

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



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 23, 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

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, November 22nd @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Dick Hopkins, 3rd anniversary*, requested by his family;
- Sunday, November 23rd @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Walter Nasuta, 19th anniversary*, requested by Debbie Nasuta & Robert Schermerhorn;
- Sunday, November 23rd @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Julia McCabe*, requested by Fr. Whyte;
- Monday, November 24th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *David Devine & Angela Devin Cotti, birthday blessings*, requested by their family;
- Monday, November 24th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
- Tuesday, November 25th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Robert Lowe*;
- Tuesday, November 25th @ 9:00 a.m. *Adoration*;
- Wednesday, November 26th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Mary Lou Whyte*, requested by Susan & Jody Cranmore;
- Wednesday, November 26th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
- Thursday, November 27th @ 9:00 a.m. *Pro Populo*;
- Friday, November 28th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *John Finan*, requested by his wife;
- Friday, November 28th @ 9:00 a.m. *Chaplet/Rosary*;
- Saturday, November 29th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Donald Zele, 14th anniversary*, requested by the Hammond Family;
- Sunday, November 30th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Larry Rose, 3rd anniversary*, requested by his family; and,
- Sunday, November 30th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Dan Reilley, birthday remembrance*, 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:	\$ 6,758.51
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,072.08
Total:	\$ 10,830.59
Various	\$ 425.00
CHD	\$ 1,768.96

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

November

- Sat, 22nd—Feed the Hungry
- Sat, 22nd—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 23rd—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 23rd—SCPP Gabel Brigade, 1:30 p.m.
- Sun, 23rd—Apple Pie Night/Kitchen, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 24th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 24th—*Mass at McLean Home, 11 a.m.*
- Mon, 24th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 24th—Training for Adoration, Church, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 25th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 25th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 25th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 26th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Thurs, 27th—*Thanksgiving Day, Mass at 9 a.m.*
Office Closed Thursday & Friday
- Fri, 28th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 29th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 30th—*NO Faith Formation, No CLW.*
- Sun, 30th—Advent Wreath Making, RH, 12 Noon

December

- Mon, 1st—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 1st—NO Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 1st—Boston Mission Trip Mtg., RH, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 2nd—NO Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 2nd—OCIA, Rooney-A, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 2nd—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 2nd—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 3rd—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 3rd—Advent Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 3rd—JR. High Cook & Bake, RH, 6:00 p.m.
- Wed, 3rd—Advent Bible Study, Church, 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs, 4th—Pageant Rehearsal, 4 p.m.
- Fri, 5th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 6th—Grade 3 Christmas Pageant, Church, 4 p.m.
(no confession)

Sanctuary Lamp

For

*Special Intention
for healing.*



St. Elizabeth House Needs

Opened in 1983, Mercy Community Housing—St. Elizabeth House—feeds homeless or those on the verge of homelessness, provides respite care for up to 90 days, and offers training and other care to the women and other adults. St. Elizabeth House provides family services, case management, alternative housing programs for those who are unable to live independently. Part of the St. Catherine of Siena program is to provide a hot meal, once-a-month, consisting of a casserole, vegetable, fresh fruit, salad and dessert. Individuals from our parish sign-up to prepare various parts of the meal—either a casserole or salad or vegetables or bread, not the entire meal. You are asked to deliver your individual items to the parish kitchen by 3:45 p. on the second Sunday of each month. Some volunteers will then deliver the food and help distribute it at the shelter. *This has been a long-term Parish ministry.*

What do we need now? Our St. Elizabeth House Ministry leader, Leila Bruno, is moving away and will not be able to continue her years and years of service to others in need. We have a great team of volunteers and now we are looking for a few people to step up and become part of the leadership team, which requires scheduling the volunteers to sign-up each month and then coordinate the meal delivery to the shelter.

A team leadership approach will make the workload lighter for everyone. If we could have three or four leaders, then each individual scheduled would act every fourth month as team leader. I am asking members of our parish who would have an interest in this ministry to reach out to me (658 1642) to have a conversation on how we can continue this important social outreach ministry here at St. Catherine of Siena. Thank you!

