

For our homebound and sick parishioners:
Livestream our 11 a.m. Mass at stcatherine.info



Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 13, 2025

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. (Livestreamed)
Daily Mass at 8:30 a.m., 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: Summer Hiatus

Adult—Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Russell Hall.
Youth—Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room.

Choirs accompany the 11 a.m. Mass.

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

Website News: email to:

StCatherineWebMaster@Comcast.net

267 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.

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 Coordinator,

Ms. Grace Treacy, 860-658-4737,
gracetreacyff@gmail.com

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, July 12th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Paul Gapch*, requested by the Taylor Family;
- **Sunday, July 13th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Julia McCabe*, requested by Tom Colangelo;
- **Sunday, July 13th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *23rd Wedding Blessings for Ale & Fernando Palomo*;
- **Monday, July 14th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Special Intention*;
- **Tuesday, July 15th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Kevin Slane*, requested by Tom Colangelo;
- **Tuesday, July 15th @ 9:00 a.m.** Adoration;
- **Wednesday, July 16th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Gill Hatch*, requested by the Men's Ministry;
- **Wednesday, July 16th @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
- **Friday, July 18th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Julia Donahue*, requested by her family;
- **Saturday, July 19th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Caren Schoenberger*, requested by her sisters-in-law;
- **Sunday, July 20th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Barbara Nascimbeni, 4th anniversary, & Ben Nascimbeni, Jr, 20th anniversary*, requested by their family; and,
- **Sunday, July 20th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *James Breeney*, requested by Joan Klem.



Sanctuary Lamp

For a successful
surgery and recovery

We received a lovely thank you for Carolyn's Place for the very generous donations to their Baby Bottle Drive. Our parish contributed \$2,570.00! They are very appreciative and also wanted to thank Tom Lonergan for coordinating the event.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Our Sunday Collections constitute the operating funds for the parish. You make it possible for us to continue serving you each week. Thank you for your generosity! May God bless you always. *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: \$ 8,708.83
Faith Direct weekly giving: \$ 4,371.31
Total: \$ 13,080.14

Various \$ 92.00

*This week's second collection
is for Repair & Refurbishment.*

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

July

- Sat, 12th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 13th—Coffee & Donuts, 9 a.m. & 12 noon.
- Sun, 13th—Living Your Faith, Rooney-A, 12:30 p.m.
- Sun, 13th—St. Elizabeth House, prkg lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Mon, 14th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 15th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 16th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 16th—Youth Ministry Color Wars, RH, 6 p.m.
- Thurs, 17th—New Day Bereavement, R/A, 10 a.m.
- Fri, 18th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 19th—Youth Ministry to Boston, 7:30 a.m.
- Sat, 19th—Mon, 21st—Street Sandwich Weekend
- Sat, 19th—Feed the Hungry
- Sat, 19th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 19th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Mon-21st—Prayer Shawl, Rooney-A, 3 p.m.
- Mon, 21st—Youth Min, Cook & Bake, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 21st—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 22nd—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 23rd—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 22nd—Prayer Shawl, Rooney-A, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 22nd—Women's Bible Study, RH, 7 p.m.
- Wed, 23rd—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 23rd—Men's Ministry, RH, 6:30 p.m.
- Fri, 25th—Sun, 27th—Steubenville East
- Fri, 25th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 26th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Mon, 28th—Mass at McLean, 11 a.m.
- Mon, 28th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 29th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 30th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 31st—New Day Bereavement, R/A, 10 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Love

The Catholic Church speaks of Love all the time, and that is a good thing, but sometimes we equate that “Godly Love” with the understanding of ordinary, everyday, secular love, e.g., professes I “love” chocolate, I “love” you, I “love” whatever...

But the kind of love our gospel message today—and the love that the Church—speaks of is a different kind of love—it is less emotional love and more of the intentional good, or as you hear often in my homilies, God’s Love is the search for the excellence of the other.

Today we hear that “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind...and your neighbor as yourself.” The scholar of the law in today’s gospel account was told by Jesus that to answer in this way was “correct” and that if he indeed lived this love out in everyday life, “...you will live.” And, the Lord is talking about Living eternally.

