



**THE PARISH COMMUNITY OF
SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA**
427 STANHOPE ROAD, SPARTA, NEW JERSEY 07871

JULY 16, 2023

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LOVE GOD, LOVE OTHERS, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

**Lord, make our hearts a
rich soil where Your
Words will be planted and
bear fruit**

~Matthew 13:1-23

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Daily Mass at 8:15 AM
(Monday to Friday)

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 8:00 AM,
9:30 AM (Live stream and Zoom),
11:30 AM, & 6:00 PM
(NO 6PM MASS 7/2 – 9/10)

Holy Day: Vigil 7:30 PM
Holy Day - 8:15 AM and 12:00 PM

Confessions: Every Saturday
4:00 PM – 4:45 PM.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Friday of the month from
2:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Spanish Mass
7 PM every 1st and 4th Monday
of the month
Confession 6:30 PM – 7 PM

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/saintkaterispartani](https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintkaterispartani)

We will continue to keep you
updated through our website, E-
mails, Flocknote and Facebook. To
join Flocknote (our text message
app) text "stkateri" to 84576

PARISH CENTER OFFICE

Mon. – Thurs.: 9 am to 3 pm
Phone: 973-729-1682
Email: office@saintkateri.org
Website: www.saintkateri.org

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE
Wed. - Fri.: 9 am To 3 pm,
and by appointment.
Phone: 973-729-3021
Email: cherylw@saintkateri.org

*All Offices are closed for
lunch
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm*

PARISH STAFF

FR. VIDAL ROBERTO GONZALES, JR
PASTOR

frvgonzales@saintkateri.org

JENNIFER DOTTINGER
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
jennd@saintkateri.org

TINA JURGAITIS
BOOKKEEPER
tinaj@saintkateri.org

CHERYL WALLACE
DRE AND PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
cherylw@saintkateri.org

DAWN GREEN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Youth Protection / Safe Environment
dawng@saintkateri.org

MARC G. DALIO
MUSIC DIRECTOR
marcd@saintkateri.org

MIKE SAWAY
MAINTENANCE

TIMOTHY DINAN
TRUSTEE

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism will be celebrated
every 1st Sunday of the
month at 1:00 PM. Please
call eight weeks in advance
of the date of baptism or
email:

jennd@saintkateri.org.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangement should be
made one year in advance
of the marriage date.
Please call the Parish Office.

Parish Ministries/Contact Person

Abortion Alternative: 1st Way Hotline: 800-848-5683

Adopt a Family: Mary Beth Dowd mbdowd@gmail.com

Adoration Society: Jim Brocato jbroc55@aol.com

Altar Care: Pam Madzy pamelamadzy@gmail.com

Altar Servers: Ed Tirpack edtirpackdmd@gmail.com

Art & Environment (Church): Laura Tirpack

ltirpack@gmail.com

Blood Drive: Mary Stanek mary.d.stanek@gmail.com

Cub Scouts Pack #295: Ryan Dumpert

Cubmaster.Sparta295@gmail.com

Eucharistic Ministers: Pat Kane patkane@embarqmail.com

Everyone Shops: Tina Jurgaitis tinaj@saintkateri.org

Family Promise of SC: (973) 579-1180

Feed the Working Poor: Janet and Stephen Goodwin

goodwin@mckeeown.org

Sparta Community Food Pantry:

Valerie Macchio foodpantry07871@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus: Ed Knapick chemie83@hotmail.com

Squires Circle: Nick Cutrone cutronekojc@gmail.com

Lectors: Dick Freiburger rnfrei@gmail.com

Legion of Mary: Marjorie Strohsahl marjstro@earthlink.net

Migrant Ministries: Pam Madzy pamelamadzy@gmail.com

Hispanic Network Helpline: 973-863-7251

Music Director: Marc G. Dalio marcd@saintkateri.org

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Sandy Cangemi skcangemi@yahoo.com

