

St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727



November 27, 2016



First Sunday of Advent

“You . . . must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.”

- Matthew 24:44

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Reading: Matthew 24:37-44

Diocese of Trenton
Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

Pastor
Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon

Weekend Assistant
Rev. Alfred Burke

Deacon
Deacon Daniel Sakowski

Director of Religious Education
Kyle Galante

Parish Office Secretary
Carol Morton

Religious Education Secretary
Janice Deakyne

Sacristan
Francine Gagliano

Music Director
Alice Kovach

Parish Trustees
Robert Mercado & Cindy Ventura

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 the bulletin

Confessions:
Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Baptisms:
2nd Sundays

Parish Office Hours
Monday thru Friday: 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Religious Education Office Hours
Monday: 8:30 AM to 7:15 PM
Wednesday: 8:30 AM to 5:45 PM

Parish Website:
www.sienachurch.org

Mass Schedule:
732-938-5375 ext. 6

Parish Office:
732-938-5375

Last Rites:
732-938-5375 ext. 7

Religious Education:
732-938-6229

Deacon Dan:
732-938-5375 ext. 3

St. Vincent de Paul:
732-938-3454

Parish Bookkeeper:
732-938-5375 ext. 8

FAX Phone:
732-938-3260

Sacristan/Music Director:
732-938-5375 ext. 9



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 26, 2016

4:30 PM Anthony Grosso & Maria Todino
(Jennie Grosso)

Sunday, November 27, 2016

8:00 AM Vita Carmina Delibero
(Philip & Concetta Pondaco)

10:00 AM Gaetano Parisi
(Ventura Family)

11:30 AM Jeanne A. Hyer
(Mary Obrochta)

Weekday Masses @ St. Catherine's Chapel

Monday, November 28, 2016

9:00 AM Michael D. Garfola
(Diane M. Conforti)

Tuesday, November 29, 2016

9:00 AM Joanne Kennedy
(Son, Kevin & Family)

Thursday, December 1, 2016

9:00 AM James Maher
(Kelso Family)

Friday, December 2, 2016

9:00 AM Carmen Martinez
(Cottrell Family)

Baptism Classes:

Last Wednesdays 7:00 PM *Church*

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

2nd/4th Sundays 11:30 AM *Church*

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/Hall*
3rd Sundays 9:30 AM *Church* to pray the rosary

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

2nd Mondays 7:00 PM *Parish Hall*

Homebound Ministry:

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

All Parish Offices will be closed from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM on Monday, November 28. Religious Education Office will reopen at 3:00 PM.

Sundays in Advent! Please join us at in the Chapel for a special Benediction/Prayer Service each of the four Sundays in Advent. We begin at 7:00 pm and it usually lasts for 35 minutes. Refreshments will immediately follow. Come and relax, pray & enjoy what the season is truly about.

All Christmas Giving Tree gifts must be returned to the church by Sunday, November 27. Please help make Christmas brighter for those in need by returning your gifts on time with the ORIGINAL ORNAMENT attached. Thanks for your generosity.

The Knights of Columbus will have a variety of Religious Christmas Cards available for purchase in the Narthex after all masses this weekend, November 26/27. Prices start as low as \$6.50 for a box of 15. All proceeds help support our parish initiatives.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW)

On the 2nd & 4th Sunday at the 11:30 am Mass, all children in grades K-4 (ages 5-10) are invited to participate in CLOW. Young children are given the opportunity to listen to a children's version of the Sunday's readings and Gospel stories at their own level of understanding and participate in activities that bring the readings to life. Each Sunday's Liturgy of the Word is enriched and modified to make it important and relevant to the lives and experiences of young children. After the Opening Prayer the Priest will call the children forward along with the Catechist for a special blessing, before being dismissed to classroom 1. Children are returned to their parents in the Church before the Presentation of the Gifts. No prior sign-ups are required. We will meet on November 27th. Please visit sienachurch.org for a list of yearly meeting dates. For more information, email clow@sienachurch.org.

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS:

Jean & Mike Burke, Joseph Cocuzza, Kathleen Cottrell, Carmen Devaux, Nancy Drake, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Bob Fort, Virginia Franklin, Lois Hradil, Angie Gorda, Marlene Gravatt, Lori Jones, Edward Kress, Charles Lambert, Lauren MacArthur, Teresa Magyar, Catherine Marrone, Betty McCann, Margie McCullam, Amber Painter, Esther Peraza, Jeanette Picciani, Barbara Sansevere, Nancy Soper, Ilona Supczynski, Annette Wright, Dean Wright



St. Catherine's
Christmas Carol Festival
Thursday, December 1 @ 7 pm
in the Parish hall

