

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 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Nov. 9, 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:

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, November 8th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *A Special Intention*;
- Sunday, November 9th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Janina & Wladyslaw Skolimowski*, requested by Stella & Arthur;
- Sunday, November 9th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Philip Pilon, 4th anniversary*, requested by his family;
- Monday, November 10th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Mary Lou Whyte*, requested by the Rosary Group;
- Monday, November 10th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
- Tuesday, November 11th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Benvinda Louise*, requested by her family;
- Tuesday, November 11th @ 9:00 a.m. *Adoration*;
- Wednesday, November 12th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Mary Ann Coray*, requested by the Kostelni Family;
- Wednesday, November 12th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
- Friday, November 14th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Patricia Weiss, birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- Friday, November 14th @ 9:00 a.m. *Chaplet/Rosary*;
- Saturday, November 15th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Jerry Winters, birthday remembrance*, requested by the Hopkins Family;
- Sunday, November 16th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Stephanie Nasuta, 25th anniversary*, requested by Debbie Nasuta & Robert Schermerhorn; and,
- Sunday, November 16th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Julia McCabe*, requested by Steve & Lisa Cerchia.

**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:	\$ 7,564.86
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,072.08
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 11,636.94</b>
Repair & Refurbishment	\$ 4,241.28
Various	\$ 25.00

This weekend's 2nd collection is for the Military (every 3 years).  
Next week's collection is for the Campaign for Catholic Development.

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events  
November**

- Sat, 8th—Confession, Church, 4p.m.
- Sun, 9th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun 9th—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 9 a.m & 12 noon.
- Sun, 9th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 9th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Sun, 9th—Sr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 10th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 10th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 10th—Jr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 11th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 11th—OCIA, Rooney-A, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 11th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 11th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 12th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 12th—Fleece Hats & Blankets, RH, 9:30 am.
- Wed, 12th—Wedding at Cana Event, RH, 7 p.m.
- Thurs, 13th-Fri, 14th—Drop off Baked Good LSOP, RH
- Thurs, 13th—Wm's Bible Study, RH, 7:00 p.m.
- Fri, 14th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 15th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 15th-Mon, 17th—Street Sandwich Weekend
- Sat, 15th—Confession, Church, 4p.m.
- Sun, 16th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 16th—Children's Lit. of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 16th—*FIRST RECONCILIATION, 3 p.m.*
- Sun, 16th—Confirmation 1 & 2, RH, 6:00 & 7:15 p.m.
- Mon, 17th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 17th—Prayer Shawl, Rooney-A, 3 p.m.
- Mon, 17th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

For  
*40th Wedding Anniversary  
remembrance for  
Dick & Donna Hammond.*



**Labelled Lector workbooks for the upcoming year may be found on the credenza in the vestibule. Please pick up your copy with your name on it. Thank you.**

## Jesus & Sacred Space

In today's gospel of John, 2:13-22, Jesus is disturbed by how the worshippers and outsiders treated the Jewish Temple, which like our Catholic churches, are sacred spaces. More than 2,000 years later, we might want to ask ourselves "how do I treat my church, and is it a sacred space in my mind?"

As a seminarian at St. John's Seminary in Brighton (MA), then-Fr. Coyne—now Archbishop Coyne, was my liturgy professor and taught a class on Sacred Spaces, from the sanctuary, tabernacle, and the nave of the church to the grounds that welcome you into the church. I have always believed that the sacredness of St. Catherine, meaning the care and upkeep of the grounds as well the interior of our church, are important aspects of our Sacred Space here at St. Catherine of Siena. Care and Concern are important words as they bespeak importance and belief.

As the gospel relates, Jesus is particularly upset by the treatment of Temple's sacred spaces. It was the feast of Passover and many pilgrims had come into town and the Temple for the feast, but it was not the crowds that offend Him rather it was the fact the sacred space had been turned into a marketplace complete with commercial activity (money changers as there was no common currency) and sellers of animals for sacrifices and for food. This commercial atmosphere created an "open bazaar or barnyard" setting, thus these activities destroyed the purity of the house of God. With righteous anger, Jesus drives out the businessmen and their animals and seeks to return the temple to a place of worship. He overturns the tables saying, "*Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!*" His response reminds us that the temple is not a place for profit or exploitation but a house of prayer and encounter with God.

