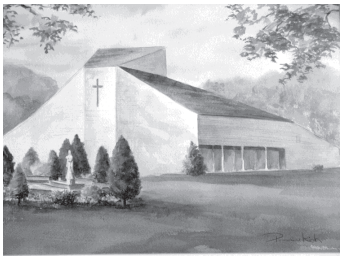

Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford | The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time | 24 January 2016

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—Sundays at 4:00 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. Jim Peters
860 651-3143 or jpetersjjr@gmail.com

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, January 23rd @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Charles Deye,* requested by Book Club*;***
- **Sunday, January 24th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Special Intention*;**
- **Sunday, January 24th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Robert Conzemius,* requested by the Ryan Family*;***
- **Sunday, January 24th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Grade 5 Students;***
- **Monday, January 25th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *John Sandberg, for improved health*;**
- **Tuesday, January 26th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Rose Spinna,* requested by Julia & Myles McCabe*;***
- **Wednesday, January 27th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Special Intention;***
- **Friday, January 28th @ 8:30 am Mass for *Special Intention;***
- **Saturday, January 30th @ 5:00 pm Mass for *Joseph Dembowski, birthday remembrance,* requested by his family*;***
- **Sunday, January 31st @ 8:00 am Mass for *Special Intention*;**
- **Sunday, January 31st @ 11:00 am Mass for *Special Intention;* and,**
- **Sunday, January 31st @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Special Intention.***

Offertory Collection

Weekly Collection:	$9,617.50
Loose Cash/Checks	$ 978.50
Envelopes	$8,639.00
Cathedraticum*	-$ 528.96
School Tax*	-$ 528.96

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

Repair & Refurbishment…..$235.00(additional)

This week's second collection is for Catholic High Schools.

2015 Tax Statements are available for those who would like them. Please call/email the office and one will be sent to you; 860-658-1642/stcathy@comcast.net.

Religious Education News

INCLEMENT WEATHER announcements will be on WNBC-WVIT Channel 4 and CBS-WFSB Channel 3.

Classes resume on Jan. 24th;(Grade 5 Class Mass).

FHC Parent Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 31st at 9:30a.m. at Henry James. This is a mandatory meeting for at least one parent, but both are welcome to attend!

Confirm I & II meet on January 31st.

Confirm. II Parent Meeting is on Sunday, January 31st at 7:30pm in the Church. This meeting is mandatory for at least one parent but both are welcome.

Our next Sunday of Mercy will be on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 7th.

REL ED help still needed for Hall Monitors during class. Please contact Kathi Bonner @ Kathidre@aol.com to sign up! We need a minimum of 6 adults each Sunday. Thank you!

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday, January 24 -6:00 pm—Please join us tonight for a lively, interactive evening on the theme: **Let's face it !** Pizza will be served promptly at 6:00 pm. A friend is always welcome. Mr. Terry Dietz originally scheduled to be our speaker this evening will join us on Sunday, February 21st.

Saturday, February 6 and Sunday, February 7—MISSION TRIP AUCTION AND BAKE SALE. Calling all bakers! Would you like to contribute some home baked goods for our Mission Trip fundraiser? Some support the mission by going on the trip, others support the trip by helping us with our fundraiser. Working together supports all of us as we attempt to light one spark....

STEUBENVILLE EAST—Looking ahead to summer! Once again, teens from St Bernard, St Mary and St Catherine parishes will travel by bus to Steubenville East to be held this summer at U Mass Lowell on **July 15, 16 and 17**. This is an annual Catholic retreat like gathering for teens from all over the Eastern Seaboard. There will be multiple speakers, performing musicians and opportunity for faith sharing in a community setting. Please contact Mrs. Pluta if you are interested at JudyPlutaYM@gmail.com asap. This event has been sold out every year! (check out Steubenville East on Google to watch the event of past years.)

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday, February 21st, 2:00-4:00 p.m., McLean Home. Join us as we visit with and play games with the residents. We meet in the lobby of McLean Home at 1:55 p.m. for a short orientation and then proceed up to the floors together. Please contact Mrs. Pluta if you would like to join us.

Monday, February 22nd, 6:45 p.m., Russell Hall. Jr. High meets tonight for movie night on the big screen. Pizza will be served promptly at 7:00 pm. Bring a bag of munchies to share.

FROM FATHER MICHAEL...

