



Happy NEW YEAR

*You crown the year with Your goodness,
And Your paths drip with abundance.*

PSALM 65:11

Sunday, December 29, 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

St. Agnes Chapel

11:00 AM – French Mass - 2nd Sunday of the month

– Italian Mass - 3rd Sunday of the month

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,

St. Catherine's Church

Rosary

Tuesdays – 6:00 PM, St. Agnes Chapel

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

VIEW THE LIVESTREAM at St. Catherine's HERE: <https://events.locallive.tv/worship/stc-sta>

Contact Us

OFFICE

Phone: 203-637-3661

Senior Director of Administration and Facilities -

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

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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 socialjustice@stc-sta.org / 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: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52 or, 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18

Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

First Friday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34

First Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

Mass Intentions & Celebrants Schedule

Saturday, December 28

3:00 – 4:00 PM Confessions
Celebrant: TBD

5:00 PM Intention: Mary Ambroseccchio
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

Monday, December 30

7:00 AM Intention: Jose & Graciela Nieves (living)

5:15 PM Intention: Robert P. Martin

Tuesday, December 31

7:00 AM Intention: Jo Gleeson

5:15 PM Intention: Hugo Bernal (living)

Wednesday January 1

12:10 PM Intention: Robert Marshall

Thursday January 2

7:00 AM Intention: Leonor Tacan

5:15 PM Intention: Marcello Marin

Friday January 3

7:00 AM Intention: Comeau & Thibault Families

5:15 PM Intention: Margaret Cheney

Saturday, January 4

3:00 – 4:00 PM Confessions
Celebrant: TBD

5:00 PM Intention: Doreen O'Hara
Celebrant: Fr. Christopher J. Perrella

Sunday, January 5

7:30 AM Intention: Marcello Marin
Celebrant: TBD

9:00 AM Intention: Glenn Gomez
Celebrant: Fr. William F. Platt

10:30 AM Intention: Domenica Sarica
Celebrant: Fr. William F. Platt

5:00 PM Intention: Elizabeth, Joseph & Frank Cannitello

Celebrant: Msgr. Alan F. Detscher

6:30 PM Intention: Hernan Bustos
Celebrant: TBD

*Schedule subject to change

PARISH NEWS

Please pray for the sick members of our parish, especially for:



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 Monica Patino
Hugo Bernal Deacon Eduardo Rodrigues Catherine Colangelo

As I reflect on the close of 2024, and the end of my first six year term as your pastor, I'd like to thank this beautiful parish family of St. Catherine of Siena and St. Agnes. May God, in his abundant love, bless and keep all of us. May we always trust in His Divine Providence, and seek only to know and do His will

Happy New Year.

- Fr Bill Platt, Pastor



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



On Sunday January
19, at 2:00pm, **St.
Catherine of Siena
and St. Agnes**

Friends of Music will present a concert entitled Alexander Wieczorek and Friends. Organist and pianist Alexander Wieczorek will perform music by Bach, Schubert, Faure, Clara Schumann and others, with violinist Alexis Walls and soprano and pianist Liya Petrides.

Admission free, donations are welcome.



The Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God is on Wednesday Jan 1st. It is a Holy day of Obligation, all masses will be held in the church.

Tuesday Dec. 31st 5:15 pm (Vigil)

Wednesday Jan. 1st 12:10 pm

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

a BLESSING CEREMONY AND RECEPTION

IN OUR NEW CHURCH VESTIBULE! SUNDAY, JANUARY 5TH

AFTER THE 10:30AM MASS

COFFEE AND LIGHT BITES WILL BE SERVED.



The Children's Choir will resume on
January 19, 2025.

Wishing you all a very merry
Christmas and happy new year!



**Parish Holiday Schedule:
December 24-January 1**

In observance of the holidays, our Parish Office will be closed Tuesday December 24 & Wednesday December 25, Monday January 1st. Please view the special Christmas Mass schedules on our website Church Calendar at:

www.stc-sta.org/church-calendar



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!*



**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 guest speaker Fr. Chris from St. Paul the Apostle in NYC:
Reflecting on the Advent Journey



*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



**St. Catherine's
Support Circle**

LinkedIn – How To Get Noticed **SCSC Zoom meeting Thursday January 9, from 7 – 8:15pm**

This informative session will focus on optimizing your LinkedIn profile with tips that will increase the number of searches you will appear in and the likelihood recruiters will find you. Our speaker, Gretchen Maher Johnson, an experienced HR professional, will share the best practices to use throughout your profile, identifying and placing keywords, posting to keep you relevant, joining groups and sharing LinkedIn influencers.

Please join us on Zoom for an informative and interactive session with useful tips you can implement right away.

About our Presenter: Gretchen Johnson is the Chief People Officer at Nexxen Prior to this she has over 20 years' experience across the hospitality, media, financial service industries. She has experience across all aspects of Human Resources and Talent Management.

RSVP required: To receive a link to attend the Zoom session, RSVP by Monday January 6 to Gretchen at gbmjohanson@gmail.com

The St. Catherine's Support Circle was formed in early 2009 to support people seeking jobs in the challenging economic environment. The group continues to encourage participation by both job seekers and those interested in providing their advice and support. To read about helpful information and recommended resources for job seekers, visit the parish web site www.stcath.org, then first link to Community Life, and then link to the SCSC page

The SCSC steering committee includes professionals who have experience in diverse areas including human resources, executive search, career coaching, clinical career counseling, general management, education, marketing, public relations, finance, accounting and IT. If you have similar experience, and would be interested in joining your fellow professionals on the committee, please contact SCSC Chairman Bob Sloane at rsloane0@gmail.com

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

"Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy, with kindness, humility, meekness and patience. Bear with one another, forgive whatever grievance you have against one another. Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you. Over all these virtues put on love, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect. Christ's peace must reign in your hearts... Dedicate yourself to thankfulness. Let the word of Christ rich as it is, dwell in you."

As we will hear much talk about New Year's resolutions, which often fall on deaf ears or are easily forgotten, reread the recommendation of Saint Paul. Did you know that these virtues are gifts you have been given, but are to be shared? Did you know that you need not spend one penny to possess and give them to others? Did you know that you cannot get them online, or go out to purchase them?

These gifts and virtues we all possess, but sometimes we overlook them. Examine your conscience and conduct to see where they are, and begin the new year aware that you are the chosen to which Paul refers. They are the fruits of the Spirit he mentions in Galatians. Unwrap these gifts and make sure to share them with others.

What a New Year's treat!

**Let it
SHINE
in the
New Year**

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A PROGRAM OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

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 are covered by numerous other groups in the community. <https://www.ccfairfield.org/project/new-covenant-center/>





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

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William F. Platt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized 'W' and 'P'.

Rev. William F. Platt

Pastor



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