



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 August 2015

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.
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 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

Coordinator, Young Adult Group

Mrs. Sandi Smith
860-392-9789 or sandismithyya@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, August 8th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Lucille Duford*, 1st anniversary, requested by her family;
- Sunday, August 9th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Marion C. Kendal*, requested by Cal Anderson;
- Sunday, August 9th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Theresa Lyons Cerchia*, 24th anniversary, requested by her family;
- Monday, August 10th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Rev. Ronald L. Genua*;
- Tuesday, August 11th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Rev. Francis V. Karvelis*;
- Wednesday, August 12th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Nick Vinocour*, requested by a friend;
- Friday, August 14th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Elsie Halle Guerra*, requested by her family;
- Saturday, August 15th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Arthur & Grace Doherty*, requested by Ken & Mary Pat Provencher;
- Sunday, August 16th @ 8:00 am Mass for *John & Michael Murphy*, requested by the Pappano Family; and,
- Sunday, August 16th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Andy Potozny*, 5th anniversary, requested by his family.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The deadline of June 30th has passed, however, we will still accept re-registrations through the summer. A late fee of \$50.00 will apply to cover additional charges to the parish for books, supplies and additional rental space now needed after the original orders.

Re-registration can be done online or through email. NEW Registration (*any child new to our RE Program, K-10 including siblings of current students*) must be done in person using the blue forms found in the atrium and vestibule. **New students cannot be accepted online.** For more information, contact Kathi Bonner, DRE @ Kathidre@aol.com or 658.4737.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

REGISTRATION is now underway for Jr. and Sr. High 2015-2016. Registration forms can be found in the atrium, vestibule and on our parish web site.

Young Adult Office

I will be working in the Youth and Young Adult Office every Tuesday and Wednesday from 2pm-7pm. I would love it if you would stop by to introduce yourself, to share your suggestions for the new Young Adult Group or just to chat!

Sandi Smith

Offertory Collection

Weekly Collection:	\$8,687.18
Loose Cash/Checks	\$1,002.50
Envelopes	\$7,584.68
Cathedraticum*	-\$ 477.80
School Tax*	-\$ 477.80

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

This weekend's second collection is for Repair & Refurbishment.

WEDDING BANNS I

**CHRISTOPHER HORN
& ASTRID PENA**

AUGUST, 29, 2015

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!*

Sacramental Corner

On Tuesday the Church celebrated the Memorial of Saint Jean-Marie Vianney, known as the *Cure of Ars*; he was a parish priest in France and died in 1859. He was known as a great spiritual leader and people traveled from all over to have him hear their confessions—spending 11 hours a day in the winter months and nearly 16 hours a day in the summer in his Confessional box. He offered absolution of sins as well as wonderful spiritual counseling to those in need.

I speak of him because our readings recently at Mass have been highlighting Christ's mercy and love, His concern for people's needs, both physical needs with the multiplication of the loaves and fish and the curing of every disease and illness and for their spiritual needs, with the forgiveness of sins.

Christ is all about our healing—and nothing is more important to God than the healing of our soul and the creation of a right relationship between us and the Father, so that we may be with Him forever in the Kingdom.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation—or Confession in today's culture—might be considered the least “used” Sacrament of the Catholic Church. For far too many Catholics—even “good Catholics” as defined by regular Mass attendance, the last time their Confession was heard was either before First Holy Communion or Confirmation. Sadly and I say sadly because of all the things we consider “valuable” in our lives—our homes, our jewels or golf clubs, even our favorite cars—the immortal and invaluable soul is the only thing that we take with us into the eternal Kingdom—and the care we give to our soul here on earth is vitally important.

But to begin the conversation about our soul and the value of Confession, we must consider the creation of and reasons for the Sacrament of Confession. Let's look at the facts:

Fact: the Sacraments of the Catholic Church—all seven of them—were instituted by Christ Himself. They were not created by a committee of priests, bishops, nuns or a pope. Christ considered it important for us to have a way to clear our souls of our spiritual weaknesses and to provide us with the graces we need to be strong—loyal and committed to Christ—in this world, a world of great temptations.

