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Saint Catherine of Siena
Roman Catholic Church

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford | The Fifth Sunday of Lent | March 21, 2021

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., & Livestreamed, 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.
Or by appointment, please call the parish office.

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 Facebook Page:
St. Catherine of Siena Parish-West Simsbury CT

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 designated 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 loved one's passing as a way to ensure our community will thrive well into the future.

Pastor: *Reverend Michael Whyte, 860 658 1642*

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

Director of Faith Formation
Mrs. Kathi Bonner
860 658 4737 or kathidre@aol.com

Director of Youth Ministry
Youth Ministry Office
Manuela Hanshaw, 860 658 1642 or Manuelahanshawym@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry
Mrs. Susan Zybert
860 217 0600 or susanzybert@comcast.net

Facilities Manager
Mr. Michael Grappone, 860 658 1642

Parish Council President
Mr. Mike Coutinho
860 408 1649 or mikevinda@hotmail.com

Finance Council Chairman
Mrs. Jennifer Orzell
860 729 1079

Parish Legacy Fund Chairman
Mr. Peter Pabich, 860 810 5069

Parish Lay Trustees
Mrs. Ann Hoffman, 860 651 3887
Mr. Steven Moretta, 860 658 9630

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.

We Welcome You to Our Family of Faith!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

- **Saturday, March 20th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Julia Donahue, birthday blessings & Michael Donahue, birthday remembrance*, requested by their family;**
- **Sunday, March 21st @ 8:00 am Mass for *Chris Rodgers, anniversary*, requested by the Pabich Family;**
- **Sunday, March 21st @ 11:00 am Mass for *Bob Bellacosa*, requested by Barb and Arnie Wright;**
- **Sunday, March 21st @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Robert Morrison*, requested by the Wilczak Family;**
- **Monday, March 22nd @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Donna Ticknor*, requested by Kathleen Marques;**
- **Monday, March 22nd @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary:***
- **Tuesday, March 23rd @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for the *Joseph Lemke*, requested by Marlyce Rooney;**
- **Tuesday, March 23rd @ 9:00 a.m. *Adoration;***
- **Wednesday, March 24th @ 8:30 a.m. *Mass for Phyllis Massey*, requested by Nancy O'Connell;**
- **Wednesday, March 24th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary:***
- **Friday, March 26th @ 8:30 a.m. *for Colby Vanderbeck*, requested by The Egan Family;**
- **Friday, March 26th @ 9 a.m. *Stations of the Cross;***
- **Friday, March 26th @ 7 p.m. *Stations of the Cross;***
- **Saturday, March 27th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Lori Bonenfant*, requested by Grace Comeau;**
- **Sunday, March 28th @ 8:00 am Mass for *Margaret Libera, 7th anniversary*, requested by her family;**
- **Sunday, March 28th @ 11:00 am Mass for *Eugene McNamara*, requested by Tom Lonergan & Dolores Grenier; and,**
- **Sunday, March 28th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *John J. Sweeney*, requested by the Hark Family.**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION:

Thank you for your financial support of our parish! In these uncertain times, it is my hope that our parish provides to you both spiritual support and practical support—*Catholic Action*—by feeding our neighbors, investing in our children and youth, and keeping all of our parish's stakeholders in the 'Spiritual Loop', if you will! We are able to livestream the Masses, provide unique and creative Faith Formation, Youth Ministry; we are able to continue our 6 ministries which feed, care and provide assistance to our neighbors in need—because of your generous and continuous financial support. Without it, our doors would close and our programs would be reduced.

Thank you for parishioners like you!

Thank you for using both our online Faith Direct services or for mailing your envelope to: Post Office Box 184, West Simsbury, Conn. 06092

Weekly Loose Cash/Checks:	$ 6,665.18
Faith Direct weekly giving:	$ 3,814.92
Total:	$10,480.10
Other Generous Giving:	
Repair &Refurbishment:	$ 388.00
Easter Flowers:	$ 170.00
Bishop's Overseas Appeal:	$ 200.00
Easter...	$ 50.00

This week's second collection is for Easter Flowers.

Sanctuary Lamp Memorial

For Maverick Blair, For good health and speedy recovery.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS BAAAACK!

Our parish will offer Vacation Bible School, **ROAR: Life is wild, God is Good!" SAVE the DATE: June 21-25th** from 9:15 am - Noon. We will have a limited number of campers and student camp counselors so watch your email and the bulletin for more information to come! Questions and volunteer sign ups should to our VBS Director, Mrs. Anna de la Fe, anna12210@aol.com.

Faith Formation News

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION RETREAT is Saturday, March 27th from Noon to 1:30 p.m. We will have three activities to prepare the children for First Communion and will have 3 smaller groups to rotate through the activities. Please sign up here! **http://bit.ly/2OatuhG**

Confirmation I & II meets again today, Sunday, March 21st. We will review material and prepare for the interviews on Sunday, March 28th. An email will go out to parents with the schedules for interviews between 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. **ALL PAPERWORK was due on March 7th**- please email to Kathidre@aol.com or send in to class with your teen today.

