For our homebound and sick parishioners: Livestream our 11 am Mass on our Facebook page



Saint Catherine of Siena
Roman Catholic Church

The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 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
Adult - Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Russell Hall
Youth - Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room.
Adult Choir accompanys 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, 860-408-9888
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 worshiping with us.
If you would like to join our parishfamily, fill out a yellow membership foirm found in the vestibule or atrium and mail it to us, drop it in the collection basket or call us at 860-658-1642.

We Welcome You to Our Family of Faith!

Weekly Mass Intentions

- Saturday, October 24h Mass @ 5:00 p.m. for *Linda Conlin,* requested by Colby & Anita Thresher*;*
- Sunday, October 25th @ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Lewis Brucker,* 48th *anniversary, requested by his family;*
- Sunday, October 25th @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Elizabeth Kearney*, requested by Manuela Hanshaw;
- Monday, October 26th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *George & Ingrid Clee;*
- Tuesday, October 27th @ 8:30 a.m. for *Frances Chiodo*;
- Wednesday, October 28th @ 8:30 a.m., Mass *Mother, Father & Brother,* requested by Angela Martins;
- Friday, October 30th @ 8:30 a.m. Mass for *Ronald Gibbons,* requested by Bill & Robin Egan*;*
- Saturday, October 31st @ 5:00 p.m. Mass for *Jonathan Helitzer,* requested by his family;
- Sunday, November 1st@ 8:00 a.m. Mass for *Tony Drapelick, 10th anniversary, r*equested by his family;
- Sunday, November 1st @ 11:00 a.m. Mass for *Kevin Kain*, requested by the Adult Choir.

Sanctuary Lamp



For

Jim Sparkowski,

birthday remembrance,

requested by his family.



Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday, November 1st!

Don't forget to turn your clocks back 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, CT, 06092

Weekly Loose Cash/Checks:	*$ 5,654.00*
Parish Soft:	*$ 7,285.43*
Total:	*$ 12,939.43*
World Mission Sunday	*$ 1,919.00*

For those who are interested in online giving, you may use this link: https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-1077 . If you are currently receiving church envelopes please call the office so that we may discontinue them. Thank you.

Upcoming Parish Meetings & Events

October

-Sat , 24th—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.
-Sat. 24th-Sun, 25th—Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive.
-Sun, 25th—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
-Sun, 25th—Children's Lit. of the Word, 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—Adoration, Church, 9 a.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—Wm's Bible Study, R/A, 9:30 a.m.
-Fri, 30th—Rosary, Church, 9 a.m.
-Sat, 31st—Confession, Church, 4 p.m.

November

-Sun, Nov. 1st—Daylight Savings Time ends.
-Sun, 1st—*Faith Formation, HJMS, 9:30 a.m.*
-Sun, 1st —Mass for our deceased parishioners with reception to follow in RH, 11 a.m.
-Sun, 1st —*Homebound Communion, 12:30 p.m.*
-Sun, 1st —Confirmation Interviews, 6 p.m.

From Fr. Michael

Parishioners Provide 'HOPE,' Receive Catholic Accolades

The archdiocese of Hartford acknowledged and gave thanks for the volunteerism and leadership, through their annual HOPES—Help Our Parochial Educators & Students-to our parishioners Susan and Jason Zybert and Kathryn Vayda on October 19th at a ceremony at the Aqua Turf in Southington, complete with Archbishop Christopher Coyne awarding the honors and more than 500 guests present.

Archbishop Coyne awarded Susan and Jason Zybert the honors for being Ambassadors of Northwest Catholic High School as well as for their leadership in organizing and executing 2025's Safe Graduate Night, an evening of planned celebrations intended to keep the graduates safe on graduation night.

Kathryn Vayda received her recognition for her volunteer- and organizer-in-chief gifts and talents. Katie is ever-present at St. Mary School and organizes many events as well as serves on numerous committees. She spearheads the Father-Daughter Dance, was heavily involved in the fundraising for the new school playground as well as many other activities and school projects.

Volunteerism is a hallmark of Catholic life. It is the physical side of the Catholic coin of faith: a strong belief and prayer life as well as hard work that makes the Church come to life, something I refer to as Catholic Action. Congratulations to Susan, Jason, and Katie—and thank you all for your support of both Catholic education and our faith-at-large!

All Souls' Remembrance

On Sunday, November 1st our Parish will celebrate the remembrance of those who have been buried from our church during the period of time from November 2025 through November 2026, as we read the names of the deceased who died during that year complete and we shall toll bells during prayer as we recall and pray for their noble souls.

This tradition in the Catholic Church began Church wide around the year 998 and is a great tradition with profound reverence. As Catholics, we are called to remember and pray with reverence for those who have gone before us as noted by St. Odilo of Cluny who started the tradition; however, since the 3rd century, specific prayers were celebrate at the graveside of martyrs on the anniversary of their death, which was called their new birth date in Heaven.

