

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 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 25, 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](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 Music Ministry

Mrs. Susan Zybert  
860 217 0600 or [susanzybert@comcast.net](mailto:susanzybert@comcast.net)

##### Director of Youth Ministry

Ms. Maria Galeoto, 860 658 1642 or  
[mgaleotaym@stcyouthministry.org](mailto:mgaleotaym@stcyouthministry.org)

##### 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

Mr. Edward Caputo, 860 478 8017

##### 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 24th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Grade 5 Class Mass for the intention of Susan Caldwell, 10th anniversary and Hugh Jack Caldwell, 15th anniversary, requested by their family;*
- **Sunday, January 25th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Pasquale DeNovellis, requested by Peter & Lisa Sheary;*
- **Sunday, January 25th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Virginia Springfield, requested by the Lajoie Family;*
- **Monday, January 26th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Francis Devine, requested by Kathy Cochener;*
- **Monday, January 26th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Rosary;*
- **Monday, January 26th @ 6:30 p.m.** *Adoration;*
- **Tuesday, January 27th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Robert Belden, birthday remembrance, requested by his wife;*
- **Tuesday, January 27th @ 9:00 a.m.** *NO Adoration;*
- **Wednesday, January 28th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Robert Wengler, requested by the Ballenger Family;*
- **Friday, January 30th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Bob Bellacosa, 5th anniversary, requested by his family;*
- **Friday, January 30th @ 9:00 a.m.** *Chaplet/Rosary;*
- **Saturday, January 31st @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *Dominic & Rose Marandino, wedding anniversary remembrance, requested by their family;*
- **Sunday, February 1st @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *Caren Schoenberger, 1st anniversary, requested by her family; and,*
- **Sunday, February 1st @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Joseph Heiser, requested by Kathryn Rothstein.*

**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:	\$	5,603.00
Faith Direct /Parish Soft:	\$	4,072.08
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,675.08</b>

Catholic High Schools	\$	1,595.00
Various	\$	471.00
Advent Giving Tree	\$	100,565.00
<i>(Neighbors in Need, \$53, 257.50; Malta \$47,307.50)</i>		

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. If you are currently receiving church envelopes please call the office so that we may discontinue them. Thank you.



**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events  
January**

- Sat, 24th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sat, 24th—Grade 5 Class Mass, 5 p.m.
- Sat, 24th—Confirmation Q & A, RH, 6 p.m.
- Sun, 25th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 25th—Children’s Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Mon, 26th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 26th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 26th—Adoration, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 27th—NO Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 27th—OCIA, RH, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 27th—Children’s Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 27th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 28th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 28th—Jr. High Cook & Bake, RH, 6 p.m.
- Thurs, 29th—BOSTON MISSION TRIP MTG, RH, 6 P.M.
- Fri, 30th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.

**February**

- Sun, 1st—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 1st—NO Children’s Liturgy of the Word
- Sun, 1st—Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.
- Sun, 1st—Sr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**



For  
*Bob Bellacosa,*  
*5th anniversary,*  
requested by  
his family.

## Welcome Maria Galeota! New Youth Ministry Director

I am very happy to introduce and welcome Maria Galeota as St. Catherine of Siena's new director of youth ministry. Maria comes to us with lots of experience of working with youth—as a teacher in both the Catholic and public school systems, and most recently as an ESL professional in Windsor.

Maria's educational background is comprised of two B.A.'s, one in Italian and one in Spanish, from Central Connecticut State University; an M.A. (Italian) from Middlebury College; and, an M.A. (Early Childhood Education/Special Education) from University of St. Joseph. She brings excitement and enthusiasm for working with youth, and hope for the ability to help parents influence and guide our youth in the practice of the Catholic faith. Starting right off the bat, Maria is working with Manuela Hanshaw in learning the ropes at St. Catherine's youth ministry program—from programmatic ideas to planning faith and service experiences and plenty of mission trip ideas and programs.

I look forward to welcoming and working with Maria as we continue the long line of successful youth ministry here at St. Catherine of Siena Parish. *Feel free to stop by the youth ministry office and welcome Maria to our parish!*

## Third Sunday of Ordinary Time: His Call Continues Today

In our gospel this weekend (Matthew 4:12-23) Jesus hears that His friend John the Baptist has been imprisoned. He then travels to Galilee and straight away jumps into His public ministry—preaching, teaching and sanctifying—calling everyone to Repent of their sins and to follow the Gospel message. As well, He calls His Apostles to ministry, and He continues today to call disciples.

This gospel is pivotal as Jesus has an urgent message: **“Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.”** And this call is not simply about sorrow for our sins, but rather it is a call to change our hearts, to turn from things that separate us from God, and to embrace a new way of life—a life He offers to all—and a life that is actively faithful. One could (*should*) say His call is multi-faceted.

