

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



Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 7, 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

Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Helen Treacy, 860-658-4737,
helentreacyff@gmail.com

Director of Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry Office
Mrs. Maureen Vargas, 860 658 1642 or
youth.ministrymv@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, September 6th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Our Confirmation I students*;
- **Sunday, September 7th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Lois Hines*, requested by the *Hanshaw Family*;
- **Sunday, 7th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Our Catechists*;
- **Monday, September 8th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *John Warden, Jr.*, requested by his family;
- **Monday, September 8th @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
- **Tuesday, September 9th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Helcio Reis*, requested by the *O'Bryan Family*;
- **Tuesday, September 9th @ 9:00 a.m.** **NO Adoration**;
- **Wednesday, September 10th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Elsa Varghese*, requested by *Joan Gould*;
- **Wednesday, September 10th @ 9:00 a.m.** Rosary;
- **Friday, September 12th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Dorothy Warden*, requested by her family;
- **Saturday, September 13th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Bill Adams, 4th anniversary*, requested by *Nancy, Craig & Ryan Taylor*;
- **Sunday, September 14th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Priscilla Provencher, 1st anniversary*, requested by *Alex Nolen*; and,
- **Sunday, 14th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Jack Mulcahy, 1st anniversary*, requested by his family.

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: \$ 5,701.00
Faith Direct weekly giving: \$ 4,072.08
Total: \$ 9,773.08

Repair & Refurbishment: \$2,475.00(add'l)

This week's second collection is for the people of Gaza, requested by Archbishop Coyne to provide humanitarian relief and pastoral support for our brothers and sisters in Gaza and surrounding areas in the Middle East. The money will be distributed between the Catholic near East Welfare Association (which provides vital emergency humanitarian relief and medical and psychological care for the sick, malnourished and wounded) and Catholic Relief Services which works through local Churches to provide food, shelter, cash assistance, hygiene supplies and for people's emotional wellbeing.

Sanctuary Lamp



For
Marylou Whyte
birthday remembrance.

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

September

- Sat, 6th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sat, 6th—Confirmation Enrollment Mass, 5 p.m.
- Sat, 6th—Confirmation Parent Mtg, RH, 6 p.m.
- Sun, 7th—Catechist Orientation, RH, 9:15 a.m.
- Sun, 7th—Catechist Mass, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 7th—Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.
- Sun, 7th—Sr. High Youth Min. Kick-Off, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 8th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 8th—Jr. High Youth Min. Kick-Off, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 8th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 9th—NO Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 9th—Children's Choir begins, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 9th—Adult Choir begins, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 10th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 11th—Bereavement, Rooney-A, 10 a.m.
- Fri, 12th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 13th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 14th—Faith Formation begins, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 14th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Sun, 14th—Confirmation 1 & 2, 6:00 & 7:15 p.m.

PRAY THE ROSARY—Everyone is welcome to join the Rosary Group and pray the Rosary after daily Mass on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week.

Service in the Church? My Plea...

As we begin the new academic year, the topic of **ministerial service** pops up annually and reminds us of our ownership of our parish and church and her call to serve God.

In the United States there has been a steep decline in the volunteerism—religious and secular—over recent years. Some of it is due to the busyness of everyday life, some of it is due to a lack of personal connection to traditional institutions, and some of it—sadly—is due to people leaving the “fulltime” practice of the faith. Church attendance is no longer what it was when I was a child (mandatory) and has become, in some ways, seasonal—meaning “we” take the summer off as faith formation classes end for the year and even youth ministry reduces itself somewhat; families going on vacation and taking extended trips causes the Sunday attendance to drop. Then there are also the **CAPE** Catholics with attendance on **Christmas**, **Ash Wednesday**, **Palm Sunday** and **Easter**, a bit of New England “humor.”

But in recent times this “attendance issue” has even impacted the regular, ever-present volunteers of a parish—lectors, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, altar servers and more. And this impacts the Mass and the outreach of our parish and all parishes, it impacts the more than 2 millennia traditions of the oldest and largest faith on the planet. I would dare say that it “impacts” God.