Prayer Team: Sue Weaver prayerteam@saintkateri.org

RCIA: office@saintkateri.org

Religious Education: Cheryl Wallace (973) 729-3021

cherylw@saintkateri.org

Respect Life: Joe DeLuca spartan5@ptd.net

Jim Brocato jbroc55@aol.com

Vocations to Priesthood or Religious Life:

Fr. Vidal Gonzales, Jr., Office: 973-729-1682

Wedding Coordinators:

Laura Luba Laurajune@rocketmail.com;

Cathy McCrossan catmack24@yahoo.com

Welcomers: Matt Piwko mpiwko014@gmail.com

Wine & Divine: Laura Tirpack LTirpack@gmail.com

Youth Ministry/Kateri Connections: Dominick Bartolomeo

katericonnections@saintkateri.org

Youth Protection/Safe Environment Coordinator:

Dawn Green dawng@saintkateri.org

Saint Kateri's socials are a great way to
stay connected!



Saint Kateri Roman Catholic Parish of Sparta, New Jersey



St Kateri Parish Sparta (@skparishsparta)



saintkateri.org

WELCOME:

New parishioners are asked to register by calling or visiting the parish office or by speaking to one of the parish staff. You can also visit our website and register.

WHY A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN SHOULD BE A REGISTERED PARISHIONER

The precepts of the Church explain that: we need to belong to a parish (your parish is the Church in the City where you are domiciled) and to contribute to its support. (Canon 107).

Everyone should do this in order to identify with a worshipping community of faith. Salvation comes to us by God in community. Religion is not meant to be individualistic. Membership in a parish community is the norm. To allow the priest of the parish to know you so that Letters of Recommendation can be given when needed (Sponsorship/certificates).

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 7/15	5:00 pm	Intentions for the Sirica Family
Sunday	8:00 am	Glen Ostrowski
July 16th	9:30 am	Sandy and George Scaglione
	11:30 am	William Homa and Betty Sublesky
	6:00 pm	NO MASS
Monday 7/17	8:15 am	Intentions for the Bodo Family
Tuesday 7/18	8:15 am	Darylann Wright
Wednesday 7/19	8:15 am	Edward R. Wallace
Thursday 7/20	8:15 am	Intentions for Terese
Friday 7/21	8:15 am	Kerry Casey
Saturday 7/22	5:00 pm	Raymond Santiago
Sunday	8:00 am	Alice Brennick
July 23 rd	9:30 am	Edward R. Wallace
	11:30 am	Thomas A. Dottinger
	6:00 pm	NO MASS

Weekly Donations

July 2, Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Regular Collection	\$6,805
Parish Maintenance	\$ 630



July 9, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Regular Collection	\$8,263
Project Faith	\$ 487

Next weekend's Second Collection is for:
Parish Maintenance

Today we take up the collection for the Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC). Your support helps the CCC engage and build Catholic communities in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio, and print media. Half the funds we collect remain here in the Diocese of Paterson to support local efforts. Be a part of this campaign to spread the gospel message. Support the collection today! To learn more visit www.usccb.org/cc.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Special Remembrance



The Sanctuary Lamp, which burns near the Tabernacle as a reminder of our Lord's presence in the Most Holy Eucharist, was given in loving memory of:

Sandy and George Scaglione

Please pray for our Active Military:



Sean Schoch, Infantry 2Lt; SSgt Daniel Joseph (DJ) Duguay, US Air Force; James Schoch, Infantry 2Lt; Frank Cutrone, CPT US Army; Col Dan Murphy, US Marine Corps; Lt Katherine Garza, US Navy; SGT Josh Jackson US Marine Corps; Jack Lubertazzi, 2Lt US Army

**May God keep them safe
and protect them from all harm.**

If you would like a loved one's name added to the prayer list for the military, please call the Parish Center 973-729-0489.