As Catholics, we too are called to respect and honor the sacredness of our worship spaces. And equally important, that our own bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). Just as Jesus cleansed the temple, He calls us to cleans our hearts from anything that hinders our relationship with God: sin, distractions, and attachments that keep us from true worship. And while the preceding point—keeping our bodies, our hearts and minds free from distraction and keeping close to Christ, is important—it would also behoove us to grow in our respect for our churches. We can have bake sales or auctions in the gathering spaces but the church proper is for prayer and praise, not for making plans for breakfast. So some things to consider:

- **Do we believe that our Catholic church is a sacred space, that Christ is present here at St. Catherine of Siena in the Eucharist, in the community, and in the Word of God?**
- **How do I treat the celebration of the Mass?** *Am I on time or do I arrive whenever I make it? Am I prepared well for Mass and to receive the Lord; have I cleared my thoughts of other things or is the Mass just one more thing to check off on Sunday?*
- **Am I dressed as if I am in the presence of God?** *Do I stand (or sit) before him with attention or am I checking my cell phone, getting up to grab a drink of water because I am bored?*
- **Do I respond in the dialogue of the Mass to the prayers of the priest, the hymns (which are also prayers)?** *As Second Vatican Council stated clearly, we are called to "Full, conscious and active participation" in the Mass.*

The central theme of this gospel and my thoughts above are not about a dress code or being an automaton at the Mass, rather it is about self-respect, and having been made in the image and likeness of God, and now at the Mass in His Divine Presence (Word, Eucharist and Community), am I fully, consciously and actively participating in the God who wants to save and be with me for all Eternity? Am I ready to stand before Him at Mass today?

# Faith Formation News

Helen Treacy, Faith Formation Director  
(860) 658-4737, helentreacyff@gmail.com



## IMPORTANT dates:

November 9<sup>th</sup>: K -8<sup>th</sup> Grade classes ONLY

November 16<sup>th</sup>: K- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade classes and Confirmation I & II

November 16<sup>th</sup>: Altar-Serving Meeting at HJMS Cafeteria with Father Whyte @ 9:30 AM for grades 4-8

November 16<sup>th</sup>: First Reconciliation @ 3PM in the church

November 23<sup>rd</sup>: K -8<sup>th</sup> Grade classes ONLY

November 30<sup>th</sup>: NO Classes ~ Happy Advent!

\*\*\* If you need to pick up your child early, please let Helen Treacy and the teacher know in advance, as it sometimes disturbs the flow of the class.

**See you at Mass!!**

**Keep Them Warm-come join the women's service ministry on Wednesday November 12th at 9:30 a.m. in Russell Hall to make fleece hats and scarves for children living in shelters.**

No sewing skills necessary. Please bring a pair of children's mittens or gloves. *Interested?* Call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241 no later than Sunday, November 9th. Come join us for warm drinks and treats.

**Calling all bakers-it's your time to shine! Little Sisters of the Poor are having their annual Christmas bazaar and bake sale and we promised to provide baked goods.**

**Can I count on you to bake something delicious? Please drop off your baked goods either Thursday, November 13th in the church kitchen or Friday the 14th by 9:30 a.m. Questions? Call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241.**

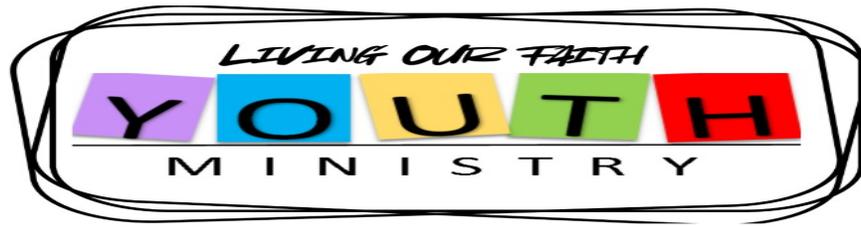
**Thank you so much for your consideration and God bless.**

**SAVE THE DATES FOR  
An Advent Bible Study with Mary  
Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th & 17th,  
9: 30 a.m. or 7 p.m. in Russell Hall.**

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

Thank you for your ongoing support of our pantry, especially during these difficult times. Please consider donating thanksgiving supplies such as stuffing mix and cranberry sauce, hot and cold cereal, hearty soups/stews, jarred fruit, and any other non-perishable food item. Our pantry is open to all from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., but not available during Mass.

*We can only accept NON-PERISHABLE FOODS.  
Please do not leave bread. We are unable to accept expired foods or opened containers.*



## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9th from 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena. Bunco Night – Fast, Fun & Full of Laughs and Faith!** Never heard of Bunco? No worries—it's easy to learn, fast-paced, and seriously fun! Come roll the dice, meet new friends, and enjoy a night full of energy, laughter, and prizes. Pizza dinner included! Invite a friend or make some new friends. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.** Teens and parents can sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/478R3fg>

## APPLE PIE NIGHTS

**APPLE PIE NIGHTS!** This year, we will bake 300 apple pies in support of shelters in Hartford. You can help in many ways—choose one or ALL! **WHAT TO BRING if attending in person:** 2-4 ten pound bags of apples, a peeler, a cutting board and a paring knife.

