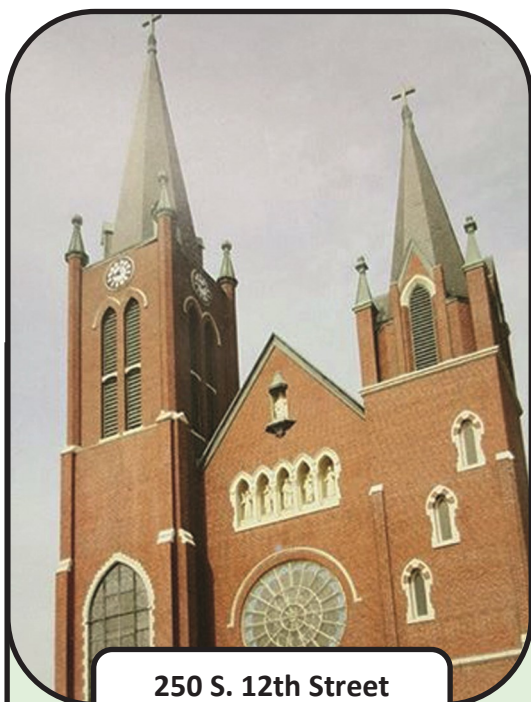


Saint Mary's

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. Van-Vien (JV) Nguyen, Parochial Vicar
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.
Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.
Daily: Monday - Friday - 7:15 a.m.

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

PARISH CENTER: 4975 Boyertown Pike

Phone: 610-779-4005
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,
4975 Boyertown Pike, 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saint Mary's News

Saturday, March 8th - 3:30 p.m. - Dorothy LaSota (7th Anniversary)

Sunday, March 9th - 10:30 a.m. - Rev. Zdzislaw Kikowski

Saturday, March 15th - 3:30 p.m. - Lindsey Wagner - (4th Anniversary)

Sunday, March 16th - 10:30 a.m. - Blessings for Grazyiva Buzalewski's Children & Grandchildren

Pierogi Sale - Pierogis will be on sale every Friday in Lent through and including April 11, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Pierogis will be sold in the Church basement. Please use the side entrance from the parking lot. Potato, sauerkraut and cheese pierogis will sell for \$10.00 a dozen. Haluski will be available in limited amounts for \$4.00 a cup. Weather permitting, volunteers are needed to help sell pierogis on Fridays.

Scholarships available to Berks County high school seniors of Polish descent for 2025-2026 academic college year from the following Berks organizations: Polish American Heritage Association (www.berkspaha.org) and Polish American Board of Education (www.pabeberks.org). Visit their websites for more information.

Fr. Miller's Study Sessions

Thursday March 13th 7:00 pm: Life and Spirituality of St. Catharine of Siena

Tuesday, March 18th 7:00 pm: Psalms part 1 of 5

Tuesday, March 25th 7:00 pm: Psalms part 2 of 5

Tuesday, April 1st 7:00 pm: Psalms part 3 of 5

Tuesday, April 8th 7:00 pm: Psalms part 4 of 5

Tuesday, April 15th 7:00 pm: Psalms part 5 of 5

Pilgrims of Hope in the Jubilee Year. Please join us for a day of Prayer and Reflection. Saturday, March 15, 2025, 9 am to 3 pm at Mariawald Renewal Center, 1094 Welsh Rd, Reading, PA 19607. **Presented by Fr. Brian Miller** of St. Catharine of Siena Parish, Reading. We will explore the gift of HOPE with Scripture and Saints! Cost is \$40.00, lunch included.

Register: mariawaldcenter@gmail.com or 610-777-0135



Lenten Reconciliation: During the Season of Lent, parishioners will have the opportunity to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Mass on Sunday. It is our hope that the parishioners of St. Catharine's & St. Mary's will use this as an opportunity to better prepare themselves during their Lenten journey.

Additional Masses at Saint Catharine's: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays during Lent at 6:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: will be celebrated every Friday of Lent at 7:00 PM. at the Church. A Catholic prayer that commemorates Jesus's journey to Calvary and his death by crucifixion. It's also known as the Way of the Cross or Via Crucis.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASSES WITH BISHOP SCHLERT



ST. JANE, EASTON
- 3/16, NOON MASS

ST. AMBROSE, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN
- 5/4, 10:30AM MASS

ST. THOMAS MORE, ALLENTOWN
- 8/24, NOON MASS

ST. CATHARINE OF SIENA, READING
- 9/7, 11:30AM MASS

ST. JOSEPH, SUMMIT HILL
- 11/23, 11:00AM MASS



First Sunday of Lent TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Often, when a family keeps vigil around a person who is preparing for death, they may notice three interwoven activities. First, the dying person may become more prayerful and reflective than ever before, reviewing life's journey in gratitude to God, or seeking forgiveness and making amends for wrongs. Second, as death approaches, the need to eat and drink is lessened until even an ice cube brushed against the lips is satisfying. Third, persons who are dying often make plans to give their possessions away, making bequests, handing treasures down, providing for favorite charities.

