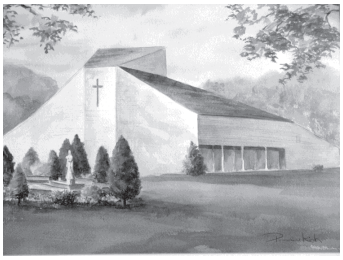

Saint Catherine of Siena
Roman Catholic Church

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford | The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 17 August 2014

Mass/Liturgy Schedule:
Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Masses at 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
(Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend, *NO* 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass)
Daily Mass at 8:30 a.m., Monday through Wednesday, and Friday. (Yearly)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: For the summer:
Saturday from 4:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.
Monday from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Baptisms and Baptismal Preparation:
Please call the parish office at 860 658 1642

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony:
Please call the parish office at 860 658 1642 at least 6 months in advance

Choir Practices:
Adult—Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.
Youth—Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
Contemporary Music Group—Thursdays prior to 1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month at 7:00 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 10:00 a.m.

Website News: email to:
StCatherineWebMaster@Comcast.net

265 Stratton Brook Road, Box 184,
West Simsbury, Connecticut 06092
Tel: 860 658 1642 /Fax: 888 297 3134
Email: stcathy@comcast.net
Website: www.stcatherine.info

WELCOME!

We welcome all visitors who are celebrating with us today. As is our custom at St. Catherine of Siena, please remain in your pew for the singing of the **first and last verses** of the recessional hymn.

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.

The St. Catherine Parish Legacy Fund is committed to ensuring the long-term stability of our parish and its ministries. Please consider a gift in lieu of flowers upon a love one's passing as a way to ensure our community will thrive well into the future.

Pastor
The Reverend Michael Whyte
860 658 1642

PARISH STAFF
Administrative Assistant-Parish Office
Mrs. Lisa Cerchia
860 658 1642 or stcathy@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Kathi Bonner
860 658 4737 or kathidre@aol.com

Director of Youth Ministry
Mrs. Judy Pluta
860 408 9888 or judyplutaym@gmail.com

Music Director
Mrs. Susan Zybert
860 216 6519 or susanzybert@comcast.net

Facilities Manager
Mr. Michael Grappone
860 658 1642

Parish Council President
Mr. Tom Tanski
860 658 4430

Finance Council Chairman
Mr. Scott Muryasz
860 693 4164

Parish Legacy Fund Chairman
Mr. Peter Pabich
860 408 1254

Parish Lay Trustees
Mrs. Melissa Horbal, (860)651-7844
Mr. Joseph Capozzoli, (860)352-2390

Thanks for worshiping with us.
If you would like to join our parish family, fill out a yellow membership form found in the vestibule or atrium and mail it to us, drop it in the collection basket or call us at 658 1642.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday, August 16th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Gene Pettignano,* requested by his family;
- Sunday, August 17th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Stanley Burk,* requested by Betty West;
- Sunday, August 17th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Frank & Theresa Cerchia*, requested by the Helitzer Family;
- Monday, August 18th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Lorraine Zile, 18th anniversary,* requested by Robert Zile;
- Tuesday, August 19th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Anthony Rodi,* requested by his sister, Mary;
- Wednesday, August 20th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *James Healey*;
- Friday, August 22nd @ 8:30 am Mass for *Dixie Mastrandrea*;
- Saturday, August 23rd @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Gerald Lyman,* requested by Tom & Rosemary Clarke;
- Sunday, August 24th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Norma F. Zyskowski*; and;
- Sunday, August 24th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Maria Cuervo, birthday remembrance*, requested by her family.

Offertory Collection

Weekly Collection:	$8,063.00
Loose Cash/Checks	$7,005.00
Envelopes	$1,058.50
Cathedraticum*	-$ 443.49
School Tax*	-$ 443.49

**Parish taxes (5.5%) paid to the Archdiocese for services to the parish.*

Repair & Refurbishment…..$50.00 (additional)

Stay Informed and Up-to-Date—For all the information about parish liturgical and spiritual events, social activities, Religious Ed and Youth Group info as well as future calendar happenings. Your best source is our Parish Website, www.stcatherine.info. Like us on our Facebook page, St. Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury, CT.

Religious Education News

Class lists are nearly complete with children currently enrolled. There are still a few families whose children were enrolled last year who have not re-registered this year. If you haven't yet registered your children for Rel Ed for 2014-2015, please do so immediately to ensure a place in class this year. Go to our website and registered quickly and easily online. Or contact Kathidre@aol.com for the re-registration form.

New Registrations—please register your child using the blue form for New Students found in the atrium of the church asap before the classes are too full. child for the first day of classes. Thank you.

There are a few opportunities for catechists for the 2014-2015 year beginning in September: Grade 6.

We have an outstanding curriculum, terrific children, a supportive community and infinite rewards in our innovative RE program. Join us! You know you've been thinking about it....now is the time to call Kathi Bonner, 658.4737 or email for more information: Kathidre@aol.com.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH Youth Ministry KICKOFF is SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th at 6:00 pm. Come sign up for car wash, TWA weekend, fall service projects and more. Join the fun, bring a friend, pizza will be served.

