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HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Acontecimientos de la Semana

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

8:45 am Bible Study

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sacristy
Matthew 18: 21-35

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

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

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Faith Formation Volunteers
St. Catharine Hall

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous
in OLPH Hall

Thursday, September 10, 2026

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous
in OLPH Hall

Friday, September 11, 2026

Day of Prayer for PEACE
Our Lady of Perpetual Help

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY AND FRIAR STUDENTS COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND



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***September 7, 2026 - September 11, 2026***

MON	8:00 am	+ Deceased Members of The Haas Family At St. Catharine by Richard Haas
TUES	8:00 am	+ Peter & Mary Karnatski & Vincent & Helen Matusiak At OLPH by Pat
WED	8:00 am	+ Louis Palomeque At St. Catharine by Kathleen & Louis Massaia
THUR	8:00 am	+ Patti Norman At OLPH by Religious Ed. Friends
FRI	8:00 am	+ Pat Stefanik At St. Catharine by Linda & Judy

September 12, 2026 - September 13, 2026

SAT	4:00 pm	+ Anton J. Zambell, Jr. At OLPH by Loving Family
	4:30 pm	+ David & Joseph Mathis At St. Catharine by Loving Family
SUN	8:00 am	+ Charlie Martowlis At St. Catharine by Family
	9:30 am	+ Martin Ficke At OLPH by Joanne Ficke
	11:00 am	+ Fr. Emmett Carroll, OFM Conv. At St. Catharine by Ondrako Family
	7:00 pm	+ People of The Parish 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 juice, canned fruit, beef stew, pasta sauce, syrup, mayo, mustard & ketchup, coffee, regular and instant and tea.

All are welcome at Saint Francis Food Pantry.

WEEKLY OFFERING**August 22 - 23, 2026****Parish \$7,607 - Building Repairs 1,667****Mission Appeal Collection - \$ 6,919****Online Offering****Parish \$1,132 - Building Repairs \$214****Thank you for your generosity**

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

**+ Charlie Martowlis
Donated By:
Family**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Sanctuary candle Burns in Memory of:**

**+ Billy Munch
Donated By:
Matt & Stacy Munch**

Saint Junipero Serra Parish Office

50 E Street

Seaside Park, NJ 08752-1509

(732) 793-0041

mmara@stjuniperoserra.org

Fr. Michael G. Lorentsen, OFM Conv. Pastor

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**

**Parish office will be closed September 7th in
observance of Labor Day. The office will also be closed
on September 10th due to a Diocesan Meeting.**



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Come join us in this comforting ministry. The shawls are blessed and given to people in need of a "spiritual hug". We meet every Wednesday from 1-3 pm in the Hall on the OLPH Campus. We can also teach you to knit if you would like to learn. If you or anyone you know are in need please call 908-616-3213 and leave a message.



Faith Formation for Children

Registration for Faith Formation for Children during the 2026-2027 school year is now closed.

Please contact the office if you have not registered.

September 16th—5:00pm - 6:15pm

Grades 1-4

September 16th - 6:30pm

Eighth Grade - Confirmation Class Meeting

One parent and child are required to attend this meeting

September 23rd—6:15pm - 7:30pm

Grades 5,6,7, & Confirmation Class

September 30th—5:00pm - 6:15pm

Grades 1-4

Rosary Altar Society Raffle

This is the last weekend for Rosary Altar Society raffle tickets. The raffle is at \$11,055. The prizes are as follows'

First Prize: 25% of the total (\$2,763.75 as of today)

Second Prize: 15% of the total (\$1658.25 as of today)

Third Prize: 10% of the total. (\$1,105.50 today)

Raffle tickets purchased this weekend will increase the prize money.

Please return all ticket books by September 8.

The Rosary Altar Society thanks you for your support.



A Message from our Pastor

Michael G. Lorentsen, OFM Conv.

May the Lord give you peace!

In his keynote address at the States Dinner during the 144th Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus, Archbishop Paul Coakley, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and a longtime Knight, reflected on what it means to love one's country as a Catholic in the United States today. Drawing on Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and St. Thomas Aquinas, the archbishop reminded listeners that true patriotism begins with gratitude — not blind allegiance or nationalism — and flows from our love of God. "Patriotism is not, first and foremost, a political virtue. It is a religious one."

Archbishop Coakley went on to make very clear distinctions between patriotism and nationalism. He said the following.

