Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish





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 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.

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, December 14th - 3:30 p.m. - Mr & Mrs Francis Zalegowski

Sunday, December 15th - 10:30 a.m. - Rita Gethmann Saturday, December 21st - 3:30 p.m. - John & Sophia Samolewicz

Sunday, December 22nd - 10:30 a.m. - Helena Wlazewska (11th Anniversary)

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.

We will be decorating St. Mary's Church for Christmas on Thursday, December 19th beginning at 9:00 am We look forward to your help.

The Polish American TV Show - Tom Gajewski interviews people from the Polish American Community on BCTV about topics of interest, events and activities every month. The program airs on Comcast Ch 15 and Service Electric Ch 19 as follows: First Tuesday of every month - 7:30 pm - First Wednesday after First Tuesday - 7:30 pm - First Friday after First Tuesday - 1:30 pm - First Monday after First Tuesday - 10:30 am - Second Tuesday - 3:30 pm. Your feedback and/or ideas for future programs is welcome- Call Tom 610 -698-8731.

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 17th at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 18th at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m.



All members of the parish are invited to attend an Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 16th at 7:00 p.m. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the blessings of the holiday season and spiritually prepare

for the new year. Multiple priests will be available for Confession.



Advent Confessions

Regular Schedule

Saturdays

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

3:30pm-4:15 pm

Mondays

7:00 pm-8:00 pm

Additional Confessions for Advent Sundays

6:45 am-7:15 am

8:45 am-9:15 am

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

10:45 am-11:15 am

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

Christmas Eve Masses Tuesday, December 24th

4:00 pm

7:00 pm

9:00 pm St. Mary's

10:30 pm

Christmas Day Masses - Wednesday, December 25th 8:00 am

9:00 am St. Mary's

9.00 am St. Mary

10:00 am

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

December 28th— 29th Regular Sunday Mass 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.

Zep 3:14-18a: Zephaniah writes that Israel should shout for joy. Her King, the Lord, is in her midst. The Lord is a mighty Savior. Israel should not be discouraged.

Phil 4:4-7: Christians should rejoice in the Lord. They should take their prayers and petitions to Him. God will watch over His children.

Lk 3: 10-18: John preached a law of sharing. He baptized and admonished all to be just and loving and to pray. John tells the people about the majesty of the Messiah.

<u>Today's Message</u>: Rejoice in the Lord always! Great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel, a mighty Savior. It is He whom John foretold; it is He who will baptize in the Holy Spirit.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room BREAKFAST WITH SANTA – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m. – Social Hall

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.

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

OCIA - 6.00 p.m. - Meeting Room

PATRIOTIC ROSARY – 5:45 p.m. – Church

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

Social Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

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



For the week of December 15th
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn In
Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - John Kiedeisch

St. Mary's - Susan Nieto

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00 Margaret Bucciaglia 4:30 Patricia & Joseph Capilo

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:30 Helen Krafczek (1st Anniversary)

9:30 Maria Mac Nguyen

11:30 Elizabeth Mesisca (2nd Anniversary)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:15 Theresa Stelmach TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:15 Helen Mudery

6:30 p.m. Albert C. Lellig

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:15 Marguerite Arthur (31st Anniversary)

6:30 p.m. Terry Mscichowski THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:15 The Wright & Didyoung Families

6:30p.m. George Auchter FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20 7:15 Evan Eckel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 The Kohalmi & Horvath Families

4:30 Steven Bibbo SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:30 Grace Turnbach (1st Anniversary)

9:30 Frank Ferko

11:30 Carmen Romero (12th Anniversary)

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 15, 2024

Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Monday

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Wednesday

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Thursday

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Frida

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday

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

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

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

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

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/16 Tuesday 12/17 Wednesday 12/18 Thursday 12/19 Friday 12/20 Saturday 12/21 Rev. Michael Camilli, M.S.C. Rev. Msgr. John S. Campbell Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Chaback Rev. James Chalangadi, O.C.D. Rev. Msgr. John G. Chizmar Rev. Msgr. Donald W. Cieniewicz

Parish Nurse News - Healthy Advent reminders! Purposeful kind and generous acts help us to help others especially during the holiday season. Share your gifts through donations, kind words, considerate driving, conversation with someone who lost a loved one recently, tips for restaurant workers, and check-ins with relatives and friends whenever possible this month!

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.

February 5, 2025: Matthew Dudds will sing songs and tell stories for Valentine's Day. Refreshments will be served.

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.

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception - The Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., will be on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Diocesan Pilgrimage tradition to Mary's House is typically held every four years. More information will be forthcoming for individuals, parishes, and schools. Email pilgrimage@aor call 610-921-2729, ext. 2205.

Christmas Boutique Thank You!

The Christmas Boutique had another successful year, not only financially, but by its draw to attract even bigger crowds than in previous years.

Thank you to everyone who attended, purchased dinners, supported the vendors and who purchased the raffle tickets.

Congratulations to the big winner of the \$1,000 prize, Peg Giering. Joseph Fidler won the iPad, Ann Jackloski won the 50 -inch TV, and lucky Linda Fetterman won both the StubHub and Amazon gift cards. But Linda graciously asked us to redraw a name for the StubHub card as she did not want to win two times. The additional name drawn was Sangia. Thank you Linda!

