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stcatherine.info



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

April 3, 2022

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

Interim Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Carmen Altamirano

860 658 4737 or carmen@stcsimsbury.org

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. Colleen Langlais, 860-508-0487

Mr. Robert Hensley, 860-916-5057

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.

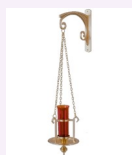
We Welcome You to Our Family of Faith!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS



- **Saturday, April 2nd @ 5:00 p.m. Mass**
John Fischer, requested by Ed & Mary Bouquillon;
- **Sunday, April 3rd @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for**
Chris Rodgers & Chris Torres, requested by the Pabich Family;
- **Sunday, April 3rd @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for**
Joe Kian Koe, requested by Tom & Rosemary Clarke,
- **Sunday, April 3rd @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for**
Thomas Marshall, birthday remembrance, requested by his family;
- **Monday, April 4th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for**
Heidi Amell, requested by Mike & Judy Manza;
- **Monday, April 4th @ 9:00 a.m. Rosary;**
- **Tuesday, April 5th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for**
Mike Reilley, requested by Carolyn & Steve Gorecki;
- **Tuesday, April 5th @ 9:00 a.m. Adoration;**
- **Wednesday, April 6th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for**
Rita Hayes, requested by the Ryan Family;
- **Wednesday, April 6th @ 9:00 a.m. Rosary;**
- **Friday, April 8th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for**
Tom Gorecki, 3rd anniversary, requested by his family;
- **Friday, April 8th @ 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.**
Stations of the Cross;
- **Saturday, April 9th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass**
Jim Dempsey, birthday remembrance, requested by his family;
- **Sunday, April 10th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for**
Frank & Diane Rozwadowski, 8th & 1st anniversaries, requested by their family;
- **Sunday, April 10th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for**
Phil Pilon, requested by the McCarthy Family, and,
- **Sunday, April 10th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for**
Emmanuela "Nellie" Barone, requested by the Ryan Family.

Sanctuary Lamp Memorial



In memory of *Tom Gorecki,*
3rd anniversary,
requested by his 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:	\$ 6,840.80
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,084.54
Total:	\$10,925.14

Other Generous Giving

Easter Flowers	\$ 526.00
Repair & Refurbishment	\$ 175.00
Easter	\$ 140.00
Various	\$ 95.00

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

April

- Sat, 2nd—First Communion Family Day, RH, 1 p.m.
- Sat, 2nd—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 3rd—Children's Lit. of the Word, 11 a.m.
- Mon, 4th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 4th—Youth Ministry, RH, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 5th—Choir, RH, 7:00 p.m.
- Wed, 6th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 9:15 a.m.
- Wed, 6th—Lenten Penance Service, Church, 7 p.m.
- Sat, 9th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 9th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Tues, 12th—RCIA, rehearsal, Church, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 12th—Choir, RH, 7:00 p.m.
- Wed, 13th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 9:15 a.m.

Triduum

- Thurs 14th—Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7:30 p.m.
- Fri, 15th—Good Friday Service, Church, 3 p.m.
- Fri, 15th—Scriptural Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m.
- Sat, 16th—Blessing of the Food, 12 Noon.
- Sat, 16th—Easter Vigil, 8 p.m. followed by the Alleluia Party in Russell Hall.
- Sun, 17th—Easter Masses, 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12 noon.
- Mon, 18th—Office Closed for Easter Monday.

St. Catherine of Siena Senior High Youth Ministry March Mission Trip 2022 – Report to the Parish

This mission trip is the first 3-day trip after two long years of Covid. Our hope was to provide a meaningful and impactful experience for our teens, to open their eyes to people and living conditions outside of their everyday experiences. Also, we wanted them to meet individuals less fortunate than they, and to hopefully see God in these people and in themselves, to see their world in a different but meaningful way.

Our journey began with breakfast and an overview of our upcoming weekend. In John 1:29-34, Jesus is traveling from town to town, and John the Baptist recognizes him. He says “Look, there is the lamb of God, and two disciples heard what John the Baptist had said and followed Jesus. When Jesus saw them following him, he asked them what they wanted, and they asked him “Where do you live?” Jesus responded “Come and see.”

