

ST. CATHERINE of SIENA catholic church



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Welcome ...

ACT JUSTLY
LOVE TENDERLY
WALK HUMBLY

From the Pastor's Office

1st Sunday of Lent

Is it Lent already? We are just getting over Christmas. We just survived the ice storm. I'm exhausted before we start. On YouTube I have been watching people going to boot camp. They don't have the luxury of complaining about anything. You just suck it up and keep going. Sometimes life is like that. Our feet never hit the ground. It is Lent, OK, let's do this. Lent is the season of preparation for the events of Holy Week. We are asked to prepare ourselves spiritually. A lot of us place our emphasis on giving things up. I know for many people they do this halfheartedly. The fasting is over in a week. I've known that since my childhood. We need to place our emphasis on the spiritual. It is time to enter the desert. If this was an invitation to a Spa we would all go there in a shot. There, we would

be cleansed, pounded and worked on to make us more beautiful. Lent is a spiritual version of that. Let the desert experience embrace me in Austin. I don't need to go find a desert. The invitation is to enter a space where I can see clearly what my spiritual life is doing. Let there be no distractions. Aren't you just sick to death of the smartphone? What would happen if I turned my phone off for a day? Have I ever sat and read scripture and just thought about it for a while? Here is an interesting exercise. Counselors told me to invite my other person, my issue, my blockage, to sit in an empty chair, and just work it all out together. I sit talking to an empty chair. How about I place Jesus in that chair? How about Jesus and I have a chat together. I tell Him how I am doing. Then I stay quiet. Then I listen as I hear Jesus speaking back to me. Then I talk for another while and then I let Jesus talk to me for a while. I



have done this exercise and I found it to be profound. Maybe, during Lent Jesus and I could have our weekly chats sitting opposite, an empty chair.

> With love, Fr. Pat





4800 Convict Hill Rd Austin, TX 78749 www.stcatherine-austin.org

first name.last name@stcatherine-austin.org

Staff Directory

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Deacons

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Pastoral AssociatePam Neumann
Business AdministratorSue LeFevre
Director of MusicEric Paul Carreiro
Liturgy CoordinatorKatheryn Daniel

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Mass Schedule

Confession

Adoratioı

Monday - Friday......9:00 am - 11:30 am

Organizations

Marriage: Contact Diane Bily at (512) 892-2420 or <u>diane.bily@stcatherine-austin.org</u> at least nine months prior to the wedding date.

Baptism: Contact Jennifer Gamblin at (512) 892-2420 or jennifer.gamblin@stcatherine-austin.org

Bulletin: Send email Jo Ann Campbell at <u>joann.campbell@stcatherine-austin.org</u> or send written notice to the parish office 15 days prior to publication date.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 25

5:00 pm Consuelo "Connie" Gonzalez †

Sunday, February 26

7:30 am People of the Parish9:30 am Priest Intentions11:30 am Gabriel Silva †

1:15 pm Ron Serrano † & Joshua Serrano †

5:00 pm Kevin Maldonado †

Monday, February 27

12:00 pm James De La Rosa †

Tuesday, February 28

12:00 pm Consuelo "Connie" Gonzalez †

7:00 pm Joseph Carreiro †

Wednesday, March 1

12:00 pm Rosa Mistica (SI)

Thursday, March 2

12:00 pm Gilbert Rivera †

Friday, March 3

12:00 pm Tessa Ridge (SI)

† = Deceased SI = Special Intention

Altar Flowers

The 2023 Altar Flower Sign Up List is now available. Donate flowers in memory of a loved one or special occasion for a specific weekend. We ask for a donation of \$150 for the altar flowers, \$100 for the ambo flowers, or \$200 for both. To check availability, please visit stream-red stream-austin.org/altar-flower-sign-ups or call the Parish Office at (512) 892-2420.

