

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

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



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.

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, December 30th - 3:30 p.m. - Barry Mohn
 Sunday, December 31st - 10:30 a.m. - Faye Landis
 Saturday, January 6th - 3:30 p.m. - Edward Jagielski
 Sunday, January 7th - 10:30 a.m. - Rev. Zdzislaw Kikowski

SCHOLARSHIPS - On Sunday, May 19, 2024, the Polish-American Board of Education of Berks County will be awarding \$25,000 in scholarships to Berks County high school seniors of Polish-American descent. Deadline for submitting the application form for this scholarship is Saturday April 20, 2024. In conjunction with the PABEBC scholarship awards program, the Polish-American Heritage Association of Berks County is awarding a \$2,500 project scholarship to a Berks County high school student of Polish-American descent. For this scholarship the student is required to submit a project on Polish history, culture, and/or traditions. Projects are due on Saturday, March 30, 2024. Applicants for the scholarships can obtain application forms and guidelines in the office of the Guidance Counselor in all Berks County high schools. They are also available in the Polish-American Cultural Center in the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington St., Reading, and they can be downloaded from the PABEBC website at www.pabeberks.org, or by contacting Sandy Lubas Hummel, Scholarship Chair for both organizations, at 610-207-7065. Any questions? Telephone Sandy Lubas Hummel.

Thank you from Father Miller, & Father Kuna to everyone who sent cards, greetings, gifts, and goodies. May God continue to bless you in the New Year!

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, TSgt. 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.**



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!

Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3: Abraham believed in God. As a result, God gave him and his wife a son in their old age. The family thus becomes the sign of the faith of human beings and of the love of God.

Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19: Abraham believed God's promises and put his faith in Him, living that faith in every phase of his life. And since God is faithful to His promises, faith becomes the source of hope and happiness for his family. We should place our trust in God's promises.

Lk 2:22-40: Joseph and Mary take Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. Simeon recognizes Him as the Anointed of the Lord and blesses Him. The child returns to Nazareth and grows to maturity.

Today's Message: Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family. Mindful of His covenant, God blesses the faith of Abraham and Sarah in their son, Isaac. The child Jesus and his parents are blessed by Simeon.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. - School

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m. – Chapel

RCIA – 6:00-7:30 p.m. – Parish Center

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

AHG - 6:00-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Chapel

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

FORTY HOURS - 6:00 p.m. - Church

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

8:00 Joan Lloyd

4:30 Walter Paul

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

7:30 Helen B. Anderson (1st Anniversary)

9:30 Salvatore Corso (10th Anniversary)

11:30 Carmen Romero (11th Anniversary)

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 Bill Abramowicz

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

7:15 Agnes Marie Dunn

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

7:15 Sharon Michalski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

7:15 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5

7:15 Michael D. Rutkowski

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

8:00 Thomas Schlegel

4:30 Martha Safko

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

7:30 Samuel Russo

9:30 Virginia Houck & Family

11:30 Franco & Tonino Fonseca

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 31, 2023

Sunday

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2: 22-40

Monday

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42

Friday

Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100; 1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51

Saturday

Memorial of Saint André Bessette, Religious

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Sunday

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

**For the week of December 31st
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn In
Loving Memory of**



St. Catharine's Church - Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

St. Catharine's Chapel - Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

St. Mary's - Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 1/1	Rev. Kevin M. Gualano
Tuesday 1/2	Rev. Abraham Ha
Wednesday 1/3	Rev. Msgr. William E. Handges
Thursday 1/4	Rev. James M. Harper
Friday 1/5	Rev. John G. Hilferty
Saturday 1/6	Rev. Msgr. Thomas E. Hoban

Catholic Trivia - Question: When does the Octave of Christmas end?

- A. Christmas Day
- B. The Epiphany
- C. New Year's Day
- D. Christmas Eve

Answer on page 6

All contributions for 2023 must be received by December 31, 2023 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 2024 statement.

Enjoy Our Special Content For Thanksgiving

- Reflect on how to practice gratitude with our 'Gather' playlist, featuring priests, artists, and writers.
- Pray to bless your table and family with our Thanksgiving Prayers.
- Rest as you listen to beautiful Catholic hymns by CASSIA & MYRRH.

Scan to download the Tabella App for free.

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

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

Here is another way to stay in touch with 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 events. The bulletin will be posted there every week along with weather cancellations, reminders of holy days of

obligations, confession times, and reminders about the events happening in the 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.



The Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotion holds a special place in the spiritual life of Saint Catharine's & St. Mary's. It is an opportunity to gather as a community before the Blessed Sacrament and to pray before the Lord in solemn adoration. It gives us time to deepen our appreciation of the importance of the mystery of the Eucharist in our lives.

Forty Hours Celebration

January 7, 8, & 9th

All at the Church, including daily Mass for Monday and Tuesday. Come meet the newly ordained priests for 2024.

Sunday January 7th

Location: Church
 Adoration 12:30 to 6:00pm
 Anointing of the Sick and Benediction 6:00pm
 Preacher at Benediction: Deacon JV

Monday January 8th

Location: Church
 Daily Mass 7:15am
 Adoration 7:45am to 6pm
 Evening Prayer and Benediction 6:00pm
 Preacher at Benediction: Deacon Keaton Eidle

Tuesday January 9th

Location: Church
 Daily Mass 7:15am
 Adoration 7:45am to 6pm
 Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction 7:00pm
 Preacher at Benediction: Deacon Aaron Scheidel

Forty Hours Adoration - January 7, 8, & 9th at the Church

Join Jesus Sunday after the 11:30 Mass and Monday & Tuesday after 7:15 a.m. Mass for Adoration until 6 p.m. each evening.

