

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

We are called to honor the Lord by serving each other in hope.



September 26, 2021
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1150 West Centre Ave. • Portage, MI • www.stcatherinesiena.org • (269) 327-5165
In case of after-hours emergency, death, or danger of death, please call: (269) 598-0357

News from Fr. Mark



Dear Parishioners,

Our fall classes, Faith Formation, Bible Studies, and RCIA have all started. It's nice to have everything back in person versus what we were forced to do during the early days of the pandemic. But we are still doing everything we can to keep everyone safe and healthy on our campus. As we have brought all these things back, some of the groups may notice that they are in different locations.

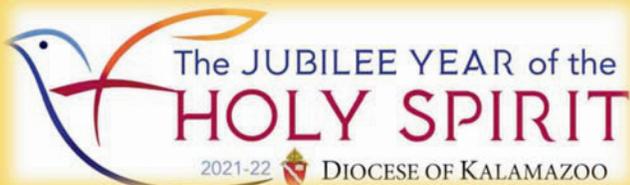
During the past few months, our staff had an opportunity to look at how our facilities were used and we decided to make better use of our buildings. For example, the meeting rooms and spaces in the Stanley Centre are now being utilized more for parish group meetings and activities. We also had to take a hard look at which groups actually belonged to the parish and which groups did not have a parish affiliation. It's only natural that our liturgical schedule (Masses, funerals, weddings) and faith instruction for children and adults should have first priority followed by groups that are sponsored by St. Catherine's. Groups that previously asked to use our facilities but were not from our parish, or a bona fide parish activity, have not been given priority over our parish groups. This has freed spaces to accommodate our parish groups in a better way. We appreciate everyone's patience as we have made these adjustments.

Of course, everyone is waiting for the renovations and construction to finish on Marian Hall and the parish kitchen. Every week we get a little closer to this goal, but we are not there yet. There are always delays in construction projects. In the meantime, our donut crews have come up with "donuts to go" after the Sunday morning Masses. These are not our homemade donuts, but Sweetwater donuts we had to purchase as a temporary measure. Our donut crews will be standing by and will be ready when construction is completed!

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Mark

Heavenly Father, you have given your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ reign over your Kingdom, through his intercession you have sent forth your Spirit through Mary and the Apostles to begin the work of your Church and to renew the face of the earth. Through that same Spirit, we ask you to renew the Church throughout the world, but especially in our own diocese of Kalamazoo. In this month, we especially ask that your Spirit bear to fullness in us, the fruit of charity in our hearts. Bring to each of us ample opportunities throughout the month to exercise this virtue, such that by its daily practice, it may blossom into persevering habit. We ask this through the same Christ, Our Lord, Amen.



Learn more at <https://www.diokzoo.org/holy-spirit>

Clergy Contacts

Fr. Mark Vyverman fathermark@stcatherinesiena.org
 Fr. Bill Jacobs fatherbill@stcatherinesiena.org
 Fr. Ben Huynh fatherben@stcatherinesiena.org
 Deacon Brian deaconbrian@stcatherinesiena.org

Call our Front Office to leave a non-urgent message for a Priest or Deacon **(269) 327-5165**

After-hours emergency, death or danger of death, call for a Priest: (269) 598-0357

Schedule

Mass

Monday - Saturday: 9:15 am (Trinity Chapel)
 Saturday: 4:00 pm; Vigil Mass
 Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am, & 5:00 pm

All schedules are subject to change.

Check our website for the most up to date information.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We are offering "drive-in" confessions in our main parking lot on **Saturdays from 11:00 am -12:00 pm.**

Please remain in your car during your reconciliation.

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am—12:00 pm
 Phone: (269) 327-5165 Fax: (269) 327-7266
 Email: FrontDesk@stcatherinesiena.org
 Text to Give: (844) 311-5105

Visit Our Website: www.stcatherinesiena.org

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If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, please call (269) 978-2344 or email prayers@stcatherinesiena.org.

Stewardship

Collections September 6-12, 2021:	\$20,194
Collections September 7-13, 2020:	\$17,034
2021-2022 Year to Date Actuals:	\$276,573
2020-2021 Year to Date Actuals:	\$254,694

Giving Through eGiving & ACH

Thank you for your continued support of our church. We ask those who can to continue giving, either via mail or **eGiving through Vanco** at <https://stcatherinesiena.org/give>. If you are interested in starting an automatic deposit of offerings, we have an **Automated Clearing House (ACH)** option you can utilize. Please see more information about this program on our website at <https://stcatherinesiena.org/ach-form>.