Sanctuary Lamp and Adoration Candle Intentions

Week of February 26

- Adoration Chapel donated by Gloria Rodriguez for Teresa Solis Soto, may she rest in peace
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine donated by Gloria Rodriguez for Teresa Solis Soto, may she rest in peace
- **St. Jude Shrine** donated for **Therese Meyer** for a special intention for Helen Lindner

Please pray for

The Sick

Debra Borrego Tracy Leinen Isabel Reyes Robert Cabrera Randy Russell Maria Marek Mindy Cavazos Larry Sanchez Carolyn Massey Kyle Craven June Stewart Theresa Massey Manuel Cruz Yoli Muniz **Betty Stone** Patricia Gerber Rose Ogilvie Carol Walschlager Ken Otte Ed Kaloustian

Our Service Members

Randall Davis Whitman Jones Robert Monroe
Kevin Goodlett Susanna Jordan Michael Pace
Josiah Griffin Ricky Martinez Nick Rocha
Louis Hause Michael Mazurek Andrew Sanchez

The Repose of the Souls of Loved Ones

recently called home by our Savior, especially **Pierrette Fitzgerald.**

Collection Amounts

Sunday, February 19	\$29,018*
* includes \$13,703 in online donations received	
Children's collection	\$140
2nd collection: Catholic Higher Education	\$1,605

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT: We are grateful to this

community for giving so greatly and regularly at home through online and mail contributions. Please also try to include St. Vincent de Paul in your giving. St. Vincent continues to try to meet the need of a growing group due to the economic effects of the virus and will need your continued financial support to meet this challenge.







St. Catherine of Siena is excited to announce the launch of the *Renew and Rejoice in His Spirit* campaign. This combined effort with the Diocese of Austin's *Encountering Christ* Campaign allows us to address our parish needs while supporting important Catholic ministries across Central Texas.

The Renew and Rejoice in His Spirit campaign is a celebration of St. Catherine's history and where our future will take us. It supports much needed improvements in our beloved sanctuary and retires debt on the Parish Center. Of our \$6 million goal \$1.64 million will support the diocesan Encountering Christ campaign and the remaining \$4.36 million will stay at St. Catherine of Siena to be used for:

- **Refurbishing our Sanctuary** by modernizing and restoring our pews and kneelers, addressing our HVAC system, cupola, uneven floors, remodeling the bathrooms and re-working the sacristies to be better utilized.
- **Minimizing the Debt on the Parish Center** will allow us to have a greater monthly budget to invest in ministries and necessary expenses as our parish expands. This reinvestment will allow for exciting growth and future plans at St. Catherine of Siena.

If you want to learn more about the campaign or how to get involved as a volunteer, pick up a campaign brochure in the Narthex or the Parish Office. You can also visit the campaign website at stcatherine-austin.org/renew-and-rejoice or call (512) 892-2420.

Liturgy

Stations of the Cross

Join us on Friday Nights during Lent at 7:00 p.m. for Stations of the Cross. Mass follows immediately after the Stations for those who wish to remain. The parish also has Stations of the Cross outside on the grounds for you to walk and pray in private prayer.



Fasting and Abstinence during Lent

On the Fridays of Lent, it is the obligation of practicing Catholics from age 14 onward to abstain from eating meat. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of both fasting and abstinence. On days of fasting, Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are permitted to eat one full meal and two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. On days of fasting, refrain from eating between the permitted meals.

Parish Lenten Penance Service

Our Parish Lenten Penance Service will be held on Tuesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. Father Pat, Father Ray and Father Lou, along with other priests from the diocese will be available for individual confessions.

Cry Rooms on Sunday

During the Sunday morning and 1:15 p.m. Masses, families with young children who need a "cry room" may use the Pomegranate Café. An Eucharistic Minister will distribute Communion in the Café. At the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass, families may use the Choir Room in the Church and will need to come into the Sanctuary to receive Communion.

Family Ministries

Monday Marriage Minute

Every Monday, spend 20-30 minutes online with other couples and the video series *Partners on the Journey*. We meet online every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom and will continue through May. This week's topic is "Obstacles to Love." Couples are welcome to join occasionally or attend all 12 sessions. For the Zoom link, please visit steatherine-austin.org/marriage-enrichment.

Preschool Ministries

This month at the Preschool:

Our focus on this wide, wide beautiful world that God has made for us will come in a little closer in February. This month, we celebrate St. Valentine and our friends and family. We talk about how much we love and appreciate them all. We are also learning more about community helpers and their amazing jobs. The Austin Fire Department, the Police Department, and EMS will be visiting us this month. Community helpers are our modern day Superheroes!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

In the Atrium, children use miniature models and learn the names and uses for the: altar table, altar cloth, paten, chalice, cross, and candles. Children enjoy using the altar area to offer a time of prayer.

Come Play With Us!

Registration is open for the 2023-2024 school year. We would love to welcome you to St. Catherine's Preschool! Visit our website at steatherine-austin.org/preschool for more information. Space is limited and our classes are filling up fast!





