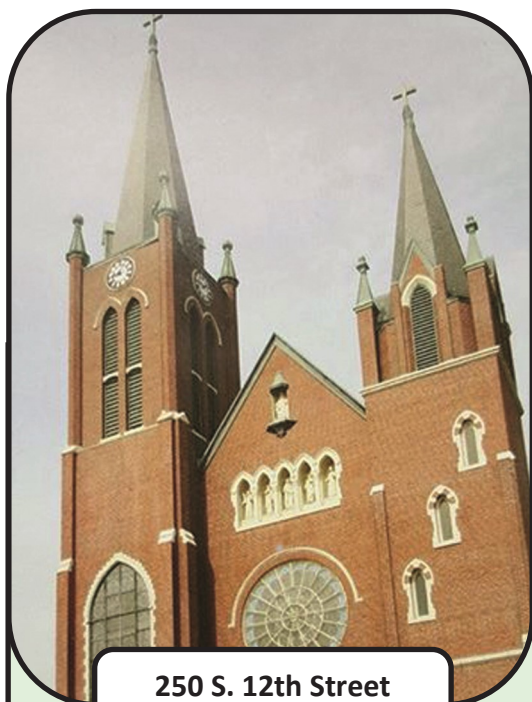


Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish



**250 S. 12th Street
Reading, PA 19602**

ST. MARY'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.
Sunday : 10:30 a.m.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday, 2:45 -3:15 p.m. in the Church. Otherwise, by appointment only

Parish Website: www.stmaryrdg.com
If you need assistance please call 610-779-4005.

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Brian M. Miller, M.A., Pastor
Rev. Matthew J. Kuna, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Craig Fry
Deacon John Stapleton
Deacon Gregory Schneider
Mrs. Marcella Kraycik, Principal
Rev. Msgr. Joseph P. T. Smith, Pastor Emeritus

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Ms. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, NCC, LPC
Direct Line: (800) 791-9209

Office of Safe Environment: Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S.
Secretary, Youth Protection and Catholic Human Services
P.O. Box F, Allentown, PA 18105-1538
610-871-5200 ext. 2204
prusso@allentowndioocese.org



**4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606**

ST. CATHARINE'S REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - Chapel
Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - Church
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 - Church
Daily: Monday - Friday - 7:15 a.m. - Chapel
8:20 a.m. School Mass (Friday)

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Saturday - 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. in the Church
otherwise, by appointment only.

PARISH CENTER: 2427 Perkiomen Avenue
Phone: 610-779-4005, FAX: 610-779-0859
Parish Website: www.scsreading.org
Parish Email: saintcatharineofreading@gmail.com

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue
Phone: 610-779-5810 • www.scsreading.org

PREP OFFICE: 2330 Perkiomen Avenue
Phone: 610-779-8535

PRE-SCHOOL:
Phone: 610-779-5810

**Please mail all your correspondence to the Parish Center,
2427 Perkiomen Ave., Reading, PA 19606**

St. Catharine of Siena Parish Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, as brothers and sisters in Christ guided by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and inspired by the works of our patron saint proclaim a desire to grow in our Roman Catholic faith through holiness and a willingness to serve the members of our parish family and community.

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, November 18th - 3:30 p.m. - John Michael Yerger
Sunday, November 19th - 10:30 a.m. - Good Health - Vincent Skimski
Saturday, November 25th - 3:30 p.m. - Andrew Kazmierczak
Sunday, November 26th - 10:30 a.m. - Anna Nowotarski

The Polish American Heritage Assoc. of Berks County will hold its annual Polish Christmas Eve Wigilia Dinner on Sunday, December 17th, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 701 Penn St. in Reading. Doors open at 4:15pm with a cocktail hour (cash bar) and hors d'oeuvres at 4:30pm followed by the sharing of the Christmas wafer, dinner, singing of koledy, dessert, coffee and tea. Members: \$65.00; Non-members: \$75. For more information and reservations, call Henry Pruski at 610-372-1279 after 7:00pm. The deadline for reservations is December 8.

