

For our homebound and sick parishioners:  
Livestream our 11 a.m. Mass at [stcatherine.info](http://stcatherine.info)



# Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

The Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time October 5, 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](mailto: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](mailto:stcathy@comcast.net)

Website: [www.stcatherine.info](http://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](mailto:stcathy@comcast.net)

##### Director of Faith Formation

Mrs. Helen Treacy, 860-658-4737,  
[helentreacyff@gmail.com](mailto:helentreacyff@gmail.com)

##### Director of Youth Ministry

Mrs. Manuela Hanshaw, 860 658 1642 or  
[Manuelahanshawym@gmail.com](mailto:Manuelahanshawym@gmail.com)

##### Director of Music Ministry

Mrs. Susan Zybert  
860 217 0600 or [susanzybert@comcast.net](mailto: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 4th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *John Hayes, birthday remembrance*, requested by his family;
- **Sunday, October 5th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Gilbert & Shirley Murdock, wedding anniversary remembrance*, requested by the Murphy Family;
- **Sunday, October 5th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Marian Grey, 3rd anniversary*, requested by her family;
- **Monday, October 6th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Andrew Hobson, birthday remembrance*, requested by his family;
- **Monday, October 6th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary*;
- **Tuesday, October 7th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Catholic Nurses*;
- **Tuesday, October 7th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Adoration*;
- **Wednesday, October 8th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Gil Hatch*, requested by the Men's Ministry;
- **Wednesday, October 8th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary*;
- **Friday, October 10th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Mary Lou Whyte*, requested by the O'Bryan Family;
- **Friday, October 10th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Chaplet/Rosary*;
- **Saturday, October 11th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Mary Lou Whyte*, requested by Judy & Mike Manza;
- **Sunday, October 12th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *William Dionestotes*, requested by Steve Sennott; and,
- **Sunday, October 12th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Steve Skaret, 1st anniversary*, requested by his wife.

**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:	\$ 5,215.74
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,072.08
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 9,287.82</b>
Various	\$ 375.00

Next weekend's second collection is for Repair & Refurbishment.

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events**

*October*

- Sat, 4th—Confession, Church, 4p.m.
- Sun, 5th—Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 5th—Mass and Reception with Archbishop Coyne, 11 a.m.
- Mon, 6th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 6th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 7th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 7th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 7th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 8th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 8th—Wm's Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 8th—Wm's Bible Study, RH, 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs, 9th—Bereavement, Rooney-A, 10 a.m.
- Fri, 10th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 11th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 12th—NO Faith Formation
- Sun, 12th—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 9 a.m. & 12 Noon.
- Sun, 12th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Mon, 13th—NO Confession (Holiday)
- Tues, 14th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 14th—Red Cross Blood Drive, RH 12-5 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—OCIA, Rooney-A, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**



For  
*John Donahue,*  
*6th anniversary,*  
requested by his wife.

**We are looking for two additional "teams" to help with our monthly Coffee & Donuts. Training is available. If we have three teams it is just a four-times-a-year commitment. Please contact the office if you are interested, 860-658-1642. Thank you!**

## O CIA & Becoming Catholic

**Beginning on Tuesday, October 14 at 7 p.m.**, our parish will initiate the preparation of those who might wish to investigate becoming a Roman Catholic through the Sacramental Rites of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 5, 2026.

O CIA is the order—the process of learning and of entering into the Catholic faith—either by Baptism, if one is unbaptized, or through First Holy Communion and Confirmation, if one is already baptized in the Catholic Church or in one of the denominational Christian churches, e.g., Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Congregational or others. *Baptisms with blessed holy water and the words, “I baptize you (name) in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen,” is a valid baptism.*

Our O CIA classes and discussions meet on Tuesday nights, at 7 p.m., and enable the candidate to learn about the sacramental life of the Catholic Church, her history, her structure and role, and covers introductions to our theology, philosophy, and moral code for living the Christian life to which Christ has called each of us.