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick:



Teresa Giovannone, Shazam Khan, Brittany Johnson, Duane Perrelli, Catherine Cafiero, Katie Youngs, Chris Auger, Donald Pavelko, Michelle Coleman, Kathy Manzella, Maggie Jelly, Roseann Lehmann, Bradley Bridge, Marcela Vinocur, Joe Canastra

If you would like a name added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

dawngoffice@saintkateri.org or 973-729-0489

WEEK AT A GLANCE

MON. 7/17	TUES. 7/18	WED. 7/19	THURS. 7/20	FRI. 7/21	SAT. 7/22	SUN. 7/23
8:15 am Mass 9:00 am Bible Study 7:30 pm Wine & Divine	8:15 am Mass and Rosary 7:00 pm Legion of Mary	8:15 am Mass and Rosary	8:15 am Mass and Rosary	8:15 am Mass and Rosary 2:00 – 6:00 pm Adoration	4:00 – 4:45 pm Confession 5:00 pm Mass	8:00 am Mass 9:30 am Mass Summer Sunday Funday 11:30 am Mass

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

July 15 & 16	Eucharistic Ministers	Welcomers	Lector	Altar Servers
Sat. 5:00 PM	Janet M/Mike M/**/**/Pam M (h)	Carmen C/Steve C/Jess R/**	Ed Madzy	** / **
Sun. 8:00 AM	Bob B/Linda D/**/**/Ed T (h)	Mike D/Mark G/Marty L/**	Laura Tirpack	Joy/Mackenzie
9:30 AM	Debbie Z/Bob M/**/**/Jim B (h)	Joe G/**/**/**	Joe Deluca	Aubree / **
11:30 AM	**/**/**/**/Cathy M (h)	Fred F/Peggy M/John S/Marianne W	Patricia Carley	** / **
6:00 PM	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS	NO MASS
July 22 & 23				
Sat. 5:00 PM	Tom G/Pat K/**/**/** (h)	Carmen C/Steve C/Jerry R/Jess R	Nick Cutrone	Gia / Justin
Sun. 8:00 AM	Ed T/Laura T/**/**/Bob B (h)	Mike D/Mark G/Marty L/**	Carol Schubert	Joy/Mackenzie
9:30 AM	Jim B/Kathleen P/**/**/** (h)	Joe G/**/**/**	Bob Medina	Aubree / **
11:30 AM	**/**/**/**/**	Fred F/Peggy M/Marianne W/**	Patricia Carley	** / **



Reflection



“To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand.*” [Matthew 13:12-13](#)

How is it that someone can look without seeing or hear without listening or understanding? This is only possible when one's eyes and ears are working properly, but the mind is distracted, not attentive to what is seen or heard. For example, say you were listening to a book being read and suddenly you realized that even though you heard what was read, your mind was elsewhere and you had no idea what was spoken. This is a common experience for everyone from time to time.

This portion of the Gospel quoted above comes immediately after Jesus spoke the Parable of the Sower to the crowds from a boat. In that parable, seed fell on the path, on rocky ground, among thorns and in rich soil. Only the seed on the rich soil grew and produced good fruit. Therefore, Jesus' teaching quoted above, as well as His parable spoken before it, teach that there were many who heard the Word of God and witnessed Jesus' miracles but failed to allow His teachings and miracles to produce faith in their hearts.

This Gospel passage is especially important for those who have been Catholics for many years but have become stagnant in their faith. When someone goes to Mass every week, listens to the Gospel and shares in the Eucharist but fails to continually grow in holiness and understanding of the Mysteries of Heaven, then they will slowly lose even the little faith they have. They will become lukewarm Catholics who go through the motions but fail to produce the good fruit that comes from authentic faith.