**THE SCS KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
ARE HOSTING A**



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 2023
(at the SCS SOCIAL HALL)**

Visits with Santa and Breakfast will begin following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude at 11:30 AM

Each child Visiting with Santa

will receive a small gift bag from him

BREAKFAST MENU: Scrambled Egg Casseroles (Plain Egg, Ham & Cheese, or Western Style) Bacon, Sausage, French Toast Sticks, Home Fries, Toast, Coffee, Milk & Juice.

An opportunity for a free will offering will be available to cover the cost of the breakfast

The SCS Knights thank you all for your support through the year and wish you and your families all the blessings of this joyous Christmas Season !

Advent and Christmas 2023

Advent Confessions

Regular Schedule

Saturdays
2:45pm-3:15 pm St. Mary's
3:30pm-4:15 pm Church
Mondays
7:00 pm-8:00 pm Chapel (Dec. 18th at Church)

Additional Confessions for Advent Sundays

6:45 am-7:15 am Church
8:45 am-9:15 am Church
9:45 am-10:15 am St. Mary's
10:45 am-11:15 am Church

**Advent Penance Service - Monday December 18th
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Church**

**Retreats - Women's Retreat - Sunday, December 3rd
6:00pm
Men's Retreat - Sunday, December 10th 6:00 pm**

Father Miller's Bible Study Dates:

**Wednesday, December 6th 6:30 pm Church
Tuesday, December 12th 6:30 pm Church
Thursday, December 21st 6:30 pm Church**

Christmas Season

Obligation to attend one of these:

**4th Sunday Advent
Saturday December 23rd
3:30 pm St. Mary's
4:30 pm Church
Sunday December 24th**
7:30 am Church
9:30 am Church**

****There will be no 10:30 am St. Mary or 11:30 am Church****

Christmas Eve

Obligation to attend one of these as well:

**Sunday, December 24th
4:00 pm Church
7:00 pm Church
9:00 pm St. Mary's
10:30 pm Church**

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25th

8:00 am Church
9:00 am St. Mary's
10:00 am - Church

**Daily Mass from December 26th to December 29th
9:00 am Chapel**

**December, 30th-31st
Regular Sunday Schedule**

**January 1st - Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year
9:00 am Chapel**

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31: A true wife is valued beyond all pearls. She brings good to her husband. She works for the household. She helps the poor. She fears the Lord. She deserves her reward.

1 Thes 5:1-6: The Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. It will be sudden. There will be no escape.

Mt 25:14-30: Jesus speaks of the master who is going on a journey. He entrusts his property to three servants. Upon his return, the first two are rewarded for their work; the third who did not increase his wealth is chastised and punished.

Today's Message: Those who use their gifts and talents in the service of one another, especially the poor and the needy, are blessed indeed. They shall be known as children of the light, and will be ready for the Lord's return.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Upper Room

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 Mass until 8:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS – 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Chapel

GUITAR GROUP PRACTICE – 7:00 p.m. – Church

CUB SCOUTS MEETING – 6:30 p.m. – Social Hall

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

FR. MILLERS'S BIBLE STUDY – 6:30-7:30 p.m.- Church

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Chapel

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

8:00 Jay Yohn

4:30 Sharon Sauppee (14th Anniversary)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

7:30 Paul Flamm

9:30 Geraldine (Delle Palme) Hydock

11:30 Nicholas Lintz

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20

7:15 Carolyn Schultz

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:15 Alicia La Scala

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

7:15 Alberta Lutz

7:00 p.m. Maureen & Frank Truckly (60th Anniversary)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23

9:00 Anthony Calvaresi - Chapel

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

9:00 Rosa Nguyen - Chapel

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

8:00 Theresa & William Bryan

4:30 David & Mary George

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

7:30 Myrna Warwick

9:30 Gino Ucci

11:30 Adam Calvaresi (11th Anniversary)

Scripture Readings

For the Week of November 19, 2023

Sunday

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 or Mt 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday

1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday

Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; 1; Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday

Memorial of Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15; Lk 19:11-28

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Austin Pro, Priest & Martyr

1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44

Thanksgiving: Sir 50:22-24; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19

Friday

Memorial of Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs

1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11d-12a, 12cd; Lk 19:45-48

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-3, 4 & 6, 16 and 19; Lk 20:27-40

Sunday

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

For the week of November 19th

The Sanctuary Candle
will burn in
Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - Margaret & John Franek

St. Catharine's Chapel - Stracilo Family Good Health

St. Mary's - Dorothy & Forrest Moyer

THE PARISH CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ON NOVEMBER 23rd & 24th THE PARISH CENTER WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH. There is no Eucharistic Adoration on Monday, November 27th.

