

Livestream  
all Masses  
@  
*stcatherine.info*



# Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

## **Mass/Liturgy Schedule:**

Saturday Vigil at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses at 8:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

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. in Russell Hall.

Youth—Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room.

## **Bulletin Deadline: Monday at 10:00 a.m.**

### **Website News: email to:**

[StCatherineWebMaster@Comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:stcathy@comcast.net)

Website: [www.stcatherine.info](http://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](mailto:stcathy@comcast.net)

### **Faith Formation Director,**

Zach Wood, 860-658-4737,

[zwood@stcsimsbury.org](mailto:zwood@stcsimsbury.org)

### **Director of Youth Ministry**

#### **Youth Ministry Office**

Manuela Hanshaw, 860 658 1642 or

[Manuelahanshawym@gmail.com](mailto:Manuelahanshawym@gmail.com)

### **Director of Music Ministry**

Mrs. Susan Zybert

860 217 0600 or [susanzybert@comcast.net](mailto:susanzybert@comcast.net)

### **Facilities Manager**

Mr. Christopher Berg, 860 658 1642

### **Sacristan**

Mr. Michael Grappone, 860 658 1642

### **Parish Council President**

860 658 1644 or [stcathy@comcast.net](mailto:stcathy@comcast.net)

### **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, March 11th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Mary Gersbacher*, requested by *Mary Lou Gallager*;
- **Sunday, March 12th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Jennifer Horn*, *birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- **Sunday, March 12th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Dorothy Ianzito*, *birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- **Monday, March 13th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Margaret D. Sennott*, *birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- **Tuesday, March 14th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Bev Dollack*, requested by the *Shanley Family*;
- **Tuesday, March 14th @ 9 a.m.** *Adoration*;
- **Wednesday, March 15th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Margaret Finneran*, requested by her family;
- **Wednesday, March 15th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary*;
- **Friday, March 17th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Julia Donahue*, *birthday blessings and Michael Donahue*, *birthday remembrance*, requested by their family;
- **Friday, March 17th @ 9 a.m.** *Stations of the Cross*;
- **Friday, March 17th @ 7 p.m.** *Grade 3 Stations of the Cross*;
- **Saturday, March 18th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Richard Bedard*, *birthday remembrance*, requested by *Rosann & Philip DiMartino*;
- **Sunday, March 19th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Tom Moore*, requested by *Margaret Kuhns* and,
- **Sunday, March 19th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Paul Jagla*, *21st anniversary*, *James Farley*, *18th anniversary*, requested by their 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 continuing 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:	\$ 7,532.00
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,188.00
Total:	\$ 11,720.00

### Other Generous Giving

Various	\$ 205.00
Repair & Refurbishment	\$ 30.00

## Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

### March

- Sat, 11th—Street Sandwich Weekend-Mon, 13th
- Sat, 11th—Feed the Hungry
- Sat, 11th—Bible Study, RH, 9:00 a.m.
- Sat, 11th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 12th—Faith Formation, K-8, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 12th—Mission Trip Meeting, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 12th—Children's Lit. the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 12th—Confirmation, all rooms, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 13th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 14th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—Adult Choir, RH, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 15th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 15th—Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 15th—Prayer Shawl LESSONS, RH-B, 6:30 p.m.
- Thurs 16th—Bereavement, RH-A&B, 10 a.m.
- Fri, 17th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 17th—Gr. 3 Living Stations, Church, 7:00 p.m.
- Sat, 18th—Pantry Partners Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 18th—Bible Study, RH, 9:00 a.m.
- Sat, 18th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 19th—Faith Formation, K-6 & 8, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 19th—Grade 7 Faith Formation, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 19th—Children's Lit. the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 19th—Grade 7 Class Mass, Church, 11 a.m.

## Sanctuary Lamp

In memory of  
*Jane Ahern*,  
*birthday remembrance*,  
requested by her family.