Without altar servers the reverent flow of the Mass is interrupted. Without Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, the Rite of Communion is slower and disturbs the distribution of Holy Communion under both species. Without lectors’ fewer voices—male and female—are not heard proclaiming His Word. And without ushers the welcoming of the faithful, the collection and gifts are disorganized.

So what am I asking? I am asking that we all stand up and do our part, after all the Mass is not a one-man show. We all have parts to play as we all gather to praise God for His goodness and favor. Ushers, altar servers, lectors, Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, and lay leaders to head our various ministries, from St. Elizabeth House to Feed the Hungry, to Street Sandwich Ministry to more. From the choirs to our faith formation teachers and youth ministry volunteers. I am asking you to please pray over and consider helping out. St. Catherine of Siena has had a long and powerful tradition of volunteers. When visiting priest come to help out at Mass or penance services, they always comment on the life of this parish. And, most of what I mentioned above can be all accomplished while you are already here for Mass. **Talk about two-birds-with-one-stone...**

As we move more deeply into September I will be speaking at the Masses about our parish needs, and it is my hope that you will see how you might take a greater ownership and become a leader in our great parish. We have much to grateful for and of which to be proud.

Thank you!

Women’s Ministry Fall Bible Study-All women are welcome, regardless of Scripture experience

Morning Session-Please join us beginning September 24th and continuing through October 29th from 9:30–11:00 a.m. each Wednesday morning. In *Encountering the God of Faith, Hope, and Love in the Bible*, award-winning Scripture commentator Fr. George Smiga explores how God is revealed through various stages of salvation history—from the call of Abraham through the resurrection of Jesus—and how faith, hope, and love have evolved as our understanding of God grows. Books will be available in the parish office, 658-1642, to purchase for \$17.95. **Please register here:** <http://bit.ly/4fX0Qt1> *Questions?* Contact Judy Manza, jmanza@verizon.net

Evening Session-Please join us beginning on Wednesday October 8th from 7-8 p.m. and continuing weekly through October 29th. We will be using Stephen J. Binzer's book *Angels of God*. This study enhances today's fascination with angels with an overview of the Bible's presentation of God's angels as guardians and messengers. Books will be ordered for those who *register by September 15th*. Cost of the book will range between \$11-18. **Please registration here:** <http://bit.ly/4fX0Qt1> *Questions?* Contact Michelle Page, pagekoe@gmail.com

St. Catherine of Siena Church ~ Faith Formation
Helen Treacy, Director, helentreacyff@gmail.com
Phone: (860) 658-4737

- Faith Formation Classes begin NEXT WEEK, September 14th! We are excited to see you!! If you still need to register go to www.stcatherine.info, under the Faith Formation tab or follow use this link:

<https://forms.ministryforms.net/viewForm.aspx?formId=c406ae27-73b6-4b94-b4bc-b58720fcdc5a>

- Classes have filled up and we are now in need of an 8th grade teacher.
- Please consider volunteering your time. Contact Helen Treacy at: helentreacyff@gmail.com if you are interested or need more information.

Music Notes

We are so fortunate in our parish to have so many dedicated volunteers in our Music Ministry – from our choir members and instrumentalists to our cantors who have been such a wonderful help this summer leading our congregational singing. Have you ever considered joining our Music Ministry? Have people turned around in the pew and suggested you join the choir? If so, we invite you to slide out of your comfort zone in the congregational pews and join us in the choir section this fall. *We are looking for new members in all voice parts.* We offer both a Children's Choir which is open to our youth in grades 2-8, and an Adult Choir which is open to both high school students and adults. Music is an essential element of our weekend and Holy Day liturgies and we are dedicated to that ministry. Come and experience the beauty and joy of Christ in a new way when you sing in the choir!