The boutique realized a gross revenue of \$24,520.05 and after all expenses had a net profit of \$18,348.01.

This would not be possible without the help of so many parishioners who assisted in countless ways. It was edifying to see so many parishioners wanting to help. And as the event does seem to grow each year, we will be looking for even more to get involved in 2025! This is truly becoming a parish-wide effort.

Thank you to the talented cooks at St. Mary's who made 150 dozen pierogi for the boutique....as expected....these were a quick sell out!

We also thank the community businesses for their support in donating gift cards. And we specifically want to thank Thrivent Insurance, the Bean Funeral Home and the Lutz Funeral Home for their financial support of the event.

Thank you to Bev McDevitt and Angelorum for sharing their amazing talents with us at the Boutique concert. If you missed it....don't make that mistake next year!

Finally, thank you to our great parish organizations for donating some of the best baskets in the basket raffle: The Knights of Columbus Council 14880, The Prep Teachers, The Eucharistic Ministers, The Guitar Choir, The Choir and Music Ministry, The 50 Plus Club and Boy Scout Troop 358.

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.

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

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 Andrzjewski, Anthony Antonucci, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene Bezak, Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Susan Bolognese, Jim Boris, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhart, Maria Bunch, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Therese (Brenner) Cooney, Richard Cunnius, Larry Curtin, 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 Franck, Abby Francy, 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 & Fred Lenich, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinozzi, 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, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Anne Smith, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, 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: John Rundle (husband of Marian Rundle) & 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.

Millions of Monicas – Praying With Confidence For Our Children

Many of us have children who are struggling to embrace their Catholic faith or have left the church entirely. Like St. Monica, as mothers we persevere in prayer for their joyful return to full unity with the Catholic Church. We are not a support group or a self-help group. No sensitive information is shared. We believe that by coming together monthly, uniting our hearts and voices praying together, we can bring strength and joy to each other. We want to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children.

Join with other mothers, grandmothers, step-mothers, Godmothers, etc., as we pray to grow in holiness and humility, and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church.

We will have three separate meetings held on different days and times with the hope that if one meeting is not convenient, there is another for you. We will meet on the first Wednesday of each month (with the exception of 1/1/25 that will be held on 1/8/25 only) from 7p - 8p. We'll have another on the second Saturday of the month from 9a - 10a. We will also meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 9a - 10a. All meetings will be held in the Church.

For more information please visit <u>www.millionsofmonicas.com</u>.

Kennedy House. Want to volunteer and help those struggling? It is St. Catharine's turn to run the Kennedy House in Reading. We would love to have you come and help out either Saturday, January 18th and or Sunday, January 19th or both days! Times are from 9:30-2 each day. Please call, text, or email if you can help - Sara Miller 484-459-0270 or sk1699@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there.

Also, if you are unable to help but would be willing to donate food or other supplies we would need, please contact me as well.

<u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/10C0848ACA823A4FA7-53411942-kennedy



Patriotic Rosary

Thursday's 5:45 PM (Advent Time) Church

Pick 3 Lottery Ca\$h Calendar Fundraiser

Help St. Catharine of Siena School and win big! Each \$20 calendar offers **59 chances to win** with daily cash prizes. Match your number to the PA Evening Pick 3 Lottery and win the amount listed for that date! Proceeds will go directly to the school.

How to Get Your Calendar:

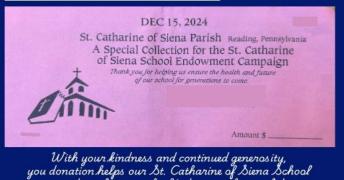
- Fill out the order form available at the church
- Visit or call the school office (Mon-Fri, 8:30 AM–3:00 PM; (610) 779-5810).
- Contact a SAB member or email scsschoolboard@gmail.com

Payment accepted via cash, check, or Venmo. Must be 18+ to play.

Act fast—calendars are limited! Thank you for supporting our school community!

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





ionation.helps our St. Catharine of Siena Schoo students become who Hod meant them to be!

SAVE THE DATE

We Still Do . . . and Always Will

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 4:30 Mass
St. Catharine of Siena Roman Catholic Church
Lock 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 Vous Ceremony & Dinner in the Social Hall





Designed with Purpose NFP Information Night - What is "Natural Family Planning" and why does the Church promote it? Join the NFP Task Force at Building 24 Kitchen and Bar, 1115 Bern Rd., Wyomissing, PA 19610, where speakers will talk through the science of how "NFP" works and why it's vital for women's health. Whether you're single, engaged, married, or simply want to learn more about NFP, we welcome you to join us on February 6 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact the NFP Task Force allentown.nfp@gmail.co with questions. RSVP at allentowndiocese.flock.



YOU ARE INVITED!

DINNER + OPEN BAR + SISTERS' SKIT UPTOWN BAND + LIVE AUCTION + DISNEY GIVEAWAY

Friday, March 7, 2025 6:30-9:30 PM The PLEX at Alvernia University Tickets \$125 pp or \$800 table of 8

Visit: www.bfranciscan.org or Call: 484-334-6815

Benefiting the BERNARDINE FRANCISCAN SISTERS

