

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 Second Sunday of Lent

March 1, 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](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 Galeota, 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, February 28th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Grade 4 Class Mass; For Jerry Winters, 2nd anniversary*, requested by his family;
- Sunday, March 1st @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Billy Dazzo, birthday remembrance*, requested by Eileen Keller;
- Sunday, March 1st @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Cynthia Foristel*, requested by Steve & Lisa Cerchia;
- Monday, March 2nd @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Gwen Berry, birthday remembrance*, requested by her family;
- Tuesday, March 3rd @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Linette Harvey*, requested by Lyn Brucker;
- Wednesday, March 4th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *George Zachmann*, requested by Chrissy Kalinoski;
- Friday, March 6th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Bob Belden*, requested by the Champagney Family;
- Saturday, March 7th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Bill & Eileen Adams, birthday remembrances*, requested by Craig, Nancy & Ryan Taylor;
- Sunday, March 8th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Dorothy Ann Dodd O'Meara, 2nd anniversary*, requested by her family; and,
- Sunday, March 8th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Peter Zahorodni, 1st anniversary*, 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!*

*Please use either our online giving company, Parish Soft, the collection basket or mail your envelope to:  
Post Office Box 184, West Simsbury, Conn. 06092*

Weekly Loose Cash/Checks:	\$	5,644.00
Parish Soft:	\$	4,072.08
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,716.00</b>

Central & Eastern Europe	\$	1,514.00
Annual donation	\$	2,000.00
R&R additional	\$	417.00

**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.

**Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events  
February**

- Sat, 28th—St. Augustine Talk, RH, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 28th—NEW EM Training, Church, 9 a.m.,  
NEW Lector Training, 11 a.m.
- Sat, 28th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sat, 28th—Grade 4 Class Mass, 5 p.m.

**March**

- Sun, 1st—Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.
- Sun, 1st—Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.
- Sun, 1st—Confirmation Retreat/RH, 1p.m.
- Sun, 1st—Sally Brothers Concert/Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Mon, 2nd—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 2nd—Confession, Church, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 2nd—Jr. High Youth Ministry, RH, 6 p.m.
- Mon, 2nd—Adoration, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 3rd—Adoration, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 3rd—Children's Choir, MR, 6:30 p.m.
- Tues, 3rd—Discussion on the Creed, RH, 7 p.m.
- Tues, 3rd—Adult Choir, Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed, 4th—Rosary, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 4th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 4th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 7 p.m.
- Thurs, 5th—Rehearsal for Living Stations, 6 p.m.
- Fri, 6th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 6th—Living Stations of the Cross, Church, 7 p.m.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

For  
*Msgr. Charles W. Daly,*  
*10th anniversary,*  
requested by Pat & Ed Pabich.



**LENTEN MERCY PROJECT WEEK 3  
MARCH 7th & 8th- Lifesong Ministry**

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS  
AT 2 A.M. ON MARCH 8TH.  
DON'T FORGET TO  
TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR!**

## Are we crossing the “Mercy Bridge?”

On Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, in the Gospel of Luke (6:36) we shall hear the words “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” And, according to the late Pope Francis, this is an invitation to cross what he called the “mercy bridge,” offering an understanding of a way to both encounter Christ’s mercy and to share His mercy with another. As we enter into the second week of Lent, and as we live in a world that is unforgiving more times than not, the late Pope Francis used to say “God’s mercy is everything. It is in the air we breathe.” He also described God’s mercy as a bridge that connects us to God, “Not one bridge among many, but the bridge between us and God.” We are called to cross that bridge every day receiving God’s mercy and then return over it to offer our mercy to others. How much better would our world—and nation—be if we were a more forgiving people? How much better would our home life be, if we forgave our parents, children, spouses, in-laws and neighbors?

Forgiveness does not mean accepting what someone does, what they said, or how they act, but it is a way to “re-set” a relationship, by **talking rather than yelling or hating someone; rather we are called to understand them, maybe not accept the word or action, but move forward in love and forgiveness with understanding that while I do not like what you said or did, I do not—and am not called—to hate you.** The corporal works of mercy include feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead (here is a shout-out to our Lenten Mercy Project for Lent) – **but** we can also add to that list by extending our forgiveness and mercy to those in need, especially in our homes and community. Let us attempt to kick-off the second week of Lent from the Mercy Bridge, and let’s begin that at home.