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 11/20	Rev. Msgr. Albert J. Byrne
Tuesday 11/21	Rev. Floyd Caesar
Wednesday 11/22	Rev. Msgr. Aloysius R. Callaghan
Thursday 11/23	Rev. Michael E. Camilli, M.S.C.
Friday 11/24	Rev. Msgr. John S. Campbell
Saturday 11/25	Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Chaback

Catholic Trivia - Question: Saint Cecilia's feast day is November 22nd. Why is she recognized as the patron saint of music and musicians?

- A. She converted many to Christianity through the music of her harp.
- B. On the day of her wedding, which she did not want, she comforted herself by singing in her heart.
- C. She wrote the first Christian hymn.
- D. She engineered the first pipe organ.

Answer on page 6



Boy Scout New & Used Toy Drive -

Boy Scout Troop 358 will hold their annual New and Used Toy Drive beginning November 25. We are looking for new or used toys that are clean, have all or most of their parts, and are in good condition. No plush toys please.

The scouts will be cleaning the toys and delivering them to the Opportunity House who will then deliver them to children in need. Toys will be collected at the beginning of Mass on November 25 & 26 and December 2 & 3. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

The Exeter Women's Club 25th Holiday House Tour will be on Sunday, December 3, 2023 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 and are available at Boscov's East or the Exeter Community Library.

Simbang Gabi Schedule (Christmas Novena Masses) in Berks County - December 9, 10,11 (Sat, Sun, Mon) Holy Guardian Angels Church, Kutztown Road, 7 PM (*Dec 9, Sat. Potluck night) December 12, 13, 14 (Tues, Wed, Thurs) St Catherine of Sienna Chapel, Perkiomen Ave, 7 PM Dec 15, 16,17 (Fri., Sat, Sun) Immaculate Conception Church in Douglassville, 7 PM (Dec 17, Sun., Potluck night & Christmas Party

Date Night at Folino Estate - Join us for a Date Night for Catholic Engaged and Married Couples at Folino Estate Winery in Kutztown on Friday, December 1st from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The night will include wine tasting, appetizers, open bar, desserts, and an Advent Reflection by the married couple, Tim and Ashley Wood. Each couple will be gifted with the book *Awaited* - an Advent devotional for Catholic couples! Tickets are \$100 per couple. Please register at allentowndiocese.org/date-night by 11/24/23.



Both the *Women's Dinner and Evenings of Reflection* and the *Men's Dinner and Evening of Reflection* will be on a Sunday evening from 6-8pm. The Women's program is 12/3 and The Men's program is 12/10. Both will be offering Eucharistic Adoration, an opportunity to go to Confession, a meal shared with friends/fellowship and a seasonal reflection from our invited speakers.

While it's possible to sign up for this program as an individual, our hope is you are thinking "Who can I invite to attend this with me?". It might be your teenage or adult family members, perhaps your neighbors, or some old friends you've been meaning to get together with now for a long time. OR Perhaps, you feel the Holy Spirit stirring in your soul the names of some friends who have fallen away from practicing the faith. Please invite them to sit with you at your table. Listen to that inner voice whispering to you!

We currently are actively looking for table hosts. While a table will fit 8-10 people. Don't shy from hosting because you think that is too many people for you to ask. If you only have yourself and 2 or 3 others to invite, our coordinators will help to pair you and your guests with another table host in order to fill the table, and we hope, the social hall. Please contact the coordinators to learn more about hosting and attending.

Advent Women's Evening of Reflection & Dinner: A Season of Waiting, A Season of Hope St. Catharine of Siena Social Hall - December 3, 2023 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM To attend or host a table, please contact Cassie Sedlack @ (610) 698-1168 or [bhousii@comcast.net](mailto:bhoujii@comcast.net) or Denise Ianni @ (610)223-2391 or lightbulblou@verizon.net

Advent Men's Reflection & Dinner We Wait. We Watch. We Hope. St. Catharine of Siena Social Hall - December 10, 2023 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM To attend or host a table, please contact Doug McAdams @ (484)709-0152 or email: Jetsfan163@aol.com



Congratulations to Maureen & Frank Truckly who will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary. May they be blessed with many more years together!

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: Julianna Gudelunas

Please pray for our sick: Karin Acuna, Anthony Antonucci, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Maura Barrasso, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Jason Beshore, Jodi Bixler, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Bruce Brandfon, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhart, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Richard Cunnius, Larry Curtin, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, George Dietrich, Janet Dodge, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Martin Eisenhower, Charles Elchlepp, Joe Essig, Robert Flipping, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Todd Gladfelter, Theresa Grabowski, David J. Gulati II, Doris Harner, Al Heck, Mary & Wayne Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, Carol Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Curtis S. Hill, Jesse Hill, Roger Hilton, James Hett, Michael Hivner, Carolyn Hoffman, Chuck Holt, Margaret Iuso, Katelynn Solecki Kajunski, Nikki Lyn Kells, Judith M. Koch, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, John Kompa, Deb Kothgasser, Rosemarie Kovacs, Doug Kroener, Dorothy Kulak, Walter LaSota, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Alma Lonergan, Del Long, Jane Lubas, Rosemary Ludwig, Maryann Marino, Angela Marroccoli, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, Cynthia Mitchell, Robert Moyer, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, Michael Poserina, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Aneliese & Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Earl Sheetz, Carolyn Schott, Gabbie Sierra, Vincent Skimski, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Mary Jane Skowron, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Mark Speece, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, Kimberly Trigstead, Jeff Trojanowski, Maureen Truckly, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, Alan Wachowicz, Alexandra Wachowicz, Dave Walter, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Frank White, Noel Yapsuga, Susan Yapsuga, Kathleen Zagar, Ann Marie Zawislak, John Ziemba, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman **A Time to die: Dolores Blaszczyńska; Mark Speece,** (husband of Donna Speece) & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11

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.

Father Miller's Bible Study Dates
6:30 p.m. - Church
Tuesday, November 21st
Wednesday, November 29th

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: Petty Officer Matthew J. Dobroskey, Jr., Cpl. Bruce Bogertey, SPC, Alex Heintz, Captain Chelsea Pellicano, Airman Ethan Kosmoski, LTJG Nicholas Tomczyk, Captain Steffan Lis, MD, SPC, Dylan Einfalt, Airman 1st Class Kevin Hodgson, Sgt. Madison Straka, First Lt. Devon Schoonover, Sgt. Mackenzie Adame, Lance Corporal Connor A. Soja, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, Captain Anthony Bennett, Tom Bristol, Danny Bristol, Commander Daniel M. Simon, Staff Sgt. Michael Porcaro, Staff Sgt. Zak Ribble, Staff Sgt. Timothy 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, Zachary Deissler, Amy & Gregory Boland, Lt. Col. Adam Sawyer, Staff Sgt. Jeremiah Sola, Lt. Cdr. Mathew Stuber, Sgt. Nathan Essig. **Please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.**



THANKSGIVING WEEK MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-November 20th - 7:15 a.m. - Mass

Tuesday, November 21st - 7:15 a.m. - Mass

Wednesday, November 22nd - 7:15 a.m. - Mass

Vigil of Thanksgiving Mass - 7:00 p.m.- Church

Thanksgiving Day - 9:00 a.m. Mass in Chapel

Friday, November 24th - 9:00 a.m.. Mass - Chapel

Our traditional Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, November 22nd at 7:00 P.M. in the Church. Please gather together with your fellow parishioners and friends in giving thanks to God for His many blessings. There will be songs of praise before Mass, so feel free to come early and join the singing. Our guitar group will offer the music.

