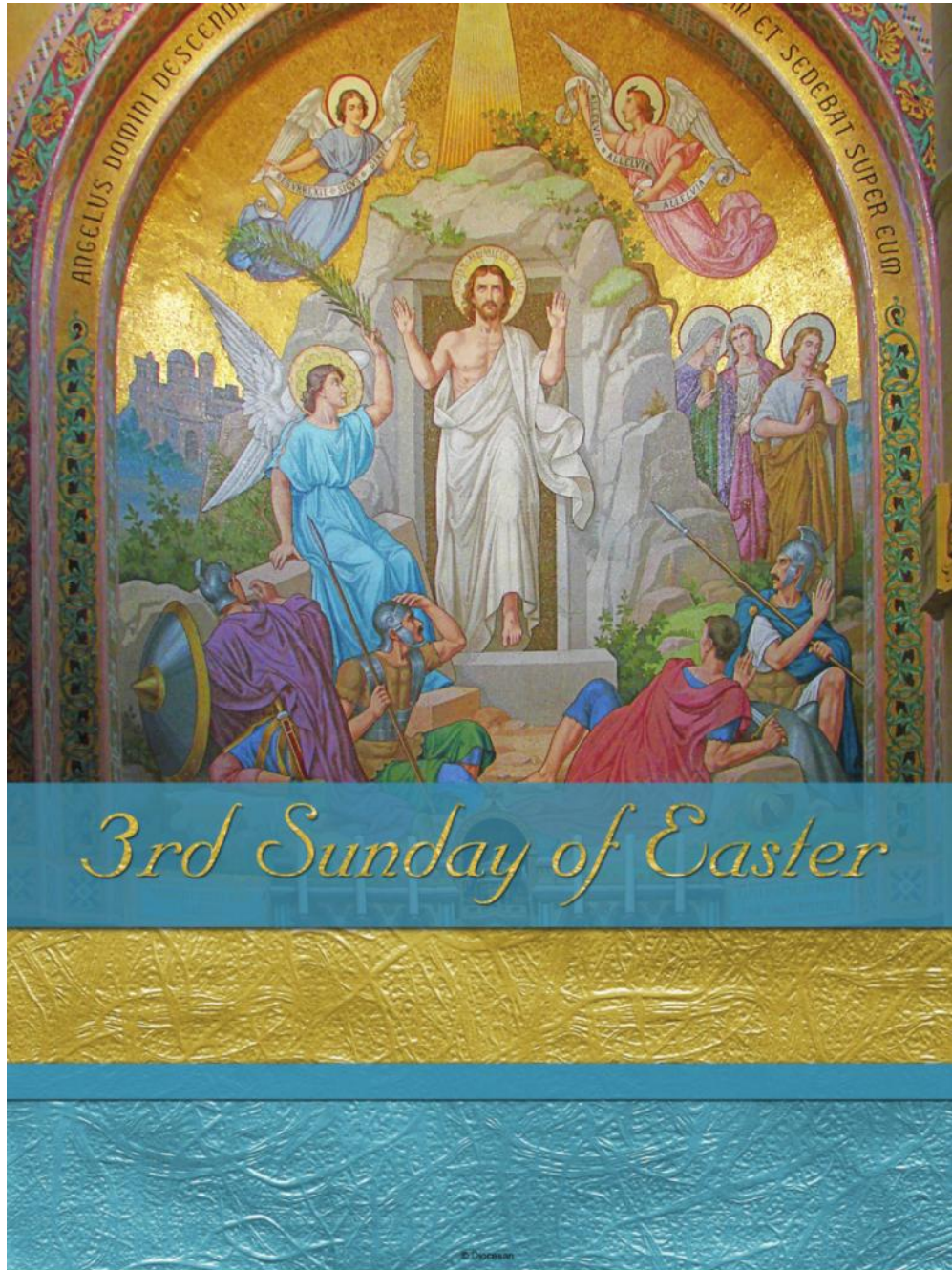


St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

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



April 23, 2023
3rd Sunday of Easter

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,

The joy of Easter remains! It's hard to believe that three Sundays have already passed since we celebrated the Lord's Resurrection. Yet this Easter Season, and the 50 days before Pentecost, remind us that we as Christians should never stop celebrating the Resurrection. What Jesus did for us is indeed a great mystery. But something that should never be a mystery is the love that He had for us when He died on the Cross and rose to new life. Let the joy of Easter remain in your hearts this Sunday and in our continued celebrations of this Easter Season.