The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: Sorrow, Hope & Mercy

Today we find ourselves at the heart of the Passion narrative, with our Lord Jesus Christ hanging on the cross, hears the many mockers around Him reviling Him. He is accompanied by two “criminals” or revolutionaries. This is indeed a moment of great sorrow, but also a time of deep hope and mercy.

In verses 35-36 we see the rulers, the people and the soldiers mock the Lord, demanding that He save Himself, if He is the Messiah. He was scorned as they refused to recognize His divine mission He had come to fulfill. Scholars tell us that this rejection and humiliation are to remind us of how often, in our own lives, we can be tempted to mock or reject God’s presence, especially when His ways seem difficult or when suffering comes at us. But—there’s that important word—in the middle of this mockery and rejection something amazing happens: One of the criminals beside Him recognizes who He truly is. In verse 40, he rebukes the other criminal, acknowledging their guilt and Jesus’ innocence. In a moment of faith, the “confessing criminal” who sees the Light, says, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” Scholars see this as a beautiful act of trust. Despite his own sins and the shame of his crucifixion, he turns to Jesus with hope. And Jesus responds with complete words of mercy and promise: “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise. (v. 43)

Today we ask ourselves: Are we like the crowds, quick to judge or mock? Are we like the penitent thief-criminal-revolutionary, humble, and trusting in Jesus? Our gospel reminds us to remember this message: No matter our past, no matter our sins, if we turn to Jesus with a repentant heart, He welcomes us home into His mercy and love. Let’s get ready for Advent.

An Advent Bible Study with Mary

Wednesdays • 9:30 AM or 7:00 PM • Russell Hall, Dates: 12/3, 12/10, 12/17

Walk the road to Christmas through Mary’s eyes. Over three weeks, we’ll pray with Scripture and explore: The Annunciation — saying “yes” to God, The Visitation — carrying Christ to others, Christmas & the Epiphany — welcoming the Word made flesh. Join either morning or evening each week—same content. All are welcome; bring a Bible. *Facilitator: Lou Daniels*

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

IMPORTANT dates:

November 23rd: November 23rd: K -8th Grade classes ONLY

November 30th: NO Classes ~ Happy Advent!

December 4th: Grade 3 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
(4:00 – 5:30 PM in the church)

December 6th: Grade 3 Christmas Pageant @ 4:00 PM
(Students need to arrive @ 2:30 PM)

December 7th: K – 8th grade classes, Confirmation I & II

December 13th: Grade 8 Class Mass (5PM)

See you at Mass!!

ADVENT WREATH MAKING! Gather as family and friends to expectantly wait for the birth of Christ!

Come create your own Advent Wreaths with us following the 11AM Mass on Sunday, November 30th in Russell Hall. Materials will be provided. However, feel free to donate and/or bring your own extra embellishments such as pine cones, berries, ornaments, or ribbon! Light refreshments will be available. You are also welcome to bring a snack to share. Use the signup genius to join the fun:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DACA628ABF49-60386555-advent>



Our Grade 3 Religious Education children will put on our annual Christmas Pageant this year on Saturday, December 6th at 4 p.m. in the church.

All parishioners are invited to attend the pageant before the 5 p.m. Mass.

Based on Luke's Gospel, the children, in costume, will tell of the first Christmas, in Scripture and in Song.

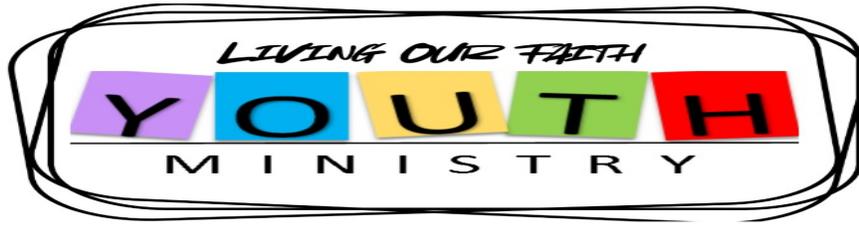
Celebrate the Savior with Santa! Saturday, December 13th, 2pm-4pm

