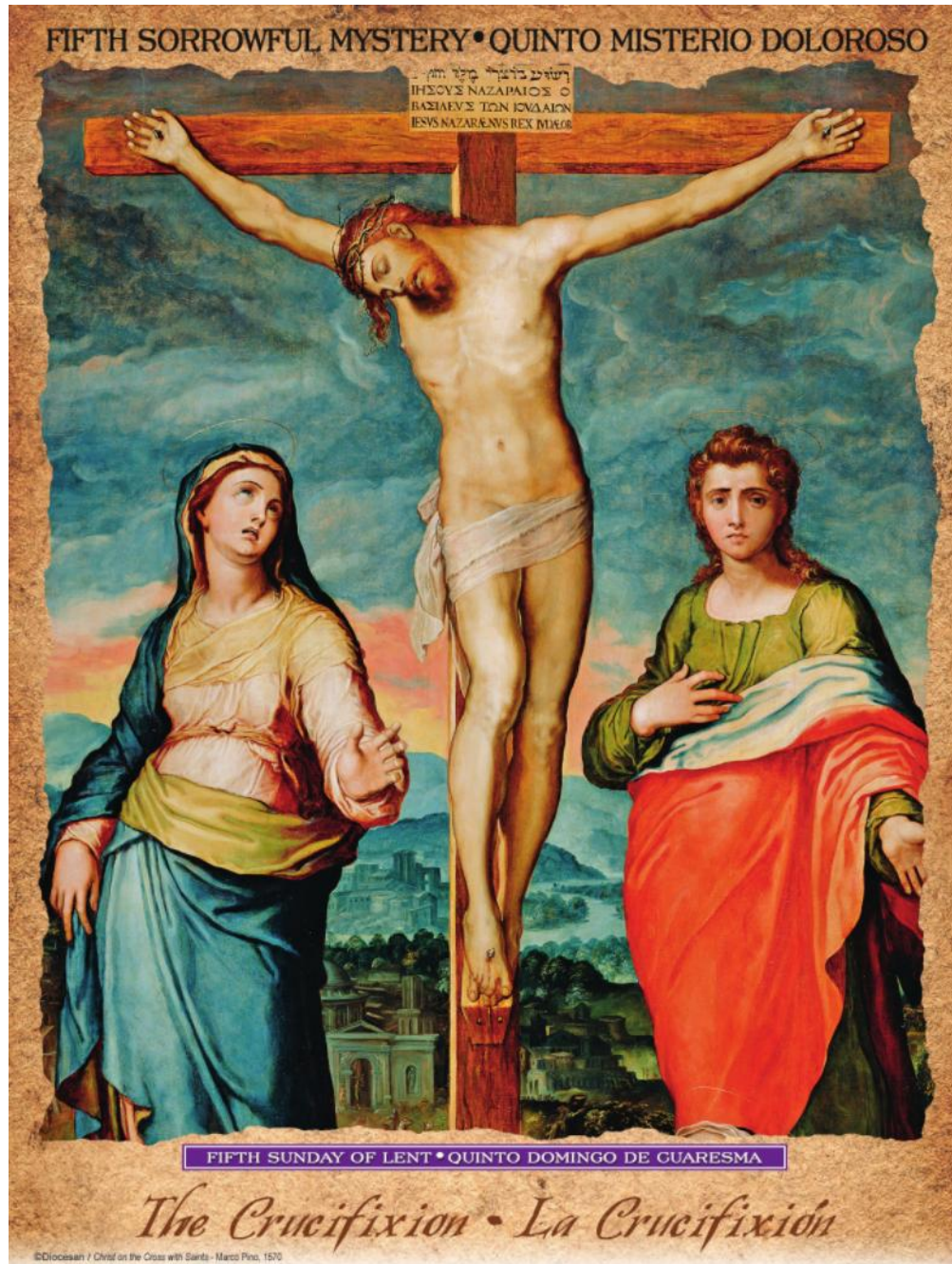


St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

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



March 26, 2023
5th Sunday of Lent

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

Dear Parishioners,

I've known Fr. Bill a long time. In fact, I met him when he was still in the seminary in Boston. At the time I met him, I was the rector of the Cathedral and helped him prepare for his ordination. Now 20 years later, health problems are now a part of his life and he has an opportunity to spend some quality time with his family in Wisconsin. It does seem strange, after all these years, not to have him around. Please keep him in your prayers! If you missed sending him a card, please send it to the church office to his attention or drop it off at the office.