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: with these three "pillars" of Lent, we rehearse our death every year in this season, and anticipate the final work we will do in this life. And every year, at the end of our journey, is the joy of Easter and the experience of the victory of Christ over death's darkness and power. Annually, we remind ourselves that the Christian experiences the same power and presence at the end of life's journey: Christ to the rescue and the lasting joy of heaven.

—James Field



MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS Please join us every Wednesday during Lent after the 7:15 a.m. Mass.

Dt: 26:4-10: The fruits of our labor are gifts from God. Before we use and enjoy them, we should first acknowledge His bounty with dedication and thanks.

Rom 10:8-13: Holiness (justification) is rooted in faith. Believe in your heart that Jesus is raised from the dead.

Lk 4:1-13: Jesus is fully human and overcomes the temptation of Satan. As Messiah He will not resort to expediency.

Today's Message: Moses recounts great events of salvation history which find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. We confess Him to be Lord, for God raised Him from the dead. He is ever faithful, resisting temptation to forsake His Father's mission, trusting in God's love.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MONDAY, MARCH 10

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m.

Mass until 8:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS – 7:00-8:00 p.m.

CUB SCOUTS – 6:30 p.m. – Social Hall

LIFE AFTER LOSS – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS – following the 7:15 a.m.

Mass

PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. - School

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting

Room all

MILLIONS OF MONICAS – 7:00-8:00 p.m. - Church

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.

OCIA – 6:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

PATRIOTIC ROSARY – 6:00 p.m. – Church

FR. MILLER'S BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. - Church

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING – 7:00 p.m. – Social

Hall

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

AHG – 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – 7:00 p.m. - Church

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, MARCH 8

8:00 Richard Stasek

4:30 Peter & Regina Shepos

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

7:30 Parents of Thomas & Karen Frey

9:30 Baby Isabella Rose George

11:30 John Leier

MONDAY, MARCH 10

7:15 Richard Eugene Puwalski

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

7:15 Leroy Adams

6:30 p.m. For the intentions of Laura Stracilo

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

7:15 Marilyn Clifford

6:30 p.m. James Reed

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

7:15 Linda Raith

6:30 p.m. Dave Walter

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

7:15 Fred Pledger

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

8:00 Emmanuel Dimitriou (17th Anniversary)

4:30 Deceased Members of the Flay Family

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

7:30 Janice Bilski

9:30 Margaret, Edward & Sara McGrath

11:30 Harvey Snyder

Scripture Readings

For the Week of March 9, 2025

Sunday

First Sunday of Lent

Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Monday

Lev 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday

Jonah 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12

Friday

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday

Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday

Second Sunday of Lent

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14; Phil 3:17-4:1 or Phil 3:20-4:1; Lk 9:28b-36

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

We are looking for a **SCRIP** seller for the **4th Saturday of every month, at the 4:30 Mass**. Don't worry - sellers often switch with each other if you have a prior commitment on one of your selling dates! This is a great way to get involved with the school and parish community, and is also open to high school students who are looking to earn service hours (an adult must accompany them). Please reach out to Cristina Schmehl for more details: scripprogramscs@gmail.com



For the week of March 9th
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn in
Loving Memory of

St. Catharine's Church - Mary & Gene Pondo

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

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 3/10	Rev. Thomas J. Kuller, S.J.
Tuesday 3/11	Rev. Matthew J. Kuna
Wednesday 3/12	Rev. Joseph J. Kweder
Thursday 3/13	Rev. William Kyere
Friday 3/14	Rev. Patrick H. Lamb
Saturday 3/15	Rev. Daniel T. Lannen, O.S.F.S.

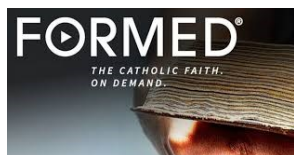
March is Women’s History Month. Which of the 4 saints was a Doctor of the Church?

