

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



Saint Catherine

Roman Catholic Church of Siena

The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 8, 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:

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 Music Ministry

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

Director of Youth Ministry

Ms. Maria Galeota, 860 658 1642 or
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, February 7th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Eileen Adams, 10th anniversary*, requested by Nancy, Craig & Ryan Taylor;
- Sunday, February 8th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *90th birthday blessings for Barbara Hopkins*,
- Sunday, February 8th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Julia McCabe*, requested by Steve & Lisa Cerchia;
- Monday, February 9th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Alice Burk* requested by Angela Caruso;
- Tuesday, February 10th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Patricia Ann Braunstein*, requested by the Neureither Family;
- Wednesday, February 11th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Albert Wallace*, requested by Elizabeth;
- Friday, February 13th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Elaine Lyons*, requested by Fr. Whyte;
- Saturday, February 14th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Jim Neagle, 30th anniversary*, requested by his family;
- Sunday, February 15th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *James Salerno, 10th anniversary*, requested by his family; and,
- Sunday, February 15th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Sheila DeDominicus*, requested by Chris & Tom Tanski.

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:	\$	6,086.38
Faith Direct /Parish Soft:	\$	4,072.08
Total:	\$	10,158.46
Annual stock donations	\$	34,559.52
Annual donation	\$	1,560.00
Boston Mission Trip	\$	2,526.00
Various	\$	185.00

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. If



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

Please call the office, 658-1642, if you contribute through regular church envelopes and would like a year-end tax statement.



Sanctuary Lamp

For
*Successful treatments
 for a parishioner.*

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events
February**

- Sat, 7th—Service Project, 9 a.m.—11 noon.
- Sat, 7th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 8th—Coffee & Donuts, RH, 9 a.m. & 12 noon.
- Sun, 8th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 8th—Children’s Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 8th—St. Elizabeth House, prkng lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Mon, 9th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 9th—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 9th—Adoration, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 10th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 10th—OCIA, Rooney- A, 6 p.m.
- Tues, 10th—Children’s Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 10th—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 11th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 13th—Chaplet & Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 14th—Service Project, 9 a.m.—11 noon.
- Sat, 14th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 15th—*NO Faith Formation, No CLW*
- Mon, 16th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 16th—Prayer Shawl, Rooney-A, 3:00 p.m.
- Mon, 16th—No Confession, No Adoration (Holiday)
- Tues, 17th—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 17th—Prayer Shawl, Rooney-A, 6:30 p.m.

**Connecticut March for Life,
 Wednesday, March 18th
*Life is a gift from God***

**March for Life around Bushnell Park
 A bus will leave St. Ann Church, Avon at 10:15 p.m.
 Rally at the Capitol at noon.
 March is at 1:00 p.m.
 Return to St. Ann around 3:00 p.m.
 No cost for the bus, but sign up will be required.
 Sign up info will be available soon.**

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: *A Catholics Mission and Identity*

Matthew's Gospel calls us to consider our mission and identity as Christ's disciples. Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world." What does He mean that we are to be the salt and light of the world? What spiritual implications are embedded in these phrases? What are their meanings?

First, in the ancient world, salt was precious—not just for flavoring food but for preserving it, preventing corruption. Similarly, as Christians we are called to be a preserving influence and agent in the world, our families, and society and culture around us. Our faith should enhance the lives of those around us, especially our children and friends, bringing out their goodness as well as in preventing their moral decay. Jesus also warns us that when "salt" loses its flavor—i.e., if you and I lose our zeal for the gospels—then what are we good for? To paraphrase St. Paul, *why win the wrong race?* If we fail to live according to Christ's teachings, we then risk becoming ineffective witnesses, thus we become faithfully lukewarm, and we know how Jesus felt about faith that was lukewarm.

Secondly, Jesus asks us to be the "light of the world." Light dispels darkness and like a good coastal light house, guides the way through the storms of life. Our individual and institutional Catholic faith is not meant to be hidden, but rather our faith and prayer life and our works of charity and acts of kindness, our forgiveness as well as our search for justice is meant to illuminate the presence of God in our world. What good is it to have the gift of faith yet never unwrap it and show it off? Christ urges us to let our light shine in the world around us "so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." As the Holy Church says, our lives are a reflection of God's love; through us, others are drawn to Him.

Reflecting on these two images, salt and light, let us consider the following: Are we truly salt and light in our families, workplaces, schools and communities? Are we preserving and defending the values of the Gospel through our speech and action, thus illuminating the path to Christ for others? And if not, what shall we say to Jesus on the Last Day as we stand eyeball-to-eyeball with Him? Let us now pray for the wisdom and courage to live-out our baptismal call with renewed zeal, so that we may be effective witnesses to His love, mercy and goodness. After all, we know that a salt-free diet isn't worth eating and a dark room can be a fall about to happen.

Reminder



Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are being trained on February 21st, with lectors meeting between 10 and 11 a.m. and EMOHC between 9 and 10:30 a.m. I invite those who wish to learn more about these two ministries to reach out to me, 658 1642 or after Mass, or simply come to the church at the above times to learn more about these vital ministries. Thank you!

