

ST. CATHERINE of SIENA catholic church



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(subject to change)

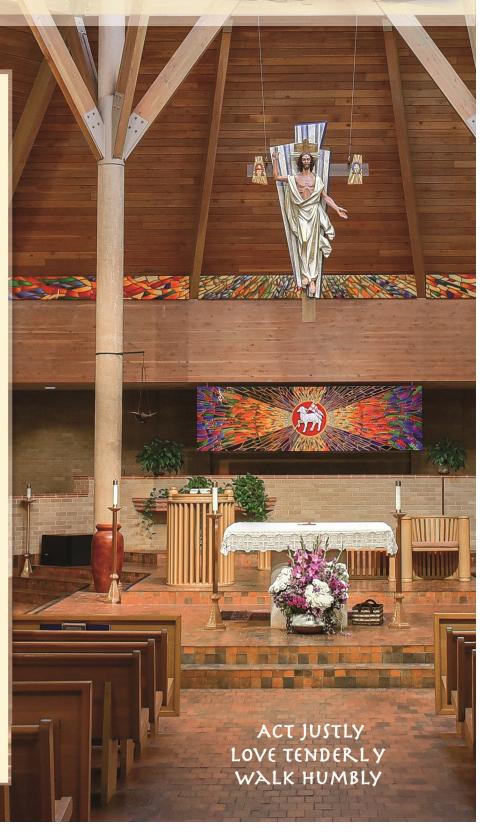
Saturday, December 6:

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Reconciliation, 5:00 p.m. MassFr. Pat

Sunday, December 7:

7:30 a.m. MassFr. Pat 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m. Mass...... Fr. Lou 1:15 p.m. & 5 p.m. MassFr. Johannes

Welcome ...



From the Pastor's Office

2nd Sunday of Advent

Familiar Advent themes come to visit us again. "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse." The only time I hear the word stump is when I walk on the trail and there is a bit of a tree rotting on the side of the pathway. For all intents and purposes this stump is dead. The rot has begun to set in. Then one day without realizing it a shoot appears to grow out of the stump. There is life in this old bird yet. The biblical background to this image lies in the fact that the prophecy of the Messiah was a very ancient prophecy handed down from one generation to the next. At some point you kind of get tired of waiting. You move onto something else. That becomes an old wives tale. There was always a remnant of the faithful who waited for the coming of the Savior. These are called the Anawim in the bible.

The Anawim of the Old Testament were the poor of every sort: the vulnerable, the marginalized, and socio-economically oppressed, those of lowly status without earthly power. In fact, they depended totally on God for whatever their survival. It is often the Anawim who are the people of great faith in our community. Their lowliness makes them lean on God for help and support. We have lots of Anawim in our community. Lots of them live under the overpasses and in the shelters. The Anawim of St. Catherine's live in the shadows. Famous Biblical people like Mary and Joseph numbered among the Anawim. John the Baptist pops his head up again. He is the voice crying in the wilderness telling us to prepare the Way of the Lord. We have lots of people in our society who are the voices crying in the wilderness. Today they have to compete with Corporate and Commercial America. It is hard to be heard when Santa Claus is ringing his bell a few doors down. Deck

the Halls with boughs of Holly, falalalalalalala. But we keep going. St. Catherine's is busy



preparing for the coming of the Messiah. Our choirs are rehearsing. People are putting up decorations to make the Church nice. Other people go out delivering our Christmas presents to needy and deserving people. This is a season when we share from our bounty. We don't need all of that stuff. We can share some of it. All of it makes us feel a bit Christmassy. We like that. We also have our Parish Christmas party coming soon. It's all great. We proclaim the message that the Messiah is coming. Prepare the Way for Him. This is good news. Christmas brings messages of hope and joy. We should focus on those.

