
St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church

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



September 13, 2026

Twenty-Fourth 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,

It's Picnic Weekend!!! Of course, it's not just any picnic this weekend, but it's the special celebration of our 60th anniversary as a parish. Please join us immediately following the 11 AM Mass in the Stanley Centre for good food and many fun activities for the youth (and ice cream too). If they are able to make it, you might even have a chance to see some of our former pastors of St. Catherine. The Bishop had a prior commitment this weekend, but he will be joining us for a 60th anniversary Mass at the 4 PM Saturday Vigil Mass on September 26th, followed by a light dinner.

As we celebrate this anniversary, we are putting together a special 60th anniversary edition booklet to celebrate this occasion. For everyone who is a charter member, we invite you to join us for a group picture for this anniversary booklet. Please gather at the new Mary Garden, right next to the main entrance of the church following the 11 AM Mass this Sunday.

By the way, if you haven't visited the new location for the Mary Garden, please stop in and visit and pray. We are very happy with the way it turned out. Due to the upcoming construction and repairs for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, we had to remove most of the landscaping on the south side of our property (facing Centre) and relocate to other areas.

When you go to Stanley Centre for the picnic, please stop by our renovated Marian Grotto! This is behind the Stanley Centre (by the West Fence line). This area has been there for many years now, but since it's out in the weather all year long, it needed some tender, loving care. We have a future Eagle Scout (Josh Blomeke) who chose this as his project and this renovation will benefit the parish for years to come. A special thank you to all those who helped with this project, bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Our parishioner, and one of our newest seminarians, Noah Bohan has started the school year at St. Mark Seminary in Erie, Pennsylvania. If you would like to write to him (or send him a card), his address is 429 E. Grandview Blvd., Erie, PA 16504. Along with Noah, there are a total of four seminarians for the Diocese of Kalamazoo at this seminary location. The rest are in studies at Sacred Heart in Detroit.

Thanks for reading!

Fr. Mark



PAGE 2 **All schedules are subject to change.**

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

Adoration

Thursday: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm
First Friday: 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm

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: frontdesk@stcatherinesiena.org



Text to Give: (844) 311-5105



www.stcatherinesiena.org



facebook.com/stcatherinesiena



stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com



prayers@stcatherinesiena.org, (269) 978-2344

Stewardship

August 24, 2026 - August 30, 2026	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$34,876
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$9,196</u>
		\$44,072
August 25, 2025 - August 31, 2025	Envelopes & Loose Donations	\$12,246
	Electronic Giving	<u>\$7,227</u>
		\$19,473
2026 - 2027 Year to Date	\$245,962	
2025 - 2026 Year to Date	\$244,625	

Thank you all for your continued generosity!

If you are interested in membership or volunteering,
please contact our Front Office today!

frontdesk@stcatherinesiena.org or 327-5165.

Calendar of Events

Calendar events subject to change!

Sunday, September 13, 2026

- 7:30 am Mass, Church
- 8:30 am Rosary, Trinity Chapel
- 9:00 am Mass, Church
- 10:00 am Benedictine Oblate Meeting, GLP
- 11:00 am Mass, Church
- 12:00 pm Parish Picnic, Stanley Centre Gym
- 12:00 pm Baptism(s), Church
- 5:00 pm Mass, Church

Monday, September 14, 2026

- 9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
- 7:00 pm Catholic Men's Fellowship, Fellowship

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

- 9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
- 9:45 am Rosary, Trinity Chapel
- 1:00 pm Catechists Training, Marian Hall
- 6:30 pm OCIA, SCR Conference Room

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

- 9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
- 10:00 am St. C Walkers, Stanley Centre Gym
- 6:00 pm Catechists Training, Marian Hall
- 7:00 pm Scripture Study, Zoom

Thursday, September 17, 2026

- 9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
- 10:00 am Adoration, Trinity Chapel
- 12:50 pm Benediction, Trinity Chapel
- 6:30 pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

