Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish



4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606

ST. MARY'S 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 ST. CATHARINE'S 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 (Office is in the back)

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.

#### St. Mary's News

Saturday, January 3rd - 3:30 p.m. - Joyce Abramowicz Sunday, January 4th - 10:30 a.m. - Richard Chelstowski Saturday, January 10th - 3:30 p.m. - George & Helen Pauley Sunday, January 11th - 10:30 a.m. - Rev Zdzisław Kikowski

The Polish American Heritage Association of Berks County is awarding a \$2,500. Polonia project scholarship to a Berks County senior of Polish descent. A student is required to submit a project on Polish history, culture, and/or traditions. Projects are due in the Polish American Cultural Center by Sunday, March 15, 2026. No projects will be accepted after that date. Applications for this scholarship are available at Berks County high schools' guidance offices, by contacting Mr. Chris Curtis at 484-256-9603 or <a href="mailto:curtis1721@comcast.net">curtis1721@comcast.net</a> and in the Polish American Cultural Center when open (Sunday, Noon-4pm), Room 509, at the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts, 201 Washington St., Reading, PA. They can also be downloaded from the PAHABC website at <a href="http://www.berkspaha.org">http://www.berkspaha.org</a>

# **TAX STATEMENTS**

<u>Please note</u>: If you would like a copy of your giving record for tax purposes, please fill out the form below and place it in the collection basket. If you would like your statement sent through email please print email address clearly on this form. You can also email with your request anytime at <a href="mailto:scstatements@outlook.com">scsstatements@outlook.com</a>. If you do not have a computer we can mail you a copy of your statement. Statements will be not be ready until the week of the 25th of January.

Name:	 	 
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Address:	 	 <del></del>
Phone:		
Email		

If you have any questions, please call Diane Sitler at 610-779-4005.



# The Epiphany of the Lord The Star of Bethlehem

Almost every year at Christmastime, you can find a newspaper article or TV documentary about the star of Bethlehem. Astronomers give various theories about whether the magi saw a supernova, or a comet, or a conjunction of two or more planets. But for us, the star has a deeper meaning.

In Matthew's Gospel, light is used as a symbol of the good news of Jesus coming into the world. That's why verse 9 of the Gospel has the image of the star preceding the wise men and stopping over the house where Jesus was. By following the star, they become followers of Christ. So what do the magi show us about following Jesus? First, they take the initiative. They saw the star, figured out what it meant, and made their journey. As followers of Jesus, we can look for what needs to be done (in our family, parish, or community) and do it.

Second, they expressed their faith in Jesus by the gifts they brought: gold—a gift for a king, who is worthy to be followed; frankincense—Jesus is worthy to be worshiped as Son of God; and myrrh—Jesus becomes king by dying for us all. We can express our faith in many ways. We can volunteer to help the poor, the elderly, or the disabled. We can teach our children how to pray and tell them about all that God has done for us.

Third, they were not afraid to take risks for Jesus. How often do we take risks for the Lord, by openly speaking about our faith, or giving God credit for the good that we do? Let the star of Bethlehem remind us that Jesus is the star of our lives.

Tom Schmidt

<u>Is 60:1-6:</u> Jerusalem is favored by the Lord. Kings and peoples will come before you. The riches of the earth will be placed at the gates of Jerusalem.

**Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6:** Paul admits that God has revealed the divine plan of salvation to him. Not only the Jews, but also the whole Gentile world, will share the good news.

Mt 2:1-12 King Herod, being jealous of his earthly crown, was threatened by the coming of another king. The magi from the east followed the star to Bethlehem from which a ruler was to come.