As we begin this season of Advent, evangelization parish efforts to reach out to those Catholics whose connection with the Church has become weak or has been broken are underway. Parishioners are urged to support this evangelization initiative with their prayers and by inviting inactive relatives, friends, and neighbors back to the Faith. All those who are away are lovingly invited to come home to their family in faith, to find healing, answers, love and support. To help these efforts, a link to the website www.catholicscomehome.org has been placed on the homepage of St. Catherine's website. This website is a great resource to all people at all stages of their faith life. Whether Catholic or not, non-practicing or active, they offer information for those who seek to understand and appreciate their faith more deeply, along with providing ways to help return to the Catholic Church. This Holy Season of Christmas promises to be an exciting time for evangelization and our parish will be offering A Christmas Carol Festival on Thursday, December 1st at 7 pm in our Parish Hall. Please join us as we welcome returnees and new parishioners with enthusiasm, love, and joy.

As we head in to the busy Advent Season, St. Catherine's is in need of additional Ushers to help at all masses. Anyone over the age of 12 can sign up and for those receiving Confirmation, this is a great way to get in some service hours! To sign up, call [732-492-6861](tel:732-492-6861) or email scottrubinson@gmail.com.

Donovan Catholic - Did you miss...Our Open House? Our Placement Test? There is still time to join the Class of 2021! Join us for Coffee with the Admissions Department on November 29 at 7 pm for an informal information session where you can find out more about the application process and how to register for our Final Make-up Placement Test. Call the Admissions Department at 732-349-8801 x2426 to RSVP.

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN and will be at St. Rose of Lima School, 51 Lincoln Place, Freehold, on Sunday, December 4, 9 am-1 pm for an event you won't want to miss! Hot Breakfast, Christmas Bazaar, Fun for all ages!

- Photos with Santa
- Gorgeous Face Painting
- Unbelievable Balloon Creations
- Craft/Vendor Tables
- Fantastic Raffle Prizes

Reserve at srlbreakfast@gmail.com.

On Thursday, December 15, 2016 the Parish family of St. Robert Bellarmine will be sponsoring a bus trip to see a production of "A Christmas Carol" at the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, NJ. If you would like to participate in this evening with fellow sisters and brothers in Christ from the Parish Family of St. Robert Bellarmine. Contact comehome@strobert.com, 732-462-7038.

*The Monmouth County Simbang Gabi Community
Invites all to the 2016 Simbang Gabi
(Christmas Novena of Masses)*

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2016, Mass @ 8:00P

St. Veronica Catholic Church
4215 US Route 9, Howell
Fr. Vic Magdaraog

Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016, Mass @ 8:00P

St. Joseph Catholic Church
376 Maple Place, Keyport
Fr. Carlo Calisin

Friday, Dec. 16, 2016, Mass @ 8:00P

Church of St. William the Abbott
2740 Lakewood Allenwood Rd., Howell
Fr. Ariel Robles

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

St. James Parish
30 Peter's Place, Red Bank
Fr. Mark Nillo

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

Church of St. Dorothea
240 Broad St., Eatontown
Fr. Ben Amora

Monday, Dec. 19, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

St. Clement's Church
172 Freneau Ave, Matawan
Fr. Gregg Abadilla

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016, Mass @ 7:00P

Church of St. Catherine of Siena
31 Asbury Rd., Farmingdale
Fr. Angelito I Anarcon

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

Holy Innocents Church
3455 W. Bangs Ave, Neptune
Fr. Lines Dela Cruz

Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016, Mass @ 7:30P

St. Benedict Church
165 Bethany Rd., Holmdel
Fr. John Michael Patilla

On the final night of Simbang Gabi, there will be a grand Christmas celebration in the Reception Hall of St. Benedict.

Please join us 30 minutes before every mass for the Holy Rosary and Confession

CONTACT:

Jhun Allanigue (732) 829-1612

"MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER"



Important Parish Information

Parish Registration ... WELCOME to the Saint Catherine of Siena Parish Family. In order to serve you better, we ask that you please take a few moments to register, to be recognized as a practicing member of the Parish. To register and receive offertory envelopes for your tax deductible donations or to inquire about our various ministries please call 732-938-5375 or email us at frontoffice@sienachurch.org. For address or other changes, including a change in Parish, please call the Parish Office. We look forward to meeting you and seeing you at our services. Thank you and God Bless.

Young Adults ... who are still living at home with their parents, who have graduated from college, and/or who are employed full-time, should register with the Parish under their own name.

Weddings ... Please call the Parish Office *one year in advance of desired wedding date, BEFORE completing any other arrangements (reception hall, etc.)*.

Baptisms ... The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the 2nd Sundays at 12:30 P.M. or can be celebrated during Sunday Mass. Arrangements must be made in advance. Prior to scheduling the baptism of your child, sponsor letters, donation, and attendance at a Baptism Preparation Class is mandatory for parents. Godparents/sponsors are also encouraged to attend. Classes are held in the Church at 7:00 P.M. on the last Wednesday of each month. To sign up you must fill out the registration form on our website for the date you wish to attend or email deacondan@sienachurch.org.

