

Saint Mary's News

Mass Schedule

Monday, December 31st - 3:30 p.m. - Donna Wrobel
Saturday, January 5th - 3:30 p.m. - Regina Wrobel
Sunday, January 6th - 10:30 a.m. - Mr. & Mrs. Carl Gethmann
(60th Wedding Anniversary)

There will be A New Year's Eve Mass at Saint Mary's at 3:30 p.m. There will be no New Year's Day Mass at Saint Mary's.

Polish Classes will start Saturday, January 5th from 10:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon at the Saint Catharine's Parish Center.



Congratulations to Carl & Rita Gethmann who will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary on January 5th . Many more years of happiness!



Thank you from Monsignor Domin, & Father Rother, Msgr. Treston to everyone who sent cards, greetings, gifts, and goodies. May God continue to bless you in the New Year!

A Recipe for a Happy New Year!

Take twelve months. Clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month into twenty-eight, thirty, or thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients. Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, one part of work. Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of good spirits, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humor.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over a radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness and cheerfulness. You're bound to have a Happy New Year!

Solemnity of Mary – Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve –

4:30 p.m. Church

3:30 p.m. – Saint Mary's

New Year's Day – 8:00 a.m.

& 10:30 a.m. – Church

NO ADORATION on December 31, New Year's Eve and any days that the School is cancelled because of snow.

A BLESSED AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE FROM MONSIGNOR DOMIN, FATHER ROTHER, MSGR. TRESTON, DEACONS FRY, STAPLETON, SCHNEIDER & ESPOSITO AND THE STAFF OF ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH CENTER AND SCHOOL.

THE HOLY FAMILY

1 Sm 1:20-22,24-28: This reading teaches us that motherhood and life are a gift of God. The presence of children in a family signals the continuation of life and manifests the newness of God's love, which gives origin to ever new creatures.

1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24: Every family must be a mirror of the divine love because the root of every genuine love is God. Therefore, members of a family should deal lovingly with one another.

Lk 2:41-52: Jesus and His parents go to Jerusalem for the Passover. Upon returning, Jesus is separated from them. Mary and Joseph find Him in the temple teaching. When Mary asked why, Jesus replied that He must be doing His Father's work. Jesus returned with Mary and Joseph to Nazareth.

Today's Message - Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL – 9 a.m. – Knights' Rm.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31- NEW YEAR'S EVE

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY

PARISH CENTER CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

"SIENA STITCHERS" – 10 a.m. – Gathering Area

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS-7:30 p.m. – Knight's Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS - 6:00 p.m.-Social Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

YOUTH RETREAT MTG - 8:45 a.m. - Parish Center
Basement

POLISH CLASSES - 10:00 a.m. till 12:00 noon

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

CUB DEN MTG - 6:00 p.m. - Social Hall

VOICES IN PRAISE REHEARSAL – 9 a.m. – Knights' Rm.

SAVE THE DATE!! - 5th Annual St. Catharine's Men's Retreat! March 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2019.

NOCTURNAL ADORATION DEVOTIONS will be held at Holy Rosary Church on 3rd & Franklin Sts. The Devotions will be from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. on First Friday, January 4th. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

8:00 Beth Morelli

4:30 Peg & Charles Cappel

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00 Joan Serafin

10:30 Paul Arnold

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

6:30 Walter Gipprich

8:00 Helen Impink

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

6:30 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:00 Stanley Ustaszewski, (5th Anniversary)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

6:30 Intentions of Dolores Wettstein

8:30 Val Billings - **School**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

8:00 Sara Salino

4:30 Margaret Brenner

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

7:30 Samuel Russo

9:00 Martha Safko (20th Anniversary)

10:30 Casey Zielinski

12:00 Lori Lewis

Readings for the Week of December 30, 2018

Sunday	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52
Monday	Saint Sylvester I, Pope 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday	Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28
Thursday	The Most Holy Name of Jesus 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34
Friday	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42
Saturday	Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51
Sunday	Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/31	Father Kiaieta Kanimeia, M.S.C.
Tuesday 1/1	His Holiness Pope Francis
Wednesday 1/2	Pope Emeritus Benedict
Thursday 1/3	Bishop Alfred Schlert
Friday 1/4	Bishop Emeritus Edward Cullen
Saturday 1/5	Bishop Emeritus Edward Cullen
Sunday 1/6	Father Shaju Kanjiramparayil, S.F.S.