"What a dump!" –Bette Davis.

In the movie *Beyond the Forrest*, a bored housewife, Rosa Moline played by Bette Davis, made famous the line "What a dump!" as she descended down the staircase of her husband's small hunting lodge illustrating her boredom with small town life. That famous line came to mind—with equal disgust when I was informed of a sad occurrence here on our parish grounds.

Shortly after Christmas late one night or early one morning, someone discarded the remnants of a kitchen remodel job in our new back parking lot—from kitchen cabinets and tiles to glass and countertops. I will assume someone was trying to avoid dumping fees and decided it was "OK" to dump their refuse on Church property—with no regard for private property, no less holy grounds. The Simsbury Police, led by parishioner and Officer Michael Lantiere are investigating. Hopefully justice will prevail.

This event just highlights the lack of respect for others in society today. Our parking lot, especially since the repaving, has become quite the turn-a-round space—with people flying through the parking lot at 30+mph and buzzing right through—and if you simply ask them to slow down their response usually isn't friendly. As well, late night group parking and overnight car drop-off has increased. When I question people as they leave their cars during the day, simply asking them to let us know (an insurance company requirement) they get very hostile and indignant believing they have the right to park here anytime—even bicycle groups during Sunday Mass times. We try to maintain a tranquil and lovely piece of property that is safe and inviting for parishioners and those who wish to visit to build a deeper spiritual relationship with God. We will do our best to maintain its beauty, safety and tranquility. It is an interesting world to say the least.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Today we hear from the Gospel of Luke, which will be the primary gospel source for the year. And in this Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, Luke asks us to understand why he decided to write a gospel, "*I too have decided, after investigating everything accurately anew, to write it down in an orderly sequence for you...so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings you have received.*"

The Gospel of Luke was written around 85 AD and was intended for a Greek Christian community living under Rome's political rule. We can imagine, as Biblical scholars tell us, that as a new faith community living in confusing times, there were many issues confronting them: from the issues of political and religious persecutions to pastoral issues , e.g., how does one behave at the table of the Lord (the Eucharist), how do we handle and distribute common community goods, how do we select and form good leaders, and how are different members reconciled together; not to mention the questions of "is this faith trustworthy and true"—especially in light of basing our salvation on it. Many of these issues are still with us today—the more things change the more, the stay the same—natural in any pastoral setting. Today's gospel speaks to us from Chapter Four where Jesus declares He will *proclaim a year of mercy acceptable to the Lord*. Luke wants us to understand that the gospel is all about forming for us a solid foundation in the Christian life from which we will benefit. It is good for us to hear and see this in light of Pope Francis' Jubilee Year of Mercy and how we as the Church Universal and individual members of that Mystical Body ,ay proclaim God's Mercy in our families, friendships, work relationships and through the daily activities of our lives. Sister Mariette Moan, ASCJ, and Vicar for Religious in the Archdiocese of Hartford recently spoke to "Living a Spirituality of the Heart in this Year of Mercy" in our parish. The Gospel Message of Christ and all that the Catholic Church teaches boils down to this: *how do we apply our ancient and loving faith in-and-through our modern lives to an ever changing world? We must always remember that* the truth remains the same, for it is truth, but how we are called to proclaim that truth may change. Last week's Gospel on the wedding feast at Cana also spoke to this topic: *Where there is Christ, there is life; where Christ is not, there is decay.* Our choice is this: will we choose Christ and be a bringer of life into our world or will we deny Christ and be a bringer of decay into our world. Nothing ordinary about Ordinary Time.

Altar Servers Needed

Over the next few weeks in the bulletin and at Religious Education Sunday mornings, there will be announcements for new altar servers to join the ministerial ranks. Fr. Michael will offer training times and dates for those interested. I hope those in Grades 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 will help out with this very important ministry to carry out the reverent celebration of the Sacred Eucharist. Sign-up sheets will be in the atrium of the Church next weekend.

If you believe Catholic education builds strong leaders and helps one make moral choices, then we want to meet you.

Have you explored all of your educational options? **Please join us at St. Mary School in Simsbury on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 6:30 pm for our Open House.** Meet our faculty, students and families and learn more about the advantages of a Catholic education.

Enjoy an evening out in support of Saint Mary's School at our first annual Art Show and Wine Tasting at the Hillstead Museum on **Friday, January 29, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm** - Free admission and museum tours.