As we begin our annual Bishop's Appeal 2023, we are reminded how, even from the earliest times of the Church (from the Acts of the Apostles), we hear how the Church was supported. This past week, your individual mailings and pledge card for the appeal should have arrived in your mailbox. I ask that you prayerfully consider a pledge to the appeal, even in these times of inflation and financial stress, to continue the work of the Church throughout the counties of our Diocese. As we find ourselves at St. Catherine, in the midst of transitions for the clergy in our parish, we see how important our priests are to a life with the Sacraments. Thankfully, we do have some seminarians that are approaching their ordination in May. However, we know that their numbers are not enough to sustain our parishes and our prayers and support need to continue to foster more vocations. We continue our prayers for our priests and more vocations and at the same time pray for the successful support of this annual appeal.

You may have noticed a number of service vehicles at the parish over the past few weeks. We are getting some projects taken care of that have been needed for a long time. Our work on the sound system in the church is continuing as a number of speakers have needed to be replaced (notice the bare wires hanging from the ceiling in places). A couple of replacements have arrived, but the factory is having a hard time giving us all the speakers we need. The most noticeable project is repairs/replacement of our rainwater system. On the west side of the church, we have been experiencing flooding for a number of years that sometimes makes its way into Marian Hall. During the pandemic, we were unable to find any contractors that were able to help us. Finally, we were able to get into the schedule this spring and the rainwater collection system and the underground pipes are being replaced to prevent the flooding that we experience every time there is torrential rain. In addition to this project, work began several weeks ago on replacing the thermostat control system in the Stanley Centre. This system has been failing us for quite some time (remember that this building is over 20 years old now). Both the drainage system project and the thermostat controls are being paid for by money that we have put aside these past few years to fund projects such as these. Thank you for your support that has made necessary projects like this a possibility.

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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or <https://stcatherinesiena.org/prayerrequest>

Stewardship

Apr. 3-9, 2023	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$29,975
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$4,462</u>
		\$33,706
Apr. 4-10, 2022	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$17,058
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$19,227</u>
		\$36,285
2023 Year to Date	\$1,207,791	
2022 Year to Date	\$1,138,520	

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, April 23, 2023

7:30 am	Mass, Church
9:00 am	Mass, Church
10:00 am	Siena's Rehearsal, Choir Room
10:00 am	Children's Faith Formation, Classrooms, GWR
11:00 am	Pre-K/Kind. Faith Formation, Classrooms
11:00 am	Mass, Church
12:00 pm	1st Communion Parent Meeting, Marian Hall
4:00 pm	RCIC, SCR
5:00 pm	Mass, Church
6:00 pm	Youth Group, Stanley Centre
6:00 pm	WOW, Rooms 2/4
6:30 pm	MOPs, Offsite

Monday, April 24, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm	Catholic Men's Fellowship, GLP
7:00 pm	Children's Faith Formation, Classrooms, GWR

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Knitters Group, Fellowship
9:45 am	Rosary, Trinity Chapel
6:30 pm	GriefShare Meeting, GWR
7:00 pm	KofC Officers Meeting, Fellowship

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

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

Thursday, April 27, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	Adoration, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	WOW, Marian Hall/Classrooms
12:50 pm	Benediction, Trinity Chapel
6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, April 28, 2023

9:15 am	Daily Mass
11:00 am	Funeral, Church

Saturday, April 29, 2023

7:30 am	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Rooms 9/11
9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	Ministry for Persons with Disabilities, GWR
11:00 am	Reconciliation, GLP & Trinity Chapel
3:30 pm	Rosary for Life, Church
4:00 pm	Mass, Church

Reflection on the Readings

Today's Gospel is the story of the two disciples who encountered Jesus on their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus on the day of resurrection. They are deeply dejected and confused because the savior they had hoped would free Israel from slavery had been put to death. They had heard reports that the tomb was found empty, and women disciples had been told by an angel that Jesus was alive. How could this be? When Jesus appears in their midst, they don't recognize him. He interpreted all of scripture to them, including how the prophets proclaimed that the Christ must suffer and enter into his glory. While the disciples still weren't "getting it," they were intrigued and so invited Jesus to stay with them. Then the pinnacle of the story occurs. As they dined, Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to them. With this, their "eyes were opened" and they recognized Him. Their Lord had truly risen. They now understood what Jesus was telling them through recounting of scripture and why their hearts had been "burning" as they listened. They went in haste to join the other 11 disciples who had already seen the risen Lord to tell what they too had witnessed. Are we often like these two disciples as we journey along our own path of faith? Do we too fail to see the Lord in our midst? Do we sometimes question whether He indeed rose from the dead? And do we really believe that He came not as a worldly king but as a savior to free us from our sins and replace it with love and forgiveness? And most of all, do we recognize and rejoice in the miraculous true presence of our risen Lord in Holy Communion at every Mass? As we ponder these questions, may these two disciples be our guides as we too journey on the way of faith.