## Lent Week 2: Transformed by a Change of Heart

In the Matthean account of the Transfiguration, Jesus illustrates His Divinity and the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets proclaiming a call to listen and follow; He prepares us for suffering, and He invites us to be transformed—into Christ’s own disciples.

The Transfiguration is a luminous revelation of the divinity of Jesus—He is both God and Man; it is meant to strengthen our faith, as it did for His apostles, for our trials ahead. Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophet, the Old Covenant, which are the pillars of faith. Jesus is the fulfillment of them—the OT—and of the promises of God to the Jewish people. The Father’s Voice commands the apostles—and us—to “...listen to Him.” In this “listening” we are called to obey Jesus and His teachings, to Trust in His Word, and to follow. The Transfiguration is a moment of Glory, and then He tells His apostles not to tell anyone as He will now prepare them for the sufferings they shall endure. Like the apostles, we too shall endure sufferings for our beliefs: Ridicule from friends and family, from society—culture, television and movies, even from some government officials. But, in obedience to Him, we shall endure those challenges and preserve in-and-through the hardships. Finally, there is the invitation to Transformation: this Transformation points to the destiny that awaits all who follow Christ. If we accept being transformed by grace, and thus become radiant witnesses of-and-to His love, our beliefs must become our deeds.

**Are you tired of being cold and can’t afford a trip to Florida or the Caribbean? We have a solution—join the gals that wash and iron the church linens and warm yourself up! We would love to have some new members.**

**For information call Kathy, 860-658-9652;  
Marghan, 203-570-4198; or Maryellen, 860-996-0652.  
Thank you!**



# Faith Formation News

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



## IMPORTANT dates:

**March 1<sup>st</sup>: Grades K- 8 Classes resume**

**March 1<sup>st</sup>: Confirmation I, II (MANDATORY) Retreat @ 1-7PM**  
**(8<sup>th</sup> Grade students are welcome to join in)**

**(Concert begins at 7:30 PM for all students and Parish in the church)**

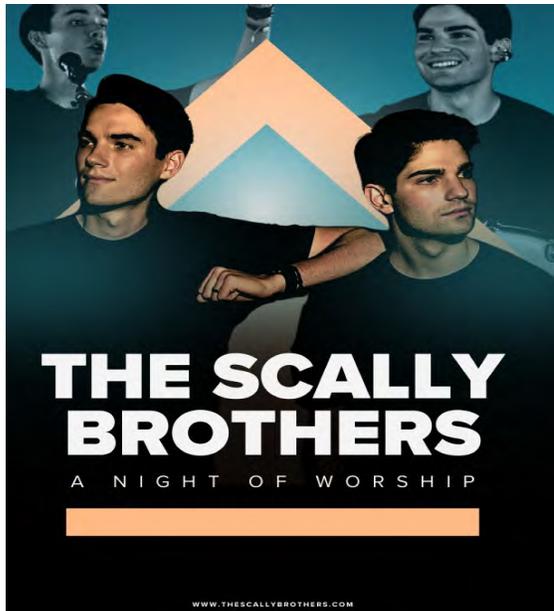
**March 5<sup>th</sup>: Grade 8 Living Stations of the Cross Rehearsal from 6-8PM**

**March 6<sup>th</sup>: Grade 8 Living Stations of the Cross at 7PM**

**March 8<sup>th</sup>: Grades K-8, Confirmation I & II Classes resume**

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

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



## Scally Brothers:

### Open Invite to Parishioners

Our Parish will celebrate our Confirmation Retreat on March 1<sup>st</sup>, from 1:00 –7:00 p.m. with guest retreat leader Braden Johnson, illustrating to our Confirmands that Christ is their friend, helper and guide. Joining Braden, the Scally Brothers will lead our teens in praise and worship of God and His Love. After the retreat Mass, our parish will host a concert Sunday night from 7:30-8:30 p.m. and this praise and worship concert is open to all. Please join us and bring your family!

