

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS



- Saturday, September 24th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Jennie Yablonski**, requested by the Cordani Family.
- Sunday, September 25th, 8:00AM, Mass for **Sophie & Arthur Winters**, requested by Barb & Dick Hopkins.
- Sunday, September 25th, @ 11:00AM, 4th Anniversary Mass for **Gloria Farina**, requested by the Duford Family.
- Sunday, October 2nd, @ 8:00AM, Mass for **Tommy Tanski**, requested by the Wednesday Night Small Christian Community.
- Sunday, October 2nd, @ 11:00AM, Mass for **Margaret Finneran**, requested by Julia & Myles McCabe.
- Sunday, October 2nd, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Teresa Hegarty**, requested by the Newman Family.
- Saturday, October 8th, @ 5:00PM, Anniversary Mass for **James Dillon**, requested by Helen Dillon.
- Sunday, October 9th, @ 11:00AM, Anniversary Mass for **Jack Carezza**, requested by the Carezza Family.
- Sunday, October 9th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Jim Frulla**, requested by the Frulla Family.
- Wednesday, October 12th, @ 8:30AM, Mass for **Ethel & John Zekas**, requested by Barb & Dick Hopkins.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 11th, 7PM - Finance Council - Rectory
 Monday, November 7th, 7PM - Liturgy Cmty - Rectory

WEDDING BANNS

Bann II - Marianna Mahoney & Jonathan Stellato

PRO-LIFE MASS - October 2, 2011 at 2PM,
 Cathedral of St. Joseph. Archbishop Henry Mansell
 will be the celebrant. Everyone is invited to attend
 this special Mass to protect the sanctity of human life.

Offertory Collection for 9/18/11

Weekly Collection:	\$ 10,802.65
Loose Cash/Checks	\$ 1,460.65
Envelopes	\$ 9,342.00
Budgeted for Week:	\$ 9,000.00
Overage:	\$ 1,802.65
Cathradicum*	- \$ 594.15
School Tax*	- \$ 594.15



*Parish Taxes (5.5%) Paid to the Archdiocese for Services rendered to Parish

**UPCOMING COLLECTION:
 REFURBISHMENT & REPAIR
 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2011**

—Thank You for Your Generosity—

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

REGISTRATIONS - All Religious Education registrations were due in June. Please check the Religious education page on our website if you are not sure if you have registered your children. **If your child/ren are not returning, kindly contact Kathi Bonner @ 860/658-4737 so that we may update our records. Thank you!**

CLASS START DATES - Religious Education Classes began for Kindergarten - Grade 10 on Sunday, September 18th.



Letters with details on the **first day parent meeting** were emailed over the summer and but may also be found on the Religious Education page on our website (www.stcatherine.info). **Class Lists are also be available on our website.**

CONFIRMATION II - The **Confirmation I & II schedule** was already emailed to all parents but may also be found on the Religious Education page of our website.

CONFIRMATION II ALERT- the October 2nd Confirmation II evening classes will begin at 6:15PM and end at 8pm here at church. This is a special gathering with the Youth Group for a performance by Steve Angrisano, a nationally know musician and youth minister. The morning class (Mr. Bonner's group) will also attend this evening class rather than in the morning at Henry James. **Please mark your calendars for this fun and memorable evening!**



\$CRIP TIP...

Haven't Tried Scrips Yet? Well, what are you waiting for? Purchase Scrip cards after Mass or for use at your frequently shopped stores and you will be contributing a percentage that your store has agreed to give back to St. Catherine to help fund our parish parking lot campaign. If you buy a \$100 Stop & Shop Scrip Card Stop & Shop gives back \$5.00 to the Parish—at no cost to you. Are you a big Lands End Shopper? \$100 Scrip card will provide St. Catherine with \$16.00—at no cost to you! Its all in the numbers: the more people buy our Scrip Cards the more “free” money our parish receives. Any questions on how the program works, visit us in the Atrium after Mass and don't forget your check books!

Buy Scrip cards on-line at www.shopwithscrip.com, use the Saint Catherine enrollment code **7A65C56C279L1**. Or stop by the Scrip desk after Mass or look in the Atrium for Scrip order forms. Fill it out and drop it off at the office with your check, we'll process your order! October 1st/2nd cards will be on sale after the 5:00 PM Vigil & the 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Sunday Masses. Thanks for your support!!!

