



ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH

*523 Western Highway
Blauvelt, New York 10913*

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



Third Sunday of Easter

"Peace be with you."

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
 every Monday morning.
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 morning after 8:30 AM Mass from 9-11 AM.

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, (845) 359-4014
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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PEACE BE WITH YOU

In our Gospel reading today, we hear how the disciples are sharing the story to their friends of what happened on the road to Emmaus, and suddenly, Jesus appears to them again!

The first words Jesus says are *"Peace be with you!"* These are the words He says most often when He appears after the Resurrection. Jesus wouldn't say these words over and over again, if they didn't have a special significance.

Of course, Jesus would have said these words to calm the disciples who were in a state of alarm and fright upon seeing Him again. But Jesus meant something far deeper than this when speaking these words.

Remember, the disciples had largely abandoned Jesus during His Passion. So, when Jesus says, *"Peace be with you,"* it shows He has forgiven them, and that they and Jesus now must move on and work together to bring the Good News to the world. It is this peace, and the forgiveness it holds, that will make them preach to all the nations. He appears to His disciples, not just to reassure them, but He appears asking them to be His witnesses. He is asking that of us, too.

These are the same words the Priest says to us at Mass, *"Peace be with you."* When we attend Mass, we all come with our worries and troubles, and so when the Priest says *"Peace be with you,"* he is saying, *in the person of Christ,* that it is ok we are there with our restless hearts, but we must now fully trust Jesus and place everything in His hands during Mass.

*The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And with your spirit.*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

The God of our Fathers has glorified His servant Jesus (Acts 3:13-15, 17-19).

Psalm

Lord, let your face shine on us (Psalm 4).

Second Reading

The way we may be sure that we know Jesus is to keep His commandments (1 John 2:1-5a).

Gospel

Jesus stood in their midst and said to them, *"Peace be with you"* (Luke 24:35-48).

PETITION OF THE WEEK

*We pray for peace in this troubled world ...
Lord, hear our prayer.*

PEACE BE WITH YOU

"Peace be with you," Jesus said when He appeared to His disciples on the evening of Easter Sunday. Whenever the Risen Lord appeared, His greeting was always, *"Peace be with you. Do not be afraid."*

Actually, peace was Christ's message throughout His whole life. The Prophet Isaiah called Him the *"Prince of Peace."* At the Last Supper, Jesus said, *"I will give you the gift of my peace. It is not the kind of peace that the world gives you. It is my peace."*

What kind of peace does Jesus offer? The peace of Christ is more than the absence of trouble. He does not mean a mere absence of war or noise. Peace, or *"shalom,"* the Jewish word, does indeed mean freedom from trouble. But, it also means good health, and a secure and contented life. Jesus offers the peace which conquers our fears and anxieties.

St. Augustine has a beautiful definition of peace. According to him, peace means

*"serenity of the mind,
simplicity of the heart,
tranquility of the soul."*

The Holy Mass is a celebration of peace, a sign of peace, a source of peace, a treaty of peace.

May every house and heart in the world hear the greeting of Christ: *"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you."*

And, may Christ's peace always reign in our hearts.

A LOVELY PRAYER FOR PEACE
FROM POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II

*Mary, Queen of Peace,
Save us all,
who have so much trust in you,
from wars, hatred, and oppression.
Make us all learn to live in peace,
and educate ourselves for peace,
do what is demanded by justice
and respect the rights of every person,
so that peace may be firmly established.
Amen.*



THE DOVE AS A SIGN OF PEACE

The dove is truly a bird that has touched the human mind and heart. It has inspired mankind with its innocence and purity. These beautiful white birds remind people of the very basic traits needed to live a fruitful life – peace and love.

Pure, white, and humble as they are known to be, doves make for a beautiful sight. White doves lend a sense of freedom; they are the universal symbol of peace, humanity, and love.

Doves are considered birds who mate for life, and are extremely loyal. They raise their young ones with great care and dedication. They build their nests in areas near human settlements and, in a way, this may have given people the opportunity to witness the immense love, care, and loyalty displayed by white doves. They are harmless birds and feed on fruits, plants, and seeds.

A dove is often used as a symbol of the Holy Spirit, but why?

Two major events in the Bible involve a dove as a sign of God's Holy Spirit that may have led to this connection.

The Biblical story of Noah's Ark truly defines the symbolism of white doves with peace. After the Great Flood, Noah sent out a white dove to see if there was any land. The dove returned with an olive twig in its beak, which meant that it had found dry land somewhere. The dove represented the Holy Spirit bringing the Good News of the reconciliation of God and man.

