

# St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727

January 3, 2016

## Diocese of Trenton

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M.  
Bishop of Trenton  
**Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon, Pastor**  
**Rev. Alfred Burke, Weekend Assistant**  
Deacon Joseph Prioli  
Deacon Daniel Sakowski  
Director of Religious Education: Kyle Galante  
Parish Office Secretary: Carol Morton  
Religious Education Secretary: Janice Deakyne  
Sacristan: Ruth Ziznewski  
Organist: Judy Hyer  
Parish Trustees: Robert Mercado & Cindy Ventura

## Baptism Classes:

3rd Wednesdays 7:30 PM *Church*

## Children's Liturgy of the Word:

2nd & 4th Sundays 11:30 AM

## Christian Yoga:

Tuesdays, thru March 15, 7-8:30 PM *Chapel*

## Legion of Mary:

Thursdays 10:00 AM *Conference Room*

## Men's Prayer Group:

2nd Saturdays 9:00 AM *Chapel*

## RCIA:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7:00 PM *Classroom 10*

## Rosary Altar Society:

3rd Wednesdays 7:00 PM *Church* except January

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

2nd Mondays 7:00 PM *Parish Hall* except January

## Homebound Ministry:

If a homebound family member, friend, or neighbor would like to receive Holy Communion, visits, or calls, contact the Parish Office.

## SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS:

Jean & Mike Burke, Joseph Cocuzza, Joe Diamond, Carmen Devaux, Nancy Drake, Michael Fekete, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Bob Fort, Angie Gorda, John Gerow, Marlene Gravatt, Lori Jones, Edward Kress, Charles Lambert, Lauren MacArthur, Teresa Magyar, Betty McCann, Margie McCullam, John Masterson, Amber Painter, Esther Peraza, Jeanette Picciani, Betty Reuter, Barbara Sansevere, Nancy Soper, Ilona Supczynski, Theodore Wojtanowski, George Zieminski

St. Vincent de Paul has a new website, [donatetosvdp.org](http://donatetosvdp.org). There is a link to make donations directly to SVDP using PayPal. The website has information about the history of SVDP, our services and volunteering. A quick, easy Give link provides a way to make donations that will help to make a difference in our community. A link for Amazon Smile provides a way for your Amazon.com purchases to become a donation. For use of church envelopes, please make the check out to St. Vincent de Paul Society.

## Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 4:30 PM Sunday: 8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM

## Weekday Masses @ Chapel, 9:00 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

## Miraculous Medal Novena:

Monday, following 9:00 AM Mass

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

1st Friday, following 9:00 AM Mass to 11:00 AM

## Holy Day Masses:

As announced in bulletin

## Confessions:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

## Baptisms:

2nd & 4th Sundays

## Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

## Religious Education Office Hours

Monday: 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM

Wednesday: 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM

## Website:

[www.sienachurch.org](http://www.sienachurch.org)

