Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish





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@allentowndiocese.org

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.

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, November 25th - 3:30 p.m. - Andrew Kazmierczak Sunday, November 26th - 10:30 a.m. - Anna Nowotarski Saturday, December 2nd - 3:30 p.m. - Chester Chelstowski Sunday, December 3rd - 10:30 a.m. - Louis Filipek

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.



ENVELOPES can be found today on the altar rail for poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Each plant is \$12.00. Please print names legibly.



MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

VIGIL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7TH 6:30 P.M. – SAINT CATHARINE'S CHURCH

> FEAST DAY –FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8TH 7:15 A.M. –CHURCH

6:30 P.M.- CHURCH

ST. MARY'S - 8:00 A.M.-CHURCH

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 vear

Ez 34:11-12, 15-17: The Lord looks after His own flock. He takes them to pasture and rescues them. He goes after those who are lost. He also will judge them.

<u>1 Cor 15:20-26, 28</u>: Christ has risen, and He is the firstfruits of the dead. All have life in Him. He will reign and all will be subjected to Him.

Mt 25:31-46: All people will be judged by the Son of Man who will be seated on His royal throne. The sheep will be on His right, the goats on His left. He will reward all good and punish all evil.

<u>Today's Message</u>: The Lord is our shepherd. At the end at His coming, He will hand over the kingdom to His Father. He will "judge between one sheep and another, between rams and goats", between those who have lived for others, and those who have lived for themselves.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 Mass until 8:00 p.m. - No Confessions

GUITAR GROUP PRACTICE – 7:00 p.m. – Church CUB SCOUTS MEETING – 6:30 p.m. – Social Hall LIFE AFTER LOSS - 7:00 p.m. – Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

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

PREP - 6:30-8:30 p.m. - School

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m. – Chapel

RCIA – 6:00-7:30 p.m. – Parish Center FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

AHG - 6:00-8:00 p.m. - Social Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Chapel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

BREAKFÁST WITH SANTA – following the 7:30 a.m. Mass until 11:30 a.m. – Social Hall

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT FOR WOMEN – 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

For the week of November 26th



The Sanctuary Candle will burn In Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - Connie Fry

St. Catharine's Chapel - David & Mary George

St. Mary's - Mary& Rudolph Tandlmayer

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

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)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27 7:15 Bernice Dolinski TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

7:15 John S. Bankert, Jr. (14th Anniversary)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:15 Paul Flamm

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

7:15 Ruth Mountz FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 7:15 Diane Cerra

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00 Charles Chiarelli (37th Anniversary) 4:30 Joseph F. Kabat (24th Anniversary)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 7:30 Eda Tierney 9:30 Denise Ucci

11:30 Deceased Members of the Speece Family

Scripture Readings

For the Week of November 26, 2023

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

Monday

Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday

Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62, 63, 64,

65, 66, 67; Lk 21:12-19

Thursday

Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 4:18-22

Friday

Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81; Lk 21:29-33

Saturday

Dn 7:15-27; Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 95, 86, 87; Lk 21:34-36

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

LOVED ONE REMEMBERED CROSSES – If you were unable to pick up your cross at the All Souls Day Mass, they are on a table in the Gathering Area. You can take it home with you.

Retirement Fund for Religious - Say thank you to the senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who devoted their lives to serving others. The Diocesan Collection date for the Retirement Fund will be on the weekend of December 9th & 10th.

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOME! If you have been regularly worshipping with us and have not yet joined our parish, we warmly invite you to see either Father Miller or Fr. Kuna after Mass and they will be happy to register you as a member of St. Catharine of Siena. All are welcome to join our parish community.

<u>Nocturnal Adorations Devotions</u> will be held at St. Paul's Church, on 9th & Walnut Streets. The one hour Adoration will be from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. on First Friday, December 1st. Everyone is welcome to attend!

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 11/27
Tuesday 11/28
Wednesday 11/29
Thursday 11/30
Friday 12/1
Saturday 12/2
Rev. Msgr. John G. Chizmar
Rev. Msgr. Donald W. Cieniewicz
Rev. Richard Clement
Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Coll
Rev. Remy Coly, M.S.C.
Rev. Loren T. Connell, O.F.M.

Catholic Trivia

Question: Which Solemnity is celebrated on the last Sunday of each liturgical year?

A. The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

B. All Saints Day
C. Mary Mother of God
D. Christ the King
Answer on page 6



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 bhoujii@comcast.net or Denise lanni @ (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

New Catholic App that's free for you and for our parish.