If you have ever considered learning about the Catholic faith, if you attend Mass with your Catholic spouse and children and have considered joining them at the Eucharistic meal, then the O CIA program is a great place to begin. The first meeting on October 14 is a meet-and-greet, a get acquainted and dip-your-toe-in-the-water of Catholicism. Join us in classroom Rooney A, just off Russell Hall, on Tuesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. or stop and ask Fr. Michael after Mass.

## In Memory of a Loved One?

We have opportunities to memorialize the name of a loved one on a sacred vessel (communion cup) for the celebration of the Mass, you may remember someone in your family or a friend, keeping their name and memory close to the Lord during the celebration of the Mass.

Our parish is in need of four new Holy Communion cups for the Precious Blood (our current ones have seen nearly 18 years of service, and were not of the highest quality and after a few times of having been repaired—suffering from wear and tear. We have ordered four new silver plate communion cups from Tally’s of Rhode Island, a religious goods supplier. The cups, handcrafted in the United States, are a matching set of four with a silver-ox cross accent. The cups are \$745 each and interested parties may donate towards the cost or purchase a cup or the set of four. Memorialization is included in the cost.

Anyone with an interest in assisting us with this parish cost is asked to speak directly with or call Fr. Michael, 658 1642. **Thank you.**

## Increase my faith, O Lord...

How many times have we all blurted that request/demand out in our mind or even out loud? In the midst of a crisis or in anger or in fear...Lord, why can’t I believe...

Well, the more things change, the more they stay the same, I guess. Even for the apostles—and most likely right down through human history—this just might be the most often asked question among mere mortals. In today’s Lukan Gospel we hear those closest to the Jesus Himself were at odds with their faith.

So, what is going on in today’s gospel and what are we to learn from it? Jesus is asked a profound question from His apostles that even today echoes in our own hearts when we are faced by the storms of everyday life or the challenges of today’s world. The positive to take from this question that the apostles (and each of us) asked this: that we recognize that the deepening of our faith and trust in God is the foundation of our relationship with Him. And when that foundation with God is strong and rich, then the choices we make—which impact our eternal destiny—benefit us in the here-and-now as well as in eternity.

*Continued on the bottom of page 4.*

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

- **Faith Formation Classes have begun!**
- K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will have class **THIS SUNDAY**, October 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30 AM at Henry James Memorial School. Please remember that children in Grades K-2<sup>nd</sup> *NEED* to be signed in and out in the cafeteria.
- *Please remember to bring along your signed Photo Release forms.*
- **There are NO Confirmation Classes THIS week.**
- Classes have filled up and we are still in need of an aide or two for some classes, as well as hallway monitors. Please consider volunteering your time. Contact Helen Treacy at: [helentreacyff@gmail.com](mailto:helentreacyff@gmail.com) if you are interested or need more information.
- **Come celebrate with us at the 11 AM Mass with Archbishop Coyne. There will be a reception after the Mass for the whole parish.**
- **There will be NO CLASSES next week (October 12<sup>th</sup>) due to Columbus Day Weekend. Classes from**

**Fall Senior Breakfast-Friday October 24th 9:15 am Russell Hall. Come**

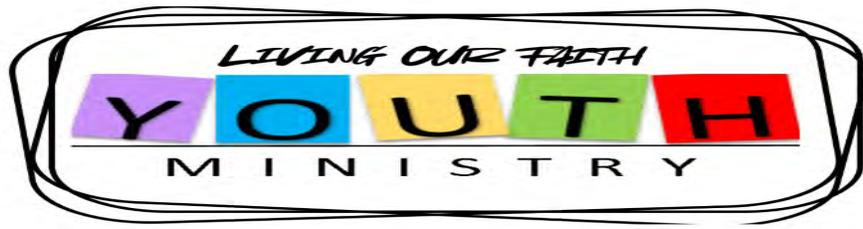
and enjoy a hot breakfast with your friends. Please use the sign up genius to register no later than Tuesday, Oct. 21st.: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4CAAEE2FA3F58-59158949-fall>

Sponsored by the Women's Service Ministry. Questions, call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241.

