

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 30th - 3:30 p.m. - Doris Babula
Sunday, December 31st - 9:00 a.m. - (Polish Mass) -
Monica Kochmanski Hoffman & Marek Starosciak
Sunday, December 31st 10:30 a.m. - Leon & Stella
Zerkowski

Schedule for Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve. - 9:00 p.m.
Christmas Day - 10:30 a.m.

There will be no New Year's Eve. or New Year's
Day Masses at Saint Mary's.

There will be a Polish Mass next Sunday, December
31st at 9:00 a.m. in the Church.

Christmas Masses

*Christmas Vigil - 4 p.m. - Church &
4:00 p.m. - Chapel*

7:00 p.m. & 12 Midnight-*

** Incense - Church Only*

9:00 p.m. - Saint Mary's

*Christmas Day - 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

Incense - Church

10:30 a.m. - St. Mary's

Solemnity of Mary - Mass Schedule

New Year's Day -

8:00 - Chapel

&

10:30 a.m. - Church

**The Parish Center will be closed from
December 25th and will re-open,
Tuesday, January 2nd. The Parish
Center number is 610-779-4005.**

**THERE WILL BE NO EUCHARISTIC
ADORATION ON MONDAY, DECEMBER
25TH & JANUARY 1ST. ADORATION WILL
RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8TH.**



Dear Sisters and Brothers of our Parish Family,

Christmas is a special time for us to give thanks to God for His many blessings to St. Catharine of Siena. As parishioners, you help promote the Gospel with the witness and good example of your lives, and for this, we are grateful in more ways than can be expressed in a letter.

Christmas reminds us to thank you for everything that you teach us about who Jesus Christ is in your lives. We appreciate your good example, your prayers, and your affirming support of our priestly lives. May God bless you for being so generous and cooperative in so many ways to make our parish family the growing community of faith which reflects the presence of the Holy Spirit.

We greet especially our parishioners who are sick, handicapped, or elderly and not able to join us at the table of the Lord each weekend. Thank you for your beautiful example of loyalty to your Catholic Faith and to our Parish Family of which you are a special part.

To those of you who lost loved ones this past year, we want you to know that you are in our prayers and thoughts especially at this time. Our deceased watch over and support us from their heavenly home. May the compassion and healing of our Savior Lord strengthen your family at these holiday times when we feel our losses.

In all our Masses throughout the Christmas Season, we will ask the blessings of Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, upon all of you and your families. Again, thank you so much for everything you do for your parish and your priests.

With our love and gratitude,

Rev. Msgr. Domin, Father Rother, Msgr. Treston,
Deacon Fry, Deacon Stapleton & Deacon
Schneider.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a-16: David wishes to build a temple to house the tables of the Law, but God speaks to him, promising to exalt and secure the House of David forever. The Lord will bring peace.

2 Rom 16:25-27: God has revealed His plan of salvation through the coming of His Son, Jesus Christ. It is made known to all people that they may believe and obey.

Lk 1:26-38: Gabriel speaks to Mary, announcing that she who is a virgin shall conceive through the Holy Spirit and give birth to a son. Mary agrees to God's request.

Today' Message - David's posterity shall endure forever. His kingship finds its fulfillment in the Son of Mary, Jesus the Christ. To Him be glory and praise forever.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE-See schedule for Mass Times

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY – Parish Center Closed

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

LEGION OF MARY – 6:30 p.m.- Parish Center

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

“I warmly welcome all Catholics ‘home for Christmas.’ No matter how long since your last visit, your spiritual home awaits you ready and waiting to welcome you home! I invite all my brother priests, deacons, religious, and practicing Catholics, through their example of holiness, perseverance, and joy, to be a source of encouragement to their brothers and sisters away from their spiritual home, and to invite one inactive Catholic back home for Christmas. Please know of my prayers for a blessed and Merry Christmas to you and your families!”

