

Saint Mary's

Saint Catharine of Siena Parish



250 S. 12th Street
Reading, PA 19602

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



4975 Boyertown Pike
Reading, PA 19606

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

St. Mary's News

Saturday, December 13th - 3:30 p.m. - Chester Chelstowski, (10th Anniversary)

Sunday, December 14th - 10:30 a.m. - Henry & Barbara Lapa (50th Wedding Anniversary)

Saturday, December 20th - 3:30 p.m. - Vinny Baro

Sunday, December 21st - 10:30 a.m. - Helena Wlazewska (12th Anniversary)

We will be decorating St. Mary's on December 17, 2025 starting at 9:30 am. This will include the placement of the poinsettias

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 ccurtis1721@comcast.net 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 <http://www.berkspaha.org>

Polish American Connection TV Show

Tom Gajewski interviews people from the Polish American Community every month about topics of interest, events and activities relative to the Polish community and East Reading. The program airs on Comcast channel 15 and Service Electric channel 19 on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm. The programs are rebroadcast at 7:30 pm on the following Tuesdays of each month on Comcast channel 15 and Service Electric channel 19. New broadcasts air on the first Tuesday of each month. Your Feedback and/or ideas for future programs is welcome - Call Tom at 610-698-8731 .

From Fr. Miller

Plenty of opportunities for prayer and reflection during the season of Advent in preparation for Christmas. Please consider making the 40 hours celebration a priority for the celebration of the founding of our parish on December 16th. Do not forget to prepare for Christmas by taking advantage of the additional confession times.

Please come each night to celebrate 40 Hours in thanksgiving for the parish's 100th anniversary. The dates are December 14th, 15th, and 16th with the 16th being the 100th anniversary of the parish. There will be adoration each day, Sunday Dec. 14th from 12:30pm to 7pm and Monday and Tuesday Dec. 15-16th from 8am to 7pm. **Each night there will be Vespers and Benediction at 7pm with Fr. Pat Lamb the guest homilists on Sunday Dec. 14th, Fr. Matthew Kuna on Monday Dec. 15th, and Msgr. Edward Domin on Tuesday Dec. 16th.**

We will continue with evening daily Masses during the season of Advent. It will be on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The time will be at 6:30pm.

Finally, additional Advent confessions will be available. Dec. 14th, and Dec 21st there will be confessions available 30 minutes before the Sunday Masses. As well as penance services hosted by 3 parishes in Berks County. St. Ignatius will be Thursday Dec. 18th, Holy Guardian Angel will be on Sunday Dec. 21st and **St. Catharine's will be on Monday Dec. 22nd.** All begin at 7pm.

Christmas Eve Masses

December 24th

4:00 pm

7:00 pm

9:00 pm St. Mary's

10:30 pm

Christmas Day Masses -

December 25th

8:00 am

9:00 am St. Mary's

10:00 am

December 27th & 28th

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary - Holy Day of Obligation

December 31st - 4:00 p.m.

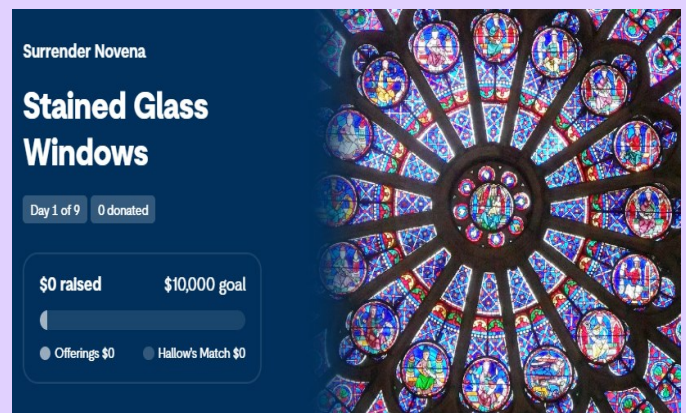
January 1st

8:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

St. Mary's - 9:00 a.m.

SPECIAL GIVING CAMPAIGN



St. Catharine's has the opportunity to pray the Surrender Novena while collecting funds on our Church page in Hallow. Father Miller plans to use the funds to restore the stained glass windows from the Chapel to display them at the Church. **100% of your donations stay at St. Catharine's AND, Hallow MATCHES up to the first \$5,000. Only donations thru Hallow qualify for the match.** Please pray with us and help fund the restoration of our stained glass from Dec. 8th thru Dec. 20th.