For the month of November our Parish will pray for all your deceased family members and friends; that they are now with God and enjoying Eternal Life without pain and suffering, sickness or sin or division, but rather are now in the Presence of God and enjoying His Peace, Light, Joy, and Eternal Happiness.

This will happen for the entire month of November at each Mass. A bowl will be placed before the altar, containing the All Souls' Envelopes you will provide with their names on it. I will pray for them at each Mass in November during the prayers of the faithful, and at Morning and Evening Prayer each day by praying specifically for 25 individual names at Morning and Evening Prayer.

Remember to fill out your envelopes with the names of your family and friends and either place your envelope in the collection baskets or drop them off at the Parish Office.

Love

The thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time has the Matthean Gospel (Matthew 22:34-40) which centers on the virtue of Love. C.S. Lewis, the great Christian writer, notes that there were four types of Love in his book entitled, The Four Loves, which he categorizes as affection, friendship, Eros (romantic love), and charity (or agape). Of Course, the highest form of love, agape, which is Divine Love or the Love of God, is the Love we hear about in today's gospel.

The key elements of the Four loves as noted by C.S. Lewis are:

1. Affection is described as a dependency-based love that can be corrupted if needs are not met;
2. Friendship (or Philia) is considered the least instinctual and most human of loves, often overlooked in modern society; it is a love that unites humanity in friendship and companionship;
3. Eros represents the emotional and passionate aspect of romantic relationships, emphasizing a deeper connection beyond mere physical attraction; and,
4. Charity is viewed as the greatest love, requiring individuals to subordinate other loves to the love of God, preventing selfishness. This is unconditional and self-emptying love.

continued on next page...

Fr. Michael continued…

In this commandment, we are called to develop Agape or Charity for God, and Friendship for one another. In these two loves, we develop our Christian calling to grow into Divine Love for God, and to spend friendship or Philia love to strengthen and grow our one human family—locally and globally.



Faith Formation News

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

Sunday, October 25th: K-6, Confirmation I & II & Grades 7-8

Sunday, October 25th: Lesson #1 ~ Waking Up to Habits of the Household 9:30/ (HJMS Cafe)

Sunday, November 1st ~ K-6, Confirmation I & II & Grades 7-8

Sunday, November 1st ~ Confirmation II (10th Graders) Interviews @ St. Catherine from 6-8PM

Women's Ministry Event:

Save the date: Wednesday November 11 at 7 p.m.

The holidays can be a beautiful time of joy and togetherness—but for those experiencing loss, they can also bring sadness, loneliness, and difficult memories. Join Josephine Schoenhardt as she offers compassionate insight and practical guidance for navigating grief and managing the holidays.

Come as you are, whether you are grieving a recent loss or carrying a loss from years ago. Together, we'll explore ways to acknowledge our grief, care for ourselves, and find hope, peace, and God's presence during the holiday season.

This event is open to all the ladies in the parish. Please sign up here so that we have an accurate head count: https://bit.ly/4z1Pm09



We will our next "Coffee & Danish" on First Friday, November 6th following the Healing Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Sponsored by the Men's Ministry.

Saint Catherine of Siena

Youth Ministry & Faith Formation

are excited to bring you

Steubenville Speaker

Tanner Kalina!

Thursday November 5, 6:00-7:15PM

Russell Hall





COME LISTEN AS TANNER DIVES INTO HOW TO ENCOUNTER GOD IN YOUR DAILY LIFE AS A CATHOLIC TEEN!

SCAN TO SIGN UP!

CLICK OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP!

STEUBENVILLE CONFERENCES

NOURISH With Hope

Yes, We Can, Nourish, Love, Support and Care for our local community.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of our food pantry.

This week we are looking for hearty soups and stews, canned or jarred fruit/applesauce, canned meat (tuna, chicken, Spam), hot and cold cereal, PB&J, and lunch box crackers and healthy snacks. We are now accepting toiletries for children and adults. If you don't have time to shop, look for the Food Pantry Donation Box, at the back of the church, and we will do the shopping.

All donations can be delivered using the kitchen entrance. Our pantry is open to all from 9 a.m.–6:00 p.m., but not available during Mass.

***Please don't leave perishable items and please check expiration dates*. Thank you.**

GOT FRUIT???

How will you donate to St. Elizabeth House this month? It's as easy as buying some fruit or bread! Or maybe make a casserole or vegetable side?

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!

Next date is Sunday November 8, 2026!

Questions? Contact Nancy Kostal at: 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!

https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/30E044BAFAE2BA3F85-66632394-saint?useFullSite=false

STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY-November 14th-16th.

November sandwiches for our Street Sandwich Ministry will be collected Sat., Nov. 14th from 8 a.m.-9:30 a.m.; Sun., Nov. 15th, from 9-6 p.m.; and Mon., Nov. 16th; 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.

Sign up will be available next week.

Pantry Partner's next distribution will be on November 14th.

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.

Feed The Hungry Lunch Service on Saturday, November 21st.

More info next week.