

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-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 12, 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 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, 3rd anniversary*, requested by **Steve Sennott**;
- **Sunday, October 12th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Steve Skaret, 1st anniversary*, requested by his wife;
- **Monday, October 13th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Alice Lynch*, requested by the **Neureither Family**;
- **Monday, October 13th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary*;
- **Tuesday, October 14th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Margaret Hark*, requested by **Karen Willis**;
- **Tuesday, October 14th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Adoration*;
- **Wednesday, October 15th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Julia McCabe*, requested by **Nancy, Craig & Ryan Taylor**;
- **Wednesday, October 15th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary*;
- **Friday, October 17th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Mary Lou Whyte*, requested by the **Rosary Group**;
- **Friday, October 17th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Chaplet/Rosary*;
- **Saturday, October 18th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Grade 7 Class Mass, For Shirlee Nevin, 7th anniversary*, requested by the **Hammond Family**;
- **Sunday, October 19th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Stanislaus Skolimowski & Felix Rutkowski*, requested by **Stella & Arthur**; and,
- **Sunday, October 19th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Cara Lonergan, 35th birthday remembrance*, requested by her 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: \$ 6,673.25

Faith Direct weekly giving: \$ 4,072.08

Total: \$ 10,745.33

Various \$ 70.00

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

Next weekend's second collection is for World Missions.

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events**

*October*

- Sat, 11th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 12th—*NO Faith Formation*
- Sun, 12th—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 9 a.m. & 12 Noon.
- Sun, 12th—*Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.*
- Sun, 12th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Mon, 13th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.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 Meet & Greet, Rooney-A, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 14th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 15th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 15th—Wm's Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 15th—Wm's Bible Study, RH, 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs, 16th—Cook - Neighbors in Need, Ktcn, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 17th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 17th—YM Open Gym Night, RH, 6 p.m.
- Sat, 18th—Feed the Hungry
- Sat, 18th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 18th-Mon, 20th—Street Sandwich Weekend
- Sat, 18th—Confession, Church, 4p.m.
- Sat, 18th—Grade 7 Class Mass, 5 p.m.
- Sun, 19th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 19th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 19th—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 12 noon
- Sun, 19th—Confirmation 1 & 2, RH, 6:00 & 7:15 p.m.
- Mon, 20th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**



For  
*Paul Gapch,*  
*birthday remembrance,*  
requested by his family.

## Gracious Thanks!

Thank you to all our parishioners who attended the 11 a.m., October 5<sup>th</sup>, Sunday Mass with Archbishop Christopher Coyne, who himself was impressed with the kindness of the people of our parish, the large number of children and young families and youths, as well as the “spectacular grounds” and the beautiful statue of our patronal saint out front as well as the Archbishop’s very positive comments on the sanctuary of our church and the stations of the cross, which he very much approved. He is a liturgist by both studies and avocation.

I would also like to thank all those who participated in the Mass itself: our wonderful choirs—children’s and adult—and our musicians and cantors, all led by the talented Susan Zybert. Our lectors and **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and our altar servers. I have to shout out to Thomas Couture, Leo Corriveau, Kelsey Langlais and Ethan Zybert** who all did a phenomenal job, and it isn’t always easy to serve an archbishop with all the moving parts and extra components of the Ritual of a Bishop. They were attentive, anticipating the next movement, and very respectful. And a thank-you to our staff for their efforts in all the planning.

Finally but certainly by no means lastly, a humungous thank-you to John McDonald and his crew from the Welcome Committee (Mary and Kevin O’Bryan, Julie Pepper, Steve and Christine Moretta) for the planning and executing of a wonderful and delicious reception for Archbishop Coyne. My sincere appreciation for all the hard work and success.

## 28<sup>th</sup> Week: “Simon Legratitude”

In our gospel this weekend, Luke illustrates the “surprise” of Jesus, after He healed ten lepers, that only one comes back to give thanks for the healing. Today, we might consider this lack of gratitude a form of entitlement. The gospel also notes that of all those healed, and many of them Jews, it is the Samaritan (one considered an undesirable) that in fact is the most grateful. This gospel is a great reminder of the lack of the virtue of gratitude, which is a key Catholic virtue.