First, let us consider what the Catholic understanding and meaning of “to repent” is. There are four (4) key components to *repentance*. First, it requires contrition, a genuine sorrow for having offended God **and** for the harm caused by sinfulness. Second, confession is necessary. It isn't an option. After all, it is Christ who created and instituted our seven (7) Sacraments because He believes we need them and their grace. Admitting to our sins, in our uniquely Catholic way—private confession to a priest that is “limitedly public,” just you and the priest, where the priest acts as a mediator between the penitent and God. Third, *penance* which comes by way of performing acts assigned by the priest to make amends for our sins. And, fourth *amendment of life*, which is a firm purpose to change our actions and to avoid sin in the future. Not always easy, certainly, but when we attend confession regularly we have two forms of grace that flow from this sacrament: absolution of sins and fortifying grace to make avoiding sinning easier—the control of our passions.

Repentance is essential for receiving God's forgiveness and grace, restoring one's relationship with God and the Church community (for sin is a web that affects others). Thus, repentance, is a heartfelt conversion and commitment to spiritual renewal.

Jesus' invitation to the fisherman in our gospel of “Follow Me,” is also an invitation to you and to me as a call to be an active disciple today. He does not call us to be a side-line-sitter or an “I'll do that tomorrow” kind of Catholic. But one who Knows and Believes our faith, and so we are called to Believe it, Live it, and Share it...our faith and trust in God with our families, friends and the community-at-large.

How do we do that? Just look to the Church, look to the teachings of Christ, look to the parish ministries that offer multiple ways and opportunities to be the love, the forgiveness, the mercy, the Truth of Christ: Feeding the hungry and caring for the sick as well as teaching the ignorant; to forgive

*Continued on page 5.*

# Faith Formation News

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



## IMPORTANT dates:

January 24<sup>th</sup>: Grade 5 Class Mass

January 24<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Q & A meeting after the 5 PM Vigil Mass

January 25<sup>th</sup>: Grades K-8 Classes, Confirmation I & II

February 1<sup>st</sup>: Grades K-8 Classes ONLY

February 1<sup>st</sup>: First Holy Communion Meeting, 9:30 AM, HJMS Cafeteria

**\*\*\* 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!!**

## Lenten Bible Study: Why We're Catholic: Our Reasons for Faith, Hope, and Love

Looking to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith this Lent? Join us for a four-week Bible study based on *Why We're Catholic* by Trent Horn. Together we'll explore what the Church teaches, why it matters, and how it helps us grow as disciples of Jesus Christ—grounded in faith, strengthened by hope, and lived out in love.

**Thursday: February 26th, then Wednesdays: March 4th, 11th, 18th;  
9:30 AM or 7:00 PM in Russell Hall.**

All are welcome—whether you are new to the faith, returning to the Church, or simply seeking to understand better what we believe and why. **Facilitator: Lou Daniels, Th.M.**

Sharing LOVE Workshop: Join the Women's Service Ministry on Tuesday February 3rd at 9:15 a.m. in Russell Hall to create valentine gifts and cards for children in the hospital. Come join the fun! Refreshments served. Call Diane Whittemore, if you can attend, to register at 860-913-0241.

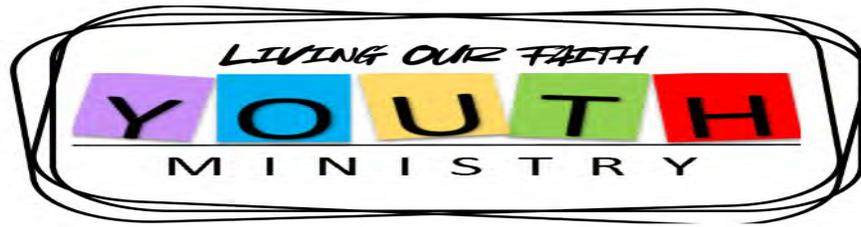
**Senior Winter Pancake Breakfast, Friday, February 6th-** Gather with your friends for a delicious pancake breakfast. Sponsored by the Men's Ministry. Please call Diane Whittemore with any questions, 860-913-0241. Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign-up. Thank you!

[Senior Winter Pancake Breakfast](#)

## March 13th-15th, 2026 Pilgrims of Hope Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center

We invite you to join us this year at Holy Family for your annual retreat as we celebrate our **75th anniversary of ministry**. Together, as part of God's beloved creation, we can pursue that blessed goal – life with God as beloved companions and pilgrims of hope.

Visit [holymfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats](http://holymfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats) for more info and to register. Generous scholarships available. contact our registrar Ted at 860.760.9705. Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center - West Hartford, CT.



## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

Join us **THIS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th** from 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena for our first **2026 Cook and Bake**. Let's cook for local families in need. We will also work on a small service project. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.** We provide the recipes, the ingredients and the step-by-step instructions. **YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND** this program. **PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AND WELCOME.** Please use this link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/49fLbDq>

Please join us on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th** from 6-8:30 p.m. for a **FRIENDLY FEUD TOURNAMENT**. Sign up for a team or come as a spectator and cheer your team on. This event is open to all parishioners 5-105 years old, and is expected to be a fun evening filled with lots of laughs and more. Light refreshments will be served. Sign up using this link to register now, or pick up a flyer in the Atrium or Vestibule.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EABA929A4F5CF8-61810729-friendly#/>

*Please be sure to follow us on Instagram at  
stcatherine\_youthministry*

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

### INFORMATION MEETING—BOSTON MISSION TRIP

I am excited to announce that our **Boston Mission Trip** will take place this year. Please join us this **Thursday, January 29th** from 6-7 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena to learn about our Boston Mission Trip and receive an application. **One parent is required to attend with one teen.**

With the transition of our **new Director of Youth Ministry, Ms. Maria Galeota**, be prepared for a fast timeline for turning in paperwork, unlike prior years.

Commitments include that all teens that plan to attend the trip will need to sign up for one or more Masses on the weekend of February 21st to help with collections, our Silent Auction and bake sale. There are no exceptions to this if you plan to participate on the trip. Teens are also expected to bake for the bake sale. More details will be provided at our information meeting this Thursday.

Please join us on **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6th** from 6-8:30 p.m. for a **FRIENDLY FEUD TOURNAMENT**. Sign up for a team or come as a spectator and cheer your team on. This event is open to all parishioners 5-105 years old, and is expected to be a fun evening filled with lots of laughs and more. Light refreshments will be served. Sign up using this link to register now, or pick up a flyer in the Atrium or Vestibule.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084EABA929A4F5CF8-61810729-friendly#/>

## **Fr. Michael continued.**

our spouses, children and parents, our friends and our foes, our political opponents, and those who do not believe in what we believe; to continue to speak Truth when the world and culture around you calls you a bigot or racist because you believe life is sacred and has rights, or that confusion over biology isn't a choice, but rather is a biological truth and one that needs compassion and assistance in the midst of confusion. Truth can be hard to speak and to hear, but the difficulty in proclaiming the Truth doesn't make it less True. I guess we can call that a "hard fact of life."

Again, this isn't easy. Truth isn't easy. But one thing Truth always does is to seek the excellence of the other. And falsehoods don't, they just appear to make a hard situation somewhat easier for a short period of time. But the Truth is always there and has to be acknowledge and accepted if that is indeed what we want: Christ's Truth.

The answer to this difficulty is to pray, to speak with God, and to come closer to Him and have Him come closer to us. You see, the greatest of the Divine Attributes of God is Forgiveness and Mercy, for they show that His Call—His Forgiveness and Mercy—is for everyone. Even, and especially, for those we might not think deserve it.

# NOURISH WITH *Hope*



## SPREAD VALENTINE'S LOVE



Thinking of helping others for Valentine's Day?

The St. Elizabeth House Ministry provides dinner once a month.  
Consider signing up to make a food donation or donating your time!

Next date is **February 8th, 2026!**

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



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-61702387-saint#/>

### ***Pantry Partners***

Each month, the Pantry Partners Ministry supplements food for local individuals and families who are in need. With rising food prices, this ministry is especially important to relieve food insecurity.

***The next distribution date is February 21st.***

**FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat., February 21st. Please sign up by Weds., February 18th. Thanks for volunteering, "Your reward in Heaven will be great!"**  
There are 4 ways to help:

1. **Serve Lunch In-Person:** Carpool from St. Catherine at 9:45 a.m. to St. Elizabeth 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 hot dish:** We'll supply the ingredients for you to make a hot dish at home for us to bring to Hartford. Pick up the ingredients on Thursday, 2/19 at Fitzgeralds and drop off the hot meal to Russell Hall kitchen on Saturday, 2/21 between 8:30-9:30 a.m. We'll contact you ahead of time with the recipe and more information if you haven't done this before.
3. **Make Cupcakes:** Make 12 cupcakes and drop off on Sat, 2/21 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30 a.m.
4. **Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

# Soup Sale

**Drive-Thru Pick up 12pm - 3pm**

## February 20<sup>th</sup>

Roasted Tomato \$20.00  Broccoli/Cheddar \$15.00  NE Clam Chowder \$20.00 

Little Sisters of The Poor  
1365 Enfield Street - Enfield, CT 06082  
860-265-1872



32oz

Place orders Online: <https://LSPsoup26.givesmart.com>



Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchFeb21>

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