A CATHOLIC EDUCATION PAYS FOR ITSELF, ETERNALLY!

but everyone should do something!

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

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

Upcoming Meetings/Events

January

-Sun, 24th—Contemporary Choir, MR, 4 p.m.
-Sun, 24th—Senior High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.
-Mon, 25th—NO CONFESSION
-Mon, 25th—Men's Club, RH, 6:30 p.m.
-Tues, 26th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
-Tues, 26th—RCIA, Library, 7 p.m.
-Tues, 26th—Adult Choir, MR, 7:30 p.m.
Thurs, 28th—Girl Scouts, RH, 7 p.m.
Sun, 31st—Children's Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
Sun, 31st—Contemporary Choir, MR, 4 p.m.
Sun, 31st—Confirmation, all rooms, 6 p.m.
Sun, 31st—Confirmation Parent Mtg., Church, 7:30 p.m.

February

-Mon, 1st—McLean Home Mass, 11 a.m.
-Mon, 1st—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
-Mon, 1st—Rosary, Church, 7 p.m.
-Tues, 2nd—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
-Tues, 2nd—RCIA, Library, 7 p.m.
-Tues, 2nd—Adult Choir, MR, 7:30 p.m.
-Tues, 2nd—PC Exec, Rectory,7 p.m.

World Youth Day 2016 Update!

Thank you to everyone who purchased a chocolate advent calendar to help support us. We sold 256 calendars and made a total profit of about $1000! Thank you also to those who have submitted the prayer sponsorships so far. Your prayers and support mean so much to us. For those who would still like to have their special intentions remembered and prayed for in Krakow, the descriptions and order forms can be found in the atrium. Requests and sponsorships will be accepted until June! Lastly, we have our final fundraiser coming up: **our Polish dinner on Saturday March 5 following the 5pm Mass. So please SAVE THE DATE!** Details and information on purchasing tickets will be coming soon! Thanks again for your prayers and support.

Y*our St. Catherine of Siena 2016 World Youth Day Pilgrims*

SOCIAL OUTREACH

St. Elizabeth House—next service date is today, Sunday, January 24th. Food needs to be ready to serve (casseroles hot, salad pre-cut) and at the church by 3:45 p.m. Please sign up in the atrium. Any questions, please contact Leila Bruno at (860) 392-8585. Thank you!

Feed the Hungry Youth Group EXPANDS to support the Pope's Jubilee Year of Mercy! Check out bulletin insert and see how easy it is to join in.

Pantry Partners—The February distribution date for SCPP is February 20. We will meet in the vestibule at 8:45 a.m.. Please consider ordering for someone you know who might need assistance. Forms are in the SCPP baskets at church. Please indicate if the order is for you or as a donation. Thank you for your support.

Men's Club Ministry 2016 Kick-Off Meeting

Monday 1/25, 6:30 PM start time
Russell Hall
Pizza And refreshments!
All Men of the Parish are welcome!
Start the New Year off Re energized!!!
Guest Speaker.

Come see how the Men's Club Ministry can help you become more active in your parish as well as in the continuation of Christ's mission and ministry in the modern world.
It's what He asks of us.

Virtuosos Looking for Student Violins—The Virtuosos is a violin ensemble composed of elementary students grades 2-8 at the Milner School in Hartford. The group meets after school and is supported by Catholic Charities. The Virtuosos do not have enough violins to go around and are looking for student quality playable instruments of all sizes, especially sized ¼ or smaller. They could also use accessories such as bows, rosin, and shoulder rests. If you have a violin to give or want more information on the Virtuosos, please contact Susan Zybert at 860-216-6519 or Tom Lonergan at 860-413-9604

***A Good Ole Irish Adventure*—The Little Sisters of the Poor are sponsoring a custom designed trip to Ireland Sept 30 - Oct 9, 2016.** The cost of $2,863 per person (double occupancy) includes land, air (to/from Hartford to Dublin via Air Lingus), taxes, surcharges, travel insurance, daily breakfast including day of arrival, 6 dinners including farewell dinner and Irish Night and admission to listed attractions. Space is limited to 42 people. For details and reservations contact their trip coordinator Jim Dooley of JAM Travel Planners L.L.C. at 860-202-1664 or email at tim@jamtravelplanners.com

End of Bulletin
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