Tuesday Rehearsal Schedule (beginning Sept. 9)

Children's Choir: 6:30-7:20 PM in the Music Room

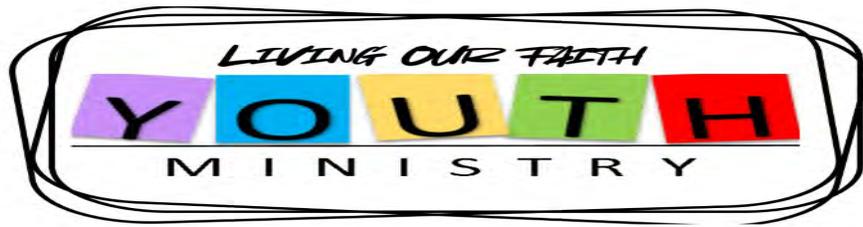
Adult Choir: 7:30-8:45 PM in the Church

Mass Schedule

Children's Choir: sings twice per month (Sept. – April), *email Susan for complete schedule*

Adult Choir: 11 AM Masses each week from Sept. 14 – June 7, Christmas Eve 10 PM, Triduum

No auditions are needed, but if anyone interested in the Adult Choir would like to meet with the director to see what voice part you are, please contact Susan Zyberty at susanzybert@comcast.net to schedule a time. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Susan. We encourage you to give it a try and we look forward to meeting you soon!



REGISTER FOR:

YOUTH MINISTRY 2025-2026

ALL Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join Youth Ministry. PRE-REGISTER NOW and receive a free t-shirt at our Fall Kickoff Meetings! Even if you registered in prior years, you need to register using this link:

<https://forms.gle/6xwkJira6jdiwpuc8>

SENIOR & JUNIOR HIGH
KICKING IT AT KICKOFF

Be prepared for one amazing Kickoff Night!! Bring a towel; you will get wet, but this is NOT water wars. Expect the unexpected! Pizza will be served. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Bring one women's toiletry item (deodorant, shampoo, lotion, etc) to donate. **FREE T-SHIRT** if you are registered for YM.

SR. HIGH: THIS SUNDAY! SEPTEMBER 7th,
6-8 p.m. Sign up using this link:
<https://bit.ly/4l7SVdt>



JR. HIGH: THIS MONDAY! SEPTEMBER 8th,
6-8 p.m. Sign up using this link:
<https://bit.ly/40HmuLg>



SAVE THE DATE:

ANNUAL CAR WASH FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 12:15 - 2:15 p.m.
at St. Mary's Church parking lot– Rain or shine! A free hot dog & chips lunch will be served to our parishioners as they get their car washed. Sign up for Youth Ministry to receive a free t-shirt! Need confirmation service hours? Volunteer to wash, dry & fold towels after the car wash.

TEEN & PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

11:45 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Sign up for one or more shifts using this link:

<https://bit.ly/46a3Wpd>

SR. HIGH TEENS: FIRE PIT NIGHT

Sunday, September 21st, 5:30-7:30 p.m.:
Return to St. Catherine of Siena to play fun games, have S'Mores and relax at the fire pit.

JR. HIGH TEENS: COOK & BAKE

Wednesday, September 24th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.: An evening of cooking & baking to prepare meals & treats to donate to local families in need, followed by games & prayer.

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

Put on your apron and come cook dinners for **“Neighbors in Need”** on Thursday September 25th, 9 a.m.
If interested, call Diane at (860) 913-0241.

NOURISH WITH *Hope*

St. Elizabeth's House

Drop off is Sunday, September 14th.

Thank you for your service!

Please use this link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521748-stelizabeth>

Pantry Partners

The next distribution date for Pantry Partners will be September 20th. This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables and protein to over 30 families in the community. Thank you so much for your continued support!

FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch

Service on Sat, September 27th.

Please sign up by Weds, Sept. 24th.

There are 4 ways to help:

- 1. Serve Lunch In-Person:** Carpool from St. Catherine's 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.
- 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's Russell Hall Kitchen between 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. on Sat., 9/27.
- 3. NEW - COOKIES:** Make some sweet treats. Make 24 cookies and drop off on Sat, 9/27 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/FTHLunchSept27>

SEPTEMBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

September sandwiches will be collected on the weekend of Saturday, September 27th from 8-9:30 a.m., Sunday, September 28th, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Monday, September 29th, 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, wax paper or cellophane) and deliver 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/4oCHld4>