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HAPPENING THIS WEEK

Acontecimientos de la Semana

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

8:45 am Bible Study
in OLPH Sacristy
Matthew 5: 1-12a

**7:00 pm Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults**
St. Catharine Hall

Wednesday, October 28

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

**5:00 pm - 6:15 pm pm Faith
Formation for Children
Grades 1, 2, 3, 4**
St. Catharine Campus

**6:15 pm - 7:30 pm Faith
Formation for Children
Grades 8 and Confirmation**
St. Catharine Campus

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

Thursday, October 29, 2026

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



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
October 26, 2026 - October 30, 2026

MON	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Brian Dowling by Louis & Linda Tiscornia
TUES	8:00 am At OLPH	+ Al Vassallo by Family
WED	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Thomas DeBartolo by friend, Angela
THUR	8:00 am At OLPH	+ Charles Lagrotteria by Michael Avena
FRI	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Anna Marie Ciallella by JVP

October 31, 2026 - November 1, 2026

SAT	4:00 pm At OLPH	+ Robert Mathis by Patricia Mathis
	4:30 pm At St. Catharine	+ Stephen McCarthy by Family
SUN	8:00 am At St. Catharine	+ Mary & Frank Quinn by Family
	9:30 am At OLPH	+ People of the Parish
	11:00 am At St. Catharine	+ James Demetriades by Family
	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 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

October 17-18, 2026

Parish \$4,634- Building Repair \$1,027

Online Offering

Parish - Buildings

Thank you for your generosity

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 Sanctuary Candle Burns in Memory of:**

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

+ **James Laviola**

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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. John Milas 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.*

Friday No office hours

PROMISE TO PROTECT, PLEDGE TO HEAL

Inspired by the Gospel, we reverence the dignity of each human person and we seek the common good. We promise to protect and defend the dignity of every child, woman and man in our parish community and beyond it.

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church or if you know someone who was abused, you can report the abuse by calling **1-888-296-2965** or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

We, as a parish, strongly encourage anyone with an allegation of abuse to contact local law enforcement. The Diocese of Trenton reports all allegations received to the appropriate county prosecutor's office.



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.

November 4th—NO CLASSES

November 11th—6:15pm - 7:30pm
Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 and Confirmation

November 18th—5:00 pm - 6:15pm
Grades 1, 2, 3, 4

November 25th -- NO CLASSES
Happy Thanksgiving!

Faith Formation for Adults

Tuesday, October 27th

8:45 am Bible Study

OLPH Sacristy

7:00 pm Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Saint Catharine Hall

Tuesday, November 3rd

8:45 am Bible Study

OLPH Sacristy

7:00 pm Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Saint Catharine Hall

Thursday, November 5th

7:00 pm Adventures in Faith **NEW!**

Faith Formation for Young Adults who are
Confirmed and Young Adults seeking Confirmation

Saint Catharine Hall



A Message from our Pastor

Michael G. Lorentsen, OFM Conv.

May the Lord give you peace!

In my homily last Sunday, I read a part of Pope Francis' historic address to a Joint Session of the U.S. Congress on September 24, 2015. In this speech, the first in history given by the Pope of the Holy See to the Congress, Pope Francis reminded us that "Each son or daughter of a given country has a mission, a personal and social responsibility." He also said, "A political society endures when it seeks, as a vocation, to satisfy common needs by stimulating the growth of all its members, especially those in situations of greater vulnerability or risk." Again, the pope is reiterating the consistent Catholic moral truth of our responsibility to respect human dignity and to work together for the common good. One of the ways that we uphold human dignity and work for the common good in a democracy is to give our voice by participating in an election process. One act of our social responsibility is to vote.

In his first encyclical in 2005, *God is Love*, Pope Benedict XVI proposes that active political participation flows from the duty of disciples to love their neighbor, for "charity must animate the entire lives of the faithful and therefore also their political activity, lived as 'social charity.'" In 2011, the American Catholic bishops said the "obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of faith." In 2004, the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace published the *Compendium on the Social Doctrine of the Church* which shares the Catholic conviction that "participation in community life" is one of the "greatest aspiration of the citizen, called to exercise freely and responsibly" one's "civic role with and for others" (no. 190).

