



ST. CATHARINE'S PARISH

523 Western Highway
Blauvelt, New York 10913

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

*His Excellency Bishop Joseph Espallat
Conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation
on the following young men and women of our PREP
on Saturday, April 20, 2024*



*Giovanna Agnello
Hannah Arvidson
Liam Barile
John Buffa
Jenelle Camille
Rafael Caniza
Alex Juana Ina Casinillo
Ryan Caulfield
Chase Cleary
Colleen Collins
Charlotte Conover
Mary Cotter
Stella Diliberto
Johnny Dolan
Aidan Donohue
Aiden Exantus
Maxx Finn
Charlotte Fitzpatrick
Connor Gaine
Arturo Garcia*

*Teagan Gavin
Ava Grassi
Nora Hudson
Sean Hurley
Julia Kiernan
Hailey Kirby
Eleanor Linehan
Philip Liporace
Mia Llave
Jody Long
Chase Lugue
Michael Maiorca
Guiliana Marsico
Erin Martin
Jack McCormack
Oisín McGirr
Mason McGwyne-Dantis
Dermot McKeon
Joseph (Joey) Moore
Thomas O'Flynn*

*Austin Palines
Brady Palines
Dilan Perez
Haylee Perez
Jazleen Perez
Kayden Picard
Kevin Porter
Daniel Proctor-Dooley
Cristian Rivera
Isabella Rubenstein
Alyssa Sanchez
Christian Sanchez
Dylan Sansone
Jayden Slane
Kayla Sorondo
Ryan Tobin
Kathleen Vrlc
Allie Waitkus
Maggie White*

*I am a Child of God.
I have been sealed by the Holy Spirit
and marked with the Cross of Christ forever.
I will let my light shine before others
that they may see my good works.*

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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE GOOD SHEPHERD

*"I am the good shepherd.
A good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep."
(John 10:11).*

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that He is the Good Shepherd. Jesus does not just emphasize how much He loves us, His sheep, but also that the Shepherd sacrifices Himself for His flock.

That Jesus is the shepherd and we are the sheep is a beautiful image. A shepherd knows his sheep well and they know him. There is a personal relationship between them, a mutual bond – the sheep trust in their leader, and the shepherd keeps the sheep safe and provides for them.

*"My sheep hear my voice;
I know them, and they follow me."
(John 10:27)*



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading

There is no other name under Heaven by which we are to be saved than the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene (Acts 4:8-12).

Psalm

The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).

Second Reading

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).

Gospel

I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

SHEPHERDS LIKE JESUS

One of the favorite images in the Bible is the Good Shepherd. The word the Scriptures use is really not adequately translated in English as simply, "good." The word really means, "honorable, worthy, noble."

In the Old Testament, God Himself is represented as the Shepherd of His people. "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" (Psalm 23). "He is our God and we are His people whom He shepherds" (Psalm 95).

The future Messiah is also described with the image of the shepherd: "Like a shepherd He feeds His flock; in His arms He gathers the lambs, carrying them in His bosom and leading the ewes with care" (Isaiah).

The image of shepherds is that they are kind, loving, patient, strong, and self-sacrificing.

A perfect image for Jesus.



THE GOOD SHEPHERD IN ANCIENT ART

The art left behind by early Christians offers us a window into their faith.

Early Christian art found in the catacombs in Rome show Jesus carrying a lamb on His shoulders. The image above was said to be painted on the walls of the St. Callisto catacomb in the middle of the 3rd Century. It was done at a time when it was illegal to create more explicitly Christian art.

The art above, while representing Christ, is depicted simply as a youthful man, therefore, the Roman authorities would not have known this was a Christian image.

While this image can be found in pagan cultures in which animals were offered as sacrifices to the Roman gods, it takes on a Christian meaning inspired by the words of our Gospel today. It was, therefore, an image that tied in well with the Christian's understanding of a divine Shepherd who would lay down His life for His flock.

**TODAY IS THE
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**

Mary and Joseph raised their child in a family of love and faith. They directed Jesus to follow God's Will for His life.

