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HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Acontecimientos de la Semana

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

8:45 am Bible Study
in the Sacristy of OLPH Church

5:00 pm Simon's Kitchen

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm
St. Francis Food Pantry
at 139 Sherman Avenue

6:15 pm - 7:30 pm
Faith Formation for Grades 5, 6, 7,
& Confirmation Class
Saint Catharine Campus

Friday, March 6, 2026

Lent Schedule on Page 4

5:00 pm Simon's Kitchen in
OLPH Hall

Saturday, March 7, 2026

10:00 am Mass for the
St. Patrick Day Parade
OLPH Church



PARISH LITURGY

Litúrgia de la Parroquia

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
100 Grant Avenue
Seaside Heights, NJ 08751

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 4:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 9:30 AM

7:00 PM (*Misa en Español*)

Daily Masses

Tuesday, Thursday &
First Saturday: 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
with Individual Confession

Saturday: 3:00 - 3:45 PM

St. Catharine of Siena Church
50 E Street
Seaside Park, NJ 08752

Sunday Masses

Saturday: 4:30 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 8:00 & 11:00 AM

Daily Masses

Monday, Wednesday
& Friday: 8:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
with Individual Confession

Saturday: 1:00 - 2:00 PM

Parish Mass Intentions
March 2, 2026 - March 6, 2026

MON	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Edward Pellicano by JVP
TUES	8:00 am At OLPH	+ Patti Norman by Loving Husband
WED	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Dolly McCabe by Sand Dollar Garden Club
THUR	8:00 am At OLPH	+ Blake Mulvaney by Donna & Gene Mulvaney
FRI	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Anthony Kulzy, Jr. by The Rosary Altar Society

March 7, 2026 - March 8, 2026

SAT	10:00am At OLPH	St. Patick's Day Mass
	4:00 pm At OLPH	+ Rich Bakker by Your Friends Marlene, Angela, & Marie
	4:30 pm At St. Catharine	+ Elizabeth O'Hara Rodgers by Husband
SUN	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Patricia Lewandowski by Shannon & John
	9:30am At OLPH	+ Louis M. Peluso by Jean & Janet
	11:00 am At St. Catharine	+ People of The Parish
	7:00 pm At OLPH	Spanish Mass



SAINT FRANCIS FOOD PANTRY

Saint Francis Food Pantry is **OPEN** on

Wednesdays

10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

St. Francis Food Pantry has seen a dramatic increase in the number of families who are in need of food assistance. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO HELP US!**

We need Ramen Noodles of all varieties, canned fruit, canned soups, canned pasta sauce, children's cereal, instant potatoes, jar pasta sauce, a variety of canned vegetables, juice, pancake mix & syrup, cake mix and icing, mayo, mustard & ketchup, coffee, regular and instant and tea.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Due to the inclement weather and the parish office being closed, this week's collection has not yet been counted. The totals will be published in next week's bulletin.

Thank you for your understanding.

**St. Catharine of Siena Church
 Sanctuary Candle Burns in Memory of:**

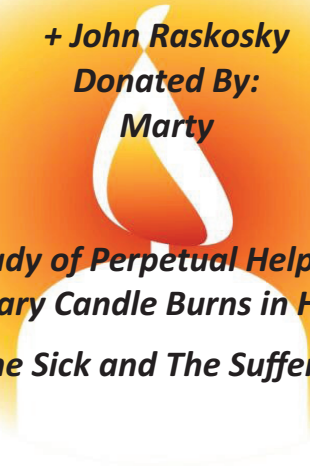
+ John Raskosky

Donated By:

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Fr. Mitchell Sawicki OFM Conv. Parochial Vicar
Ms. Renée Casadonte Parish Catechetical Leader
Safe Environment Coordinator
Ms. Melissa Mara Parish Office Manager
Executive Assistant to the Pastor
Mr. Martin Wilk, Jr. Property Manager and
Facilities Maintenance
Ms. Laura Dalton Pastoral Musician
Mr. Kevin Dzugan Custodian
At OLPH Church

