



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:18-19

Excerpts from the Lctionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

FRIDAY JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY



St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church 820 Hickory Street Sebring, FL 33870

Parish Office/Mailing

882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870
(863)385-0049 Fax: (863)385-5169
(863)385-6762 (Spanish)

www.stcathe.org
www.facebook.com/stcathe

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

CLERGY

Pastor

Very Reverend José González, V.F.
frjose@stcathe.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend

Saturday: 4:00 PM &
6:00 PM (Spanish)

Sunday—8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
12:00 Noon (Spanish)

DAILY MASS

Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00—3:45 PM

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(863)385-7300

Principal

Steve Cullipher, M. Ed.
cullipher@stcatheschool.org

Pre-School

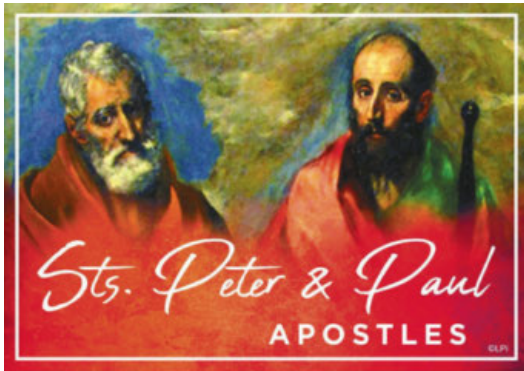
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Sebring, FL 33870

(863)385-7300 Fax: (863)385-7310

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Office summer hours
8:00 AM—2:00 PM

The Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul



On June 29, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul to honor the two great apostles Peter and Paul. St. Peter, one of the Twelve and the chief of the Apostles, the Rock upon which Christ built His Church, and St. Paul “called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God” and Apostle to the Gentiles. Together they are honored as founders of the Church of Rome.

“Christian tradition has always considered Sts. Peter and Saint Paul to be inseparable: indeed, together, they represent the whole Gospel of Christ.” (Pope Benedict XVI)



Religious Freedom Week takes place from June 22, the Memorial of Sts. Thomas More & John Fisher, through June 29, the Solemnity of Sts. Peter & Paul. Join Catholics across the country to pray and act for the freedom to serve faithfully and with integrity.

In recent weeks, it is easier for immigration officials to conduct enforcement actions in “protected areas” (often referred to as “sensitive locations”), including places of worship. In other words, the Department of Homeland Security can arrest noncitizens at church, even for non-criminal offenses.

Parishioners are afraid.

People have a duty to offer worship to God. Religious freedom protects the rights of people to carry out their obligations, ensuring that individuals and communities can fulfill their most sacred duty. The government has its own duties. It ought to ensure a just public order and promote the common good.

In this way, the government has a right and responsibility to regulate international borders and to enforce just immigration laws, including for the protection of existing residents, be they citizens or otherwise.

One of the fundamental rights of every person is the right to religious freedom. To be sure, the right to religious freedom is fundamental but not absolute. Governments may just limit it for compelling reasons, and by no more than is necessary. But to intrude on the right to fulfill our duties to God is a grave judgment that must be guided by prudence rather than the political winds.

The church’s declaration on religious freedom teaches: “Government is ... to help create conditions favorable to the fostering of religious life, in order that the people may be truly enabled to exercise their religious rights and to fulfill their religious duties” (Dignitatis Humanae, No. 6).

All Catholics and others of goodwill in our country, regardless of their ideas about the best way to enforce immigration laws, should be unified in the conviction that people must be free to fulfill their duties to God without fear. And our immigration authorities, having now handed very broad discretion over whether to intrude on sacred spaces, should bear in mind the gravity of such a decision. As pastors, the bishops of the United States are committed to walking with all people who seek to fulfill their duty to worship the Lord.

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades

Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, Indiana

Chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Religious Liberty.



BISHOPS URGED TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

Paul's discourse on Christian giving in 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 is trying to explain the model of giving which is found in the kenosis of Christ. The Lord Jesus makes Himself poor for our sake to make us rich by His poverty. He empties Himself to teach us what being fully human means and how it might be lived.

The topic is timely as we gather in reflection and consider our ministry as bishops in the Church in this particular and unique time. We are privileged to live in a wealthy country known for at least eight decades for its generosity. Our history of welcome is a bit more checkered, because each group of immigrants tended to look down on the next. Those who came on the Mayflower looked down on the Irish who fought with the Germans and all disdained the Italians.

Now, as Shepherds, we earnestly try to urge our people to welcome those from Latin America, Haiti, and other troubled zones. It is not easy to preach the Gospel and yet, it was held over our heads in episcopal ordination so that we might be ever imbued with the Word of God and ever more effective in preaching that living Word ever new and ever provocative.