Where Children Learn to Play and Play to Learn

Religious Education

Adult Faith Formation

Adult Confirmation: Have you been baptized and received your first communion but were never confirmed? We invite adults over the age of 18 to join us on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. To register, contact Jennifer at (512) 892-2420, ext. 331 or jennifer.gamblin@stcatherine-austin.org.

RCIA Ministry Minute: This week, the Hospitality Ministry will provide the Ministry Minute. God bless you for your kindness.

Bible Study

Join us for our current bible study, *Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life* from Ascension Press. Online sessions meet on Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., and in-person sessions meet on Wednesdays, 6:00 -7:00 p.m. Visit stcatherine-austin.org/bible-study for details.



Parish Book Study

For those reading our parish book, *Our One Great Act of Fidelity: Waiting for Christ in the Eucharist* by Ron Rolheiser, study questions are available from Jennifer Gamblin in the Adult Education Office or at stcatherine-austin.org/parish-book-study.

Stations of the Cross for Seniors on Thursday, March 2

The Senior Ministry is sponsoring Stations of the Cross for Seniors on Thursday, March 2, at 10:00 a.m. in the Cenacle. This special presentation of the Stations, speaks directly to seniors and the cross we bear at this stage of our lives. Come and pray together with your contemporaries who share your faith journey.

History of the Reformation with Professor John Dahmus

Beginning March 10, join us on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Cenacle for a 4-week course on the History of the Reformation. Professor John Dahmus will enlighten us on the split between Luther and the Catholic Church and all that followed. Professor Dahmus is a retired professor of history and a popular presenter here and at Life Long Learning.

SAVE THE DATE: Men's ACTS Retreat

The next ACTS Men's Retreat will be held on April 20 – 23 at Highland Lakes Camp. For more information, contact Arnold Auzenne (Director), arauzenne@yahoo.com or (512) 299-3527, Jaime Gonzalez (Co-Director), jaiology@yahoo.com or (512) 565-6256, or Herm Hebert (Co-Director), airbear47@gmail.com or (512) 789-1100.

Family Faith Formation

Catholic Family Faith Camp & Summer Challenge

Save the date! Catholic Family Faith Camp and Summer Challenge 2023 will be held the week of June 5-9. Registration and information will be available on our parish website in the coming weeks. Catholic Family Faith Camp is for children entering grades 1-5, and Pre-K/Kindergarten children are welcome, too, with a parent. Summer Challenge is for all students entering grades 6-12.

Community Ministries

40 Days for Life

From Ash Wednesday until Palm Sunday, we will unite with hundreds of cities across the country and the world for a 40-day prayer vigil. If you would like to peacefully pray in front of an abortion-referral clinic in south Austin, please sign up at the table In the Narthex this weekend. You can also sign up online at centraltexascoalition.com/signup. Our parish day to pray at the facility is Saturday, March 11.

LENT IS HERE! Join our faith community—and nearly 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States— in a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl in the Narthex this weekend. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the word, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Learns more at crsricebowl.org.

Volunteers Needed for Saint Louise House

Saint Louise House is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the success of women and their children moving from homelessness to healthy independent lives. They need volunteers to help with food bank pick -ups each week. If you are available to help out on a Tuesday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., or a Wednesday from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., please contact Rhonda at rhonda.smith@stcatherine-austin.org.

Support Group for Caregivers

Caregiving Café will meet next on Thursday, March 9, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. This is free and all family caregivers are welcome. Join us for educational presentations by professionals and insightful conversations on topics that are important to you. Contact Lynn Greenblatt at (830) 837-3162 or ccafemail2@gmail.com for questions and to RSVP.

Men's White Tube Socks Needed!

We are in need of men's white tube socks for the hygiene kits we prepare for our homeless brothers and sisters. If you have any small hotel toiletries, we need those as well. Please place your donations in the wicker basket in the east entry of church. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Creative Ministries

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you know of someone in need of prayer (grieving, illness, new baby, etc.), contact Kay at (512) 923-2167 or scprayershawl@yahoo.com for a complimentary prayer shawl.

General Parish

Lenten Meals

Every Friday evening during Lent, the Knights of Columbus Council 8156 and the Ladies Auxiliary will serve a Lenten Meal from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in Johnson Hall . The menu will vary each week and the meal will cost \$5 to off-set the increasing price of supplies. Please come and enjoy the company of our fellow parishioners with a meal before the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.

