



St. Catherine of Siena

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727

December 31, 2017

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Parish Office
(732)938-5375
Fax (732)938-3260

Religious Education Office
(732)938-6229

Email:
frontoffice@sienachurch.org

Website:
www.sienachurch.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday-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

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

Parish Office Secretary
Carol Morton

Director of Religious Education
Kyle Galante

Religious Education Secretary
Janice Deakyne

Sacristan
Francine Gagliano

Music Director
Alice Kovach

Parish Trustees
Robert Mercado & June Hankel

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

Baptisms:

2nd Sundays of the month 12:30 PM *Church*

Baptism Classes:

Last Mondays of the month 7:30 PM *Classroom 10*

Children's Liturgy of the Word:

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

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:30 to 4:00 PM

Holy Day Masses:

9:00 AM & 7:00 PM *Main Church*

Homebound Ministry:

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

Knights of Columbus

If interested, please contact Mark Dalton, Grand Knight 732-233-0842

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:

Pray Sunday, January 21, 11:00 AM before 11:30 AM Mass *Church*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

732-938-3454
February 11 @ 7:00 PM *Parish Hall*

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 30, 2017

4:30 PM James Gilbert
(Susan & Wally Giakas)

Sunday, December 31, 2017

8:00 AM Ann & Thomas Neary
(Grandchildren)

10:00 AM Jack Amata
(Phillip & Kristin Natilli)

11:30 AM Carmelo & Annunziata DeGrande
(Suzanne DeGrande)

Weekday Masses @ St. Catherine's Chapel

Monday, January 1, 2018

9:00 AM Mary Smilek
(Joanne Monroe)

Tuesday, January 2, 2018

9:00 AM Michael Tonsong
(Robert & MaryEllen O'Sullivan)

Thursday, January 4, 2018

9:00 AM Phillip Galle
(Concetta Pondaco)

Friday, January 5, 2018

9:00 AM Mary Conigliaro
(Homebound Ministry)



The Sanctuary light will burn the week of December 30 in memory of Dennis FitzGerald at the request of St. Catherine's Counting Team #2



The St. Catherine of Siena votive light will burn the week of December 30 in memory of Dennis FitzGerald at the request of St. Catherine's Counting Team #2



The Immaculate Heart of Mary votive light will burn the week of December 30 in memory of Dennis FitzGerald at the request of St. Catherine's Counting Team #2



My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.
—Luke 2:30-31

First Reading — Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Second Reading — Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]

Gospel — Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

SMART PHONE USERS We now have a mobile App! Go to **SCOSNJ.Catholic.Cloud** right on your iPhone or Android to get it. It's free! You'll be able to get up-to-the-minute announcements, check out the Mass schedules, call the parish office with one push of a button and more. We'd like your feedback!

Next Weekend's Collection

Week of: 1/7/18

Weekly First Collection & Maintenance & Repairs

The Parish Office will be **closed** on Monday, January 1, 2018. It will reopen on Tuesday, January 2. The Religious Education Office/CCD will be **closed** on Monday, January 1. It will reopen on Wednesday, January 3.

New Year's Day

9:00 AM @ Chapel

EPIPHANY MASSES

Saturday, January 6 @ 4:30 PM

Sunday, January 7 @ 8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM

ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH WARMLY WELCOMES THE FOLLOWING NEW PARISHIONERS:

Michael & Denise Siracuse



What could be better than a hot bowl of soup on a cold winter day?

Please help the Rosary Altar

Society make our fifth annual "**Soup-er Bowl**" a success. We will be collecting cans of soup and non-perishable items (pasta, spaghetti sauce, PB & J, cereals, napkins, toilet paper, tissues, etc.) from the weekend of January 6/7, 2018 through Super Bowl Sunday. We will use these items to stock the St. Vincent de Paul "Emergency Food Closet" and any extra food will be taken to Joshua House. Please drop all contributions off in the narthex of the church. ***Please check the expiration dates*** Thank you and God Bless.



By the end of November, a total of 116 parishioners had registered on formed.org and averaged about 9 visits per registration. The short

Opening the Word videos for each week continue to be very popular although parishioners are viewing, listening to, and downloading a wide variety of offerings from the site. Not registered yet? Go to formed.org and use parish code QCVKRC to register (or click on the graphic or the links to FORMED on the church website at sienachurch.org and the parish code will be entered automatically for you.)

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS:

MaryAnn Aulisi, Julia Barbato, Jean & Mike Burke, Joseph Cocuzza, Kathleen Cottrell, Nancy Drake, Bob Fort, Angie Gorda, Marlene Gravatt, Lori Jones, Edward Kress, Barbara Lipari, Lauren MacArthur, Teresa Magyar, Margie McCullam, Amber Painter, Esther Peraza, Jeanette Picciani, David Piccolo, Barbara Sansevere, Marie Selvaggi, Nancy Soper, Ilona Supczynski, Sharon Watson-Pereira

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the Feast of the HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH.

The readings for this Sunday give a glimpse into the complications of family life. Each of those readings let us know we are not alone in our trials and tribulations. From the earliest days of Israel's history, God was there interceding in the difficulties of relationships such as commanding honor and respect of parents by children, and of children by parents, relieving childlessness and promising faithfulness to those who abided in faithfulness to him. The readings instruct us in what it means to love as Christ loves and ordering the family to the raising of children and the placing of God at the center of their lives.