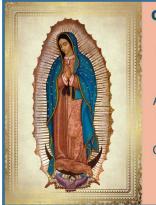
> With love, Fr. Pat

FULL-TIME CUSTODIAN NEEDED

We are looking for a FULL-TIME
CUSTODIAN to work 40 hours per week.
This job may require evening and weekend hours. Must be able to lift tables and chairs exceeding 50 pounds. Interested parties should contact Sue in the Administration Office.

(512) 892-2420





Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

Saturday, December 13 at 5 p.m.

Featuring a dramatization by the Amigos Club of the appearance of the Virgin Mary to St. Juan Diego.

Cookies and hot chocolate served after Mass in Johnson Hall.





Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 6

5:00 pm Amador Munoz †

Sunday, December 7

7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Barbara Convery (SI)

11:30 am John † and Mae † Sosnosky

1:15 pm John Muniz † 5:00 pm Abraham Sims †

Monday, December 8

12:00 pm Alfred Moreno, Jr. †
7:00 pm Joe and Rossana Barrios'
30-Year Anniversary (SI)

Tuesday, December 9

12:00 pm Suellen M. Rodi † 7:00 pm Joshua Draper †

Wednesday, December 10

12:00 pm Julia De Los Reyes†

Thursday, December 11

12:00 pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

19th Anniversary (SI)

Friday, December 12

12:00 pm Mary and Glenn (SI)

† = Deceased SI = Special Intention

Sanctuary Lamp & Adoration Candles

Week of December 7

- Adoration Chapel donated by My and LuAnn Van-Dinh for birthday blessings to Stephanie Li-Diaz
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine donated by Amy Stringfellow in loving memory of Chuck and Joanie Miller
- Sacred Heart Shrine donated by Paula M. Willis in loving memory of her brother Glenn

Sanctuary Lamps: Sign Up to have a Sanctuary Lamp lit for a week for a special intention. Suggested donation is \$10.



Please pray for

The Sick Connor Hull Mindy Cavazos Philomena Leinen **Kyle Cravens** Tracy Leinen Frank Dworaczyk **Sharon Lufftus** Jane Dworaczyk Carolyn Massey Caroline Garcia Yoli Muniz David Guzman John Naftanel Mary Hamad Ken Otte

Olga Marie Prieto

Carol Ramirez
Nicolas J. Salas
Betty Stone
Christina M. Tovar
Frank Yorke
Kathleen Walschlager

Jack Wolford

Our Service Members

Alma Hughes

Randall Davis Michael Mazurek Kevin Goodlett Corey Leinen

The Repose of the Souls of Loved Ones recently called home by our Savior.

Collection Amounts

Thank you for your continued support! We are grateful to this community for giving so greatly and regularly at Mass and at home through online and mail contributions.



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Feast Day - Monday, December 8 Holy Day of Obligation



Masses are scheduled for 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Liturgy

Second Sunday of Advent - Peace

Today is the Second Sunday of Advent! The theme for today is peace. Our Psalm today says "Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever." In the Gospel reading, John the Baptist

commands us to "Repent!" and tells us to "produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance." This Advent may we truly believe that the kingdom of Heaven is at hand, so that we repent and find peace in the mercy and love of God.

As we come to the end of the Jubilee Year of 2025, the theme for which Pope Francis gave us as "Pilgrims of Hope," we are offering the following opportunities to celebrate a hope-filled Advent at St. Catherine's:

- Las Posadas, Sunday, December 7 at 6:15 p.m.
 St. Catherine's will host Las Posadas after the 5 p.m.
 Mass. All families are invited to attend the Bethlehem walk with Mary and Joseph as they look for a room for baby Jesus to be born.
- Immaculate Conception Mass on Monday, December 8 at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. This is a Holy Day of Obligation. For the noon Mass, the Apostles of Mary group invites you to the daily 11:20 a.m. rosary in the Day Chapel. After 12 p.m. Mass, you are invited to attend their potluck lunch in the Parish Center. Please bring a MAIN ITEM TO SHARE and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners and have a nice lunch, as well!
- Advent Parish Penance Service on Wednesday,
 December 10, at 7 p.m. The service will include an
 opportunity for individual confessions with our own
 parish priests or with a visiting priest from the diocese.
- Join us for Christmas Carols and Cookies on Friday,
 December 12, from 7-9 p.m. We will start in the church with Christmas carols, with cookies to follow in Johnson Hall. We will gather to celebrate Christmas together at this fun family event. Please bring some cookies to share!
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass will be on Saturday,
 December 13 at the 5 p.m. Mass. Our annual Mass for the Feast of Our Lady will once again feature a dramatization by our Amigos Club of the appearance of the Virgin Mary to St. Juan Diego.
- The Telling of the Christmas Story, Sunday, December 14 at 3 p.m. in the Church. Come listen and participate in the telling of the Christmas story. Children can come dressed in simple costumes like angels, shepherds and kings so they can be part of the story. Everyone is invited to this annual event.

Advent Penance Services at Area Churches

In addition to our Advent Parish Penance Service, there are other services in surrounding areas:

<u>Tuesday, December 9</u> Emmaus Parish - 6 p.m. <u>Thursday, December 11</u> St. Peter the Apostle Parish - 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 16 St. John Neumann Parish - 6 p.m.

Visit <u>austindiocese.org/advent-penance-services</u> for a full list of Advent Penance Services in the Diocese of Austin.

Community Ministries

Christmas Carols and Cookies

Christmas is upon us! Come celebrate the season with us as we gather in the church to sing beloved Christmas carols on Friday, December 12 at 7 p.m. Afterward, everyone is invited to Johnson Hall for fellowship, cookies, finger foods, coffee and hot cocoa. Hope to see you then!! Merry Christmas!

The Giving Tree Project

Thank you for your very generous support of the Giving Tree Project. We delivered the gifts on Saturday, December 6. More information will be available next week. We have been overwhelmed by your generosity! Thank you and God bless you!

Donations Needed

Gently used winter coats and clothing, white tube socks, and small toiletries, boy's toddler clothing, and baby wipes. Thank you!

Mobile Loaves and Fishes

Would you like to volunteer for Mobile Loaves & Fishes? We go out every 3rd and 4th Saturday mornings of the month. EIM Certification is required for any ministry work. If you need information about that, please contact <u>Evelyn Amador</u> in the main office. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Rhonda Smith at <u>Rhonda.smith@stcatherine-austin.org</u>.





The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Day of Obligation – December 8
Masses at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m.
(Information below for the 12 p.m. Mass only)

The **Apostles of Mary** group invites you to the daily 11:20 a.m. rosary in the day chapel on December 8 before noon Mass

After noon Mass, we will enjoy a **LUNCH** in the Parish Center. Please bring a **MAIN ITEM TO SHARE** and enjoy the company of your fellow parishioners—and have a nice lunch as well!

Adult Faith Formation

OCIA Hospitality: This week's refreshments and Ministry Minute will be provided by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Next week's hosts will be the Arts and Environment Committee. God bless you for your kindness!

Centering Prayer Group

This group meets every Wednesday at 1 p.m. in the Cenacle and on Mondays via Zoom at 3 p.m. For information, contact Marianne Metzner at MarianneMetznerLPC@gmail.com or (512) 203-5460.

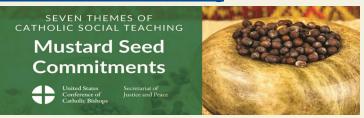
Breaking Open the Word (Tuesdays Online)

Study the Sunday readings with this online resource that is <u>shared</u> <u>weekly on the website</u>. Join our online group on Tuesdays from 1 - 2:30 p.m. or study alone. To join, email <u>Jennifer Gamblin</u>.

Lay Missionaries of Charity

Lay Missionaries of Charity welcome you to "Come and See" any Tuesday for Adoration at 10 a.m., followed by our general meeting with a Rosary in the Ignite Room and Daily Mass at noon. For more information, contact Alison Manzer at (512) 746-7206 or Stephanie Nelson at (512) 730-3920.

