

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



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

The Epiphany of the Lord

January 4, 2026

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

Assistant Director of Youth Ministry

Mrs. Sandra Cinquegrana, 860 658 1642 or
scinquegranaym@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry

Mrs. Susan Zybert
860 217 0600 or susanzybert@comcast.net

Building and Grounds Committee

Mr. John Lipari, Chairman

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, 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;
- Sunday, January 4th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Margaret Hark*, requested by Linda Kesselman;
- Monday, January 5th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Sandra Austin Vogel*, requested by Cindy Werner;
- Monday, January 5th @ 9:00 a.m. *Rosary*;
- Monday, January 5th @ 6:30 p.m. *Adoration*;
- Tuesday, January 6th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Bill Dotterweich*, requested by the O'Bryan Family;
- Tuesday, January 6th @ 9:00 a.m. *Adoration*;
- Wednesday, January 7th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *John Martin*, requested by George & Sue Paul;
- Friday, January 9th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Alice Burk*, requested by Angela Caruso;
- Friday, January 9th @ 9:00 a.m. *Chaplet/Rosary*;
- Saturday, January 10th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Megan Lynn Gilhooley*, requested by Claire Hayes;
- Sunday, January 11th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Theresa Carew*, requested by Lynn Ryan; and,
- Sunday, January 11th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Jim Sullivan*, birthday remembrance, requested by his 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:	\$ 5,588.49
Faith Direct /P arish Soft:	\$ 4,072.08
Total:	\$ 9,660.57

Christmas	\$ 26,162.00
Various	\$ 525.00

For those who are interested in online giving, you may use this link:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-1077>

or the QR code below.



Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

January

- Sat, 3rd—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 4th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 4th—Children's Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 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.
- Thurs, 8th—New Day Bereavement, Rooney-A, 10 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
Stephen Gorecki, RIP

requested by
Anne & Anthony Krafft



Christmas Decorations Going, Going, Gone?

Would you be willing and able to help with the removal and storage of our beautiful Parish Christmas decorations? I am looking for “organized muscle” to help take it down, store it in tubs and move the tubs to the shed. The de-decorating takes place on January 12th at 10 a.m., under the direction of Ale Palomo. If you are able to assist, please let Lisa Cerchia in the parish office know, 658 1642.

Thank you!

Why is the Creed Recited at Sunday Mass?

Have we ever really thought about what we are declaring when we all say the Creed at the Mass each Sunday? Well, the Catholic Church certainly has—and much thought, study and meaning has gone in to its development. If you have questions or want to know more about the Creed, come to: **The Creed: It’s Meaning and Our Salvation?** This discussion will take place on Tuesday, March 3rd at 7 p.m. Come with questions, come with an open mind, come with Faith. Fr. Michael will host this event in Russell Hall.

The Epiphany of the Lord

Epiphany in Greek means “manifestation”. In the West, the visit of the Magi is celebrated as the event through which the Lord was “manifested” to the pagans and, therefore, to the world. In the Eastern Church, the accent for this solemnity is on the Trinitarian “manifestation” during the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. While what is central on Christmas is the birth of the Child Jesus, on Epiphany, what is highlighted is that this poor and vulnerable Child is King and Messiah, the Lord of all the earth. With Epiphany, Isaiah’s prophecy is fulfilled, as can be discerned through the first reading: “Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come” (Is. 60:1ff). It’s as if the liturgy is saying – don’t cut yourselves off, don’t give up, don’t remain prisoners of your “convictions”, don’t be demoralized, react, “lift up your eyes”! Like the Magi, observe “the star” and you will find “the star, Jesus”.

The Magi

The Magi “raise their eyes” and set out on a journey, going where it was logical to “seek” a king, in a palace. Their arrival creates a bit of turmoil, so much so that King Herod convokes the priests and Pharisees, the experts in Sacred Scripture. They “know” that the Messiah would be born in “Bethlehem”. But their “knowing” does not go beyond. It has nothing to do with their lives, their experience. They remain stuck. They do not “get up”; they remain safe and comfortable in the palace. The Magi arrive from afar; the priests and Pharisees are already near, yet they are blinded by their knowledge, by their certainties, by their privileged positions.... It seems that God reveals Himself to those who do not bask in their own light, to those who do not seek the limelight of notoriety.

