

# SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2025

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COME BACK TO YOU.



## CLERGY

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

**Deacon** Daniel Sakowski deacondan@sienachurch.org

# Connect with

St. Catherine of Siena Parish

info@sienachurch.org 732-938-5375

www.sienachurch.org

Office Hours: Sunday 9:00 AM—12:45 PM Monday-Thursday 9:00-2:00 PM

## STAFF

**Pastor's Associate, PCL** Laura Randazzo

passociate@sienachurch.org

Music Director Charles Clarke frontoffice@sienachurch.org

**Office Assistant** Janet Amato officeassistant@sienachurch.org

The Church is open for prayer during office hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 AM—2:00 PM

# Weekend Mass

Saturday 4:30 PM Vigil

# Sunday

8:00 AM

10:00 AM | 11:30 AM

Holy Days of Obligation

9:00 AM | 7:00 PM unless otherwise announced

# Confession

Saturday

3:30 PM—4:00 PM other days by appointment

# Weekday Mass

9:00 AM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday



Weekday Mass is at 31 Asbury Road Until Further Notice.

31 Asbury Rd, Farmingdale, NJ 07727 • 732-938-5375 • info@sienachurch.org

# **Our Pastor's Sunday Message**

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Parish Religious Education program has joyfully concluded another fruitful year, celebrating the First Holy Communion and the Sacrament of Confirmation with our young girls and boys. It has been a privilege and a blessing to walk alongside them in their journey of faith.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the children, their parents, and our dedicated catechists. We look forward to seeing our families return regularly to the celebration of Sunday Mass and to continued participation in the sacramental life of the Church.

We are especially grateful to our volunteers, catechists, and aides whose time, dedication, and God-given talents made this year's program possible. Your service and generosity are deeply appreciated—thank you for being instruments of God's love and grace in our parish.

As a gesture of our sincere appreciation, we will offer a special **recognition and blessing** for all Religious Education volunteers during the **11:30 A.M. Mass on Sunday, June 1**. We warmly invite you to attend and be honored by our parish community for the vital role you have played in forming the faith of our children. Your presence will be a blessing, and we look forward to celebrating with you at the Lord's table.

#### The Nature of Peace

The peace, which Christ gives, is not the peace, which the world gives. When Christ says 'peace', He gives peace, but when people say 'peace' they only wish peace. Man can only erect banners of goodwill and peace, but Christ could impart that peace. Christ's word conveys peace to us. What the world only wishes, Christ has the power to give.

The peace which the world gives is only transitory. What the world gives will last only for a short time, but the peace Jesus gives, like all His blessings, is eternal. Nothing can take away that peace – neither sickness, nor hunger, not poverty, not plenty, nor life, nor death.

The peace the world gives is very shallow. It is a thin cover over the vast sea of restlessness. It is at most an excitement, but real, lasting peace is given by Christ and Christ only.

Possessing Christ and His peace, does not necessarily preclude us from experiencing the tumults and conflicts in our lives. There are many things in the world which will disturb us to the very end, and many things from within us will surge and threaten to ruffle our peace. We must constantly fight against such things and make efforts not to lose Christ's given peace. In everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let our requests be made known to God, so that nothing may break the calm we have. Possessing Christ will enable us to calm the storms, which lash against us. May the peace, which Christ promised His disciples, reside in our hearts and in our families.

May Christ's love and command reign supreme in all the aspects of our lives, so that we may enjoy His peace. Amen.

May God bless us,

Father Angelito

Parish Office is closed on Monday, May 26, 2025 in observance of Memorial Day.

#### SUNDAY READINGS

#### **First Reading:**

If you keep free of these, you will be doing what is right. (Acts 15:29)

#### **Psalm:**

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67) Or: Alleluia.

#### **Second Reading:**

The city had no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gave it light, and its lamp was the Lamb. (Rv 12:23)

#### Gospel:

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you." (Jn 14:27)

# MEMORIAL DAY



# We are Called

To know, love, and serve as Jesus did.

# We pray for each other, particularly:



#### For our newest members in baptism

Valentina Rose Russo



For the sick of our community

To request **Anointing** and/or **Homebound**, please call the parish office at 732-938-5375.



Prayer for Peace

Fill us with Your peace, Lord, as you promised in Your word. Peace in our comings and goings, Peace that You are working and moving, Peace for what has happened, the places we find ourselves today, and in the future to come. Amen.