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00 am –12:00 pm Office is OPEN
12:00 pm—1:00 pm CLOSED for LUNCH
1:00 pm—4:00 pm Office is OPEN
Tuesday Parish office is CLOSED in the morning
for a parish staff meeting and will open
at 1:00 pm - 4:00pm
Friday No office hours

OUR PARISH USHERS NEED YOUR HELP

Our parish ushers and ministers of hospitality at St. Catharine of Siena Church can always use a little extra help with taking up the collections at the 11:00 am Mass. If you can help even on one time basis, please see one of the Ushers on the Central Ave side.



Faith Formation for Children

March 4, 2026 - 6:15 pm - 7:30pm

Grades 5, 6, 7, & Confirmation Class

March 11, 2026 - 5:00 pm –6:15pm

Grades 1-4

March 18, 2026 - 6:15 pm - 7:30pm

Grades 5, 6, 7, & Confirmation Class

March 25, 2026 - 5:00 pm –6:15pm

Grades 1-4

Pope Leo XIV on Peace

“Peace is a gift that God has given to men and women of every age through Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem. The angels announced peace on earth because God became man. He embraced humanity so deeply that with his cross he destroyed the enmity of sin. Saint Augustine writes: “We, too, shall be a source of additional glory to God in the highest when, after the resurrection of our spiritual body, we shall be lifted up in the clouds to meet Christ, on condition, of course, that we work for peace with good will while we are here on earth” (*Sermons*, 193). The glory of God descended upon the earth to make us participants in his infinite goodness. This gift calls into action the responsibility of our answer, of our “good will”, as the Saint of Hippo writes.

“Furthermore, peace is the gift that the Risen One gave to his disciples. It is a peace “injured” by the wounds of the crucifixion, because Jesus’ peace gushes forth from a heart that loves and lets itself be struck by the suffering of every time and place. “The Lord appeared to His disciples after His resurrection, as ye have heard, and saluted them, saying, ‘Peace be unto you.’ This is peace indeed, and the salutation of salvation: for the very word salutation has received its name from salvation” (Saint Augustine, *Sermons*, 116).”

A Message from our Pastor

Michael G. Lorentsen, OFM Conv.



May the Lord give you peace!

Saint Monica (332 A.D.—387 A.D.) was born and raised in North Africa in present day Algeria. Her son is Saint August (354 A.D.—430 A.D.). She is honored in the Catholic Church and the Orthodox Church for her outstanding Christian virtues, particularly the suffering caused by her husband's adultery, and her prayerful life dedicated to the reformation of her son, who wrote extensively of her pious acts and life with her in his Confessions (13 books written between 397 and 400). By her prayers, her son Augustine finally embraced Christianity and was baptized by St. Ambrose.

On November 29, 1981, the then Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (later Pope Benedict XVI) as the Archbishop of Munich consecrated a parish church with Saint Monica as the parish patron. In his homily that day, Cardinal Ratzinger spoke of St. Monica's suffering and its impact. He said, "Suffering, she learned to let him (Augustine) walk his own road, without constraints. She learned to endure that his road was altogether different." Cardinal Ratzinger said St. Monica was as a living experience of what the Church is in its most profound essence. "In her, (Augustine) experienced the Church as person, the Church personally, so that for him it was not some kind of apparatus, from which one feels something very distant, structures that turn out to be somewhat incomprehensible. In this woman there was personally present what the Church is." Augustine, the cardinal recalled, wrote of his mother: "She not only gave me this bodily life, but she gave me a space of the heart, she gave me a space of life in which I was able to become a man." The human being, Ratzinger affirmed, "needs a relational space of trust, of love; and a meaning that allows him to walk toward the future."