Fact: the human person, while able to be good, compassionate and full of hope, can also be selfish and full of anger, lacking in joy and desire only what is good for the self. But that is not our calling nor is it our true destiny.

Fact: For more than 2,000 years the Church has been loyal guardian of Christ's Sacraments and has sought ways to encourage people to be drawn to them for strength and eternal hope.

Fact: Truth does not change. What was true—an “excellence” for the human condition—in 33 AD remains the truth in 2015 AD. What changes are cultural mores and conveniences, not the Truth—for that is absolute.

Fact: God loves us. Christ loves us. The Holy Spirit loves us. The desire of God is to have us join Him for eternity in the Kingdom which He has prepared for us from the foundation of the world. And He has given us the conduit to be forgiven of our sins, to be replenished with Grace, and to be strengthened with His love for the journey back home to Him: *sacramental absolution and grace in Confession*.

Part of the obstacle to the frequent use of the Sacrament is convenience.

If reconciliation is only offered once a week—on Saturdays from 4-4:30 p.m.—when everyone is busy then how can it be part of our lives? Here at Saint Catherine, the Sacrament is offered every Monday night all year long from 6-7 p.m., and Saturdays from 4-4:30 p.m. for the convenience of those coming to the Vigil Mass, and by appointment by calling the rectory. We also offer it during Advent and Lent through our parish-wide Penance Services. This helps to limit the power of the excuse that “I can't get there at that time.” Like the Mass, we are here all-year-long and multiple times each week. If only Broadway had such a schedule!

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel (of John) continues the Bread of Life discourse for the third week and it will continue into next weekend also. This gospel deals with the true identity of Christ: He was the Word (thus the Wisdom) of God Incarnate and was with God from the beginning of time (John 1:1).

We hear of concerns by John for the Jew's “disbelief” of Christ's divinity and equality to God. John speaks of the Jews as not believing in this key element of Christianity but we must be careful not to condemn “all Jews in all times.” After all, many knew Jesus and His parents...wasn't He just another ordinary Jew? The homilist needs to make sure that we understand that this is about the Jews of this specific time—who in all fairness were struggling with reconciling their new Christian faith with mainstream Judaism. Today we deal with “unbelief” in our secular culture right now.

Unbelief, not disbelief, is a result of the power of secularism—disbelief says *I hear you and choose not to believe where unbelief is about confusion and misinformation, not simply “negative certainty”*. Since the beginning of humanity nearly all cultures have allowed unbelief to happen when they offer as equal alternatives to the truth the idea that *whatever I believe is “ok” no matter whether or not it is based on “reality”*. This allows for the idea that *if it works for me (or it is convenience), it must be ok!!* Rather, Truth calls us to look at “*Heavenly Wisdom, Godly grace, and human character*.” Heavenly wisdom comes from the Lord and is channeled through His Church and her teachings; Godly grace comes to us from reception of the Sacraments regularly, faith in God's power and care for us, and in living as virtuous a life as one can; human character is formed by Truth and faith in our cooperation with God. Today's culture replaces *Wisdom, Grace and Character* with “beauty, brains and brawn”—cultural powers of society. These revered secular attributes call us to look at the world differently and to follow the secularly-declared sources of “authority.” Those with brains give us the *intelligence of the world telling us all that we need to know and do*. Beauty oracles, the movie stars or rock stars of the world, tell us *who we must listen to, whether they are espousing truth or convenience*. From brawn, athletes can sell us *anything—from products to cultural norms and mores*.

John's Gospel wants to inform us to know that God's Word Incarnate is another word for Godly Wisdom given to us in the Words of Christ. Christ empowered those wise words of our Creator with earthly action, giving us not only the Truth by which to live a virtuous life but also the ultimate example as to how we as mere human beings may carry it forward into our own time and place.