Recommendation for Sponsorship ... In order to be a godparent/sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, a person must have received all their Sacraments through Confirmation; be at least 16 years of age; if married, be married in the Catholic Church; attend Mass faithfully (*showing attendance through the use of your church envelopes or the welcome envelopes located in the narthex*); be a registered, actively participating parishioner for a minimum of six (6) months. Please stop by the Parish Office to fill out a form to be recommended for sponsorship. All requests will be seen by the Pastor and you will be notified when your form is ready.

St Catherine's Online! ... www.sienachurch.org. Check out our website for all the latest Parish info, including Parish Policies, Church Bulletin, Religious Education Calendars, Closings and Delays, Minister Schedules, and more.

Altar Flowers can be offered in memory of a deceased loved one or for any special intention (except during Lent & Advent). Offering: \$50/basket. To arrange for Altar Flowers, please call the Office @ 732-938-5375.

Prayers for the Sick... A list of prayers for those who are ill appears in the bulletin weekly. To have a family member included on this list, please call the Office @ 732-938-5375.

Parishioners with Celiac Sprue.. An extremely low-gluten (37 micrograms) host is available for those in need. *Please notify the Celebrant or the Deacon prior to the beginning of the Mass you are attending.* Look on our website under "Sacraments."

Bulletin Submissions... Because of the deadline assigned to us by the bulletin company, all information **must be submitted to the Parish Office 2 weeks in advance**. Articles given later will be included in the bulletin for the following week.

Electronic Giving... www.parishpay.com or call 866-PARISH-1

Remember Us in Your Will... A simple charitable bequest can provide very meaningful support for St. Catherine of Siena Church. An up-to-date will can protect your loved ones and your dreams; let you, not the state, determine how your assets will be distributed; help you leave a legacy through charitable gifts; help you minimize estate taxes; assure those charities you value will continue.

St. Vincent de Paul Society has a website, donatetosvdp.org. There is a link to make donations directly to SVDP using PayPal. A link for Amazon Smile makes your Amazon.com purchases a donation. For use of church envelopes, please make checks out to *Society of St. Vincent de Paul*.

Dear Parishioners,

This Thursday, December 1st at 7 PM, the Parish is going to have their traditional Christmas Carol Festival at the Parish Hall. Everyone is invited to be involved and have an active participation most especially in singing our Christmas hymns. It's going to be a lot of fun as we have our fellowship and wonderful camaraderie being together as a parish family. Snacks and refreshments will be served at this incredible event. We thank the committee for doing a tireless job to make this event a successful one.

As we have been doing before, every Sunday in Advent, we gather together in the Chapel for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Evening Prayers and Benediction at 7 PM. Each ministry of the parish is assigned to be there on a particular evening to proclaim the readings. Kindly check your schedule and participate. Fellowship, gathering and snacks in the basement of the Chapel follow after the Benediction. Your presence is most highly appreciated.

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. The new liturgical year begins. The Lectionary cycles are as follows: YEAR A: Sunday cycle; and Cycle 1: Weekday cycle in Ordinary Time.

As we are reminded once again, Advent is a time to recall the cry of the early Christians: Come Lord Jesus! Maranatha! One of the most appropriate things to do is none other than the Communal Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which we as a parish community, together with our Religious Education students, are going to do. This is one way of assisting the people of God in preparing for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord. This liturgy is going to be done on December 5 @ 4:30 PM and 6:15 PM and on December 7 @ 4:45 PM. We have other invited Confessors to help us at this meaningful celebration.

The Advent Wreath, a popular symbol in many Churches, is going to be placed on the sanctuary. One new candles is going to be lit on each of the four Sundays in Advent.

It is quite normal for people to want to know how much something would cost. Some people are funny, because they would even be wondering how much it would cost them to get into heaven or how much we need to pray for someone who has died to help them get into heaven. That was one of the most interesting questions that kept coming up when I was teaching some High School students in religion class. How far can we go and still stay in the state of grace? How late can we be for Mass or how early can we leave after receiving Holy Communion and still fulfill our Sunday obligation? We can go on and on about some of these questions but the bottom line is we tend to ask what is the least amount it will cost us--- the least amount of sacrifice we have to make to be able to get to heaven and be rejoicing in the House of the Lord.

Advent means "coming" and although we are so touched by the humble coming of our God as an infant to redeem us, it is also the coming of an adult Christ that we must be thinking of. Will he be a stranger to us and will we be a stranger to him? One thing to ensure that we will never meet as strangers is to pray. We have to put in our time and effort to nurture that relationship. We have work to do.

This is what we celebrate in this Advent time of preparation and anticipation. We look forward to the coming of Christ, striving to be vigilant and worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Amen.

May God bless us,
Father Angelito