## Mass Schedule:

732-938-5375 ext. 6

## Parish Office:

732-938-5375

## Religious Education:

732-938-6229

## FAX Phone:

732-938-3260

## Last Rites:

732-938-5375 ext. 7

## Deacon Joe:

732-938-5375 ext. 9

## Deacon Dan:

732-938-5375 ext. 3

## Parish Bookkeeper:

732-938-5375 ext. 8

## St. Vincent de Paul:

732-938-3454

## Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, January 2, 2016

4:30 PM Patricia Bicica r/o Julie DeLuca

### SUNDAY, January 3, 2016

8:00 AM Grace Emmons r/o Terry & Arnold Carpenter

10:00 AM Patricia Bicica r/o Julie DeLuca

11:30 AM Marjorie Seagriff r/o Homebound Ministry

### Weekday Masses at St. Catherine's Chapel, 9:00 AM

#### MONDAY, January 4, 2016

9:00 AM Esfeca del Mundo r/o Charles, Perlita, & Katrina

#### TUESDAY, January 5, 2016

9:00 AM Suzanne Riddlemoser r/o Family

#### THURSDAY, January 7, 2016

9:00 AM Antonio Barbini r/o Rich Schubert

#### FRIDAY, January 8, 2016

9:00 AM Lena Apoldite

## The Epiphany of the Lord

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

-- Isaiah 60:1

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12**



Dear Parishioners,

Today is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord Jesus. How well do we know the Epiphany story? How many of us think of a Christmas card image of three kings who are wearing crowns and riding camels following a star towards a stable in the distance? The Gospel simply describes them as “wise men” and doesn’t specify that there were three or that they arrived on camels. They assume that there are three of them because there were three gifts for the infant Jesus. As you know this tradition that the magi were kings dates from around the 6th century; so, too, the names of Melchior, Caspar and Baltazar. Matthew’s description of the wise men as coming from the east probably referred to Babylon (Iraq) or Persia (Iran). Babylon had a tradition of astronomy and the means to study the stars. The magi were believed to be astrologers who studied the sky and stars. If the star was bright enough for them to follow, was it not visible in Jerusalem as well? Had nobody there noticed it and wondered about it? They knew Scripture, and would have been familiar with the passage we heard in the first reading for today.

These are interesting questions, but the answers would not help us to see the significance of the visit of the magi. In fact, such contradictions may help us to notice the varying wonderful and mysterious ways that God worked and continues to work to bring about salvation.

The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh had symbolic meaning. Gold meant kingship and power. Frankincense, a highly fragrant gum burned in worship to God, symbolized holiness and righteousness. Myrrh, an embalming spice, meant death, foreshadowing the execution of Jesus. But the greatest significance of the story is that it highlights that non-Jewish people from across the world recognized Jesus as king soon after his birth. The wise men were the first to reveal Jesus to a wider world as the Incarnate Christ.

Today’s meaningful celebration of the Epiphany reminds us that for God there are no foreigners, everyone is included in God’s plan of redemption. The wise men teach us that Jesus came for all peoples regardless of nation and race. The message today is to live our lives in such a way that in our words to people and about people, and in our behavior and deeds, we will behave to show that we care for our sisters and brothers. It is also a time to focus on healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create for God’s children. Be mindful that we are in a season of harmony and peace, and perhaps we can reflect on the root causes of wars and conflicts and try to address them.

Christ the light of all nations, help me to be the star of wonder that shines with your compassionate and redeeming love so that all people in this world may experience your presence, justice, peace and love. Amen.

May God bless us,  
Father Angelito

**1/10/16 Weekly & Energy & Fuel**

**Some bills paid this week:**

<b>Utilities</b>	<b>\$1,115.15</b>
<b>Maintenance &amp; Repairs</b>	<b>\$ 633.37</b>
<b>Office Supplies</b>	<b>\$ 221.57</b>



This Advent season, Bishop O’Connell has asked us to be part of the current cycle of parish planning by

participating in the Faith in Our Future process. His expectation is that each parish will find neighboring parishes with whom to plan in order to: Share more resources with each other and with parishes in need; avoid unneeded duplication of services; and fill in the gaps where service and ministry have not been available. A Core Team of parishioners has been named by Fr. Angelito to lead our efforts in the process. They are: Rob Mercado (Chair), Bob Ambrose, Rick Schuberth, and Cindy Ventura. They will be overseeing the evaluation of parish ministries based on the Criteria for Planning. As the team begins to organize, they will keep us informed on a regular basis. For additional information, please visit the parish website, <http://www.sienachurch.org>, or the Diocesan site, <http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/faithinourfuture/>

What could be better than a hot bowl of soup on a cold winter day? Please help the Rosary Altar Society make our third annual "soup-er bowl" a success. We will be collecting cans of soup and non-perishable foods from now through Super Bowl Sunday. We will use these items to stock the St. Vincent De Paul “Emergency Food Closet.” Please drop all contributions off in the church lobby. \*\*\*Please check the expiration dates. Thank you & God Bless.

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Awareness month. Women, men and children in the U.S. and around the world are subjected to forced labor, domestic servitude and the sex trade at the hands of human traffickers. U.S. Catholic Sisters are working together to end this crime. Learn more about it at [sistersagainstrafficking.org](http://sistersagainstrafficking.org). Ending slavery is everyone’s work.

**SPIRITUAL ADOPTION-Eighth Month**-Your spiritually adopted baby is increasing in size and strength. Because of his larger size he is not able to move as freely about in his mother’s womb. He is receiving from his mother precious immunities to a number of diseases that will last until he is about six months old and able to begin building up his own immunities. His mother is patiently waiting for the last weeks of pregnancy to pass. She depends on your prayerful support.