Friday, September 18, 2026

- 9:15 am Daily Mass, Trinity Chapel
- 4:00 pm YA Apple Picking, Gull Meadow Farms

Saturday, September 19, 2026

- 7:30 am Catholic Men's Fellowship, Room 9/11
- 8:00 am SVdP Interviews, Stanley Centre
- 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
- 4:00 pm YA Lord's Day, Red Robin, Youth Room

Reflection on the Readings

The theme of today's readings is forgiveness. The first reading, from the Book of Sirach, says that we should not expect forgiveness from God if we are unwilling to forgive those who sin against us. The psalm reminds us of God's mercy and compassion. St. Paul reminds the Christians in Rome that they (and we) belong to Christ and should reflect His behavior. Finally, the Gospel passage from Matthew tells the story of the servant who refused to forgive a fellow servant's debt to him despite his master having forgiven him a far greater debt.

The story that Jesus tells in Matthew's gospel clearly echoes what the author of the Book of Sirach said several hundred years earlier...we must forgive those who wrong us. As Christians we are to be imitators of Christ, and we know that Jesus endured the cross so that our sins would be forgiven. That fact alone should drive us to want to forgive the people who have offended us. However, there is more to the story than simply wanting to imitate Jesus. We've all heard it said that holding a grudge against someone only hurts us; harboring bitterness or hatred towards another person makes it difficult to be the joyful people that God created us to be. God, of course, knows this...He knows that the way towards true happiness lies in forgiving others. God even goes further; we're taught that our sins are not just forgiven but forgotten! While that may be impossible for us humans, it is possible to forgive to the point that we no longer dwell on the past and can perhaps even have a new relationship with the person(s) who wronged us. It takes time, and prayer, and a willingness to move forward. It is not easy, but Jesus is the way. He did it, and we can too.

Reflection by parishioner John Ceglarek

News Around St. Catherine and the Diocese



Join us in Fellowship!

Diocesan Pilgrimage

There will be a diocesan pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi with Bishop Edward M. Lohse during next year's Ad Limina, **May 3-11, 2027**. During this pilgrimage you will walk in the footsteps of St. Francis, St. Clare, and Blessed Carlo Acutis in Assisi before continuing to Rome to visit the great basilicas, the Vatican Museums, the Sistine Chapel, and the catacombs of the early Church and more!

For more information, visit the QR Code!



40 Days for Life

From **September 23rd to November 1st**, you're invited to join fellow St. Catherine parishioners and also Christians across the globe for 40 Days for Life. This involves 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. We stand and peacefully pray in the public right-of-way outside of the Planned Parenthood building at 4201 W. Michigan in Kalamazoo. To sign up, please do one of the following:

- Enter your hours directly at: www.40daysforlife.com/en/kalamazoo
- Enter your hours on the Respect Life bulletin Board in the Narthex
- Contact Jeff Phelan at (269) 491-5151 or jvphelan@gmail.com

Also, St. Mary's Kalamazoo is hosting a candlelight vigil on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood on **September 20th at 6:00 PM**. All are welcome to attend. Candles and prayer booklets will be provided. Sign ups are NOT required. Parking for this event is allowed across the street at Alternatives, 4200 W Michigan Ave.

Caregiver Connections

Are you a caregiver for someone with a disability? Do you sometimes feel overwhelmed? 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, September 13th, at 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM**. To register, go to diokzoo.org/personswithdisabilities or contact Veronica Rodriguez at (269) 349-8714 Ext. 1240 and email her at vrodriguez@diokzoo.org.

MomCo

MomCo is back and we saved you a seat! Join us this year as we explore our new theme, Good Company – a reminder that God created us for authentic friendship and community. In a world that often leaves us feeling busy and disconnected, MomCo is a place where moms can find encouragement, grow in faith, and build meaningful relationships with other women who understand the journey of motherhood. Our first meeting is **Sunday, September 20th, 2026, at 6:30 PM** at the Stanley Centre. Whether you're a new mom or have children of any age, we'd love to welcome you. For more information, contact Kelsey Stainforth at kritter22@live.com, search for our group through the MomCo Find a Group page, or join our Facebook group, St. Catherine's MomCo.