## **Lenten Penance Service**

Wednesday March 22 at 7 p.m., our parish will host a Lenten Penance Service for all Catholics wishing to confess their sins for the coming Easter celebrations. There will be three (3) priests available, Fr. Michael Whyte, Fr. John Gancarz, and Fr. John Melnick. We will have a brief prayer service followed by individual confessions throughout the Church.

The seven Sacraments of the Church were created (instituted) by Christ for our spiritual good. They were not created by humans, nor by a Sacred Vatican Council, committee or Tribunal...they were created by Christ because He believed we would need them, that the Sacraments serve a good for our faith formation and for our soul's salvation. So if Christ believes we need them...let's all be here on Wednesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7.m.

### **Third Sunday in Lent: *focus on His Healing Love, not our sin or guilt.***

This Sunday, the third in Lent, we hear the story of the Samaritan women at the well, where Jesus asks her for a drink of water. In and of itself, this act of a Jewish man asking a Samaritan woman for a drink of water is beyond all the cultural norms of the day. In fact, it is beyond what was normal in Greco-Roman times. It was after all,

Plato whose philosophy said that women were inferior to men in all aspects—physically, intellectually, spiritually, and morally—they had no autonomy. So except for the extremely wealthy, urban women nearly all other women were under the authority of their fathers or husbands. A lady would not have spoken to a man she did not know...and definitely not a Samaritan women to a Jewish man, as it was against the law.

So Jesus was quite counter-cultural for His day. Jesus consider women His friends, He travelled with them and taught that women should be respected and given trust, dignity and equality. Jesus was turning the then-world upside down.

There is a lot going on in this story. Jesus is tired, hot from His journey and sits down near a well—Jacob's well. As it was noon, the hottest part of the day, the water from the well was important. It meant everything in life. And while you might think it would be busy at the well at noon on a hot day, it wasn't. In fact, scripture scholars tell us that because it was not busy the Samaritan women came at that time to be out of sight from others, for she is ashamed of her life—a life that many in her community were well aware of. But Jesus knew of her secret (she had five previous husbands) and He engages her anyway—because He wants to offer her a relationship that will heal her. And this story has a lesson for us today.

Lent is a season to be open to and to receive from God His greatest gifts: Faith, Hope and Love (charity). He, the Lord of all, is waiting to offer each of us a great gift this Lent: the gift of a healing relationship, a relationship that leads us to Light, and will provide for unending, eternal Joy that comes with the Wisdom, Power and Love that is God Himself. But sometimes our past, our shame and our inability to forgive ourselves makes us hide from God—we don't go to Mass, we think we are unworthy; we don't know if we can talk to the priest, what will everyone say about me...and so we hide from the Church and we only go to the "well" when the place is empty, nobody is around. We hide from God's Love.

This Lent, let us take a closer look at our lives—past, present and what we hope for in the future—and consider what we might do to change the way of life we do not like? How can we be a better person? What might change if we go to Mass and receive the Lord? Should we try confession anew? It is by focusing solely on sin—our sin—that Lent becomes all about "me". But if we focus on Him—God's Love—then we come to the understanding that because it is all about Him, then we can understand that we are sinners who are loved by God.

**After having your Soul cleansed at our Penance Service, take your dry cleaning needs to Battiston's on Route 44 in Avon. Battiston's is a proud supporter of the St. Catherine of Siena Bulletin. So support Battiston's Dry Cleaning, one of the largest dry cleaners in New England, and have them "absolve" your wrinkles, stains and sweat from your clothes.**

***Continued on page 5.***

# St. Catherine of Siena

## Faith Formation Class Calendar 2022-2023

**Zach Wood, Director; [zwood@stcsimsbury.org](mailto:zwood@stcsimsbury.org); 860-658-4737.**

- Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>** K-8 & Confirmation I & II
- Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>** Grade 3 Stations of the Cross/Church
- Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>** K-6, & 8, *Grade 7 Class Mass, Grade 7 Class in RH.*
- Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>** K-8 & Confirmation I & II
- Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>** First Communion Family Day
- Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup>** K-8, Confirmation Interviews
- Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup>** *Confirmation at St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford, 2 p.m.*
- May 6<sup>th</sup>** First Holy Communion, 11 a.m.