Remember that Paul, the Apostle to the Gentiles, was always radically engaged in favor of supporting the community in Jerusalem. Today's passage is exemplary for its organization and ever valid in the motivations offered. The Macedonians made a great effort to be generous, and Paul calls that generosity a gift from God for two reasons. First, the goods or possessions were a gift from Almighty God. Secondly, the desire to give is also a gift.

In our context can we fail to think about the Christians in Gaza, victims of a bitter struggle? Or perhaps we think about the poor in Syria afflicted by sanctions that only punish the poor. Those in power always have access to fuel, food, and other necessities. Or we remember Lebanon still bearing the weight of more than 2 million refugees. Our prayers for peace between Israel and Iran continue as more innocent people perish in yet another unnecessary conflict. I do not pretend to cover the world, but Ukraine readily comes to mind as a valiant people strives to retain its independence. Can we forget Haiti at our doorstep? The willful neglect of a noble people cries out for our attention.

We must stretch our Catholic Relief Services dollars even farther as the U.S. international aid is shut off. How often in contemporary history was the United States the protagonist in offering aid to those in need? Although it remains in the Good Friday offering, it is no longer exclusively the collection for the Church in Jerusalem; we cannot turn our back on those crying out for our help. "Generosity is an indispensable condition so that the love of God remains in us and we remain in His love."

Reading the Gospel Mt 5:43-48 in our context I was reminded of those Spanish missionaries who first left the known and comfort of Europe and came here to the relative unknown to preach the Gospel, defend the precolonial ethnic groups, and minister to the Spanish, as well. They were motivated by that love described by the Lord in the Gospel. The other might see himself as an enemy, but the missionary disciple sees no one as an enemy.

Allow me to quote Pope Leo's address to the Italian Bishops Conference earlier today: "It is imperative to bring a renewed vigor to the proclamation and the transmission of the faith. It means to put Jesus Christ at the center and... help people to live a personal relationship with Him, to discover the joy of the Gospel. In a time of great fragmentation, we must return to the foundations of our faith, to the kerygma. This is the first great task that motivates all the others: bring Christ to the 'veins' of humanity (cfr Cost. ap. Humanae salutis, 3), renewing and sharing the apostolic mission: 'What we have seen and heard, we also announce it to you.'

You know that the Greek for "perfect" in the Gospel passage also means completed, mature. The idea is that the one who has a duty fulfills it completely. The pilgrims are certainly doing that. The notion of being perfect is a bit daunting to the point of seeming impossible. The text urges us to a much more attainable level. The idea of fulfilling our duty in love seems to be within our reach. It is at least our goal and probably defines how most of us approach our ministry. We were forcefully reminded this morning that prayer is an integral part of our ministry.

Of course, the Lord always calls us to use our gifts and talents to make His Name known and loved and this perfect prayer offers us the sustenance to fuel our mission and enliven the commitment of those entrusted to us. Remember the generosity praised by Paul and urged by the Lord Jesus.

Homily -- Tuesday, June 17, 2025, USCCB Special Assembly
 Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio
 President, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops



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WWW.STCATHESCHOOL.ORG

2025—2024

**Religious
Education
Registration**



Our Religious Education program for the year 2025—2026 begins in September. The registrations are available now

Registrations are available in the Church vestibule. You also may complete the paperwork at the Church office, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM—3:00 PM.

Registration are for Pre-Communion, First Communion, Post Communion and Confirmation. For more information please call (863)385-0049.

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

This sacrament is available every Saturday from 3:00—3:45 PM or by appointment with a Priest.

Anointing of the sick, Baptism & Marriage

For questions or more information (863)385-0049 or e-mail at office@stcathe.org.

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 18:16-33, Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 8-9, 10-11, Mt 8:18-22

Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29, Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12, Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a, Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13, Mt 8:28-34

Thursday: Eph 2:19-22, Ps 117:1bc, 2, Jn 20:24-29

Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67, Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5, Mt 9:9-13

Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29, Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6, Mt 9:14-17

Sunday: Is 66:10-14c, Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1), Gal 6:14-18, Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9



ADORATION
of the
BLESSED
SACRAMENT

*Every Friday from
8:30 to 11:45 AM
in the Chapel*

WELCOME TO ST. CATHERINE PARISH

We invite you to register with us or if you have changed any of your contact information, please fill out this form.

Visit the Parish Office during open hours.

