

Livestream
all Masses

@

stcatherine.info



Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 29, 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 28th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for **Dick Hopkins**, requested by **Barbara & Gary Winalski**;
 - **Sunday, October 29th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for **James Dempsey**, 2nd anniversary, requested by his family;
 - **Sunday, October 29th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for **Thomas Marshall**, 3rd anniversary, requested by his wife, Jean and family;
 - **Monday, October 30th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for **Stanley Kazul**, requested by Liz Kress;
 - **Tuesday, October 31st @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for **Kathy O'Connor**, requested by **Julia & Myles McCabe**;
 - **Tuesday, October 31st @ 9 a.m.** Adoration;
- +++++
- All Saints Day**
- **Tuesday, October 31st @ 6:30 a.m.** Mass **Pro Populo**;
 - **Wednesday, November 1st @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for **Juliet Sielski**, requested by the **Ruhl Family**;
 - **Wednesday, November 1st @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
 - **Wednesday, November 1st @ 6:30 p.m.** Mass for **Scott R. Gill**, requested by the **Hark Family**;
- +++++
- **Friday, November 3rd @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for **Tom Rooney**, requested by **Julia & Myles McCabe**;
 - **Friday, November 3rd @ 9:00 a.m.** **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**;
 - **Saturday, November 4th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for **Carol Gibboni**, requested by **Carmen & Teri Mascaro**;
 - **Sunday, November 5th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for **Tony Drapelick**, 7th anniversary, requested by his family; and,
 - **Sunday, November 5th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for **Diane Ostrow**, birthday remembrance, requested by her 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:	\$ 4,789.00
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,094.54
Total:	\$ 8,883.54

Other Generous Giving	
Various	\$ 235.00

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

October

- Sat, 28th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 29th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 29th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 29th—Youth Ministry, RH, 5:30 p.m.
- Mon, 30th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 31st—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 31st—Vigil Mass for All Saints, 6:30 p.m.

November

- Wed, 1st—All Saints Day Masses, 8:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
- Wed, 1st—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 2nd—Adult Choir, Church, 7 p.m.
- Sat, 4th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 5th—*NO Faith Formation, HJMS*
- Sun, 5th—Teen Day Away
- Sun, 5th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 5th—Homebound Communion
- Mon, 6th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 7th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 7th—Children's Choir, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 7th—OCIA, RH, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 7th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 8th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 9th—Bereavement, Rooney A & B, 10 a.m.
- Thurs, 9th—Women's Ministry, RH, 7 p.m.
- Fri, 10th—Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 11th—Feed the Hungry,
- Sat, 11th—Mon, 13th—Street Sandwiches.

Sanctuary Lamp

***In memory of
Stephen Zaylor,
5th anniversary.***



All Souls', All Saint's Days

All Saints' Day is November 1. This year. According to the Collect, the opening prayer, of the Mass, we hear *"Almighty and ever-living God by whose gift we venerate in one celebration the merits of all the Saints, bestow on us, we pray, through the prayers of so many intercessors, an abundance of the reconciliation with You for which we earnestly long. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and resigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen."* In this short prayer, we acknowledge our belief in the power of the faithful Saints—their prayers and their lives to be emulated by us—whom the Church has recognized as being in the presence of God, so that this great company of witnesses will inspire us how to live and act as we journey on our own road to Emmaus.

All Souls' Day is November 2. On this is the day we celebrate Mass for the noble souls of the faithfully departed, as the Church calls us to pray unceasingly for those who have died, that they shall be welcomed into the glory of God's Eternal Life. Our opening prayer for Mass, the Collect, states: *"Listen kindly, O Lord, and as our faith in Your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened, so may our hope in resurrection for Your departed servants also find new strength. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen."*

We will hold a ceremony on Sunday, November 5th at the 11 am Mass where will honor all those who have died in our parish and whose funeral Masses we celebrated. At the end of the homily during the 11 am Mass, we shall read from the Book of the Dead, which comprises all the names of those we have prayed for and celebrated with a Christian funeral Mass. The Book of the Dead, inscribed with their names, shall rest upon the altar as their names read aloud complete with the tolling of the bells and incensation of the Book of the Dead. We pray for them and their family left behind, all of whom have been invited to attend that Mass, or if they are from afar, they may watch on livestream.