Second, a dove was mentioned at the Baptism of Jesus. All four Gospels include the account of the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus in bodily form like a dove (Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32). This dove affirmed Jesus as the Messiah. Along with the voice of God the Father from the sky, this account provides a clear picture of the Triune God – Father, Son, and Spirit – all taking part in an event at the same time while mentioned as unique Persons.

The dove is a symbol of purity and harmlessness (Matthew 10:16), and the form of the dove at Jesus' Baptism signified that the Spirit with which Jesus was endowed was one of holiness and innocence.

*Behold, my beloved speaketh to me.
Arise, make haste,
my love, my dove, my beautiful one,
and come, for winter is now past,
the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of pruning the vines has come,
and the song of the dove is heard in our land.*

Canticle of Canticle. Song of Solomon 2:11

HE IS RISEN!

Luke, in today's Gospel reading, wants to make clear that the Risen Lord was not a ghost or a spirit. No, Christ was physically present and real after the Resurrection.

Luke writes: "Look at my hands and feet ... touch me ... a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have."

Jesus made it clear with those words that He was not a disembodied spirit. Also by what He did (walking, eating fish, etc.) He showed that He was there physically with them.

He was physically raised from death and appearing to His disciples. These were not just apparitions, they were appearances!

All the appearances to His disciples after the Resurrection led them to a deeper understanding of who Jesus truly was.

HOW MANY PEOPLE SAW THE RISEN JESUS?

When reading the New Testament, it may be surprising that, after Jesus' Resurrection, He appeared on multiple occasions to as many as 500 people!

To begin with, we know that Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9) and "other women" who visited the tomb (Matthew 28:9). This may have been approximately 3-4 people.

After that, Jesus appeared to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, who are traditionally said to have been two people (Luke 24:12).

Jesus also appears in the midst of all of His apostles, which may also have included St. Matthias, who would eventually replace Judas as one of the twelve (Luke 24:36).

This brings our total up to around 20 people, but St. Paul in his letter to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 15:3-8) relates even more appearances.

"For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that He was buried; that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that He appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. After that, He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, He appeared to me."

St. Paul's claim makes Jesus' Resurrection a wide-reaching experience, not reserved for a small handful of disciples, but for a "multitude" of people.

With an abundance of witnesses, the disciples of Jesus may have had a somewhat easier time convincing others of Jesus' Resurrection when so many saw Him in the flesh.

It would not have been easy proving that a man died and rose from the dead, but when over 500 people witnessed it, the task may have been a bit easier.

Indeed!



NEWS FROM "THE HIVE"

*"The bee is more honored than other animals,
not because she labors,
but because she labors for others."*

St. John Chrysostom

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2024**

Please pray for the 8th Grade Students in our Parish Religious Education Program who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next Saturday morning.

**PREP ONLINE REGISTRATION 2024-2025
IS NOW OPEN**

PREP Online Registration for the 2024-2025 School Year began on April 11th. By now, anyone who is already enrolled in our Parish Religious Education Program will have received a hard copy and email from "Parish Giving" with information on how to register your child(ren).

If you have not received an email, please contact the PREP Office to confirm that we have your correct email address. If you have questions please contact The PREP Office at (845) 359-4014 or via email to stcatharinepreppoffice@gmail.com.

NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION

If you are new to our Parish and registering your child(ren) for the first time, please contact the PREP Office at (845) 359-4014 for more information and instructions to register.

HEARTFELT THANK YOU'S!

We would like to thank Michael Wagner for bringing *Shadow Stations* to our PREP. With help from Jan Schutz, Mary Anne Pagnani, Yas Yabyabin, and a group of our students, *Shadow Stations* provided a unique way of experiencing Jesus' final day on Earth. It was a beautiful and moving presentation, and made the Stations of the Cross come alive for the children.

We would also like to thank the Bennett Family for organizing the *Annual Easter Egg Hunt* for the children of St. Catharine's Parish. And, thank you to all who volunteered to help. This event takes lots and lots of work, but they did it all with smiles on their faces and Jesus in their hearts! And, thank you to everyone who came to this fun event! We had an excellent turnout and everyone had a wonderful time!!



*The Altar Flowers were donated
In Loving Memory of
Antonio Giustra*

*From
Frank & Mickie Parisi & Family*

*The Tabernacle Candle will burn before the
Blessed Sacrament the week of April 14
In Loving Memory of
Ken & John Langan*

*From
Judith McElligott*



*"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,
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 Stellwag, Janet Kopac,
Marjorie Tobin, Michael McManamon, Joan Armus,
Kevin Kearney, Neil McDermott, Brigid Kivlehan,
Edward Monks*

"A time to mourn"

Well done, good and faithful servant.

