

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 Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph December 28, 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, December 27th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Joseph Little, 4th anniversary*, requested by his family;
  - Sunday, December 28th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Lyn Cunningham, 14th anniversary*, requested by her family;
  - Sunday, December 28th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Nick Rossato*, requested by Linda Kesselman;
  - Monday, December 29th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *John Pieprzny*;
  - Monday, December 29th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
  - Monday, December 29th @ 6:30 p.m. *Adoration*;
  - Tuesday, December 30th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Mickey Barlow*, requested by Lyn Brucker;
  - Tuesday, December 30th @ 9:00 a.m. *Adoration*;
  - Wednesday, December 31st @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *John Jay Kiernan*;
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- Wednesday, December 31st, Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
**6:00 p.m. Pro Populo;**
- Thursday, January 1st, Holy Day Mass  
**10 a.m. Hugo Kostelni, baptismal blessings;**  
requested by his family;
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- Friday, January 2nd @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Jane Arciero*, requested by the O'Bryan Family;
  - Friday, January 2nd @ 9:00 a.m. *Chaplet/Rosary*;
  - Saturday, January 3rd @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *James Hurstel Lawson*, requested by the Ruder Family;
  - Sunday, January 4th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Alice Burk*, requested by Carl & Gracie Scallo & Elizabeth Peterson; and,
  - Sunday, January 4th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Margaret Hark*, requested by Linda Kesselman.

**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:	\$ 7,113.50
Faith Direct weekly giving:	\$ 4,072.08
Total:	\$ 11,185.58
Retired Religious (add'l)	\$ 2,815.00
Various	\$ 770.00

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events  
December**

- Sat, 27th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 28th—*NO Faith Formation, NO CLW*
- Mon, 29th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 29th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 29th—Adoration, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 30th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 31st—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

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*Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
Wednesday, December 31st, Vigil Mass  
6:00 p.m.  
Thursday, January 1st, Holy Day  
Mass at 10 a.m.  
(Office closed Thursday)*

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**January**

- Fri, 2nd—Chaplet & Rosary, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 3rd—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 4th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 4th—*Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.*
- Sun, 4th—Confirmation 1 & 2, 6 p.m./7:15 p.m.
- Mon, 5th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 5th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 5th—Adoration, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 6th—OCIA, Rooney-A, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 6th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 7th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 9th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 10th-Sun, 11th—Sock and Underwear Drive
- Sat, 10th—New Altar Server Training, Church, 10 a.m.
- Sat, 10th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

For

*Successful treatment  
for a parishioner.*



## Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

On this first Sunday after the Nativity of the Lord, which is called the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the gospel tells of an angel who again appears to Joseph in a dream and warns him to take Mary and the baby Jesus to Egypt to escape from King Herod who ordered the baby Jesus killed. Joseph does as the angel warns him, and he and his wife and child flee to Egypt under the cover of darkness, remaining there until the threat of Herod is over due to his death.

The angel then tells Joseph to return to Israel and once enroute, Joseph hears that Herod's son, Archelaus, has been enthroned and Joseph again worries that he too may pose a threat to his new born son, so instead Joseph takes Mary and Jesus to the region of Galilee, to the town of Nazareth. Remember what the prophets foretold of Jesus, "He shall be called a Nazorean."

All this is to remind us that God has a plan for everyone—from the Holy Family to your family, including you—and that we must reflect on the meaning of family from the perspective of the Gospel. In this Matthean Gospel, we hear that the Holy Family faced grave challenges. This is the common bond among all families—every family, from the holy ones to the not-so-holy-ones face challenges: challenges in marriage, with children and elderly parents, challenges in the economy, challenges in faith lived out in the midst of busy sports schedules and vacations, to challenges in politics, culture and in intra-familial squabbles, in sicknesses and more. We are all the same, in many ways. I see this in my priesthood, no matter which home I am called to, big or small, fancy or not, whole or broken, our human conditions are very similar.

Yet, in today's gospel message, there is something unique about the Holy Family and how they "handled" their challenges. You see, the Holy Family in Matthew's gospel used the gifts of faith, obedience, and love as their "launch pad" for their concern of one another. Their perspective on the world is viewed by deep faith, unconditional love and faithful obedience to God; they understand that He has a plan for them, and that He will see His Plan to fruition—to the end, and for the excellence of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

How do we all face the challenges of family life? Is it with the belief that "I can handle it, I don't need anyone's help, after all, I am in charge of my life? Or, do I believe that me and my family are part of God's Plan? Do I believe—like the prayer we pray at the end of every Mass, our priesthood vocation prayer, that "God, You have created us for a definite purpose..." Let us move forward this New Year with deep faith, unconditional love and faithful obedience to God, that we Trust in His Plan for us and our families, and we believe that He shall see our lives out to their natural end, and that it shall be for our eternal excellence. May we see the Holy Family's Trust and Love as an example for us to imitate in the midst of all our challenges of life—the good, the bad, and the ugly. It is after all, for our Eternal Good.