Charter Members Photo!

We will be taking a photo of charter members on **September 13th after the 11:00 AM Mass right before the Parish Picnic!** Please plan to meet us near the new Mary Statue location, where the memorial bricks are next to the main entrance into our building. If you're a charter member and plan to be in the photo, please call the front office to RSVP at (269) 327-5165! If you know of any inactive charter members, please pass along their contact so we could invite them!

Parish Picnic

Join us **THIS Sunday from 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM** for the 60th Anniversary Parish Picnic! We will meet in the Stanley Centre and enjoy a lunch of shredded pork and shredded chicken along with various sides. There will be fun for the whole family with face painting, Magic by Brian Penny, and Preston Eakins aka Scoop the Balloonatic will be making Balloon animals! In addition, there will be special 60th anniversary surprises that you won't want to miss out on. We look forward to seeing you there!

Young Adults Apostles' Dinner

Have you ever wondered what it would be to live like an Apostle in the Early Church? On **September 19th**, all young adults are invited to a celebration of the Lord's Day with dinner to follow. Lord's Day will start at **4 PM**, and then we will go to Red Robin for dinner after. The Lord's Day celebration is similar to how the Apostles shared in fellowship during the Early Church period. To learn more about this, click the links below to understand more about how the Lord's Day celebration is structured and how it is similar to the Apostles. If you have any more questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Charley Truitt at ctrutt@stcatherinesiena.org, (269) 978-2347, or through the Maranatha GroupMe. Hope to see you there! Visit: swordofthespirit.net/lords-day/earlychurch.com/love-feast/

Young Adults Apple Picking



All young adults (ages 18-35) are invited to Apple Picking at Gull Meadow Farms in Richland on **September 18th at 4:00 PM**. There is no general admission fee to pick apples; you will just simply pay for the specific bag size you would like to fill. Standard apples such as Gala or McIntosh are either \$15 for a peck or \$22 for a half-bushel, and Honeycrisp apples are \$18 for a peck and \$30 for a half-bushel. Be sure to save some of the apples you pick because we will use them for an event on Friday, the 25th. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Charley Truitt through ctrutt@stcatherinesiena.org, (269) 978-2347, or through the Maranatha St. Catherine of Siena Young Adult GroupMe. Hope to see you there!

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, phone (800) 276-1562 or visit <http://ReportBishopAbuse.org>. 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.

Caring Network Fundraiser

The Knights of Columbus, Women of the Word, Respect Life Ministry, and Youth Group will host a fundraiser for the Caring Network from **Sept. 26th – Oct. 4th**. Caring Network, part of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, provides free support to hundreds of pregnant and parenting women each year. **The Caring Network has provided the following list of items needed:**

- Diapers (sizes 3-7+) & Pull-ups (sizes 2T-6T)
- Girls & boys onesies (0-3 mos & 9-12 mos)
- Girls & boys pajamas (3T-5T)
- Girls & boys tops, shorts, & pants (3T and 5T)
- Toddler socks
- Toddler cups
- Toddler toothbrushes & toothpaste
- Children's body wash
- Baby wipes
- Baby wash cloths, towels, & burp cloths
- Baby formula, bottle nipples, pacifiers
- Strollers, highchairs, & pack n' plays
- Front carriers, wraps (for both parents to wear babies, not swaddles)
- Outlet covers & locks for cupboard
- Adult shampoo & conditioner
- Adult body wash, toothbrushes, & toothpaste
- Feminine products (tampons)
- Breast pads & milk storage bags
- Board books - games (memory, Hi-Ho Cherry-O), stacking toys, pull toys, & baby dolls

Drop donations in the pack-n-plays in the Narthex anytime between **Sept. 26th – Oct. 4th**. We'll also have a "baby bottle" fundraiser. After Mass on **Sept. 26th and 27th**, take home a baby bottle, fill it with coins, cash, or a check (payable to Catholic Charities Caring Network), and return it the weekend of **Oct. 3rd and 4th**.

