



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe 23 November 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:

Saturday from 4:00 p.m. until 4:30 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 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 worshipping 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, November 22nd @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Nancy Tribou, 5th anniversary*, requested by her family;
- Sunday, November 23rd @ 8:00 am Mass for *William Paradis*, requested Kathy & Mike Reilley;
- Sunday, November 23rd @ 11:00 am Mass for *Jack Winters, anniversary remembrance*, requested by his wife;
- Sunday, November 23rd @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Michael MacBeth*, requested by Amy & Lou Daniels;
- Monday, November 24th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Rev. Lech Kuna*;
- Tuesday, November 25th @ 8:30 am Mass for *The Berardelli Family*;
- Wednesday, November 26th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Victor Bellacosa, 17th anniversary*, requested by his family;
- Thursday, November 27th @ 9 a.m. Mass *Pro Populo*;
- Friday, November 28th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Stanley Burk*;
- Saturday, November 29th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Margaret Hopkins*, requested by Barb & Dick Hopkins & family;
- Sunday, November 30th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Stanley Burk*, requested Jan & Bill Bitterli;
- Sunday, November 30th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Astra Cerchia, 10th anniversary*, requested by her family; and,
- Sunday, November 30th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *George Duane Martensen*, requested by his family.

Offertory Collection

Weekly Collection:	\$12,005.15
Loose Cash/Checks	\$ 1,634.15
Envelopes	\$10,371.00
Cathedraticum*	-\$ 660.29
School Tax*	-\$ 660.29
*Parish taxes (5.5%) paid to the Archdiocese for services to the parish.	
Repair & Refurbishment ...\$	1,256.00 (additional)

This weekend's second collection
is for the Campaign for Human Development.

Next week's second collection is for
Christmas Flowers.

Monday Evening Confessions will be discontinued
until further notice. Confession is available on
Saturday afternoons from 4:00—4:30 p.m.
or by calling the rectory, 658-1642.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

First Reconciliation is Sunday, Nov. 23rd at 3pm!

Please be at the church by 2:45pm ~ families will sit together.

NO RE CLASSES on Sunday, November 30th due to the Thanksgiving Day weekend. All classes, K-10 will resume on Sunday, December 7th.

PARENTS—when dropping off children at HJMS—please follow the traffic pattern that diverts cars away from the crosswalk. The orange cones cannot be driven through! We have over 500 children coming in and out of the school and the safety of those children is our only concern. **Please do not drive across the walkway where the orange cones are set up.** Your cooperation is appreciated and necessary to prevent accidents!

CONFIRMATION I & II—Classes meet again on Sunday, December 7th. Please be on time for class so that class can end on time....especially the morning class!

GRADE THREE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT—

Rehearsals have begun! Please help you child with lines and narrator parts. If you haven't returned the bottom portion of the green flyer, please do so asap. Children should be at the church no later than 9am on 12/13 for dress rehearsal. The Christmas Pageant begins at 11am with a reception to follow.

JESUS is the REASON for the SEASON! Our Annual Christmas Pageant will be on Saturday, December 13th at 11am in the Church. All parishioners are invited and encourage to come and participate in celebrating the birth of our dear, Savior, Lord. Our 3rd Graders will lead us in costume and song.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday, November 23rd, 6:00-7:30 pm—Thanksgiving pies, Russell Hall. Join this youth group tradition making apple pies for area soup kitchens and shelters. **BRING: a bag of apples, an apple peeler and a cutting board from home.** Put your family name on utensils. Pizza will be served. Also—Details and instructions for our Christmas service project will be given out tonight.

Sunday, December 14th, 6:00 pm—Christmas project and Christmas celebration tonight. **First**, we will be making homemade ornaments and blankets for a family who cannot afford to have a tree on their own. Can you bring a \$ 3.00 contribution to help offset the cost of this project? **Second**, please bring a wrapped Christmas gift (approx \$5 or \$6) to participate in a fun Christmas gift swap within our group. We will have our own Christmas celebration!

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

A BIG THANK YOU to all the teens and adults who came out to make applesauce last weekend. Your hard work yielded 6 gallons of applesauce which was distributed at Loaves and Fishes soup kitchen in Hartford.

Monday, December 15th, 7:00-8:30 pm, Russell Hall—Christmas project and Christmas celebration tonight. **First**—We will be making items to deliver to 2 area soup kitchens for Christmas. Can you bring \$2 or \$3 to donate to help offset the cost of our offering? **Second**, Please bring a wrapped Christmas gift (approx \$5 or \$6) to participate in a fun Christmas gift swap within our group? We will have our own Christmas gift celebration.

Our Immigration Crisis, Our Christian Response.

The immigration issue is complex and aggravating, to say the least. As a Catholic and as an American, I sometimes feel pulled in different directions. I try to keep in mind that my families came from Ireland and Italy—immigrants themselves—and not loved by the establishment of that day.