Catholic moral tradition teaches us about our duty to be active citizens and entails the duty for Christians to be responsible in bringing their moral convictions into the political order. The goal is not to emulate or add to the partisanship, power grabs, and interest-group elements that characterize too much of political life. Rather, the responsibility of the Christian citizen is to enact "a different kind of political engagement: one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and vulnerable" (USCCB, 2011, no. 14).

Responsible political participation is a broad social reality that engages us on many levels and in many spheres. We need it to be part of our way of life, our relationships, and the communities of which we are a part. Voting for the common good is not enough. We must also live and act the common good, on a number of issues, in a number of ways. Political participation in a democratic society is one of the most important ways in which human beings can fulfill their human dignity, live their vocations as members of society, and contribute to the common good and global justice. We are created to be in relationship with God and with others, to join with others in care for human life and stewardship of the earth.

As sons and daughters of the United States of America, we have a mission to defend the human rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We have a shared responsibility to work for the common good. We need to vote so that we as "one nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Peace and all good!

Fr. Michael



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.

Saturday, November 7th
5th Annual
Thanks-for-Giving Turkey Dinner

Tri-Boro First Aid located at J Street and Boulevard

Turkey Dinner and all the fixings by Chef Greg Manning of Half Moon Point Restaurant

Tickets: \$55 per person. Tickets can be purchased by Stefanik Realtors at L Street and Central Avenue from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Call first 732-793-0812

Call Marie at 732-830-3236 or Sue at 732-250-6472

SIMON'S SOUP KITCHEN

Simon's Soup Kitchen IS open once again for its 23rd year of serving those in need in our community. Free meals are available every Tuesday and Friday evening beginning at 5pm at the parish hall on the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cam-pus of our parish at 168 Grant Avenue, Seaside Heights. Anyone in need of a hot meal is welcome.

Again this year, Simon's Soup Kitchen has partnered with DoorDash to provide meals to seniors, disabled veterans, and homebound individuals in need on the barrier island. This service is at no cost to the individuals in need. To find out if you or someone you know qualifies or to register for the Project DASH service, visit www.simonssoupkitchen.org and click on Project DASH or call 732-270-5941.

Archbishop Paul S. Coakley,
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops President

"In a time of deep political division, the temptation is to be discouraged and to not participate in the election process. But discouragement is not a Christian virtue. For citizens in a representative democracy such as our own, participation in public life—including voting—is both a right and a responsibility.

In honoring this civic duty, it is important to ensure that citizens not face unnecessary delays or complications in registering or exercising their right to vote. Together, we can contribute to the common good of our nation as faithful citizens by supporting free and fair elections. I would ask all Catholics to put their faith before politics. The Church's contribution to the public life of a nation is not a political or partisan program; rather, it reflects our commitment to the dignity of every person, who is created in the image and likeness of God.

One of the great dangers of our moment is the belief that any criticism of 'our party' somehow strengthens our opponents. A well-formed conscience does not operate on those terms. Therefore, I encourage all to judge candidates and elected officials by their actions, not merely their promises, and how those actions promote the common good. We must reject rhetoric that appeals to fear, resentment, or division, and listen instead, to the Gospel call to love God and all our neighbors.

May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, bless our nation as we turn once more to elections, that we might respect the dignity of each person and promote the common good of all."

POPE LEO XIV

"Democracy recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good."

April 2026



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WHAT YOU CAN DO

Be informed about this opportunity, what it does, and how NJ residents and families can benefit.

Urge Governor Sherrill to say "yes" for NJ students!

BUT THERE'S A CATCH

Governor Sherrill must **opt NJ in by January 1, 2027** for students to benefit. If NJ doesn't participate, these scholarship donations will help students in other states instead. No state tax dollars are required, and eligible K-12 students in both public and non-public schools can benefit.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT NJCATHOLIC.ORG TO LEND YOUR VOICE AND TAKE ACTION.

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