



ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH

*523 Western Highway
Blauvelt, New York 10913*

*Rev. Msgr. Francis J. McAree, S.T.D.
Pastor*



St. Catharine's Church
523 Western Highway Blauvelt, N.Y. 10913
845-359-0542/Fax 845-365-2387
<http://www.saintcatharines.org>
Rev. Msgr. Francis J. McAree, S.T.D., Pastor
Rev. Abraham Vallayil, C.M.I., Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. John Jurasek, Deacon

*The link for St. Catharine's Live-Stream
 Weekday and Weekend Masses is on our website,
www.saintcatharines.org. Please find the link at
 the very top of the Home Page.*

Sunday 5:00 PM Saturday evening Vigil
 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM,
 and 4:30 PM
Weekday 6:45 AM and 8:30 AM
Saturday 8:30 AM
First Fridays 6:45 AM and 8:30 AM

Baptism
 First and third Sundays of the month at 2:00 PM.
 Parents should call Deacon John Jurasek at (845)
 365-3618 for an appointment and Baptismal preparation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:45 PM, and by appointment.

Marriage
 Couples should call the Rectory a minimum of six months
 prior to their marriage date to receive necessary
 information and preparation.

Anointing of the Sick
 Call the Rectory anytime for this request.

Parish Registration
 Every family living in our Parish is kindly requested to
 register at the Rectory.

Parish Devotions
Miraculous Medal held after the 8:30 AM Mass
 on Mondays.
Rosary following 8:30 AM Mass (Mon.-Fri.); Sundays,
 12:00 PM in the Grotto or School Library depending on
 the weather.
Scriptural Rosary following 8:30 AM Mass on
 Saturdays.
Eucharistic Adoration
 Every Friday from 9-10 AM. Every First Friday following
 the 8:30 AM Mass until 7:00 PM.

Parish Religious Education Program – PREP
Mrs. Bernadette Kowalchuk
(845) 359-4014

St. Catharine's Early Childhood Center
Mrs. Lorraine Hubert
(845) 359-4330

PARISH MINISTRY & SERVICE CONTACTS

Adult Religious Education: Deacon John Jurasek,
 (845) 365-3618
Altar Servers: Deacon John Jurasek, (845) 365-3618 or
 Mary Anne Pagnani, (845) 358-0739
Altar Society: Anna Stellwag, (845) 359-0769
Baptisms: Deacon John Jurasek, (845) 365-3618
Bible Study: Bernadette Kowalchuk, (914) 230-0765
Birthright of Rockland: Call (845) 623-9098
Bulletin: Patricia McKenna, (845) 359-0542
Choirs: Dr. Rene Dalandan, (917) 770-2468
CYO Basketball: Mary Anne Pagnani, (845) 358-0739
CYO Basketball Website: www.ourcyo.org
Early Childhood Center: Lorraine Hubert,
 (845) 359-4330
Eucharistic Ministry at Mass: Kerry Beckmann,
 (845) 359-3986
Eucharistic Ministry, Home: Eileen McCaffrey,
 (845) 359-9315
Homebound Ministry: Ken Lee, (201) 297-7016
Knights of Columbus: Grand Knight Bob Vyskocil,
 Email to grandknight@stdominic5343.com
Lectors: Veronica Rogers, (845) 624-1427
Parish Council: Kerry Beckmann, (845) 359-3986
Parish Nurse Program: Maureen Fallon, (845) 398-3806
Parish Office: Patricia McKenna, M-F, 9-5 PM,
 (845) 359-0542; Judith Scandiffio, Sat. 9-3 PM
Prayer Shawl Ministry: Louise Langan, (845) 359-5648
PREP, Religious Education: Bernadette Kowalchuk,
 (845) 359-4014
St. Ambrose Society: Parish Office, (845) 359-0542
Social Activities: Joseph Onativia, (845) 365-1151
TASC, Teen Association: Richard & Rita Sarubbi,
 (845) 641-3172
Ushers: Ken Lee, (201) 297-7016
Website: Patricia McKenna, (845) 359-0542

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BEHOLD, THE LAMB OF GOD

"Behold, the Lamb of God!" We hear this phrase every Sunday at Mass, but there's a good chance that many Roman Catholics do not know who in the Bible originally spoke it.