When you look back at your life as a practicing Catholic, what do you see from year to year? Was there a time when you were strong in faith but have slowly closed your ears to the Gospel and have drifted away from a deep and prayerful interior engagement with our Lord? Or when you look back do you see that the Lord has continuously given you more and more, leading you to a life of true spiritual riches? Has the Gospel entered not only your ears, but also your mind and your understanding? Do you both see and perceive the action of God in your life and in the world around you? Are you actively engaged with the life of grace and find that you grow closer to God every day? Or, sadly, have you lost interest and zeal and now find yourself slowly drifting away from the fruitful practice of your faith?

Reflect, today, upon these important questions and strive to answer them honestly. If you do not see yourself growing in faith every year and becoming truly rich in the grace of God, then know that something needs to change. Stagnation and lukewarmness in the faith are not good. They lead to the slow loss of everything. As you reflect upon your own faith journey, recommit yourself to a zealous embrace of the Gospel so that your soul will be truly rich soil that continually produces an abundance of good fruit.

Lord, You desire that all people hear Your Word and see Your action in their lives. Please continue to pour forth Your grace into my life so that I will continually grow rich in Your mercy. I pray that my eyes and ears will be open to You more fully every day. Jesus, I trust in You.

mycatholic.life

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22; Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Ex 3:13-20; Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Ex 11:10-12:14; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19; Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



Saint Kateri Happenings

JULY 9 & 23 **SUMMER SUNDAY** **AUG 13 & 27**

Fundays

crafts Mass snack

For all children entering grades K-5 in the fall.
Receive your key to unlock the mysteries of the Mass!

To register visit our website or use the QR code.

9:30 am (Mass) - 11:30 am

saintkateri.org/summer-sundays-fundays



Faith Formation

REGISTRATION FOR FAITH FORMATION GRADES KINDERGARTEN THRU CONFIRMATION

Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 Faith Formation school year.
Visit our website at <https://saintkateri.org/ffregistration> or click the QR code below to register.




Please pray for our St. Kateri pilgrims as they prepare to attend World Youth Day this August 1-6, 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal.

The Lord will protect you from all evil; God will protect your very life. The Lord will protect you on your journeys whether going or coming from now until forever from now.

— Psalm 121:7-8

SAVE THE DATE

IT'S OUR ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC!

Sept 10 | 12:30 pm | Parish Backyard





Pig Roast

Saturday, August 12 at 6:00 PM

\$40 person/\$15 kids age 12 & under

Pig Roast, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Sides, Beverages

St. Kateri, 427 Stanhope Rd, Sparta, NJ

Ticket Sales In The Church Lobby Starting June 25

After All Masses Or By Contacting

Greg Risco @ 908-619-1263 or risco.g@gmail.com




Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish Community welcomes the following children to the Roman Catholic Church in the Sacrament of

Baptism




Niccolo Enzo Edwards Jayce Alexander Keith

Sunday, July 2, 2023



Kateri Legion of Mary – Pilgrim Virgin Home Visits

The newly formed **Legion of Mary** at St. Kateri Church will be instituting the **Pilgrim Virgin Home Visits**, starting late July 2023.

Our Legion would like to bring the Pilgrim Virgin (Our Lady of Fatima statue) to your home for one week of family devotion. This home visitation primarily assists families to respond to requests made by the Blessed Virgin Mother, when she appeared at Fatima, Portugal, to three small children during an apparition. Her pleas were: **Return to God, Make Reparation for your Sins, and Pray the Rosary daily for Peace.**

All are welcome to request the Pilgrim Virgin visit their home. There is no charge. This is being done throughout the country and world.

Parents hosting the Pilgrim Virgin report feelings of Abundant Graces, with added Strength and Growth of their Faith and that of their Children.

The Visit...

- The Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Mary will be brought to your home by one or two Legion members on a Sunday after Mass. We would like your family to be present at the Mass you generally attend, so your family may be acknowledged.
- The Statue will be set at a location deemed by you to be in a place of honor in your home...with table covering/flowers/candles.
- On that first day, the family will recite the opening prayers and the Rosary with the Legion members. (Wording provided for all.)
- Each day, the family will pray together in front of the statue...the Opening Prayers, the Rosary, and Closing Prayers. (Families are encouraged to invite other families, friends, and neighbors.)
- On the last day of the week's stay, after your Rosary and prayers, preparations will be made for the return of the statue.

