

Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish



250 S. 12th Street
Reading, PA 19602

ST. MARY'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.
Sunday : 10:30 a.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 -3:15 p.m. in the Church. Otherwise, by appointment only

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Brian M. Miller, M.A., Pastor
Rev. Van-Vien (JV) Nguyen, Parochial Vicar
Deacon John Stapleton
Deacon Gregory Schneider
Mrs. Marcella Kraycik, Principal
Rev. Msgr. Joseph P. T. Smith, Pastor Emeritus

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
Direct Line: (800) 791-9209
Office of Safe Environment: Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W, M.S.

Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services

P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndiocese.org



4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606

ST. CATHARINE'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Daily: Monday - Friday - 7:15 a.m.

Sacraments Reconciliation: Saturday - 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. - in the Church otherwise, by appointment only.

PARISH CENTER: 4975 Boyertown Pike

Phone: 610-779-4005
Parish Website: www.scsreading.org
Parish Email: saintcatharineofreading@gmail.com

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue

Phone: 610-779-5810 • www.scsreading.org

PREP OFFICE: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue

Phone: 610-779-8535

PRE-SCHOOL:

Phone: 610-779-5810

Please mail all your correspondence to the Parish Center,
4975 Boyertown Pike, Reading, PA 19606

St. Catharine of Siena Parish Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, as brothers and sisters in Christ guided by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and inspired by the works of our patron saint proclaim a desire to grow in our Roman Catholic faith through holiness and a willingness to serve the members of our parish family and community.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, November 30th - 3:30 p.m. - Jane Chelstowski
(37th Anniversary)

Sunday, December 1st - 10:30 a.m. - Jean Ustaszewski

Saturday, December 7th - 3:30 p.m. - Dorothy Zienlinski

Sunday, December 8th - 10:30 a.m. - Catherine Pieja Cirulli

The Polish American Heritage Assoc. of Berks County will hold its annual Polish Christmas Eve Wigilia Dinner on Sunday, December 15th, at the YR Club, 1029 Thrush Rd., Wyomissing. Doors open at 4:15pm. Cocktail hour (cash bar) and hor d'oeuvres 4:30-5:30pm followed by the sharing of the Christmas wafer, dinner, koledy, dessert, coffee and tea. Members: \$55.; Non-members: \$65. For more information and reservations, call Henry Pruski at 610-372-1279. after 7:00pm. The deadline for reservations is Dec. 6th.



ENVELOPES can be found today on the altar rail for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Each plant is \$12.00. Please print names legibly.



**MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE
FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION, MONDAY,
DECEMBER 9TH**
7:15 A.M.
12:00 NOON
6:30 P.M.

ST. MARY'S - 8:00 A.M.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. We will have additional Masses during Advent. Everyone is invited!

Tuesday, December 3rd, 10th & 17th at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 4th, 11th & 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 5, 12th & 19th at 6:30 p.m.



Advent Confessions

Regular Schedule

Saturdays

2:45pm-3:15 pm St. Mary's

3:30pm-4:15 pm Church

Mondays

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

**Additional Confessions for Advent
Sundays**

6:45 am-7:15 am Church

8:45 am-9:15 am Church

9:45 am-10:15 am St. Mary's

10:45 am-11:15 am Church

**Retreats - Women's Retreat - Saturday, December
7th - 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Men's Retreat - Saturday, December 7th - 9:00-
11:00 a.m.**

**Advent Penance Service - Monday December 16th
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Church**

**Christmas Eve
Tuesday, December 24th**

4:00 pm Church

7:00 pm Church

9:00 pm St. Mary's

10:30 pm Church

Christmas Day - Wednesday, December 25th

8:00 am Church

9:00 am St. Mary's

10:00 am - Church

**Daily Mass from December 26th to December 29th
9:00 am Chapel**

**December 28th— 29th
Regular Sunday Schedule**

**Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation
December 31st - 4:00 p.m.**

January 1st

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

**St. Mary's
9:00 a.m.**

Jer 33:14-16: Jeremiah reveals the promise of the Lord made to the House of Israel. A shoot from David shall do what is right and just. Judah and Jerusalem shall be safe.

1 Thes 3:12- 4:2: Paul prays that the Lord will increase His love among the Thessalonians. In turn they must live a life pleasing to God so that they may progress in the way of perfection.

Lk 21:25-28, 34-36: Jesus tells His disciples that there will be signs for His second coming. The sun, moon, stars, anguish among people, fright- these will warn of His coming. They should watch, pray and stand secure before the Son of Man.

Today's Message: We must be on guard for the Day which is to come when all will be fulfilled. As we await the coming of Christ, let us love one another, observing His covenant and decrees.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass until 8:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS -- 7:00-8:00 p.m.

CUB SCOUTS – 6:30p.m. – Social Hall

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

50+ BOARD MEETING – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. -School

50+ CHRISTMAS PARTY – Double Tree Hotel

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.

