

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH

Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton



Fifth
Sunday
of Lent

“Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.”

- Jn 12:24



March 21, 2021

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

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Sunday–9:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
frontoffice@sienachurch.org

Pastor

Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon
pastor@sienachurch.org

Weekend Assistants

Rev. Alfred Burke
Msgr. Richard Liddy

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

OFFICE HOURS:

Sunday–Thursday 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Kay Hetherington, CRE

cre@sienachurch.org

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.

CONFESSION TIMES

By Appointment

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

CHURCH 31 Asbury Road Farmingdale
9:00 a.m. / 7:00 p.m.

Unless otherwise announced

WEEKDAY

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA Church

31 Asbury Road Farmingdale

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

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHAPEL

One West Main Street Farmingdale

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

Temporarily Suspended due to COVID-19
until further notice.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

The Church begins the holiest days of the week next weekend. We start with reading the Passion of the Lord on Palm Sunday. Following all the restrictions and protocols mandated by the authorities, we are not handing out palms before or during Mass. Kindly follow our instructions on receiving Holy Communion as we will form two lines facing the altar like what we have been doing on pre-COVID, with social distancing after receiving the final blessing. As you exit the Church, please take your palms from the vases placed at the exit doors. Please keep in mind that we are still within the pandemic; hence, we should be mindful of taking care of each other as we wear masks, continue to use social distancing, and wash our hands and disinfect. Even if we already have received the vaccine, let us protect and take care of each other as we share the common goal of beating this deadly virus.

Stay smart by not being complacent and don't let our guard down as we get through this challenging and unprecedented time due to the virulent contagious virus communicated between people. I can easily understand that we already have the COVID fever, given the length of time we are navigating it, how we wish that we are back on our usual way of life, including the practice of our faith as we go to Church in particular. Resilience, perseverance, and patience are some of the recommended attitudes we have to have at this challenging time. Be flexible and learn to adapt to the current situation. Please cooperate and understand that we are doing this for the common good. Let us manifest our strong confidence and incredible faith in God as we get through these trying times. Remember that this is only temporary as we can already see 'the light at the end of the tunnel.'" As we listen and tune in to the current events, many things are going on, including optimism. Be hopeful and trusting in the omnipotent, powerful, and loving God.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Today's readings speak of creating relationships, forming bonds, making friendships. The partners are God and man. God takes the initiative. God gives, suffers, and dies so that man may receive, rejoice and live. A grain of wheat remains more than a single grain unless buried in the ground and dies. It dies, then it produces many grains. One grain dies, and the very process of death becomes a vital source of life for many. "When the body is buried, it is mortal; when raised, it is immortal. When buried, it is ugly and weak; when raised, it will be beautiful and strong. When buried, it is the physical body; when raised, it will be a spiritual body" (1 Cor 15:3:44). From death issues better life. All human relationships are built on sacrifice. Friendships thrive best in the soil of sacrifice. A mother dies a little bit in giving birth to her child.

The life of Christ was a high drama of suffering and labor to bring about a new relationship between God and man. During His last supper, Christ offered His body and blood and called it precisely the blood of the new covenant. On the cross, he was lifted high as a victim of love. Christ died on the altar of the cross. On the cross, Christ regained and renewed the friendship between God and man, between God and each one of us. We Christians belong to the many grains sprouting from the fallen and buried grain, Christ.

In the mind of St. Paul, it is his suffering that Jesus learned obedience. To be a son, even the Son of God, is not all glory and glamor, privilege and preference. To be a son means to submit, surrender one's will to the father's will. And that implies suffering. In the garden, Jesus learned it from experience. We hear His groans: "Now is my soul troubled...Father, save ME from this hour." Jesus suffers terribly, and in His great suffering, instinctively and confidently as a child, He turns to His father. In these moments of extreme and excruciating agony stands revealed Jesus, Son, and Servant. However great is Jesus' suffering, it has a higher purpose and principle. Jesus naturally recoils from the impending, agonizing moment. Yet He prays: "No, for this purpose I came to this hour, Father, Your will be done."