Bishop Alfred A. Schlert

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

NO 6:30

8:00 Richard Heins

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

NO 6:30

8:00 Thomas Mazza

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

NO 6:30

8:00 Frances Hracho (7th Ann.)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

NO 6:30

8:30 Salvatore Corso (4th Ann.)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00 Bob Schaefer

4:30 George Mattes

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:30 Mary George

9:00 Maggie Cambria

10:30 Beth Morelli

12:00 Carmen Romero

Readings for the Week of December 24, 2017

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Monday

The Nativity of the Lord

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;

Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7;

Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6;

Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Friday

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord / Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr

1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35

Saturday

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10; Lk 2:36-40

Sunday

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21

or Col 3:12-17; Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

or, for Year B, Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 105: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;

Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22, 39-40

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/25	Msgr. Vincent York
Tuesday 12/26	Father Jared Zambelli
Wednesday 12/27	Father Christopher Zelonis
Thursday 12/28	Msgr. Edward Zemanik
Friday 12/29	Father Michael Ahrensfield
Saturday 12/30	Father Vincent Alagia
Sunday 12/31	Father Luke Anderson

Merry Christmas from the Parish Nurse Group! Wishing you Blessings and health, good food and good friends, bright spirits and happy holiday get-togethers, and wellness from many smiles!

A WARM WELCOME HOME to all our young people and others who have come back for the Holidays.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING . . . memory writes on every page of the calendar. A support group offering caring presence, strength, and wisdom meets two Mondays a month at St. Catharine's of Siena Church, Mt. Penn 19606, at 7 PM. To register call 610 370-1174.

EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY will continue to accept PERSONAL HYGEINE products and any non-perishable food item on an on-going basis. Bins are located in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers and support. For more information, please contact Phil & Bonnie Blankenstein at 610-779-6045.

All contributions for 2017 must be received by Sunday, December 31st to be included on your statement. Thank you for your generosity during the past year. If contributions are received after December 31st they will be applied to your 2018 statement.

**St. Catharine CYO and Youth Ministry
Skating Party & Canned Food Drive
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 2018**

Our CYO and Youth Ministry is sponsoring this event. Open to all children in preschool thru 12th grade in our parish. **Admission/Skate Rental:** \$5 w/Canned Food Donation (\$8 without) **Time:** 1:45-4:00 - **Location:** Body Zone Sports Complex

Canned Food donations will be made to local food pantries. Please RSVP to Shaun & Heather Keperling at keperling@ieee.org

Weekend Mass Schedule

December 30th - 4:30 p.m. (Church)

Lector - Helen Veet

Cantor - Tracy Scheirer

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - L. Formando - D. Formando - R. Bernas

December 31st - 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector- Jim Snyder

Altar Servers - B. Troung - M. Ream - D. Schmehl

December 31st - 9:00 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Cris Marabella

Guitar Choir

Altar Servers - K. Vagnoni - M. Vagnoni - J. Beaver

December 31st - 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Ed Smith

Voices in Praise

Organist- Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - S. McDevitt - V. McDevitt - M. McDevitt

December 31st - 12:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Rose Anne Uhrig

Cantor- Hailey Zambito

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - N. Barbera - J. Miller - E. Miller

ALTAR SERVERS LIST - WEEKDAYS

Week of December 26th -30th

8:00 a.m.- E. Nguyen & A. Renninger - (Tue- Wed.)

8:00 a.m. - R. Stoudt & J. Howard - (Thurs-Sat)

8:30 a.m... - R. Stoudt & J. Howard - (Friday Only)

Berks Catholic News

Saints Shoot Out and Cheerleading Clinic- December 27, 2017- For Boys and Girls Grades K-8. Offensive moves for guards and forwards, dribbling moves, shooting, shooting off the dribble, shooting off the pass, and shoot out contest. Please go to the Berks Catholic Website for a registration form. www.berkscatholic.org

Open House- January 28, 2018 2-4pm: A terrific opportunity to meet faculty, administration and current students. Our clubs and activities are on display to give you a glimpse into what we are about. Open House is an exciting and unique experience seeing the Berks Catholic community come together.

Athletic Hall of Fame Nominations are being accepted for the **Central Catholic, Holy Name, and Berks Catholic Hall of Fame Class of 2018**. To nominate, please send name of athlete, a brief explanation of athletic accomplishments, school attended, and year of graduation to Berks Catholic Athletic Director, Bill Hess, at bhess@berkscatholic.org.

