

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

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

*Be free
from the darkness*

January 28, 2024
4th Sunday of 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

This weekend at the Saturday evening Mass, we welcome our new Bishop to St. Catherine for his first pastoral parish visit. Even though Bishop Lohse has already visited the campus a few times for meetings, this is the first chance that he has had to meet and greet parishioners. It has been six months since he was ordained as a Bishop and has become the 5th Bishop of the Diocese of Kalamazoo. As we welcome him to St. Catherine, he also gets a chance to see how many good cooks we have here at St. Catherine. It's the Chili Cook-Off night in Marian Hall, sponsored by our Knights of Columbus. Bishop, we hope that you enjoy your visit with us.



As we reach the end of this month of January, and flip the calendar over to February, we suddenly realize how close the season of Lent is! Lent begins on February 14! That also means that Easter will be early this year, the last day of March. The older I get, the more amazed I am by how quickly we turn the pages on the calendar!

Work on the Marian Hall bathrooms will begin soon. This is a refresh of both the men's and women's bathrooms. When work starts, these bathrooms will be completely closed for several weeks as the floor, partitions, ceiling, and countertops will be removed and updated. Everyone will need to use either the bathrooms in Trinity Hallway or the single bathrooms on the West side of the main church. It will be nice to bring these bathrooms out of the 80's and have something new and clean.

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Mark

Welcome Bishop Lohse!



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



www.stcatherinesiena.org



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stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com



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

Stewardship

January 8 - January 14, 2024	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$19,555
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$9,010</u>
		\$28,565
January 9 - January 15, 2023	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$13,619
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$18,673</u>
		\$32,292
2023 - 2024 Year to Date		\$847,422
2022 - 2023 Year to Date		\$865,057

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, January 28, 2024

7:30 am	Mass, Church
9:00 am	Mass, Church
10:00 am	CFF, Classrooms
10:00 am	YFF, Fellowship, GWR
10:00 am	Siena's Rehearsal, Church, Choir Room
11:00 am	Mass, Church
11:00 am	CFF, Classrooms
11:40 am	RCIA Dismissal, Room 1/3
12:00 pm	Baptism, Church
12:30 pm	KofC Spelling Bee, Stanley Centre
5:00 pm	Mass, Church
5:30 pm	WOW, Room 2/4
6:30 pm	MOPs, Fellowship

Monday, January 29, 2024

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
7:00 pm	Catholic Men's Fellowship, GLP
7:00 pm	CFF, Classrooms
7:00 pm	YFF, Fellowship, GWR, Stanley Office

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:45 am	Rosary, Trinity Chapel
6:30 pm	RCIA, Room 5/7
6:30 pm	RCIC, Room 6/8
7:00 pm	KofC Officers Meeting, Fellowship

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	St. Catherine's Buddy Up Walkers, SC Gym
7:00 pm	Scripture Study, Zoom

Thursday, February 1, 2024

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:30 am	WOW, Marian Hall & Classrooms 5/7,6/8,9/11
10:00 am	Adoration, Trinity Chapel
12:50 pm	Benediction, Trinity Chapel
6:30 pm	Choir Practice, Choir Room

Friday, February 2, 2024

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
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Saturday, February 3, 2024

7:30 am	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Classroom 9/11
8:30 am	SVP Interviews, Stanley Centre Office
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, Marian Hall

Reflection on the Readings

In today's first reading, Moses assures the Israelites that God will continue to grant their request to provide a prophet as the mediator between God and themselves. In ancient Israel there was great fear of God and maintaining this separation was part of Jewish belief. God Himself commanded "you cannot see my face, for no one can see me and live." (Exod. 33:20) Moses, in receiving the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, was the only exception to that. The Lord reassures Moses that He will raise up another mediator from their own kin whose words would be God's words. God is both affirming and assuring the Israelites that He will choose the prophets to speak God's words to the people. It will be the responsibility of the Israelites to listen to the words of these prophets even though none of them are named in this reading. Those who fail to listen to God's chosen prophets or listen instead to false prophets will be made to answer for it. Then in the Gospel, we are again reminded of the prophet promised in the first reading who will teach God's words with authority. But this time the prophet is named: He is Jesus, the Divine Word of God incarnate. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (Jn 1:1) The Gospel reading invites us to recognize Jesus' power, authority, and divinity. By the sole power of His Word, Jesus casts out the demon. He conquers evil and sin. Still today at every Mass, Christ shows His divinity by using His consecrated priest to say the words that change ordinary bread and wine into the real presence of the body and blood of Christ. Christ is the ultimate Priest, Prophet and King. And the words Moses spoke to the Israelites, we too must heed, "to him you shall listen." How well do we really listen to the Word of God spoken to us in scripture? Do we truly open our hearts and minds to receive His precious words? Do we take these words out of the church to share them with the world? Do we turn the words into acts of love?

Reflection by Parishioner Dale Gerber



*Be free
from the darkness*

*se libre
de las tinieblas*

News Around St. Catherine

Knights of Columbus Spelling Bee

THIS Sunday, **January 28th**, we invite grades 4-9 to participate in our local Spelling Bee. Head over to the Stanley Centre after Mass to register **at 12:30 pm**. The contest starts at 1:00 pm. This is a FREE event.