1. She was born during an outbreak of the plague, and though she was a twin, her sister died in infancy.
2. She became involved in the fractured politics of her time, and was instrumental in restoring the Papacy to Rome.
3. She was able to reconcile even the worst of enemies and sinners, more by her prayers alone than her words.
4. Her most important writing is her *Dialogue* which includes a record of her visionary conversations with God.

A. St. Catharine of Siena B. St. Maria Goretti C. St. Mary Magdalene D. St. Lucy

Answer on page 5

Parish Nurse News - Laugh! Increasing data tells us that a good laugh soothes tension, stimulates organ health for heart, lungs, and muscles, and releases stress by increasing the endorphins released in our brains! Long term benefits improve immune system, mood, pain relief, and personal satisfaction! (www.mayoclinic.org-healthy-lifestyle-stress)



Formed - An app Forming Catholics for Life which features informative and entertaining materials for ages 2 to 100. To obtain your FREE subscription, go

to the App Store and download **Formed** - Forming Catholics for Life. Then Get ready for Lent by watching the first of four 12 minute presentations by searching **How to Lent**. Use the links below to signup/view content. <https://formed.org/signup>

Eternal Trinity... mystery deep as the sea, You could give me no greater gift than the gift of Yourself. For You are a fire ever burning and never consumed, which itself consumes all the selfish love that fills my being... St. Catherine of Siena

SCS KNIGHTLY NEWS & EVENTS

LENTEN FISH FRYs

The Knights will be hosting the Lenten Fish Frys at the Social Hall from 5-7 PM on the following Fridays during Lent.

March 21st - (music by Martin Bradfield and the Fibanachi Trio)

April 11th - (music by Martin Bradfield and the Fibanachi Trio)

The cost per meal is \$18 (the same as last year). Also, as was the case last year, the Fish Frys will operate on a 100 % walk-in basis. No pre-orders will be taken. The event will be operating on a first come, first serve basis until we are sold out. Beer & wine will be available for a small contribution.

CRAB CAKE DINNER

Father Miller and the SCS Knights will be hosting a Crab Cake dinner on **Friday, April 4th from 5-7 PM.**

The meal will include crab cakes, stewed tomatoes, mac & cheese, coleslaw, rolls, a dessert, and drinks. Beer & wine will be available for a small contribution. **This event will be a pre-order only event.**

Looking forward to seeing you all again this year!
The SCS Knights thank you for your continued support !

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ENROLLING NOW 2025-2026

APPLY NOW PK - 8TH
VISIT: SCSREADINGSSCHOOL.ORG
OR CALL 610.779.5810

QR Code

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 & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, Carl Andrzejewski, Anthony Antonucci, Elizabeth Ashton, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene Bezak, Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Susan Bolognese, Jim Boris, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul Brooke, Renee Brzostek, Connie Burkhart, Marvin Bush, Pauline Cappel, Therese (Brenner) Cooney, Richard Cunnius, Larry Curtin, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Alivia Devlin, Jennifer & Thomas Devlin, George Dietrich, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Marian Ertel, Joe & Theresa Essig, Robert Flipping, Deane & Ann Foster, Jocelyn Franek, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Todd Gladfelter, Theresa Grabowski, Clara Hartline, Ruth Ann Hass, Terry Hayward, Al Heck, Wayne & Mary Hedrick, Robyn Hefferan, John Heft, Theresa Heltzinger, Patricia Herber, Curtis S. Hill, Jesse Hill, Roger Hilton, Michael Hivner, Margaret Iuso, Michael & Dorothy Jurasinski, Katelynn Solecki Kajunski, Krissy Kelly, Maryanne Kenton, Cindy Kohl, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, Genny Kopel, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Walter LaSota, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Pat & Fred Lenich, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinozzi, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Debra McCarthy, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, William Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, David Plumley, Chuck Rackie, Lorraine Ransom, Phyliss Rathman, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, Aneliese & Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Barbara Schock, Edward Senkowski, Bob Shardin, Earl Sheetz, Gabbie Sierra, Joan Skoczen, Tyler Skoczen, Anne Smith, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, Thomas Sword, Sean Tipping, Kimberly Trigstead, Richard Uliasz, Janet Ustaszewski, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, Alexandra Wachowicz, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Lyn Weidenhammer, Frank White, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zerkowski, Dan Zielinski, 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.

