

Livestream
all Masses

@

stcatherine.info



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 15, 2023

A Parish of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford

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

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

Faith Formation Director,

Mr. Zach Wood, 860-658-4737,

zwood@stcsimsbury.org

Director of Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Office

Mrs. 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. Christopher Berg, 860 658 1642

Sacristan

Mr. Michael Grappone, 860 658 1642

Parish Council President

Mrs. Kathleen Mangiafico, 860 869 8468

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, October 14th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Marlyce & Ray Rooney, 2nd and 14th anniversary*, requested by their children;
- **Sunday, October 15th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Nancy, Dan, & John O'Connell*;
- **Sunday, October 15th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Joann Brookman*, requested by the Adult Choir;
- **Monday, October 16th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Diane Carson*, requested by *Mary Lou & Michael Cobb*;
- **Tuesday, October 17th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *61st Wedding Anniversary remembrance for Mike & Kathy Reilley*;
- **Tuesday, October 17th @ 9 a.m.** Adoration;
- **Wednesday, October 18th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Paul Bianca, Sr.*, requested by *Tom & Barbara Colangelo*;
- **Wednesday, October 18th @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
- **Friday, October 20th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *John Polio, 8th anniversary*, requested by his family;
- **Friday, October 20th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Chaplet of Divine Mercy*;
- **Saturday, October 21st @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Leona Singleton*, requested by *The Kostelni Family*;
- **Sunday, October 22nd @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Marian Grey, 1st anniversary*, requested by her family; and,
- **Sunday, October 22nd @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Carmela DiMaio*, requested by *Lorraine Bernier*.

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:	\$ 5,973.46
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,094.54
Total:	\$ 10,068.00

Other Generous Giving
 Repair & Refurbishment \$ 2,310.00
 "Hopes" Collection \$8,500.00 (Add'l)
 Next week's second collection is for
 World Mission Sunday.

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

October

- Sat, 14th—Rosary, Mary Garden, 12 noon.
- Sat, 14th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 15th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 15th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 15th—Youth Ministry, RH, 5:30 p.m.
- Mon, 16th—Prayer Shawl, RH-B, 3 p.m.
- Mon, 16th—Confession, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 17th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 17th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 17th—Prayer Shawl, RH-B, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 17th—Adult Choir, MR, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 18th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 19th—Bereavement, RH, 10 a.m.
- Fri, 20th—Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 20th—*Mass at McLean Home, 11 a.m.*
- Sat, 21st—Mon, 23rd—Street Sandwich Weekend
- Sat, 21st—Feed the Hungry,
- Sat, 21st—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 21st—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 22nd—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 9 a.m. & noon.
- Sun, 22nd—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 22nd—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 22nd—St. Elizabeth House, prkg lot, 3:45 p.m.
- Sun, 22nd—Confirmation, RH, 6 p.m.

Sanctuary Lamp

For the intentions of
The Martins Family.



LIFESONG Ministry—With chilly days on the way, coats, fleece, jackets, sweatshirts, etc in all sizes are needed for our neighbors in need. (Clean, new or gently used please) Boots, gloves and hats are needed as well. Thank you in advance and God bless you. Questions—call Diane at 860-913-0241.

Another invitation ignored; and unprepared as well.

The last few weekends have given us gospel parables that cover the gambit of considerations—from conversion to indifference, and to choosing evil. The choices we make prepare us for the intentional journey of our life toward the great love and light or heaven or the darkness and loneliness of hell.

Again, this weekend there is an array of choices in our gospel parable: shall we refuse a direct, personal invitation to God's wedding feast, or will we be uncaring or indifferent in our choices by putting something else (work, spots or a comfortable Sunday morning) as a priority above the invitation to know God? Will we finally become so obtuse that we shall choose evil as our response to His ongoing invitation?

In the first reading from Isaiah, we hear that the Lord shall prepare for ALL peoples an invitation to His banquet table complete with rich food and choice wines; He will destroy death and wipe away our tears, eliminating all that saddens us. St. Paul in the second reading guides us to understand that God will provide for us in the midst of the good, the bad and the ugly. In addition, as Paul himself learned from the Lord how to engage in the abundance and the scarcity of the world, that with faith we shall succeed in our endeavors. Paul ends the short reading by telling us that God will provide fully for all that we need. However, shall we go to God in prayer, speaking and listening to Him—before we act?

Our gospel reiterates the past weekend's parables in a new light, this week we must consider our own choices in the world in which we live in light of His invitation to us. Yes—the choices we make in our personal lives, choices like attending Mass and praying to God; choices like feeding the hungry, teaching the ignorant, walking with the wandering and caring for the ill or afflicted. We must also make other choices. Choices that are less personal yet they have a larger impact on us and the world around us—choices that are cultural or societal in nature. Over the last few years, these choices have been on the nightly news as well as on the front pages: choices of being **pacemakers**, as stated in Christ's Sermon on the Mount (the Beatitudes) rather than being in the all-too-convenient *peacekeepers*. God desires us to take a stance for Truth, which will only lead us to our excellence, even though it may be difficult.

