



905 South Maple Avenue, Glen Rock, NJ 07452 EMAIL: parishoffice@stcatharinechurch.org OFFICE: 201-445-3703 FAX: 201-670-7149

First Sunday of Advent



Today's Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17; 64:2-7 A wish for Yahweh to come down from heaven and help cleanse the nation of its guilt and sins.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Paul thanks the Lord for all the gifts the community has received. He asks for His help in keeping them firm in the faith.

The Gospel: Mark 13:33-37 Jesus warns His listeners to be alert, for no one knows the time of the Lord's return. Watchfulness regarding the Kingdom of God is essential.

Readings for the Week

Monday Is 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 Mt 8:5-11 Tuesday Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 10:21-24 Wednesday Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Mt 15:29-37 Thursday Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27 Friday Gn3:9-15, 20 Ps98:1,2-3ab,3cd-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk1:26-38 Saturday Is 30:19-21,23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Mt 9:35-10:1,5a, 6-8 Sunday Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mk 1:1-8

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners.

The season of Advent has begun. At this time of year, it is getting darker earlier and the temperature outside is colder. It is also the time of year when we enjoy coming home in the evening to the warmth of our home and to be with our family.

Advent is a season of preparation. We are preparing to celebrate the birth of our Savior. On the 1st Sunday of Advent, the first candle on the Advent wreath is lit. Each Sunday in Advent, an additional candle will be lit symbolizing that we are closer to Jesus' coming into the world.

It is important to remember that every day for us is a time of preparation. In the season of Advent we prepare to celebrate when Jesus first came into the world. But every day we are preparing for when Jesus comes a second time and we face our final judgement.

During Advent, we may feel closer to one another as we buy gifts and plan for our Christmas celebration. We may also find ourselves being kinder to one another as we prepare for our special day. But the extra time we give to God, and the extra goodness we show to one another, is not only to happen during Advent. This is how Jesus asks us to live every day.

We truly show our love for God and others in Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Let's be sure to remember that every day is a time of preparation. So after we celebrate Christmas, nothing needs to change. Jesus will come again. Let's prepare for his coming that day the same way we prepare to celebrate his first coming-through our love for God and one another.

Sincerely in Christ,

Father Dominick



Christmas Giving 2023

This year we have 3 opportunities for our Christmas Giving outreach:

◆St Mary's Parish, Jersey City

Gift tags are available in the narthex.

Please wrap your gift and affix the gift tag onto the gift.

Place gift under our tree in the narthex by 1PM Sunday, Dec. 10th.

◆ Eva's Village, Paterson

Gift tags are available in the narthex for new, warm winter gear.

Please do not wrap gift.

Place gift in the large box in the narthex by 1PM Sunday, Dec. 17th.

◆ OASIS — A Haven For Women and Children, Paterson

List of items is available in the narthex.

Please do not wrap gift - No gift tag is necessary.

Place gift in the large box in the narthex by 1pm on Monday, Dec. 18th.

May God Bless you and thank you for your generosity!



St. Catharine Church page 2

Friday, December 8th Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A Holy Day of Obligation for all Roman Catholics

Masses will be celebrated this Friday at:

8 AM • 12 PM • 7 PM



Please Note: Rectory Office will be closed this Friday, 12/8.





Join us TODAY after Sunday Masses!

Connect with fellow parishioners over coffee and a bite to eat in Community Hall!



Get your FREE Blood Pressure Screening after Masses today!

All Are Invited - The St. Catharine Youth Ministry Presents



FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

A spiritual & beautiful Christmas gift to our parish community.

Please join us in the Church Next Sunday, Dec. 10th at 7PM



CLOW

Children's Liturgy of the Word
Join us for CLOW next Sunday, Dec. 10rd at the 10AM Mass

All children ages 4½ - 4th grade are welcome to participate!

CLOW allows children to hear the same Gospel message as their parents, on a more age-appropriate level. Children are led out of church after opening prayers by our CLOW teachers and they return to the church after the Homily & Prayer of the Faithful. No registration is required. Please Join Us Next Sunday!

Eucharistic Bread and Sacramental Wine

Donated this weekend in loving memory of Living & Deceased Members of the Gever & Vetter Families



by Ellen Geyer

Prayers for the Sick

We remember those who are ill, especially:

Ruben DeLucca, Katherine Dworetzky, Fred Gaudart, Steven Geier, Jr., Kathleen Harnig, Sydney Heinold, Brandon Higgins, Alda Mechetti, Mary Beth Mueller, Joseph Neri, Alexis Nunez, Mary Ann Rogan, Nicole Salzano, Mary Sweeney, Valerie Stephenson, Audrey Tracy and Sister Matthew James Gav Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week