Brought to you by the generosity of our parishioners and Forward with Faith.

**Connecticut March for Life, Wed., 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.*

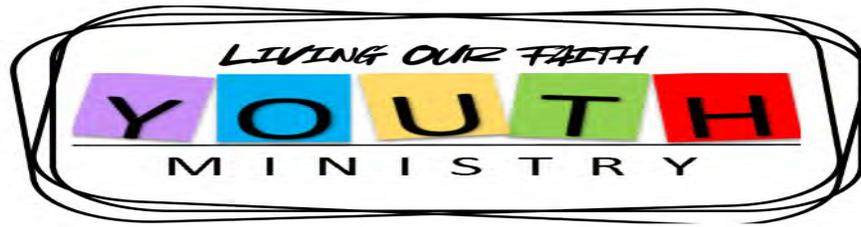
*March is at 1:00 p.m.*

*Return to St. Ann around 3:00 p.m.*

*No cost for the bus, but sign up will be required.*

*Sign up sheets are in our church atrium.*

**HELPING HANDS NEEDED**-please join the women's service ministry on Sunday March 8th in Russell Hall from 2-4 p.m. for a hands on experience. We will be making travel size pillows, care bags filled with daily necessities and encouraging note cards for neighbors in need. Come enjoy time together helping others. Refreshments served. All are welcome! Mark your calendar and call Diane Whittemore at 860 913-0241. God bless.



## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY MARCH 8th-BOSTON MISSION TRIP PRE TRIP MEETING** at 9:15 a.m. in Russell Hall. We will meet for breakfast and to cover some important information, then attend Mass at 11 a.m. and receive Father's blessing at that time. **If you are attending this trip, this meeting is required, including for chaperones.**

**Calling all high schoolers!** In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love. Join the Archdiocese of Hartford and hundreds of Catholic teens at **Steubenville EAST** in **Springfield, MA** on **July 24-26, 2026** to be transformed by the love of Christ. All rising freshmen in high school through rising freshmen in college are invited to attend this retreat with our group. More information to come! Sign up here → <https://forms.gle/U6Piay6yWqsKepmz9>



## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

**SAVE THE DATE** Join us March 2nd, 6-8 p.m. in Russell Hall at St. Catherine of Siena for a **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.** <https://bit.ly/4tK6FAs>



**SAVE THE DATE: WEDNESDAY March 25th—MAKE YOUR OWN PIZZA NIGHT, while we make Easter Baskets for children that are living in shelters.** We will meet at St. Catherine of Siena in Russell Hall from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.! Gluten free crust is available. Join us for an evening of faith, fun friendship. **WHAT TO BRING:** Please bring items to help stuff the baskets. We will provide the basket and grass. Sign up here <https://bit.ly/4asybuL>

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

## 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. **Facilitators:** Fr. Whyte & Lou Daniels, Th.M.

## The Spirituality and Wisdom of St. Augustine

Please join us on Saturday, February 28th, 9 a.m. in Russell Hall for a discussion on how to follow the teachings and wisdom of Saint Augustine which can help us to draw closer to God.  
**Presenter: Mike Manza**

# NOURISH WITH *Hope*



Need something to do in March? Help others!

**St. Catherine of Siena** provides dinner once a month to residents at the **St. Elizabeth House** in Hartford.  
Consider signing up to make a food donation or donating your time!

**Next date is March 8, 2026!**

Contact Nancy Kostal with questions~ 860-655-5033

For more information or to sign up, follow the link or scan the QR code!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-62313897-saint#/>

**FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat, March 21st. Please sign up by Weds, March 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's at 9:45 am to St. Elizabeth's 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, 3/19 at Fitzgeralds and drop off the hot meal to Russell Hall kitchen on Saturday, 3/21 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, 3/21 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30am.
4. **Make sandwiches:** Please see the weekly bulletin "Street Sandwich Ministry" section to sign-up.

Sign Up at <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchMarch21>

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

**The next Pantry Partners distribution is March 21st.**

**This ministry provides fresh fruit, vegetables, and protein to over 30 local families. Thank you for your continued support!**