

t. Catherine of Diena

Roman Catholic Diocese of Trenton

31 Asbury Road, Farmingdale, New Jersey 07727



SECOND SUNDAY OF

(OR OF DIVINE MERCY)

APRIL 8, 2018

Jesus said to Thomas, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

John 20:29

First Reading Acts 4:32-35 Second Reading John 5:1-6

Gospel John 20:19-31

Weekend Mass Schedule:

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

Confessions: Saturday 3:30 - 4:00 PM

Holy Day Masses: 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM Main Church Weekday Chapel Mass 9AM 1 West Main Street Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.

Miraculous Medal Novena

Mon., following 9:00 AM Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 1st Friday following 9 AM to 11 AM

PARISH OFFICE:

(732) 938-5375 Fax: (732) 938-3260

EMAIL: frontoffice@sienachurch.org WEBSITE: www.sienachurch.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Thurs: 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Sunday: 9:00 AM to 12:45 PM

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Angelito I. Anarcon, Pastor Rev. Alfred Burke, Weekend Assistant Deacon Daniel Sakowski, Deacon Kyle Galante, Director of Religious Education Francine Gagliano, Sacristan Alice Kovach, Music Director Janice Deakyne, Religious Education Secretary Rob Mercado & June Hankel. Parish Trustees

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

(732) 938-6229

Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 AM to 7:15 PM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM to 5:45 PM

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 7, 2018 — 4:30 PM

Mary Jean Iorio / Michele & Joe Stuart

Sunday, April 8, 2018

8:00 AM Barbara Nedd / Storey Family

10:00 AM Marie Davis / Donna Lee

11:30 AM Mary Pellechi / Husband Nick & Family

Weekday Chapel Mass — 9 AM

Monday, April 9, 2018

John N. DeLuca / wife, Julie

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

J.R. Cintron / Devanx Family

Thursday, April 12, 2018

Betty McCann / Anne Hilker

Friday, April 13, 2018

Julie Giordina / Esposito & Talcott Family

2019 Mass Book Opening

Sunday, April 8 9 am—12:45 pm and Wednesday, April 11 9:30 am—12:30 pm

To request a Mass Intention, one must be present and the cost is \$10 each.

Liturgical Ministries

Liturgical Schedule: April 7 & 8

Altar Servers

4:30 PM J. Papasso

10:00 AM J. Silverman, M. Utz, V. Utz 11:30 AM C. Prioli, J. Prioli, N. Prioli

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

4:30 PM K. DeMicco, K. Janiello

8:00 AM C.Crowl, J. D'Amico, S. Martino 10:00 AM P. Davison, J. Warburton, J. Warburton

11:30 AM A. Hilker, J. Lanza, D. Lee

Readers

4:30 PM J. Hankel, L. Hradil 8:00 AM A. San Antonio 10:00 AM T. Liddy

11:30 AM D. Dipierri, T. Prioli

WORSHIP

Please pray for the sick and all those who have asked for our prayers:

MaryAnn Aulisi Teresa Magyar

Jean & Mike Burke Margie McCullam

Joseph Cocuzza Amber Painter

Nancy Drake Esther Peraza

Bob Fort Jeanette Picciani

Richard Giordano David Piccolo

Marlene Gravatt Lenore Sears

Lori Jones Barbara Sansevere

Edward Kress Nancy Soper

Barbara Lipari Ilona Supczynski

Lauren MacArthur Roseann Williams



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 at 732-938-5375.



Homebound Ministry

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

Sunday of Divine Mercy April 8, 2018

Who indeed is the victor over the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? -- 1 John 5:5



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners,

It's always good to see young people coming to Church and more importantly that they are so involved in many ways. Similarly, it is awesome to see some little children coming to Church brought by their parents and families as they attend the Sunday Mass. Today at the 11:30 Sunday Liturgy, we welcome our kids who are attending the Children's Liturgy as they pray, reflect, and learn the Gospel for this particular Sunday. Let us be mindful that our hope for the future of the Church lies in these little children. Parents and adult members of the Church should step up and lead these young boys and girls to Jesus' Church.

Second Sunday of Easter

Let me share with you a true story of a young girl who attended a day of reflection for a Catholic School; when the Spiritual Director told her God loved her, she just rolled her eyes. She was bored and did not want to know. But maybe she had a point. Why would these words mean anything to her? Why would she believe that God loved her? Why would God be interested in her anyway? However, believe it or not, there are many people who ask the same questions.

If by any chance we ask people why they think God does not love us, we get the same answer, for they lack self-esteem, they feel unworthy. They do not live up to what they think God asks of them. People are often convinced that God does not love them, because they have not done what God told them to do. That's how it works. If you take someone for granted, they would just get even. If you reject someone, they reject you. Mercy is not natural to us. It is an attribute to God himself. As we can see it, it is this mercy that Thomas the Apostle will find in today's Gospel.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Yet the Gospel reading is about the appearance of Our Lord to Thomas, which can lead us to concentrate more on his doubt. We often call him the Doubting Thomas. There is a tendency for us to think that he is a rationalist who carefully weighs proof and evidence. Jesus did not reproach Thomas, rather he says in effect: "Here, Thomas. If touching will help, by all means, do as you please. I just want to rescue you from your unbelief and despair. And as we heard it, without needing to touch, Thomas makes a strong and powerful confession of faith: "My Lord and my God."

