



# ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 24, 2017



**PASTOR**  
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**SUNDAY MASSES**  
See Schedule in Parish Calendar

**WEEKDAY MASS**  
See Schedule in Parish Calendar

**RECONCILIATION**  
Resumes 12/30/2017

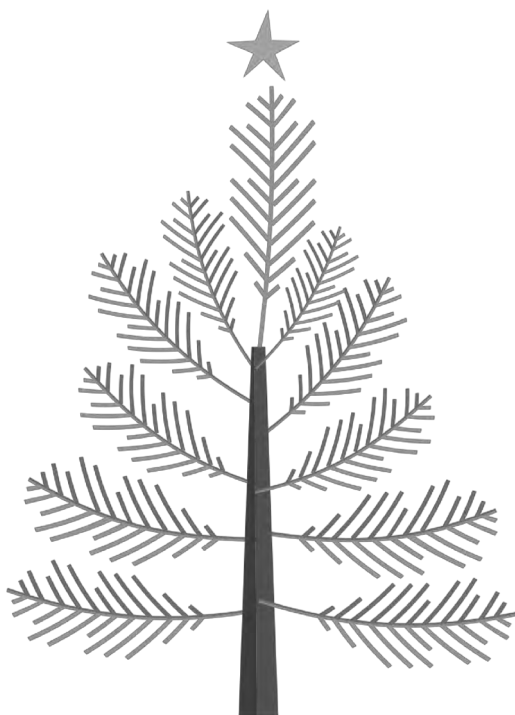
Dear Friends,

Welcome to St. Catherine of Siena to celebrate Christmas with us, your family, friends and neighbors. Whether you are a regular parishioner, a visitor or are returning to Church for the Great Feast, whether you are a Catholic or belong to another denomination or a different faith tradition or none – you are welcome!

If you are reading this before you decide which Mass you are going to celebrate with us, please note that the Saturday 5:00pm and the Sunday 10:00am are the Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses; they are not the Christmas Masses. Christmas will be celebrated on Sunday evening at the 5:00pm and 7:00pm Masses and the following morning, Monday, Christmas Day, at 8:30am. Now if this hasn't confused you, you are definitely on the right path!

I know this is going to be a big surprise to some, but we will always have a lot of children at our Christmas Masses, no matter which time. So please make sure you are not in a cranky mood and end up giving them that "stare," or worse yet, snap at them! Please take into account that some of these little ones are at the end of their tether and so are their parents; and the last thing someone needs is an unfriendly comment or look during what should be a welcoming and uplifting experience. We are noted here at St. Catherine's for our child-friendly approach and welcoming spirit to everyone who comes in our doors. Let's keep it that way, or guess what? Santa is not going to be very nice to you!

Safe travels to those who will be venturing off for the Christmas festivities; enjoy your families and friends, and best of luck with your "let's escape from the family this year" cruise or ski holiday or whatever it is you are up to as you change your traditions and take a very well-deserved rest from the madding crowd.

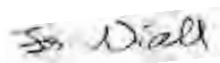


Our Magi Gift Card Harvey Outreach last Sunday brought in \$7000 to aid us in our continuing mission to help 18(!) adopted families rebuild their lives after all that devastation. As always, you are extremely generous, and on their behalf, a very heartfelt thank you for your kindness and care as they celebrate Christmas knowing they have not been forgotten or abandoned.

If you get time over the Christmas in between eggnogs and all kinds of feasting etc., please have a look at our newly updated webpage. There will be a few little things to be tweaked, but we are up and going, thanks to Mary Jones, our communications staff person.

Lastly, I hope Santa will be good to all of you. Stay safe, and every good wish and blessing for Christmas and the New Year to one and all.

God Bless,



## DECEMBER 24, 2017 • FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### CCE NEWS

#### CCE – Fall 2017 Perfect Attendance

Congratulations to the following students who had a perfect attendance record in CCE for the Fall 2017 semester:

Nelson Choi (1st grade)  
George Fair (1st grade)  
Anusia Sokalski (2nd grade)  
Jack Bielamowicz (3rd grade)  
Lauren Conticello (3rd grade)  
Mitchell Kim (4th grade)  
Tomasz Sokalski (4th grade)  
Jay Bielamowicz (5th grade)  
Adam Teske (5th grade)  
Jacob Eggert (6th grade)  
Sophia Choi (7th grade)

Special thanks as well to their parents and families for their support and encouragement along the way! **See you next semester when classes resume on January 7, 2018.**

### CLUB 55+ NEWS

#### January Club 55+ Bus Trip

For our next trip on Wednesday, January 17, we will be staying in Houston. We will attend a private wine class at Total Wine & More, "An Inspiring Taste of Italy". We will taste 8 premium wines while learning about the land and its grape varieties. After the class we will dine at the new Maggiano's Italian Restaurant at Memorial City Mall.

**THIS CLASS IS LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE.** We must receive your check at 5607 Summer Snow Drive, Houston, TX 77041 to reserve your spot. Contact Diane at [diane@goyette.info](mailto:diane@goyette.info) or 713-540-7884, or Henry at 281-684-7030 if you have any questions.

We will leave the church at 3:30 pm and return by about 9:00 pm. The cost is \$12 per person not including dinner. Save the dates:

**Upcoming bus trips are scheduled for Feb 22, and Mar 10 – details to follow.**

### OPEN HOUSE

#### Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart Open House - Sunday, January 7 at 2 p.m.

Attend Open House to learn more about Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart, Houston's only Catholic, all-girls', Pre-K3 through grade 12 school. The event will include presentations from faculty, staff, students, and alumnae.

Learn more: [Duchesne.org/visit](http://Duchesne.org/visit)  
Address: 10202 Memorial Dr. Houston, TX 77024  
p. 713.468.8211

### PARISH CALENDAR

#### • FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT •

**SAT 12/23 5 PM Mass**  
† Baylon Pereira

**SUN 12/24 10 AM Mass (only)**  
NO CCE

#### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve Mass**  
5 PM and 7 PM

**Christmas Day Mass**  
8:30 AM

Merry Christmas!

**TUE 12/26\* No Weekday Mass • Office Closed**

**WED 12/27\* No Weekday Mass • Office Closed**

**THU 12/28\* No Weekday Mass • Office Closed**

**FRI 12/29\* No Weekday Mass • Office Closed**

*\*In case of an inquiry or emergency, email Fr. Niall  
[frniall@stcatherine-houston.org](mailto:frniall@stcatherine-houston.org)*

#### • THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH •

**SAT 12/30 5 PM Mass**

**SUN 12/31 8:30 AM Mass**  
No CCE  
11:15 AM Mass

Happy New Year  
**2018**

#### Grammy Award Winning Christian Music Legend Coming to Houston Co-Cathedral

Christian music legend John Michael Talbot will bring his "Lifetime of Music & Ministry" Concert Tour on Thursday February 8th, 2018 to the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart located 1111 St. Joseph Pkwy, Houston, TX. Tickets are \$30 for General Admission and \$50 for a special VIP Package that includes preferred seating, early admission to artist's sound check and an autographed CD. The concert is sponsored by **God's Embrace Ministries** and tickets can be purchased online at [www.godsembrace.org](http://www.godsembrace.org). For questions and group rates please call Ministry Office at 979-561-8883.