JUNIOR HIGH (grades 7 and 8) Youth Ministry KICKOFF is MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th at 7:00 pm (please note the new day of the week!) Come join us and bring a friend. Pizza will be served! Youth Ministry registration forms can be found in the atrium and the vestibule and on the St. Catherine of Siena web site.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

The fight for religious freedom is not a Catholic issue, not a Jewish issue, not an Orthodox, Mormon, or Muslim issue. It is an American issue. The passage of the Affordable Care Act has dangerous implications on all religions. If we permit the government to have the final say on what type of health care coverage a religious organization must provide, we are basically enabling them to interfere in all religious liberty concerns in areas such as Immigration and humanitarian services.

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the mandate by calling President Obama at the White House at 202-456-1111 or Sylvia Mathews Burwell of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 202-205-5445. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

FROM FATHER MICHAEL...

Construction of the Parking Lot

As we proceed with the addition of the new parking lot, all is going well. We are on schedule and hope to finish on 19 September (the existing parking lot's repair work will begin next spring). As you can see from the work so far, the land has been cleared, the entry road to the new lot and the bridge is in place, some of the gravel has been delivered, and the footings for the lights are going in. Soon the light poles will be in place (in both the new and the existing lots) and then the partial paving and walkway into Russell Hall will come into being.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Hugh Caldwell of Caldwell Excavating for all their wonderful work and diligent service. I am confident we will be well pleased when all is said and done. You can safely view the work site from the windows in Russell Hall.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In last weekend's gospel we had another miracle—the walking on the water by Jesus, and for a short while by Peter—and that miracle, like all miracles in the gospels, are meant not as magic to entice us or to lock us into following God, but rather are meant to illustrate to us God's great power and our absolute dependence upon God. As I mentioned in last weekend's homily the point of these miracle is to lead us all into complete and absolute Trust in Christ.

This weekend we hear of another account in the gospel, again by Matthew (15:21-28), that is meant to call us to completely trust the Lord. Here we have Christ in the region of Tyre and Sidon—far from the chosen people of Israel—and in the presence of a Canaanite woman. The woman calls out for Jesus' pity to come upon her suffering daughter. Jesus ignores her at first and she cries out all the more, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!" Irked, the Disciples of Christ tell Him to send her away as she is unworthy of His time and energy—and she is bothering the disciples. Jesus tells the woman, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman continues—and pays Him homage. There is a great divide taking place here: from the chosen people of Israel who have a sense of entitlement to God's favor to this woman of no standing, now showing faith in the Lord by paying Him homage. Her humility and faith lead to Jesus' action for her. It even dissuades the Lord from His statement: "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." In her humility she notes that, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."

This woman comes to the Lord lowly and full of humility, seeking the Lord's help and knowing that all she needs is to place herself in His presence and healing will occur. Humility, faith and Trust—absolute trust in the Lord bring about God's wonderful goodness. Like the Canaanite woman, may we all come to the Lord just as we are and be lifted up by His magnificent goodness and compassion and not seek to be raised up by our own merits.

Altar Server Help & Training

I am reaching out to potential altar servers and am asking if you would consider joining this important ministry. We have a great team of altar servers but we could always add to this ministry, which is so important to the celebration of the Mass.

If you are at least in GRADE 4 and would like to consider being an altar server, I am inviting you to a meeting to be held on September 8th at 4:00 p.m. in Russell Hall where I will explain in greater detail the role and responsibilities of an altar server.

I hope you will consider serving God and your church in this role—it is a great way to be involved and we can have a lot of fun at the same time. Give me a call, 658 1642, or stop by at the meeting on September 8th.

Light of Truth or good, ole friend? *The role of a godparent and Confirmation Sponsor*

As we prepare for the academic year ahead with school and religious education classes just around the corner (yikes!), it is timely to have a reminder about the role of godparents and Confirmation sponsors as soon the numbers of baptisms begin to pick-up and our Confirmation program gets ready to begin.

For some folks, the importance and significance of just "what" the godparent/Confirmation sponsor stands for may get lost. A recent trend, particularly with the secular worlds approach to faith, leads many to believe that the person selected to be a godparent or Confirmation sponsor just needs to be a "good" person. Sadly, for some it has become an honorarium only. When people ask me if so-and-so is "O.K." to be a godparent or sponsor, I hear more often than not that the reason for their choice is "he was my best buddy in college" or "I've known her since I was six, she is like an aunt to my child." Great! Happy for you! But that's not the reason for selecting someone to be your child's godparent or Confirmation sponsor.

The individual(s) selected to be your faith representative to your child is expected to be a model Christian—someone who not only believes in God but practices our Catholic faith. They must be someone who, if hauled into a "Catholic Court" would ultimately be convicted of being "Catholic," so that they may be "an example of the Catholic faith to inspire your child in the ways of faith."