Thomas is human. He doubts at times. But he does love Jesus passionately, and he comes through when it counts. Some think that Thomas attains to this belief because he has met the Risen Christ. His belief is strengthened by this encounter, but perhaps Thomas' problem with Christ rising from the dead is precisely because he believes that he is God. Why would he come back to people who have let him down? Why would he return to a world that not only rejected him but put him to death? To believe that Jesus is risen is to believe that he has forgiven us. Thomas doubts the resurrection, because he doubts God's mercy. We have to keep in mind that to accept mercy requires trust, which is why it is so hard to forgive by human powers. Often times, in many families, it is the lack of trust that forgiveness is real that prevents reconciliation. Hence Thomas finally understands that God is too great to be merciless, and that God is the measure of God's own mercy.

Now here is the question: how do you convince someone that they are forgiven, when you are not so sure yourself that you have really forgiven them? It is so easy for old hurts to lurk under the surface, even after so many years. Old wounds suddenly come to mind, as fresh as the day we received them. Thus Jesus prays to the Father, "that the love with which you loved me may be in them, and so that I may be in them. That is the way. Such love and mercy is always more than can be generated by human power. Mercy is a divine presence, a divine power that can be found in prayer. Therefore to truly accept forgiveness requires prayer. Keep in mind that praying for our enemies is not an aspect of forgiveness, it is the fundamental way to forgive. Amen.

May God bless us,

Father Angelito

ADMINISTRATION

Weekly Collections & Attendance THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS HELP AND SUPPORT!

Weekly Sunday Collection Sunday, April 1, 2018

Easter Sunday \$15,9	903.00 1,042 people
Online Giving 3/26-4/1 \$8	882.00 50 donors
Good Friday \$1,	322.00 146 people

Easter Flower Collection \$ 1,692.00



Next Weekend's Collection Weekly Collection & Maintenance & Repairs

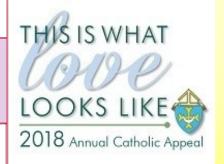
THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL IN ACTION

Catholic Education Administration



Catholic schools in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean counties welcome over 16,000 Catholic and non-Catholic students from many different cultural backgrounds. Parents, as primary educators of their children, work in partnership with teachers to develop their children's potential in

becoming life-long learners. Donations to ACA help to ensure that curriculum and performance standards and development of educators continue at high levels within our 31 Catholic elementary schools and 7 high schools. Last year your gift helped with reaching out to more than 78,000 alumni who have been given the opportunity to give back so that other students can succeed in our schools.



Please support the 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

Thank you for your generosity.

Electronic Giving ... www.parishpay.com/nonprofit/login.html?pc=cserg792. Contact 800-950-9952 M-F 7:00 am —7:00 pm 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 continue.



continued from last week

Sincerest thanks to you for your contribution to the altar and church flowers in memory or for the intentions of loved ones

Alfano & Screnock Families & Friends
Reynold & Debra Alfano
Michael Anthony Anzano
Anthony & Barbara Anzano
Luca Canzona

Daria Canzona **Arthur Bitz**

June Hankel

In Honor of Living Sister Theresa Loohy

George & Marlene Gravatt **Alfred Husband**

Dolores & Richard Goerke

G. Goerke

Michael Goerke

Jaynie Alexander Lamantia Michael & Denise Lamantia Joann & Wayne Sos Lorraine Sos Joann & Wayne Sos

Lottie Rossi Joann & Wayne Sos

Donation:

Michael & Stephanie Siino

Our Pastor, Father Angelito, has determined that due to the rising incidence of flu and other communicable diseases, it is prudent to distribute Holy Communion under the form of bread only, and to omit the exchange of peace among members of the congregation. These changes, which are consistent with the Roman Missal, will continue until conditions improve.



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.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH MINISTRIES



You are Invited!
Sunday, April 22
After the 10 & 11:30 AM Masses—Parish Hall
Coffee. Breakfast. Community.

hospitality@sienachurch.org



St. Catherine of Siena Youth Ministry

The Youth Group offers many opportunities for young people to have fun with Christian peers, grow in their faith, and participate in the parish community. Our next monthly meeting is:

April 22 at 12:30 pm

All youth grades 9-12 are invited to participate If interested in learning more, please contact: sienachurchyouthministry@gmail.com



Social Concerns Commission and Rosary Altar Society

April Showers to benefit Mother and Baby

We are partnering to collect items most needed for distribution on Mother's Day to Birthright of Freehold, and St. Clare's Home for Children with Aids, Neptune



Birthright

Bibs, Baby Wipes, Combs and Brushes,

Diapers - Newborn to Size 6

Hooded Towels, Lotion, Pants – Newborn to 12 Months, Receiving Blankets, Shampoo

Sleepers – Newborn to 12 Months, Socks

Tops – Newborn to 12 Months, Wash Cloths,

Wipes, Gift Cards to Walmart

St. Clare's Home for Children with Aids

Beach Towels, Flip Flops (kids size, boys 8, girls 7, & women's size 8)

Kiddie Pool, Luggage, Nerf Ball, Slip and Slide, Sprinkler, Sunscreen, Water Toys, Target Gift Cards, Visa Gift Cards (for bowling and movies), Walmart Gift Cards

To Volunteers at St. Clare's, please call 732-776- 6449

Collection ends the weekend of May 5/6. Please place new items in the collection bin in our Narthex.

