

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA AND ST. AGNES



LOVE

December 22nd 2024

Rev. William F. Platt, Pastor

Rev. Christopher J. Perrella, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Renato Berzolla

Deacon Robert Henrey, Retired

Deacon John Linsenmeyer

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

7:30 AM – Mass, St. Catherine's Church

9:00 AM - Family Mass, St. Catherine's Church

10:30 AM - Traditional Mass, St. Catherine's Church

5:00 PM - Teen Mass, St. Catherine's Church

MASSES IN OTHER LANGUAGES

St. Catherine's Church

6:30 PM - Spanish Mass

Saturday

3:00 — 4:00 PM – Confessions at St. Catherine's Church

(Specific dates confirmed weekly in bulletin.)

5:00 PM - Vigil Mass, St. Catherine's Church

Daily

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

7:00 AM – Daily Mass, St. Catherine's Church

5:15 PM - Daily Mass, St. Agnes Chapel

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays - 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM,

All Masses at St. Catherine of Siena Church are in-person and livestreamed.

Contact Us

OFFICE

Phone: 203-637-3661

Senior Director of Administration and Facilities -

Evelyn Wilson ext. 107 / evelyn.wilson@stc-sta.org

Director of Music - Dr. Liya Petrides

ext. 322 / Music.Director@stc-sta.org

Director of Youth Faith Formation and Programming -

Erin Teske ext. 106 erin.teske@stc-sta.org

Administrative Assistant - Erika Gonzalez Randolph

ext. 104 / erika.grandolph@stc-sta.org

Data Manager - Merci Lennard-Diaz

ext. 340 / merci.lennard-diaz@stc-sta.org

Reception / Administrative Assistant - Alicia Romero

ext. 103 / alicia.romero@stc-sta.org

Saturdays Reception - Claire DeLuca; ext. 103

MINISTRIES

Altar Servers - Deacon Berzolla

Care of the Sick and Aging - Fr. William Platt

Parish Partners - Jeannemarie Baker, RN, NP

ext. 375 / ParishPartners@stc-sta.org

Readers - Barbara Glynn - Barbara.Glynn8@gmail.com

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - Deacon Berzolla

Social Justice - Betsy Parker <u>socialjustice@stc-sta.org</u> / 203-

981-4655

Walking with Purpose - Jill Vollmer -

wwpstcathct@gmail.com

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Please call the Parish Office to schedule dates for **Baptisms, Weddings** and **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (1st Saturday of every month or by appointment)

This week's READINGS

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79

Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or

1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

1.10-25 Night. 15 7.1-0, 11 2.11-14, Ex 2.1-14

Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Mt 2:13-18

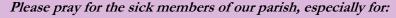
| Mass Intentions & Celebrants Schedule | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Saturday, December 21 | | |
| 3:00 - 4:00 | | Confessions |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 5:00 PM | Intentions: | Alberto & Maria Zinco & Family, Luigi & Antonia Vitti & Family |
| | Celebrant: | Msgr. Laurence R. Bronkiewicz |
| Sunday, December 22 | | |
| 7:30 AM | Intention: | Margaret & Patsy Orrico |
| | Celebrant: | TBD |
| 9:00 AM | Intention: | Glenn Gomez |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. Christopher J. Perrella |
| 10:30 AM | Intention: | Charles D. Hanlon |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | Connie Caporizzo |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. Kevin O'Brien, S.J. |
| 6:30 PM | Intention: | Gabriel & Fausto Vasquez |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. Jorge Obregon |
| Monday, | December 23 | |
| 7:00 AM | Intention: | Ann Brady |
| 5:15 PM | Intention: | Lou DiCostanzo |
| | December 24 | |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Chapel) | Celebrant: | Msgr. Alan F. Detscher |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Church) | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Gym) | Celebrant: | TBD |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Hall) | Celebrant: | Fr. Christopher J. Perrella |
| 9:00 PM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Church) | Celebrant: | Fr. Christopher J. Perrella |
| 7:30 AM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Church) | Celebrant: | TBD |
| 9:00 AM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Church) | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 10:30 AM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| (Church) | Celebrant: | Fr. Christopher J. Perrella |
| Thursday, | December 26 | 1 3 |
| 7:00 AM | Intention: | Robert D. Horan |
| 5:15 PM | Intention: | NO MASS |
| Friday, December 27 | | |
| 7:00 AM | Intention: | Leticia Bravo |
| 5:15 PM | Intention: | Sebastian Lacson |
| Saturday, December 28 | | |
| 3:00 - 4:00 |) PM Celebrant: | Confessions TBD |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | Mary Ambrosecchio |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. Christopher J. Perrella |
| Sunday, December 29 | | |
| 7:30 AM | Intention: | All Parishioners |
| | Celebrant: | TBD |
| 9:00 AM | Intention: | Bill & Sofia Taylor |
| | Celebrant: | Msgr. Alan F. Detscher |
| 10:30 AM | Intention: | Michael Abatemarco |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 5:00 PM | Intention: | Ralph & Nilda Yoakum |
| | Celebrant: | Fr. William F. Platt |
| 6:30 PM | Intention: | Renata Astudillo |

Celebrant:

TBD

*Schedule subject to change

PARISH NEWS





Wilmar Acevedo Joan Bartilucci John Bambino Claudia Bouchard Maria Cano John Hickey Stephen Cheung Loretta DiMaio Bonnie Elezaby Barbara Weltz Jay Bartomioli Tom Maigret Scion Estrella Faustino Garcia Morales Olga Iacobazzo Lorraine Mallen Leslie Nash Cecilia Robin Maravilla

Vinnie Yax

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for supporting your Parish.