Reflection by parishioner, Dale Gerber

News Around St. Catherine



Drain Work Began on April 11

After significant rainfall earlier in the month, we had flooding (again) in Marian Hall, the kitchen, and some of the nursery. As of Tuesday, April 11, we will have contractors working on our drainage system on the west side of Marian Hall, by the speed bumps. They will tear up all the drain pipes and install new dry wells. Some asphalt will also need to be replaced. We'll keep you updated as construction progresses. At this time, the west side parking lot and exit will be closed during construction. They will not be working on the drains during the weekends.

May Crowning: April 30 After 11:00 am Mass

May has traditionally been observed as a month dedicated to Mary, Mother of God. It is also the month in which we celebrate our earthly mothers. Please join the Faith Formation and Respect Life Ministries in a Mother's Day May Crowning to honor the Blessed Mother and to pray for all mothers. It can be a difficult holiday for many, including those struggling with infertility, those who have lost children, those who are facing an unexpected pregnancy, and those who have lost their own mothers. Flowers will be available before and after Mass for family members to write a prayer intention on an attached tag. After Mass, (weather permitting) we will process to Our Lady to submit the Mary Garden to present our flowers offerings. The different flower colors signify: Yellow: waiting to conceive or adopt, Pink: pregnancy, Red: recent birth or adoption, White: loss of a child. We will leave this colorful bouquet outside for the week to serve as a visual reminder of the powerful intercession and love of Mary, Our Mother. Please join us for this event and a special time of prayer to celebrate all mothers and our Blessed Mother, Mary.

Mass Cantors Needed

We only have 11 cantors that regularly cover all of the masses each weekend. Many of them sign up for multiple masses per month and sometimes multiple masses each week. We are looking for more Mass cantors in order to make it more manageable for everyone. Michele is happy to help train and work with you until you are comfortable on your own. Anyone ages 14 and up is welcome to sign up to cantor. To sign up or if you have any questions please contact Michelle Clemens mclemens@stcatherinesiena.org or (269) 978-2333. Thank You!

Lawn & Garden Volunteers Needed

Once again, we are calling on families and individuals who don't mind getting a little dirty. We are blessed to have a large campus, but it takes a lot of hands to keep the lawn and gardens mowed, raked, trimmed, and weeded. The past few years we have sent out a cry for help and have gotten a good response from our parish family, but we need even more people to step up and help us outside. If you feel you are being called to this ministry, please call 327-5165, or email office@stcatherinesiena.org. You pick a spot on the parish grounds that you would like to sponsor and you make your own schedule to come and do the work.

2023 Bishops Annual Appeal & Special Pledge from Our Knights of Columbus



Over 70 diocesan programs and ministries are supported by the BAA, and serve people in ways that we as a parish alone could never do. Please prayerfully consider what you can pledge to support the many programs and services offered by our diocese. You should have received a personalized letter in the mail regarding donating. Our parish goal is to raise \$270,000, and with your support and donations we can do it! Please remember, no gift is too large or too small. As a special incentive to pledge your BAA amount soon, our Knights of Columbus are pledging to donate \$1.00 for every parishioner or family who donates to the 2023 BAA by June 1 to the sisters in Vietnam where Fr. Ben is going for his Sabbatical. Please donate today!

New Members

Mark & Lovella
Buenaflor

Ricky & Annice
Carlson

Nicolas Kehoe

Mark & Rebecca Mainey

Debra Pacic

Leandro & Cristiane
Tremocoldi

Baptisms

Lilah Hirschman

Daughter of Josiah & Emelia

Colbie Karas

Daughter of Robert & Bailey

Crawford Mead

Son of Nicholas & Lacy

Remembrance

Faythe Cerutti

Joseph Reish

Richard Schell

Richard Walker



Parishioner Spotlight: Prayer Shawl Knitters Group

Our prayer shawl ministry's mission is to make people feel loved and supported through the warmth of the shawl and the presence of prayer. Prayer Shawl Volunteers create special, hand-knit items for Parishioners and community members in need. Each item is prayed over before working on the item and after it is finished. When completed, the item is given to someone experiencing a particularly difficult time and in need of prayer. Examples may be someone suffering

from a serious illness or to one who has experienced a grievous loss. Prayers over the shawls ask for God's help to renew the body as well as the spirit. The prayer shawl ministry meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month from 9:30 am - 12:00 pm. Crocheters and knitters are welcomed to join in making prayer shawls as well as baby and cold winter items. For more information on this ministry or to join, please contact Kristi Kelly at 269-978-2340.