Contacts: Jeff Phelan at (269) 491-5151, jvpheland@gmail.com or Dianne Zeman at (269) 665-0392, dianne.zeman@gmail.com

Urgent: Seeking Ushers

We are urgently seeking ushers for our Sunday 11:00 AM and 5:00 PM Masses. We also are seeking usher substitutions for when someone calls in sick or cannot make it during a mass. Ushers do the significant tasks of welcoming parishioners, handing out worship aids, guiding people to a seat, guide Communion procession, and more! If you'd like to serve as an usher at Mass, please contact Mary Myers in the front office at (269) 327-5165.

El Sitio, El Salvador

our sister parish

Family since 1999



The El Sitio ministry will be returning to El Salvador in October! Please donate so we can support the three main focuses of the ministry: education, healthcare and economic sustainability.



Envelopes are available at the entrance of the church.
Also, you can scan the QR code below and make your donation today!



Thank you for your generosity! If you need more information, please email
Avril at lcustomplbg@aol.com

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all of those who participated in the 17th Annual St. Catherine of Siena Golf Outing!

Special thanks to the following Hole Sponsors and Prize/Gift Donors for helping make this year's event a great success!

Mark and Aimee Castillo
Steve Borchert
Jac's Cekola Pizza
Knights of Columbus Council #1616
Dan and Theresa Mills
Joe and Karen Magalski
Mark's Diner
Clarence and Karen Snyder
Kzoo Tire Company
McIntyres Salon
Shoemaker's Garage
State Farm - Andy Poulsen Agency
Fr. Bill Jacobs
Miedema & Assoc. - Ameriprise F.S.
The Larkin Family
Bill Leach
John Sims
Black Onyx
TeamLogic IT
Park Allergy
Nidal Shomali
St. Michael Financial - Stan Ledvina
Romence Gardens
St. Catherine's Men's Fellowship
Dan Kloosterman Family
Joe Bennett
Joe and Ellen Comiskey
Weed Man Lawn Care
Dan and Kathy Dunn & Family
John Bresnahan & Family
Mike Rupp
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John Schuring Jr. Insurance
Majestic Financial
Willis Law
R.W. LaPine
Hardings Friendly Markets
Gull Lakeview Golf Resort
Cheshire Hills Golf Club
States Golf Course
Pine View Golf Course
Ricky Carlson
Tom & Lori Collins
Golf Services
Red Lobster Restaurant
Texas Roadhouse

See pictures from this years' outing:



A Taste of Poland Dinner

Hosted by the
Knights of Columbus
Council 6980



St. Catherine of Siena
Stanley Centre
1130 W Centre Ave,
Portage, MI 49024

Main Dishes: Handmade pierogies, authentic Gołąbki,
Artesian Polish Kielbasa (fresh & smoked).

Sides: Mizeria - Fresh cucumbers & shaved onion in a cream & dill sauce

Ziemniaki - Boiled new baby potatoes finished in a dill & chive butter

Kapusta Kiszona - Braised Polish sauerkraut, with bacon lardon & sweet onion

Charcuterie Table: Artesian sourdough & rye bread, dry-cured Kabanos sausage,
cheese assortment, homemade dill pickles, asparagus & beets

Dessert: Polish apple cake and more.