We pray for the Gift of Peace in the world and the safety of those working for peace through the military services, especially: First Lt. David J. Wentling, IV, Second Lt. Nicholas A. Wentling, Cpts. Juliana & Sean Coleman, Petty Officer Matthew J. Dobroskey, Jr., Cpl. Bruce Bogertey, SPC, Alex Heintz, Captain Chelsea Pellicano, 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, Staff Sgt. Brian Perrotto, 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.



Celebrate the Parish's 100 year Anniversary and the Jubilee Year Trip to Italy with Father Miller from October 6th - 15th. Cost is \$5,599 and includes airfare, 1 checked bag and carryon, 4-5 Star Hotels & breakfast & dinner. Rome, Assisi, Florence, Siena & more! For more information please call Proximo Travel at 508-854-8001 or email office@proximotravel.com

SECOND COLLECTION – “ALMSGIVING” - “...When you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret.” (Ash Wednesday's Reading) - **During the Season of Lent, there will be a second collection on select weekends for special needs: March 16th - St. Francis Home; March 23rd, Kennedy House. Please be generous during this season of almsgiving.**

The Allentown Diocese Office of Education has started the “Ready, Willing, & Able” podcast for Catholic parents. The podcast offers content which will support and empower parents as primary educators of the faith for their children. Host Genevieve O’Connor has an MTS in Moral Theology from the University of Notre Dame, and she invites a series of guests to explore a wide range of topics, including: family prayer, the relationship between politics, faith, and parenting, and bringing advent alive for kids. Listen to Ready, Willing, and Able on its website: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2410685>, or look it up on your favorite podcast streaming platform.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

A. St. Catharine of Siena died in 1380, was canonized by Pope Pius II in 1461, and was declared the 2nd female Doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI in 1970. She is the patron saint of nurses and people ridiculed for their piety.



We all need prayer. There is a women's group starting at our parish for our priests. Following the simple structure of the Seven Sisters Apostolate, an international ministry, we are

looking for women who would offer a Holy Hour weekly for our priests, For more information call Roxane Sheeler 610-334-3867 or email at rcsheeler@gmail.com.



I always thought today's Gospel shows how Jesus was tempted to be a Messiah in a way that matched human expectations—those of Jews waiting for a messiah—instead of doing what his Father wanted. But I also wonder if these temptations are what we expect of God.

Do we expect God to provide for our needs by turning stones into money? God does help us with our troubles, but usually by giving us the strength to get through them with our God-given abilities. This might mean finding a better job that uses more of our talents. It might be forgiving us, if we are the cause of our own troubles, and giving us the courage to start over.

Or do we expect God to bring peace to the world by instantly removing all nuclear weapons or capturing all terrorists? When we pray for peace, we could pray that God show us what we can do to bring that peace. We could be generous in giving to the poor, especially where poverty is the cause of war.

Maybe we expect God to be a superhero for us, strengthening our faith with spectacular miracles. Jesus would tell us the same thing he told the devil: "Don't put the Lord your God to the test" (see Luke 4:12). Instead, as we take time to pray over the scriptures, read spiritual books, and share our faith with others, we will find our faith growing and know that the Lord has been with us all along the way.

Tom Schmidt

50 Plus News

Please call, Acting President Bev Gallo for any 50 Plus Club inquiries. Her phone number is 610-763-7058. You can see us on Facebook for additional information.

Meetings

April 2, 2025: Everybody's Birthday Party, Victor Emmanuel's, Members \$25, Nonmembers \$27. Please contact Michele Berman at 484-955-8885 for more information.

May 7, 2025: Kim Cox from Sterling Senior Life Solutions will discuss how to downsize. Refreshments will be served.

Trips

April 16, 2025: "Noah", Sight and Sound, \$135

June 24-27, 2025: Lucy and Desi Comedy Center, as well as, PA Grand Canyon, \$1025, per person, double occupancy!

July 10, 2025: Magic and Wonder Show, \$110

August 27, 2025: Toby's Dinner in the Round, "Saturday Night Fever", \$145

September 23, 2025: Penn's Peak, "Billy Joel and Elton John Tribute" \$100

October 21-22, 2025: Ride the Rails in West Virginia, 2 train rides with meals, \$530, per person, double occupancy

November 15, 2025: Christmas Show at American Music Theatre, \$90

Please call Pat White at 610-582-1437 or Bev Bard at 610-763-5654. For trip information.

Please call Maria Bunch at 610-914-7005 with the names of members who are sick or who 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 St Catharine Social Hall. There will be no meetings during the special events months of April, August, and December.



Sat, April 5 * 9am-2pm * HGA School

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