Come and see! It is this message that would accompany our Mission Trip team; that each of us would keep an open heart and open eyes to see where God may be present on this trip. Our bright tie-dyed sweatshirts read “Be Kind”, and worked in perfect harmony with our hope to come and see.

After daily Mass, we received a beautiful blessing from Monsignor Shanley before we departed. We then left for Cambridge, MA, to help at The Friday Café (FC), a weekly daytime drop-in program that offers a welcoming space for both the homeless and housed adults, a place where all people are valued and can gather to get to know each other. The FC offers healthy foods, salads, hot meals, coffee and more, but more importantly, it offers community. People experiencing a wide variety of life circumstances can relax, share a meal, gather some necessary clothing and toiletries, and talk together as friends. It is a place where everyone is treated equally with dignity and respect.

Friday was a beautiful, warm, sunny day in Cambridge, and our teens had the opportunity to chat outside, try to make connections with other guests, and to truly be present. We listened to their stories, shared both a meal and conversation, served lunch, and distributed clothing. Most of the sweatshirts and hoodies that we brought with us were distributed that day.

Meeting guests of the FC was a highlight for our teens. They will tell you about their experience with Christian, who may just be the happiest homeless person around, and who is committed to his AA program, so rides his bike almost 20 miles round trip to attend his evening meetings. Or Warren, an intelligent and chatty older man who was once an engineer. Or Peter, who dresses every day in a suit because it reminds him of hope. Another volunteer named James, who attends Harvard University and is working on dual masters degrees was asked by one of our team members why he volunteers at the FC. Without missing a beat, his response was because “I want to serve my Lord Jesus Christ”. It felt good to be surrounded by compassionate, kind and caring people, and I am sure our guests could feel it too.

At the end of the day, our teens had the opportunity to sit and talk to another homeless man named Paul, who I have come to know well over the last 6 years. Paul has lived in the woods for over 8 years. Before he became homeless, Paul worked for the IRS, but electronic filings eventually caused his job to be phased out. Paul shared his experience about a homeless man (him) helping and sharing with the homeless. Even though he is homeless, he will tell you that God has blessed him and takes good care of him.

Upon our return Friday evening, we gathered for our evening program and took time to reflect and share with one another the high and low points of our day, and where we may have seen God? God was everywhere, in the people we served, in the people that volunteered, in each of us. To know this, we just had to “Come and See”. Later, we prepared for our Saturday service work, to feed the hungry in Hartford at St. Elizabeth’s/Mercy Housing, and then the teens moved and organized the St. Catherine’s food pantry from the Vestibule to its new location in the kitchen.

Bright and early Saturday morning, we loaded our vehicles with over 100 sandwiches and an additional 240 grab & go lunches (made by our teens), gathered our hot casseroles, bags of groceries filled with all the fixings for salads and dessert, and headed to St. Elizabeth’s House in Hartford. Saturday was St. Patrick’s parade day, so we went extra early to avoid road closures and arrive early. And it is a good thing we did.

Upon our arrival to St. Elizabeth’s, we found the receptionist, but no kitchen staff and no cook. Once we were able to gain access to the kitchen knives, we proceeded to prepare an abundant meal for over 60 walk-ins and another 15 residents and staff. Our teens noticed the sharp comparison between the FC from the day before, and the guests today. Today, once a guest was seated, they were greeted and offered lunch, choice of fruit and choice of drinks. Other than those brief moments, there was little opportunity to interact with the guests. St. Elizabeth’s dining areas have plexiglass cubbies to protect one person from another. Our teens noticed the lack of conversation and interaction with other people. We all agreed though, that everyone was gracious and thankful,

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FAITH FORMATION NEWS



First Communion Family Day Retreat-April 2nd in Russell Hall 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

The Day of First Communion is coming very soon! We have something special for you and your whole family. “First Communion Family Day Retreat Day” will be a fun day for you and you will learn some important things about your faith, and do some fun projects. Families are welcome to attend!