So how are we to understand this kind of Love? In Friday’s daily readings, the gospel of Matthew, we hear again that Jesus tells his apostles that they are to go out into the world and be “shrewd like serpents and simple as doves,” meaning to be aware of people’s intentions and actions, but remember to respond like doves—and the word “simple” has the meaning of “softness.” This softness is meant to be understood that we are trying to convert the hearts of those who oppose us, while we are shrewd like serpents we are not called to be vengeful or to retaliate. Rather, we are called to speak as Christ—with Love, and a love that seeks the excellence of the other. We are called to convert their hearts, not defeat their souls. After all, we are sent as Christian disciples in the Name of Christ, bearing and spreading His Love, which is intended to lift others up and lead them to Him. Thus, we are loving in a way of conversion rather than conquering.

The second half of this Sunday’s gospel also discusses our neighbors and the question asked by the scholar of the law again may seem technical or even limiting. Jesus responds with a story that identifies anyone in need as our neighbor, not one who is geographically close, or a “neighbor” by blood or familial ties, but one who is in need. The victim of the robbers can be anyone, for the key factor that matters is that he (or she) is in need. We are called to help.

Once the help is provided, then the discussion may be had as to what is the best help? How much help shall I give before it weakens the person’s human dignity? And is my help really helping—or is it just making me feel good? But before that conversation or debate can be had, the need must be cared for.

A great deal to consider, ponder and pray upon in scripture and in reality.

A Belated but heartfelt Thanks!

I wish to thank a number of people who made our Vacation Bible School (VBS), **True North**, so successful this year. I want to thank **Grace Treacy**, our Faith Formation Coordinator for

planning and ordering the program, scheduling it and organizing the volunteer counselors and adults—kudos for all the hard and creative work! I also want to thank **Judy Kostelni**, who enthusiastically lead the day-to-day programs, teaching opportunities, and led the children to really feel like they were away at camp and on a journey to meet Christ through the beauty of His Creation. And to **all the counselors and volunteers**, who designed the sets, planned the programs and then poured their hearts and souls into making the week-long event a great joy, thanks. The campers really seemed to love the whole week—as hot as it was—and especially the popsicles and ice cream truck!

And thanks to the **campers and their parents and grandparents** who participated and visited with us. Without you, it wouldn’t have been so grand!

Thanks to all.

St. Catherine of Siena (Faith Formation)

Grace Treacy, Coordinator, gracetreacyff@gmail.com

Phone: (860) 658-4737

Registration for Faith Formation 2025-2026 is now open. Please register as soon as possible by going to the church website under the Faith Formation tab or follow use this link: <https://forms.ministryforms.net/viewForm.aspx?formId=c406ae27-73b6-4b94-b4bc-b58720fcdc5a>

If you are interested in being a Faith Formation teacher or aide, please contact Grace by email or phone; gracetreacyff@gmail.com, (860) 658-4737.

The due date for Lessons 1 & 2, Empowering God's Children (Grades K-10) was June 15th! If you have not yet completed them, please do so ASAP. Thank you! These lessons are available on the Faith Formation page of our website.

Attn: Men of the parish

1. Join the Men's Club on Wednesday, July 23rd, 6:30 p.m. in Russell Hall for hot dogs and a game of set-back. BYOB. Please sign up using this link so that we have an accurate headcount for the food and a discussion on our growth plan as a ministry:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040549AAA92FA5FD0-57273544-mens>

2. Halo Open September 19th—Save the date!

Event will take place at the Simsbury Farms Golf Club, 9 a.m. shotgun start. Lunch to follow—proceeds will support Men's Ministry and other ministries. Get your foursomes together today! More to come..

Calling All Women of the Parish: Help Us Create Something Just for You!

What inspires you? What lifts your spirit? The Women's Ministry wants to know! We're dreaming up new ways to gather, grow, and walk together in our Catholic faith—but we need *your* voice to do it. Take our anonymous survey and share what *you* need most right now—whether it's prayer, connection, learning, or laughter. This is your invitation to help shape something meaningful, refreshing, and made with you in mind! Please share your thoughts here:

<https://forms.gle/Ezbtzhr8S59DBQPU8>

Women's Service Ministry -Calling all salad makers, come join us to make summer salads for our "neighbors in need" on Wednesday, August 6th at 9:15 a.m. in the church kitchen. We will make 12 delicious summer meals with desserts. Interested, call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241 by Sunday, July 27th. Thank you for your consideration.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Senior and Junior High Youth Ministry

PLEASE REGISTER NOW FOR YOUTH MINISTRY 2025-2026

ALL 6-12 graders are invited to join Youth Ministry. REGISTER NOW! Even if you have registered in prior years, you will need to register using this link:

<https://forms.gle/9UrKtcZK5cH6aMVZ8>

CALLING ALL 6TH GRADERS!