On one hand, I feel for those suffering. On the other hand, I want our national borders secured and respected. I care about the hungry but I also get aggravated at politicians who seek their long-term employment by robbing Social Security and Medicare to dole out unearned benefits to potential future votes. And as one who believes in our Constitution and our Republic, I am frustrated by our Congress and our President for their lack of cooperation and compromise, the latter being the “art” of politics. It seems that Mark Twain was correct, “Common sense is very uncommon!” And so to whom should we turn? Let’s look at Sacred Scripture and the Gospels—Christ—for to place our Hope in anyone or anything else will be eternally disappointing.

“Whatever you did for the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40) “You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” (Leviticus 19:34) The Christian faith calls us to care for all in need—those who need water and food, those who need housing and healthcare, those who need a place to live after being forced from their homelands by war, dictatorship or extreme poverty. Noel Castellanos, CEO of the Christian Community Development Association (CCDA), a group of more than 500 churches and organizations committed to transforming communities by living and working among the poor—much like the Catholic Worker’s Movement—wrote an article in *Plough Quarterly* entitled “When Love Demands Justice: A Christian Response to America’s Immigration Crisis.” The author reminds us to Christ’s command to care for those in need.

Our Catholic Christian faith and the US Conference of Catholic Bishops calls us to consider as a prime motivating factor in our debate over immigration the goal of keeping the family together. According to the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC), the Catholic Bishops call on Catholics and all Americans to consider the need to balance secular concerns on the status of immigrants with the building-up of support for strengthening the family unit. In some cases, according to CLINIC representatives, “a child born in the United States whose parents are illegal can sometimes wait 18 to 20 years to be reunited as a family.” While our immigration system is in need of repair, the Catholic Bishops understand a nation’s right and duty to protect and secure its borders against criminal and dangerous elements.

Noel Castellanos asks a very powerful question: “Instead of focusing our efforts in poor communities primarily on pulling drowning people out of the river, we need to go upstream to find out who is pushing them into the water in the first place.” Here is the difference between “service” and “social justice.” Service, while needed and very noble, feeds the hungry or provides medical care to the needy during a crisis—even an ongoing crisis; “social justice” attempts to find and repair the root of a problem.” As we look at the immigration issues facing the United States, our government seems to be working the “back end” of the issue—who and how many may enter the US and become citizens—when

the question we should ask is: *why are you so intent on leaving your homeland?* Are the billions of US economic aide given to South and Latin America helping the people leaving? What are the root causes and can we effectively fix them? Certainly, the problem is complex—so much so that the average person feels individually powerless and ill-equipped to offer a solution. *However, every Catholic—and all Christians—are called to care and to act in the face of poverty, social injustice, or human pain and suffering. The Catholic Church offers many outlets to be part of the solutions to these difficult issues while respecting sovereign national rights—however poverty and social injustice must not be protected by national borders. In fact, two of the potential solutions offered by the Church differ in approach yet are effective answers. The first is service. Service is ministerial-based and helps with the immediate need of hunger, pain, suffering, homelessness or ill health. Service can be found in our own parish ministries here at St. Catherine: Pantry Partners, St. Elizabeth House, or Feed the Hungry Youth Group to name a few. Here—with their dedicated assistance—the immediate needs of the hungry are fulfilled. The same can be said for church-based homeless shelters where the need for immediate shelter is met; or in the Knights of .” Malta Mobil Healthcare Clinics where the immediate need for medicine and treatment is prescribed and filled; or in the Church’s shelters for battered women where the immediate need of safety is guaranteed.*

The second approach that the Church offers is called Social Justice. “Social justice,” which is different from service, seeks a solution to a systemic need: this is where the Church works to “go upstream and see who is pushing them into the water...” To call attention to “why” are people homeless, lacking medical insurance, suffering from cyclical poverty, or forced to immigrate to another land. And then the Church works for systemic change through governmental action or through strong public information and education programs to change cultural attitudes. Some examples of Social Justice in the Church are the Catholic Worker Movement who move right in, literally, to the surroundings of poverty and healthcare and then work in difficult situations to end poverty and injustice through education and action; another example is the Catholic Legal Immigration Network which seeks to redress serious social deficiencies through the legislative process.

Here at St. Catherine of Siena our local Social Justice Committee works to educate us all to the need to “fix” the problem at its root cause. One such way is through education. Let’s look at two examples. First, *Families in Crisis*, which is an organization in Connecticut that seeks to offer assistance to spouses and family members of incarcerated individuals. One of the biggest issues of incarcerated individuals, often fathers and heads of households, is that they are unable to acclimate back into the family/community after release; not to mention the need for support of the family while the incarcerated one is away from them. If the real point of prisons are supposed to rehabilitate, what then is the point—other than to warehouse a criminal—if not to assist the incarcerated one during what has to be a difficult situation, no matter who is at fault? Another problem needing “fixing” at its root cause is hunger in America. (The Social Justice Committee hosted a movie and discussion on this very topic on November 21 in Russell Hall.) Do we really want to solve hunger, and if we do, then what can we do to go beyond the immediate provision of food during a crisis? Should we not be discussing ways to end underemployment, single-parent families, or poor education? It all begins with a conversation. Join us in whatever approach you feel comfortable. Our parish, part of the universal Church, offers many opportunities to do God’s work in the short term or long term. Join a ministry; come listen to the conversations at our Social Justice Committee. Either way, you are doing God’s Will.