For our family and friends who have died and were not buried from our parish, their names may be placed on the envelopes in your packets—or on envelopes found at the entrances of the Church, and will be placed in a basket before the altar. All November, I shall pray for them at each and every Mass, and in my morning and evening prayers, required by my vows, I will mention them personally for the entire month of November.

Our purpose is to hold them in prayer, pray for their immortal souls, and assist them in being purified before God Himself.

Key Catholic Numbers

Some interesting Catholic-specific statistics from CARA, *the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate*, at Georgetown University illustrates the impact of fading Catholic influence in the United States. In addition, it calls us to a greater need for a "new and improved" mode of communicating the eternal-life saving messages of the Church.

- Since 1970, Catholic weddings in the U.S. have dropped by 69%, going from 426,309 in 1970 to 98,354 in 2020. *At a recent wedding anniversary Mass at Hartford's St. Joseph Cathedral, which used to be full at this event, it was only half filled. And the total number of years represented by the married couples normally equalled 10,000 – this past weekend it only added up to 3,000 years;*
- Belief in Spiritual Entities (God, angels, heaven, hell and the devil), are also in decline. The most recent survey, May 2023, found that since 2001 the levels of belief in the following are: God, 90 to 74 percent; angels, 79 to 69 percent; heaven, 83 to 67 percent; hell, 71 to 59 percent; and, the devil, 68 to 58 percent;
- Some "good news," when a Catholic child is raised by two Catholic parents nearly 81% of the children identified as Catholic. However, when one parent was Protestant and one was Catholic, only 38 percent of the children identified as Catholic;
- In 1965 there were 58,632 total priests in the U.S., both Diocesan and Religious, in 2022 the total number of Catholic priests is 34,344;

Continued on page 4.

St. Catherine of Siena Faith Formation

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

Oct. 29th—K-8

Sat, Nov. 4th—Class Mass for grades 3 & 4

Sun, Nov. 5th—NO CLASSES. Classes resume Sunday, November 12th.

Fr. Michael continued...

- Total Catholic population in 1965 was 45.6 million, in 2020 the number increased to 66.5 million; that's 193,629 Catholics per priest;
- Total number of Catholic parishes in 1965 was 17,637, and in 2022 it is 16,429; and,
- Worldwide Catholic population by role: Bishops (5,340); Priests (407,872); Permanent deacons (49,176); Religious brothers (49,774); Religious sisters (608,958); and, Catechists (2,877,652).
- Current total Catholic global population: 1,375,852,000

The above statistics point to the many—and sad—outcomes in our culture and American society today. Perhaps this is something we, as a Church, should also be praying for the healing of the divisions in marriages, the strengthen of families, and the hope of the excellence of love; a love that unites and bonds us as one—and One with Him who is, was and shall ever be. "What a wonderful world it would be..."

Women's Ministry

-Thur., Nov. 9th, 7 p.m.- Faith & Fellowship Gathering. *ELIZABETH and GRACE and ME: The story of a girl from Queens, a New York debutante and a journey shared.* A presentation by parishioner Theresa Bellacosa on Saint Elizabeth Seton and the Sisters of Charity in Russell Hall.

-Thurs., Nov. 16th, 9:30 a.m.- Warm Me Up Service Project in Russell Hall. Come make no-sew fleece blankets and hats for shelter residents. Details will follow.

Calling all kids! Halloween is filled with treats.

Share the fun and donate a portion of your Halloween candy to give treats to *Feed the Hungry*. All treats will be distributed by The Feed the Hungry at the November visit to Saint Elizabeth House. Donations may be dropped off in the candy boxes in the Atrium and Vestibule.