Sunday, December 15, 2024: \$10,107

Online Giving for the week: \$8,520

Total Offertory: \$18,627

Last Year: \$13,153

1) If you prefer to make you donations online, please consider using one of the following:

Online Giving **(OLG)** allows you to make your Sunday Offertory and all other donations by credit card or bank check. Visit www.stc-sta.org/stewardship/online-giving

2) Scan our QR code:





St. Catherine of Siena and St. Agnes congratulates and welcomes

Joseph Raymond Cecio & Vivienne Leigh Boulanger

Baptized into God's family on

December 14t & 15th 2024



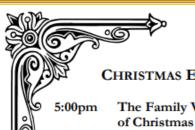
An Important Note About Accessible Parking and Entry Doors:

With our exterior church renovation complete, we now have a total of eight (8) parking spaces in proximity to the church for our parishioners with mobility issues. During weekend and weekday mass times there will be four (4) spaces reserved for handicapped parking in front of the rectory and an additional four (4) spaces in the lower parking lot adjacent to the parish hall side entrance. From there, you can use the elevator up to the church. Please note that two of the spaces in front of the rectory will be marked for accessible parking at all times, along with all four of the spaces in the lower lot.

At the main entrance in the front of the church, the left-hand-side door remains an assisted entrance with an automated door that is controlled by an exterior and an interior button. The lower-level parish hall entrance also has an automated door that can be opened from both the outside and inside.

If you are visiting the new parish offices at the O'Malley Center located at 13 Riverside Avenue, please know that there are two (2) parking spaces next to that building designated as handicapped. Should you have any questions about our inclusive church access, kindly contact Evelyn Wilson, Senior Director of Facilities & Administration, evelyn.wilson@stc-sta.org or 203-637-3661 x107.

PARISH NEWS



CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

The Family Vigil Mass

(St. Catherine Church)

 Family Choir, Cantor, Trumpet, and Organ

Caroling begins at 4:30pm

5:00pm The Vigil Mass of Christmas

(St. Agnes Chapel at St. Catherine

of Siena Campus)

* Cantor, Trumpet, and Organ

The Vigil Mass of Christmas 5:00pm

(Lucey Parish Hall)

* Contemporary Choir and Band

5:00pm The Vigil Mass of Christmas

in Spanish

(School Gymnasium)

* Choir and Guitar

9:00pm The Solemn Mass

during the Night

(St. Catherine Church)

* Traditional Choir with Brass and Timpani

Caroling begins at 8:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

7:30am The Christmas Mass at Dawn

(St. Catherine Church)

* Cantor, Trumpet, and Organ

9:00am The Mass of Christmas Day

(St. Catherine Church)

* Contemporary Choir and Band

10:30am The Mass of Christmas Day

(St. Catherine Church)

* Traditional Choir with Brass and

Timpani

There will NOT be a 5:00pm or 6:30pm Mass on Christmas Day.

Masses for the Solemnity of MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

Tuesday, December 31 — 5:15pm (St. Catherine Church)

Wednesday, January 1 — 12:10pm (St. Catherine Church)



The Children's Choir will resume on January 19, 2025. Wishing you all a very merry

Christmas and happy new year!



GIVING MADE SIMPLE: SCAN AND SUPPORT

We're introducing a convenient way to give right from your seat. Use the QR code on the card in your pew to make a secure donation to our church. Your generosity helps us continue our mission of faith, service, and community outreach. Thank you for being part of our ministry!



Parish Holiday Schedule: December 24-January 1

In observance of the holidays, our Parish Office will be closed Tuesday December 24 January 1st. Please view the special Christmas Mass schedules on our website Church Calendar at:

www.stc-sta.org/church-calendar





2025 Mass Intentions Book Open New Forms Available

Blank forms with instructions can be picked up at the Parish Office or printed out from our website **HERE**



Faith in Our Community



Last week's
Bilingual Mass
& Celebration
of the Feast of
Our Lady of
Guadalupe



"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas"

-Fr. Platt







The Social Justice Committee of St. Catherine of Siena and St. Agnes continues their

Food & Essentials Drive for Neighbor to Neighbor



Please continue to be generous in your donations to *Neighbor-to-Neighbor* of non-perishable foods and personal care items. Our drives at St. Catherine's continue **every Tuesday from 9:00 - 11:00 AM** as does the need!

Each week, donations can be dropped-off in the parking area across the street from the

Rectory, or, once construction impacts the vestibule at the church entrance, donations may be left downstairs in the vestibule to the Lucey Parish Hall.