Saturday, December 2

5 PM Richard Geyer reg. Ellen Geyer Anthony Curcio (28th Anniversary) reg. Michele O'Neill

Sunday, December 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent

8 AM Lynn O'Malley Kiewel req. Stephen & Aleece Nolan John Ciarlo reg. John & Charlotte Byrne 10 AM Joan Ramos reg. Castelli Family Pauline DeLuca reg. Hamilton Family 12 PM Francis Gizzi (37th Anniversary)

req. Mary Gizzi and family Bridget & Alexander Muir reg. Muir Family

Monday, December 4

8 AM Mary Flynn reg. Susan Bull

Tuesday, December 5

8 AM Bill DeAllaume, Sr. reg. Denise Aruldoss & family

Wednesday, December 6

Loretta Heuser 8 AM req. King Family

Thursday, December 7

8 AM Charlie & Mary Flynn req. Mary LaCroce

Friday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception

Geraldine Barry reg. Cynthia & Ron Barry 8 AM 12 PM Josephine Silvestri req. Alda Mechetti & family

7 PM William Spichiger reg. Casella Family

Saturday, December 9

9 AM All Parishioners Larry Byrnes reg. Elizabeth & Jim Lee Margaret Gori 5 PM reg. Casella Family Richard Pinkham reg. Tom & Judy Boxley

Sunday, December 10 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

8 AM Romualdo DeSensi reg. Vila Family Gina Marie Fortunato req. D'Angelo Family Marie Gugliotta, Millie & Nicholas Cianelli 10 AM reg. Paula & Ron Mineo Ronnie Peters req. Tammy & Stewart Morel 12 PM Ed Grzesiak reg. Mary Gizzi

Brian Rogers

Glenn Hilzen, Joanne Fortescue, Joey Hyde, Dillon Rinaldo. Albert Yancius. Anthony Pezza, Frederick Paccione,

req. Mary Connolly

Prayers for the Recently Deceased

Robert Weber and Richard Matanle

Our parish community extends our deepest sympathy to each family on their loss.

St. Catharine Church page 3



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Please support Academy's Annual Appeal.

Scan here to give!

Candlelight Carol Sing

The 52nd Annual Candlelight Carol Sing will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark on Wednesday, Dec. 13th and Thursday, Dec. 14th at 8PM (two performances). Doors open at 7PM. The Carol Sing has become one of the most significant Christmas concerts in northern New Jersey. The ambiance of candlelight and seasonal décor, along with the Cathedral Choir, organ, brass, percussion and thousands of participants, combine to create an event that must be experienced. Free-will offering. Call 973-484-2400 or visit www.cathedralbasilica.org for more info.

Faith & Grief Support Gatherings

Open to all faiths, Faith & Grief Gatherings are opportunities for those mourning the loss of a loved one to gather together and be strengthened through sharing, scripture, prayer & reflection. In cooperation with Valley Hospice, CHCC offers these gatherings on the third Wednesday of the month. Our mission is to provide opportunities for comfort and hope to those who have experienced the death of a loved one. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 20th at 12 NOON at the Christian Health Care Center Auditorium (700 Mountain Ave., Wyckoff).

Registration is required. Participants must wear a mask, sign in, and be screened at the reception desk before going to the auditorium. **To register**, **visit FaithandGrief.org/gatherings**. For more info contact CHCC Pastoral Care Dept. at 201-848-5839.



Advent Penance Service Wednesday, December 13th 7 PM in the Church



Monday Religious Education Meeting this week, 4:00 -5:15PM.

<u>Weekend Family Catechesis</u> The next gathering is Dec. 9/10. Please don't forget to sign up using the link in your newsletter.

Children's Liturgy of the Word CLOW will take place at 10AM Mass on the following Sundays in Advent: Dec. 10th and 17th. All children ages 4½ - 4th grade are welcome to participate! CLOW allows children to hear the same Gospel message as their parents, on a more age-appropriate level. Children are led out of church after opening prayers by our CLOW teachers and they return to the church after the Homily & Prayer of the Faithful. No registration is required.

If You Are New to Our Parish - Welcome! Please register as a parishioner by contacting the rectory office. Parish registration is required for participation in our Religious Ed Programs. The Religious Ed Office will be happy to answer any questions about our programs. Contact the office at stcatharinereligioused@gmail.com.



CYO Tonight 12/3 - Glow in the Dark Volleyball 7PM in the Gym

All High School students are welcome to join our Youth Ministry!

Please contact Youth Ministry Director Dana McStowe with questions: dmcstowecyo@gmail.com.



St. Catharine's Reach-Out Ministry

"Whatsoever you do for the least of my people, that you do for me..."

The next monthly food collection for the hungry poor in our inner-city parishes will take place on Sunday, Dec. 10th.

All donations will be driven to St. Mary's Emergency Food Pantry in Jersey City.

Items always needed:

Canned meat, fish, chicken Cereal (Cheerios, Chex) Canned fruits Canned vegetables
Pasta, Rice, Cooking oils
Peanut Butter

Soups, Stews, Chili Canned or bags of beans Nutrigrain, granola bars

Instant mashed potatoes Non-perishable/ powdered milk St. Catharine Church page 4



Playgroup is BACK!

Join us every Wednesday from 9AM - 11:30AM in the Ministry Center Playroom!

Now also meeting on Mondays during CCD from 3:45 - 5:15pm!