However, with Fr. Bill staying with his family, and Fr. Ben preparing to leave us in June for his three month sabbatical, Bishop Bradley knew that I was going to need some help. I am pleased to announce that this past week, one of the missionary priests from the Missionaries of St. Francis DeSales order moved in to serve us during the next few months. Please welcome Fr. Benedict. His timing is perfect as we enter into these final weeks of Lent and prepare for Easter as well as the upcoming time for all the Spring Sacraments.

Next weekend we enter into the holiest time of the year with Palm Sunday. The Palms should be arriving this week at St. Catherine, and we will have plenty for next weekend. Please keep your updated schedules handy for all the events and Masses of Holy Week.

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Mark

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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Saturdays from 11:00 am—12:00 pm,
Trinity Chapel/GLP**

If this time does not work for you, call our Front Office to schedule an appointment with a priest.

Front Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Phone: (269) 327-5165 **Fax:** (269) 327-7266
Email: Office@stcatherinesiena.org



Text to Give: (844) 311-5105



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prayers@stcatherinesiena.org, (269) 978-2344,
or <https://stcatherinesiena.org/prayerrequest>

Stewardship

Mar. 6-12, 2023	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$21,011
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$18,405</u>
		\$39,416
Mar. 7-13, 2022	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$17,679
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$5,401</u>
		\$23,080
2023 Year to Date		\$1,103,620
2022 Year to Date		\$1,025,215

Thank you all for your continued generosity!

If you are interested in membership or volunteering, please contact our Front Office today!
Office@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-5165.



Calendar of Events

Calendar events subject to change!

Sunday, March 26, 2023

7:30 am	Mass, Church
9:00 am	Mass, Church
10:00 am	Siena's Rehearsal , Church/Choir Room
11:00 am	Mass, Church
3:00 pm	Penance Service at <u>St. Martin of Tours</u>
5:00 pm	Mass, Church
6:00 pm	WOW, Rooms 2/4
6:00 pm	MOPs, Offsite

Monday, March 27, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
5:30 pm	Penance Service at <u>St. Joseph</u>
7:00 pm	Catholic Men's Fellowship, GLP

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Knitters Group, GLP
9:45 am	Rosary, Trinity Chapel
6:00 pm	Penance Service at <u>St. Ambrose</u>
6:30 pm	GriefShare Meeting, GWR
7:00 pm	KofC Officers Meeting, Fellowship
7:00 pm	RCIA, SCR

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm	Scripture Study, Zoom

Thursday, March 30, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	Adoration, Trinity Chapel
12:30 pm	Art & Environment Decorating, Church
12:50 pm	Benediction, Trinity Chapel
6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, March 31, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
5:00 pm	Lenten Dinner, Marian Hall
6:30 pm	Lenten Talk, Church
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross, Church

Saturday, April 1, 2023

7:30 am	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Rooms 9/11
8:30 am	SVDP Interviews, Stanley Centre Office
9:00 am	KofC Food Drive, Marian Hall
9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
11:00 am	Reconciliation, GLP & Trinity Chapel
3:30 pm	Rosary for Life, Church
4:00 pm	Mass, Church
5:15 pm	Syro Malabar, Trinity Chapel
5:15 pm	Baptism, Church

Reflection on the Readings

We're just two weeks from Easter, and today's readings seem to be a prequel to the wonder of Jesus' resurrection that we'll celebrate soon...except in these readings, we hear about the resurrection of other human beings, just like us.

In the first reading, God promises the Israelites, and us, that we will be raised and have His spirit in us. He doesn't say "maybe," but He promises it! St. Paul also reassures us that we will rise to new life through God's spirit. Finally, in the Gospel we see Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead. In doing so, Jesus showed His faith in His Father and in turn, gave those who witnessed the event, faith in Him. He also showed His love for Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. They were dear friends to Him, and he was moved to tears to see how sad Mary and Martha were at the death of their brother.