Is 35:1-6,10: This vision of the Messiah describes His work-not only in restoring health and well-being to the infirm, but also in bringing the mercy and forgiveness of salvation.

Jas 5:7-10: The Lord's Coming Is at Hand. Look to the example of prophets and learn patience under severe hardships.

Mt 11:2-11: Jesus applies the words of Isaiah to Himself. He proclaims the good news of salvation, freedom, and joy.

Today's Message: In the person of Jesus, God has come to heal and save us. Patiently, yet joyfully, we await the fulfillment of His advent.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9:30 a.m. – Meeting Room
YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room
ADORATION - following the 11:30 a.m. Mass
FORTY HOURS – 7:00 p.m. - Church

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass
NO CONFESSIONS
CUB SCOUTS -5:00 - 7:00 p.m. – Social Hall
FORTY HOURS – 7:00 p.m. - Church

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – following the 7:15 a.m. Mass
FORTY HOURS – 7:00 p.m. - Church

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

MILLIONS OF MONICAS – 9:00-10:00 a.m. - Church
ROSARY/DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET– 7:00 p.m.- Social Hall
PREP – 6:30-8:00 p.m. - School

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

PRAY THE ROSARY – 6:45 a.m.
SIENA STITCHERS – 10:00 a.m. – Meeting Room
OCIA – 5:30 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. – Church
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING – 7:00 p.m. – Social Hall

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

AHG MEETING -5:30-8:30 p.m. – Social Hall

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9:30 a.m. – Meeting Room
YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY – 7:00 p.m. – Meeting Room

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00 Anna Sajdak
4:30 Nancy Fries

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:30 Benedito Salkowski
9:30 Jeffrey Kolb
11:30 Steve Bibbo

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:15 Maria Mac Nguyen

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:15 For the Intentions of our Parish on our 100th Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:15 Theresa Stelmach
6:30pm Tim Walsh

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:15 Paul C. Trievel
6:30pm Carl S. Solarek

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:15 Evan Eckel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00 Larry Curtin
4:30 Deceased Members of the Katzenmoyer, Kozlowski & McQuaite Families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:30 Joshua R. Griffith
9:30 William Hartranft
11:30 Carmen Romero (13th Anniversary)

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 14, 2025

Sunday

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

Monday

Num 24: 2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab; 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday

Gen 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8,17; Mt 1:1-17

Thursday

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Friday

Jdg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Saturday

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rm 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24



**For the week of December 14th
The Sanctuary Candle
will burn in
Loving Memory of**

St. Catharine's Church - Robert & Nancy Marlin

St. Mary's - Al Heck

Formed is a Catholic online streaming service that provides movies, books, educational materials, documentaries, daily reflections, seasonal programs, lives of the saints, and so much more; all at no cost to our parishioners. It is an amazing resource for our children, teens and adults. Use the links below to signup/view content. [formed.org/signup](https://www.formed.org/signup)

PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/15	Rev. George Osei Ababio
Tuesday 12/16	Rev. Jojappa Adagatla, M.S.C.
Wednesday 12/17	Rev. Eric R. Arnout
Thursday 12/18	Rev. Hubert Asante Kumi
Friday 12/19	Rev. Msgr. Thomas D. Baddick
Saturday 12/20	Rev. Msgr. Andrew R. Baker

Parish Nurse News - Diabetes may be more difficult to manage with our favorite holiday foods! The best meal plan includes foods and flavors that we enjoy, fit our life style and activity level, and help manage glucose levels. Ask your doctor and inquire about a referral to a registered dietitian. Include protein in meals or snacks that contain carbs. Remember that carbohydrates give us energy that we need, but avoid foods that are difficult to limit the portion size!(2025.Cleveland Clinic foundation. Planning Healthy Meals.)

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.

Christmas Vespers - Berks Catholic High School invites you to celebrate the Birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ with our Christmas Vesper Prayer Service on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 3:00 P.M. at Sacred Heart Church, West Reading. Admission is free and open to the public.

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI): available at the parish office throughout the week. The wafers are broken and shared on Christmas Eve at the family meal.

The Siena Stitches will be displaying handmade articles for sale at the Church. All proceeds will go to the Saint Vincent De Paul Society.

AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY- Create a powerful new family tradition this Advent season by praying together as a family. In just one minute, you'll fill your home with unity, peace, and the joy that comes from awaiting the coming of Jesus!