Sunday Connection

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. The Greek word used here for sin also connotes "stumbling" or "causing scandal." In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/26h-sunday-in-ordinary-time-b-sunday-connection/>

LOYOLAPRESS.

Our Reflection on the Readings

Today's first reading from the Old Testament and Mark's Gospel share a very important theme that is as relevant today as it was to the ancient Israelites and the early Christian community. In the first reading, Moses is urged by Joshua to stop two elders from prophesying because they were absent when the Lord sent His Spirit on the other 70 elders. Joshua was saying these two were not "righteous" and therefore should be stopped. Prophesying in this sense did not mean foretelling of the future but proclaiming with great enthusiasm one's exaltation and love of the Lord. Moses rebukes Joshua for jealousy, saying it would be great if all the people of the Lord were prophets. In the Gospel, a similar scenario unfolds. Jesus is told by John that the disciples tried to stop someone driving out demons in the name of Jesus. Like Moses, Jesus rebukes John telling him that the man should not be stopped because he's performing a mighty deed in the name of Jesus. Jesus says that even someone who just gives another a cup of water will be rewarded.

Both scripture passages highlight the danger of exclusion, intolerance and jealousy. The followers of Moses and of Jesus viewed these "outsiders" as not one of "them" as they were acting and speaking incorrectly. Yet both Moses and Jesus reminded these critics that God sometimes looks at things differently and works through these "outsiders" too. God was sending His Spirit to them also as they performed faithful and righteous deeds. They were not to be excluded because God was leading them on a different path. Still today, how many times do we immediately dismiss or exclude others because they do not follow the path or journey of faith that we think is right? The scripture message is clear that what flows from the heart - through the work of the Holy Spirit- is what matters, not what we may personally judge as proper and acceptable practices. How can we help heal divisions, even within our own Catholic faithful?

Reflection by St. Catherine's parishioner Dale Gerber

Faith Formation



Children's Faith Formation in Full Swing!

Last week, our Children's Faith Formation (CFF) started with a very successful beginning! We're so excited to have our students back in classes in the church. Thank you to our catechists, students, and parents for complying with all our new safety guidelines for the classrooms. We know it's not ideal, but we want to keep our kids safe and in the classroom! Late registration ended on September 20. We regret we can no longer accept new students at this time. Thank you for your understanding!

Children's Faith Formation
Karen Galloway, Director
cff@stcatherinesiena.org
(269) 370-9013



Save the Date!
Trunk or Treat
is Sunday,
October 24
from
6:00—9:00 pm



Youth Faith Formation
Phil Dezern, Director
pdezern@stcatherinesiena.org
(616) 633-0994

In-Person and Online Youth Faith Formation Available!

Anyone who will be in grades 6-12 this coming school year are welcome to come. **If you have been confirmed, WE WANT YOU TO COME!** Youth Ministry helps prepare for Confirmation but is not just a Confirmation prep program.

We will be offering many program options. On-Line and In-Person

You can do both the online and the in-person at the same time. Both programs will provide individuals hours for Confirmation.

<https://stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com/YFF>

RSVP to Phil, please!

Join our Youth Faith Formation

Sunday, September 26 @ 3:30 - 4:45 pm or @ 6:15 - 7:30 pm	Sunday, October 10 @ 3:30 - 4:45 or @ 6:15 - 7:30
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Save the Date! Movie Retreat, October 9
@ 12:30 - 4:45 pm

Phil Dezern
Director of Youth Faith Formation
pdezern@stcatherinesiena.org
(616) 633-0994

SAINT CATHERINE of SIENA

Online Diocesan Program:

<http://www.diokzoo.org/theway>

Do this program at your own pace. Go to the website above. Click the lesson you want to do. Watch the videos. Find the grade that is appropriate. 9th-12th grade Candidates use the 8th grade module. At the end of each session are questions. Write an answer to 4 of the questions listed. Turn those into Philip Dezern and you will get one hour of credit towards Confirmation, per session of questions you complete. You can email or mail these to Philip Dezern. You can turn these in after each session, monthly, or after all sessions are completed. Please put your name on top of the sheet, the grade you are in, and the session topic.