The phrase appears only in the Gospel of John, by John the Baptist. Upon seeing Jesus, he says, "Behold, the Lamb of God!"

It is one of the most important and misunderstood lines in all of Christian Scriptures. If you asked someone what this phrase means, you would, most likely, get an answer like this ...*"it means that He is gentle and humble and good, like a lamb."*

But, for a first century Jew, the phrase had little if anything to do with that. It had to do with sacrifice. ***It meant that Jesus was someone who was destined to be sacrificed as a sin offering to God.***

John the Baptist's characterization of Jesus as the *Lamb of God* has to do with temple sacrifice. He will be the one who offers the final and definitive sacrifice which reconciles divinity and humanity.

And, in this, we will find our salvation.

*Here am I Lord;
I come to do Your will.
Psalm 40*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

Speak, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

Psalm

Here am I, Lord; I come to do Your will (Psalm 40).

Second Reading

Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you? (1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20).

Gospel

Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus (John 1:35-42).



OUR COVER ARTWORK

L'INNOCENCE

BY WILLIAM BOUGUEREAU

In the late 1800s, French artist William Bouguereau painted this immaculate depiction of Our Lady holding the resting Christ Child and a spotless white lamb in her arms. Women, young children and lambs are all symbols of innocence.

This is a beautiful rendition of the innocence of the Lamb of God, bringing to mind the Bible verse and Mass proclamation: "*Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!*" (John 1:29).

Mary's gentleness and tender glance upon her sleeping Son shows us the love and adoration we, too, are to give our Lord – He who became man for our sake.

*Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the World,
have Mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the World,
have Mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
You take away the sins of the World,
grant us Peace.*

HERE I AM, LORD

Here I am, Lord, is a modern Christian hymn. Its main inspirations are 1 Samuel 3, our First Reading from today, where the Lord calls Samuel – *Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, “Here I am,”* and Isaiah 6, where the Lord calls Isaiah – *Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”*

The narrator changes between the Lord (the verses) and those He calls (the chorus). In some Churches, this is performed as the choir singing the verses, with the congregation answering with the chorus.

Here I am, Lord

Dan Schutte

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.*

*I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people
in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.*

*I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My Word to them,
Whom shall I send?*

*Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people
in my heart.*

WHAT IS ORDINARY TIME?

The Liturgical Calendar gives us a full picture of the Church year. It shows the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Ordinary Time, Lent, and Easter. Each season is highlighted in its appropriate color.

We have just started what the Church refers to as *Ordinary Time*.

There's nothing ordinary about Ordinary Time – it's a time set aside for reflecting on and celebrating our call to follow Jesus day by day.

Ordinary Time comprises the longest season of the Church year. This is the season when the great mysteries of salvation unfold in all their depth and richness. At this time, we explore, nuance by nuance, virtue by virtue, the facets of belonging to Jesus' Kingdom. The God who sent Jesus to save all of us from darkness and death is revealed in splendor.

We return to using green vestments during Ordinary Time. Changing colors gives a sense of progress of faith through the Church's calendar. Green is new growth, evergreens, green grass, glistening emeralds, ripening pears. It suggests renewal, healing, fertility, peace, and harmony.

The Church has a vigorous life – past, present, and future. The Church calendar guides us throughout the year, taking us from season to season in an ongoing effort to form us into God's Kingdom here on Earth, and lead us to His Kingdom in Heaven.

OUR PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED**MONDAY, JANUARY 15th****FOR DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**

For emergencies requiring the presence of a Priest, please call (845) 359-0542, and listen to the prompts.

*Darkness cannot drive out darkness;
only light can do that.
Hatred cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.*

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

Within each of us there is a light. It is the light of God and when it shines, it reflects not only the wonder of God, but also the greatness of the human spirit.