It is a sad fact of life that in our world today it is harder and harder to find a godparent or Confirmation sponsor since the world tells us that religion isn't important, that Mass attendance as a family isn't vital, or that commitment to commitments is a "thing of the past." But as sad as that may be, it should not influence your decision to select someone who will bring these values to your child. After all, **you're** attending Mass, **you're** taking your child to the Confirmation program, **and you're** asking the Church to baptize your child. It must mean something to you, right?

So, if our siblings have fallen away from the practice of the faith or if our friends believe that the New York Times or the Sunday morning news shows and a bagel are an equal alternative to worshiping God at Mass, then I say "look the other way" and see like-minded folks at the Mass you attend as your new sisters and brothers in Christ, as your new family and friends...and ask them to be a godparent or a Confirmation sponsor. And if that seems too wired or too difficult, ask me or Kathi Bonner or Judy Pluta or Susan Zybert to direct you toward a like-minded Catholic, who I am certain, would be more than happy to help light the path of faith for child. "Be not afraid," after all, it is what the church family is all about. And, oh yes, in that Christian love we are called to be, remember to invite the sibling or the longtime friend to the ceremony, it might inspire them to think about "who" and "where" they are in your life.

Confession on Monday, August 18th has been cancelled

Get involved: you don't have to do everything...

but everyone should do something!

Upcoming Meetings/Events

August

--Sat, 16th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9:30 a.m.
-Tues, 19th—Social Justice, Library, 7 p.m.
-Sun, 20th—Youth Ministry Leadership Team, Library, 8 p.m.
-Sat, 23rd—Feed the Hungry
-Sat, 23rd—Picnic in the Park, 11:30 a.m.
-Mon, 25th—Welcome Committee, Library, 7 p.m.

Please join-n and come to a meeting of your choice.

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Pantry Partners—Thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted in the distribution of fresh and frozen food to 36 Simsbury families this weekend. A special thanks to Anthony Napolitano for the generous donation of his farm-fresh cucumbers and squash. The addition of these items diversifies our monthly offering.

FEED THE HUNGRY—-The next Youth Group visit to the shelter in Hartford will be Saturday, August 23rd. You must reserve your spot as there is a limited amount of space in the serving kitchen. Please contact Lisa Sheary @ 860-658-2899 or lisa.sheary@cbmoves.com to reserve a spot.

The St. Catherine community will be preparing and serving dinner for the residents of **St. Elizabeth House** in Hartford on **Sunday, August 24th**. Those interested in helping to prepare or provide part of the meal or in going to St. Elizabeth House to help serve, please sign up in the atrium. Volunteers and food donations should be at St. Catherine (or donations should be left in the church kitchen marked for St. Elizabeth's) by 3:45 pm on Sun., August 24th. We will leave the church by 4:00 pm and return by about 6:15 pm. Contact Leila Bruno at 860-392-8585 or leilabruno@comcast.net with questions.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED!!!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES are needed to help children of Hartford. Please donate the following items for Family Life Ministry to distribute to the children: **backpacks, calculators, notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers, 3 ring binders, loose leaf paper, markers, crayons, erasers, and glue.** All items can be placed in the boxes in the Atrium or the Vestibule. ***Help children be all that they can be!***

On October 19th, at St. Joseph Cathedral, 2:00 p.m. there will be an Anniversary Sunday Celebration Mass for all couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th or any other special wedding anniversary this year. Archbishop Blair will be the main celebrant. Mass will include a renewal of vows, followed by a simple reception and an opportunity for a photo with the Archbishop. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Please call the parish, 658-1642, to respond to this invitation.

10th Annual Ben Nascimbeni, Jr. Memorial Golf Classic at Simsbury Farms, Friday August 22nd, 11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start/ Scramble Format. To download a brochure or make a donation please go to nascimbeni.kintera.org. For questions please contact Ben Nascimbeni @ 860-658-9372 or email him at bbnascimbeni@sbcglobal.net.

HEALING AND HOPE MASS—On Tuesday August 19, 2014 at 7:30 PM, there will be a Mass of Healing and Hope at St. Thomas Seminary, 467 Bloomfield Ave, Bloomfield. The Presider will be Rev. Iain Highet. The theme of the entire Mass is healing, from the celebrant to the musicians to the participants to the prayer teams. At this Mass, trained healing prayer teams will pray for your individual needs. Rosary Prayer before Mass begins at 6:55 p.m.

Ever Considered Catholic Schools?

Summer is a great time to explore St. Mary's Catholic School. Families can learn more about our 1:1 iPad program, differentiated daily instruction, and our engaging Talcott Mountain science program by contacting the school at 860-658-9412 or visiting our website at www.StMarysSchoolSimsbury.org.

There are limited spaces available for the 2014-2015 school year.

End of Bulletin
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Church:	St. Catherine of Siena
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Account #	**04-0523**
Run #	
Routing Code:	O
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Fax:	888.297.3134
Contact:	Lisa Cerchia