

# 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](http://www.scsreading.org)  
Parish Email: [saintcatharineofreading@gmail.com](mailto:saintcatharineofreading@gmail.com)

**ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL:** 2330 Perkiomen Avenue

Phone: 610-779-5810 • [www.scsreading.org](http://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.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### St. Mary's News

Saturday, December 20th - 3:30 p.m. - Vinny Baro  
Sunday, December 21st - 10:30 a.m. - Helena Wlazewska (12th Anniversary)  
Wednesday, December 24th - 9:00 p.m. - Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
Thursday, December 25th - 9:00 a.m. - Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
Saturday, December 27th - 3:30 p.m. - Edward Franek  
Sunday, December 28th - 10:30 a.m. - Judith Bird

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](mailto: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.

### 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.**



Christmas is a special time for us to give thanks to God for His many blessings to St. Catharine of Siena. As parishioners, you help promote the Gospel with the witness and good example of your lives, and for this, we are grateful in more ways than can be expressed in a letter.

Christmas reminds us to thank you for everything that you teach us about who Jesus Christ is in your lives. We appreciate your good example, your prayers, and your affirming support of our priestly lives. May God bless you for being so generous and cooperative in so many ways to make our parish family the growing community of faith which reflects the presence of the Holy Spirit.

We greet especially our parishioners who are sick, handicapped, or elderly and not able to join us at the table of the Lord each weekend. Thank you for your beautiful example of loyalty to your Catholic Faith and to our Parish Family of which you are a special part.

To those of you who lost loved ones this past year, we want you to know that you are in our prayers and thoughts especially at this time. Our deceased watch over and support us from their heavenly home. May the compassion and healing of our Savior Lord strengthen your family at these holiday times when we feel our losses.

In all our Masses throughout the Christmas Season, we will ask the blessings of Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, upon all of you and your families. Again, thank you so much for everything you do for your parish and your priests.

With our love and gratitude,

Rev. Father Brian Miller, Rev. Father JV Nguyen,  
Deacon John Stapleton, Deacon Greg Schneider  
& Deacon Tyler Davis

**Is 7:10-14:** The words of the prophet spoken to the king are applied to the birth of the Savior.

**Rom 1:1-7:** The Messiah is a descendant of David according to the flesh and the Son of God according to the Spirit. His salvation is for all humankind.

**Mt 1:18-24:** Emmanuel means "God is with us." He is conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

**Today's Message:** Jesus is Emmanuel, "God with us", risen from the dead. He is the king of glory.

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21**

CHOIR REHEARSAL – 9:30 a.m. – Meeting Room

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

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22**

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

CONFESSIONS – 7:00-8:00 p.m. - Church

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

**PARISH CENTER CLOSED,**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25**

**PARISH CENTER CLOSED**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26**

**PARISH CENTER CLOSED**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27**

PRAY THE ROSARY – 7:30 a.m. – Church

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28**

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

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

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) [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



**For the week of December 21st  
The Sanctuary Candle  
will burn in  
Loving Memory of**

**St. Catharine's Church - Deceased Members of the  
Rizzo & Cerminara Families**

**St. Mary's - Ruth & Jackson Yoder**

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**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 (13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 22**

7:15 Dawn & Paul Griffith

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23**

7:15 Jim Bottorff

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24**

4:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

7:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

10:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25**

8:00 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

10:00 Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26**

9:00 Peg Walker

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27**

8:00 Denise Engro

4:30 Sean J. Wertman (11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28**

7:30 Kitty Wright

9:30 Genevieve M. Fura

11:30 Deceased Members of the Impellizzeri & Nuccio Families

**Scripture Readings**

**For the Week of December 21, 2025**

**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

**Monday**

1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

**Tuesday**

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14; Lk 1:57-66

**Wednesday**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Thursday**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

*Vigil Mass:* Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

*Mass during the Night:* Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

*Mass at Dawn:* Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20

*Mass during the Day:* Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**Friday**

**Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr**

Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10:17-22

**Saturday**

**Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

1 Jn 1:14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

**Sunday**

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

Monday 12/22	Rev. Msgr. William T. Baker
Tuesday 12/23	Rev. Msgr. Algimantas A. Bartkus
Wednesday 12/24	Rev. Msgr. William F. Bayer
Thursday 12/25	Rev. Frans J. Berkhout
Friday 12/26	Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Biszek
Saturday 12/27	Rev. Kevin J. Bobbin

**Parish Nurse News** - Stress relief from laughter is no joke! Studies show short and long term benefits! Increase healthy lung expansion and circulation, release neuropeptides to improve immune system, mood, and pain relief. Giggle to yourself, or laugh with a friend! Wishing you Christmas Blessings, Joy, remembered and present, and Merry Christmas Season!

**All contributions for 2025 must be received by December 31, 2025** 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 2026 statement.

**The Parish Center will be closed December 24th and we will reopen Friday, January 2nd.**



**Catholic Trivia Night**

SATURDAY JAN 10 5:30-7:30

St Catharine of Siena Social Hall

Challenge the theologians!  
Bring family & friends for fun & fellowship!

Free food & beverages  
Gluten-free available

Win Prizes

RSVP by Jan 5 - [scsfaihandfamily@gmail.com](mailto:scsfaihandfamily@gmail.com)



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

January 11  
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

at  
St. Catharine of Siena  
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.



## Thank you!

WHEN A COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER...A ROOM IS FILLED WITH TOYS AND MANY CHILDREN HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE SCHWARZWALD LUTHERAN CHURCH TOY GIVE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY!

WE COULD NOT BE MORE APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS PROJECT. WE COULD NEVER MAKE THIS HAPPEN WITHOUT YOU! EVERY TOY MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

THANK YOU ALSO FOR THE MANY VOLUNTEERS WHO JOINED US FOR THIS JOYOUS DAY!

(PS. THERE ARE MORE TOYS UNDER THE TABLES FOR RESTOCKING) SO MANY TOYS!! AND CLOSE TO 500 CHILDREN SERVED!

WE ARE SO BLESSED TO LIVE IN A COMMUNITY WHO TREASURES IT'S CHILDREN.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL FROM  
SCHWARZWALD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND THE  
EXETER AREA FOOD PANTRY!

# Hallow

### TIPS and TRICKS

**FREE Premium Accounts:** If you use Hallow and intend on continuing to use the Hallow app regularly to increase your prayer life, Father Miller has a number of FREE premium subscriptions to gift to Parishioners. If you would like to receive one of these gifts, please contact Lisa at [wdy561@yahoo.com](mailto:wdy561@yahoo.com) for more information and the redemption code for the gift. We look forward to praying with you!!!

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, 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 Terese Truninger, (mother of Mary Jo Griffin); Mary Belle Walsh, (mother of Gretchen Walsh) & 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, 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](mailto:dsitler@comcast.net).*



*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.*



## FOURTH 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



## SUNDAY KIDZ

### 4th Sunday of Advent

I	V	E	M	M	A	N	U	E	L
S	P	I	R	I	T	Z	H	W	H
A	F	U	L	F	I	L	L	A	Q
S	D	U	P	M	U	S	U	W	M
D	A	S	B	I	N	L	O	B	H
D	N	G	I	R	D	A	W	N	X
R	G	D	R	Z	L	Q	M	V	L
E	E	U	T	W	I	F	E	E	I
A	L	M	H	R	N	I	H	M	P
M	R	B	P	C	H	I	L	D	D

Birth Child Spirit Angel Dream  
Wife Son Name Fulfill Emmanuel

© Diocese of Allentown

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](mailto:wdy561@yahoo.com) for Full Itinerary, Pricing, & How to Sign Up

### 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.

### 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 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook to give as a Christmas gift. They are only \$15 and can be purchased in the Parish Office.