Thank you Prayer Shawl Knitters Group for your Empathy and Generosity!



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JULY 17-21, 2023 **9:00 AM - NOON**

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\$25 per child, \$40 per family
Registration is open to all children Pre-K-5th grade
Scholarships available

Visit the website below for more information and to register today!

News Around the Diocese

Volunteers Needed to Assist with Catholic Charities' Hispanic/Migrant Affairs Program

During the months of July and August, volunteers speaking Haitian Creole and/or Mixteco, are needed to assist with the Hispanic/Migrant Affairs program. The volunteers would serve as interpreters, greeting and welcoming the seasonal agricultural workers in Allegan, Berrien, and Van Buren counties. Volunteers will work in a team setting with CCDOK staff. Please contact Veronica Rodriguez if you are interested or have any questions at 381-9800 x 213 or by email veronicarodriguez@ccdok.org. Thank you!

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
 Matthew 25:40

A Message from the Diocese

The Diocese of Kalamazoo has and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Attorney General's investigation and encourages anyone with information related to misconduct to call the reporting number set-up by the Michigan Attorney General's office at: (844) 324-3374. The Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBAR) has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. To make a report, visit <http://ReportBishopAbuse.org> or phone (800) 276-1562. When a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential.



Knights of Columbus, Council 6980

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Kentucky Derby Dinner and Dance

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Cash or check payable to: Knights of Columbus, Council 6980

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Dinner served at 5:20pm

Dancing 7:00pm to 10:15pm

SATURDAY, May 6, 2023

St. Catherine of Siena

Stanley Center

1150 W. Centre St

Best Derby Hat Contest, Silent Auction, 50/50 raffle

Information and Tickets: Contact Dan Dunn

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Hackett Catholic Prep Band Boosters Present:

JAZZ NIGHT

Saturday, May 6, 2023

7 pm – 10 pm

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Purchase tickets online at <https://hackettband.ludus.com>

\$20 each



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: April 22, Vigil Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm Robert Andrus †

SUNDAY: April 23, Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:00 am Norbert Tylicki †

11:00 am Barb Bell †

5:00 pm Paul Portman †

MONDAY: April 24 Easter Weekday

Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29

9:15 am Michael Kinnisten †

TUESDAY: April 25 Saint Mark, Evangelist

1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20

9:15 am Ray & Barbara O'Donnell

WEDNESDAY: April 26 Easter Weekday

Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40

9:15 am Nick Cekola †

THURSDAY: April 27 Easter Weekday

Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51

9:15 am Sharon Keegan †

FRIDAY: April 28 Easter Weekday

Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59

9:15 am John Meister †

SATURDAY: April 29 Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and

Doctor of the Church

Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69

9:15 am Frank J. Tucker †

SATURDAY: April 29 Vigil of The Fourth Sunday of Easter

4:00 pm Deceased Members of the Cipkus & Dubray Family †

SUNDAY: April 30 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

7:30 am Cameron Blasius †

9:00 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Eric Munson †

5:00 pm Deceased Members of Knights of Columbus Council 6980 †

Staff Contacts

Accounting

accounting@stcatherinesiena.org

Alan DeMars / (269) 978-2338

Linda Reaume / (269) 978-2346

Bulletin/Communications

communications@stcatherinesiena.org

Deb Dozeman / (269) 327-3441

James Reasoner / (269) 327-3441

Faith Formation Ministry

faith@stcatherinesiena.org

Casey Bilodeau / (269) 978-2335

George Dragan / (269) 978-2347

Front Office

office@stcatherinesiena.org

Alana Murray / (269) 327-5165

Kristi Kelly / (269) 978-2340

Music Ministry

music@stcatherinesiena.org

Michelle Clemens / (269) 327-5165

Parish Nurse Ministry

pwhitenc@mac.com

Paula White (volunteer) / (269) 330-3762

Clergy Contacts

Fr. Mark Vyverman fathermark@stcatherinesiena.org

Fr. Benedict Anthonysamy fatherbenedict@stcatherinesiena.org

Fr. Ben Huynh fatherben@stcatherinesiena.org

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
for a Priest or Deacon (269) 327-5165

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

While serving as church usher, I was carrying out our tradition of escorting parishioners to their seats before the service began. After I returned to the entrance of the sanctuary to escort the next party, I greeted two strangers and asked where they would like to sit. Looking confused, the young man smiled and said, "Non-smoking, please."



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