<u>Today's Message</u>: All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have been called to hear the good news and worship the long-awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

#### THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 4**

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP – 6:30-8:30 p.m. – Social Hall MONDAY, JANUARY 5

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass CONFESSIONS – 7:00-8:00 p.m. – Church

CUB SCOUTS – 5:00-7:00 p.m. – Social Hall

# TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

50+ CLUB BOARD MEETING – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING – 6:30 p.m. – Social Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

50+ CLUB GENERAL MEETING – 1:00 p.m. – Social Hall all PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. - School

# THURSDAY, JANUARY 8

PRAY THE ROSARY - 6:45 a.m. - Church

OCIA 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Church

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

PRAY THE ROSARY - 7:30 a.m. - Church

BAPTISMAL WORKSHOP – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room MILLIONS OF MONICAS – 10:15-11:15 a.m. – Church

CATHOLIC TRIVIA EVENT -5:30 p.m.

# **SUNDAY, JANUARY 11**

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room YOUNG SAINT MINISTRY 3:30-5:30p.m. – Social Hall YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. – Social Hall



For the week of January 4th The Sanctuary Candle will burn In Loving Memory of

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

St. Mary's - Rita & Carl Gethmann

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

# **SATURDAY, JANUARY 3**

8:00 Bob Kush

4:30 Lisa Cerniglia

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4** 

7:30 Samuel Russo

9:30 William Wertz

11:30 Joseph Kohalmi (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)

**MONDAY, JANUARY 5** 

7:15 Leroy Adams

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6** 

7:15 Mary Raver (17<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

7:15 Joanne Weber

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8** 

7:15 Mary Belle Walsh

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

7:15 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

8:00 Deceased Members of the Brandfon Family

4:30 Carl Solarek

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 11**

7:30 Elfriede D. Clothier

9:30 Alex T. Hafer (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)

11:30 William F. Hedl (1st Anniversary)

#### **Scripture Readings**

For the Week of January 4, 2026

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

Monday

# Memorial of St. John Neumann, Bishop

1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday

1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday

1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52

**Thursday** 

1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22

rriday

1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16

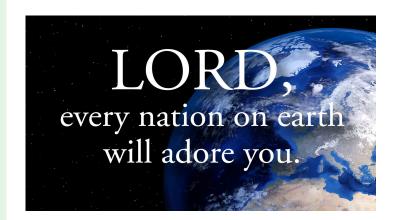
Saturday

1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b; Jn 3:22-30

Sunday

#### The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 3:13-17



# PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 1/5
Tuesday 1/6
Rev. Thomas R. Buckley
Rev. Douglas C. Burns, O.S.F.S.
Rev. Thomas Burns, M.S.C.
Rev. Thomas Burns, M.S.C.
Rev. Christopher S. Butera
Rev. Msgr. Albert J. Byrne
Saturday 1/10
Rev. Floyd Caesar

ANNUAL FUND FOR RETIRED AND INFIRMED PRIESTS: The Diocese is conducting its annual fund, "Chosen, Blessed, Shared", for our retired and infirmed priests. Please take advantage of the opportunity to offer support to the retired priests of our Diocese by helping provide for their care in retirement! You may return your gift in the mail or drop it in the collection basket at Mass. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

**Sunday, Jan. 18 (Third Sundays)** – The Friend Ship Ministry, St. Ann, Emmaus, 2-4 p.m.; ministry for young adults with disabilities (19-35) to foster friendships and belonging through fun, service, and spiritual activities; register <a href="https://forms.gle/uformXcchgBNapWC7">https://forms.gle/uformXcchgBNapWC7</a>, mciofalo@comcast.net.



Berks and Lehigh County Chapter of "Joseph's People" For Employment Help - If you are underemployed or unemployed or know someone who is, let Joseph's People help! Join us on Zoom on Tuesday, Jan. 13th at 6 pm. Our topic will be "Planning Your Job Search." We have helped thousands of people over the years and there is never a fee for our services. Email Paul Licata for more info at <a href="mailto:pauliosephlicata@gmail">pauliosephlicata@gmail</a>. Learn more about the organization at <a href="mailto:www.josephspeople.org">www.josephspeople.org</a>.

Retrouvaille Marriage Healing Retreat Weekend - Retrouvaille of Delaware Valley is a Catholic-based program to help marriages that are stressed or in trouble. Retrouvaille has helped countless married couples in all stages of disillusionment or distress. Retrouvaille can help your marriage too. No marriage is beyond hope. The next program will be held at The Family Life Center at the Malvern Retreat House, Malvern, PA on February 6-8, 2026. All calls are confidential. For more information call 215-766-3944 or visit the web site at Marriage-HelpDelVal.org.

