# St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

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



## July 6, 2025 14th 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

Dear Parishioners.

Like we had on Memorial Day weekend, we managed to once again have a long weekend on this July 4th weekend. This is the year where we also start thinking about a big celebration of the 4th of the July next year.



Yes, if you do the math, next year is the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of our Independence and the birth of our nation. Of course, I still have fond memories of the last big anniversary in 1976. Let us take this time to remember and thank the Lord for the blessings which He has given to us and the people of our nation.

Just a few days ago, the new priestly assignments began in the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Of course, Fr. Joseph and I are still serving the parish. But if you looked at the list of assignments from the Diocese, and did the math, we came up short. Three priests that were serving in the diocese were either called back to their home diocese or their religious order for reassignment. With only one priest being ordained for our diocese this year, this left us with two parishes being short of a pastor. For example, our neighboring parish of St. Monica lost its pastor and Fr. Tom McNally has been named as the temporary parish administrator until a new pastor is found. To make up this temporary shortage at St. Monica, some of our Kalamazoo area priests are going to be going over to St. Monica to assist with Masses and confessions from time to time. That includes both Fr. Joseph and me. All of us are hoping that a permanent solution presents itself soon. Keep this in your prayers so that we not only find a solution for our neighboring parish, but that we also find more vocations to the priesthood for our diocese.

Please also keep in your prayers the upcoming Vacation Bible School here at St. Catherine. This begins on the week of the 14th of July. It takes many volunteers to make this happen and we are thankful for each one of you. I appreciate your prayers that all will go well, and our youth will be inspired by the time they spend learning more about their faith.

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Mark

#### PAGE 2

#### **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**

Text to Give: (844) 311-5105

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## **Stewardship**

June 16, 2025 - June 22, 2025	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$12,218
	Electronic Giving	\$8,003
		\$20,221
June 17, 2024 - June 23, 2024	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$11,376
	Electronic Giving	\$7,721
		\$19,097

**2024 - 2025 Year to Date** \$1,569,374 2023 - 2024 Year to Date \$1,556,168

#### 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.

#### PAGE 3

## **Calendar of Events**

#### **Sunday, July 6, 2025**

7:30 am Mass, Church 8:30 am Knights of Columbus Rosary, Trinity Chapel

9:00 am Mass, Church 11:00 am Mass, Church 5:00 pm Mass, Church

#### Monday, July 7, 2025

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:45 am	Respect Life Rosary, Mary Garden
11:30 am	Primetimers, Mark's Diner (Romence)
7:00 pm	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Fellowship

#### Tuesday, July 8, 2025

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
9:30 am	Prayer Shawl Ministry, GLP
9:45 am	Rosary, Trinity Chapel
6:00 pm	SVDP Business Meeting, Fellowship
6:00 pm	VBS Volunteer Training, Marian Hall

#### Calendar events subject to change!

#### Wednesday, July 9, 2025

9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am St. C Walkers, Stanley Centre Gym
7:00 pm Scripture Study, Zoom

#### Thursday, July 10, 2025

9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
10:00 am	Adoration, Trinity Chapel
12:50 pm	Benediction, Trinity Chapel

#### Friday, July 11, 2025

9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel

#### Saturday, July 12, 2025

7:30 am	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Room 9/11
8:30 am	SVdP Interviews, Stanley Centre
9:15 am	Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
11:00 am	Reconciliation, GLP, Trinity Chapel
2:45 pm	Siena's Rehearsal, Church, Choir Room
3:30 pm	Knights of Columbus Rosary, Church
4:00 pm	Mass, Church

## **Reflection on the Readings**

Today's readings center around the joy that comes from being in relationship with God. In the first reading, Isaiah describes the joy of the inhabitants of Jerusalem at being cared for by the city, which really means cared for by God. Prosperity, comfort as of a child in its mother's lap, health, etc., are promised to God's people. The psalm continues this theme, as the author encourages the entire earth to rejoice in the wonderful deeds God has accomplished for His chosen ones. In the Gospel reading from Luke, we hear of Jesus sending seventy-two of His followers ahead of him to the places He intends to visit. They are to take nothing with them; they are to be totally dependent upon those who are willing to accept God's message. When the seventy-two returned, they rejoiced in all that "they" had accomplished. Jesus sets them straight, telling them that the reason for rejoicing is not because of what they accomplished (for it was God that accomplished it through them), but rather because their accomplishments demonstrate that they are in relationship with God and God was able to work through them.