As we move forward as a parish, may our parish be a relational space of trust, of love; and a meaning that allows others to walk toward the future with us as sisters and brothers. Sometimes we have to let family members and neighbors walk their own roads as long as we keep loving them and praying for them no matter what. Such an attitude and such a posture had a profound impact on St. Augustine as it did on the prodigal son when he returned to his father. Pray constantly. Love always. Have faith and hope. Peace and all good! *Fr. Michael*

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Migration

Newly released details show how the Administration plans to double federal immigration detention capacity, spending an estimated \$38.3 billion from last year's reconciliation bill to implement a new detention model by the end of Fiscal Year 2026. This amounts to nearly fifty times the annual budget for the entire immigration court system and almost five times the funding provided this year to operate the federal prison system. The plan partly entails opening eight "mega-centers," each of which would be capable of detaining 7,000 to 10,000 people. Aside from the internment camps used to incarcerate Japanese Americans in the 1940s, such facilities have no precedent in American history.

In response, Bishop Brendan J. Cahill, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Migration, urged the Administration and Congress to pursue a more just approach:

"These plans are deeply troubling. The federal government does not have a positive track record when it comes to detaining large numbers of people, especially families, and the proposed scale of these facilities is difficult to comprehend. The private prison industry is who stands to gain the most from this supercharging of immigration detention.

"Last November, my brother bishops and I [unequivocally opposed](#) the indiscriminate mass deportation of people and raised concerns about existing conditions in detention centers. We specifically highlighted a lack of access to pastoral care for detainees. On many occasions, we have also [opposed](#) the expansion of family detention, recognizing its harmful impacts on children in particular.

"The thought of holding thousands of families in massive warehouses should challenge the conscience of every American. Whatever their immigration status, these are human beings created in the image and likeness of God, and this is a moral inflection point for our country. We implore the Administration and Congress to lead with right reason, abandon this misuse of taxpayer funds, and to instead pursue a more just approach to immigration enforcement that truly respects human dignity, the sanctity of families, and religious liberty."

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2026/thought-holding-thousands-families-massive-warehouses-should-challenge>

Lent 2026



Diocese of Trenton



Fridays, March 6, 13, 20, 27

- 8:45 am** **Stations of the Cross**
St. Catharine of Siena Church
- 3:00 pm** **Stations of the Cross**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
- 3:30 pm** **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
- 6:40 pm** **Benediction**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
- 7:00 pm** **Via Crucis (Spanish Stations)**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal Progress

Goal: \$53,000.00
Pledged: \$4,212.50 (6%)
Paid: \$3,712.50 (7%)
Total Donors: 16
 (5% towards participation incentive)
Average Gift: \$263.28

Total donors needed to qualify for the participation increase incentive: 271

“Lent confronts us with essentials. It takes us, materially and symbolically into a space stripped of superfluities. Things apt to distract us, even things wholesome in themselves, are removed for a season. We embrace an abstinence of the senses. Fidelity to Christ’s example and commandments is the hallmark of Christian sincerity. The extent of the peace we embody — that signal peace ‘which the world cannot give’ — indicates Jesus’ abiding presence in us. We must insist on this now, when the Gospel is sometimes deployed as a weapon in culture wars. Instrumentalizations of Christian language and signs should be challenged, not just by wanton outrage, but by teaching terms of authentic spiritual warfare. For Christian peace is not a promise of ease; it is a condition for transformed society.”

Bishop Erik Varden
 Bishop of Trondheim in Norway
 February 22, 2026
 Sermon for a Lenten Retreat for
 Pope Leo XIV and the Cardinals in Rome

The 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal invites us to take part in a shared mission rooted in love and sustained by joy. Through the ministries supported by the Appeal, our local Church brings Christ’s love to those in need, strengthens faith in our parishes, and nurtures joy across every stage of life. When we give together, love takes action and joy endures—uniting us in hope, service, and faith..

As part of the Annual Catholic Appeal, funds are returned to the parishes for local needs. Some parishes use these funds to provide necessary maintenance to the church or parish buildings. Others direct the money to their social outreach and ministerial support.

50% of the funds collected over goal are returned for repair/restoration projects, new areas of growth or ministry development, as well as other needs.

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