

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH

Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton



November 29, 2020



31 ASBURY ROAD

FARMINGDALE, NJ 07727

(732) 938-5375

www.sienachurch.org

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 TIMES

By 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,

As I write this article, the weather has changed along with the grounds and plants, etc. Obviously, the Fall season is here as we continue to experience personally and as a community, the public health crisis, COVID-19 pandemic. Please be reminded that the Bishop has given the dispensation of not attending Sunday Liturgies, and we discourage our parishioners, especially those with a high-risk medical condition, not to come to Church and make use of the many live stream Masses on the internet. Let us continue to be wearing mask/face covering, observe social distancing, constantly wash our hands as we do our due diligence on cleaning, disinfect, and sanitize our church and the office complex. The virus is deadly. It is airborne and spreads that way. At this time, we are not allowed to have non-liturgical events in our building. Coming to Church for the Mass is essential. However, we must let you know that we not only care for your spiritual health but bodily health as well. Kindly follow our guidelines and protocols as mandated by the diocese and the government. We strongly need your cooperation and support as we do our best to handle and manage this crisis as God's faithful people.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This Sunday is the beginning of the Year of Grace, 2021. We start with the new calendar year; hence our readings are from the Lectionary Year B, Sunday cycle, and Cycle 1: Weekday in Ordinary Time. In one of my vacations, I had the opportunity to attend Church. The preacher shared an interesting story about a mother imprisoned in a garden shed along with her young son, Donald. The boy had always lived in the shed and has experienced the outside world only through a small skylight and on a TV screen. When his mother tells him that there is a wonderful world outside the shed, he does not believe her. He feels safe in the confined space of the room and is afraid of change. But finally, the boy escapes and finds out how beautiful and immense the larger world is.

We wonder what is the main point of this image is to us? We want to help you understand what Advent all is about. Simply, it is the coming of Christ. All too often, Advent is oftentimes captured and imprisoned in the world of shopping and commercial build-up to Christmas. Christmas carols, office gatherings, etc., are nice as they anticipate the feast but do not provide any space and room to prepare the real significance of the coming of the Baby Infant of Mary in Bethlehem, Judea. Therefore, every year, on the first Sunday of Advent, the Church calls us out of the myopic, protected world, where we are hesitant to change into the larger, vast world of God's coming to us.

Listening carefully to the readings for this Sunday, we are reminded that the child in the manger will not just be another Christmas baby, but the Word made flesh. He is the Son of God, creator of the world, who has humbled himself to be human like us. And he is the Son of man who will come in glory on the clouds of heaven to call the whole of his creation to account. The issue is we miss the whole point because we prefer to slumber. Like Israel before us, we prefer to stay in our comfort zone, live with our sins, and hope that God will get off our backs and go away.

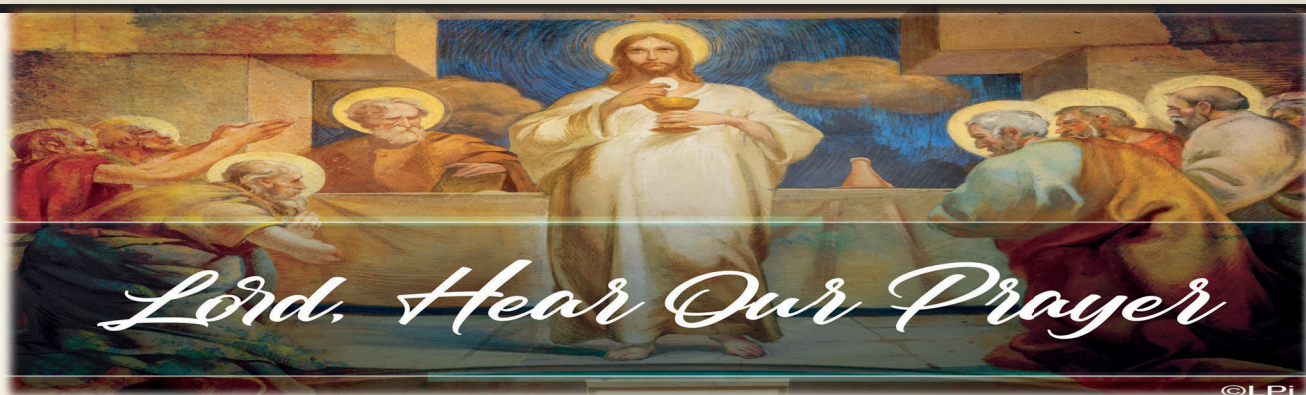
At this point, we hear the voice of Isaiah, the great prophet of Advent. For in Advent, we relive the Old Testament's prophecies as they point forward to the coming of the promised Messiah. Isaiah is the most eloquent of these voices. He tells us that the worst possible thing for us is for God to leave us alone. When we are left alone, we wander around lost, and our hearts harden. So, the big question now is how we can prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas? First, let us place him in the proper perspective of his final coming as judge and savior. Secondly, by being alert, like the servant in the Gospel we read today who waits for his master's return, not knowing when he will come back.