The choices all of us are called to make are His choices, those built upon a Sacred Truth, and that which shall bring goodness to all. God's choices will not pit us against the "other," but will lead us to an understanding of and a healing in Truth. However, following God's Truths requires a coming together and an acknowledgement of Truth. Sometimes, sadly, the human condition just is not primed for that because of partisan politics, regional fractionalization or worse--evil.

Let us look at a few of the critical choices facing our world—humanity—today:

1. The war inflicted upon Israel by Hamas and the ongoing, long-held hatred in the Middle East;
2. The degrading homelessness in our nation and the failure by our government to correct it;
3. The cultural madness of gender identity and mutilation of young children—guided by state and federal politicians and so-called medical professionals;
4. And, the ongoing and ever-increasing anxiety growing amid our teenagers and young adults, caused by the over-use of technology, and the ever-increasing pressure on young people to be perfect scholars, perfect athletes, and perfect volunteers—all to get into the "perfect" college and build the perfect life. Is it truly worth it?

These are just a few of the "choices" we are called to make and must make based on Truth. Moreover, as our readings today illustrate, the answers to the above list of woes are found in: the first reading from Isaiah tells us God invites All peoples to His banquet table; it will be laid out for all—we are one family, one team, let us begin anew by remembering that. St. Paul in the second reading reminds us that God will provide for all our needs—He is waiting to hear from us and for us to listen in silence to Him. That begins with prayer. And the Gospel of Matthew, which reminds us to be open to the invitations around us from God, through faith, and by His angels—messengers who He sends to be in our lives and perhaps to lead us to His Truths. Far too often, we may dismiss the religious sentiments of another as outdated or opposed to the culture. Remember, our youngest parishioners, those before the age of 13, are leaving the faith because they believe science says God cannot exist, and other theories. They are not taught that the Catholic faith founded and/or supported many scientific theories; and that science proves the existence of an intelligent, benevolent and loving Creator. We call Him God.

Let us begin a new and growing relationship with God. It begins with a conversation, a dialogue. We call that prayer. Prayer—dialogue—with God can be found in the rote prayers of the Church, *the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be* and more. It may be found in sacred music. It may be found in the great outdoors—creation—and nature. It may be found in the Good Works of the Church—feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, educating the lost and wandering.

Continued on page. 4

St. Catherine of Siena Faith Formation

Zach Wood, Director; zwood@stcsimsbury.org; 860-658-4737.

Oct. 15th K-8

Oct. 22nd K-8 & Confirmation I & II

Oct. 29th K-8

Join us for our next session of Adult Faith Formation with Zach Wood for a discussion about The Real Presence. What does the church teach about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist? What does Real Presence mean? What does Scripture and the Church Father's have to say? How do I explain this teaching to Non-Catholics? Have you ever asked yourself any of these questions? Would you like some answers? **Join us Monday October 23rd from 6:30-8 p.m. as we discuss this central teaching of our faith.** Please RSVP by going to this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44ACAC2DABFDC70-44920439-kerygma>

Women's Ministry

- Thurs., Oct. 26th- Halloween Card

Workshop-at the Hartford Public library. Come work aside 7-12 year olds creating cards. leaving the church at 3:00 p.m., workshop is 4:00-5:00 p.m. Let's carpool. If interested, call Diane Whittemore , @ 860-913-0241.

Prayer Shawl Ministry-

This month's meetings are scheduled for Monday, October 16th from 3:00-4:30 p.m. and Tuesday, October 17th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.. We love when new members join us, so please consider stopping by! If you would like a prayer shawl or lap blanket, or know of someone who would like one, please contact Kathy Oaks at ktoaks@gmail.com or 860-614-2773.

Join us for pizza and trunk-or-treating on Friday, October 27th!

All children, families and parishioners welcome!

Pizza will be served at 5 PM with trunk or treating to follow at 6 PM

Where: Pizza will be served in Russell Hall and all cars should be set up in the back parking lot for trunk or treating. Please clicking on the picture to sign for each person that you would like to eat pizza and separately sign up for one parking spot slot per vehicle for your family if you will be participating in trunk or treating. Each family participating in trick-or-treating must also set up their car up to hand out candy. Decorating your trunk is encouraged but not required.

Donations: If you will not be participating but you would like to donate candy, there will be boxes available in the vestibule for donations.

Please Note: Costumes such as witches, devils and other overt evil should be avoided for this church event.

All "Trunk or Treat" participating parents are to bring candy for the Trunk or Treat.

Adult Parishioners wishing to participate in the "Trunk or Treat" event should also bring candy.

Park your cars for the Trunk or Treat event in the Rear parking lot by 5:45 p.m. sharp!