If you would like to learn more about all that Berks Catholic has to offer please plan to attend the Berks Catholic High School Open House and Registration Event on Sunday January 28th beginning promptly at 2 p.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“a time to be born...”

Recently Baptized:

Please pray for our sick :

Recently added :

& our soldiers in harm's way:

Paula Abel, Anita Adamo, Stella Albrecht, Jeannine Ambrosi, Sue Ambruch, Tony Angello, Anthony Antonucci, Tara Arnold, Beverly Bansner, Kathy Barnes, Denny Bastian, Kailee Baxter, Melanie Bechtel, Debi Bennett, Harrison Bergstresser, Jan Bertolet, Sandy Bibbo, Stella Bickleman, Nicky Biondo, Karen Bird, Christine Blair, Kim & Michael Blair, Catherine Blanchard, Christina Boehning, Agnes Bohner, Linda Brent, Susan Brennan, Maria Briand, Robin Briand, Frank Broga, Kathryn Brubaker, Robert Bryden, Renee Brzostek, Emily Buelow, Renee Burns, Marvin Bush, Jeannine Caffrey, Ronald Calabrese, Neil Carroll, Nancy Cassidy, Bob & Patty Cavallino, Brianna Chery, Mark Christ, Marilyn Clifford, Nancy Ciccone, Donna Cocchia, Michael Conrad, Lisa Costello, Jeannie Crass, Audrey Crilley, Joan Cronan, Alexa Cupitt, Ryan Curley, Larry Curtin, Robin Cuzner, Yvania Dawson, Tony DeAngelis, Charles De Naples, Julie Denunzio, Jennifer Devlin, Melissa DeWees, Gretchen Dialectus, Paula DiBuilda, Arthur Dietrich, Jr, Carmela Donato, Mildred Donnelly, Kate Doughton, Becky and Chuck Drennen, Father Michael Drury, Dick Dunn, Gina Ebright, Dorothy Eisenhart, Lu Ann Eyre, Peter Fanticone, Jack Farrell, Josie Farrell, Jared Fenstermacher, Pearl Fillman, Devonna Fisher, Jennifer Flook, Laurie Flynn, Frances Ford, Jane Fordyce, John Fordyce, Al Franckowiak, Margaret Frisbee, Kim Furtow, Shelley Fox, Anna Mae Gantert, Donna Gentry, Grace Gerace, Pat Gerace, Joseph Gierschick, Jr, Frank Gill, Wayne Gillmor, Margo Girardi, Kathy Glaser, Larry Glaser, Johanna Goheen, Albert Gombar, Claire Griffith, Ruth Guyah, Jacob Hafer, Tom Hafer, Warren Haggerty, Jeanne Goodwin Hall, Beverly Hannahoe, Richelle Harbst, Eva Hare, Maria Harp, Leann Harris, Debbie Heberling, Jason Heckman, William Hedl, Robyn Hefferan, Diane Herbein, Emory Hilton, Melissa Himmelberger, Ethan Himonitis, William Hinkle, Donna Hofmann, Mark Holtzman, Siegfried Hosey, Robert Hough, Allison Howard, John Hull, Genevieve Iswalt, Catharine Jagielski, Erick Jefferson, Steven Julian, Brian K, Dorothy Kaisoglus, Blake Kauffman, Andrew Kazmierczak, Alex Kelso, John Kiedeisch, Carolyn Kilyk, John Kirsch, Joyce Kleckner, Marilla Kleinsasser, Mary Klick, Barry Kline, Sr, Benjamin Kline, Jean Kline, Ginny Koch, Helen Koehler, John Kogut, Mary Kolakowski, Mary Konopelski, Jack Kuhn, Dolores Lamp, Jeffrey Lamp, Tracy Larish, Mike LaScala, Vanessa Leaizer, Daniel Leiby, Harry Logan, Stephen & Genevieve Luskie, Kelly Lynch & family, Julia Marason, Megan Marino, Angela Marroccoli, Anna Mastandrea, Charles Mathews, Mary Ann Matthews, Jim McGinnis, Chris McCarron, Coral McConnell, Jacob McCue, Teagan McDonnell, Rita McHale, Dorothy McGill, Ainsley McLain, Edward McKeane, Abbie McKinney, Rosemary McNish, Arthur Mengel, Susan Mertz, James Minner, Jacob Mower, Goup Toy Moy, Gertrude Moyer, Thomas Muchanic, Gordon Newmoyer, Bill Norquist, Bernie Nowotarski, Evelyn Oquendo, Anna Ospina, Anna Paone, Gabriella Paone, Landon Paul, Melly Pimentel, Pat Pinto, Donald Pisker, James Pisker, Anne Poserina, Potts Family, Sharon Precht, Mary Price, Kathleen Rainey, Thomas Joseph Rainey, Lori Rears, Roger A. Reto, Rosemary Rice, Agnes Roach, Lynn Roberts, Barbara Rowe, Catherine Rudy, Mary Ryan, Elizabeth Fassig, Joann Sacco, Anne Schaeffer, Mary Schalk, Gladys Schell, Ann Schweitzer, Robert Senick, Beth Serafin, Tom Shaaber, Garth Shannon, David Sharpley, Sr., Earl Sheetz, Dawn Siderowicz, Janet Smith, Patricia Smoyer, Tyson Snader, Susan Sneddon, Mike Spear, Mark Speece, Julie Staber, Christopher Starr, Maureen Steimetz, Pam Stribbling, Maria Stubblebine, Annabelle Stump, Ken Styer, Earl Suchomelly, Cullen Sullivan, Gerry Sullivan, Carolyn Taraba, Hilda Thomas, John Tittle, Joe Tomalis, Wendy Tustin, Donald Ulrich, Jane Valeriano, Alan Wachowicz, Sherry Wainwright, Patty Wagner, Mark Walter, Marie Weber, Charles Wettstein, Amber White, Frank White, Annetta Wilson, Leo Woelkers, Ann Marie Zawislak, Bob Zeiler, Sr. & Bob Zeiler, Jr.