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

but everyone should do something!

Upcoming Meetings/Events NOVEMBER

- Sun, 23rd--Advent Wreath Making, RH, 12 noon
- Sun 23rd--Pantry Partners, Kitchen, 3:00 p.m.
- Sun, 23rd--FIRST RECONCILIATION, Church, 3 p.m.
- Sun, 23rd--Youth Grp. Pie Making, RH, Kitchen, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 23rd--St. Elizabeth House
- Tues, 25th--Bible Study, Library, 9:15 a.m.
- Tues, 25th--Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 25th--Adult Choir, MR, 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs, 27th--Thanksgiving Day Mass, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 29th--Bagels & the Bible, RH, 9:00 a.m.
- Sun, 30th--Children's Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.

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

2014 Leaf Rake Thanks!—Thanks to all the volunteers who gathered together on Saturday morning to head out as an "army" of volunteers to help our neighbors with their annual leaf raking. I received an email from one wonderful parishioner who said she looked out her window and say all these "angels" taking care of her. I thank you all for all that you do—and you do so much! Thanks to Bill Tagliatela for his wonderful job in organizing this annual event...and to his wife, Maureen, who saw to it that the lunch for all the workers was in place upon their return! **Thanks!**

Monthly Parish Rosary

On the first Monday of each month, Father Michael will lead the parish in the rosary, from 6:30-7 p.m. in the Church. Prayer intentions for parishioners will be mentioned. Join your voice and prayers and ask the Blessed Mother to take your intentions to her Son. Rosaries, "how to" booklets provided.

SOCIAL OUTREACH...

Pantry Partners—thank you to **Anthony Napolitano** for his generous donation of butternut squash!! This afternoon SCPP will distribute Thanksgiving boxes to our neighbors in need. We are very grateful to Gables Brigade for donating these to us. For more information about this organization, please pick up their info sheet in the atrium and the vestibule.

St. Elizabeth House—The St. Catherine community will be serving dinner to the residents of St. Elizabeth House in Hartford this Sunday, November 23rd. Those who have volunteered to serve or to provide part of the meal, please be at St. Catherine or leave your donations marked for St. Elizabeth's in the church kitchen by 3:45 pm on Sunday. We will return by about 6:15 pm. Contact Leila Bruno at (cell) 860-392-8585 or leilabruno@comcast.net with questions.

2014 THANKSGIVING PRAYER

from Archbishop Leonard Blair

O God, ever good and merciful, look graciously upon us as we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Our nation has been richly blessed, and we thank You for the necessities of life that so many of us enjoy in abundance. May we never take these gifts for granted or forget that they come from You, the Creator and Author of Life. We pray for those among us who suffer as a result of material, spiritual or moral poverty. Enkindle in us a greater charity toward our neighbor in need, and help us as a people to build a more just and peaceful society and world. We pray in a special way for those who are persecuted for their faith throughout the globe.

Thank you, Father, for all Your blessings,
In the Name of Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ADVENT BIBLE begins this week! The Wednesday morning Bible Study will actually begin on **Tuesday, Nov. 25th with Kathi Bonner**; Saturday mornings will begin Saturday, Nov. 29th, from 9:00-10:15 am with Father Michael and Lou Daniels.

The shelter in Hartford is in need of the following:

A new or gently used twin or full size bed for a gentleman that they just placed in an apartment but is currently sleeping on the floor. Please contact Lisa or Peter Sheary @ 658-2899 or shearyreal@aol.com.

Also, the shelter is in need of men's socks, underwear, thermals, hats, gloves and toiletries. These items may be left in the "shelter donations" box near the front entrance.

PARISH SOCIALIZING...



Don't Forget Advent Wreath making this Sunday, November 23 at 12:00 pm in Russell Hall. We'll supply the materials and you will build your original Advent wreath with greens. Contact Karen or Rich Sickinger at 860-408-1295 or sickfam@comcast.net with any questions.



Santa Claus is coming to town! Please join us in Russell Hall for **Breakfast with Santa** on Saturday, December 6th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Enjoy breakfast, crafts and a visit with Santa! **This is a free event for the parish.** Register online at stcatherine.info or in the atrium. Questions? Contact: Chris.tanski@comcast.net.

ADULT PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 6, 6:15 PM to 11 PM

In Russell Hall

Price: \$40 per person. Buffet Dinner, Beer and Wine included. Entertainment: Live DJ. Ticket sales will close 12/3. We are asking everyone to bring an unwrapped toy to donate.

End of Bulletin
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Church: St. Catherine of Siena

City: West Simsbury, Connecticut

Account # 04-0523

Run #

Routing Code: O

Phone: 860.658.1642

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