Each of us must assist and allow our children to follow God's Will in their lives. This is true even if God calls your child to serve Him as a Priest, or Religious Sister or Brother. There may be no greater personal joy for parents than to have a son follow Christ into the Priesthood.

Please pray for Seminarians and all those whom God is calling to the Priesthood. There are hopeful signs in the increase of vocations to the Priesthood in our country, but there are still many more men who need to be brave and respond "Yes" to God.

Let us pray that young men and women may hear and respond with open and generous hearts to the Lord's call. And, we pray for the gift of courage to follow His call.

"If today, you hear His voice..."

CHOOSE GOD

Each of us has a vocation, a calling from God. But, that calling is not always easily followed – there are choices to be made. At the time the choices may seem hard, but God does not want to take anything away from us.

On the contrary, He wants to give us everything! As Jesus says in the Gospel: *"Anyone who leaves father, mother, brothers, and sisters for my sake will receive a hundredfold...fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters..."*

If we choose God, in whatever way we are being called, we will have Him and everything else we need.

*"Do not be afraid of what God asks of you!
It is worth saying 'yes' to God!
In Him, we find our joy!"*

– Pope Francis

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Brother Pat entered the "Monastery of Silence" in Limerick and the Chief Priest said, *"Brother, this is a Silent Monastery and you are welcome here as long as you like, but you may not speak until I direct you to do so."*

Brother Pat lived in the Monastery for 5 years before the Chief Priest said to him: *"Brother Pat, you have been here 5 years now, you may speak two words."* Brother Pat said, *"hard bed."* *"I'm sorry to hear that,"* The Chief Priest said, *"We will get you a better bed."*

After another 5 years, Brother Pat was called by the Chief Priest. *"You may say another two words, Brother Pat."* *"Cold food,"* said Brother Pat, and the Chief Priest assured him that the food would be better in the future.

On his 15th Anniversary at the Monastery, the Chief Priest again called Brother Pat into his office. *"Two words you may say today."* *"I quit,"* said Brother Pat. *"It is probably for the best,"* said the Chief Priest. *"You've done nothing but complain since you got here."*

PETITION OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday morning. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit fill your life, strengthening you to live the Gospel and leading you to do God's will with eagerness and joy ... Lord, hear our prayer.



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

**BLESSED CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2024**

On the cover of this Sunday's Bulletin, you will see the names of the young women and men who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Saturday morning. Please pray for them as they take their place in our Parish Community.

We are very grateful to His Excellency Bishop Joseph Espailat coming to St. Catharine's to confer this Sacrament on the 8th Grade students in our Parish Religious Education Program. Thank you, Bishop Espailat! We also thank Monsignor McAree, Father Abraham, Father Ravi, and Deacon Jurasek. How blessed we are to have these dedicated men of faith to lead us.

TO THE CONFIRMATION CLASS

As you celebrate this milestone in your journey of faith, we pray that the Holy Spirit will be with you to renew and strengthen you in your commitment to follow Christ. We encourage you to use your gifts and talents in the service of the Church, the Community, and the Nation.

You've prepared your hearts in so many ways for this special day, through study, prayer, and service. We pray you will continue to live lives of faith, encouraged, inspired, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

We pray that God will bless you and continue to walk with you and guide you, today and always.

Please know that you will always have the love, prayers, and support of all of us here at St. Catharine's. May God bless you, All!

"Remember that you are never alone, Christ is with you on your journey every day of your lives! He has called you and chosen you to live in the freedom of the children of God. Turn to Him in prayer and in love. Ask Him to grant you the courage and strength to live in this freedom. Walk with Him who is 'the Way, the Truth and the Life.'"

Pope Saint John Paul II

*"Don't shine so that others can see you.
Shine so that, through you, others can see Him."*

C.S. Lewis

THANK YOU!

Blest are we for the gift of our children and the wonderful men and women who teach our faith to them!

Every year the Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in our Parish, as it is in so many parishes. In many ways it brings to fulfillment years of effort by our Parishioners to share the gift of faith with these young men and women.