Epiphany manifests Jesus and our hearts

Epiphany not only manifests Jesus, the Son of God, but also reveals our hearts. It shows us that the Savior can be welcomed (as happened with the shepherds and the Magi) and rejected (as happened with King Herod). Let’s not hide the fact that there are aspects of “the magi” and aspects of “King Herod” in each of us. There’s a part of us ready to set out on the journey, to know and understand, to grow and improve, to surpass ourselves. But there is also a Herod in us always ready to destroy our dreams and hopes. A Herod, always ready to massacre, lurks behind our desire for what is good, beautiful and right, not wanting us to find “the Child” who can change our lives. The Magi teach us that life is a journey and that we are invited to live it as Jesus did, while the Herods of this world delude and flatter us into believing that success and power are necessary in order to exist.

The gifts

Gold and incense recall the gifts of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon, a reference we find in the Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 72). Gold represents Jesus’ kingship; incense, His divinity; myrrh, His humanity since it was a substance that was used to sprinkle over the bodies of the dead. The light of the star always leads to an act of adoration, of bowing before the mystery that has drawn near. It leads to

Continued on page 4.

Fr. Michael continued...

giving, but even more, to self-giving. It is precisely this act of “self-giving” that stops many from allowing themselves to be attracted to Jesus because it leads to the fear of losing a position, comfort, security, privileges, thus hindering them from a change of life and conversion.

Attribution, in part, Vatican News, January 2024

Faith Formation News

Helen Treacy, Faith Formation Director

(860) 658-4737, helentreacyff@gmail.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



IMPORTANT dates:

January 4th: Grades K-8, Confirmation I & II classes resume

January 11th: Grades K-8 Classes ONLY

***** Weather Closings *****

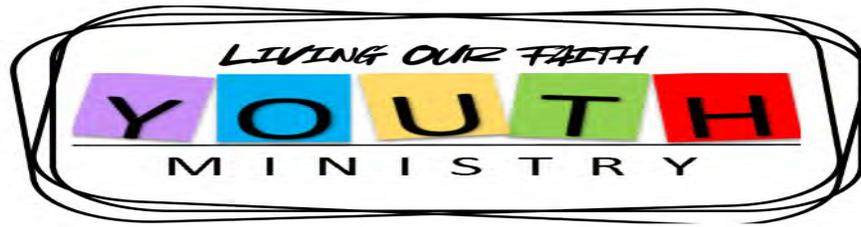
In case of inclement weather, please look to WFSB Hartford/New Haven with up-to-date information on classes & cancellations.

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.

**SOCK AND UNDERWEAR DRIVE,
NEXT WEEKEND, 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.**



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*

Warm Winter Meals with the Women's Service Ministry 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.

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!

Marriage Help Program: January 30th-Feb 1st

A happier marriage in the new year is possible! If you want to improve your marriage this local program can help. Retrouvaille®, a Catholic-based ministry, provides tools to help you communicate better, resolve conflicts, and rediscover a loving marriage. The next local weekend starts January 30th. For information, call confidentially 1(860) 837-0447, email helds4marriage@gmail.com or go to our website www.helpourmarriage.org.

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/4iw9rnO>

~NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION OPPORTUNITY~

Does your New Year's resolution include doing more to help others? We've got you covered! The St. Elizabeth House Ministry provides a meal once a month to their residents. Consider signing up to make a food donation or to donate your time.

Next date is next Sunday, January 11, 2026!

Contact Beth Bouchard with questions~
860-402-5096. For more information or to sign up, scan the QR code or follow the link!



[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-61384109-saint#/
/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-61384109-saint#/)

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 17th

***Pantry Partners
Feed the Hungry***