

For our homebound and sick parishioners:  
Livestream our 11 a.m. Mass at [stcatherine.info](http://stcatherine.info)



# Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

The Third Sunday of Lent

March 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](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, 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;
- **Sunday, March 8th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Peter Zahorodni, 1st anniversary*, requested by his family;
- **Monday, March 9th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Tommy Tanski, birthday remembrance*, requested by his family;
- **Tuesday, March 10th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Alice Burk*, requested by Angela Caruso;
- **Wednesday, March 11th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Mark Pilon, anniversary*, requested by his family;
- **Friday, March 13th @ 8:30 a.m.** Mass for *Margaret Sennott, birthday remembrance*, requested by the her family;
- **Saturday, March 14th @ 5:00 p.m.** Mass for *William Benoit, 9th anniversary*, requested by Jill Perreault;
- **Sunday, March 15th @ 8:00 a.m.** Mass for *John Raymond*, requested by his family; and,
- **Sunday, March 15th @ 11:00 a.m.** Mass for *Anthony Gerard Walsh*, requested by his family.



**Sanctuary Lamp**

For  
***Special Intention for  
Parishioner healing.***

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

**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:	\$	6,765.00
Parish Soft:	\$	4,072.08
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,837.00</b>
Repair & Refurbishment	\$	3,881.36
Various	\$	155.00

**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**

**March**

- Sat, 7th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 8th—DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS, 2 a.m.
- Sun, 8th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
- Sun, 8th—Mission Trip Meeting, RH, 9:15 a.m.
- Sun, 8th—Children's Liturgy of the Word, RH, 11 a.m.
- Sun, 8th—Living Your Faith, Rooney-A, 12 noon
- Sun, 8th—Pillow Making, RH, 2 p.m.
- Sun, 8th—St. Elizabeth House, parking lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Sun, 8th—Confirmation, 1 & 2, RH, 6 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, 9 a.m.
- Wed, 11th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 9:30 a.m.
- Wed, 11th—Lenten Bible Study, RH, 7 p.m.
- Thurs, 12th-Sun, 15th—Boston Mission Trip
- Fri, 13th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 13th—Stations of the Cross, Church, 7 p.m.
- Sat, 14th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.

## Third Sunday of Lent

The Samaritan women, Jacob's well, and Jesus as **the** gift. This gospel is rich in meaning and symbolism, and offers multiple lessons for our Lenten journey.

First, Jesus breaks down social barriers as He, a Jew, and a Samaritan woman, normally would not associate with each other—religiously or in a social setting—it would have been unheard of, it was taboo. It was normally uncommon for a man to speak publicly with a woman—especially a woman with a complicated background. Jews and Samaritans didn't socialize. Yet, Jesus approaches her with compassion and openness. This is meant to remind us that the love of Christ knows no boundaries, no matter our past or background, race or anything else. He also reaches out to each of us with mercy and compassion in our situations.

Second, Jesus offers this woman "living water," not just a cup of cold water on a hot day. His water is truly refreshing, healing and life-giving. In fact, this is meant to illustrate to us that true satisfaction, what really matters in this life, comes not from worldly things but from a personal relationship with Christ.

The Samaritan women's transformation is also powerful. From someone marginalized and burdened by her past, she becomes an evangelist who joyfully proclaims Jesus to her whole town. So, engaging with Jesus can—and will—change us profoundly. This illustrates that we too are invited to witness to Christ and His Good News, sharing the joy of His love with others.

Finally, the gospel ends with many non-believers believing in Jesus because of her testimony—and of their own experience with His Word, Truth! Faith comes from a personal encounter with Jesus and through community and witnessing. So, as we reflect on this gospel during this Lenten time, we should ask ourselves: Are we open to breaking down the barriers—religious and social—that separate us from others? Are we thirsting for living water—that only Christ can give—more than "vitamin" water or some other substitute tonic? And, are we willing to witness to and share our faith boldly for the building up of His Kingdom, so that others may be drawn to Him? Remember the possible question Jesus might ask us at the Pearly Gates on Judgment Day: *I gave you life, what have you given Me?*

LENTEN MERCY PROJECT WEEK 4  
MARCH 14th & 15th

*Chrysalis Center*

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

March 15th: NO CLASSES

March 22nd: Grades K-8, Confirmation I & II Classes

March 27th: Grade 3 Stations of the Cross @ 7PM (3rd Grade students arrive at 5:30 PM)

### \*\*\* 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!!

**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.

**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.*

**It's that time of year again to celebrate our ever popular and most loved Alleluia Party!** We are looking for three or four parishioners who would be interested in assisting with the set-up of the party the morning of Saturday, April 4th. All are welcomed. The Alleluia party is celebrated directly after the Easter Vigil Mass in Russell Hall. Please contact Lourdes Pincus at 203-241-8348. Thank you kindly.

## Summer Camp - Vacation Bible School

Grades: K-5

Dates: June 22-26

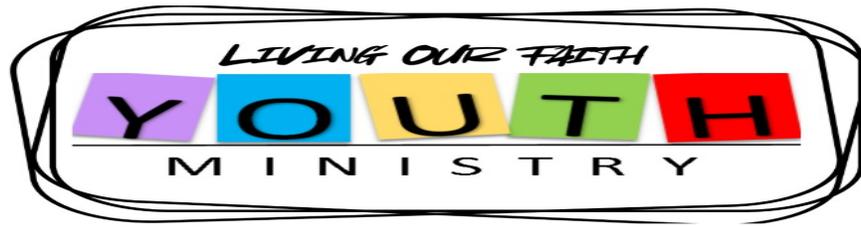
Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Cost: \$65/person

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



CT



## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY

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: 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)*

**Scones For Sale**  
Sales ends March 16, 2026

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

**March 17th**

**Drive-Thru**

Pick up - 10am - 4pm

Order Online <https://LSPScones26.givesmart.com>  
Or Call 860-265-1872 to pre-order

Raisin    Cranberry    Strawberry    Blueberry    Chocolate Chip

**\$5.00/ea**

All women of the parish are invited to join our 6 week Women's Ministry **Spring Bible Study**. There are 2 sessions from which to choose. Beginning **Tuesday April 7th from 7-8 p.m.**, led by Diane Lipari, we will study the topic of **Forgiveness**. Beginning **Wednesday April 8th from 9:30-11 a.m.**, led by Theresa Bellacosa and Judy Manza, **Women of the New Testament** will be the study. Details about each study and book purchase can be found on SignUp Genius: <https://bit.ly/3OHVgRH>

**Lenten Bible Study: Why We're Catholic: Our Reasons for Faith, Hope, and Love** continues Wednesdays: March 11th and 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.

# 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->



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!

**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)

**MARCH STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY-Sandwiches will be collected Sat., March 21st, Sun., March 22nd from 9-6 p.m., and Mon., March 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. TO SIGN UP, PLEASE USE THIS LINK:**

<https://bit.ly/404Fq6f> Any questions, please contact Manuela Hanshaw at [Manuelahanshawm@gmail.com](mailto:Manuelahanshawm@gmail.com)