

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



Saint Catherine of Siena

Roman Catholic Church

The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 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.

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, July 4th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Scott Cooper*, requested by Susan & Jody Cranmore;
- Sunday, July 5th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *James Salerno*, birthday remembrance, requested by his family;
- Sunday, July 5th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Taz Petersen*, requested by Kathryn Rothstein;
- Monday, July 6th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Kevin Jermainne*, requested by the Neureither Family;
- Tuesday, July 7th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Kevin Macbeth*, birthday remembrance, requested by his friends;
- Wednesday, July 8th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *David E. Halloran*, requested by Mark McGrath;
- Friday, July 10th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *AnneMarie Sheary*, requested by her family;
- Saturday, July 11th @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Rita Cestone*, requested by Elizabeth Giacomia;
- Sunday, July 12th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Living Members of the Bergsma Family*, requested by the Kostelni Family; and,
- Sunday, July 13th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Myles McCabe*, birthday blessings.

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:	\$ 4,370.51
Parish Soft:	\$ 4,072.08
Total:	\$ 8,442.51

Peter's Pence	\$ 2,078.00
R & R: (add'l)	\$ 70.00
Ascension: (add'l)	\$ 20.00

***Next Weekend's Second Collection
is for Repair & Refurbishment.***

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.

Sanctuary Lamp

For

**Our Country,
on its
250th
birthday**



Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

July

- Sat, 4th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Mon, 6th—Office closed due to the holiday,
No Confession, No Adoration.
- Mon, 6th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 7th—NO Adoration, Church, 9 a.m. (funeral)
- Wed, 8th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 10th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 11th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sun, 12th—*Homebound Communion*, 12:30 p.m.
- Sun, 12th—St. Elizabeth House, parking lot, 3:30 p.m.
- Mon, 13th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Mon, 13th—NO Confession, NO Adoration
- Tues, 14th—NO Adoration, 9 a.m.
- Tues, 14th—Cantor Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
- Wed, 15th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
- Fri, 17th—Chaplet, Church, 9 a.m.
- Sat, 18th—Feed the Hungry
- Sat, 18th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
- Sat, 25th—Pantry Partners, Vestibule, 9 a.m.

More, More, More



More on Catholic Traditions

Catholic traditions encompass liturgical practices, sacraments, devotions, feast days, and cultural customs that connect believers to their faith and community.

Core Liturgical Traditions

The Mass is the central act of Catholic worship, celebrated daily in churches worldwide. It includes prayers, Scripture readings, the Eucharist, and blessings, rooted in Jesus' instruction at the Last Supper: "Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians). The Eucharist (Holy Communion) is a key sacrament, professed to be the real presence of Christ—His body, blood, soul, and divinity—uniting believers with Him.

Sacraments and Reconciliation

Catholicism recognizes seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony. Confession (Reconciliation) allows Catholics to seek forgiveness through a priest, following Jesus' teaching: "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (John 20:21–23). These sacraments mark key moments in a Catholic's spiritual life and provide a structured path for spiritual growth.

Popular Devotions

Catholics engage in devotional practices such as the Rosary, novenas, and prayers to saints. While some, like the Rosary, developed in the Middle Ages and are not directly mentioned in the Bible, they serve as tools for meditation and intercession. Devotions often reflect cultural and historical influences, helping believers deepen their faith and maintain a sense of spiritual discipline.

Feast Days and Liturgical Calendar

The liturgical year organizes the Church's celebrations around the life of Jesus, including Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost. Feast days honor saints and significant events, fostering community and continuity across generations. These observances combine prayer, ritual, and often local cultural traditions.

Cultural and Historical Customs

Some Catholic customs, such as the concept of Purgatory or priestly celibacy, developed over centuries and are not explicitly found in Scripture but reflect theological reflection and Church tradition. Religious art, architecture, and music also play a role in expressing faith and enhancing worship experiences.

Summary

Catholic traditions are a blend of biblically rooted practices and historically developed customs, encompassing worship, sacraments, devotions, feast days, and cultural expressions. They provide spiritual nourishment, a sense of community, and continuity of faith across generations, making Catholicism both a religious and cultural experience.

More on Ministry Needs

As I mentioned a week or two ago, we are in need of a few people who would like to build a team to run and oversee our parish's Street Sandwich Ministry (SSM). I have one person who would like to be involved with a few others to make this ministry continue. If people are uninterested, perhaps then the ministry has run its course?

Continued on next page.

What is involved?

- The SSM takes place once a month, the third weekend of the month, and provides sandwiches to multiple homeless shelters in the greater Hartford area.
- All sandwiches are made by parishioners in the homes and are dropped off at the church kitchen on Saturday and Sunday between 8 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and on Monday morning until 10 a.m.
- The SSM leaders divide the sandwiches by shelter on the kitchen counter.
- The SSM leaders post the collection dates and times in the bulletin for the weekend we collect them, schedules a Constant Contact to the parish, and creates the sign-up genius for people to register so that we know how many sandwiches we have.
- Volunteers then collect the sandwiches at 10 a.m. Monday and deliver the sandwiches to assigned shelters based on need.
- We repeat the process once-a-month, 12 times per year.