To sign up to host the Pilgrim Virgin at your home, please contact Marjorie at 973-943-2155 to schedule the visit. See what Our Lord and the Blessed Mother have in store for you and your family!



Dear Parishioners,

Please join us in welcoming Rev. Edward Przygocki who is joining us this weekend to speak about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

Father Przygocki will share personal witness about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another.

Father Przygocki is the present Provincial Animator of the Society of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles of the United States and Vietnam. He recently served for five years on the General Council of the Missionaries in Montreal, Canada. Having been assigned to the MSA missions of Peru, Columbia, and Venezuela in pastoral leadership, evangelization and formation of the future priest and lay ministry, he had the distinct blessing of sharing in the life of Father Eusebe Menard, OFM, who is the founder of this religious order and of Holy Apostles College and Seminary. He is a graduate of Holy Apostles College and Seminary, (B.A. and M. Div.)

Welcoming Father Przygocki.

Religious Items Wanted

St. Mary Recycle Mission Group works with Catholic churches, Convents, Schools, The Knights of Columbus, and other organizations, as well as with Parishioners who have things at home, in helping rescue and recycle used religious items that are no longer needed.

Please consider donating unneeded items. A collection box will be in the gathering space until Sunday, July 23rd. Acceptable items are:

- | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| *crucifixes | *statues | *holy medals |
| *Prayer books | *framed pictures | *holy cards |

Please do not throw anything out that may be questionable as they take items in any condition.

****please no regular books/pamphlets/movies/wax candles**

FATHER AND SON CATHOLIC CAMP

AUGUST 14-18, 2023

- Enjoy the beauty of God's creation
- Spend time with your son(s) along the Delaware River
- Go camping, hiking, swimming, rafting and fishing
- Grow in faith through Mass, priest talks and prayer time
- Attend outdoor Mass with Bishop Sweeney as celebrant

Open to young men ages 13 and older and their fathers. Minors must be accompanied by a male guardian. Campers provide their own tent and sleeping bags. Fee: \$100 per person, includes all meals and fees. Deadline to register: July 31, 2023. Registration required.

Location: Worthington State Forest



Scan to register. Visit patersonvocations.org or call (973) 777-8818 x. 711 for more info.

Sponsored by the Paterson Diocese Office of Vocations

News from the Pews



Catching Up with Saint Kateri's Founding Pastor, Fr. Dan Murphy

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Parish was established by Frank Rodimer, Bishop of Paterson, on June 24, 1988, to meet the needs of a growing Catholic population in Sparta and Byram. At its founding, the parish did not have a church, but it did have 200 enthusiastic families, eight acres of wooded property at 427 Stanhope Road, and a founding pastor, Fr. Dan Murphy, who was ready to build a faith-filled Catholic community from the ground up.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of our parish's founding as well as the 50th anniversary of Fr. Dan's Ordination. In recognition of both milestones, we asked Fr. Dan to share some thoughts on his ministry at Saint Kateri and bring us up-to-date on his life today. He was happy to be a part of *News from the Pews*.

Establishing a community

Fr. Dan was 15 years into his priestly ministry when he was assigned our founding pastor in 1988. He had previously served at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Wayne and then-brand-new Resurrection Parish in Randolph. His years as Resurrection's associate pastor especially prepared him for his role in Sparta.

"Resurrection is where I learned what to do in a new parish—find people, find places to worship, establish a community, then build a building," he says. He also learned a key lesson from Resurrection's pastor, Fr. Martin Rauscher, about the importance of lay ministry. "Fr. Rauscher was a visionary of Vatican II, which emphasizes a universal call to holiness. With this in mind, he would invite every parishioner to use his or her gifts and talents to build the parish community."