Youth Ministry is excited to announce that beginning in Fall 2026, all rising 6th graders (current 5th graders moving to 6th grade in the Fall) are invited to join our Junior High Youth Ministry program. Register for YM now using the link provided above.

*Please be sure to follow us on Instagram
at [stcatherine_youthministry](https://www.instagram.com/stcatherine_youthministry)*

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

We continue to look to refill our shelves, and are looking for donations of hearty soups, hot and cold cereal, peanut butter and jelly, crackers and children's snacks. Our pantry is open to all from 9 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., but not available during Mass. Thank you again for your generosity and support!

*We can only accept **NON-PERISHABLE FOODS***

Please do not leave bread.

*We are unable to accept
expired foods or opened containers.*

SUMMER CALENDAR

- THIS WEDNESDAY, July 16-Color Wars **REGISTER NOW** using this link: <https://bit.ly/3ZacoC3>
- THIS SATURDAY, July 19-Woods Mullen trip to work at shelter in Boston (Open only to Senior High) **REGISTER NOW** using this link: <https://bit.ly/4j79B4o>
- Monday, July 21-High school and Junior High teens are invited to cook dinner for local families in need; **REGISTER NOW** using this link: <https://bit.ly/3HCbp7w>
- Friday, July 25-Sunday, July 27—Steubenville East Conference (sign up is now closed)
- Saturday, August 2-Woods Mullen trip to work at shelter in Boston (Open only to Senior High) **REGISTER NOW** using this link: <https://bit.ly/4j79B4o>
- Sunday, August 17-Water Wars

NOURISH WITH *Hope*

St. Elizabeth's House

Drop off is This SUNDAY, July 13th.

Thank you for your service!

Please use this link to sign up:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521541-
stelizabeth](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521541-stelizabeth)

PANTRY PARTNERS!

SCPP provides fresh vegetables and protein to families in need. The food is purchased from Big Y in Simsbury and they are a wonderful partner in this ministry.

**The next distribution date is
Saturday, July 19th.**

FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat, July 19th.

Please sign up by Weds, July 16th. There are 4 ways to help:

1. **Serve Lunch In-Person:** Carpool from St. Catherine at 9:45 a.m. to St. Elizabeth 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.
2. **Prepare a cold salad:** Please prepare your favorite macaroni or potato salad to feed 10-12 people. Deliver your dish in a disposable container to St. Catherine Russell Hall Kitchen between 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Sat., 7/19.
3. **NEW - COOKIES:** Make some sweet treats. Make 24 cookies and drop off on Sat, 7/19 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30 a.m.
4. **Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

<https://bit.ly/FTHLunchJuly19>

SANDWICHES HELP FEED CHILDREN DURING THE SUMMER WHILE OUT OF SCHOOL...PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING SANDWICHES FOR OUR STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY FOR JULY

Summer is here, and families and children in Hartford that rely on in-school breakfast and lunch programs, no longer have that option available during the summer months. Instead they rely on sandwiches from local area shelters to help with meals.

Although it is summer, please continue to consider making sandwiches to help the homeless and families in shelters. It has been difficult keeping up the same level of sandwiches collected during the last couple of months.

July sandwiches will be collected on the weekend of Saturday, July 19th from 8-9:30 a.m., Sunday, July 20th, from 9-6 p.m., and Monday, July 21st, from 8-9:30 a.m. 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.**

If making PB&J, please spread peanut butter on both pieces of bread so that the jelly does not seep through the bread.

Please be sure all sandwiches are individually wrapped (foil, baggies, or cellophane) and delivered to the kitchen **using the outside kitchen entrance (near the garage/shed).**

Confirmation hours available

Please use this link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/3HwOVoe>