So what is gratitude? According to the esteemed thirteenth century theologian, St. Thomas Aquinas, “gratitude concerns the good of one’s neighbor (in this narrow case, a benefactor) and the repayment of something due (thanksgiving for gifts or favors). It makes sense that gratitude is annexed to justice, because its essence is similar, i.e. it is concerned with paying back something owed.” John A. Hardon, “Meaning of Virtue in Thomas Aquinas”, Great Catholic Books Newsletter 11, no. 1.

So Jesus is asking us to consider our thanksgiving owed for a good received. The Catholic faith calls us to be people of gratitude and in particular by way of our prayerful gratitude to God for the gifts of human life, faith and our eternal destiny with God—Heaven. Our thanksgiving or gratitude for these great gifts is found in the actions of our faith—the practice of the faith in-and-through our daily activities of life. How do we express our thanksgiving to God? What are the practical applications of our faith beliefs?

Well, in the writings of Aquinas it might be viewed as highbrow, nevertheless, let’s go with my thoughts, not so highbrow and hopefully applicable. In Eucharistic Prayer II, we hear the words, “*Thank you for counting us worthy to be in Your Presence and ministering to You.*” This is how we show our gratitude or thanksgiving to God, by the expression of our compassion, care and kindness to others: our neighbors around us—those to whom we are able to minister. It is in the kind acts of charity, whether that be in writing a check for financial help, or in making sandwiches or a meal for Caritas; “each time I wipe a dish, pick up an object off the floor, assist a child in some small task, or give another preference in traffic or the store; each time I feed the hungry, clothe the naked, teach the ignorant, or lend my hand in any way...it matters not to whom, my name is Simon. And the kindness I extend to them I really give to You.”

Everyone’s Way of the Cross

So be a Simon Legratitude, and be a grateful Catholic.

## Building & Grounds Committee

Years ago, our parish had a Building & Grounds Committee. It was a group of men who offered their expertise on large projects and the care of our parish buildings and grounds. I would like to reestablish that committee and am asking anyone with some expertise in these areas—from upkeep, to maintenance, to HVAC and more, to reach out to me and help me to reestablish this volunteer expertise. Thank you!

**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! Online registration is now closed. Please see Helen Treacy ([helentreacyff@gmail.com](mailto:helentreacyff@gmail.com)) with any questions or concerns.
- *We are still in need of some volunteers to be hall monitors and aides in the classrooms.* Please consider giving your time to volunteer for these important roles in Faith Formation! We would greatly appreciate any time you could give. Contact Helen Treacy if you are interested or need more information, [helentreacyff@gmail.com](mailto:helentreacyff@gmail.com).

**IMPORTANT Dates:**

- October 12<sup>th</sup>: **NO Classes ~ Columbus Day**
- October 18<sup>th</sup>: **Grade 7 Class Mass @ the 5PM Vigil**
- October 19<sup>th</sup>: **K-8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Confirmation I & II classes resume**
- October 26<sup>th</sup>: **K- 8 Grades classes ONLY.**

**See you at Mass!!**

**Exploring Our Call: Vocations Weekend with Father Whyte**

In the Catholic Church, there are four primary vocations — Married Life, Single Life, Religious Life, and the Priesthood — each a unique path to serving God and living out our faith.

During the weekend of October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, the Archdiocese has asked priests to share a special homily focused on vocations and that journey to the priesthood. Fr. Whyte will do so.

To express our heartfelt gratitude for Father Whyte's 19 years of dedicated service to St. Catherine of Siena Parish, we invite you to join us for coffee & donuts following the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

Come celebrate his priesthood, reflect on our own callings, and share in this special moment as a parish family.