Fr. Dan embraced that Vatican II vision at Saint Kateri from day one, inviting parishioners to get involved. He learned people's names, found that many of them—like his parishioners in Randolph—were corporate transplants eager to find a Catholic home, and often started conversations with, "I have an opportunity for you."

He harnessed parishioners' gifts and talents with the help of the parish staff, which initially included pastoral associate Sister Barbara Moore, O.P., and Deacon Frank Padden. As the parish priest, Fr. Dan saw himself as the conductor of an orchestra—an image inspired by the writing of Bishop Ken Utener—whose job was to bring all the instruments together to create beautiful music.

"I always say that establishing Saint Kateri Parish was a lot of work, but it was never hard work. People were looking for community and bringing them together was energizing," Fr. Dan continues. "One of my greatest joys as a priest is to look out at the congregation and know that every person has a job in the parish. Church isn't a building; it is the people of God."

Building the building

For the parish's first several years, Fr. Dan celebrated Mass at venues around Sparta, including St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Helen Morgan School and Alpine School. By 1990, the parish had grown to 400-plus families and the Parish Center was built at 427 Stanhope Road. Then, in 1991, a building committee was formed to design and build a new church.

Fr. Dan prepared the parish community for the design-and-build process by bringing in a variety of speakers to provide education and insight on church art and architecture. Parishioners were surveyed, and many suggested incorporating Native American elements into the design. This was, of course, to honor the parish's chosen patron, Kateri Tekakwitha, a North American woman from the Mohawk tribe who was on the road to becoming the first Native American saint.

When the church was completed in 1993, it was replete with unique and beautiful Native American design elements. The feature that Fr. Dan finds most inspiring is the panoramic window that brings in the beauty of the church's surroundings. "The window, with its depiction of incense rising to heaven, is symbolic of Native Americans' reverence for the earth and our reverence to God," Fr. Dan says. "I love how every time I look out, I see something different, the ever-changing beauty of nature. I'll never forget the beauty of the full moon during the Easter Vigil."

The church's stone walls are another Fr. Dan favorite. "Every stone is a different size, shape and color, representing how every member of our parish family is different, and the rough edges symbolize that we're all sinners," he says. "Yet we come together, like the stones, to form a strong whole."

Beyond Saint Kateri

Fr. Dan's years at Saint Kateri influenced his priestly ministry in the assignments that followed. He continued to enthusiastically embrace lay ministry at Our Lady of the Valley in Wayne, where he served from 2003 until 2009, and at St. Matthew Parish in Randolph, where he served until his retirement in 2017. He notes that his one claim to fame may be that he is the only priest to have served as pastor of a church in each of the three counties of the Diocese of Paterson.

Today, it seems that Fr. Dan is busier than ever: "I didn't retire to stop working!" he says. He is a weekend assistant at four parishes (including Saint Kateri) and an adjunct chaplain at his alma mater, Xavier High School in New York City, where he loves being involved in youth ministry. He offers retreats for religious orders, and regularly celebrates weddings and funerals for former parishioners and their families. He spends quality time with his family in Massachusetts, travels the world, and enjoys skiing, tennis, racquetball and working out at the gym. He's not kidding when he says, "I live a very full life."

What are Fr. Dan's favorite memories of his 15 years at Saint Kateri? Building the parish community tops the list, but a close second is traveling to Rome in 2012 with then-pastor Fr. Patrick Rice and 90 parishioners to witness the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha. "That," he says with a huge smile, "was awesome."

We congratulate Fr. Dan on his 50th anniversary of Ordination and offer sincere thanks for his continued devotion to the St. Kateri Parish family!

If you'd like to connect with Fr. Dan, please email him at sabatman2000@gmail.com.

THOMAS F. COLLINS, JR.
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- ✓ DECK & FENCE STAINING
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