Confirmation Guidelines-The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Juan Miguel Betancourt, SEMV will be the principal celebrant of the Liturgy. All students and sponsors should arrive and be present in their assigned seats in the upper Cathedral for rehearsal and instruction at 1:30 pm on April 3rd. Sponsors will have assigned seats in the Cathedral next to their candidates. Sponsors must be present for rehearsal at 1:30 pm.

Last Day of Faith Formation Program “Music April 3rd, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at HJMS (Gym). It is hard to believe that the year in Faith Formation is almost over. We just have a few classes left. I would like to invite all Faith Formation families to join us on our last day of classes.

Mission Trip continued...

specifically stopping to thank us for the meal, and even more so as they were leaving when they were offered grab and go lunches and drinks.

Saturday afternoon was another whirlwind of preparing, cooking and delivering dinners for local families in need. Something that surprised our teens was how we only had to drive a short distance to deliver these meals to families in Simsbury, Granby and Bloomfield. Even our own town and neighboring communities have people with significant needs.

To help these families further, teens “shopped” for groceries in our food pantry, for things they thought the families would need. One elderly couple lives with their son who has been disabled most of his life. The husband now has cancer, as does their daughter-in-law. Yet they were so grateful for everything, especially the meal, and were happy to invite our teens in for a visit. Another gentleman lives by himself in Bloomfield in low income housing, walks with a cane, and is very lonely. He had such a huge smile when he saw he had visitors. He mentioned that the highlight of his day was when we called him earlier in the day to let him know that we would bring him dinner. It wasn’t because we were bringing him dinner or groceries, it was because all the kids in the car shouted “Hi Winston!”

Only after delivering meals to others were we able to sit and share dinner and reflect on our own day. We were tired from being on our feet most of the weekend, but we were all in high spirits. Once again, the high points of our day for our teens included helping others by bringing them much-needed meals and groceries, and helping to brighten their day. At the same time, the low points, were that we delivered meals and groceries right in our own community. That evening, we all fell asleep much earlier than we had the night before. Sunday morning, families and teens were invited to attend Mass together, followed by a simple breakfast that our teens prepared the evening before.

We learned many lessons on this trip, but I believe our teens primarily learned that we are all children of God. Through our simple kindness and actions, in addition to basic needs such as food and clothing, we can also bring compassion, hope, courage, respect and dignity, love and more, to those less fortunate than we are, all without judgment. We also all come to realize how truly “blessed” we are, and to be appreciative of all that we have. We are truly blessed, and I am grateful for the support of Father Michael and the entire parish and community, for your prayers and for your committed support and generosity of Youth Ministry here at St. Catherine of Siena.

~~ Manuela Hanshaw, Director of Youth Ministry

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

SENIOR HIGH

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES TODAY!

THIS SUNDAY, APRIL 3rd Join us in Russell Hall from 6-8 p.m. for “**GAGABALL AND LOOK WHO’S TALKING.**” Pizza will be served. Invite a friend to join us too! Don’t forget to sign up using this sign up genius link: <https://bit.ly/3iqCRVY>

SUNDAY, MAY 1st—Senior High Youth Ministry gathers for our year-end closing and farewell to Seniors. Please join us for dinner and much more as we pay tribute to our graduating seniors at our **SENIOR CELEBRATION AND TRIBUTE DINNER.** All senior high youth ministry is invited and encouraged to attend this special evening. Dinner will be served. **RSVP required** for dinner tonight so that proper preparations can be made at the table and in dining. Please use this link to **RSVP:** <https://bit.ly/3ui63US>

STEUBENVILLE EAST CONFERENCE—Steubenville offers teens an amazing 3-day weekend of relaxation, friendship, fun, faith, music and more. Registrations are due by no later than Friday, April 15th. Conference dates are **Friday, July 29th—Sunday, July 31st.** Cost is **\$200,** (confidential financial assistance available) **including all transportation and parking fees, meals, hotel reservations, a free t-shirt, and the conference registration fee.** Please use this sign up genius link to register or for more information: <https://bit.ly/3HyMXyi>

JUNIOR HIGH

MONDAY, APRIL 4th from 6:30-8 p.m.—PREPARING FOR EASTER. Tonight we will be making Easter baskets for distribution to children through Gifts of Love, Avon CT. Gifts of Love has over 250 clients, and most have children. We hope to fill 100 Easter baskets: we will provide the baskets and straw, and fill them with items **YOU** bring. Please consider donating candy, pencils, trinkets etc. All candy must be individually wrapped. Light refreshments will be served. Invite a friend to join us too! **Confirmation service hours available.** Please register using this link: <https://bit.ly/3tBRLhu>

Lenten Penance Service

Please join us on
Wednesday, April 6th
at 7 p.m.
There will be four
priests available for
Confession.