To sign up for an Adoration time, see sign up Clip boards at the back of the Church and Chapel. Regular Monday attendees, can join Jesus at their usual Adoration time **at the Church**. For more information please call Sue Hissick at 610-568-6328 and leave a message.

Available times: Sunday: 12:30- 1 and hourly until 5-6, Tuesday 8-9 a.m. and hourly 5-6 p.m. Start 2024 by spending an hour with Our Lord.



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, Tara Arnold, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Maura Barrasso, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Jason Beshore, Jodi Bixler, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Bruce Brandfon, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhardt, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Richard Cunnus, Larry Curtin, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, George Dietrich, Janet

Dodge, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Dr. Elizabeth Edmunds, 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, Julia Karpati, 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, Pat Lenich, Alma Lonergan, Del Long, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Rosemary Ludwig, Aleigha Manderbach, 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, Nada Rathkey, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, 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, 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, Dan Zielinski, John Ziemba, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman **A Time to die: Joan Kriebel & Barbara Ianni**, (mother of Denise & Lisa Ianni) & 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.

St. Peter's School graduating class of 1970 will be having a reunion on Saturday, May 4th 2024 at 6PM at GNA in West Reading. We are looking for classmates. Please pass this news along to anyone you know who may have been in this class. For more information you can contact Theresa (Kimrey) Shumard @ 484-706-4208 or Pat Maureen (Shannon) Walton @ 610-406-2647.

DID YOU KNOW? - Through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Pennsylvania Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC), businesses and individuals can lower their tax bills by donating to private schools, scholarship organizations, pre-K programs, and other educational enrichment initiatives. The bulk of the tax credits — \$110 million per year — are reserved for donors that give to scholarship organizations, which provide financial aid to children attending K-12 private schools. The program also sets aside a small amount of tax credits for donors that give to pre-k scholarship funds. At Saint Catharine of Siena School, our EITC and OSTC program plays an essential role in the school's financial strategy as well as the fulfillment of our mission. Saint Catharine of Siena School is seeking donors to participate in the EITC/OSTC program to alleviate the burden of financial aid on our operating budget AND to give as many children access to a Catholic, Saint Catharine of Siena education as possible. If you are interested in learning more about this tax credit scholarship program, please contact Mrs. Stephanie Conlon, SCS Advancement Director @ 610-779-5810.

A recruitment poster for the Knights of Columbus. At the top, it says "To all practicing CATHOLIC MEN". Below that, in large white letters on a dark background, it says "Be ONE of US! JOIN NOW and be a BROTHER KNIGHTS." In the center is the KofC logo, a shield with a cross and a sword, with "K of C" written across it. To the right is a full-length illustration of a knight in armor holding a sword. At the bottom, it says "The Knights OF COLUMBUS" in a stylized font, with "Since 1882" written above "Knights".

St. Catharine of Siena Council 14880 To join:
<https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html>

**PARISH ORGANIZATIONS,
CONTACT PERSONS
AND RESOURCES**

Altar Servers – (Father Matthew Kuna – 610-779-4005)
 American Heritage Girls - (Julia Wright - 610-370-9290)
 Boy Scout- (Terry Wade - 610-478-1200)
 Bereavement Support - (Judy Cameron- judyacameron@comcast.net)
 Catholic Charities - (610-376-7144)
 Catholic Soup Kitchen (Sara Miller - 610-404-1590)
 Choir- (Dave Kostival – 484-332-8695)
 Church Library - (Genevieve Samolewicz - 610-779-1660)
 Cub Scouts – (610-301-1321– William Lander)
 Cursillo – (Bill McMahon 610-779-8654)
 CYO President & CYO Athletic Director - (Cristina Schmehl- 610-779-1513)
 Disability Advocates -(Carol McCullough 610-370-1660)
 Eucharistic Ministers-(Deacon Greg Schneider - 610-929-0386)
 Exeter Food Bank - (Jim Bucciaglia - 610-698-8131)
 Girl Scouts - (Adrienne Evans - 908-872-6105)
 Guitar Choir – (Marci Zambito 610-779-8535)
 Home School Organization- (Elizabeth Kieffer - 610-310-7842)
 Knights of Columbus - (Dave Korch - 610-775-8954)
 Lectors – (John Vogel 610-779-6287)
 Maintenance - (Elisha Robinson - (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) – (Coordinator - Marci Zambito,610-779-8535)
 Protecting God’s Children Coordinator - (Marci Zambito - 610-779-8535)
 RCIA – (Deacon John Stapleton) - (610-779-4005)
 Religious Store - (Bill Wertz - 610-779-5283)
 Saint Vincent de Paul Society- (Carol Cinelli) 610-779-4005
 School Board - Judi Kane - (215-651-2391)
 Scrip – (Cristina Schmehl - 610-779-1513)
 Senior Citizen Group (50+Club)- (Kathleen Zagar - 610-698-3289)
 Siena Stitchers - (Anita Barber - 610-779-1571 & Barbara Grim - 610-779-8346)
 Youth Group - (Marci Zambito 610-779-8535)
 Parish Office- (610-779-4005)
 Church Website - <http://www.scsreading.org/scsparish/wp/>
Saint Catharine’s School - 610-779-5810

Catholic Trivia ANSWER: C.- An octave is an eight-day period during which Christmas and Easter are celebrated. These are the only holidays that have octaves which extends the celebration for these major feasts. At Christmas, the octave starts on the feast day, Christmas, and ends eight days later on New Year’s Day. The Epiphany is celebrated on January 6th and marks the end of the 12 days of Christmas and the star leading the 3 Magi to visit the baby Jesus after His birth.

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.

February 7, 2024: Pastor Timothy Cramen will sing and play the guitar. Cake, coffee, tea, and water will be served.

March 3, 2024: Speaker Scott Hoh will discuss Estate Planning. 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.