Grade 4 Faith Formation will meet in person on Sunday, March 21st from 4 p.m.-4:55 p.m. All 4th Graders are encouraged to gather for the final time this year. Please sign up here! **http://bit.ly/2MY5Zbh**

Our final day **of Faith Formation Classes are on Sunday, March 28th** (Palm Sunday). Some classes will be completed via Zoom and others in Seesaw and others in person, such as Confirmation II Interviews. Please encourage your child to participate fully in these last few days of Faith Formation!

FAITH FORMATION Stations of the Cross were beautiful, prayerful and reverent. If you missed these two events and would like to watch them on our website, they have been archived for 30 days. Simply click on the word "LIVE" and you will see several archived videos. The Grade 8 Living Stations is labeled, "Unscheduled, March 5", and the Grade 3 Stations is labeled, "Unscheduled, March 12". A huge thank you to the teens and children, their parents, Madeline and Susan Zybert, and our dedicated catechists for contributing to such a beautiful Lenten observance.

Faith Formation Parents, K-8! A video featuring highlights from our year - in person classes, Mass participation, Pageant, Stations and other fun events we held throughout the year will be emailed at the end of the Faith Formation Year. Although we had a very different year, it was still a year filled with unexpected gifts and opportunities to share faith together. The video will also announce the winner of the Susan G. Caldwell Award for outstanding Catechist. Watch for this video as it offers a glimpse of joy, grace and the presence of Jesus in our catechists, parents and children!

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH

FRIDAY, MARCH 26th- AN EVENING AT TRINITA–5-8:30 pm. Please join us for an evening of friendship, fun and relaxation. Dinner will be served at 5 pm, and a bonfire will end our evening. Please dress warmly! Pick up is 8:30 pm. A permission and health screening form will be sent upon your registration. In order to plan, please **register to attend by no later than Wednesday, 3/24** using this link: **http://bit.ly/307GY01**

SUNDAY, APRIL 11th–COMBINED IN PERSON AND VIRTUAL ZOOM–Please join us from home or in Russell Hall from 6-8 p.m, as we get creative with an evening of **PAINTING WITH A TWIST**. Early registration is requested using this link: **http://bit.ly/38QUrhK**
If you are joining us remotely, **supplies will be dropped off in advance** so that you can participate. Join us that evening via Zoom using this link: **https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82227717267?pwd=alloSVZKSTJkY0Q0eWR3dE9nRkU4Zz09**
Meeting ID: 822 2771 7267, Passcode: 660246

JUNIOR HIGH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24th–PLIMPTON HOUSE COOK AND BAKE (LAST ONE)-in Russell Hall from 6:30-8 PM. The Plimpton House will be closing its doors at the end of March due to a lack of funding. Residents will be moved to other locations, primarily South Park Inn, a significantly larger facility. Please join us in helping to prepare one last meal for the residents. No experience is necessary. Light refreshments will be served.
Please use this sign up genius to register: **http://bit.ly/3b7PJxn**

Thank you from Youth Ministry

Once again, we would like to humbly express our sincere gratitude for your unselfish contributions to youth ministry. Your generosity helps the continuity of our youth's commitment to serving the community, whether through providing hoodies and sweatshirts to the homeless, our monthly sandwich ministry, baking, and all of our youth/teen activities! We are very blessed to have you in our parish.

Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry News

Pantry Partners

Thank you to all of the parishioners who volunteered this weekend! We had three Confirmation candidates who have been doing a great job. Thank you to Mrs. Dickinson for volunteering to make the deliveries for us. We are grateful to all who support our ministry and our neighbors.

SANDWICHES FOR THE HOMELESS

Sandwiches are needed this weekend, March 20th-22nd. Sandwiches will be distributed to various shelters throughout Hartford, including Loaves and Fishes, House of Bread, The Plimpton House, South Park Inn and Immacare.

Sandwiches of any variety are welcome. Please individually wrap sandwiches and drop off in the kitchen **using the outside kitchen entrance**, on Saturday 8-10 a.m., Sunday 8 a.m.-6 p.m., or Monday morning by 10:00 a.m. Please use this link to sign up to help make sandwiches:

http://bit.ly/3kEtxhD

St. Elizabeth House

St. Elizabeth House-next service date is Sunday, March 28th. Food needs to be ready to serve (casseroles hot, salad pre-cut) and at the church by 3:45 p.m. Please use this link only to sign up, https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth8 Questions, please contact Leila Bruno at (860) 392-8585. **Thank you!**

BAKERS NEEDED

Youth Ministry is preparing dinner for 35 Hartford families (175 people) through **Catholic Worker House on Wednesday, April 28th**. To round out the meal, we are looking for volunteers to bake either cookies of any variety or any kind of bar pan cookie (brownies, lemon squares, blondies, etc) to deliver as part of the meal. If you are able to make a batch of cookies, please sign up using this link: http://bit.ly/2P4G5Dq

YES YOU "CAN"!