Parish Nurse News - Don't forget Dental Care! See your dentist twice a year. Brush regularly! Floss daily. Eat foods that are healthy, remember that good nutrition keeps your gums healthy too. Start the New Year with a Healthy mouth!

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 2018 must be received by Sunday, December 30th to be included on your statement. Thank you for your generosity during the past year. If contributions are received after December 30th they will be applied to your 2019 statement.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: SPC Mackenzie Adame, Pvt. Connor A. Soja, Pvt. First Class Kadan C. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, LCPL David Ermentrout, Lt. Morgan Hissick, Captain 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, Lt. Col. Jeffrey Brizek, Warrant Officer Gregory Van Horn, Major Jeffrey Van Horn, Lt. Cdr. Allison Rosati Martin, 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.

Weekend Mass Schedule

January 5th - 4:30 p.m. (Church)

Lector - Melissa Scollick

Cantor - Kate Bobb

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - M. Fernandez - E. Fernandez - S. Robinson

January 6th - 7:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Doug McAdams

Altar Servers - N. Wentling - J. Wentling - M. Schneider

January 6th - 9:00 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Roxanne Richardson

Guitar Group

Altar Servers - K. Nguyen - M. Ream - J. Howard

January 6th - 10:30 a.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Amanda Luckenbill

Voices In Praise Choir

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - D. Dougherty - E. Oscar - M. Pawlik

January 6th - 12:00 p.m. Mass (Church)

Lector - Mary King

Cantor - Jeff Tomczyk

Organist - Dave Kostival

Altar Servers - R. Bernas - H. Keperling - T. Keperling

NEW IN THE AREA? Please see a Priest or Deacon after a Sunday Mass to register in our parish. We would like to meet you and come to know you. Registration takes only 10-15 minutes of your time.

St. Catharine of Siena Parish Welcomes All - No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church; no matter what your current family or marital situation; no matter what your past or present religious affiliation; no matter what your personal history, age, background, race, etc.; you are Invited, Welcomed, Accepted, Loved and Respected at Saint Catharine of Siena Parish.



NOW THAT THE **WINTER** IS REALLY UPON US, WE WANT TO REMIND THE **SENIOR MEMBERS** OF OUR PARISH FAMILY THAT YOU SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO COME TO MASS ON DAYS THAT ARE STORMY, ICY OR BITTER COLD. ONE DAY OF HEROICS COULD LEAD TO MANY MONTHS IN BED RECUPERATING.

Winter is here! St. Vincent de Paul is again asking for donations of children's hats, scarves, and mittens. Bins will be in back of Church.



Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen

“a time to be born...

Recently Baptized:

Please pray for our sick: Stella Albrecht, Anthony Antonucci, Jim Auchter, Beverly Bansner, Melody Bechtel, MaryAnn Beeman, Sandy Bibbo, Agnes Bohner, Paul A. Bomba, Joseph Brahler, Mike Bristol, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Peggine Brzezowski, Marvin Bush, Joseph Capilo, Raymond Cooper, Larry Curtin, Charles DeNaples, Jennifer Devlin, Arthur Dietrich Jr., Susan Dolinski, Cathy Duggan, Gina Ebright, Bruce Gerald, Maureen Gibson, Joseph Gierschick, Jr., Joseph Gowel, David J. Gulati II, Kip Hall, Wayne Hedrick, Catharine Hefferan, Robyn Hefferan, Dorothy Kaisoglus, Winnie Kerns, Mary Kolakowski, Dorothy Kosikowski, Albert Lellig, Timothy Loeper, Daniel Lonergan, Helen Long, Kelly MacDonald, Charles E. Mathews, Cindy McConnell, Jacob McCue, Nicholas Milanek, Anthony Myers, Patrick Nelis, Louise Pettyjohn, Patricia Pinto, Donald Pisker, Sharon Precht, Lorraine Ransom, Nada Rathkey, Steven Robinson, Anne Schaeffer, Ann Schweitzer, Margaret Scott, Vincent Skimski, Tyler Skoczen, Gabrielle Smith, Eugene Sock, Chris Starr, George Stenavage, Andy Strangarity, Kent Styer, Sandy Sullivan, Paul Teske, Charles Vozella, Alan Wachowicz, Frank White, Theresa White, Leo Woelkers, Susan Yapsuga, Ann Marie Zawislak **a time to die:** Sandy Bradley, (wife of Jim Bradley)

To have someone from your family enrolled on our prayer list, please call the Parish Center. 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.