...and a time for peace ...a time to die: To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. Names will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that the condition continues and prayers are still requested. 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: Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, LCPL David Ermentrout, Second Lt. Morgan Hissick, Lt. Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Spc. Erin Pawlik, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Senior Airman Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Tech. Sgt. John V. Nowotarski, III, Peter Hinsey, Thomas Bristol, Col. Patrick Sullivan, Second Lt. Joshua Kline, Captain Kevin Madary, Sgt. First Class Andrew Spies, Major Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Lt. Cdr. Allison Rosati Martin, Command Master Chief Marie Rosati France, Lt. Brandon Daughtry, David L. Busch, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig & Lt. Cdr. Brian Blair. Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net. Please call with addresses of military to Terri Mueller at 610-779-1766.

Save the Date!

*A Parish Mission is coming to
St. Catherine of Siena
Monday February 26, through
Wednesday February 28th
The Mission will be conducted
by Father Vinny Fortunato, a
priest with the Capuchin
Franciscan Friars
All are welcome!*

Youth News

Senior High School Youth Retreat Feb 23-25. *Registration is going on now!* Space is limited for this special experience led by teens, for teens, just like you, from both our parish and St. Benedict's parish. The annual retreat will again be held at beautiful Camp Manatawny in Douglasville. Cost is \$50 (nonrefundable) and covers, lodgings, food, and supplies. This year's theme is the "Beatitudes". Don't miss it! Permission slips available at the youth table in the gather area of church and on the parish website (www.scsreading.org). Questions please contact Deanna Stratton at 610-406-0452.

The Jr. and Sr. High Youth of the parish will be serving meals at Kennedy House Soup Kitchen on January 6th and 7th. If you are interested in helping or donating an item, please contact Julie Wright at prtyof10@ptd.net.

Give a Gift to Your Marriage This Year - Couples that use Natural Family Planning have a divorce rate of less than 5%. The Creighton Model of Fertility Care is 99.5% effective in avoiding pregnancy and up to 80% effective in helping infertile couples achieve pregnancy. To schedule an introductory session and learn about the GIFT of NFP go to www.fcsbc.setmore.com or contact creightonmodel@gmail.com.