Being alert also means that we must be ready for the risen Christ to come to us now. St. Paul says, "you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed." The Spirit makes Christ present in the sacraments, comes to free us, and helps us to recognize the sins that blind us to the demands of God's justice in our lives. Advent is time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation; Let us open our hearts as we are ready to meet Jesus at Christmas. Christ comes to us in the Mass through his word and his real presence in his body and blood. We ask him to make us ready for his coming at Christmas. As we celebrate Advent, and we pray for the courage to be transformed, to give more room for God in our lives, and be alert and ready for Christ's glorious coming in our lives. Amen.

May God bless you,

Father Angelito

MASS INTENTIONS



SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 28

4:30 PM

† Doris Ditto *r/b The Infante Family*

SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 29

8:00 AM

† Josephine Guiliano *r/b loving niece, JoAnn*

10:00 AM

† Donna Molinaro *r/b Ellen Wilezol*

11:30 AM

† Miriam Honey O'Keefe *r/b Pat and Kathy Lavin*

MONDAY • NOVEMBER 30

9:00 AM

† MaryAnn Cullen *r/b Ed & Maggie Lempka*

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 1

9:00 AM

† Edward Martin *r/b Claire Wren*

THURSDAY • DECEMBER 3

9:00 AM

† John Ferguson *r/b Phyllis Hurley*

FRIDAY • DECEMBER 4

9:00 AM

† Edward Martin *r/b Victoria Roberts*

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.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you. (Is 63:19b)

PSALM:

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved. (Ps 80)

SECOND READING:

God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. (1 Cor 1:9)

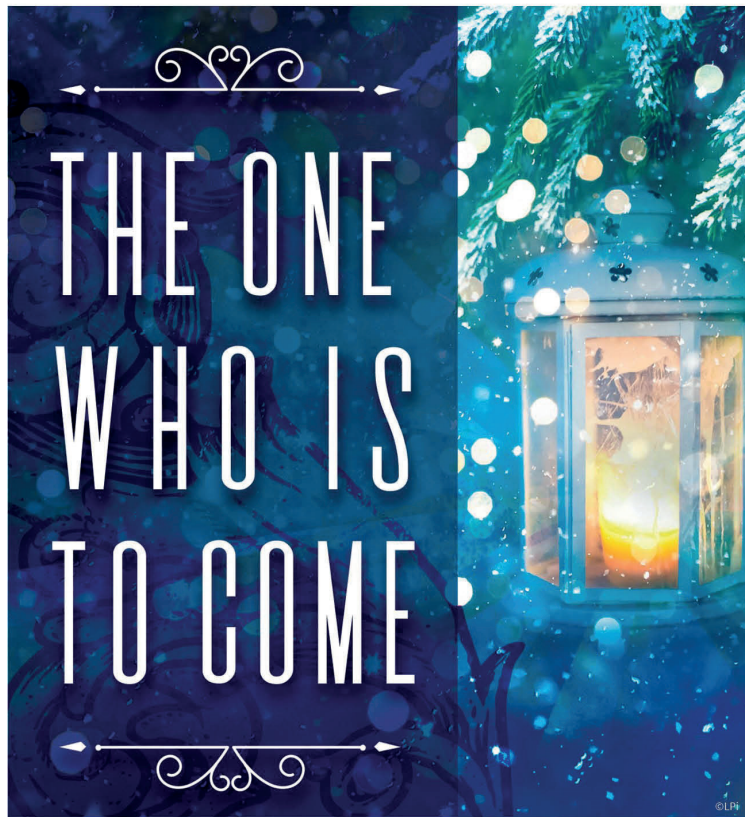
GOSPEL:

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning." (Mk 13:35)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. Andrew, Apostle
Thursday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent



REFLECT

FIRST READING

We hear today the prophet Isaiah's internal spiritual struggle as he questions God's ways and decries our human tendency to sin. What spiritual struggles do you need to confront as we enter into the season of Advent?

SECOND READING

In his opening words to the Corinthian Christians, Paul reminds the faithful of God's fidelity to those who believe in his Son. He then cites examples of the blessings they have received since coming to the faith. What are some blessings you have received in your faith journey?

GOSPEL READING

Jesus instructs his disciples to be vigilant for the end times. How can you make this spiritual discipline a focus of your Advent season this year?

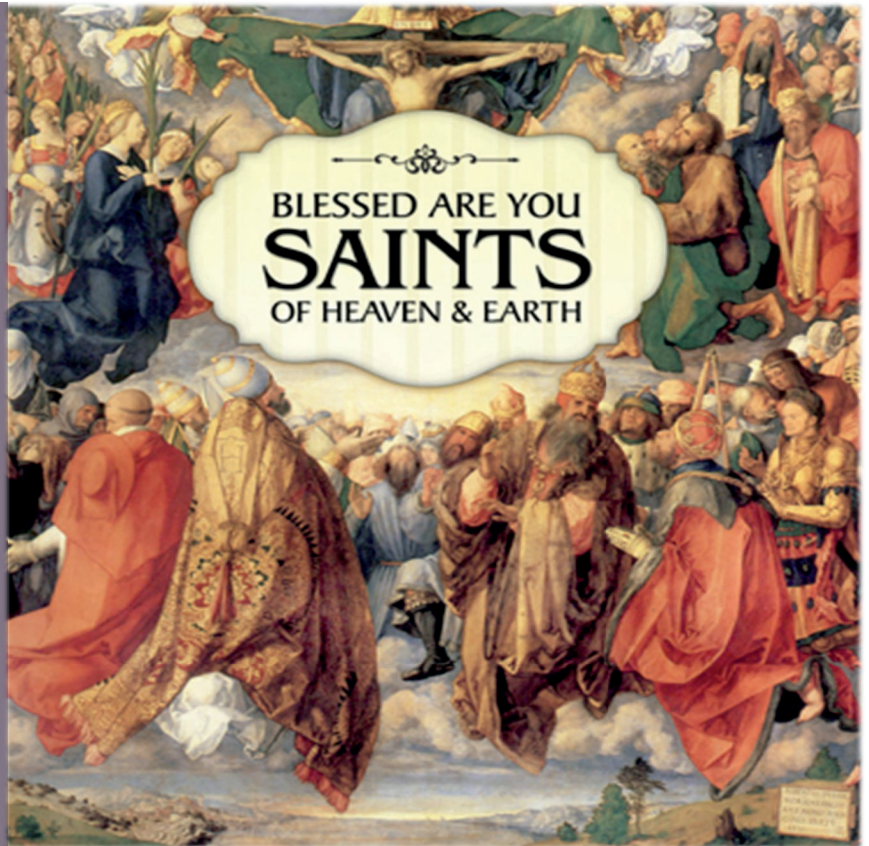
**Prayer
for the
Faithful Departed**

**Good and faithful God,
you have given us so many
people in our lives
that have given us
joy and solace.**

**On this day we ask you to
remember
our dearly departed.**

**Keep them close to you as
we all wait
for that day when we all
will come and worship in
your presence.**

**We ask this through
your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**



**PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
NOVEMBER 2020**

Daniel Allan Landino November 17, 2019	Marian D'Adamo February 14, 2020
John O'Leary December 9, 2019	John Patrick Flanders February 25, 2020
Norma Quinto January 1, 2020	Joseph M. Sultana April 13, 2020
Herbert Massa January 20, 2020	Cyril James Elias April 21, 2020
Concetta Marie Fiore January 20, 2020	Carol Celentano May 8, 2020
John Paczkowski January 26, 2020	Lieselotte Tonon June 5, 2020
Nancy Theresa Manto February 1, 2020	Roy Robert Murray July 8, 2020
Marion Frances Millington February 2, 2020	Laurie A. Krasowski August 31, 2020

CHRISTMAS AT ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH

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



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

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. **VISIT OUR PARISH YOUTUBE CHANNEL AT www.sienachurch.org for our recorded Mass on Christmas Eve.**

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.



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By WeShare

CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO LEARN MORE

BAPTISM

With Joyful Hearts,
We Welcome Our Newly Baptized.

Emerson Casey

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



Religious Education 8th Grade Students Community Service here at St. Catherine's Parish

Our awesome 8th Graders collected 90 Boxes of Joy to send to children who have very little joy in their lives. Each year thousands of boxes are collected by the Cross Catholic Organization and sent to missions all over the world. Thank you to all who participated and know that you can and are making a difference.



FOR CHILDREN WHO WISH
FOR JUST ONE GIFT



The first step for Infant
Baptisms at St. Catherine of Siena Parish is our
Baptism Preparation Class.