# **Mass Intentions**

### Saturday, May 24

4:30 PM	Charles Van Benschoten
	r/b June Hankel

## Sunday, May 25

8:00 AM	Casimir Niemaszyk r/b Loving Wife			
10:00 AM	Joseph Miller r/b Miller/Holtz Family			
11:30 AM	Nancy Puglisi r/b Loving Husband & Family			
Monday, May 26				

## 9:00 AM Antoinette Pennetti & Family r/b Libby Miller

## Tuesday, May 27

9:00 AM Sebastian "Joe" Tronto r/b JoAnn Sos

Thursday, May 29 9:00 AM Mary Day r/b Eileen & Bill Murphy

## Friday, May 30

9:00	AM

Madeline Starkey r/b Lou & Marcia Ciccone



Remember someone or give thanks by sponsoring our altar flowers. Call the parish office at 732-938-5375 for more information.



# Know

# To know, is learning to trust God.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Annulment

The Church encourages divorced and remarried persons to purse annulment. To arrange a confidential discussion, email deacondan@sienachurch.org

#### **Becoming Catholic**

Are you an adult interested in becoming Catholic and receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist? The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is for you! Contact the parish office at 732-938-5375 or email passociate@sienachurch.org.

#### **Bulletin**

Please email submission requests by 5:00 PM 14 days before the weekend bulletin date, to <u>bulletin@sienachurch.org</u>

### Change of Name/Phone/ Address

Update information to officeassistant@sienachurch.org

### Faith Formation | Children

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) is for children in K through 8th grade. Inquire to, email prep@sienachurch.org or call the parish office at 732-938-5375.

### Faith Formation | Teens

Our Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) has sacramental preparation and ministry opportunities for teens, grade 9–12. Inquire to email prep@sienachurch.org. or call the parish office at 732-938-5375.

#### Sacraments

#### Baptism

Parish families who wish to have a child baptized should be registered in the parish. First time parents are to take a pre-baptismal class before the sacrament of baptism. Classes are offered monthly. Please call the parish office at 732-938-5375 for further information.

### Confirmation/ First Eucharist Children

Preparation is a two- year process for children in our Parish Religious Education Program. (PREP) For those seeking the sacraments, please email **prep@sienachurch.org** or call the parish office at 732-938-5375.

## Confirmation/ First Eucharist Young Adults/Adults

If you've been baptized Catholic but never received First Communion or Confirmation, we invite you to complete your sacraments of initiation! Contact the parish office at 732-938-5375 or email passociate@sienachurch.org.

#### Marriage

For parishioners (attending 6 months or more), a minimum of one year preparation is required. It is recommended to contact the parish office before booking venue.

#### Sacramental Records

To request a sacramental record, i.e., copies of Baptismal Certificates, First Eucharist Certificates, Confirmation Certificates, Marriage Certificates email officeassistant@sienachurch.org.



We warmly welcome all visitors joining us today at St. Catherine of Siena Parish whether you are here for the first time, visiting family, or simply passing through.

We are blessed by your presence and hope you feel at home in this house of God.

If you are new to the area and would like to learn more about our parish community, or how to register, please contact the parish office at 732-938-5375.

May the peace of Christ be with you during your time with us!

#### Our Newest Members:

Diane Ferreira

The Russo Family Leonardo, Martine Giovanni & Valentina

# Love

#### To love is to learn how to follow Christ together.

To love is to learn how to follow Christ together. Love is not just a feeling it's a daily decision to walk with others in faith, humility, and compassion. As Christ loved us, we are called to love one another: with patience in difficulty, generosity in need, and mercy in weakness.

When we love as Christ loves, we become instruments of His peace and healing in the world. True Christian love unites us, strengthens the Church, and draws others closer to God.

Let us love not just in words, but in action—serving, forgiving, and building each other up in Christ.

#### Readings for the week of May 25, 2025

Sunday:

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/ Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

Monday:

Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday:

Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday:

Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/ Jn 16:12-15

Thursday:

Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/ Lk 24:46-53

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Jn 16:20-23

#### Saturday:

Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/ls 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56

#### Next Sunday:

Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/ Jn 17:20-26 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/ Lk 24:46-53

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK Reflect and Respond

**1st Reading Question** 

We hear how the church in Jerusalem resolved their conflicts through dialogue and compromise. When has your faith community had to resolve a conflict?