Looking at the paintings of Mary, Christ and, when included, Joseph, they rarely look directly at each other. They are saying that there could be a lack of intimacy, however, the painters wish to convey the mystery of this family. As we can see they are bound together by something more than usual concern for each other. They are caught up in a great purpose, which is why they exist as a family. Sometimes they may be looking at a cross, sometimes at a symbol of grace such as a small flower representing suffering, but often enough they are gazing at something outside of the painting. What we do not see in these paintings is a family enclosed in itself.

From our own experience, we can say that there is a mystery in all families. Why does God join certain people together, and bless them, or not, with children? What are their struggles for? All of this is unknown. Yet for Christian families, the Holy Family reveals that all of our lives are enfolded in the great mystery of Christ. The Gospels only give us glimpses into the life of the Holy family, yet it is quite clear that before he began his public life, Christ lived for most of his short life in the circles of that family in the small village of Nazareth. It is obvious that God is telling us something. This life with his family is called the hidden life, yet it was from this secret time that the human thoughts of Jesus emerged. Those parables of the kingdom come from his experience as a human being among human beings.

God could have chosen any number of ways to enter into human history, and the way he chose was to have Jesus be incarnate of a woman, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and be raised by her and Joseph in a household common to us. Family life is sanctifying and as Jesus sanctified his family, he will sanctify us.

Today, on New Year's Eve, it is a wonderful opportunity for us to think about our usual resolutions at the beginning of the year. Let us keep on praying that as we follow the example of the Holy Family, we may be strong in our faith so as to have the confidence to face life's difficulties and challenges.

As we move forward in our lives at the beginning of the year, being mindful of our families, let us commend and entrust them to the Lord. Let us beg for the grace we need to be united with our own families and to the Holy Family.

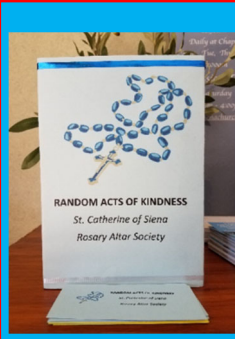
Have a Happy New Year.

May God bless us,
Father Angelito

Children's Liturgy of the Word will meet Sunday, January 14th at the 11:30 am Mass. All children in grades K-4 (ages 5 -10) are invited to participate. Young children are given the opportunity to listen to a children's version of 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. To sign up for this month's sessions, please email clow@sienachurch.org.



CHOIR NEWS
Cantors and Choir members are needed for St. Catherine's Music Ministry. If you would love to be part of our ministry of giving to the Glory of God through music please come and join us! We are planning for special liturgies, and a possible concert series. Contact our Music Director, Alice, at akovach9@aol.com to sign up and begin a journey of learning and growing with your Parish. The choir meets on Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the Church.



The Rosary Altar Society will continue the Random Acts of Kindness project until May when we will offer up all of these kind acts to Mary in conjunction with the Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Look for the small box on the table in the narthex, write your random act of kindness on one of the little cards by the box, and drop the card into the box.



We invite all parishioners to join the Society as we pray the Rosary on Sunday, January 21 at 11:00 am before the 11:30 am Mass at the Church.



December 31, 2017 – Holy Family – Year B



Sharing the Gospel

Love God and trust him with your life. Then you will want to do what God asks. Simeon listened to God. Anna served God for many years in the temple. Mary and Joseph did everything God asked them to do for Jesus. Everyone in the temple knew that Jesus was sent by God to be their Savior. They trusted God with Jesus' precious life.

Prayer

God, help me to love you enough to do all that you ask me to.

Mission for the Week

Jesus belonged to God. Thank God that you are his child, too.

Read the Gospel and Color



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Calling All Catholic Men: The Knights of Columbus are welcoming all men over the age of 18 to become members of the St. Catherine of Siena council here at our church. Devoted to the principles of charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism, with over 1.8 million members world-wide, the Knights of Columbus strives to be a positive Catholic presence in both our parish and community. If you wish to join, email Mark Dalton, Grand Knight @ mmdd18@optonline.net or call him at 732-233-0842.

Have you ever heard the initials RCIA? They stand for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, The Roman Catholic official collection of Rites for bringing adults into the Church. Here at St. Catherine of Siena, together as a team, we prepare individuals to be received into the church. We meet the first and third Tuesday of the month in the evening. If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning about becoming a Catholic, or a Catholic, who may not yet have received Sacraments, or to learn more about the RCIA process, email RCIA@sienachurch.org.

St. Catherine's Funeral Ministry is in need of volunteers to assist families in planning and making arrangements for the Funeral Mass and Wake Service of a deceased loved one. Members of the ministry should be compassionate, good at details, understanding and have a flexible schedule. It is a ministry where one can be of much needed assistance to families who are going through a difficult time. If you are interested in joining, call Terri at 732-462-7452.

St. Catherine's is in need of additional Ushers to help at all masses. Anyone over age 12 can sign up and for those receiving Confirmation, can get service hours. Call [732-492-6861](tel:732-492-6861) or email scottrubinson@gmail.com.

Seeking fellow parishioners to participate and join in the pro life cause. Call 732-580-1387.

"Legion of Mary Pilgrim Statue" is available to visit homes in our Parish Community. If interested, call 732-616-3127 or email pheathers7@yahoo.com.

Help support our Food Drive. The Knights of Columbus are teaming up with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to collect canned and boxed food for our local community. Your food donations will help our local needy all year long. See the donation crate in the church's narthex.

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 Classroom 10 at 7:30 P.M. on the last Monday 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; and 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*.