This ministry is important as many shelters close during the day—even in the winter—requiring the homeless to go out onto the streets until nighttime. Our sandwiches are provided to the homeless for lunch as they are on the streets. In the summer months, shelters actually see a large increase in children in need, especially in urban areas, when public schools no longer provide free lunches to the poor.

If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please speak to me after Mass, call the parish office, are stop in to meet with me. 860 658 1643, **thank you**.

More on HVAC, Roof, Organ

Two weeks ago I spoke at the Masses about parish repair and refurbishment projects that are required. We are prioritizing what has to be done—and what can practically be done—as we cannot do everything simultaneously. These projects are not inexpensive, and they are basically due to old age: our parish just celebrated her 50th anniversary and as with all things, time takes its toll.

Priority One: The HVAC system, heat and cooling, has been a cause for concern for nearly 15 years, and it appears from the experts (EMCORE New England Mechanical) that we have gone as far as we can with a band aide approach. We currently have 5 different AC systems, and the one we are concerned with is the church proper. The others are working properly.

Part of the problem is that when the parish bought the original Carrier AC system, which is located behind the shed, the company discontinued servicing the system. A string of HVAC companies, to no avail, serviced it over the years. When I arrived in 2007, shortly thereafter our facility manager correctly engage EMCORE New England—who are a godsend—and have kept it going for minimal expense. Another problem with the AC is the location. It is too far away from the church proper, and the coolant travels underground (which causes many issues) to the church. It is a very bad design.

EMCORE was here this week and some members of the Building and Grounds Committee attended. It was decided to have an engineer come out and offer us the options necessary both in a new technology system and locale. We hope to have them design the new system, then we can make an educated decision for the future—it is my hope to have a system that works well, reduces costs, and is easy to operate. Currently our programming technology is very complicated. More details to come.

Priority Two: A new organ. Our current organ, which was a gift to the parish by parishioners, is also seeing its life come to an end. Some days it starts, other days it starts only with difficulty and the certainty of its operation is more and more doubtful. Susan Zybert, our music director, has been looking into options, along with Dr. Ezekiel Menendez, the former director of music at St. Joseph Cathedral and who has much expertise in organ design. Once they have a plan, we will bring it to your attention.

Priority Three: Church roof – which has had a number of leaks over the last years due to the angles of the roof line and bad winters, but the roof in general, while eventually in need of repair, can continue to serve the parish with some targeted repairs every few years especially when bad winters happen. This past winter is a prime example with leaks in the atrium and sacristy.

Our plan of “attack” is to figure out our options, decide which are the most effective and what the costs will be and then move forward as necessary. I am working closely with our Buildings & Grounds Committee and eventually with the Archdioceses Office of Facility Assets. More to come.

Plant a Row for the Hungry

Westmoor Park,
West Hartford



Scan to sign up



Grow fresh food to be donated to a local shelter at
Hartford & W. Hartford senior centers

Monday August 10, 9AM-12PM

Sign up by July 31 at 4PM

Faith Formation News

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

HAPPY SUMMER!

Read, Relax and go to Mass!

Registration for Faith Formation classes for the 2026-2027 school year
will begin around the middle of July.

NOURISH WITH *Hope*

July Donations **FOR ST. ELIZABETH HOUSE**

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 July 12, 2026!

Contact [Nancy Kostal](#) with questions~ 860.655.5033

For more information or to sign up, follow the link below, scan the QR code or see paper sign up in the Atrium!

THANK YOU!

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-64533854-saint?useFullSite=false>



JULY - STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

Our July Street Sandwich Ministry will ONLY collect sandwiches on Saturday, July 18th from 8-9:30 a.m. These sandwiches will be distributed at our Feed the Hungry luncheon on Saturday, so ALL SANDWICHES must be in the church refrigerator by no later than 9:30 am. Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4xWrrz0>

FEED THE HUNGRY Lunch Service on Sat, July 18th.

Please sign up by Wed., July 15th. 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. <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchJul18>
2. **Prepare a cold salad:** Please prepare your favorite macaroni or potato salad to feed 10-12 people. Deliver your dish in a disposable container to St. Catherine's Russell Hall Kitchen between 8:30 - 9:30 am on Sat., 7/18. <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchJul18>
3. **Make some sweet treats:** Make 24 cookies and drop off on Sat, 7/18 to Russell Hall kitchen between 8:30-9:30am. <https://bit.ly/FTHLunchJul18>
4. **Make sandwiches:** Please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/4xWrrz0>

Contact Rich Sickinger, 860-558-6940, richsickinger@gmail.com

PANTRY PARTNERS-DATE CHANGE-JULY 25