Catholic Social Teaching



Advent Activity: Mustard Seed Commitments

What are you doing for Advent? Advent is a time when we deepen our prayer lives and prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Advent is also a time when our Sunday readings talk about a new heaven and a new earth, a time of God's justice and right-relationships, and we are called by God to help bring about the Reign of God on earth. So, what are you doing for Advent? The Catholic Social Teaching ministry here at St. Catherine's invites all parishioners, families and ministries to participate in the Mustard Seed Commitments. This is an initiative of the U.S. Bishops and is a list of small, "concrete actions such as changes in lifestyle or habits, that someone can easily adopt." The Mustard Seed Commitments are based on the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Visit our parish website or pick up a copy of the Mustard Seed Commitments from our parish Information Tables in the narthex. Share your Mustard Seed Commitments using the form on our website or email them to marti.salas@stcatherine-austin.org. We will post them on our parish social media (anonymously, if you prefer) to inspire our parish community to plant the seeds of justice in our world. We invite all parishioners to participate as individuals, families or ministry groups and to send in photos of themselves acting on or living their Mustard Seed Commitment. Committing to one small action for each week of Advent or to all of them for the season of Advent. Let's come together as a parish community and work to build the City of God among us!

No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion Wednesdays - January 14 to February 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center, Room 233/234 (2nd Floor)

Dieu Van Dinh will facilitate this beautiful five-session study from Ascension Press. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation grow closer to Jesus than you ever have before. Click here for information and to register online.



Will You Follow Jesus to Calvary? No Greater Love is a Biblical Pilgrimage that Reveals Christ's Amazing Love for Us

This Beautiful Five-Session Bible Study will be Facilitated by Dieu Van Dinh Wednesdays Beginning January 14 to February 11

Meetings Begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center, Rm. 233/234 (2nd floor)

Click Here for More Information and to Register Online

Las Posadas Sunday, December 7 after 5 p.m. Mass Attend the Bethlehem walk with Mary and Joseph as they look for a room for baby Jesus to be born. Refreshments will be served afterward in Johnson Hall.

Heart of Jesus: A Discernment Retreat for Men



Men of the parish, have you considered whether God might be calling you to the priesthood?

Join Fr. Greg Gerhart, the Vocation Director of the diocese, for Heart of Jesus: A Discernment Retreat for Men. The retreat will include time for prayer, spiritual conferences on discernment and vocations, and opportunities to speak with priests, seminarians, and other men discerning their vocation.

The retreat will take place on **December 17-19** at **Cedarbrake Retreat Center in Belton, TX**, and is open to single men who are 18-49 years old. Click here to register online.

Upcoming Parish Meetings

Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary Meeting - December 8

If you are a wife, widow, mother, sister or daughter (over 18 years of age) of any member of the Knights of Columbus, in any parish, you are eligible to join the Knights of Columbus Ladies' Auxiliary! This group meets the second Monday of the month through May, beginning at 7 p.m. in Siena Hall of the Parish Center. The December meeting will be on December 8.

Bridge Club (Mondays)

Experienced bridge players are welcome to join the Bridge Club every Monday from 1 - 4 p.m. in the Parish Center, Room 222 (next to Mondays, 1 - 4 p.m. Siena Hall on the second floor). Questions? Contact nancydobbs@yahoo.com.



Prime Timers "Return to Siena Festive Festa" - December 10

Tis the season to be jolly! Come have fun with the Prime Timers as we celebrate the season with a "Return to Siena Festive Festa!" Gather together with fellow parishioners and friends and enjoy a delicious Italian buffet with fun,



fellowship, holiday music and games as we exchange gift cards and have a great time together. The cost is \$20 per person, which includes the Italian buffet, dessert, drinks, tax and gratuity.