50 Plus News

MEETINGS

JANUARY 3, 2018: NEW YEARS CELEBRATION with members to bring appetizers and snacks to share – cookies and coffee. Speaker: Lisa Lorah - Benefits of **Encore**

FEBRUARY 7, 2018: Valentine Day Celebration. Cupcakes and coffee
Speaker: Pat White – 2018 trip schedule & pictures from Vermont

March 7, 2018: St. Patrick Day Celebration, wear your Green. Cake and coffee. Entertainment: Harold Graeff from Timeframe – 4 Men to sing for us, Irish songs & other music

APRIL 4, 2018: SPECIAL EVENT - Everybody's Birthday Celebration. Victor Emmanuel's restaurant, more information to follow

2018 TRAVEL PLANS

Pat will have the travel plans for 2018 from April to November at the February meeting. Call **Pat White 610-582-1437** for trip information

We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 P.M. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Catharine's Social Hall on Route 562, 4975 Boyertown Pike in Exeter Township, dues are \$5.00 per year. **ALL ARE WELCOME**

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS, CONTACT PERSONS AND RESOURCES

Altar Servers – (Father John Rother – 610-779-4005)
American Heritage Girls - (Julia Wright - 610-370-9290)
Bible Sharing Group – (Terry Mscichowski 610-779-0999)
Boy Scout- (Terry Wade - 610-478-1200)
Bereavement Support - (Judy Cameron– 610-370-1174)
Catholic Charities - (610-376-7144)
Catholic Soup Kitchen (Sara Miller 610-404-1590)
Choir- (Dave Kostival – 484-332-8695)
Church Library - (Karin Donato - 610-779-3642)
Creighton Model Fertility Care - (Elisabeth Laskowski– 484-332-9084)
Cub Scouts – (610-888-5595 Kristen Reinert)
Cursillo – (Bill McMahon 610-779-8654)
CYO President – (Kevin Franey - 610-370-5243)
CYO Athletic Director - (Cristina Schmehl- 610-779-1513)
Disability Advocates -(Carol McCullough 610-370-1660)
Eucharistic Ministers-(Donna Weidner 610-779-8283)
Exeter Food Bank - (Phil & Bonnie Blankenstein - 610-779-6045)
Guitar Choir – (Ann DelCollo - 610-777-5234)
Home School Organization- (Janet Decembrino - 610-370-9131)
Knights of Columbus - (Tom Rochowicz –610-779-2851)
Lectors – (Edrie Watson 610-779-3804)
Legion of Mary - (Joe Akkara - 610-370-5762)
Little Angels – (Heather Keperling - 610-370-2378)
Maintenance - (Carl Andrzejewski (610-779-4005)
Marriage Preparation - (610-779-4005)
Ministers of Hospitality- (Deacon John Stapleton 610-779-4005)
Parish Nurses - mjauman@verizon.net
Parish School – (Mrs. Marcella Kraycik - 610-779-5810)
Saint Catharine's Pre-School – (610-779-5810)
PREP (CCD) – (Connie Fry, Coordinator 610-944-0732, - Lorraine Gajewski -Coordinator - 610-779-4499)
Protecting God's Children Coordinator - (Cristina Schmehl - 610-779-1513)
RCIA – (Father John Rother - 610-779-4005)
Religious Store - (Bill Wertz - 610-779-5283)
Saint Vincent de Paul Society- (Carol Cinelli 610-779-3113)
School Board - Michele Weber (610-779-8406)
Scrip – (Cristina Schmehl - 610-779-1513)
Senior Citizen Group (50+Club)- (Carol Buddell - 610-401-0600)
Serra Club – (Bob Wright 610-779-9040)
Siena Stitchers - (Judy McMahon - 610-779-8654)
Unemployment Support Group - (John Senick– 484-651-0498)
Youth Choir– Kate Bobb - (610-689-9816)
Youth Group - (Deanna Stratton - 610-406-0452)
Parish Office- (610-779-4005) ; Fax: 610-779-0859 hurch
Website - <http://www.scsreading.org/scsparish/wp/>
Saint Catharine's School - 610-779-5810

PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS