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Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2024

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, January 27th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Eugenia Pires, 3rd anniversary*, requested by her family;
- **Sunday, January 28th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Raymond L. Fiasconaro*, requested by the Kostelni Family;
- **Sunday, January 28th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Bob Bellacosa, 3rd anniversary*, requested by his family;
- **Monday, January 29th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Yolanda Besmonte Rodriguez, birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- **Tuesday, January 30th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Deceased members of the Able & Prentiss Families*, requested by the Shanley Family;
- **Tuesday, January 30th @ 9 a.m.** Adoration;
- **Wednesday, January 31st @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Mark Pilon, 4th anniversary*, requested by his family;
- **Wednesday, January 31st @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
- **Friday, February 2nd @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for a *Thomas Wynn Clarke, birthday blessings*;
- **Friday, February 2nd @ 9:00 a.m.** *Chaplet of Divine Mercy*;
- **Saturday, February 3rd @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Eileen Adams, 8th anniversary*, requested by Nancy, Craig & Ryan Taylor;
- **Sunday, February 4th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Frank Bevilacqua, 102 birthday blessings*; and,
- **Sunday, February 4th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Carol Hay, 5th anniversary*, requested by her friends.



Sanctuary Lamp

In memory of
Bob Bellacosa, 3rd anniversary,
requested by his family.

YEAR-END TAX STATEMENTS— If you use our envelope system and would like a year-end statement, please call or email the office, 860-658-1642, stcathy@comcast.net. If you use our on-line giving program, Faith Direct will send you a statement.

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:	\$ 6,030.50
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,093.38
Total:	\$ 12,123.88

Other Generous Giving

Various	\$ 1,851.00
Repair & Refurbishment	\$ 210.00

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events January

- Sat, 27th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 28th—*Faith Formation, HJMS.*
- Sun, 28th—Children's Liturgy, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 28th—FIRST RECONCILIATION, Church, 3 p.m.
- Sun, 28th—St. Elizabeth House, pkg lot, 3:45 p.m.
- Sun, 28th—Confirmation, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 29th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 29th—Kerygma Series, RH, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 30th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 30th—OCIA, Rooney-A, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 30th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 31st—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

February

- Fri, 2nd—Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 2nd—Senior Breakfast, RH, 9:15 a.m.
- Sat, 3rd—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sat, 3rd—Boston Mission Trip Bake Sale after all Masses & Silent Auction (closes Mon., 10 a.m.)
- Sun, 4th—*Faith Formation, HJMS.*
- Sun, 4th—Children's Liturgy, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 4th—Sr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 5:30 p.m.
- Mon, 5th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 5th—Jr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6:00 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—OCIA, Rooney-A, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 7th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus Christ is the central point of our Marken Gospel. So is an **uncomfortable message**. So is **rejection**. As well is the notion that even the **“bad” character** in a gospel **can teach** us something.

From two Sundays of Vocation stories to the object of the gospel being the subject of Christ Himself, God promises to send someone else to fill the role of Moses. Enter Jesus Christ, the New Testaments new Moses.

Why did Jesus attract people to the Word of God? Mark presents Jesus as “in action,” that is He spoke and taught with “authority.” He had great power to heal and raise people from the dead, and He drove out uncleaned spirits. He was approachable. He was so “real,” that His apostles left behind their day jobs and followed Him; in fact, they even “abandoned” their family members to enter into this new missionary ministry. Yet, as things moved along, people began to be offended by His teachings and some walked away. We come to realize as our faith deepens that not everyone will willingly choose the Lord.

In our faith journey and in our roles within the Church and the parish community, we too have to understand that sometimes the message of Jesus, His Truths with a capital T, will be hard to accept, even inconvenient at times; and rejection by some will define the mission of Christ and His Church. Moreover, we will meet characters in the gospels who are very human—they may not follow the Lord or may really question His Teachings. As this gospel unfolds over time, we might see ourselves in some of the “bad” characters. However, remember, Jesus will draw a straight line with a crooked pencil, and we can all learn something from those we consider “bad.”

While this weekend’s readings may not be an easy story or two about Vocation calls, it is about how we choose to listen and hear the Word of God—and about the focus of our learning—Christ. How we are challenged by His teachings, and what we are willing to adhere to and follow. Keeping in mind that a challenge is not a bad thing, nor is doubt—as long as doubt is not used as a crutch to hobble away on but rather is a springboard into deeper searching...and deeper faith.

Just a reminder that we learn more by studying the Word of God. In addition, in the Archdiocese of Hartford we are blessed to have the only accredited Catholic Bible School in the country. So for more information, and to better come to know God, Christ and the Holy Spirit vis-à-vis your faith journey, contact the New England Catholic Biblical School at catholicedaohct.org

Reminder

If you are an altar server, lector or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion and are at Mass and see that we are short of people (we need 3 altar servers, 2 lectors, and a total of 5 Ems at every weekend Mass) please come up to help serve. At Mass, altar servers should go into the sacristy, vest and join the altar servers in the pew; Ems should come up at the Communion Rite; and, lectors can ask the one lector which reading they should assist with). Thank you for your attention to details.

Anyone interested in becoming an altar server, a lector or a Eucharistic Minister is asked to call the office, 860-658-1642, and leave their name. Trainings will be scheduled soon.

St. Catherine of Siena Faith Formation

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

January 28th- K-8, Confirmation 1 & 2.

January 28th—First Reconciliation, 3 p.m.

**Our Confirmation date has been set:
May, 11, 2024, 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral.**

Kerygma Series: Marian Apparitions (presented by Zach Wood)

Lourdes, Fatima, Medjugorje! Have you ever wondered what we mean when we talk about Marian Apparitions? What are they? How many are there? What do they teach us? How does the church decide what's real and what isn't? **Join us on Monday January 29th from 6:30-8 p.m.** in Russell Hall for Part II of our study of Mary where we will be having primer on Marian Apparitions. Sign up here <http://bit.ly/3Ha9Vhm>



Senior Breakfast-Please join us for another Senior Breakfast on Friday February 2nd after Mass, 9:15 a.m., Russell Hall. Friends are welcome. Please use the following link to sign up, <https://bit.ly/41CU8Be>. **Volunteers are also needed,** set up 8:15 a.m., kitchen help, serving and clean up. Please use the sign up genius, <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D4BADAF2AA6FC1-46980505-volunteers> See you there! For questions or comments please call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241.

3. Valentines for Veterans card workshop- Wednesday February 7th, 9:15 a.m. and/or 7 p.m. Please join us again to make valentines for our Veterans. Refreshments served. Please sign up using this link, <https://bit.ly/3TGGXgO>

Sponsored by the Women's Service Ministry.

Join us on February 10th, 3:30 p.m. as speaker Michael Ruzicki presents

"Liturgy as Source and Summit: A Deeper Look at the Mass" Participating in the Mass is the most important thing Catholics do each week. It is the source and summit of Christian living. In the liturgy, we experience and celebrate the presence of Christ among us: in Word, in sacrament, and in their brothers and sisters. In this interactive presentation, we will explore how the parts of the Mass form us for lives of missionary discipleship. Please sign up at: <http://bit.ly/48V79bC>

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Senior High

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4th—MAKE YOUR OWN PIZZA AND KARAOKE NIGHT in Russell Hall from **5:30-7:30 p.m.** Please join us tonight to make our own pizza and fun. Sing some Karaoke (or watch) and more! Please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3So7vT0>

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th-SKATING AT SIMSBURY FARMS from **2:15-4:15 p.m.**—bring the whole family or invite a friend. **WHAT TO BRING: \$5 Admission.** Join us immediately following skating at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall for hot cocoa and pizza! You **MUST** register for this event using this sign up genius link: <https://bit.ly/3SrEPrY> or scan this code.



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd-FATHER MICHAEL INVITES ALL TEENS to lead or participate in the TEENS STATIONS OF THE CROSS. This is followed by a **DESSERT BAR AND TRIVIA NIGHT with prizes.** Please plan to arrive by **6 p.m.** Sign up to be a reader, a candle holder, to hold the cross, handout programs, or to just participate. After the Stations, please join us for a dessert bar and trivia night with prizes in Russell Hall. **Pick up is 8:45 p.m.** Please use this sign up genius link to register so we have enough dessert and prizes: <https://bit.ly/3U1V5RZ>

Junior High

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5th—MAKE YOUR OWN PIZZA AND THE HUNGER GAMES in Russell Hall from **6:00-8:00 p.m.** Please joins us this evening for pizza and our own version of the Hunger Games. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.** Parents and teens, please sign up using this link: <https://bit.ly/3U1StmY>

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11th-SKATING AT SIMSBURY FARMS from **2:15-4:15 p.m.**—bring the whole family or invite a friend. **WHAT TO BRING: \$5 Admission.** Join us immediately following skating at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall for hot cocoa and pizza! You **MUST** register for this event: <https://bit.ly/3SrEPrY> or scan this code.



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21st—COOK AND BAKE from **6-8 p.m.** in Russell Hall. Join us tonight as we cook meals for local families in need. We provide the recipes, ingredients and instructions. **NO COOKING EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.** Use this link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/3Sto5Rd> or scan this code:

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd-FATHER MICHAEL INVITES ALL TEENS to lead the TEENS STATIONS OF THE CROSS, immediately followed by a **DESSERT BAR AND TRIVIA NIGHT with prizes.** Please plan to arrive by **6 p.m.** Sign up to be a reader, a candle holder, to hold the cross, handout programs, or to just participate. After the Stations, please join us for a dessert bar and trivia night with prizes in Russell Hall. **Pick up is 8:45 p.m.** To sign up, please use this sign up genius link: <https://bit.ly/3U1V5RZ>

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE, FEBRUARY 14TH

- Liturgy of the Word with Ashes, 7:00 a.m.; 12 noon & 3:00 p.m.
- Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 6:00* p.m. (*followed by Soup & Bread in Russell Hall.)
- Rosary at 9:00 a.m.

Parishioner's Corporal Works of Mercy & Parish Ministry News

St. Elizabeth House-January 28th.

Sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-47011203-stelizabeth>

Please support the Youth Ministry...

BOSTON MISSION TRIP SILENT AUCTION AND BAKE SALE

**Saturday, February 3rd and
Sunday, February 4th in the Atrium
following all Masses.**

Teens will be available to help with the bidding process. There will be a second collection at each Mass that weekend, and of course, donations can be made through Faith Direct. **Auction closes Monday, February 5th at 10:00 am.** Please see our Silent Auction Preview in the bulletin.

Pantry Partners—The next distribution date for Pantry Partners will be February 17th. This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables and protein to over 20 families in the community. Thank you so much for your continued support!

YES YOU “CAN” – TAKE WHAT YOU NEED/LEAVE WHAT YOU CAN,

Located in St. Catherine's kitchen

A parishioner also recently suggested that organic items be collected to help with individuals who are sick or being treated for cancer or other illnesses. So this week, if you are able to help, we continue to look for donations of **coffee (both canned and pods), hot cocoa and tea, applesauce and canned fruit.** 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.**



The poster is designed to look like a secret mission document. It features a circular stamp on the left that says "CONFIDENTIAL" at the top, "TOP SECRET" in the center, and "EYES ONLY" at the bottom. To the right of this is a rectangular stamp that says "TOP SECRET" in bold, red letters. Below these stamps, the text reads: "YOUR MISSION: To help the **Youth Ministry** with their Lenten Collection, AKA: **Undercover Operation**". The word "Undercover Operation" is in a large, bold, red font. Below this, it says: "Report to duty and consider purchasing **NEW M-XXXL Underwear** and **Sports Bras** to be donated to a **Women's Shelter** on their **Boston Mission Trip**." At the bottom right, there is a magnifying glass with the text "Feb. 14 to March 3" inside its lens. The background of the poster is white with a black border and some faint, scattered footprints.