Around the parish: In the last two weeks our parish has picked up speed as summer came to an end and as our **religious education** program returned to classroom activities—new teachers joined returning catechists and our first day at Henry James Middle School went smoothly. As well, our **youth ministry** program kicked off last weekend and even initiated a new youth ministry program for Junior High School students, springing up from the immensely popular Senior High program.

Additionally all the other standing ministries are back in full swing showing us just how active our parishioners truly are. **Parish Council** has begun its new year with a change in leadership as Ralph Chappano ended his term as president and Tina Yablonski assumed her new presidential duties. Joining Tina in the Parish Council leadership roles are Tom Tanksi as vice president and Charlie Page as secretary. I want to express my sincere thanks to Ralph for all his work as president and for the great leadership he showed us which resulted in an amazing number of projects being accomplished. On Wednesday, September 20th, the Council's first meeting was very productive as new goals were set for the year ahead. The **Finance Council** (which works all year long) also had its first meeting of the new year last week and I am pleased to announce that we are on target with our budget and have significantly reduced some big expenses so far this year, i.e., our utility budget is down \$7,000 over last year—due mainly to a stepped-up maintenance program of our HVAC system with more efficient air conditioning and heating. And thanks to the great upkeep of our facilities, we received outstanding ratings from the Archdiocese of Hartford during our recent annual inspection by the Catholic Mutual Insurance Group. Many people make all this happen and I am very, very, very appreciative for everyone's participation and expertise.

One change for the better that I want to say a few words about is the *Angel Food Ministry* program, which enabled parishioners to purchase food boxes for local neighbors in need. As I mentioned last week, due to rising food and gasoline prices as well as some internal issues, *Angel Food Ministry* has reduced its monthly distribution dates, staffing, and has temporarily halted its operations. While this is not good news for those in need, I am able to report that due to the flexibility and creativity of our former *Angel Food Ministry* parish workers and the support of Andy's Market here in town, our parish will continue to offer you—the parishioners—the opportunity to help our neighbors in need. **Beginning in October a new parish ministry named Pantry Partners of St. Catherine of Siena will provide the same assistance to our neighbors in need by partnering with Andy's Market.** We will provide three food boxes (one for a family, one for a couple or single individual, and one specialty box) each month using Andy's Market as our supplier. By "localizing" this

ministry we can keep more control in our hands (types of food stuffs in the boxes depending on seasonal fruits and vegetables and also select the monthly distribution date that best suits our parish schedule). In addition, the money you donate to assist neighbors in need remains in our community by supporting a local merchant and parishioner. It truly is a win-win situation. Please look for handouts and envelopes for **Pantry Partners of St. Catherine of Siena** in the vestibule and atrium soon. Any donation is greatly appreciated and you may make your checks payable to: **St. Catherine of Siena, marking the memo section of your check with PANTRY PARTNERS. Thank you!**

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering into the Kingdom of God before you." Wow—is that a free pass to become *like them*, to become sinners so that we too will receive the grace of God? Well, yes sort of...we should become more like the tax collectors and the prostitutes in today's readings—not in joining them in their sinning but rather in **turning away from sin, as they did**. They are saved because they repented; they are tax collectors and prostitutes—sinners—no more.

In today's Gospel the first son sins by disobeying the will of God, just as we do each time we turn from God and seek our own power or talents or desires over the will of God. Yet it is the first son who afterwards changed his mind and did the Father's will. Thus, our conscience and our contrition should lead us from our ways and into the Father's ways. When that happens, Grace is ours. When that occurs, we too are saved. When we follow the will of the Father, we will be blessed.

In the first reading today the prophet Ezekiel makes this idea of turning from sin even more clear when talking about the wicked man: "if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life." Conscience and contrition at work! Then Saint Paul gives us the right attitude we need in order to assure that we will turn toward God: "Humbly regard others as more important than yourselves," and he points to the example of humility par excellence—"the Lord Jesus Christ, who emptied Himself that He became obedient even unto death, death on a cross." Today's readings give us an understanding of how to receive the grace of God and to so enter into His divine life: turn from our ways of sin by repenting and changing our desires. This is accomplished in and through humility: when we no longer are the most important thing in this world—when we know that there is something greater and we honor His greatness in service and compassion to others, then we are truly blessed.

Save the Date!!!
Parish Progressive Dinner
NOVEMBER 5th.
Be a host. Help us plan. Act as a volunteer.
Watch for detailed flyer in next week's bulletin.

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This pdf has the corrected page 3. thank you.