Here Jesus' relationship with his father as obedient Son and suffering servant reaches its peak. Jesus seems to say, "My hour has come. You appoint my hour, my hour of death. The hour I will be lifted up. The supreme hour of glorification of My Father's name, the hour of salvation, for my brethren. The hour I will draw many to Myself. The grain of wheat falls to the ground, dies, and bears much fruit.

Lord of all my relationships, may my relationships be rooted in and nourished by Jesus. Amen.

May God bless you,

Father Angelito

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD,
for I will forgive their evildoing and remember
their sin no more. (Jer 31:34)

PSALM:

Create a clean heart in me, O God. (Ps 51)

SECOND READING:

Son though he was, he learned obedience
from what he suffered; (Heb 5:8)

GOSPEL:

Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit. (Jn 20:24)



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

March 27 – Mass 4:30 p.m.

March 28 – Masses at 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

MONDAY & TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

March 29 & March 30 – Mass at 9:00 a.m.

HOLY THURSDAY

April 1 – Mass at 7:30 p.m.

No 9 a.m. Mass. Church is open for prayer from 11 a.m.–Noon

GOOD FRIDAY

April 2 – Service at 3:00 p.m.

No 9 a.m. Mass. Church is open for prayer from 11 a.m.–Noon

Stations of the Cross at 6:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY

April 3 – Easter Vigil – 8:00 p.m.

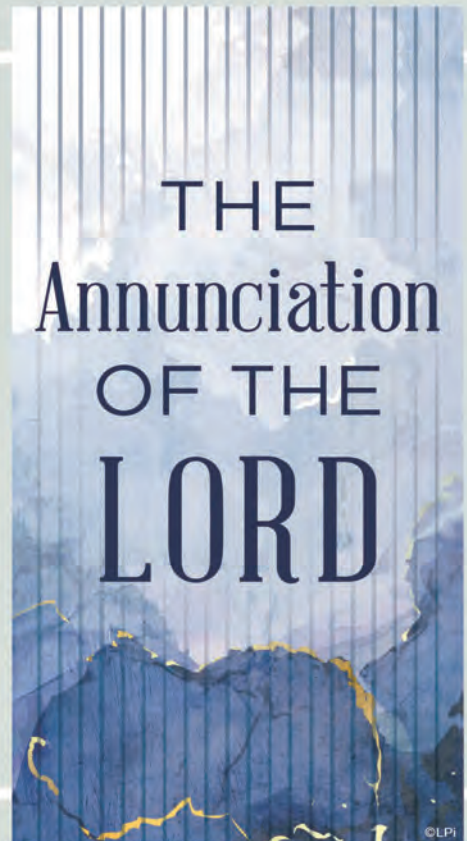
Church is open for prayer from 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 4 – Masses at 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

Overflow Mass at 10:00 a.m.

*The Sacrament of Reconciliation is by appointment,
please call the Parish Office.*



REFLECT

FIRST READING

Around 600 BC, Jeremiah prophesied that God would establish a new, unbreakable covenant with his people, one written “upon their hearts.” In what ways is your faith heart-felt?

SECOND READING

The author of Hebrews teaches us that Jesus learned “obedience” from his suffering. What have been some fruits from the suffering in your life?

GOSPEL READING

We hear today of Jesus’ own struggle with his impending death. During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday • March 20

4:30 PM

† **Sammy & Angela Guido**

r/b June Hankel

Sunday • March 21

8:00 AM

† **Irene Cummings**

r/b Diane & Ray Cullmann

10:00 AM

† **Norma Jean Hall**

r/b John & Stephanie Harakal

11:30 AM

† **Gloria Ciampi**

r/b Terri Murray

Monday • March 22

9:00 AM

† **Judy Thompson**

r/b Terri Murray

Tuesday • March 23

9:00 AM

† **For all our Faithful Departed**

Thursday • March 25

9:00 AM

† **Olympia & Joseph DeMeo & Family**

r/b Libby Miller

FRIDAY • March 26

9:00 AM

† **John O'Neill Jr.**

r/b Joan Pekar



PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH FOR PROTECTION

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so prompt, so strong, before the throne of God,

I place in you all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart.

Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departed souls - pray for me. Amen

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 2021

- SUN 3/21** Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45
- MON 3/22** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11
- TUE 3/23** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21 [2]/Jn 8:21-30
- WED 3/24** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Jn 8:31-42
- THR 3/25** Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8, 8-9, 10, 11 [8a, 9a]/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
- FRI 3/26** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42
- SAT 3/27** Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56
- SUN 3/28** Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

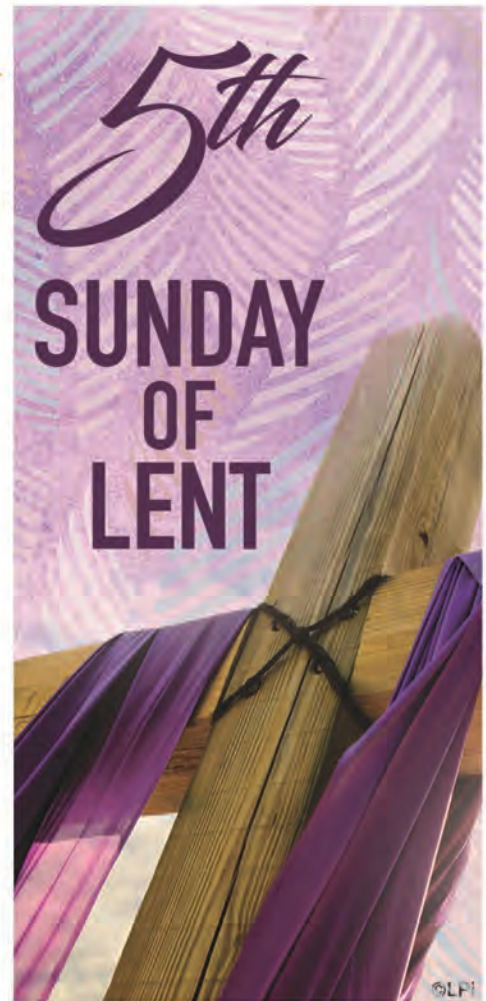
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 21, 2021

- Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Lent
- Tuesday:** St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
- Thursday:** The Annunciation of the Lord
- Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord; Holy Week begins

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

How do we convince people that God's law is written upon their hearts? God is wedded to God's people. This is a simple and fundamental fact of life. Yet, many ignore this truth and carry on as if they, or humanity as a whole, are the center of the universe. As a grain of wheat has to fall to the ground and die in order to become what it really is, we too must die to our secular images and ideas of ourselves so that we can become who God really made us to be. If all of us kept our focus on God's deep bonded love with human beings, indeed with our very self, then there would be no need to teach others this fundamental life lesson. They would simply know this truth, as Jeremiah tells us. Somehow, perhaps through original and personal sin, we have lost sight of this reality. We have lost our way and our axis. It is time to find our way back, to learn the virtue of obedience, to pay attention to what God is saying and become aware of the Divine Love that is the reason for all creation. Then, even in our darkest hour when all may seem to be lost, we can say as did Jesus, the model of obedience, "Father, glorify your name," By this perseverance, people can come to know the Lord and what God has done.



*"Bloom
where you
are planted."*

— ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Palm Sunday



Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out:

"Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Hosanna in the highest!"

- Mk 11:9-10



Palms will be placed at the entrances of the Church so that people may take palms as they **exit** the Church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

AT ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH

Please join us all Fridays in Lent | 6 p.m.

FEBRUARY 19 | FEBRUARY 26

MARCH 5 | MARCH 12

MARCH 19 | MARCH 26 | APRIL 2

732-938-5375 | frontoffice@sienachurch.org



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH | 31 ASBURY ROAD |

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Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.





DIOCESE of
TRENTON

ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
Appeal 2021

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL—IN ACTION

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT

Evangelization—Pastoral Care

Rooted in the Gospel invitation to share in the healing mission of Jesus Christ, we advance the compassionate and competent spiritual, pastoral and sacramental care of God’s suffering people by resourcing the clergy, pastoral ministers, healthcare professionals and caregivers who serve them.

Those who offer pastoral care communicate God’s love and compassion ‘person to person’ by offering spiritual and sacramental support, including the Sacrament of Anointing the Sick offered by a priest. We connect with healthcare institutions, medical professionals, chaplains and clergy by providing extensive consultation and resources for the holistic health and well-being of Catholic patients. Your gift helps you to live and spread the Gospel.