SIENA STITCHERS – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

OCIA – 6.00 p.m. – Meeting Room

PATRIOTIC ROSARY – 6:00 p.m. - Church

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING – 7:00 p.m. – Social Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m.

MEN 'S ADVENT BREAKFAST – 9:00-11:00 a.m. – Social Hall

WOMEN'S ADVENT DINNER – 5:30-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:00 Mary Moll

4:30 David & Mary George

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:30 Diane Cerra

9:30 Joseph F. Kabat

11:30 David S. Snukis

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:15 Deceased Members of the Curtin, Kroener, and Wagner Families

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:15 Patricia Pinto

6:30 p.m. Bernie Soltysik

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:15 Walter Paul

6:30 p.m. Bernie Soltysik

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

7:15 The Rickert, Platko, and Verbosh Families

6:30p.m. Tara Reed

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

7:15 Richard Heins (11th Anniversary)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00 Owen A. Holbrook

4:30 Chester & Dorothy Sychertz

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

7:30 Theresa & William Bryan

9:30 Marie P. Bassler

11:30 Henry & Mary Jane Skowron

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 1, 2024

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent

Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday

Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7. 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

Second Sunday of Advent

Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6



For the week of December 1st
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn In
Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - Joseph M. Daly

St. Mary's - Dorothy Zielinski

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/2	Rev. Thomas P. Bortz
Tuesday 12/3	Rev. Ronald P. Bowman
Wednesday 12/4	Rev. Nikolai R. Brelinsky
Thursday 12/5	Rev. Richard C. Brensinger
Friday 12/6	Rev. Alexander T. Brown
Saturday 12/7	Rev. Thomas R. Buckley

THE SCS KNIGHTLY NEWS



THE SCS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ARE HOSTING A



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 2024
(at the SCS SOCIAL HALL)**

Visits with Santa and Breakfast will begin following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude at 11:30 AM

Each child Visiting with Santa will receive a small gift bag from him

BREAKFAST MENU: Scrambled Egg Casseroles (Plain Egg, Ham & Cheese, or Western Style) Creamed Chipped Beef Bacon Sausage French Toast Home Fries Toast Coffee Milk Juice

An opportunity for a free will offering will be available to cover the cost of the breakfast

The SCS Knights thank you all for your support through the year and wish you and your families all the blessings of this joyous Christmas Season!



Men's & Women's Advent Events

Rest & prepare for Christ's coming.

Saturday, December 7, 2024
at Saint Catharine of Siena Social Hall

BOTH events include:

- + delicious food
- + fellowship
- + guest speaker
- + adoration
- + confession
- + free will offering



Men's Breakfast

9-11 AM

Be a Catholic man in the mold of St. Joesph

Host or join a dinner table.

Contact Ted Matyas at Edward.matyas@gmail.com
RSVP by Dec 2

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Women's Dinner

5:30-8 PM

Women's Advent Reflections

Host or join a dinner table.

Contact Cassie Sedlack at Bhoujii@comcast.net
610-698-1168
RSVP by Dec 2

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI): available at the parish office throughout the week. The wafers are broken and shared on Christmas Eve at the family meal.

Join our team of AMAZING educators !Looking to teach in faith filled school? Looking to get back in the classroom from retirement? Looking to get back into the classroom after family time? Then we are looking for you! We are in search of a Long Term Substitute Job Function: Third Grade Long Term Substitute-responsible for covering all the teacher's duties, such as teaching classes, and helping students adjust to a new routine. This position has the possibility to turn in a full time teaching position for the 25-26 school year. Please contact Mkraycik@scsreading.org for more details.



Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

a time to be born... Recently Baptized:

Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, Carl Andrzejewski, Anthony Antonucci, Joan Antush, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene Bezak, Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Jim Boris, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhardt, Maria Bunch, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Therese (Brenner) Cooney, Richard Cunnus, Larry Curtin, Barbara D'Augustino, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Alivia Devlin, Jennifer & Thomas Devlin, George Dietrich, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Dr. Elizabeth Edmunds, Charles Elchlepp, Marian Ertel, Joe Essig, Robert Flipping, Jocelyn Franek, Abby Franey, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Todd Gladfelter, Theresa Grabowski, Clara Hartline, Ruth Ann Hass, Al Heck, William F. Hedl, Wayne & Mary Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Curtis S. Hill, Jesse Hill, Roger Hilton, Michael Hivner, Chuck Holt, Margaret Iuso, Michael Jurasinski, Katelynn Solecki Kajunski, Nikki Lyn Kells, Krissy Kelly, Maryanne Kenton, Lynn Keys, Cindy Kohl, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, John Kompa, Jackie Kopicki, Deb Kothgasser, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Walter LaSota, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Pat Lenich, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinuzzi, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, William Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, David Plumley, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Nada Rathkey, Phyliss Rathman, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, Aneliese & Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Barbara Schock, Edward Senkowski, Bob Shardin, Earl Sheetz, Gabbie Sierra, Vincent Skimski, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Anne Smith, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suhomelly, Thomas Sword, Sean Tipping, Kimberly Trigstead, Richard Uliasz, Janet Ustaszewski, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, John Vogel, Alexandra Wachowicz, Dave Walter, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Lyn Weidenhammer, Bill Wertz, Frank White, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zerkowski, Dan Zielinski, John Ziemba, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman *A Time to die: & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11*