#### **2nd Reading Question**

As John's final vision continues, he sees the splendor and glory of God lighting the city of Jerusalem. Can you think of a time when you felt really close to God?

#### Gospel

Jesus taught his disciples that the Holy Spirit will be sent to believers to teach them and remind them of his words. Can you share a time when you have felt inspired by the Holy Spirit?



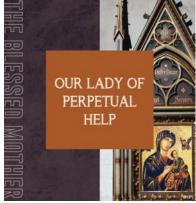
# Live the Liturgy

Inspiration of the Week

God makes His dwelling with those who love Him and keep His word. We must all make our lives places where God feels welcome to dwell. Our actions, our words, our decisions must all say in one voice: "Come, Holy Spirit!"

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Explained

Our Lady of Perpetual Help refers both to a title conferred upon the Blessed Mother as well as to a corresponding icon that dates to the late Middle Ages. Painted on wood, the original icon has a Byzantine style and depicts the Blessed Mother holding the Christ Child. She is flanked by St. Michael and St. Gabriel, who hold the instruments of Christ's passion, including a spear, nails and the Crown of Thorns. In the image, Christ seemingly leans into his mother's embrace for comfort and strength as he contemplates these objects.



The icon is thought to have originated in Crete, but for 300 years was venerated in the Church of San Matteo in Merulana in Rome. Blessed Pope Pius IX entrusted the image to the Order of Redemptorists, who moved it to the Church of St. Alphonsus. He later established the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help on June 27.

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus will be celebrated in all the Latin-rite dioceses of New Jersey, Sunday, June 1, 2025.



# To serve is to live like Jesus—with love, humility, and purpose.



# SERVE

## To serve is to live like Jesus-with love, humility, and purpose.

At the heart and soul of our parish is the call from Jesus: to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We believe the best way to

live this out is by forming

heart of ministry.

community and sharing our faith together—this is the

If you're looking for a way to grow in faith and serve

others, we invite you to get

liturgy, faith formation, out-

there's a place for you here.

involved in parish life.

Whether it's through

reach, or hospitality-

VOLUNTEER AND SHARE YOUR GIFTS

Looking for a meaningful way to get involved at St. Catherine of Siena Parish? We are currently seeking volunteers to help with:

Parish Events & Hospitality

Mass Ministries (ushers, lectors, & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion) Music Ministry (cantors, choir)

Office Help (weekday assistance, phone support, data entry, organizing supplies)

Teach Students the Faith We're seeking adult teachers to support our Parish Religious Education Program

Whether you have an hour a week or can help occasionally, your time and talents make a difference!

To learn more or sign up, please contact the parish office.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another..." - 1 Peter 4:10

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 29 PARISH SUMMER PICNIC. Volunteer today!

#### Godparent For the Sacrament of Baptism | Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation

#### To Serve as a Godparent

To serve as a godparent is more than an honor—it is a sacred calling. A godparent supports the faith journey of a child by example, prayer, and ongoing spiritual encouragement. Chosen not just for closeness, but for character and commitment to the Catholic faith, a godparent walks alongside the child and their family, helping to nurture a life rooted in Christ.

#### To Serve as a Confirmation Sponsor

To serve as a Confirmation sponsor is a meaningful role in the life of a young Catholic. A sponsor stands as a witness to the faith, guiding the candidate through prayer, encouragement, and example. Chosen for their active Catholic life, sponsors help the candidate grow in their relationship with Christ and take their place as a fully initiated member of the Church. It is a commitment of presence, prayer, and ongoing spiritual support.

#### **Eligibility**

# According to Canon Law, godparents & sponsors must:

Be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church

Be at least 16 yrs of age

Received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, & Confirmation

Not be bound by canonical penalties

Not be the father or mother of the one being baptized

#### Letter of Good Standing

Before we can issue "a letter of good standing" from the Office of the Pastor, we ask that you be an active, registered parishioner for a minimum of six (6) months. An active member:

Attends Mass on a regular basis & is registered, showing regular participation with the life, mission and support of St. Catherine of Siena Parish.

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.



#### To grow in Christ is to become who we are meant to be.

#### **COME AND SEE**



The more you study the faith and encounter God in prayer, the more your trust in Him grows.

Make time each day to nurture your relationship with God, and consider joining others in reading Scripture and growing together in faith.