Come and share your Master's joy.

- Philip Benincasa, Sr., Sister Michaela Connolly, O.P.,
Fernando Pangilinan, Jr., Charles "Chuck" Malanaphy,
Audrey Mullin, Lenore Panazzolo, Mary N. Fitzpatrick,
Leslee Carioscia, Ancilla Stellar*

"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.*



ST. CATHARINE'S BULLETIN BOARD

**TASC MIDNIGHT RUN
FRIDAY, APRIL 19th**

St. Catharine's Teen Association will be collecting toiletries, clothes, socks, etc., for their next *Midnight Run*. Please see flyers on the Ushers tables in the lobby of the Church for suggestions. Items may be dropped off in the Lower Church by the TASC door any time before April 19th.

On that Friday evening, a busload of St. Catharine's Teens, along with Rita & Rich Sarubbi, the Directors of our TASC (Teen Association of St. Catharine's), will head in to distribute food, clothing, blankets, and personal care items to the homeless poor living on the streets of New York City.

These late-night relief efforts create an environment of trust, sharing, and understanding. The human exchange, rather than the exchange of goods, is the essence of the *Midnight Run* mission. In the past, our Teens have said the experience *deeply changed their hearts and minds*.

ANNUAL BOOSTER CLUB

Tickets cost \$100 each and only 300 tickets will be sold. The Grand Prize is \$8,000. The Drawing and Reception will take place in the Gym on Sunday, May 19th, following the 12:30 PM Mass.

To purchase tickets, you may contact our Booster Club Chairwoman, Judy Scandiffio at (845) 359-1023.

*Eucharistic Revival Full Day Retreat
at the Marion Shrine in Stony Point
Saturday, April 27, 9-5 PM*

Retreat Highlights

*Music, Adoration, Talks, Confession
Sunday Vigil Mass at 4 PM
Fee \$65 (includes Breakfast and Lunch)
To register, or for more information,
please call (845) 947-2200, x302*

**GOLDEN WEDDING JUBILEE MASS
AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL
SUNDAY, JUNE 2nd, 2:30 PM**

Couples celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary at any time during 2024 are cordially invited to attend the *Annual Golden Wedding Jubilee Mass* at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in New York, Sunday, June 2nd at 2:30 PM. His Eminence, Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan will be the Celebrant.

Please contact St. Catharine's Rectory at (845) 359-0542 to register. Registration will close May 13th.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES MITE BOXES

You may place your mite boxes in the collection basket at any of our Masses, or bring them by the Parish House. Checks should be made payable to "Catholic Charities Community Services of Rockland County."

On behalf of Catholic Charities, thank you.

TITHING - GOD'S WAY OF SHARING

*Easter Collection as of April 1 \$29,684
All that I have comes from you, Lord.*

YOUR EASTER GIFT TO OUR PARISH

Your Easter contribution to St. Catharine's should be something which truly reflects your love of God and our Parish. Special Easter envelopes may be found on the Ushers tables in the lobby of the Church.

Thank you and may God bless you and your loved ones with a truly Blessed Easter.

**THE 2024 CARDINAL'S ANNUAL
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL**

This year, our goal, set by the Archdiocese is \$153,600. At this time, we have pledges in the amount of \$66,610. We are asking every family to participate and make a *sacrificial* pledge to the *2024 Cardinal's Appeal*.

Please make your gift to the *Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal* today. Thank you.

**NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION
CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Next week's Second Collection will help offset our Archdiocesan assessment for the support of the Catholic School System in New York. Thank you for your support.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

5:00 Eileen Jackson

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

8:00 Frances Cotroneo

9:30 Joseph and Muriel Greeley

11:00 The Sasso Family

12:30 Marie Deremeik

4:30 Jim McLaughlin

MONDAY, APRIL 15

6:45 Alice Casey

8:30 Kenneth Langan

TUESDAY, APRIL 16

6:45 Zanuda Yuriy Vitaliyovich

8:30 Farida Brillantes

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

6:45 Audrey Mullin

8:30 Peter, Colette and Sean Fegan

THURSDAY, APRIL 18

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

8:30 Bernadette Beale

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

6:45 Napoleon and Teresita Dural –
Wedding Anniversary

8:30 Carmine Piemonte

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

8:30 Aida Dalandan

5:00 Carmen Camacho

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

8:00 Art Cooke

9:30 Annie Ridge

11:00 Anna and Dominick Vigliotti

12:30 Deacon John Kelleher

4:30 Joseph Spiotta