Darkness has one enemy that it can never defeat, and that is light. Even a blind man knows when he is in the presence of a bright light.

Let your light shine!



ST. CATHARINE'S EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER OPEN HOUSE

Our Open House for 3, 4 & 5 year olds will be **Tuesday, January 23rd** from 6:30-8:00 PM for anyone new to our Program. (Snow date would be Thursday, January 25th from 6:30-8:00 PM.) Please email us at stcatharinesprek@gmail.com if you are interested in attending. In the meantime, feel free to enjoy the Walk-Through Tour of our Center on the Home Page of our website, stcatharineprek.org.

REGISTRATION

Registration for September 2024 will be Tuesday, February 6th, from 4-7:00 PM, for anyone new to our Program. (Snow date would be Thursday, February 8th from 4-7:00 PM.) Please email us at stcatharinesprek@gmail.com if you would like more information about the Registration process.

At St. Catharine's Early Childhood Center, we treasure all aspects of childhood. It is our firm belief that our responsibility is to make the first school experience a positive one, one that will lead to independence, fulfillment, and satisfaction throughout your child's life.

The essence of our philosophy is the acceptance of the child as a unique individual with special talents and abilities and the acceptance of our responsibility as educators to enhance and nurture those emerging traits. We promote the development of the whole child - physical, emotional, social, and cognitive.

Founded in 1999, St. Catharine's Early Childhood Center provides an opportunity for young children to join together in a loving, nurturing, educational, and fun environment.

Each child is introduced to a full curriculum of early learning in a center-based setting. Hands-on activities and participation in all areas of learning provide the perfect setting for young children to come together to develop and grow. Phonemic awareness, fine and gross motor skills are introduced through a creative curriculum.

Our center is licensed by the State of New York and all our staff is First Aid and CPR certified. We are housed in a facility specifically designed for the development growth of 3, 4 and 5 year olds. Children must be 3 or 4 by December 1st of the incoming school year. Large, open spaces and varied centers encourage exploration and discovery. Our materials are educational, self-motivating, easily manipulated, and fun to use.

Our program is multi-centered and includes Pre-Science, Pre-Math, Pre-Reading, Arts and Crafts, Dramatic Play, Story Time, Gross and Fine Motor Development, Technology, and Music.



The Altar Flowers were donated
In Loving Memory of
All our Loved Ones
Gone Before Us

The Tabernacle Candle will burn before the
Blessed Sacrament the week of January 14
In Loving Memory of
Nicholas Sessa

From
The Werner Family



*"For everything there is a season
and a time for every purpose under Heaven."*

"A time to heal"

We pray for God's tender mercy and loving kindness upon all of our loved ones who have experienced health issues.

Walter Cahill, Helen O'Brien, Matthew Mencher,
Lucy Decilla, Rory Tinston, Gary Baisley, Geraldine Moloney,
Jim Grimm, Brandon Hernandez,
Billy Keenan, Diana Colon, Colleen Kusy, Amanda Lynch,
Brian Domitrovits, II, Christian Perez,
Nicholas Guiliano, Matilda Quinn, Nicholas Corbi,
Liam Frawley, Noreen Larsen, Molly McGovern,
Danny Newkirk, Cali Jhené Pritchard,
Emmet Horvath, Darianna DeLise, David O'Hanlon,
James Cunningham, Liam McLaughlin, Tom Collins,
Rob Incognoli, Rose Cahill, Teresita Dural,
Keira Cunningham, Gary Haley, Heather Mekkinosson,
Jude DePalma, Gerald Spagnolo, Gabriella Larsen,
Anne Marie Herman, Patricia Duffy, Justin Duffy,
Fiona Moran, Carol Crane, Carol McGrath,
Lisa Morehead, Vincent Fyfe, June Hudson, Colton Martin,
Ed Walsh, Jacqueline Tracey, Christopher O'Brien,
Andrew Padilla, Paulette Maurice, Jack Bermingham,
Maureen Matthews, Margaret Brosnan, Jim Deremeik,
Sr. Maureen Bradshaw, Peggy Finn, Ann Donohue,
Heather Hovorka Plunkett, Edward Fitzpatrick, James Racca,
Dr. Jose and Celia Botet, Mary Jane Knapp, Corona Balin,
Judy Donohue, Frank Parisi, Colleen Scarry, Marion O'Leary,
Judith Ferrara, Patrick Armstrong, Patty Neier, Anna Stellweg,
Janet Kopac, Marjorie Tobin, Michael McManamon,
Kevin Kearney, Neil McDermott