It's not about what it is. It's about *Who* it is. The same Jesus who walked the streets of Jerusalem and Galilee 2,000 years ago is truly present to us sacramentally under the appearance of bread and wine. In the Eucharist, the God of the universe invites us into a deeper experience of his perfect love—and he is waiting for you.

DATES: Tuesday MAY 27 TIME: 10:00 AM —11:30 AM PARISH HALL

## VIDEO & DISCUSSION SERIES

Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is the "source and summit" of the Christian life.

*Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist* explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, from its origin's in Sacred Scripture to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members. The Eucharist is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation.

Join us for coffee & snacks in this low pressure environment. All are welcome.

FORMED.org Great Catholic content for the whole family!

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Signing up for Formed is quick and easy. Just follow the simple instructions below:

Go to <u>formed.org/signup</u> Search for your parish by zip code.

Click on your parish.

Register with your name and email address.

Check that email account for a link to begin using Formed.

# PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

## Forming hearts, growing faith, following Christ.

#### New! Mommy & Me Program A Faith-Filled Start for Our Littlest Disciples



St. Catherine of Siena Parish is excited to launch our new Mommy & Me Program—a special opportunity for mothers (or caregivers) and young children (ages infant to 4) to gather in faith, friendship, and fun!

Join us for songs, stories, crafts, simple prayers, and playtime in a welcoming, faith-based environment.

When: Thursday, June 12—10: AM Where: Parish Center Activity Room Cost: Free! All are welcome.

Come connect with other families and help plant seeds of faith in your little one's heart!

For more information or to register, contact Laura Randazzo at email: passociate@sienachurch.org.

# Children's Liturgy of the Word



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### CALLING ALL CHILDREN AGES 4-8 Join Miss Kitty & Miss Megan

### Sundays during the 10:00 AM Mass & 11:30 AM Mass.

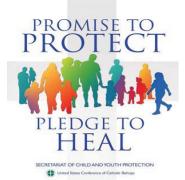
This special time allows children to hear God's Word in a way they can understand and reflect on through prayer, discussion, and age-appropriate activities. They return to their families before the Liturgy of the Eucharist. No registration required—just come and join us! Help your child grow in faith, one Sunday at a time.

#### THE DIOCESE OF

TRENTON is committed to the initiative outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and to its own policies and guidelines regarding 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 via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrento n.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.



# STEWARDSHIP

# What shall I return to the Lord for all He has given me?

#### **Offertory Update**

May 18   19, 2025				
4:30 PM	\$1,470.00			
8:00 AM	\$1,190.00			
10:00 AM	\$1,577.00			
11:30 AM	\$1,485.00			
Online Giving <b>\$2,433.00</b>				

#### Weekend Total: \$8,153.00

Candle \$795.00

Energy & Fuel \$500.00

#### **Parish Offertory**

Support the ongoing, operational needs at St. Catherine's, including the care of people, programs and facilities.

Your offertory gifts enable us to celebrate our Masses each week, provide pastoral care, and maintain our sacred spaces.

Thanks to your support our parish can continue our mission to know, love, serve and grow and Jesus did.



# Would You Like to Receive Offertory Envelopes?

If you are a registered parishioner and would like to begin receiving **offertory envelopes**, please contact the parish office. Using envelopes is a helpful way to support the parish regularly and to receive a record of your contributions for tax purposes.

Not yet registered? We'd be happy to welcome you! Stop by the parish office to register.

#### Also, did you know you can:



### St. Catherine of Siena Parish Online Giving An easier way to support us!

CONSIDER SIGNING UP FOR ONLINE GIVING WITH WESHARE

To enroll, go to www.sienachurch.org, click on our e-Giving link .

This will bring you to our PARISH GIVING page. From there, you will be able to set up a one time or recurring donation!

# Fan the Flame of HOPE 2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

# DONATE NOW

#### PARISH UPDATE as of May 16, 2025

Goal:	\$38,000.00	
Pledged:	\$55,113.85	145% of Goal
Paid:	\$49,601.85	131% of Goal

We are thrilled to announce that our parish has exceeded our 2025 ACA Goal! Thank you to all who have donated. If you haven't made your gift, please do so. **Your gift directly helps our parish benefit as funds are applied to Parish Formation Programs**.



#### 2 Corinthians 9:7

"Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