Knights of Columbus annual Tootsie Roll Drive will be held here at St. Catherine of Siena next weekend, October 21st and 22nd. Donations benefit Favarh, Special Olympics and several group homes.
Thank you for your support.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Senior High

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15th— “WE’RE IN-IT-TO-WIN-IT”: PARENTS V TEENS! from 5:30-8 p.m. in Russell Hall. Join us this evening for some hilarious games and challenges between teens and parents. Be prepared for anything! It is sure to be a night to remember. A “trophy” will be awarded to the group that best steps up to the challenge! **ALL PARENTS ARE INVITED! WE NEED YOU TONIGHT TO MAKE IT WORK!!! Bring your phones.** Pizza dinner will be served. Please use this link to register: <https://bit.ly/48wqvVs>

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR TEEN DAY AWAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5th Please join us for this one-day event just for teens-it has always been the highlight of the Fall for our teens. A relaxing day, full of fun, food, faith and games. **This year’s theme-Just Stand Up.** Includes breakfast and lunch, games, a scavenger hunt, hike, ropes course, bonfire, service project and so much more. **Free sweatshirt too.** Cost is \$25 per person, and confidential financial aid is available upon request. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st, and a minimum of 10 teens is required.** Please register using this link: <https://forms.gle/vHJHSoNfVqm8JPHW6>

Junior High

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25th-COOK AND BAKE from 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall. Please join us this evening as we prepare a full course dinner for local families in need. **Invite a friend to join us too. NO COOKING EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.** We provide the recipes, the ingredients and the step-by-step instructions. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3LOqIJB>

Senior and Junior High

LOOKING FOR CONFIRMATION HOURS? TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A HALLOWEEN PIZZA PARTY FOR SPECIAL NEEDS AND DISABLED INDIVIDUALS. Enjoy some pizza while you serve pizza, interact with the guests, play games and more, all while you earn Confirmation Service Hours. **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28th from 11:15 - 1 p.m. TO VOLUNTEER: please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/46AvQsH>**
For more information, see details on the sign up genius.

Follow us on Instagram at [scatherine_youthministry](https://www.instagram.com/scatherine_youthministry)
FALL CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE ATRIUM AND VESTIBULE.

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

Our Church has always promoted prayer and now we must teach people how to pray. What are the things we should ask God for help with? To whom do I pray? What are the kinds of prayer—petition, intercession, thanksgiving? Once we develop the skill to pray, it will turn into a love for prayer time and not an obligation. It will become life-long and lead to a peace in our hearts, a peace that will open the doors of faith for us to walk into. Moreover, God will be waiting there for us.

St. Bernard's Cemetery (now part of St. Therese Parish), being the only Catholic cemetery in the Simsbury / Granby area, has over three hundred grave plots available for purchase. Grave plots are available for \$1,200 and payment terms can be arranged. Due to inflation and since we have not increased our prices for over 10 years on November 1, 2023 we will be increasing the price of a grave plot to \$1,500. Please contact the St. Therese Church office @ (860) 653-3371 and leave your name and phone number. You will be contacted to discuss options and view available grave plots.

Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry News

FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat, Oct 21st. Please sign up by Weds, Oct 18th. We have our seasonal menu change. Cooks are needed. There are 3 ways to help:

1. **Serve Lunch In-Person:** 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 will be done by 1:00 p.m. and return to Simsbury afterwards.
2. **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, Oct 19th at Fitzgeralds and drop off the hot meal to Russell Hall kitchen on Saturday, Oct 21st between 8:30-9:30 a.m. We'll contact you ahead of time with details and recipe information if you haven't done this before.
3. **Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchOct21>

Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at 860-558-6940. richsickinger@gmail.com

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR OUR OCTOBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

Our October Street Sandwich Ministry collection is scheduled for next weekend, Saturday, October 21st, Sunday, October 22nd, and Monday, October 23rd. **Sandwiches can be dropped off Saturday and Monday mornings from 8-9:30 a.m. and Sunday from 9-6 p.m. on that weekend.** 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**.

Also, if making PB&J, please spread PB on both slices of bread and then put the jelly in between. This prevents the jelly from seeping into the bread.

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: <http://bit.ly/3Z4fNRI> Confirmation hours available.

SCPP provides fresh vegetables and protein to families in need. The food is purchased from Super Foodtown in New Hartford and they are a wonderful partner in this ministry. **The next distribution date is Saturday, October 21st.**

**October 22nd is the next service date for
St. Elizabeth House. Sign up at:**

[https://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth39](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth39)

YES YOU "CAN" – TAKE WHAT YOU NEED/LEAVE WHAT YOU CAN

Located in St. Catherine's kitchen

Food donations for our food pantry are so appreciated! This week, we continue to look for coffee, hot cocoa, tea, canned fruit, jelly, peanut butter, canned soup & juice, pasta, "Dinty Moore", canned vegetable and beans. 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. **PLEASE - NO EXPIRED FOODS OR OPENED CONTAINERS.**