In-Person Program: Check the bulletin for dates for activities

We are not guaranteeing we will be offering in-person activities every month. You will register with Philip Dezern by email, phone call, or text per session.

Masks are required for all in-person activities.

News Around St. Catherine's

Respect Life Ministry: LIFE CHAIN Event October 3

Each year LIFE CHAINS form across the United States and Canada—and around the world—to make a public, prayerful, and peaceful witness against legalized abortion. The next LIFE CHAIN will take place on **Sunday, October 3, from 2:30 to 3:30 pm**. Join other pro life groups and churches across the country to stand in solidarity against the loss of innocent lives. The Portage/Kalamazoo LIFE CHAIN takes place along S Westnedge. St Catherine's location is again at the southwest corner of Milham and S. Westnedge. Come early to get a sign to display as you pray. For questions, email respectlife@stcatherinesiena.org or call Joe Magalski at (989) 992-6085.

MOPS Pop Can Collection Drive

Do you have a collection of pop cans piling up in your garage? Our Moms of Preschoolers (MOPS) will take them! Please bring your cans to Mass on Sunday, October 3 for their pop can drive. If you have any questions about this drive, please contact Deb Dozeman at ddozeman@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-3441.

DONUTS ARE BACK!

Thank you to our Coffee & Donut Ministry for helping to bring back DONUTS (COVID-Friendly) this fall! Every other week they will bring us SWEETWATER DONUTS bagged up and ready to go to enjoy at home until Marian Hall and our kitchen is up and running again.

Join us for our next round of donuts this weekend on Sunday, September 26 after all the morning Masses.



Providing support and finding Hope in the scripture for those who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, loss of a child, or infertility.

L i g h t o f H o p e

Light of Hope is for all those who experienced miscarriage, stillbirth, loss of a child or infertility at any point in their lives.

The goal of this group is to support, pray for each other, find ways to give back in honor of our losses and to dive deeper into the scripture to come to a place of Hope and healing.

This fall we will be working through a Bible study seeking the

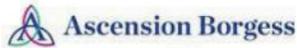
Light of Hope in God's word and working through different stages of waiting for and/or grieving the loss of a child. We will use Psalm 139 to seek how we are Fully Known by the Lord in this and all stage of our lives.

Starts Tuesday, October 12 at 7:00 pm

Stanley Centre, Fellowship Room

Contact Katie Holysz at ktholysz@gmail.com if you'd like to join.

SAINT
CATHERINE
of SIENA



Get the **FLU** **SHOT** not the flu!

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

Saturday, October 23

2:00 pm-4:00 pm

St. Catherine's Church Narthex

Vaccines Available	
<i>If you are unsure which vaccine to choose, please talk with your healthcare provider.</i>	
Flu	Pneumonia <i>(discuss with your healthcare provider)</i>
High Dose Quadrivalent (65 years and up)	Pneumovax 23 (19 years and up)
Quadrivalent (6 months and up)	Prenvar 13 (19 years and up)
Quadrivalent FluMist Nasal Spray (2-17 years)	

NOTE: All vaccines listed may not be available at every clinic. Delivery times are expected to be delayed due to the increased quantities manufacturers are producing.

Flu and pneumonia vaccines are FREE with most insurances.

All Medicare Part B plans, and most commercial insurances are accepted.

We are not able to accept any Medicaid or Medicaid HMO insurances. Anyone with Medicaid or Medicaid HMO insurance should contact their primary care physician for an immunization.

Appropriate COVID-19 guidelines will be followed.
Each patient will undergo COVID-19 screening.



The prices below indicate a 50% discount for anyone without insurance who pays by cash  or check  at the time of service. We are not able to accept credit or debit cards.

Flu \$62
High Dose Quadrivalent
Pneumonia \$148.50
Pneumovax 23

\$42 Flu Quadrivalent
\$161.50 Prenvar 13

\$38 FluMist Nasal Spray

For additional information, call 269-324-8466 or visit www.ascension.org/flushotkalamazoo.

Why should you join the Welcome Committee?

It's a great way to meet new people, both in terms of established parishioners and new members. It also connects us all to the current parish family.

