguyen

The Okerson Family

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Peter Oraboni, Bessie Petruzzelli, Michael & Vincent Petruzzelli Katherine Oraboni

William Pellechia. John & Grace Buonavita

Grace Pellechia

Frank Percaccio, Deceased Family Members

Mary Ann Percaccio

Amparo Millan Domingez, Benita Garcia Vazquez, Maria Garcia Zubiela, Maria Dolores Gonzalez Manuel & Amparo Pineiro

Richard L. Player, Vincent J. Comegno, Edwin Polit, Valetina Polit, Chester C. Emerle, Sophie Emerle Gregory & Laurie Player

The Reed Family

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Noreen O'Doherty Cacchione

David & Catherine Runkel

Jerry Ryan, Jack & Josephine Ryan, Catherine & Terence Maguire, Charlie, Jim & Joe Maguire

Anne Ryan

Isabel Wallace, Maryann Kelly

Daniel & Donna Sakowski

Anthony J. Rappa, Christopher J. Pierro, Bernice Harrison

Patrick & Tonimarie Shanks

Michael & Ann Phillips, John & Ann Sowpel

Richard & Joyce Sowpel

Monica Ann Talcott, Joseph Borsellino, Concetta Borsellino, Lou Monica Gerstenacker Benjamin and Celeste Talcott

John F. Valasa, Jr. Lucille Violet Foxworth

Roxanne Valasa

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