Upcoming sessions for new parents:

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

For more detailed information and to register, visit
our Parish Website, www.sienachurch.org.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC Appeal 2020

St. Catherine of Siena Parish
ACA Status

As of November 15, 2020

GOAL \$38,000

Raised \$43,129.30

Collected \$41,687.90

Pledge Balance \$1,441.40

Thank You

100% of Goal

We are blessed that St. Catherine of Siena Parish reached and exceeded our 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal goal of \$38,000! Thank you to our parishioners who generously contributed.

We ask you to please continue to donate and send in your pledges. Keep in mind, funds collected in excess of the parish goal we earn a 50% rebate check which directly benefits our parish.

Thank you for your generosity.

©LPI

Dear Friends in Christ,

THE LORD BLESS AND KEEP YOU—Numbers 6:24

As your pastor, let us take a moment and reflect on all God's blessings and graces. I extend to you a heartfelt thank you to those who have continued their financial support of the parish by mailing in your envelopes, and those who have reached out to us to sign up for online giving. Our parish is truly blessed with generous, caring and faithful members.

May God's peace and grace be with you always,
Father Angelito

Thank You!

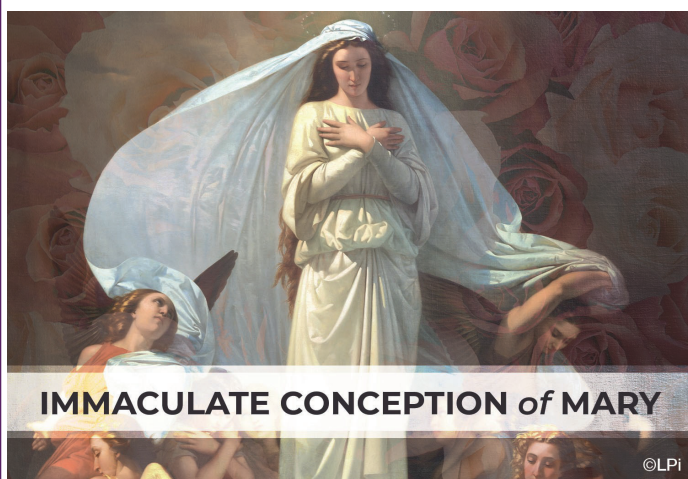
Worship at
St Catherine of Siena Church



ADVENT BENEDICTION SERVICE

November 29 December 6
December 13 December 20

**Advent Service Begins at
6 PM**



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of MARY

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing!

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary
DECEMBER 8, 2020
9 AM MASS**



What is the story behind the Advent wreath?

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace does not falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we are roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

IMPORTANT UPDATES



St. Catherine of Siena Parish CHRISTMAS PROJECT JOY

SEND CHRISTMAS CHEER TO HELP
OUR LOCAL CHILDREN IN NEED

November 14–December 5

Due to the pandemic, we will not host our annual Giving Tree Collection of Gifts in the traditional way of gift tags this year as we want everyone to be safe and healthy this Christmas season!

Even though COVID-19 restrictions will modify our methods, the goal remains the same:

TO PROVIDE HELP TO THE LESS FORTUNATE THIS CHRISTMAS.

Many of our **community schools and local organizations** we support are asking for Gift Card donations as they have been hit hard financially due to the pandemic.

Although it is not as fun as shopping for new toys, clothes, and other items, we are asking you to donate with Gift Cards in small denominations or donate generously by check or online, to our parish **Good Samaritan Ministry**. The ministry will then use the funds to purchase the Gift Cards as some might not feel comfortable purchasing directly from the store.

WAYS TO DONATE

Purchase Gift Cards in small denominations

\$10 \$15 \$20 \$25

TARGET WALMART
TJ MAXX MARSHALLS

AMAZON
Michael's

RETURN GIFT CARDS TO THE COLLECTION
BASKET IN THE **NARTHEX** OR TO THE
PARISH OFFICE LABELED **PROJECT JOY**.

OR

Donate online at www.sienachurch.org
for direct link.

Make a donation to the parish
Good Samaritan Ministry.
Checks payable to the **Good Samaritan Ministry**,
Memo *Project Joy*

We appreciate
your support and
prayers!

RETURN GIFT
CARDS
NO LATER THAN
DEC. 5



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** call Parish Office. Information is due no later than

December 6, 2020

Donations begin at \$15. Please make check payable to
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CHURCH**

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- Jim Simonelli

IRREPRESSIBLE

K.J. Alexander

To her, she's just another foster kid.
To them, she's the queen who will save them all.

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