The Welcome Committee welcomes new parishioners to St. Catherine of Siena to enrich the overall hospitality offered by our church. We meet several times a year to discuss past and future events and make monthly phone calls to welcome new parishioners.

■

**So you must befriend the alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt.
Deut. 10:19**

■

Join us today! Contact Ted or Joanne Petropoulos at (269) 341-2702

**[https://stcatherinesiena.org/
welcomecommittee](https://stcatherinesiena.org/welcomecommittee)**



Encountering Christ: Joyfully Unleashing Your Gifts

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest – Matthew 11:28

STEWARDSHIP



A Call To Discipleship

*Please join us for a day of prayer
and reflection designed to help
you encounter Christ more
deeply while encouraging the
joy of generous giving.
All are welcome!*

Save the date:

October 9, 2021

St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo

Schedule:

8:00 a.m.	Registration
8:45 a.m.	Mass with Bishop Paul J. Bradley
9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Refreshments
10:00 a.m.	Jesus & The Rich Young Man <i>with Jay Landry</i>
10:45 a.m.	Father's Reflection <i>with Father Ken Schmidt</i>
11:15 a.m.	Quiet time
12:00 p.m.	Large Group Discussion

12:15 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	Personal Testimony <i>with Marci McCarthy</i>
2:00 p.m.	Jesus & Zacchaeus <i>with Jay Landry</i>
2:40 p.m.	Quiet Time
3:15 p.m.	Sharing and Wrap-Up
4:00 p.m.	Closing Prayer

Register and learn more at: diokzoo.org/stewardship-and-development



DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO
215 N. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007



Presented by the Office of Stewardship and Development
Contact: Tom Dowdall | 269-903-0145 – ext: 1351
Email: tdowdall@diokzoo.org
www.diokzoo.org

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: September 25, Vigil of the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Ralph † and Leon † DeBoer

SUNDAY: September 26, Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:00 am Inez Gabel †

11:00 am Rick Pitera †

5:00 pm John Klimek †

MONDAY: September 27, Memorial of Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest

Zec 8:1-8; Lk 9:46-50

9:15 am Marina Nalin Violin †

TUESDAY: September 28, Saint Wenceslaus, Martyr; Saint Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs

Zec 8:20-23; Lk 9:51-56

9:15 am Kathleen Karl †

WEDNESDAY: September 29, Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Jn 1:47-51

9:15 am Russell Winquist †

THURSDAY: September 30, Memorial of Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Lk 10:1-12

9:15 am Monica Ogrin †

FRIDAY: October 1, Memorial of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Bar 1:15-22; Lk 10:13-16

9:15 am Deacon David Brown †

SATURDAY: October 2, Memorial of the Holy Guardian Angels

Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Mt 18:1-5, 10

9:15 am John Klimek †

SATURDAY: October 2, Vigil of The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Peter D'Souza †

SUNDAY: October 3, The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

7:30 am Maria Moralez - Aguilar †

9:00 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Robert Putnam †

5:00 pm David C. Otto †

Staff Contacts

Administrative Assistant

Alana Murray / frontdesk@ / (269) 327-5165

Adult Faith Formation

Fr. Mark Vyverman / fathermark@ / (269) 327-5165

Children's Faith Formation

Karen Galloway / cff@ / (269) 327-0861

Paula Hudson / cff@ / (269) 327-0861

Finance

Alan DeMars / ademars@ / (269) 978-2338

Linda Reaume / lreaume@ / (269) 978-2346

Human Resources

Alan DeMars / ademars@ / (269) 978-2338

IT & Communications Coordinator

Kendra Stampor / kstampor@ / (269) 978-2332

Music Ministry

Tricia Tetzlaff / ttetzlaff@ / (269) 978-2333

Nursery Coordinator

(Nursery Closed Until Further Notice)

Deb Dozeman / ddozeman@ / (269) 327-3441

Office Supervisor

Marianne Verner / mverner@ / (269) 978-2340

Parish Nurse (volunteer)

Paula White / pwhitentc@mac.com / (269) 330-3762

Virtus & Communication Manager

Deb Dozeman / ddozeman@ / (269) 327-3441

Youth Faith Formation

Phil Dezern / pdezern@ / (616) 633-0994

Unless otherwise indicated,
all email addresses end in:
@stcatherinesiena.org

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having you as part of our flock



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