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Parishioners who are sick or hospitalized, in a rehabilitation facility or at home wishing to receive the Holy Eucharist may call the Parish at 610-779-4005.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: First Lt. David J. Wentling, IV, Second Lt. Nicholas A. Wentling, Cpts. Juliana & Sean Coleman, Petty Officer Matthew J. Dobroskey, Jr., Cpl. Bruce Bogertey, SPC, Alex Heintz, Captain Chelsea Pellicano, LTJG Nicholas Tomczyk, Captain Steffan Lis, MD, SPC, Dylan Einfalt, Airman 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, TSgt. Timothy Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.

SAVE THE DATE

We Still Do... and Always Will

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 4:30 Mass
St. Catharine of Siena Roman Catholic Church
Look for sign up forms in January

If you'd like to help plan the event, please contact Lisa Siciliano at 610-781-4064 or by e-mail at wdy561@yahoo.com

Renewal of Wedding Vows Ceremony & Dinner in the Social Hall



The Siena Stitchers will be displaying handmade articles for sale at the Church. All proceeds will go to the Saint Vincent De Paul Society.

Welcome! If you are visiting, we hope you find us to be a warm and welcoming faith community. If you are new to the area, we encourage you to register as members. You can do this by meeting Father Miller or Father JV after Mass. We are happy you are here!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

50 Plus News

Please call, Acting President Bev Gallo for any 50 Plus Club inquiries. Her phone number is 610-763-7058. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.

Meetings

January 8, 2025: Pat White will review the trips for 2025. Refreshments will be served.

Trips

All trips for the year are closed!

December 4, 2024: The 50+ Christmas Party will be held at the Doubletree Hotel. The cost is \$35 for members and \$37 for nonmembers. Deadline for the Christmas Party reservations/cancellations is 11/25/24. For more information call, Janina Ankielewicz 215-644-7396.

Please call Pat White at 610-582-1437 or Bev Bard at 610-763-5654. For trip information.

Please call Maria Bunch at 610-914-7005 with the names of members who are sick or who have died.

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 PM on the first Wednesday of most months at St Catharine Social Hall. There will be no meetings during the special events months of April, August, and December.

Advent/Christmas devotional books (small blue books) are available at the Church Store. Cost is \$2.

Time is running out to help Gethsemane Cemetery sponsor a Veteran's wreath through Wreaths Across America this season. The last day to sponsor is December 3rd, 2024. Please visit Gethcem.com or call 610-929-2613 for more information.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Say thank you to the senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who devoted their lives to serving others. The Diocesan Collection date for the Retirement Fund will be on the weekend of December 7th & 8th.


ADVENT CHALLENGE – INVITE ONE BACK: Consider inviting someone you know who has fallen from the practice of the faith. Invite them to join you at a Daily of Sunday Mass or weekly devotions. As we await the coming of our Lord at Christmas, we are reminded that Jesus always waits for our return. Perhaps someone you know needs a simple invitation on how to do that.

The Patriotic Rosary will continue every Thursday at 6pm in the Church. All are welcome.

BERKS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024
3:00 P.M.

SACRED HEART CHURCH
740 FRANKLIN STREET
WEST READING, PA 19611



Christmas Vespers

FEATURING THE
SAINTS HONOR CHOIR



With heartfelt gratitude,
St. Catharine of Siena
School extends
its thanks for your
generous support
of our endowment.



DEC 15, 2024

St. Catharine of Siena Parish Reading, Pennsylvania
A Special Collection for the St. Catharine
of Siena School Endowment Campaign

*Thank you for helping us ensure the health and future
of our school for generations to come.*



Amount \$ _____

*With your kindness and continued generosity,
your donation helps our St. Catharine of Siena School
students become who God meant them to be!*

DID YOU KNOW? - Through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Pennsylvania Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), businesses and individuals can lower their tax bills by donating to private schools, scholarship organizations, pre-K programs, and other educational enrichment initiatives. The bulk of the tax credits — \$110 million per year — are reserved for donors that give to scholarship organizations, which provide financial aid to children attending K-12 private schools. The program also sets aside a small amount of tax credits for donors that give to pre-k scholarship funds. At Saint Catharine of Siena School, our EITC and OSTC program plays an essential role in the school's financial strategy as well as the fulfillment of our mission. Saint Catharine of Siena School is seeking donors to participate in the EITC/OSTC program to alleviate the burden of financial aid on our operating budget AND to give as many children access to a Catholic, Saint Catharine of Siena education as possible. If you are interested in learning more about this tax credit scholarship program, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Conlon, SCS Advancement Director @ 610-779-5810.