Jesus loves us every bit as much as he loved Mary, Martha and Lazarus. He desires the same close relationship with us as He had with them. He has given us the same promise that God gave the Israelites...believe in me and you will not die. Yes, our earthly bodies will fail and die, but our spirits will not; and one day Jesus will raise our bodies again that we may be with Him body and soul. That is good news, and Easter is still two weeks away!

Reflection by parishioner, John Ceglarek

News Around St. Catherine

Art & Environment Decorating: March 30

Do you have a knack for decorating or enjoy making spaces look beautiful? If you answered yes, our Art & Environment Committee would love for you to join and help decorate the Church for Easter on Thursday, March 30 at 12:30 pm. Contact our Front Office at office@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-5165 with any questions.

Mary Garden Spring Clean Up: April 1

Please join us for our annual Mary Garden Spring Clean Up. It starts at 9:00 am and we will meet in the front Mary Garden area. Please bring your gloves, rakes, and energy with you. This is a great opportunity to get the family involved. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Townsend at (269) 341-1205.

Don't Forget to Register For VBS!

Don't forget to sign your kids up for our 2023 VBS! You can sign up through our website at <https://stcatherinesiena.org/vbs-registration-2023>. We hope to see you there!



Please Welcome Fr. Benedict Anthonyamy

Bishop Bradley has sent us Fr. Benedict Anthonyamy to help us during our transition of priests. Fr. Benedict is living in the rectory and will be helping serve the parish for a few months. Please introduce yourself and welcome him into our parish family.

Welcome Fr. Benedict!

Respect Life Corner

Scan for a PDF of local pregnancy resources and more.



If you or someone you know needs help finding local pregnancy resources, please contact the Respect Life Ministry (stcatherinerespectlife@gmail.com) or call the Front Office to be connected.





40 DAYS FOR LIFE®

CHANGING HEARTS AND MINDS

Join the 40 Days for Life campaign today. Sign up for breaking news, devotionals, and prayers from 40 Days for Life: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/>

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Fundraiser

On April 1 and 2, the St. Catherine of Siena Knights of Columbus (Council 6980) will again be conducting their fundraiser for Michigan Citizens with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (aka Tootsie Roll Drive). Please see one of the Knights after any Mass outside of the church to make a donation and get a tootsie roll. The money collected will go directly to the following organizations: Special Olympics, Ministry for Persons with Disabilities, Joe Cekola Fund, and the Woods Edge Learning Center.

Volunteers Needed for Vacation Bible School

We need volunteers for Vacation Bible School 2023! Our theme this year is Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light. If you're able to help with your time and talent, sign up through our website to volunteer at: <https://stcatherinesiena.org/vbs>.

Knights of Columbus Lenten Dinners

St Catherine's Knights of Columbus are offering their last simple dinner on March 31 in Marian Hall. Meal service will begin at 5:00 pm for both dine-in and take-out. Meal orders will be accepted through the Tuesday prior to the meal to be certain enough food is available. To reserve a meal in advance, please drop off a slip with your name, phone number, date of meals, and number of meals. For more information or if you have any questions please contact John Byrnes at (269) 779-3669.



**Knights of
Columbus®**

FOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting food items on Saturday and Sunday, April 1 & 2 before and after all weekend Masses in the Narthex. Additionally, the Knights will be collecting food on April 8, during the Holy Saturday Brunch in Marian Hall.



April 1, 2, & 8 2023



**Catholic
Charities**

Diocese of Kalamazoo

Blessings, Bunnies and Brunch Holy Saturday, April 8th @ 10am

Come have your Easter Baskets blessed with the food and treats for your Easter celebration.

St. Catherine's wants to start a new tradition, one borrowed from the Polish and Slavic Churches. Please bring your basket loaded with the foods you will serve for Easter dinner so that Fr. Tom can bless them.



Some traditional items you might want to include:

Salt - to remind Christians that they are to "season" the Earth

Candle - symbolizing Christ, the Light of the World

Easter Eggs - symbolizing our new life in Christ

Bread - symbolizing Jesus, the Bread of Life

Meat - symbolizing abundance

Ribbons - symbolizing joy and celebration

Cheese, Butter lamb, Fruits, Candies, Horseradish

Donations welcome but all events are free!