This last point is important. As followers of Jesus, we too are instructed to spread the news of God's kingdom just as the seventy-two were sent. There are many ways in which we can do this; we all have our talents and abilities, and we all have instances where we succeed and where we fail. In failure, we must not be judgmental, and in success we are encouraged to rejoice. But we must give the ultimate credit to God for it is Him working through us; what we should be rejoicing in is the fact that our "names are written in heaven."

Reflection by parishioner John Ceglarek

## News Around St. Catherine and the Diocese

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## Almost Reached Our Goal!

Congratulations everyone!
We are now at **93%** of the way to

our goal for our 2025 Bishop's Annual Appeal. With your help, we will be able to make an impact in the Diocese and surrounding communities.

If you haven't made your pledge, please prayerfully consider helping us finish this year's campaign. Thank you for making this possible.

## Loss of a Spouse

We invite you to join us for a onetime, 2-hour program designed for those grieving the loss of a spouse. It will be held at St. Catherine on Sunday, July 20th, 2025, from 12:30 to 2:30 PM. A \$10 fee covers the program booklet and is payable at the door. Register online at www.griefshare.org. Questions? Contact Paula White at (269) 330-3762 or pwhitentc@mac.com.

## **Caregiver Connections**

Caregiver Connection is a monthly Zoom gathering for those caring for a loved one with a disability. Experience community, support, and faith sharing by joining us on Sunday, July 6th, 2025 at 1:00 - 2:00 PM. To register, go to

<u>diokzoo.org/personswithdisabilities</u> or contact Veronica Rodriguez at (269) 349-8714 Ext. 1240 and email her at vrodriguez@diokzoo.org.

## Fatima Rosary Rally

When people pray the rosary together, it is far more formidable than when one prays alone. On the 2nd Saturday of each month, we pray the rosary outside of St. Augustine Cathedral starting at 9:30 AM. Our next rosary will be Saturday, July 12th. Come and pray with us for the following intentions: Protection of our families, our schools and our church, the courage and strength to build a culture of life and to end abortion, to repulse the attacks and deceits of the devil, and the conversion of souls, especially those in the Diocese of Kalamazoo. For more info, contact Cindy Vennix at (269)-377-7687 or cindy.vennix@gmail.com

## Blood Drive - July

Join us at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church for a Blood Drive on **Tuesday**, **July 22**<sup>nd</sup>, **from 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM!** Your donation can save lives, and we need YOU to help make a difference! Appointments are preferred, so sign up today. The Blood Drive will be in the Stanley Centre Gym. Be sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water to feel your best! Visit <u>donateblood.versiti.org</u>, select "Donate Now," enter zipcode 49024 and select St. Catherine of Siena to choose your appointment time.

#### Thank you for joining us at the Growler's Game!



We had a fantastic time at the Growlers game! Even with the heat, spirits were high as everyone enjoyed the game, great company, delicious food, and refreshing drinks. It was a wonderful evening filled with laughter, connection, and memorable moments.

We're so grateful to share these experiences with our parish family and look forward to many more opportunities for fun and fellowship—stay tuned for future events, including some family-friendly ones coming soon!

## **Primetimers**

Calling All Primetimers (age 50+) to join us for lunch on **Monday, July 7th, 2025, at 11:30 AM** at Mark's Diner located at 677 Romence Road, Portage, MI 49024. Come and enjoy fellowship and a delicious meal. We also invite Primetimer caregivers. family, and friends. No reservation needed, just show up and ask for the Primetimers. Everyone picks up their own bill. See you there!

## Young Adults Dinner & Discussion

We invite all young adults (ages 18-35) to join us for dinner and discussion on **Sunday**, **July 20th at 6:00 PM**. We will be fellowshipping while enjoying delicious food at Monelli's Restaurant (7141 S. Westnedge Ave). Everyone covers their own bill. Contact: Michelle Zawadzki at mzawadzki@stcatherinesiena.org.