Meetings for Eucharistic Ministers,

Lectors and Ushers—I want to thank all who signed up to help our parish by being Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers. The parish runs so smoothly because of your generosity and your willingness to serve God during the celebration of the Mass.

To make your ministry as easy and as effective as possible, some training is required. Keeping everyone on the "same page" makes life a wee-bit easier. So, I would like to schedule training meetings to familiarize all involved with the processes of serving at our Masses.

Please plan to attend the training session that applies to the ministry you have volunteered for: Lectors will meet on Saturday, October 3rd, from 9 a.m.–1 p.m.; Eucharistic Ministers will meet on Monday, September 21st at 7 p.m.; and Ushers will meet on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7 p.m.

We will go over all the details of "what to do at the Mass" as well as provide you with a cheat-sheet for your own personal use regarding the responsibilities that apply to being a Lector or Eucharistic Minister or Usher. While it is important to follow the teachings of the Church regarding the reverence of the Mass, which is a very sacred event in our human lives, we also must realize that while Christ Himself was fully human he was also and fully Divine...we are simply human...so the Irish would say: *We don't make mistakes, we just do things differently from time-to-time!* Therefore, a little practice and preparation is a "good thing." Any questions, please call the office at 658 1642.

FEED THE HUNGRY—The next Youth Group visit to Saint Elizabeth House in Hartford will be Saturday, August 22nd. 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.



St. Elizabeth House—Thank you to all volunteers who serve St. Elizabeth House through your cooking, baking, food donations and service. The residents really appreciate and enjoy the meals! **Our next service date is Sunday, August 23rd.**

Food needs to be ready to serve and at the church by 3:45 PM on Sunday, Aug. 23rd.

Please sign up in the atrium. Any questions, please contact Leila Bruno at (860) 392-8585. Thank you!

Women's Club Membership Drive for the 2015-2016 year has begun! Pink Membership Forms can be found in the atrium. Please fill one out and send your information to Rosemary Clarke, 21 Watson Dr., West Simsbury, CT 060922 or look for us in the Atrium the weekends after August 23rd & 30th after all the Masses.

but everyone should do something!

Upcoming Meetings/Events **AUGUST**

- Mon, 10th—NO Confession.
- Wed, 12th—Picnic Committee Meeting/RH, 7 p.m.
- Sat, 15th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 17th—Mass at McLean, 11 a.m.
- Mon, 17th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Sat, 22nd—Picnic in the Park, 10 am.
- Sun, 23rd—YM Leader Meeting, Library, 10 a.m.
- Sun, 23rd—St. Elizabeth House, 3:45 p.m.
- Mon, 24th—NO Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 31st—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.

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

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

SOCIAL OUTREACH

Pantry Partners—Next Saturday is the August distribution for Pantry Partners. Volunteers should meet in the vestibule at 8:45. As soon as the food is unloaded and tabled, we will begin. There is always coffee to share and we are very appreciative of our bakers! Pantry Partners provides food for nourishment of the body and fellowship to nourish the soul.



All Aboard to West Point

The Men's Club Ministry invites you to attend the ARMY v. DUKE Football game at West Point. Saturday October 10th, 7:30 AM bus departure from the Church, 6 PM return. Tour

the campus. Watch the cadet parade. Enjoy the history. \$60 per person includes ticket and coach bus. Friends and family are welcome. Tickets can be purchased online through the church website or contact Lou Daniels for more information, at 860-916-3577. **Only 45 tickets left!**

Anniversary Sunday Celebration— A special Mass will take place at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 2 p.m. All couples celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th and any other special wedding anniversaries this year are invited. Archbishop Blair will be the main celebrant. Mass will include the renewal of marriage vows, followed by a simple reception and an opportunity for a photo with Archbishop Blair. Family members and friends are encouraged to attend. Please call the parish office, 658-1642, to respond to this invitation



End of Bulletin
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Church: St. Catherine of Siena

City: West Simsbury, Connecticut

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Run #

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