Thank you for your support to those in need. "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have" Hebrews 13:16

MISSIONARIES FOR THE POOR

Dear Father Angelito and the Parishioners of St. Catherine,



On behalf of Missionaries of the Poor, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Parish community of St. Catherine of Siena for their generosity in supporting our Haiti Food Drive. Their contributions had a total amount of \$2,775 which will purchase the following food items: rice, flour, kidney beans, canned tuna, canned chicken, pasta, tomato sauce, oatmeal, canned fruit, cereal, sugar, vegetable oil, drink mixes and cleaning supplies.

I would also like to thank your deacon and ushers for making us feel welcome and for assisting us in setting up our posters. Lastly, I would like to thank you, as pastor of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, for saying "yes" to our food drive and for taking personal interest in its success. The Missionaries of the Poor regularly pray for their benefactors and will gratefully remember St. Catherine of Siena Parish in its prayer intentions.

We give thanks to our God always and may He continue to shower your Parish community with His blessings.

Sincerely,

Vicente Lagdameo and MOP Associates of NJ

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY



Sunday, April 22 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.

Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Thomas had a hard time believing his friends. Jesus was alive! They saw Jesus! Well, Thomas could not believe it. He needed proof. Thomas wanted to see Jesus for himself. Thomas wanted to touch Jesus' scars on his hands and his side. Once Thomas did that, then he would believe. You may have doubting friends like Thomas. Be patient with them. Do not get angry with them. Love them instead, and gently tell the truth about Jesus. Ask Jesus to open their hearts, so they can believe in him, too.



God, help me to be patient with my doubting friends.



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Divine Mercy

Experience the Power of God's Mercy

Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a breathtaking journey to uncover the reality of God's merciful love as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the prophetic apparitions of Fatima, and the world-changing witnesses of St. Faustina, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. Paul II.

ATTENTION ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISHIONERS!

Have you signed on to FORMED yet?

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Help your children grow in character and embrace the beauty and wonder of the Faith

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It's EASY and FREE to Register!

Go to your web browser (Chrome if possible) Click "Register"; Enter Parish Code **QCVKRC**

Enter your name, email address, and desired password You're all ready to access the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!

We recommend you start with THE FACE OF MERCY

PARISH NEWS



Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome to the Church:

> Mila Rose Charles Madeyln Rose Keegan Luca Marrone

We ask God's blessings on these children and their families every day of their lives!



St. Catherine of Siena Parish Warmly Welcomes the Following New Parishioners:

Shelia Piegaro

Paul and Nadia Ruddy

Vanderspiegel Family Louis, Elyse, and Logan

Jason and Maria Woods

WELCOME to St. Catherine of Siena Parish Family



In order to serve you better and to be recognized as a practicing member of the parish, we ask that you please take a moment to register. We invite you to stop by the Parish Office, Mon.-Thur. 9 am - 2 pm or Sunday, 9 am—12:45 pm., for registration, to learn about our various ministries and to receive offertory envelopes.

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

For address changes, including a change in Parish, please call the parish office at 732-938-5375. We look forward to meeting you and seeing you at our services.

COMMUNITY CORNER

The Catholic Women of Zion

Join us for a Ministry Retreat Day on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at Holy Family Church, 1139 East County Line Road, Lakewood NJ 08701.

The day begins with Mass in the Church at 8:00 am and is followed by music, prayers for healing, sharing, networking, and a luncheon in the Parish Hall, finishing by 12:00 pm. Speaker, Dr. Adriane Gullotta-Gsell, will speak on the topic: "Let the SONshine in."

Admission is \$20, payable at the door, and includes lunch. Register online at cwoz.org or call 732-363-0139 ext. 777 no later than Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

The New Day Bereavement Support Group Ministry of Consolation

St. Mary Parish, One Phalanx Road, Colts Neck, NJ Invites you...to participate in a nine week program for those who are grieving the death of loved ones and want to work through the tasks of grief in a structured way using New Day Journal, A Journey from Grief to Healing.

The sessions include readings, reflections, sharing and journaling.

> Group meets 7:30 pm in Christ Chapel Starting Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 Ending Date: Tuesday, June 5, 2018

For info and pre-registration: Marylin Simone at 732-462-8088

Life in the Spirit Seminar

"For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God" Romans 8:14

St. Veronica's is hosting a series of 7 weekly Life in the Spirit Seminars beginning April 10. The talks and discussions will transform your life and fuel the fire for the Holy Spirit. Come experience renewal through God's Grace, Mercy and Love and ignite the Power of the Holy Spirit.

For more information regarding this year's Seminar or to register, email *LISS@stveronica.com* or call Mary Jean at 732-364-2815.