***Fr. Michael continued...***

Today, Jesus teaches us about the nature of faith. He reminds His apostles and us that even small amounts of faith can accomplish great things, it can “move mountains.” To paraphrase a quote from Mother Teresa once said that in giving a gift, it is not the size of the gift that matters, but rather the amount of love with which it is wrapped. So too, Jesus is telling us it’s not the quantity of the faith we have but rather the quality of our faith. How deeply do we believe...is it with all our heart, all our mind, all our soul? It is with our very being? Further explaining this quantity versus quality concern, the Lord then offers a parable that is meant to remind us that our faith is not about doing only our duty,” that which is obliged but rather it is about serving God in-and-with Love.

The Lord invites us to a deeper faith and trust in Him, especially when we are overwhelmed or feel lost and wondering. He calls us in doubt to come closer, to hear and understand His Truth, and to become conformed to His Love. Then we can use our faith as a rudder in the turbulent waters of the daily life, sailing into a calm and peaceful harbor of Hope. For a practical application of this trust in the Lord, we ask the Lord to deepen our faith and grant us a true purpose of living out the faith... so next time there is an opportunity to feed the hungry or make street sandwiches, or the next opportunity to support our youth ministry, or attend a Bible study or even join in with the prayer shawl ministry, ask the Lord to be the prime mover behind whatever it is that you are doing (making sandwiches or supporting the youth) and then you will know the reason behind what you are doing: Love. And, that will draw you more deeply into Christ. Quality over quantity.



## YOUTH MINISTRY 2025-2026

ALL Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join Youth Ministry.

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

### Youth Ministry Mission Statement:

*To foster a group of compassionately engaged teenagers, energized for service, open to spiritual growth, willing to build community in the context of faith, friendship and fun.*

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**CALENDAR CHANGE:** No meeting now on Monday, October 6th. Instead, we will meet on **MONDAY, OCTOBER 27th** from 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena. Join us for some real **FALL FUN & a service project** that evening. Pizza will be served as a treat. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME AND NEEDED.** Please register to attend, so that we have enough supplies, using this link:

<https://bit.ly/4nrKprm>

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

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**CALENDAR CHANGE:** No meeting now on Sunday, October 5th.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 OPEN GYM NIGHT AT ST. THERESE** from 6-8 p.m. Pizza will be served.

Awesome events and games too. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME AND NEEDED.**

Invite a friend to join us too. Just be sure to register them: <https://bit.ly/46sShBL>

**FLASHLIGHT CORN MAZE at Brown's Harvest —SAVE THE DATE:** Friday, October 24th. The event is **FREE** to all as Father Michael will cover the cost of the trip.

**PARENT VOLUNTEERS needed.** We will meet at St. Catherine of Siena at 6 p.m. for a quick dinner, then head to Brown's Harvest. Our start time has not been determined yet, but we expect it to be around 7:30/7:45 p.m. We plan to return to St. Catherine of Siena by 9:15 p.m. Space is limited, so sign up now using this sign up genius link to attend:

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



**Red Cross Blood Drive in Russell Hall, October 14th from 12—5 p.m.**

Schedule your appointment today! 1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org).

Blood Donor App | Sponsor Code: *thebarnct*

# NOURISH WITH *Hope*

## **St. Elizabeth's House**

**Drop off is Sunday, October 12th.**

*Thank you for your service!*

Please use this link to sign up:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/  
go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521748-  
stelizabeth](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521748-stelizabeth)

## **Pantry Partners**

The next distribution date for Pantry Partners will be **October 18th**. This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables and protein to over 30 families in the community. Thank you so much for your continued support!

### **WE NEED YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR OCTOBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY**

**October sandwiches will be collected on Saturday, October 18th from 8-9:30 a.m., Sunday, October 19th, from 9-6 p.m., and Monday, October 20th, 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 service hours available.**

**Please use this link to sign up: <http://bit.ly/3IEN0PJ>**

### **YES YOU "CAN" -TAKE WHAT YOU NEED/LEAVE WHAT YOU CAN**

Your ongoing generosity is greatly appreciated. If you are able to donate to our pantry this week, please consider donating hearty soups, school snacks such as pre-packaged goldfish or pretzels, and granola bars. We are also looking for cereal, fruit cups, canned meats (Spam, tuna, chicken), and bags of rice. Our pantry is open to all from 9:00 a.m.–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.***