WHEN

DATE

24 OCT

DOORS OPEN AT

5:00 PM

TIME

- Cash bar available for Polish beer and wine
- Authentic Polish Music - Polkas, Obereks, Waltzes
- 50/50 Raffle
- Remembrance board of loved ones, which will be blessed at the event
- Will honor Pope John Paul II



Get tickets

- \$30 for ages 12+, \$15 for ages 5 - 12, free if under 5
- Contact Joe Magalski or Dan Dunn
- Ticket sales: Parish Picnic (September 13th), in Marian Hall on September 20th & after all Masses on October 3rd/4th
- Scan QR Code to get tickets via credit card
- If paying by check, make payable to Knights of Columbus Council 6980



Knights of
Columbus®



Joe Magalski at jmagalski@gmail.com or 989-992-6085
Dan Dunn at ddunnlucey@charter.net or 269-370-2433

CHRIST, COMMUNITY, CHARITY
Women of the Word

Join us this fall for
"Bible Basics for Catholics"
by John Bergsma

*A clear, concise, and easy-to-understand walk through salvation history -
from Adam and Eve to Jesus Christ - providing valuable insights to help
you see how God's love story unfolds in scripture.*

Weekly classes held:

Thursday, 10am-12pm starting September 24th

Where: Marian Hall

Young Mom Group is offered, no child care available

OR

Sunday, 6-8pm starting September 27th

Where: Classrooms

COST: \$5/Book (Financial Assistance is available)

**Registration Dates September 12th & 13th
after all Masses**

Payment will be taken at the time of registration

Or register online by September 13th

At www.signupgenius.com/findasignup

Find a Sign Up Tab: km_packard@hotmail.com

Select: Women of the Word 2026 Fall Registration

For registration questions:

Katie Packard at km_packard@hotmail.com

NAME:

EMAIL:

PHONE:

ATTENDING: THURS SUN THURS MOM GROUP

CASH CHECK (CHECK MADE OUT TO KATIE PACKARD)

***RETURN THIS FORM TO ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH OFFICE BY SEPT 7TH**

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY: September 12, Vigil of the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm Mary† and Dick Schell †

SUNDAY: September 13, The Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30—28:7/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:00 am Frank Unger †

11:00 am Deacon Ron Brown's Ordination Anniversary

5:00 pm Micah Hall †

MONDAY: September 14, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

9:15 am Dan Comiskey †

TUESDAY: September 15, Our Lady of Sorrows

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a (444)/Jn 19:25-27

9:15 am Michael Edward Osborn †

WEDNESDAY: September 16, Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Lk 7:31-35

9:15 am Deacon Ed Feltes †

THURSDAY: September 17, Weekday; Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 7:36-50

9:15 am Cathy Seiser †

FRIDAY: September 18, Weekday

1 Cor 15:12-20/Lk 8:1-3

9:15 am Verlina Cole †

SATURDAY: September 19, Weekday; Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr; BVM

1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Lk 8:4-15

9:15 am Frank Unger †

SATURDAY: September 19, Vigil of the Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm John Arundel †

SUNDAY: September 20, The Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

7:30 am Robert McGuire †

9:00 am People of the Parish

11:00 am Franca † and Boridano † Panone

5:00 pm Frank Unger †

Staff Contacts

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Kathy Laske (Coordinator) / (269) 978-2332

Gary Townsend

Brian Thole

Clergy Contacts

Fr. Mark Vyverman

Deacon Brian

Deacon Ron

Deacon Doran

fathermark

deaconbrian

deaconronald

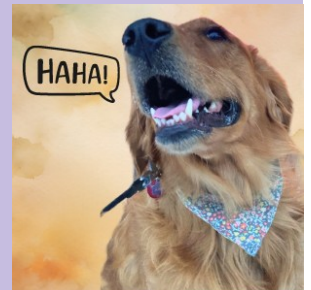
deacondoran

All clergy contacts are @stcatherinesiena.org

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

**Where was
Solomon's temple
located?**

**On the side of his
head.**



Join our Flocknote! Text [JOINSCS](https://www.joinscs.com) to 84576

OR Connect with us online at:

stcatherinesiena.flocknote.com



Any adult working with children and youth must complete mandatory diocesan requirements including background checks and child abuse prevention training before volunteering in any capacity.