Some people have invited guests at parties to bring food donations in lieu of presents—truly a gift!

New knitted hats and scarves are collected throughout the cold months and are gratefully received.

Visit www.stc-sta.org/community-news

for details and items needed.

Visit https://www.ntngreenwich.org

for details on your donations are helping!

Thanks to all for remembering your neighbors with your generous donations that are filling the gap for so many!!





PARISH NEWS



Week of December 22, 2024



The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band

Moses bariu Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.



Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say? Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leapt in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

As we complete our advent preparation, take a minute to see and hear the family reunion of the two cousins. The question of Elizabeth can fall from our lips. Not only 'how is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me', but for us, how is it that our loving God should become one with us today? The marvelous question for us 'can it indeed be that God dwells on earth?' These final days before Christmas urges us to consider and be serious about His coming and our need to find Him among us.

The biblical words of the greeting above, which we recite so frequently, invite us to discover the real meaning of our Christmas celebration this week.



focused on hunger prevention and social services for a better life

Our Soup Kitchen Teams are looking for some new volunteers. We are responsible for every Sunday, all year long, for over 50 years now. Please contact Kathy DiGiovanna kmdigiovanna@gmail.com if you wish to volunteer. We provide the makings of the generous noon-time meal for about 120 people who come to New Covenant Center's Soup Kitchen every Sunday. Other days a re covered by numerous other groups in the community. https://www.ccfairfield.org/project/new-covenant -center/







Greenwich Catholic School – Winter Open House

Please join us for our Winter Open House on Thursday, January 9th from 5-7:30PM.

Take a tour of our beautiful 40-acre campus, meet with current students, teachers and our leadership team. Come see what the Charger community is all about!

For over 54 years, Greenwich Catholic School has provided students PreK-3 through 8th grade with a life-long intellectual and spiritual foundation through a rigorous and innovative curriculum focused on faith, critical thinking, responsibility, and service.

To learn more about Greenwich Catholic and to register for the Open House visit our website www.gcsct.org.



December, 2024

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to announce that our church vestibule and exterior plaza renovations have been completed and are now beautiful spaces for our parish family to enjoy. I would like to mark this special achievement by inviting all parishioners to join me for the blessing of this new narthex on the Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord, January 5th, 2025, after the 10:30 am mass, followed by refreshments.

We now have a wonderful vestibule where we can gather for conversation and hospitality and which can also better accommodate funeral and wedding gatherings. The new southern glass doors bring light and warmth to the space and lead to a beautiful intimate garden, ideally suited for reflection and prayer. You will notice that our vestibule also has built-in speakers so it can serve as an extension of the nave, with additional seating available for services or Masses that require it. Our newly renovated confessional is now in operation and offers generous, private space for the penitent. Our expanded exterior plaza can safely accommodate church attendees before and after services. And finally, a newly installed chime system will be heard throughout town either calling the faithful to worship or signaling various ceremonial purposes.

All of these renovations have been made with accessibility in mind. Our parishioners with mobility challenges will find easier access to the main church and enhanced parking facilities. Please see additional details regarding accessible parking in the bulletin. The renovation efforts have also allowed us to focus on security of our campus and we now benefit from a new security system throughout the church and in the Lucey Parish Hall. And finally, we have recently completed the installation of some beautiful landscaping around the perimeter of our exterior plaza.

Please note that we will have some additional plantings in the spring and that new entrance doors to our Church will be installed in January. A renovation to our mezzanine bathrooms will also take place in the early part of the New Year. These addendums to our main project were approved by the Finance Council and will be underway at the conclusion of the Christmas season.

I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to the Renovation Committee chaired by Eileen Grasso, as well as to our project partners for their professional acumen, ability to manage complexities as well as their outstanding support and involvement. The collaboration and dedication of this team has been crucial in achieving our collective goal. The teamwork displayed was nothing short of inspiring and I am proud of all that has been accomplished together. Of note, I would like to extend a special thanks to the parishioners on our team, Len D'Andrea, Max Wernert and Ben Ceci, who went above and beyond to deliver a beautiful new space for their faith community.

With my heartfelt thanks, I would like to give special recognition to the following team members:

Renovation Committee:

Eileen Grasso - Renovation Committee Chair

Marie-Josée Desnoyers

Fred Durante

Tom Gallagher

Rhonda Morley

Kevin Ruebenstahl

Renovation Partners:

Ryan Salvatore, Burr Salvatore Architects, PLLC

Todd Gambino and Rudy Harvey, Construction Consulting Group, LLC

Max Wernet, Wernert Construction Management, LLC

Len D'Andrea, Rocco V. D'Andrea, Inc.

Dean Pushlar, Landscape Architect

Ben Ceci, Ceci Brothers Landscape Contractors

Illian & Platt

It is my sincere hope that the renovations will serve our Parish well and be appreciated by all. I personally want to thank our Parishioners and staff for their patience during this period. I am excited about the new additions to our Church and I hope you are too!

Blessings,

Rev. William F. Platt

Pastor



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