You are invited to a special event “The Master Craftsman: God’s Amazing Plan for Teens (and their Parents)” co-sponsored by the Office of Youth, Young Adult and Family Ministry and St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church. Join us for a faith-filled evening with nationally-recognized speaker Scott Anthony, as he helps us see the Truth of God’s guiding hand in our lives. We encourage teens in grades 9-12 and their parents to attend! After this evening, you and your youth will look toward the future with a newfound sense of hope.

The event will take place on Friday, January 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM, at St. Thomas More Church Family Center (1040 Flexer Ave, Allentown, PA 18103).

This event is free of charge. Light refreshments will be provided.

To register for this event, please visit www.allentowndiocese.org/craftsman. For questions call (610) 289-8900, ext. 2021 or email Francesca Frias at Ffrias@allentowndiocese.org.

Berks Catholic News

1/24/19- Step Up Day - 8th graders spend the day at Berks Catholic and get a real feel of what it’s like to Be A Saint, please contact Mrs. Smith for more information. 610.374.8361 ext.244

1/27/19- Open House - It’s a great time to Be A Saint! Come see our new John R. Post Learning Center which features a new STEM Lab, expanded cafeteria, new classrooms, college and career counseling suite and collegiate style learning commons. Come experience the energy of our community. For more information please contact Nicky Smith at 610.374.8361 ext. 244 or nsmith@betkscatholic.org

THE TRIBUNAL DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
610-434-3200

Do you know your Tribunal? The Tribunal is a group of specially qualified priests, deacons and lay persons. Their responsibility is to come to the help of persons who are the victims of unfortunate marriage situations.

When a divorce occurs, the Catholic Church is always caught between two tensions. One is the unbreakableness of the bond of marriage. Jesus Himself said: "What God has joined, man must not divide." This is God's law. It cannot be broken by human intervention.

On the other hand, the Church must be concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Can they be helped? Was this a true marriage? Even though the parties went through a Catholic marriage ceremony, was there some weakness in the consent of one or both of the persons involved?

The annulment procedure is designed to study the history of the marriage and why it failed. It does not affix the blame. If the marriage is found to be invalid both parties are free.

If you could be helped, or have a friend or acquaintance who might be helped, please suggest that they call your parish priest or the Tribunal Office. The Tribunal will be happy to forward an application. Have no fear. All interviews are private. There are no confrontations.

Financial Stewardship

December 9, 2018

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 21,407	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 468,709	\$ 562,104
Year to date deficit	\$ 93,395	
Last Year	\$ 17,774	

December 16, 2018

	Actual	Budget
This Year	\$ 20,996	\$ 23,421
Year to date	\$ 489,705	\$ 585,525
Year to date deficit	\$ 95,820	
Last Year	\$ 21,962	

A sincere "THANK YOU" to our parishioners and visitors who choose to contribute to St. Catharine's. Your contributions are deeply appreciated.

50 Plus News

The monthly meeting for the 50+ Club will be held on **January 9, 2019** at 11:30 am. The board meeting will be held on **January 8, 2019** at 10:00 am. Please call Carol Buddell, President of the 50+ Club at 610-401-0600 with any questions or concerns. You can see us on **Facebook** for additional information.

MEETINGS

JANUARY 9, 2019: NEW YEARS CELEBRATION with members to bring appetizers and snacks to share - Cake and Coffee Let's play **BINGO**. **Please note: The meeting is the 2nd Wednesday, not the 1st Wednesday.**

FEBRUARY 6, 2019: Valentine Day Celebration with cakes and coffee. Speaker: Pat White – 2019 trip schedule

March 6, 2019: St. Patrick Day Celebration, wear Green. Members to bring their favorite **MEATLESS SOUP**

APRIL 3, 2019: SPECIAL EVENT - Everybody's Birthday Celebration. More information to follow.

Attention all members: Dues for must be paid **before the April meeting**. If not, your names will be removed from the membership list.

2019 TRAVEL PLANS will be announced 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

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat™

An intimate spiritual journey for anyone seeking healing after abortion. **March 22-24, 2019-** In a safe, supportive, non-judgmental environment you can focus on this painful time in your life and enter into the process of healing. Through scripture readings, guided meditations, and activities flowing from the meditations you can experience God's compassion and forgiveness. For *registration information contact: Sr. Meg Cole, **1-866-3 RACHEL (Toll Free) or 610-332-0442 Ext. 2019.** projectrachel@allentowndiocese.org

*** Deadline for Registration is March 14th.** For information about the retreat experience visit the national website: www.rachelsvineyard.org