Parish Nurse News - Oral health is a key to overall health! Your mouth is connected to the respiratory and digestive tracts. Bacteria can cause illness there. Teeth and gum diseases lead to problems in other areas, including the heart. Brush teeth twice daily with a soft-bristle brush, floss daily, replace brush every 3-4 months, see the dentist, avoid tobacco use (Mayo Clinic, 2021)! Healthy and Blessed Thanksgiving!



Did you know? Our parish has a **free lending library** full of books to support your faith. While there are many great books and Catholic resources digitally out there. For many of us there is something special about a book we can hold in our hands, slow down and turn the pages of.

Books are arranged by topics in the back of the Church. We also have many DVDs and CDs to enjoy alone or with family and friends. If it's been awhile since visiting our library, take some time after Mass to check out this parish resource!

50 Plus News

Please call, **President, Kathleen Zagar**, for any 50+ club inquiries. Her phone number is **610-698-3289**. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.



December 6, 2023- 12:00 noon - 50+ Club's Christmas party at the Doubletree. \$35 for members and \$37 for nonmembers. Please call Janina at, 215-644-7396 for reservations. The deadline for the Christmas Party Reservations will be November 24.

January 3, 2024- Pat White will present the 2024 trips. Coffee, tea, water, and cake will be served.

April 18-21: Parade of Nations and Virginia International Tattoo - \$770 per person double occupancy (The Virginia International Tattoo incorporates groups from around the world, including acrobats, choral groups, and precision military drill teams.) Please call Pat White at 610-582-1437 or Bev Bard at 610-763-5654 for trip information. Trip reservations/ down payment deposits are currently being taken by Pat White, \$200 per person. Check should be made payable to St Catharine's 50+ club.

Please call Maria Bunch at 610-914-7005 with the name of members who are sick or have died. We always welcome new members and encourage guests to join us at any of our meetings. Our meetings are held at 1:00 PM on the first Wednesday of most months at Saint Catharine's Social Hall. There will be no meetings during the special events' months of April, August, and December.



Through the generous support in the recent Scouting for Food drive, St. Catharine's contributed enough food to fill four large watermelon boxes, along with cash contributions as well. In total, 16 boxes were filled from donations in the Exeter and Mt. Penn areas with the largest donation coming from you. Troop and Pack 358 would like to thank you for your efforts in helping us with this worthy cause.

Marriage & Family - Happiness - If you're looking for you spouse to provide all your happiness, you are cruising for a relational letdown. Your spouse should not make you miserable, but it's not up to your spouse to make you happy either. Happiness is a feeling, which can change at any time. Marriage is based on a commitment, which should never change. This doesn't mean younger couples won't feel happiness within their marriage commitment, but if spouses base their commitment on cheerful feelings, what happens to the commitment when those feelings change? Be grateful when you feel happy with your spouse, but don't rely on him or her to be the source of your happiness. Ironically, you'll both be happier this way. Remember, only God is the ultimate source of our true joy. (Family First 2023)

Pro-tip: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our Heart is restless until it rests in you" (St. Augustine of Hippo)

Challenge of the week: Add the Word of God to your daily routine. This need not be a chore. Many apps now allow you to listen to the daily readings as you ride into work or fold the clothes. (*Laudate* is free, *Hallow* has free 3mo trial). Still many appreciate the quiet focus that comes from sitting with the Word as the day is begun through a subscription to the *Magnificat* or the *Word Among Us*. The daily readings

Catholic Trivia ANSWER: B. Saint Cecelia was born in Rome and had taken a vow of virginity, but her parents insisted she marry a nobleman named Valerian. During the wedding, she sat apart singing to God in her heart. After the wedding, she told her husband that an angel was watching over her and he should leave her alone. When he asked to see the angel, she told him to first go to be baptized by Pope Urban I. Following her advice, he got baptized and then saw the angel standing beside her, crowning her with roses and lilies. Although she died sometime between 222 and 235 AD, her body was found to still be incorrupt in 1599, seeming to be sleeping.