The Triduum through Jewish Eyes

The 3-part series,
continues on
Wed., 4/6 & 4/13 in
Russell Hall 9:15–10:30 a.m.

An overview of the scriptures, meaning, history and theology of the Last Supper, Holy Friday and Easter.

Presented by: Lou Daniels, ldaniels@cadplus.com
or call 860.916.3577 for more information.

Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry

Pantry Partners

April 9th is the next distribution date for SCPP. We partner with FoodTown in New Hartford who provide the recipients with fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, poultry and meat. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on April 23rd. Please sign up by Weds, April 20. There are 3 ways to help:

1. Prepare a hot dish: We'll supply the ingredients for you to make a hot dish at home for us to bring to Hartford. Pick up the ingredients on Thursday, April 20th at Fitzgerald's and drop off the hot meal to Russell Hall kitchen on Saturday, April 23rd between 8:30-9:30 a.m. We'll contact you ahead of time with a recipe and more information if you haven't done this before.

2. Serve Lunch In-Person: We will carpool from St. Catherine at 9:45 a.m. to St. Elizabeth's House in Hartford. At the shelter we will serve a meal for residents as well as for other food insecure guests. We should be done by 1:00 p.m. and will return to Simsbury afterwards.

3. Make sandwiches: Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up to make sandwiches that we will bring to Hartford for this visit.

Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/LunchApr23> or www.stcatherine.info. Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at 860-558-6940, richsickinger@gmail.com. All VOLUNTEERS MUST HAVE THE COVID-19 VACCINATION. We serve a vulnerable population and our priority is to protect them and our volunteers as well.

St. Elizabeth House

We are now able to return to in-person meal service for the residents at St. Elizabeth House in Hartford. All volunteers MUST be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. For those not fully vaccinated, we appreciate your service in the form of purchasing or preparing food to serve.

Our next service date is Sunday, April 24th.

Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth21>

STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY



Our next Street Sandwich Ministry collection is scheduled for **Saturday, April 23rd, Sunday, April 24th, and Monday morning, April 25th**. Please note that

Monday morning sandwich drop off time is now by no later than 9:30 a.m.

Sandwiches of any kind are needed—rolls, bread, pita bread, wraps, filled with deli meats/cheese of any kind, or any kind of protein such as PB&J. Please **NO CONDIMENTS OR LETTUCE**.

Please deliver individually wrapped sandwiches (foil, baggies, or cellophane) to the kitchen using the outside kitchen entrance (near the garage/shed). If you are able to help make sandwiches, please use this sign up genius link: <https://bit.ly/3qGSsWe> Confirmation hours available.

YES YOU "CAN"— CO-CHAIR NEEDED

Now located in St. Catherine's kitchen

Our food pantry has moved to the kitchen, just inside the kitchen door on your left.

Thank you to all those who continue to generously donate items to our food pantry. Social Services has expanded their operation due to the increased need. This month, Social Services is looking primarily for :

Canned fruit and applesauce, Breakfast cereals and oatmeal, Snacks (trail mix, peanuts, crackers, granola bars, cereal bars, Coffee and juice, Laundry detergent and dish soap

All donations can be dropped off in the kitchen on the counter immediately to your left under the back window. Access to the pantry is through the outside kitchen door exclusively (near the shed), and the hours will be similar to the hours our church is open, generally 9 a.m.—6:00 p.m., but not available during Mass.

"LIFESONG" MOBILE MINISTRY

New and gently used long and short sleeve t-shirts are needed for men and women in all sizes—small—XXXL. Thank you in advance for your consideration. Donation box is located outside the youth ministry office in the vestibule.