THE POWER TO CHOOSE

You can designate your donation to the following ministries

Priests, Deacons & Religious

- Finding & Forming Priests
(Vocations recruitment & Seminary Preparation)
- Retired Priests Care • Preparation of Deacons
- Support of Religious Women & Men

Community Outreach

- Families, Youth & Young Adult Ministries
- Catholic Social Services (The Guild)
- Pastoral Care (Prison, Respect Life, Grief)
- Special Events and Programs

Teaching the Faith

- Evangelization and Communications Outreach
- Religious Education, Rite of Election of Adults and Children
- Catholic School Programs • Tuition Assistance
- Professional Development for Educators

WAYS TO DONATE

Visit www.dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal



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Checks or money orders made
payable to **Annual Catholic Appeal**

For further information please contact
Laura Randazzo at 732-938-5375.



Requirements to Obtain a Sponsor Certificate/ Letters of Eligibility

The godparents, together with the parents, must be willing to help the baptized grow in love for Christ and neighbor. By word and example, the godparents will encourage the candidate to live the Christian life and fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 872-874).

- A sponsor must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, & Confirmation and if married, married in the Catholic Church.
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age.
- A sponsor attends Mass faithfully participating in the life and support of the Church, receiving the Eucharist, and leading a life according to the teachings of the Church.

A sponsor must be registered at St. Catherine of Siena Parish and registered for at least six (6) months prior to the request.

Note, if he/she received all his/her sacraments here at St. Catherine of Siena Parish years ago but now lives elsewhere, he/she is not a member of this parish. Rather, he/she is a member of the parish in whose territory he/she resides. This is where the sponsor certificate must be obtained.

Low Gluten Host

An extremely low-gluten host (37 micrograms) is available for those in need. Please notify the Priest prior to the beginning of Mass.

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

Please call 732-938-5375.

Baptism

Parents are required to attend a Baptismal Preparation Course prior to the Baptism.

Baptisms are celebrated on the second Sunday of the Month.

Please call the Parish Office for detailed information.

Ministry to the Homebound

Please call the Parish Office at 732-938-5375.

Matrimony

Engaged Couples should contact our parish at least one year in advance of the proposed date of marriage and before making other arrangements.

Rite of Christian Burial or Memorial Mass

Please call the Parish Office at 732-938-5375.

Reconciliation

In a time of COVID-19, please contact the Parish Office at 732-938-5375 for an appointment.



St. Catherine of Siena Parish
Warmly Welcomes the Following
New Parishioners:

**The Russo Family
Thomas, Kathleen & Thomas**

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

**The Parish is where the
mission of Christ continues!**

St. Catherine's parish is a vibrant, community of faith. A parishioner is one who is committed through participation in the life of the Parish Community with participation in our ministries and with presence and support with attendance at Mass and also through the regular use of offertory envelopes or support through online giving.

If you are new to the area and have questions regarding Parish Registration, please call the Parish Office.



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

Upcoming sessions for new parents:

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

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



**2021 PEW MISSAL
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Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to purchase a 2021 Pew Missal for your personal use.



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PARISH SUPPORT

Online Giving is a web-based offertory solution that allows parishioners and visitors the opportunity to make donations, payments and pledges electronically from any location at any time.

Parishioners or visitors who wish to provide financial support of the parish, can leave their offertory envelopes at the collection bin in the Narthex of the church or they can be mailed in directly to the parish office.

Your continued support of the parish is always gratefully appreciated.

thank you

6LR

"I can do things
you cannot;
you can do
things I cannot;
but
TOGETHER
we can do
great things."

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



2021 Annual Catholic Appeal

DIOCESE of TRENTON

Your help is needed.
Please give what you can.



ACA PARISH UPDATE

GOAL \$40,000

As of March 15, 2021

Raised: \$28,623.99

Collected: \$25,251.99

THANK YOU
for your generosity

Visit our website, www.sienachurch.org to view Bishop O'Connell's video and to make a gift/pledge. Remember to note St. Catherine's!

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To them, she's the queen who will save them all.

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