St. Catherine of Siena continues to support our local neighbors through Eno Hall and the food pantry in Hartford at the House of Malta. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of this ministry. Ongoing weekly drop offs are greatly appreciated and can be left in the vestibule. Items needed include:

"Canned"
Tuna and chicken and Spam
Breakfast cereals and oatmeal
Fruits and applesauce
Vegetables
Beans of any kind
Pasta and canned pasta (Chef Boyardee)
Soups (low salt or regular)
Pancake mix and maple syrup
Coffee and tea
and…
TOILET PAPER
(individually wrapped or 4 packs)

Fr. Michael

Lent and Saints Patrick and Joseph

This past week we celebrated two great saints in our Church, on 17 March we celebrated Ireland's Saint Patrick and then on 19 March we celebrated the Universal Saint Joseph, who is also the patron saint of the Archdiocese of Hartford and for whom our Cathedral is named.

Saints Patrick and Joseph are two men in the Church who were obedient to the Will of God and in their obedience they created much more than simply a reputation for themselves—much more than just a day of celebratory parties, dinners of corn beef and cabbage or the wearing of the green; much more than wearing red on Joseph's feast day or eating zeppoles, what they helped to create was a lineage of faith and a Church that has changed the world.

I believe we should ponder the lives of these two men, their character and their actions that were rooted in the free act of the will to obey God and to become cooperators with God in the building up of the Church and faith to be a lived experience of daily life.

Patrick, a prisoner and captive, took to educating and setting free his new home—Ireland—to spread the Good News of the Gospel and to choose to love people he did not know. He heard the Will of God in his life and choose to be a spark of light to ignite the world. Look at his impact today—not just the celebrations—but the compassion he inspired and the hope he has passed on to us.

Saint Joseph went against the culture of the day, he believed the angel sent from God in his dream and obeyed the command of the Father to take Mary his wife into his home. Joseph, whom we know little factually about in actuality, used his free will to follow God and from that act of obedience the holy family came to be. Joseph, the caretaker, raised the Son of God, protect his family and from that comes our faith and our opportunities to follow the Lord.

Obedience is a key word in these considerations. Today, many people see the word "obedience" in the negative light, as if to be obedient means to give up personal freedom and to become subservient. In a religious understanding, this form of obedience actually leads to true freedom—a freedom that God leads us to. For we believe that our God who seeks only the excellence of our lives, would never lead us down the wrong road, rather He leads us onto only the widest boulevards of truth that lead us to the Truth so that we may become who God created us to be.

Continued in next column.

During these final days of lent, when we might have a hard time being obedient to our Lenten observances, let us recall Patrick and Joseph – and all the others who have gone before us, family and friends in faith, and follow their lead and the Love of God. Knowing we are imperfect disciples who's faults and sins may be forgiven, take confidence in power that our Free Will provides for us: well-formed in faith and sustained in prayer, we can follow Him.

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

MARCH

-Sat, 20th—Confession, Church, 4:00 p.m.
-Sun, 21st—Confirmation, RH, 9:30 a.m.
-Sun, 21st—Grade 4/RH, 4 p.m.
-Sun, 21st—Confirmation, RH, 6:00 p.m.
-Mon, 22nd—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
-Mon, 22nd—Confession, Church, 6:00 p.m.
-Tues, 23rd—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
-Tues, 23rd—RCIA/Library, 7 p.m.
-Wed, 24th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
-Wed, 24th—Bible Study, RH, 9:15 a.m.
-Wed, 24th—Jr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.
-Fri, 26th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 9 a.m.
-Fr, 26th—Sr. High at Trinita, 5 p.m.
-Fri, 26th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 7 p.m.
-Sat, 27th—Bible Study, Church, 9 a.m.
-Sat, 27th—First Communion Retreat, RH, 12 noon.
-Sun, 28th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:45 p.m.
-Sun, 28th—Confirmation interviews, 7 p.m.
-Mon, 29th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
-Mon, 29th—Confession, 6 p.m.
(last opportunity before Easter)
-Tues, 30th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
-Tues, 30th—RCIA/Church, 7 p.m.
-Wed, 31st—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

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Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 1st
Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 2nd
Good Friday Service, 3 p.m.
Scriptural Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.

Easter Vigil, April 3rd,
Mass at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 4th,
Masses at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., & 12 p.m.

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-Mon, 5th—Office closed. No Confession, No Rosary.

Saint Catherine of Siena

Lenten Mercy Project

Week 6 ~ March 27th – 28th

"Ransom the Captive"

Financial donations are being made to Catholic Charities – Migration, Refugee & Immigration Services, an organization that provides resettlement services for newly arriving refugees who are screened by the U.S. Dept. of State to enter the U.S. due to persecution for race, nationality, religion or membership in a political group. The organization welcomes refugees by providing a safe and furnished home and offering services designed to foster self-sufficiency and acculturation/orientation into this country.

*Contributions may be made through Faith Direct by selecting "Catholic Charities." Alternatively, contributions can be dropped off in the collection boxes located in the church atrium and vestibule, where envelopes are available. You may also use your own envelope and label it "Catholic Charities." Checks should be made payable to St Catherine of Siena…please specify organization in the memo section.**

**please specify organization in the memo section*

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