"A time to mourn"

Well done, good and faithful servant.

Come and share your Master's joy.

John P. "Jack" Flynn, Alexander Petersen, Patricia Finley,
Mary Maher, Eileen Hurley, Jane Doyle Ench,
Anne Gilroy, Mark Lynch, Jeanette Bonardi, Jim McLaughlin,
Jean Arcieri, John D'Andrea, Bob Minichiello, Lorraine Cooper,
Joseph Spiotta, Mary Maguire

"A time for war and a time for peace"

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need, and bring them home safely. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. *Amen.*

PETITION OF THE WEEK

*I praise you and thank you, O Lord, for your love and kindness to me and to all your children. Fill me, I pray, with your light that I may reflect your wondrous glory ...
Lord, hear our prayer.*

**ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2024
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

*"Together, we can do great things!"
Saint Mother Theresa of Calcutta*

Many Rockland Pro-Lifers are traveling by bus to the Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C., leaving from St. Joseph's Church, 245 North Main Street, in Spring Valley. Bus will depart at 5:45 AM for this one-day trip, and return at approximately 11 PM.

Tickets cost \$35 each to reserve a seat on the bus. Please contact Gayle at (845) 634-1283, Eileen at (845) 492-6709, or Erika at (845) 729-2426. Mail your reservation fee (please, no cash) and/or donation as soon as possible to Rockland RTL Committee, P.O. Box 9348, Bardonia, New York 10954.

The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful, vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from all across the country. Together, we gather to celebrate life.

Together, we can do great things!



WINTER BLOOD DRIVE THANK YOU'S

Thank you to our wonderful parishioners who generously came by to give the gift of life to those in need at last Sunday's Winter Blood Drive.

Special thanks to our Blood Drive Chairman, Mike Mulqueen.

We also thank the St. Dominic's Council of the Knights of Columbus who co-sponsored the Drive and all those members who assisted.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

5:00 Thomas F. Sullivan

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00 John O'Looney

9:30 Michael McManamon – *Living*

11:00 The Scaringe Family

12:30 Eugene Demers

4:30 Joyce Woods

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

6:45 *Special Intentions*

8:30 Victor James D'Amico

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

6:45 Julio Duboc

8:30 *Special Intentions*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

6:45 *The People of St. Catharine's Church*

8:30 *Special Intentions*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

6:45 Rocco Parisi

8:30 John LaGrutta

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

6:45 Kathleen Knorowski

8:30 Irene (Kel) Serberly

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

8:30 Rosemary Sagaria

5:00 Catherine and John Heneghan

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

8:00 Deceased Members of the Knapp and Corcoran Families

9:30 Jack Brennan

11:00 Mary Sasson

12:30 Juanita S. Reyes

4:30 Walter Kinkel



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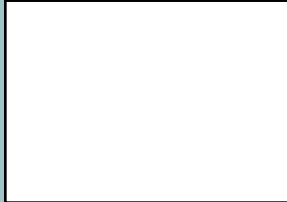
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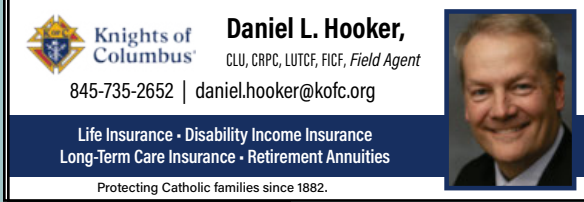
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