Fill Your Cup: Morning Retreat for Homeschooling & Young Mothers On Saturday, January 24, 2026 from 8am-12pm at Sacred Heart Church, Bethlehem, the Office of Marriage & Family Life invites you to come and "Fill Your Cup" during a peaceful and uplifting morning designed especially for YOU, the woman who is always serving others. Allow yourself to be served - rest, reconnect, and be renewed in the presence of Christ and the company of women walking a similar journey. Enjoy a light breakfast, inspiring talk, small groups, and panel discussion. Mass & Confession will also be offered in the Church before the retreat starts. Register for FREE before January 19th at allentowndiocese.flock.

**Surviving Divorce Program** - Give yourself the gift of encouragement for the new year. Register for the Divorce Recovery class, a national program created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. Whether you are newly separated/divorced or still experiencing painful issues years later this program can help. Participants receive expert Catholic guidance to work through practical and emotional troubles brought on by the family breakdown. Topics covered include custody, court hearings and finances as well as the emotional ups and downs of anger, regret, and unforgiveness. Past participants have said they appreciate the program's deep insights of God's personal love for us and desire to heal us. This program has been running twice and three times per year since January 2023. Participants have consistently given it high marks on the end-ofclass surveys. Start date is January 12, 2026, and end date is March 16, 2026. Meetings are Mondays, 6:15 – 7:15pm for ten weeks. Location is St. Elizabeth of Hungary, 618 Fullerton Ave. Whitehall 18052 in the large Meeting room on the second floor of the parish office. The cost is free. To register, contact Jane Zingelman: <a href="mailto:itzing@gmail.com">itzing@gmail.com</a>.

> MARIAN SHRINES PILGRIMAGE LOURDES, SPAIN and FATIMA WITH FATHER MILLER

TRIP DATES: April 21, 2027 thru May 6, 2027







SIGN-UP in December to receive \$100 per person discount from EF Go Ahead Tours

Limit 38 Travelers



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: Jack Bean

Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, Carl Andrzjewski, Anthony Antonucci, Baby Lanzo, Mike Bailey, Joe & Patty Barker, Melody Bechtel, Gene Bellus, Dolores Bertoti, Irene & Joseph Bezak, Jason Beshore, JoAnne Biscanti, Jodi Bixler, Susan Bolognese, Jim Boris, Michele Boucher, Joanne Bowman, Katie Briggs, Frank Broga, Sophia Broga, Paul