**Prayer Shawl Ministry-**Would you like to learn how to knit and join the Prayer Shawl Ministry? Come to a lesson on Wednesday, March 15th, 6:30 p.m. in Russell Hall –B. All are welcome and please, bring a friend!

Our next monthly meeting will be on Monday, March 20th at 3 p.m. New members can join anytime.

Do you know someone who is ill, grieving or just in need? Please contact Kathy Oaks at [ktoaks@gmail.com](mailto:ktoaks@gmail.com) or 860-614-2773 for a knitted or crocheted prayer shawl.

**Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend. Turn your clocks ahead!**

### Women's Club upcoming events: All are welcome!

- **MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS** (Stations of the Cross) at St. Catherine, **March 24th at 7 p.m.**
- **DAY TRIP TO LOURDES OF LITCHFIELD: Tuesday March 28th.** Please meet in the church lot at 9:15 a.m. We can carpool. We will attend 10:30 a.m. Mass, Walk the Way of the Cross and enjoy lunch in Litchfield center. Please RSVP NEEDED. Sign up at: <http://bit.ly/3kULVHf> OR For more information, please contact Diane Whittemore, 860-913-024, [whittemorediane@yahoo.com](mailto:whittemorediane@yahoo.com).
- **A CHILI NIGHT:** Enjoy making Chili? Please make your favorite batch of chili for the residents at South Park Inn. We will be making dinner for 80 people. Dinner will include Chili, salad, cornbread and dessert. Enjoy baking? Desserts are also appreciated. Please drop off your chili and desserts anytime Sunday 4/2 or until 3 pm on Monday 4/3. Thank you for your consideration. Please use this sign up genius <https://bit.ly/3Xtv0cx>
- **LIVING IN THE FATHER'S LOVE BIBLE STUDY** begins on **April 12th at 9:15 a.m. or 7 p.m.** Contact Michelle Page at [pagekoe@gmail.com](mailto:pagekoe@gmail.com) for details and to purchase the book.
- **SENIORS, SAVE THE DATE:** A Senior Breakfast will be served on **Monday May 8th at 9:15 a.m.** in Russell Hall. Please use this sign up genius link to make a reservation or to volunteer to help at the event: <https://bit.ly/41QJ4jw>
- **FAITH & FELLOWSHIP GATHERING** to hear Franciscan Media author Maureen O'Brien speak about her new book of hope, "Gather the Fragments: My Year of Finding God's Love". **May 11th at 7 p.m.**



# YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

## Senior High

**THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. in Russell Hall—BOSTON MISSION TRIP TEAM—Mandatory Pre-Trip Meeting followed by 11 a.m. Mass. Please arrive on time so that we can begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.**

**DODGEBALL COMPETITION - FRIDAY, MARCH 24<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary's Parish Center from 6:30-8:30 p.m., 942 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury.** Even if you have never played, please join us. Let's **Bring on the Madness for our Youth Ministry Dodgeball Tournament.** Help us battle it out for the coveted dodgeball trophy! Pizza and refreshments will be served! **Wear your green youth ministry t-shirts** and invite a friend to join us too! Don't want to play, come on out anyway and help cheer our team on to victory! Please select the correct parish team that you will be joining when you sign up: <http://bit.ly/3Yao0BD> **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED too.**

## Junior High

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29<sup>th</sup>—COOK AND BAKE from 6:15-8 pm in Russell Hall.** Tonight we will cook full course dinners for local families that are food insecure or in need. **NO COOKING EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.** We provide the recipes, the ingredients and the step-by-step instructions. **Invite a friend too! PARENT VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED!** Light refreshments will be served. **Confirmation service hours available. To sign up, please use this link:**

<http://bit.ly/3EHBfcy>

**Follow us on Instagram at [stcatherine\\_youthministry](#)**

*Fr. Michael continued from page 3...*

Then we can be drawn into that healing relationship that He wishes to have with us. That makes Lent something new—now and forever.