Here is another way to stay with touch your parish. The app is called Tabella. It contains prayers, novenas, podcasts, and faith formation which includes Fr. Mike Schmitz's year of the Bible and year of the catechism series. Another important feature is the community page for each parish. One has been set up for St. Catharine's. In this community section you will be updated with the daily parish liturgies and The bulletin will be events. posted there every week along with weather cancellations, reminders of holy days of obligations, confession times, and reminders about the events happening the in parish. See one of our youth group members in the back of the Church to help you



with installing the app on your phone or mobile devices.





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!

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: 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 Donald Pisker, Michael Poserina, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, 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: & 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.



Thank you, St. Catharine of Siena Parish, for your overwhelming support of the 2023 Lifeline of Berks County baby bottle fundraiser. The board and staff of Lifeline would like to extend a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to Fr. Miller and Fr. Kuna for welcoming us to the parish, to the Knights of

Columbus for their help with the details, and of course to you the parishioners for your incredible generosity. Lifeline is **not** a political organization. **All** your gifts will be used to provide food, formula, diapers, clothing, pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, and classes for **free** in our Berks County Community. Thank you for your continued support!



Clare of Assisi House is in the need of the following items: Paper Products Napkins, Tissues, Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue, Cleaning Supplies, Toilet Cleaner, Scrubbing Bubbles, Windex, Dish Soap), Hygiene Products Shampoo, Conditioner, Body

Lotion, Body Wash, Toothpaste. If you are able to help please drop off at the Parish Center.

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

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 .

St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour. - You are invited to take part in a St. Monica Ministry Holy Hour at St. Theresa Church, Hellertown on Wednesday, November 8th at 6:00pm. We will come together before the Blessed Sacrament to ask Our Lord's mercy and to invoke the powerful intercession of St. Monica for our fallen-away loved ones. Presiding will be Rev. Anthony Mongiello, pastor of St. Anne's Parish, Bethlehem. All are welcome, and no registration is required. For more information on the St. Monica Ministry, please email StMonicaMinistry27@gmail.com

Financial Stewardship August 6, 2023			
Act	nal	Budget	
This Year \$	20.373	\$ 23	3,421
Year to date \$	113,187	\$ 23 \$ 140	,526
Year to date deficit \$			
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	ual 18,204	Budget \$ 23	3,421
Year to date \$	131,391		3,947
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	August 20, 2		
	ual	Budget	104
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Year to date deficit \$	37.603	φ 10	,300
	August 27, 2	023	
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This Year \$	18,789 168,554	\$ 23 \$ 210	3,421
Year to date \$ Year to date deficit \$	168,554	\$ 210	0,789
	September 3,	2023	
Actual Budget			
This Year \$	20,932	23	,421
Year to date \$	189.486	\$ 234	4,210
Year to date deficit \$	44,724	0000	
Act	September 10,	Budget	
	16,988	\$ 23	3.421
Year to date \$	206,474		7,631
Year to date \$ Year to date deficit \$	51,157		·
2	September 17,	2023	
	ual	Budget	424
Year to date \$	18,151 224,625	\$ 23 \$ 281	0,421
Year to date deficit \$	56.427	201	,002
September 24, 2023			
<u> </u>	<u>september 24,</u>	2023	
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Thank you for your continued contributions to our parish. We appreciate all that you do, financially and other ways, to make our parish great.

Marriage & Family Life - Beauty

Older couples have a firm grasp on what truly makes someone beautiful, and it's far deeper that his or her outward appearance. You may be physically attracted to your spouse, but you should also be attracted to the virtues and other attributes that will remain when gray hair and wrinkles arrive. You'll find true beauty in a person's character, relationship with others, and heart for giving and sharing. (Family First 2023)

Pro-tip: "What matters is not your outer appearance – the styling of your hair, the jewelry you wear, the cut of your clothes – but your inner disposition. Cultivate inner beauty, the gentle, gracious kind that God delights in" 1Peter3: 3-4

Challenge of the week: Talk to an older couple your respect this week and ask them what advice they would have for a younger couple in order to foster a holy and happy marriage.

Catholic Trivia ANSWER: D. Since being instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as part of his encyclical *Quas Primas* ("in the first"), we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King on the last Sunday of each liturgical year, the 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This is the Sunday before the beginning of Advent. It is also known as the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. The solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever. The Nativity of St. John the Baptist is June 24th; All Saints day is November 1st; and Mary Mother of God is celebrated on January 1st.

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.

Meetings -

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

Trips

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.

<u>The Exeter Women's Club 25th Holiday House Tour</u> 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.