MS Youth Group Glow in the Dark Games Night (RESCHEDULED)

Calling all middle school students! Join us for an unforgettable evening of glow-in-the-dark games and fun at St. Catherine of Siena's Middle School Youth Group. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 4th, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM**, to gather for fellowship in the Stanley Centre Gym. Don't miss out on the excitement! This was previously scheduled for January 14th and is now moved to February 4th.

Vacation Bible School - Volunteers Needed!

Join our summer adventure at Vacation Bible School—this year's theme is Scuba Diving into Friendship with God! We need enthusiastic volunteers and donations, especially new pool noodles, to make it a splash for our kids. Contact Casey Keller at cbilodeau@stcatherinesiena.org for further information and to contribute. Let's make this VBS extraordinary together!

Primetimers Monthly Lunch Gathering

Calling all Primetimers (ages 50+) to join us at Bob Evans on Westnedge in Portage at **11:30 am on Monday, February 5th!** We will enjoy fellowshiping over a delicious meal. No reservation is needed, just show up and ask for the Primetimers! Each person picks up their own bill. See you there!

St. Catherine of Siena Buddy Up Walkers

As we kick off the new year, let's get active together! Join us **every Wednesday at 10 am** in St. Catherine of Siena's Stanley Centre Gym for a refreshing walk. You can head over after morning Mass to enjoy company while getting your steps in!

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition

Join us for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw competition on **Sunday, February 4th at 1:00 pm**. **Registration is at 12:00 pm**. This is a FREE event. It's open to all 9 to 14-year-old girls and boys, as long as they have not already participated in another Knights of Columbus Council Free Throw Competition. Winners in each age and gender group will advance to District Free Throw Championship which is also held in the Stanley Centre Gym on the same day, following this competition. Winners at the District Free Throw will advance to the Diocesan Free Throw Competition, details TBD. Contact Nick Zafer at (269)-254-5403 or nzafer@teamlogicit.com for more information.

You're invited!



Attend the National Eucharistic Congress on July 17-21! It's located at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, IN. Transportation and lodging will be arranged on your own. Early registration closes on **Wednesday, January 31st**, and early registrants receive a **10% discount**, using code EMMANUEL, so act fast! We encourage adults, young adults, and families to come. There are various packages available, view your options and register at the QR Codes below or visit www.eucharisticcongress.org/register. Contact George Dragan for additional information at 269-978-2347 or at gdragan@stcatherinesiena.org



You're invited to St. Catherine of Siena's Lenten Retreat on **Saturday, February 24th** from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Mass is at 4:00 pm. Depending on numbers, it will take place in either the Trinity Chapel or the Main Church. Lunch and breakouts will be in Marian Hall. This is a FREE event, with a \$5 free will donation suggested to cover food. There will be bagels and drinks to enjoy. No childcare is provided. Register by calling the Front Office at (269)-327-5165 or emailing George Dragan at gdragan@stcatherinesiena.org

News Around the Diocese

Caregiver Connections

Join us on **February 4th at 1:00 pm** for the next Caregiver Connections gathering! Are you a caregiver for someone with a disability? Do you sometimes feel alone or overwhelmed? We invite you to join us for our virtual gatherings to build relationships, share experiences, and create a supportive community. We'll spend some time getting to know each other and share a brief reflection on the Sunday scriptures. We gather via Zoom on the first Sunday of the month from 1:00 - 2:00 pm. To register, visit

ccdok.org/connections-registration or contact Lisa Irwin at lisairwin@ccdok.org or by phone at (269)-381-9800 Ext. 227.

BAA Payment Reminder

To ensure that your Bishop Annual Appeal payments get credited to your account in a timely and accurate manner, send ALL payments directly to the Diocese of Kalamazoo at 215 N. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, MI 49007. Checks should be payable to the Diocese of Kalamazoo with St. Catherine of Siena - Bishop's Appeal in the memo. Online payments may also be made on the Diocese's website at <https://diokzoo.org/give>. Thank you!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
of Greater Kalamazoo

National Catholic Schools Week 2024
January 28th- February 3rd

Thank you to our Parishes for the continued financial blessings and prayers.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: January 27, Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Hannah Salomon †

SUNDAY: January 28, The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

7:30 am Cheryl J. Werner †

9:00 am Dai Xiantao †

11:00 am People of the Parish

5:00 pm Nataliya Vansovich †

MONDAY: January 29, Weekday

2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Mk 5:1-20

9:15 am Cote Taylor

TUESDAY: January 30, Weekday

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30----19:3/Mk 5:21-43

9:15 am Dee Cekola

WEDNESDAY: January 31, Saint John Bosco, Priest

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Mk 6:1-6

9:15 am Michael Locke †

THURSDAY: February 1, Weekday

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/Mk 6:7-13

9:15 am Juandi Family

FRIDAY: February 2, The Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

9:15 am Lynn Ray

SATURDAY: February 3, Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr:

Saint Ansgar, Bishop

1 Kgs 3:4-13/Mk 6:30-34

9:15 am Fr. Jim O'Leary †

SATURDAY: February 3, Vigil Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Vince † and Eileen † Miklas

SUNDAY: February 4, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jb 7:1-4,6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

7:30 am Christine Schmellmeyer †

9:00 am Marge Grzegorzcyk †

11:00 am Bing Skyiepal †

5:00 pm People of the Parish

Text **JOINSCS** to **84576** OR
Connect with us online at:
stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com



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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**

Q: Where was Solomon's
temple located?

A: On the side of his head.
Duh!



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