## Lenten Mercy Project

My ongoing thanks for your support of this year's Lenten Mercy Project (LMP) which aims to assist numerous charities in the local area—from the Little Sisters of the Poor and Gifts of Love to the US Veterans and more. Our support of these sisters and brothers enables us to put into practice what we hear each weekend in Sacred Scripture and the homily: *that we are called into discipleship to “do something,” an action of Christian charity that empowers others, makes the world a better place, and becomes a salve of kindness and gentleness to the world's anger and harshness.*

Thank you this week for your support of the Little Sisters of the Poor in Enfield, Connecticut, at St. Joseph's Residence. May the Lord bless you and yours with His abundant grace and favor.

## Exchanging Prayers

On March 16<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, our Youth Ministry team will head out on their Boston Mission Trip where they will interact with God's children who are in need of food, shelter, dignity and human compassion. One of the things the missionaries will do is to pray in thanksgiving for all of us, our parish, for your generosity in supporting them on this trip and in all their Christian endeavors throughout the year.

As they pray in thanksgiving for us and our parish, let us pray for them in a special way as they reach out beyond themselves and their needs to stand with others. A simple prayer, a fiat, that is all it takes: *+ Father, guide and protect those from our parish as they venture to Boston and offer care and Christian friendship to those in need. Protect their travels, keep them safe in their duties, open their eyes not only to the needs of those who are less fortunate, but that they may see at home all the blessings You have given to them: families that care, parents that sacrifice, and a community who supports them in their Christian journey. Return them to us safely and enable them to teach us how better to live like You in this world. Amen +*

## Men's Club Ministry

Please join us Saturday April 1 at 9 AM. Meet at the backyard firepit.

Coffee, conversation, bagels and the Bible will be served!!

We will be setting up the 3 Field Crosses for Holy Week.

All are welcome!

Reminder: Holy Family Men's Retreat  
3/17-3/19.



## WARM HANDS, WARM FEET A YOUTH MINISTRY COLLECTION

Youth ministry is collecting new socks, gloves and new or gently used sweatshirts/hoodies to distribute to the homeless on our Boston Mission Trip. If you are able to help, please leave your donations in the boxes in either the Atrium or the Vestibule.

**Donations can be dropped off until Monday, March 13.** Thank you in advance for your support.

## Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry News

### STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

This weekend is our Street Sandwich collection. It is early this month due to the timing of the YM Boston Mission Trip. Sandwiches can be dropped off this **Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, and Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Sandwiches can be dropped off Saturday and Sunday from 9-6 p.m., and Monday mornings from 8-9:30 a.m. A sign up quantity of 1 means 12 sandwiches, or 1 dozen. A sign up of 12 means 144 sandwiches.

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

**Please be sure all sandwiches are individually wrapped** (foil, baggies, or cellophane) and deliver 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: <http://bit.ly/3KsRPdh>

Confirmation hours available.

### Pantry Partners!

**Thank you for supporting SCPP.** This ministry provides fruit, vegetables and protein to over 20 families and seniors in the community. Please consider showing support to our partners in this ministry, Super Foodtown in New Hartford, by shopping at this grocery store!

**Next distribution: March 18th.**

### YES YOU "CAN"

This week, we are collecting: **Coffee and tea, rice, canned meat (tuna, chicken and spam), pancake mix, cereal, boxes of crackers, and peanut butter and jelly.** All donations can be delivered using the kitchen entrance. Our pantry is open to all from 9 a.m.-6:00 p.m., but not available during Mass.

### FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch

**Service on March 11th. Sign Up at:**

<https://bit.ly/FTHLunchMar11>

Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at  
860-558-6940. [richsickinger@gmail.com](mailto:richsickinger@gmail.com)

### St. Elizabeth House

**Our next service date is  
Sunday, March 26th.**

Please sign up at:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
go/10CoF44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth32](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoF44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth32)