Please RSVP at stcatherinesiena.org for all events so we know how many eggs and pancakes to make!

After the blessing
of the baskets please
join us for a

Easter Brunch

Pancakes with a
topping bar
and Sausage
10 am - 12 pm

*Easter Egg Hunt
Toddler - 5th Grade*

We will have split age groups
hunting for eggs

Fr. Ben tossed in some special
shiny Eggs filled with \$\$\$

Starts at 11:30 am





NO NEED TO ARRIVE EARLY THIS YEAR...

WIN A ROW FOR EASTER!

You can win one row for your family (or friends!) this Easter Sunday, April 9. One pew near the front of the sanctuary will be reserved for each winner.

Table will be set up in the narthex to purchase your raffle tickets after Mass on March 19, 26 and April 2.

Tickets are \$1 each, NO limit! Cash and check only. You must be 18 or older to purchase. Two winners per Easter Sunday Mass. Limit one Mass winner per family. Winners will be notified on April 3.

Funds raised will go toward the purchase and maintenance of new projectors in our main sanctuary.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. CATHERINE'S!
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a guide to HOLY WEEK

By Melinda McPherson

Palm Sunday



People of Jerusalem welcome Jesus as king as he triumphantly enters the city



Crowd waves palms and lays cloaks on the ground before him



Jesus rides in on a donkey to fulfill Old Testament prophecies



The liturgy begins with blessing of palms, an extra reading about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, and a procession while the congregation waves palms to play the part of the crowds



Take the palms and place them in your home or workplace as a witness to faith in Jesus' Paschal Victory

Put yourself in the shoes of the people who first welcomed Christ as king, but in a matter of days, called for his crucifixion

What
Happened
That Day



What You'll
See at Church



How to Live
Out the Day



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Though chronologically three days, the **PASCHAL TRIDUUM** is one liturgical day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery

Holy Thursday



Jesus celebrates the Last Supper with his Apostles



Jesus institutes the Eucharist and constitutes the Apostles as priests



Displaying great humility, Jesus washes the feet of his Apostles



Gives *mandatum*, command to love one another as he has loved them



During the agony in the garden, he accepts God's will, then is arrested



At the end of Mass the altar is stripped and all decorations are covered or removed. Even the tabernacle is emptied and all consecrated hosts are moved to an Altar of Repose to mimic the absence and loss felt by the disciples during Jesus' agony and death.

No final blessing as the liturgical day continues



Make a pilgrimage to visit seven churches in your area

Spend an hour in adoration

Good Friday



While Jesus was being questioned, Peter denies him three times



Pilate has Jesus scourged and a crown of thorns put on his head



Jesus carries his own cross to Calvary, where he is crucified



With the words, "It is finished," Jesus dies and darkness descends



Jesus is taken down from the cross and placed in the tomb



This is the only day of the year where no Masses are celebrated, and no sacraments are performed, unless it's an emergency

Candles are only lit during the liturgy when the Eucharist is present and during the Veneration of the Cross



Fasting and abstinence from meat

Pray the Stations of the Cross

Maintain silence during the hours Jesus was on the cross

Easter Sunday



Jesus rises, conquering death, and opening the path to new life!



Empty tomb is found first by the holy women, then by Peter and John



Jesus appears to multiple groups of disciples, they see and believe



Take part in a festive gathering with family and friends to honor this day as the highest of feasts

Start by blessing the table and home with holy water from the Easter Mass

Keep the celebration going during the Octave of Easter for eight days, and the Easter season for 50 days until Pentecost



Catechumens receive sacraments of initiation, and the whole congregation renews baptismal vows

We sing Alleluia again for the first time since the beginning of Lent

The new Paschal candle is carried into the church and the congregations' candles are lit from it



Lent & Easter Services 2023 (Subject to change)