The Divine Mercy Holy Hour

will be celebrated on Sunday, October 29th from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at St. Ann's in Avon. Our Lord told St. Faustina "aching mankind will not have peace until he turns to My Mercy."



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Senior High

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29th—PAINTING, TOP GUN AND PARACHUTES! from 5:30-8 p.m. in Russell Hall. Join us this evening for a relaxing and fun evening out with friends! We have a fun evening planned, and our own previous YM assistant, Diane Whittemore returns to give us a step-by-step guide for painting on canvas. Diane was an art teacher for over 30 years. No painting talent is needed or required! Pizza will be served. Parent volunteers are also needed. If you are able to attend, please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3M2w4kw>

TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-Teens are needed to help deliver small gifts to our most senior parishioners. You will receive approximately 10-12 gifts, and deliveries can be made at your convenience, any time between **Monday, October 30th through Tuesday, November 7th. It means a lot to our senior parishioners, and they truly enjoy a quick visit from YM teens.** If you are able to help, please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3rV2Ugx> . Confirmation service hours available.

LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR TEEN DAY AWAY IS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st. **Teen Day Away is scheduled for 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, Christmas service project for children, and so much more. **Free sweatshirt** too. Cost is \$25; confidential financial aid is available upon request. Please register using this link: <https://forms.gle/vHJHSoNfVqm8JPHW6>

Junior High

SAVE THE DATE-NOVEMBER 15th—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. PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED-Teens are needed to help deliver small gifts to our most senior parishioners. You will receive approximately 10-12 gifts, and deliveries can be made at your convenience, any time between **Monday, October 30th through Tuesday, November 7th. It means a lot to our senior parishioners, and they truly enjoy a quick visit from YM teens.** If you are able to help, please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3rV2Ugx> . Confirmation service hours available.

Follow us on Instagram at [stcatherine_youthministry](#).



Daylight Savings Time ends on November 5th.

Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry News

NOVEMBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

Our November Street Sandwich Ministry collection will take place early in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Sandwiches are needed for Saturday, November 11th, Sunday, November 12th, and Monday, November 13th. 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:

<https://bit.ly/3SbfAKL>

Confirmation hours available.

Thank you to all our parishioners that continue to support our Street Sandwich Ministry. So many protein-filled sandwiches to feed the hungry and homeless! You are amazing to donate month-after month, young and old alike! A particular thank you to our 6th grade Faith Formation teens for making sandwiches this past weekend!

The next distribution date for Pantry Partners will be November 18th.

This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables and protein to 20 families in the community. Thank you so much for your continued support!

November 26th is the next service date for St. Elizabeth House.

Sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-stelizabeth28>

FEED THE HUNGRY

**Lunch Service on Sat, Nov 11th.
Please sign up by Weds, Nov 8th.**

Special early Thanksgiving meal will be served.
There are 2 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 an early Thanksgiving meal for residents as well as for other food insecure guests. We will be done by 1:00 p.m.
- 2. Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchNov11>

Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at

860-558-6940. richsickinger@gmail.com

Calling All Bakers: LIFESONG ministry would love to distribute fresh baked goods next month to our neighbors in need. Would you like to bake a cake, cookies or pie to share? If so, please sign up <https://bit.ly/3s6EFfl> then drop off your Non-refrigerated baked goods in Russell Hall on Sunday November 12th or Monday the 13th. If your goodies need to be refrigerated, please drop off after 9 a.m. Monday. Thank you in advance for being a generous neighbor.

Diane Whittemore, 860-913-0241.

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

Located in St. Catherine's kitchen

Thank you for your amazing generosity and ongoing support of the our food pantry! This week, we continue to look for **coffee, boxed (shelf) milk, hot cocoa, tea, cans of hearty soup, broth, pasta, vegetables, beans, rice, all tomato products (sauce, diced, etc), cereal (other than cheerios), juice, condiments, marinades, canned fruit and applesauce, trail mix, peanuts, crackers, oatmeal, and cereal bars.** 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.

WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT EXPIRED FOODS OR OPENED CONTAINERS.