Friday, November 21st—Family ApplePie Night at St. Mary's Parish Hall from 6-8:15 p.m. You can also take some pies home to help bake them. Sign up here to join us and to help:

<https://bit.ly/42PWzCt>

Sunday, November 23rd—Apple Pie Night at St. Catherine of Siena from 6-8:15 p.m. followed by a movie from 8:30-10:30 while our pies are baking. Popcorn, snacks and concessions will be served.

<https://bit.ly/4qkM83C>

Can't join us? Can you make some pies at home and return them over the weekend to St. Catherine of Siena?

<https://bit.ly/47f1myv>

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**THIS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10th from 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena** —Don't miss out on a night of GRATITUDE, packed with games, faith, laughs, snacks, and surprises! Invite your friends and come on out. You never know what kind of fun we'll get into... but you'll definitely want to be there! Light refreshments will be served. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.** Teens and parents can sign up using this link:

<https://bit.ly/43lugf8>

## DRIVERS NEEDED

**Can you help drive APPLE PIES? All pies will go to the Archdiocese of Hartford, Monday, November 24th.** Pick up pies at St. Catherine of Siena at 9:30 a.m. and we will help load the pies for delivery. Please use this link to sign up if you can help:

<https://bit.ly/47xDeIF>

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

## Calling all kids!

Halloween is filled with treats. Share the fun and donate a portion of your Halloween candy to give treats to *Feed the Hungry*. All treats will be distributed by The Feed the Hungry Group at the November visit to Saint Elizabeth House. Donations may be dropped off in the candy boxes in the Atrium and Vestibule.

# NOURISH WITH *Hope*

**St. Elizabeth House—November 9th.**

You may sign-up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COF44ADAD2DA64-54522006-stelizabeth>

**We are looking for a new leadership team. Please see Fr. Whyte.**

## **Pantry Partners**

**The next distribution date will be November 15th.**

**This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables and protein to over 30 families in the community. Thank you so much for your continued support.**

## **NOVEMBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY**

November sandwiches will be collected next Sat., Nov. 15th, Sun., Nov. 16th from 9-6 pm, and Mon., Nov. 17th, from 8-9:30 am.

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).

Once they are wrapped, you can load them back into the bread bag and deliver to the kitchen using the outside kitchen entrance (near the garage/shed).

**Confirmation service hours available.**

**Please sign up using this link:**

<https://bit.ly/4n5wVkk>



**YOUTH MINISTRY  
NEEDS YOUR HELP...  
CAN YOU BAKE  
SOME APPLE PIES?**

The Archdiocese of Hartford (AOH) has asked for assistance with Thanksgiving pies for families that rely on the AOH. They currently serve about 300 families, so Youth Ministry will make 300 apple pies, and we need your help. You can help by 1) attending our Family Apple Pie Night (all are welcome, ages 5-105) scheduled for Friday, November 21st at St. Mary's Parish Hall from 6-8:15 p.m., or 2) bake pies at home or purchase some pies, or 3) take some pies home from Friday night to bake for us over the weekend.

**FOR THOSE ATTENDING OUR ON-SITE BAKING, BRING: 2-4 large bags of apples, a peeler, cutting board and paring knife. We will provide everything else.**

Family Apple Pie Night, please use this link:

<https://bit.ly/42PWzCt>

Make/purchase apple pies at home, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/47f1mvv>

Take pies home Friday night to bake, please use this link: <https://bit.ly/42PWzCt>

**Senior High Youth Ministry Teens and alumni** – please also attend our **APPLE PIE NIGHT on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd** at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall from 6-8:15 p.m. After we make our pies, we will stay to watch a movie while the pies bake. Feel free to dress in comfy clothes and to bring a pillow, etc. Movie will end around 10:30 p.m. Popcorn and concessions will be served.

<https://bit.ly/4qkM83C>

**FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat, Nov 22nd. Please sign up by Weds., Nov 19th. Special Thanksgiving meal will be served. There are 2 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 an early Thanksgiving meal for residents as well as for other food insecure guests. We will be done by 1:00 p.m.

2. **Make Cupcakes:** Make cupcakes and drop off on Sat, 11/23 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30am.

**Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchNov22>**

**Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at 860-558-6940, [richsickinger@gmail.com](mailto:richsickinger@gmail.com)**