Please turn in payment in the Prime Timers box in the narthex by Monday, December 8; payment will not be accepted at the lunch. Bring a wrapped gift card in the amount of \$10 for the Christmas Gift Card Exchange. RSVP by December 8 at primetimers20@gmail.com or Sign Up Genius at https:// www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E45A4AB2DABF49-60556699return.

St. Catherine's Cross Stitch Group (Wednesdays)

St. Catherine's Cross Stitch group meets at 1 p.m. Wednesdays in the Parish Center, rooms 231/232. ALL experience levels invited! No tools needed to get started! Contact Glenda Massey at m4force@aol.com for more information.



Walking with Purpose - December 11, 7 p.m. in the Cenacle and Siena Hall

If you desire to grow in your faith - in a supportive community of Catholic women - Walking with Purpose is for you! The Walking with Purpose (WWP) Bible study combines personal study workbooks with small group discussions,



linking our everyday challenges to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. Click here for more information and to register.

Senior Ministry Christmas Celebration Brunch with Fr. Lou -December 18, 10 a.m. in the Cenacle

Join Fr. Lou as he leads us in Christmas traditions and the singing of Christmas carols. We welcome any Christmas cookies or traditional holiday foods you would like to share. Click here for more information about Senior Ministry.



Prayer Shawl Ministry - December 18 at 1 p.m.

If you know of someone in need of prayer, (grieving, illness, new baby, etc.), please contact Heidi Langan at

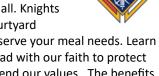




shawl. Our next meeting is on Thursday, December 18, 1 - 2 p.m. in the Parish Center, room 231/232. Experienced crocheters and knitters are always welcome.

Knights of Columbus Monthly BBQ - December 21

On Sunday, December 21, the Knights of Columbus Council 8156 will hold its monthly BBQ of Chicken, Pork Tenderloin, Ribs and Sausage in support of Patriots Hall. Knights will be in the St. Catherine's Courtyard



beginning at 7:30 a.m. Mass to serve your meal needs. Learn how the Knights of Columbus lead with our faith to protect the family, serve others and defend our values. The benefits of being a Knight are numerous. Contact the Membership Director at 512-576-4675!

Six Week Grief Support Group - Wednesdays Beginning January 7 Through February 11, 2026

If you have lost a loved one, you are invited to join a Six Week Grief Support Group that will meet on Wednesdays beginning January 7, 2026. Sessions will include a time to learn about grief, share your sorrow, and recognize and pray for healing. The group will be led by Lori Kruczek, founding member of St. Catherine of Siena, who has participated in our Grief Ministry since 2014. Click here to register online, or contact Evelyn Amador at evelyn.amador@stcatherine-austin.org, or (512) 892-2420 ext. 315.



Wednesday, December 10 12:30 p.m. in Siena Hall

- Fun, Games & Fellowship
- Christmas Gift Card Exchange
- \$20/Person + \$10 Gift Card
- Click here for more information and to RSVP by December 8

MUSICIANS!

Join us this Christmas!

We're looking for guest musicians and singers to help make our Christmas Masses even more beautiful.

Vocalists and Instrumentalists in all categories (Brass, Strings, Percussion, Woodwinds and more) are invited to participate.

High School Students can earn Service Hours.

Use this QR code with your smart phone camera to go to the website and learn more or volunteer:



https://stcatherine-austin.org/music-ministry-christmas-info-and-signup-page

Or for more information, visit Eric Carreiro (Music Director) after Mass, email eric.carreiro@stcatherine-austin.org or call Eric at (512) 892-2420 x342.



Pictures from the Parish

A glimpse into activities at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.









Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped sort gifts and food for the Giving Tree Project on December 3, and for all who helped deliver gifts on December 6.

Merry Christmas!