St. Catherine's families are invited to join Santa Claus as we kick off the Advent and Christmas seasons to celebrate the birth of Jesus! We will have cookies and hot cocoa available to you as you write your letter to Santa, listen to a Christmas story, and enjoy a craft. We will have a photographer available to snap a family photo with Santa and you will be given a take home goody bag with reindeer food and slips of paper to write out acts of kindness on to soften Jesus' manger. Throughout Advent, every family can perform acts of kindness which you can write down on the paper (piece of hay) to add to the manger that will be located in the atrium of the church. Instead of a birthday present for Jesus, we ask that you bring a non-perishable item for our food pantry. **RSVP's to the party:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA9AC2CA6FECF8-60647470-celebrate>

Sign-ups to volunteer: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084FA9AC2CA6FECF8-60641878-celebrate>

Confirmation service hours are available for volunteers.



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

APPLE PIE NIGHTS! This year, we will bake **300** apple pies in support of shelters in Hartford.

Can you help and make some pies at home and return them over the weekend to St. Catherine of Siena?

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

Drop off anytime this weekend to Russell Hall (tables will be set up) anytime from 9-6 p.m. on Saturday, November 22nd or Sunday, November 23rd.

DECEMBER COOK AND BAKE

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd from 6-8 p.m.
at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall.**

Please join us this evening on this fun evening to help prepare full course dinners for local families. No cooking experience is needed, we provide the ingredients, recipes and step-by-step instructions.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME! All are welcome but sign up now as space is limited:

<https://bit.ly/4hHobQ9>

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15th—CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AND SERVICE PROJECT from 6-8:30 p.m.

(NOTE END TIME) at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall. It's going to be an evening full of fun, laughter, and faith! Join us for our Christmas Party—a joyful evening filled with game, decorating Christmas cookies, faith and friendship, and a quick service project to share the true spirit of Christmas. Don't miss out on this festive celebration! You won't want to miss this, but you must register for this event. **Parent Volunteers**

Welcome and Needed! WHAT TO BRING: An item to help with our service project for the homeless. Please use this link to sign up:

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

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

THIS SUNDAY, APPLE PIE NIGHT - November 23rd at St. Catherine of Siena from 6-8:15 p.m.

ALUMNI INVITED AND WELCOME!!

WHAT TO BRING : 2-4 ten pound bags of apples, a peeler, a cutting board and a paring knife.

Pizza dinner will be served. After apple pie making, stay for a MOVIE from 8:30-10:30 p.m. while our pies are baking. Popcorn, snacks and concessions will be served.

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th—CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION from 6-8:30 p.m. at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall. ALUMNI INVITED AND WELCOME TOO! Pizza dinner will be served, fun, friendship and faith, and more! Join us for our Christmas Party—a joyful evening filled with games, faith and friendship, in celebration of the true spirit of Christmas. **WHAT TO BRING? A \$5-10 gift card to Dunkin, Target or CVS.** These will be distributed to the homeless via our service project. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS WELCOME & NEEDED!** Please sign up using this link:

<http.s://bit.ly/3Luwvqp>

*Please be sure to follow us on Instagram at
stcatherine_youthministry*

PARENT DRIVERS NEEDED

Can you help drive APPLE PIES? All pies will go to the Archdiocese of Hartford, THIS Monday, November 24th. Pick up pies at St. Catherine of Siena at 9:15 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/47xDelf>

Senior Continental Breakfast come and enjoy a delicious holiday continental breakfast with friends on Tuesday December 9th following Mass at 9:00 a.m. Jump in after breakfast for an easy service project if interested, help make someone's day brighter. Please use the sign up genius link to register:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4CAAEE2FA3F58-60399800-continental>

Questions, call Diane Whittemore @ 850-913-0241.

NOURISH WITH *Hope*

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, Nov. 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/47f1myv>

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>

DECEMBER STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

December sandwiches will be collected
Saturday, Dec. 20th,
Sunday, Dec. 21st from 9-6 p.m., and
Monday, Dec. 22nd, 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/47ARpvt>

NEXT DATES:

St. Elizabeth House—December 14th.

You may sign-up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44ADAD2DA64-54522077-stelizabeth>

**Feed the Hungry—December 20th
Pantry Partners—December 20th.**