Please reach out to our Playgroup Coordinators for sign up details and more info:

Darby Vinciguerra darby.vinciguerra@gmail.com Jadyn Miller jadyn.a.miller@outlook.com

> Safe Environment Requirements must be completed prior to attending playgroups. For assistance please contact the rectory at parishoffice@stcatharinechurch.org

Moms & little ones. . . Join us!!

Mary La Croce, a parishioner of St. Catharine, has published a book of devotional poetry. The title of the book is *Inscape*.

The book is a collection of reflections and ponderings about the mystery of the sacred, and its immanence in our lives, and, indirectly, of some of the ways nature itself unfolds and announces this mystery. Each poem is superimposed on a photo.

Inscape is available on Amazon.com and BN.com.



Please join us in the Ministry Center! Upcoming meetings: Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 9AM AND Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:30PM

Our ministry fashions, blesses & donates handmade prayer shawls and lapghans. These gifts benefit those who face bereavement, illness or other life changing challenges.

Everyone is invited - no experience is necessary! Directions, materials and mutual support are freely offered. Email shawl requests to stcatharineshawlministry @gmail.com or call the rectory 201-445-3703. Recipients need not be parishioners, our creations have literally been sent around the world!

Homebound Visits

Physical injury, old age, or debilitating disease can prevent our parishioners from participating regularly in the celebration of the Eucharist. During such times, contact with your community of faith is needed more than ever.

We can arrange for you to receive the Eucharist in your home on a permanent or temporary basis. Visits can be weekly or monthly and may be done any day of the week. Sacramental Confession as well as Anointing can also be made available on a regular basis.

For more info please contact the rectory office at parishoffice@stcatharinechurch.org or 201-445-3703.



Christmas Flowers Dedication

All are invited to dedicate flowers to adorn the Church during the



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ldress					

Donations should be received by Monday, December 18th. Thank you!

St. Catharine Church page 5

December Wedding Anniversaries

We ask God's continued blessings over the following couples who will be celebrating wedding anniversaries this month. Bless their homes and their families. Help them to renew their vows of love and loyalty and to strive to remain united with You, steadfast in faith and in Your service.

Carol and Hal Knapp 61 years Diane and Shel Hirschberg 51 years Christopher and Vita Rauth 36 years William and Mary Ann Skees 33 years James and Barbara Livolsi 29 years Jennifer and Robert Scherer 28 years Richard and Sharon Scarpelli 24 years Fidel and Jenny Coronel 18 years Arjun and Supriya Kapur 18 years Pedro and Karol Rubio 15 years Cormac and Triona Davin 14 years Irineo and Joycelyn Condat 11 years Chris and Eunie Park 11 years Matthew and Stephanie Bowen 9 years Sean and Carolyn Helmia 9 years Adam and Elizabeth Piombino 9 years Ricky and Heather Ferhatovic 6 years Andrew and Kaitlyn Mellinger 3 years

Advent Prayer

God of Love.

Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love.

Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent, As we wait and prepare for His coming. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.



Join us for Daily Mass Ministry Center Chapel

Monday - Friday at 8AM Saturday at 9AM

Prayer for Our Troops O God of mercy, we ask You to protect in a special way those who are fighting for us and for the country we love. Bless them and take care of them. Give them strength. Give them comfort. Touch them with Your gentle hand and let them know that You are near them. Hasten the day, dear Lord, when we may all enjoy the blessings of peace. Amen.

Thank you to all who made a donation to our annual parish Thanksgiving Turkey Drive.

Your generosity of \$2,290 helped our Parish Food Pantry to assist our families-in-need with their Thanksgiving feast.

Many thanks for your kindness and thanks-for-giving!

Support for Unemployed / Underemployed St. Cajetan Ministry Network

Attention Unemployed Parishioners The St. Cajetan Ministry Network (parishes of St. Catharine's and St. Anne's) invites all unemployed/underemployed men & women to join this ministry which provides support through prayer & helpful guidance in the job search process. If you know of someone who is out of work tell them about the St. Cajetan Ministry Network.

<u>For more information</u> contact John Lederer at 201-286-9354 or Joe Bonis at 201-390-7169 or Eamon Jennings at 917-841-2558.

Upcoming dates:

Thur, Dec. 14: St. Catharine's Ministry Center (1st floor meeting room) **Sat, Dec. 16:** St. Anne's Faith Center, Fair Lawn (rectory, lower level) Meeting times: Thursdays from 7-9pm; Saturdays from 10am - 12noon



"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come." - MARK 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Catharine's! We depend upon your generosity to continue our mission.

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Thank you for supporting St. Catharine Church!



Cub Scouts from Pack 27 at Academy of Our Lady, in partnership with the US Marine Corps, are sponsoring the Toys for Tots drive to benefit children in need, in the community.

We are collecting NEW TOYS - now through Dec. 7th!

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to the lobby of Academy of Our Lady during school hours.

The toys will be delivered on Dec. 9 to the Wortendyke Train Station in Midland Park, where the Marines will collect our donations on the Santa Express Train. Thank you for your generosity & Merry Christmas from Pack 27!

For more info call James Trousdale, Pack 27 Cubmaster, at 917-363 9977.

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