"Now, I want to be very clear about something, because love of country can go wrong, and go wrong badly. Patriotism, rightly understood, is not the same thing as nationalism. Patriotism, as the Knights of Columbus have always understood it, is not a matter of uncritically affirming everything our country has done, excusing its injustices, or treating its power and prestige as ends in themselves.

"Nationalism, in contrast, tends to elevate the nation to the status of an idol, something owed a total and unconditional loyalty that properly belongs only to God. It resents correction. It rejects the suggestion that the nation could ever be wrong. Patriotism, by contrast, is more like the love a good son has for his mother. He honors her, he defends her, he is grateful to her, and precisely because he loves her, he also tells her the truth when she has strayed, and he works to help her become the woman God intended her to be. A patriot can grieve his country's sins without ceasing to love his country. In fact, that grief is often the clearest sign that love is real.

"This is why authentic patriotism and Christian conscience were never meant to be enemies. Loving and serving our country is a fitting response to what we have received from it, much as a grown child feels obligated to care for aging parents, not because the parents earned it through perfect behavior, but because of

the bond itself. That same charity requires us to love our neighbors, to be good citizens, to obey just authority, and to work for the common good of all our fellow citizens — not merely for those who share our background, or our politics, or our faith. Love of country should impel us toward peace, toward justice for the poor and the vulnerable, and toward the kind of civic friendship that has always been harder to sustain than either indifference or tribalism, which today often takes the form of an extreme partisanship."

Archbishop Coakley's remarks are consistent with the Church's understanding of love of country and the role of government. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* says "It is the role of the state to defend and promote the common good of civil society." *The Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World* says, "It follows also that political authority, both in the community as such and in the representative bodies of the state, must always be exercised within the limits of the moral order and directed toward the common good — with a dynamic concept of that good — according to the juridical order legitimately established or due to be established." the council explained that the common good is "the sum of those conditions of social life which allow social groups and their individual members relatively thorough and ready access to their own fulfillment, today [this] takes on an increasingly universal complexion and consequently involves rights and duties with respect to the whole human race. Every social group must take account of the needs and legitimate aspirations of other groups, and even of the general welfare of the entire human family."

As Catholics, we have three priorities in our united effort to promote the common good: respect for the human person, working for collective social wellbeing and development, and the pursuit of peace. We, the people of the United States, seek to find a more perfect union exercised within the limits of the moral order and directed toward the common good. We seek to love God and to love neighbor as we are grateful for the free and protected exercise of our faith, hope, and love. With this holiday weekend, we give thanks to God and we ask God's blessing on our nation. We celebrate the holiness of human labor and the dignity of all workers. We continue to carry in our hearts our service personnel at home and abroad. We long for peace in all the world and in all of our hearts. God bless the USA. Patriotism is a religious virtue.

Peace and all good!

Fr. Michael

PARISH DAY OF PRAYER FOR PEACE

September 11, 2026

"Lord, make us instruments of your peace."

8:00 am	Mass for Peace <i>Saint Catharine of Siena Church</i>
12:00 pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</i>
3:00 pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy (Bilingual) <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</i> Adoration will continue until 5:30 pm
5:00 pm	Evening Prayer for Peace <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</i>
5:30 pm	Benediction with Blessed Sacrament
6:00 pm	Rosary (Bilingual) <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</i>
7:00 pm	Mass for Peace (Bilingual) <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church</i>

September 11 marks the 25th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States at New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon and on United Airlines Flight 93 that crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

With the ongoing war between the United States and the Islamic Republic of Iran, the war between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and continued violence in Israel, Gaza, southern Lebanon, the West Bank and South Sudan we will gather as a parish to pray in earnest for PEACE. In union with all who perished on September 11, 2001, and with all who have died in various conflicts since then, we will pray with a longing hope for peace in our world.

Dona nobis pacem

Grant us peace, O Lord

Annual Catholic Appeal Parish Progress

Goal: \$53,000.00

Pledged: \$68,471.50 (129%)

Paid: \$66,955(124%)

Average Gift: \$312.66

Total Donors: 219 (80%)

Donors needed for Incentive: 271

We just need **52** more pledges to make our donor incentive goal.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

HELPING THE PEOPLE IN NEPAL

Catholic Relief Services out of Baltimore is helping with relief efforts in Nepal.

[Flooding in Nepal | Help Families Today | CRS](#)

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Our recently-installed new doors are stronger and heavier, but they have a sensitive system.

- Please do not prop open any of the doors of the two churches. They are to remain closed before Mass, during Mass, and after Mass. This is an issue of improving security.
- Please do not try to shut a door that was opened with an automatic button. It will close on its own. It may take a minute, but it will close on its own
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