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

After Hours Emergency:

.....(512) 731-2294 or (979) 451-5821 **Staff Email:**

first name.last name@stcatherine-austin.org

Staff Directory

Senior PriestFr. Louis Brusatti louisb@stedwards.edu

Deacons

Art Cavazos <u>arthur.cavazos2331@gmail.com</u>
Pastoral AssociateMarti Salas
Business AdministratorSue LeFevre
Director of MusicEric Paul Carreiro
Liturgy CoordinatorKatheryn Daniel

Administration:

Evelyn Amador, Rossana Barrios, Erin Hummel, Monica Sanchez, Danielle Nepustil **Community Ministries:**Rhonda Smith, Jo Ann Campbell

Preschool Ministries: Heather Riley Religious Education (Adult):

..... Marti Salas, Jennifer Gamblin

Religious Education (Children & Youth):

Marti Salas, Sarah Pedrozo, Laura Bristow, Cynthia Rodriguez, Livia Telles-Rodriguez

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	7:30 am, 9:30 am*
11:3	30 am, 1:15 pm, 5:00 pm
Monday – Friday	12:00 pm*
Tuesday	7:00 pm
* Denotes	online livestream Masses

Confession

Saturday	. 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Tuesday	. 6:00 pm – 6:45 pm
By Appointment	(512) 892-2420

Adoration (Day Chapel)

Monday - Friday	9:00 am – 11:30 am
Thursday	4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Daily Rosary (Day Chapel)

Monday - Friday......11:20 am - 11:45 am

Organizations

ACTS

7.0.0
Rod Whisnant, Actscoreteam@gmail.com
Amigos Sandra Soto 921-2740
Bridge ClubNancy Dobrinski 796-6688
K of C Auxiliary Pamela White 785-4086
K of C Council #8156
Arnold Auzenne 299-3527
Krafty LadiesRachel Lopez 565-1890
Ladies Club Brenda Mayes 791-8405
Lay Missionaries of Charity
Alison Manzer 745-7206
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Heidi Langan 497-1082
Prime Timers Juanita Josel 394-1254
St. Vincent de Paul Cathi Brown 826-7035
St. Vincent de Paul Assistance 550-5160
Scouts David Pesek 970-1218

Marriage: Contact Monica Sanchez at monica.sanchez@stcatherine-austin.org or (512) 892-2420 at least nine months prior to the wedding date.

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

Bulletin: Send email to Danielle Nepustil at danielle.nepustil@stcatherine-austin.org.

Updated EIM Compliance Information

The mission of the Diocese of Austin's Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM) program is to help protect people from abuse and unethical behavior through education, action, and reporting, and to listen to and learn from those who have experienced abuse in order to provide healing. EIM compliance is required for persons active in most ministries in the diocese. Looking for resources and information about safeguarding children and other vulnerable people? Do you want to volunteer and are new to the EIM process? Are you returning to ministry and already have an EIM account? Visit austindiocese.org/eim to learn more about EIM policies and procedures and how they keep our parishes and schools safer for everyone. Contact your parish or school's EIM site administrator, Evelyn Amador at evelyn.amador@stcatherine-austin.org, or eim@austindiocese.org for additional assistance. Report Abuse: Report abuse of a minor, elderly adult, or an adult with a disability to local law enforcement or the Texas Abuse Hotline at www.txabusehotline.org or (800) 252-5400 and the diocese at www.austindiocese.org/report-abuse or (512) 949-2447.

Stay Connected!

We want to communicate more effectively with you and make it easy for you to control the announcements you receive and how you are notified. We are now using a service called *CONNECT*. You can subscribe to regular e-mails from St. Catherine of Siena by <u>clicking here</u>. 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, as well as receive weekly updates with a direct link to our digital bulletin. Your information will be completely safe and secure. You can unsubscribe from any updates at any time! Thank you for being a part of our parish community!

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.

WAYS TO GIVE



Donate Online at stcatherine-austin.org/ give-from-home



PayPal



venmo



(Parish website)



Call Erin Hummel (512) 892-2420 to set up online giving