Please, let us take a moment to thank the wonderful Staff of our Parish Religious Education Program, Bernadette Kowalchuk, Christine Mitchell and Eileen Kearney, our Catechists, and Parents, and all involved in faith formation, for their untiring efforts to prepare them. Let us promise our continued prayers as their teachers and companions in the ways of faith.

We should remind our children that our Religion is a way of life and that our Catholic faith must be lived daily.

Let us also be thankful for the work God carries out in us and through us and from which He invites us all to be filled with hope and joy.



*The Altar Flowers were donated
In Loving Memory of
Marguerite Armstrong*

*From
Your Loving Family*

*The Tabernacle Candle will burn before the
Blessed Sacrament the week of April 21*

*In Loving Memory of
Frances Scheulen*

*From
Your Loving Long Island 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,
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, Richard Casey*

“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.*

**THE GRACE
OF THE SACRAMENTS**

Not long ago, we celebrated Easter, joyously recalling the Resurrection of Jesus, and the share He freely gives us in His new life. We call this share we have in His life, *grace*.

No need to earn, achieve or merit this *grace* – it's pure gift! Even the word itself means “*a gift freely given.*”

God *gives* us this grace in Baptism.

God *nourishes* this grace in the Holy Eucharist. As earthly food nourishes our body, heavenly food, Holy Communion, feeds the soul. What a joy it will be to see the 2nd Grade girls and boys in our Parish Religious Education Program receive Our Lord in Holy Communion for the first time in a few short weeks from now!

God *restores* His grace in the Sacrament of Penance.

God *strengthens* this gift of grace in Confirmation. Again, look at the word – through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, God *confirms* the grace He lavished upon us at Baptism. Let us pray for all those young women and men who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend.

God is in the business of life. His Son, Jesus, told us, “*I came to bring life, life to the fullest.*”

God *gives* us human life at the moment of conception; He *pours* His own divine life (*grace*) into our hearts at Baptism; He *nourishes* it in Holy Communion; He *restores* it in Penance; and *affirms* it in Confirmation.

And, He *invites* us to share it with Him *forever* in Heaven.



ST. CATHARINE'S BULLETIN BOARD

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 stcatharineprepoffice@gmail.com.

NEW FAMILY REGISTRATION

If you are new to our Parish and registering your child(ren) for the first time, please copy and paste this link to your web browser ...

<https://www.onesimplifiedforms.com/user?f=E00099541E8FD30E1696E0CBFF94A9DC3380A9538139D4FD2734D9BE4754FE2548C784FF0E09374DB391E3C79B81FA45>

Please contact the PREP Office at (845) 359-4014 or via email to stcatharineprepoffice@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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.

CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

We are asking every family to participate and make a *sacrificial* pledge to the 2024 Cardinal's Annual Stewardship Appeal. Our goal this year is \$153,600 and as of today, we have \$82,670 in pledges.

Please join your fellow parishioners, prayerfully consider your contribution, and make your gift to the Cardinal's Appeal today. Thank you.

TODAY'S - SECOND COLLECTION CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

NEXT WEEK'S - SECOND COLLECTION CHURCH IN CENTRAL & EASTERN EUROPE

Each year, the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe assists Catholics who live in countries once dominated by the Soviet regime to rebuild their communities.

Your gift will continue to restore the Church and build the future of Central and Eastern Europe.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

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

MONDAY, APRIL 22

6:45 Lois Martin

8:30 Grace Dennerlein

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

6:45 Helen Feher

8:30 Sheryll Anne E. Sumira

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

6:45 Patrick & Catherine Linehan

8:30 Madeline & Francis J. McAree, Sr.

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

6:45 Frances Scheulen

8:30 Jeanne Sozzi – 4 Year Anniversary

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

6:45 Rogelio S. Villanueva – 1 Year Anniversary

8:30 Catherine McDermott & Ann McLaughlin

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

8:30 Dr. Lawrence Armus

5:00 Martin Ceresnik

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

8:00 Elizabeth DeVincenzo – 2 Year Anniversary

9:30 Kay & Jerry Vyskocil & the Murphy Family

11:00 Christopher Zukowski

12:30 Joseph P. Spiotta & Porzia Ruggiero

4:30 Katelyn Antonia Morales