Date	Time	Event	Location
Mon., March 20	6:30 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Thomas More
Tues., March 21	9:45 AM	Rosary	Trinity Chapel
Thurs., March 23	10:00 AM	Adoration	Trinity Chapel
	6:00 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Monica
Fri., March 24	5:00 PM	Lenten Dinner	Marian Hall
	6:30 PM	Lenten Talk (Fr. Ben)	Church
	7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross	Church
Sat., March 25	11:00 AM	Confessions	GLP/Trinity Chapel
	3:30 PM	Rosary for Life	Church
Sun., March 26	3:00 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Martin of Tours
Mon., March 27	5:30 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Joseph
Tues., March 28	9:45 AM	Rosary	Trinity Chapel
	6:00 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Ambrose
Thurs., March 30	10:00 AM	Adoration	Trinity Chapel
Fri., March 31	5:00 PM	Lenten Dinner	Marian Hall
	6:30 PM	Lenten Talk (Fr. Mark)	Church
	7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross	Church
Sat., April 1	11:00 AM	Confessions	GLP/Trinity Chapel
	3:30 PM	Rosary for Life	Church
	4:00 PM	Palm Sun. Vigil Mass (Livestreamed)	Church
Sun., April 2	7:30 AM	Palm Sun. Mass	Church
	9:00 AM	Palm Sun. Mass	Church
	11:00 AM	Palm Sun. Mass	Church
	5:00 PM	Palm Sun. Mass	Church
Tues., April 4	9:45 AM	Rosary	Trinity Chapel
	6:00 PM	Chrism Mass at Cathedral	St. Augustine
Wed., April 5	6:30 PM	Penance Service at Neighboring Parish	St. Augustine
Thurs., April 6	9:15 AM	No Morning Mass	
	10:00 AM	No Adoration	
	7:00 PM	Mass of the Lord's Supper	Church
	8:30 PM	Adoration	Marian Hall
Fri., April 7	9:15 AM	No Morning Mass	
	1:00 PM	Good Fri. Service (Livestreamed)	Church
	2:30 PM	Confessions (Following Good Fri. Service)	GLP/Trinity Chapel
	7:00 PM	Stations of the Cross	Church
Sat., April 8	9:15 AM	No Morning Mass	
	10:00 AM	Blessing of the Baskets	Trinity Chapel
	11:00 AM	Confessions	GLP/Trinity Chapel
	3:30 PM	No Rosary	
	4:00 PM	No Mass	
	9:00 PM	Easter Vigil Mass	Church
Sun., April 9	7:00 AM	Easter Mass	Church
	9:00 AM	Easter Mass (Livestreamed)	Church
	11:00 AM	Easter Mass	Church
	5:00 PM	No Mass	

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: March 25 Vigil of The Fifth Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm Fred † & Ann † Walz

SUNDAY: March 26 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

7:30 am Tony Roemer †

9:00 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Theresa Tonelli †

5:00 pm John Cugnetti †

MONDAY: March 27, Lenten Weekday

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11

9:15 am Eduardo Banhaw †

TUESDAY: March 28, Lenten Weekday

Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

9:15 am Jose Tolentino †

WEDNESDAY: March 29, Lenten Weekday

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42

9:15 am Ann Walz †

THURSDAY: March 30, Lenten Weekday

Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

9:15 am Alexander Nemeth †

FRIDAY: March 31, Lenten Weekday

Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

9:15 am Michael Locke †

SATURDAY: April 1, Lenten Weekday

Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

9:15 am Yoshiko Johnson †

SATURDAY: April 1, Vigil of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00 pm Coletta Dubray †

SUNDAY: April 2 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

7:30 am Stanley Cipkus

9:00 am Matt Stempihar †

11:00 am People of the Parish

5:00 pm Fred Simon †

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Connect with us online at:
stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com



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Fr. Tom McNally fathertom@stcatherinesiena.org

Deacon Brian deaconbrian@stcatherinesiena.org

Deacon Ron deaconronald@stcatherinesiena.org

All clergy contacts are @stcatherinesiena.org

Call our Front Office to leave a non-urgent message
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Giving a sermon one Sunday, I heard two teenage girls in the back giggling and disturbing people. I interrupted my sermon and announced sternly, "There are two of you here who have not heard a word I've said." That quieted them down. When the service was over, I went to greet people at the front door. Three adults apologized for going to sleep in church, and promised it would never happen again.



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