Brooke, Maria Bunch, Connie Burkhart, Jennifer Burrell, Marvin Bush, John Callaghan, Pauline Cappel, Jordan Cassidy, Barbara Corbo, Richard Cunnius, Cyril Danko, Tamara Danko, Alivia Devlin, Jennifer & Thomas Devlin, George Dietrich, Msgr. Edward R. Domin, Roseanne Dougherty, Andy Dykie, Gina Ebright, Charles Elchlepp, Ann Entzminger, Marian Ertel, Joe Essig, Robert Flipping, Deane & Ann Foster, Jocelyn Franek, Chris Fry, Geraldine Gamby, Michael Gantert, Dave Garman, Charles Gierschick, Todd Gladfelter, Theresa Grabowski, Joe Grippe, David J. Gubernot, Clara Hartline, Marie Hartranft, Terry Hayward, William M. Hedl, 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, Lesley Kaminski, Krissy Kelly, Maryanne Kenton, Mary Klick, Cindy Kohl, Rev. David Kohut, OFM, Genny Kopel, Rosemarie Kovacs, Dorothy Kulak, Walter LaSota, Paul Lepore, Darryl Larish, William Lawson, Pat & Fred Lenich, Ann Lewandowski, Melanie Lintz, Jane Lubas, Joan Lubas, Aleigha Manderbach, Peter Manolakis, Angela Marroccoli, Rocco Martinozzi, Greg & Kevin Masters, Daniel Matz, Cindy McConnell, Peggy McConnell, Mary Rita McFadden, Tim McNeil, Katherine Miceli, Lannie Milillo, Christine Motley, Madeline Mullen, William Nelson, Jerome Nigh, Maddie Nordhoy, Angela Biscanti Ondik, Luis Osorio, Peggy Pacharis, Frank Pingitore, Donald Pisker, David Plumley, Chuck Rackie, Antonio Mark Ramos, Lorraine Ransom, Phyliss Rathman, Rich Readinger, Peggy Reid, Virginia Rivera, Dave Robertshaw, Raven Robinson, David Samsel, Barbara Santoro, Anne Schaeffer, Jackie Scherer, Bill Schlosser, Barbara Schock, Edward Senkowski, Mark Serino, Bob Shardin, Earl Sheetz, Gabbie Sierra, Shaun Sisk, Joan Skoczen, Anne Smith, Patricia Soto, Louise Souders, Barbara Spatz, Father Leo Stajkowski, Andy Strangarity, Earl Suchomelly, Thomas Sword, Sean Tipping, Kimberly Trigstead, Tom Testa, Richard Uliasz, Janet Ustaszewski, Rex Voelker, Chad Vogel, John Vogel, Alexandra Wachowicz, Mark Walter, Pam Weber, Lyn Weidenhammer, Frank White, Walter Yourkavitch, Ann Marie Zawislak, Mary Ann Zerkowski, Dan Zielinski, Mollie Ziemba, Mary Ann Zimmerman A Time to die MaryBelle Walsh, (mother of Gretchen Ward) & all victims of war, and the 4,100 daily abortions. Ecclesiastes 3:11

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, LT. 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, 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., 2nd Lt. Jorge Taveras, please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.

# Hallow

# TIPS and TRICKS

"Settings Tab"

Sleep Timer: Hallow an help you get to sleep. When you are doing prayers or listening to music, you can set a sleep timer so that the prayer or music will end. To use the sleep timer, once you start a session, click the settings tab at the bottom of your screen, select sleep timer, and pick 15 min, 30 min, 60 min or 90 min. Relax and enjoy your prayers or music.

We look forward to praying with you!!!



#### **HELPING OUR HOMELESS BOTHERS & SISTERS**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be collecting items to prepare Kindness Bags for those in our community who are homeless. There is quite a need even among our senior citizens.

We would appreciate any of the following items: Thick warm socks men & women Knit hats men & women, Gloves men & women, small flashlights (with batteries), tooth brushes (singles), tooth paste, deodorant men & women, chap stick, tuna or cracker packets, To Go Wet Wipes

#### PLEASE TRAVEL OR SMALL SIZES

Your donation will be collected after all the Masses Jan. 17 & 18. We thank you on behalf of the Street Outreach Program. God Bless



Forging Friendships for Our Children and Families in a Community of Faith

January 11
3:30 PM = 5:00 PM
at
St. Catharine of Sienna
Social Hall

We're excited to introduce a brand-new ministry program at St. Catharine of Siena!

Young Saints Ministries is created to help children form meaningful friendships while giving parents the opportunity to connect, grow, and build community together.

We will be meeting on the **second Sunday** of each month, offering a consistent time for families to gather, build relationships, and deepen their faith.

Join us as we launch this new space for families seeking faith-filled connection and genuine friendships in a warm, welcoming environment.

#### 50 Plus News

Please call, 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

January 7, 2026: Bev Bard, the club's new trip coordinator, will discuss trips for 2026! Bev Bard's phone number is 610-763-5654.

February 4, 2026: Boom Box Bingo! Refreshments will be served.

March 4, 2026: Guest speaker, Kim, will teach our members how to decorate Easter eggs! More information to come!

# **Trips**

An early preview of the August 12-14, 2026 trip: Ohio Island Hoppin, featuring Kelly's Island and Put-in-Bay! More information will be coming!

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.



# **Epiphany of the Lord**

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Born King Star Priests Scribes Land Ruler Shepherd Child Treasure

© Diocesan