Krafty Ladies/Ladies Club

The Ladies Club will meet on Wednesday, March 1, at 11:00 a.m. in Siena Hall. A light lunch will be served. The Krafty Ladies, under the umbrella of the Ladies Club, meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. We invite all the ladies in the parish to join us for one or both meetings. Come see what we are all about! For more information, please contact Betty Jo Summers, (512) 301-2564 or Rachel Lopez, (512) 565-1890.

Prime Timers (age 50+)

Come to the March Brown Bag Lunch on Wednesday, March 8, at 12:30 p.m. in Siena Hall. Dr. Richard Willis, epidemiologist, will discuss "Vitamins." Bring your lunch and we'll provide the beverage. RSVP at primetimers20@gmail.com. Pick up the Prime Timers are a social group dedicated to parishioners over age 50--couples, singles, widowed or divorced who are eager to meet others in a social setting. If you're a young-atheart senior and want to participate in a variety of activities with other friendly people, this group is for you. For more information, check the parish website or email prime-timers20@gmail.com.

ACTS Benefit Breakfast on Sunday, March 5

The ACTS Community at St. Catherine would like to invite everyone to a **Super Spectacular ACTS Benefit Breakfast** in Johnson Hall on Sunday, March 5 after the 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Masses to support our upcoming Men's ACTS Retreat. We will serve your favorite breakfast of pancakes, sausage,



your favorite breakfast of pancakes, sausage, bacon and eggs. This will be a free will donation event so please be generous with your donations to help support our ACTS Community.

Out of Parish

Cedarbrake Retreat

A Silent Lenten Retreat, March 17-19: Come and listen to God inviting you into the desert of silence. Father Harry Dean and Brian Egan will each give a reflection. Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be part of this silent retreat. The cost is \$280 for a private room and \$230 for a shared room. Register at austindiocese.org/cedarbrake or call (254) 780-2436.

EIM Compliance News

The EIM (Ethics and Integrity in Ministry) Office has completed the conversion to VIRTUS. Active EIM accounts were transferred to VIRTUS Online and an email with login information and instructions was sent in January. New to the EIM process? Have more questions? Visit <u>austindiocese.org/eim-instructions</u> to learn how to create an account, sign up for a workshop (new applicants only) or update compliance. Contact <u>eim@austindiocese.org</u> for further assistance or if you did not receive the welcome email from VIRTUS.

REPORT ABUSE

Report abuse of a minor, elderly adult, or an adult with a disability to local law enforcement or to the Texas Abuse Hotline at txabusehotline.org or (800) 252-5400 and to the diocese at austindiocese.org/report-abuse or (512) 949-2447.

HAVE YOU, OR HAS SOMEONE YOU KNOW, EXPERIENCED ABUSE? Bishop Joe S. Vásquez and the Diocese of Austin are committed to providing compassionate care to persons who have experienced abuse, particularly if committed by clergy or a church representative. If you or someone you know have experienced such abuse, contact the diocesan Coordinator of Victim Assistance and Pastoral Support at (512) 949-2400.

REPORT UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR

Report unethical behavior by a person serving in ministry to the diocese at (512) 949-2447.

Stay Connected!

We want to communicate more effectively with you and make it easy for you to control what announcements you receive and how you are notified. We are now using a service called **FLOCKNOTE**. It is totally free to use and it makes it easy for you to stay plugged in to the ministries or groups that you care about, all by text message or email. Your information will be completely safe and secure. You can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! To sign up, text CATHERINE to 84576 or visit stcatherineofsiena27.flocknote.com!

Thank You for Your Continued Support

We are grateful to this community for giving so greatly and regularly at home through online and mail contributions. Please also try to include St. Vincent de Paul in your giving. St. Vincent continues to try to meet the need of a growing group due to the economic effects of the virus and will need your continued financial support to meet this challenge.

WAYS TO GIVE



Donate Online at

stcatherine-austin.org/ give-from-home



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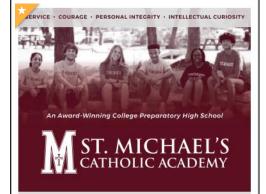
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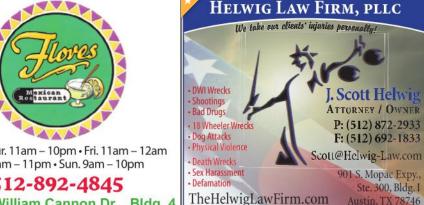
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