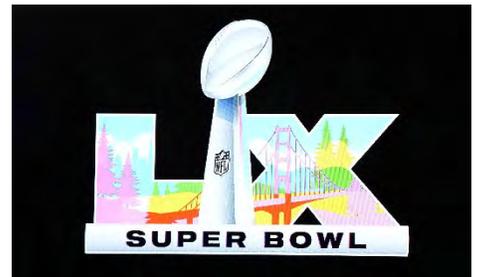


Help support our Youth Ministry

Kindly support our Youth Ministry Boston Mission Trip either through the second collection (February 1st with envelopes being accepted anytime) or through the auction and bake sale, February 21st through February 23rd, 10 a.m. Thank you for supporting our youth in building up our parish and the Catholic faith.

Faith Formation News

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



IMPORTANT dates:

February 8th: SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY!!!

Bring a non-perishable item, i.e. SOUP and vote for the winner of SUPER BOWL LX with your donation!! Grades K-8 Classes ONLY.

February 15th: NO CLASSES (President's Day)

***** 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!!



Summer Camp - Vacation Bible School

Grades: K-5

Dates: June 22-26

Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$65/person

Location: Saint Catherine of Siena Church,
267 Stratton Brook Road, West Simsbury, CT 06092

Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with rushing waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful flowers and wild creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

Sign up [Here](#) or scan the QR Code!

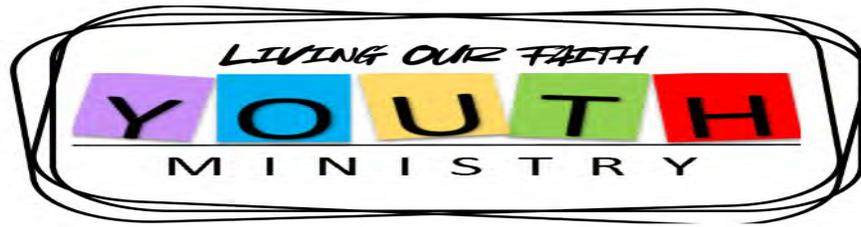


Lenten Bible Study: Why We're Catholic: Our Reasons for Faith, Hope, and Love

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.



ALL YOUTH MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE TEEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS-

FATHER MICHAEL INVITES ALL TEENS FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20th from 6-9 PM at St. Catherine of Siena—TEEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FOLLOWED BY GAME NIGHT AND DESSERT BAR. Teens are asked to hold a candle, hold the cross, read a station, hand out programs, or just attend. **IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING**, join us in Russell Hall for an amazing selection of desserts, games and prizes. **Earn Confirmation Service Hours.** Sign up here:



TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP DELIVER VALENTINES TO OUR MOST SENIOR PARISHIONERS BEFORE FEBRUARY 14th!! Teens will not only be delivering Valentines but also charity in the visit itself-sharing smiles, joy, and reminding our cherished seniors that they are a beloved and important part of our parish family. These moments of connection bring warmth and gratitude to all involved. **Earn Confirmation Service Hours too!** Sign up here —>><https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EA5AF2EABFEC07-61909493-valentine>

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

SAVE THE DATE TEEN READER- One teen reader is needed for each of the three Masses to talk about the Mission Trip, Silent Auction and bake sale to our parishioners, while asking for support on Saturday evening Mass February 21st at 5:00 PM and at both Sunday morning Masses, 8:30 and 11:00 AM on February 22nd. This is one of the REQUIREMENTS if you want to go on the Boston Mission Trip!

CALLING ALL BOSTON MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANTS!!- Your COMPLETED form-Your deposit check, your application, and your personal service flyer (one paper copy and one electronic copy) is due to Maria Galeota, Director of Youth Ministry, by no later than Tuesday February 10, 2026, no exceptions.

Please be sure to follow us on Instagram at

stcatherine_youthministry



BOSTON MISSION TRIP SILENT AUCTION AND BAKE SALE will be held on Saturday, February 21st and Sunday, February 22nd at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish—please look for flyers and signs in the parish and consider supporting our fundraiser. Teens will be auctioning off services and preparing baked goods in exchange for donations.

The Silent Auction will close promptly at 10:00 a.m. on Monday.



Youth Ministry Boston Mission Trip Hoodies for the Homeless

From March 12th to March 15th, a group of youth ministry teens will be traveling to Boston for our annual Mission Trip to help with a variety of service projects at various worksites such as a church, shelter, food bank or non-profit agency. The purpose of these projects is not simply to perform tasks, but to provide a unique opportunity to visit unfamiliar neighborhoods and experience what it means to serve others. **Beginning February 21th through February 28th**, we are collecting **HOODIES** for the homeless, sizes **medium - XXXXL**. Thank you for your support of our Youth Ministry Mission Trip. Collections boxes are located in both the Atrium and the Vestibule.



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

***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.

FEBRUARY STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

February sandwiches will be collected Saturday, February 21st, Sunday, February 22nd from 9-6 p.m., and Monday, February 23rd, 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 use this link to sign up to help:

<https://bit.ly/3O78FCk>

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

Questions? Contact Rich Sickinger at 860-558-6940. richsickinger@gmail.com.