Heavenly Father, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us, a great sign of your love. Guide us as we strive to walk in that love together as a family this Advent. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, bring us closer to each other and to your son. Give us the grace and strength we need every day. Help us to always trust in you. Come, Lord Jesus, lead all people closer to you. Come and dispel the darkness of our world with the light of your love. Amen.



Christmas Boutique Thank You!

The 2025 Christmas Boutique had another successful year, not only financially, but also by attracting a record-setting crowd.

Thank you to everyone who attended, purchased dinners, supported the vendors and who purchased the raffle tickets.

Congratulations to the big winner of the \$1,000 prize, Miki Smith. John and Elaine Sengia won the \$500 Amazon Gift Card; Lisa Gorman won the HP Laptop; Kathy Mengel won the Smart TV, and Wilson Bruno won the Apple Watch.

The boutique realized a gross revenue of \$28,993 and after expenses had a net profit of \$23,412.

This would not be possible without the help of so many parishioners who assisted in countless ways. It was edifying to see so many parishioners wanting to help. And as the event does seem to grow each year, we will be looking for even more to get involved in 2026! This huge undertaking now requires a parish-wide effort!

Special thanks to the community businesses for their support in donating gift cards, and we specifically want to thank Thrivent Insurance, Bean Funeral Home, Lutz Funeral Home and Kasper TV and Appliance for their financial support of the event.

And a special thank you to Bev McDevitt and Angelorum for sharing their amazing talents with us at the Boutique concert, as well as the Kutztown University Chamber ensemble. It was an amazing night of music to cap off a great holiday weekend for St. Catharines.

And of course, we have to offer our gratitude to Father JV and his team for making 800 spring rolls and to St. Mary's for the delicious pierogis. Both were quick sell-outs!

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: Harper Rose Hoffman

Please pray for our sick & soldiers in harm's way: Karin Acuna, Joseph Albert, Richard Abelt, 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, 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, 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 & 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, 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., 2nd Lt. Jorge Taveras, please contact the Parish Office with your prayer requests or email them to dsitler@comcast.net.

Hallow

TIPS and TRICKS


Sharing Hallow with Family, Friends and Co-Workers: If you are one of our 221 members enjoying Hallow, please tell your Family including college-aged children, as well as Friends and Co-Workers. Advent is the perfect season to share prayer with others. Click the QR code to join Hallow for FREE to see what it's about. The FREE version has all the Prayer Sessions Father Miller selects on our Church page plus many other prayers and content to use daily. We look forward to praying with you this Advent!!!





All members of the parish are invited to attend an Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the blessings of the holiday season and spiritually prepare for the new year. Multiple priests will be available for Confession.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT





YOU'RE INVITED TO THE:

Closing Celebration of the JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

DECEMBER 2025 | 28 | 2PM - 4PM

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

2:00 PM: A choral presentation of Vivaldi's Gloria by the Cathedral Choir
2:00-3:00 PM: The Sacrament of Penance
3:00 PM: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated by Bishop Schlert

The Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, Allentown

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.

MARIAN SHRINES PILGRIMAGE
LOURDES, SPAIN and FATIMA
WITH FATHER MILLER

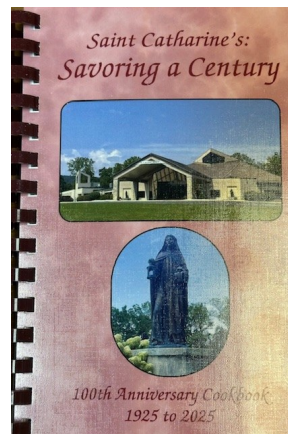
TRIP DATES: April 21, 2027 thru May 6, 2027



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

Limit 38 Travelers

Contact Lisa Siciliano wdy561@yahoo.com for Full Itinerary, Pricing, & How to Sign Up



100th ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOK GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

THANK YOU to our Parishioners and Priests who contributed 300 recipes and to those who already purchased Cookbooks. We sold over 450 Cookbooks and raised funds for our Parish. There

are about 100 cookbooks left. Please consider buying a St. Catharine's 100th Anniversary Cookbook to give as a Christmas gift. They are only \$15 and can be purchased in the Parish Office.

THANK YOU
for your generosity
YOUR SUPPORT HELPS SUSTAIN OUR PARISH!

November 2th	\$19,786
November 9th	\$21,398
November 16th	\$18,635
November 23rd	\$18,614
November 30th	\$20,398