**Fall Senior Breakfast-Friday October 24<sup>th</sup> 9:15 a.m. Russell Hall. come**

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

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

**The Wedding at Cana: A Celebration of Faith and Fellowship with the Women's Ministry**

All women of the parish are invited to join us on Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in Russell Hall for an inspiring evening as we reflect on *The Wedding at Cana*—the first miracle of Jesus—where water was turned into wine and hearts were filled with faith. Following the presentation, enjoy a delightful wine tasting and fellowship. Come be refreshed in spirit and community! There is a \$20 fee for this event which you can drop off/send to the office prior to the event. **Registration on SignUp Genius is required as space is limited:** <http://bit.ly/3INUyjd>



## 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

**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>

**CHEFS NEEDED—WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 6 p.m.—OCTOBER COOK AND BAKE.** Join us tonight as we prepare full course dinners for local families in need. **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED.** We provide the recipes, ingredients and step-by-step instructions. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.** Light refreshments will be served. **INVITE A FRIEND TOO.** Just be sure to register for this event using this link:

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

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

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**CHANGE IN LOCATION:** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17th OPEN GYM NIGHT from 6-8 p.m. at **St. Catherine of Siena.** Pizza will be served. Awesome events and games too. **PARENT VOLUNTEER NEEDED AND WELCOME.** Invite a friend to join us too. Just be sure to register: <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>



## OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY ALL TEENS, ALL FAMILIES AND ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED...

Please join Youth Ministry on Saturday, November 1st at 5 p.m. for Mass at St. Catherine of Siena. Immediately following Mass, we will light our firepit and spend 20 minutes praying the Rosary together.

Hot cocoa and Zeppole will be available after our prayer service. Sign up using this link:

<https://bit.ly/3L0AJFX>

(sponsored by our Youth Ministry)

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

Schedule your appointment today! 1-800-RED CROSS |  
[RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org). Blood Donor App | Sponsor Code: *thebarnct*

## St. Elizabeth's House

Drop off is this Sunday, October 12th.

*Thank you for your service!*

Please use this link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/>

[go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521950-stelizabeth](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54521950-stelizabeth)

### NEXT WEEKEND - WE NEED YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR OCTOBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

October sandwiches will be collected on  
Sat., the 18th from 8-9:30 a.m.,  
Sun, the 19th, from 9-6 p.m., and  
Mon., the 20th, from 8-9:30 a.m.

Sandwiches of any kind are needed.  
Please NO CONDIMENTS OR LETTUCE.

Please see the sign up link for additional info and  
to sign up: <http://bit.ly/3IEN0PJ>

## FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service

on Sat, October 18th.

Please sign up by Weds, October 15th.

There are 4 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 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., 10/18.
- 3. COOKIES:** Make some sweet treats. Make 24 cookies and drop off on Sat, 10/18 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30am.
- 4. Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

<https://bit.ly/FTHLunchOct18>

*Fr. Michael continued from page 3...*

## St. Elizabeth House

For a long, long time, Leila Bruno has done a magnificent job overseeing, organizing and growing the St. Elizabeth House Ministry here at St. Catherine of Siena Parish, which is responsible for feeding the people at the shelter once-a-month with a hot and nutritious meal. Leila is moving on and will be passing the baton on to a new leader or leaders to carry on this important ministry. I want to thank Leila for her compassion and work for these years of dedicated service. Thank you!

Now, the ministry and the process is in place, and we need someone or a few people to continue the good works. If you are interested in learning more, perhaps following Leila in these remaining months, please reach out to me and let's have a conversation. There is already a good team of volunteers in place.

## Jesus' Birthday Party with Santa

Usually around early December, the week of the 8<sup>th</sup> or so, our parish holds a birthday party for Jesus' big day on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Many folks in the past have led this fun and amazing celebration of the Lord's birthday. Santa always attends, children and their families have their photo taken with Santa, there are Santa's Christmas letters to write, candy canes, cookies and hot chocolate to have, and fun and crafts to work on.

This year we are looking for a younger family to help organize our fun event. If you and your family would like to lead the efforts to make this party a fun time, please reach out to Fr. Michael. He has all the information and we already know what to do. Perhaps your Christmas spirit and your love for Jesus will inspire your family to make this party happen.

## O CIA & Becoming Catholic

Join us on **Tuesday, October 14th at 7 p.m. in Rooney-A** for a Meet and Greet and have your questions answered. All are welcome.