For in order that man may do well, whether in the works of the active life, or in those of the contemplative life, he needs the fellowship of friends. - Thomas Aquinas

## Thank you to the Clean-Up Crew

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who worked so hard on the morning of June 13th. The south side of the Stanley Centre was in need of trimming and cleanup, and thanks to your efforts, it was completely transformed. A fallen tree on the west side was also removed, and several damaged fence panels were repaired. Special thanks to members of the Knights of Columbus for their help, as well as to Liz and Gary. We truly appreciate your hard work!

**Left to Right:** Liz Faragher, Randy Ptacek, Jeff Phelan, Ben Blomeke, Dick McNally, Steve Borchert (front row), Gary Townsend (back row), Terry Haas

Not pictured: Al DeMars, Joe Magalski, Joe Comiskey



## **VBS Needs Prayer Warriors!**

We invite you to join us in praying before our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration in support of all those participating, volunteering, and directing our VBS.

We are seeking to have adorers sign up to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament between the hours of 10 AM and 12 PM on Monday through Friday of VBS week (July 14-18). Please contact the office or George Dragan at <a href="mailto:gdragan@stcatherinesiena.org">gdragan@stcatherinesiena.org</a> or you may sign up outside Trinity Chapel.

## Happy Retirement, Al DeMars!





Please join us in congratulating Al DeMars on his retirement! Al has faithfully served St. Catherine of Siena in Human Resources and Finance and has been our go-to person for all kinds of odds and ends over the years. His dedication and willingness to help wherever needed have been a blessing to our parish community.

Al is looking forward to tackling some longoverdue yard work, spending quality time with his wife and family up north and continuing to volunteer his time and talents with various organizations.

We thank Al for his many years of service and send him off with our prayers and heartfelt gratitude.

Congratulations, Al—enjoy this next chapter!

## **Mass Intentions**

SATURDAY: July 5, Vigil of the Fourteenth Sunday in **Ordinary Time** 

4:00 pm Milagrin D'Souza †

**SUNDAY: July 6, Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

Is 66:10-14c/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

7:30 am Mickey Kerwin 9:00 am Martha Brucker †

11:00 am Michael Patrick O'Donnell †

5:00 pm People of the Parish

MONDAY: July 7, Weekday

Gn 28:10-22a/Mt 9:18-26

9:15 am Deacon Ed Feltes †

**TUESDAY: July 8, Weekday** 

Gn 32:23-33/Mt 9:32-38

9:15 am John MacDougall †

WEDNESDAY: July 9, Weekday

Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Mt 10:1-7

9:15 am John Schermerhorn †

THURSDAY: July 10, Weekday

Gn 44:18-21. 23b-29: 45:1-5/Mt 10:7-15

9:15 am Soul of Teresa Tran †

FRIDAY: July 11, Saint Benedict, Abbot

Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Mt 10:16-23 9:15 am Angie Herrygers SATURDAY: July 12, Weekday

Gn 49:29-32: 50:15-26a/Mt 10:24-33

9:15 am Amy Corder †

SATURDAY: July 12, Vigil of the Fifteenth Sunday in **Ordinary Time** 

4:00 pm Joseph † & Anna † Jankura

**SUNDAY: July 13, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

Dt 30:10-14/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

7:30 am Helen Brocker †

9:00 am Deacon Jack Prendergast † 11:00 am Debbie & Tom † Inwood

5:00 pm People of the Parish

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### **Staff Contacts**

Front Office

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Coordinator

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Kathy Laske / (269) 978-2332 **Gary Townsend** 

Blake Maxwell

## **Clergy Contacts**

Fr. Mark Vyverman Fr. Joseph Abraham Deacon Brian Deacon Ron Deacon Doran

fathermark fatherioseph deaconbrian deaconronald deacondoran

All clergy contacts are @stcatherinesiena.org Call our Front Office to leave a non-urgent message for a Priest or Deacon (269) 327-5165

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