## Thank you to all our Christmas Church Decorators

I wish to express my thanks to all the decorators of our Christmas cheer here at St. Catherine of Siena. Under the direction of Ale Palomo, Neil Vayda, Ed Caputo, the Palomo family, and Chris Berg made the church, Russell Hall and our outside looked was filled with the beauty of Christmas and the glory of the Christ Child. **Thank you!**

## New Altar Server Training

**Our next new altar server training will take place on Saturday, January 10th at 10 a.m. in the church. If you are interested in joining the group, please call the office, 658-1642, to have your name added to the list.**

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



**IMPORTANT dates:**

**December 28th: NO CLASSES**

**January 4th: Grades K-8 Classes, Confirmation I & II**

**January 11th: Grades K-8 Classes ONLY**

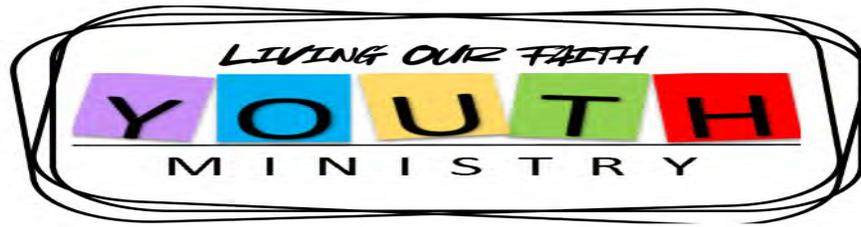
**\*\*\* Weather Closings \*\*\***

***In case of inclement weather, please look to WFSB Hartford/New Haven with up-to-date information on classes and cancellations.***

**See you at Mass!!**

**Additional Christmas Flower Donation**  
**In Memory of Julia McCabe, Mary Lou Whyte,**  
**deceased members of the Jahne, McCabe, Duggan Family**  
**requested by the Jahne Family.**

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS CARD ELVES!** We had an amazing group that got them out in record time. Thank you to Barbara Hopkins, Dolores Gutfran, Pat Connors, Jenny Hayes, Ginny Belden, Nydia Caruso, Jean Pepin, Mary Clark, Mary Lou Gallagher, Manuela Hanshaw, Nancy Vacca, Kathy Mylod, Eileen Landi and one mystery elf!



### JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 12th—OPEN GYM NIGHT at St. Mary's from 6-8 p.m. Join us for some fun and unexpected activities! Be prepared for anything. Light refreshments will be served.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.

### SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th—OPEN GYM NIGHT at St. Mary's from 6-8 p.m. Join us for some fun and unexpected activities! Be prepared for anything. Pizza and dessert will be served.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.

*Wishing you and your families a happy and healthy New Year!*

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

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

McLean Home is looking for volunteers to work in the Gift Shop.  
If interested please contact Colleen Casavant, 860-658-9626/860-519-2730.  
Thank you.

## Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass, DECEMBER 31st

6:00 p.m.

Holy Day Mass, January 1st

10:00 a.m.

# NOURISH WITH *Hope*

## JANUARY STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

Can you believe that we are already collecting sandwiches for January?

January sandwiches will be collected  
Saturday, January 17th,  
Sunday, January 18th from 9-6 p.m., and  
Monday, January 19th, 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). 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/4iw9rn0>

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

If you are able to help, please consider donating to our Food pantry: coffee/tea, hot and cold cereal, canned meats (Spam, tuna or chicken), bags of rice, children's snacks, 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. Thank you for your continued 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.*

## JANUARY DATES

***St. Elizabeth House***

**January 11th**

***Pantry Partners***

**January 17th**

***Feed the Hungry***

**January 17th**

## SOCK AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE JANUARY 10TH & 11TH.

**NEW SOCKS & UNDERWEAR for**

**those in need.** Help us keep others covered and warm. Men's, women's, all sizes. Thank you as always for your continued generosity. All donations stay LOCAL. Sponsored by the Women's Service Ministry. Questions-call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241. Collection box will be in the vestibule.

## Warm Winter Meals with the Women's Service Ministry on Wednesday January 14th

at 9:15 a.m., church kitchen. Join us to prepare meals for Neighbors in Need. Want to help... call Diane Whittemore at 860-913-0241