- Mail the Parish Registration or Update Form to the Parish Office.
- Drop the Parish Registration or Update Form into the weekend collection basket.
- Register online at www.stcathe.org

Name: _____

Address: _____

City and Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

☐ New Registration

☐ Moving out of the Parish

☐ Up-date information

☐ Need contribution envelopes

Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles**Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY June 28th**

4:00 PM TONY SALCEDO † Shelly & Riley
EDD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan
TODD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

SUNDAY June 29th

8:00 AM FLORENCIO NIETO † Familia Nieto Ortiz
10:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

MONDAY June 30th

8:00 AM ROBERT SODA † Jerry & Jean Lesniak

TUESDAY July 1st

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving — Anonymous

WEDNESDAY July 2nd

8:00 AM CAROL AULD † Rosaleen Marlow
BILL WARMBIER † Jerry & Jean Lesniak
John Hargaden (Special Intention for Health) — St. Vincent de Paul

THURSDAY July 3rd

8:00 AM HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY † Hannah Henneberry

FRIDAY July 4th

8:00 AM ALBERT BIANCHI † Jerry & Jean Lesniak
MARGARO RODRIGUEZ † Jose Rodriguez

SATURDAY July 5th

4:00 PM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

SUNDAY July 6th

8:00 AM ELIZABETH ANN PADEN BARINA † Richard M. Barina
10:00 AM ELIZABETH (Betsy) HULSEBOSCH † Charles Hulsebosch
ASTOR SANGALANG ASIS † B. Walters
Rosemarie Joyner (for health) — Kathy & Dennis Berard

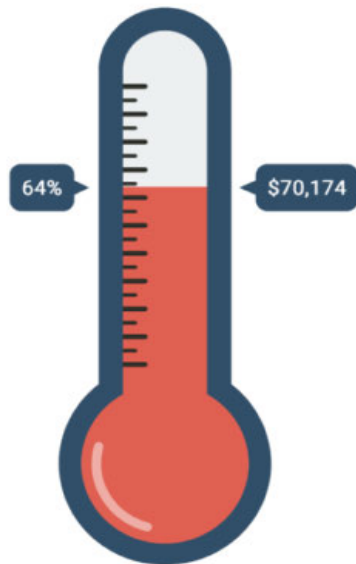
MASS INTENTIONS

Mass Intentions forms are available at the Parish Office or online, at

<https://web4ucorp.com/massintentions/catherinesebring>

Return Mass Intention forms at Parish Office or drop it in the weekend collection. The usual donation is \$10.

Please specify whether the person is living or deceased. *Mass Intentions must be made a minimum of 10 days prior to the date of the intention.*

BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER**OFFERINGS****Second Collections****This Week: Peter's Pence Collection****Next Week: Youth Group****June 22nd****Regular Collection: \$4,979.00****Second Collection: Insurance: \$2,002.00****Weekly Online Giving: \$1,031.00****For Online Giving instructions visit
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>****Flocknote June: \$2,971.00****For Online Flocknote Giving visit****<https://stcatherineofseeb.flocknote.com/fundit/give>****Thank you for your help with insurance bill****GOAL: \$110,000****CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL 2025****Our assessment for 2025 is \$115.00.00****We have received: \$80,690.00**

Please make checks payable to CFA and in the Memo write "St. Catherine".

Thank you for your generous support to St. Catherine's and the CFA. To contribute online go to <https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/>

To watch the video go to <https://vimeo.com/1052376784>

Tax Smart Giving**Fulfill Your Required Minimum Distribution**

If you reached age 73 in 2024, your second Required Minimum Distribution is due by December 31, 2025, based on your account balance on December 31, 2024.

Did you know that you can direct your Required Minimum Distribution to St. Catherine Catholic Church and avoid increasing your taxable income by making a Qualified Charitable Distribution? You can request your IRA Administrator to send a check payable to St. Catherine Catholic Church to satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution.

Please check with your professional advisors for more information on this beneficial giving option.

St. Catherine Catholic Church does not provide legal tax, or financial advice. When considering gifting options, seek the advice of your own legal and/or financial professionals.

Safe Environment Training

As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and complete online training in Safe Environment prior to beginning employment or volunteering.

Please visit the [Diocese of Venice website](#) for further information.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week we served 24 visitors/shoppers with a total of 67 family members.

10 volunteers and 2 School children operated the food pantry. We received 8 donations from Parish families. We shared Holy Communion and prayer with 11 patients and their family at the hospital.

We would appreciate your donations of canned soup and rice.

We invite anyone interested in joining or learning more about our efforts to join us in the food pantry at 10 am every Tuesday.

We thank you for your generosity and support. For more information call 863-835-0571

ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

Pastor: Very Reverend José González, V.F	OCIA: Juana Nava.....385-0049
.....385-0049	navaj@stcathe.org
Arts and Environment: Gloria Fontanes.....385-0049	Religious Education: Rose Hall.....385-0049
Altar Servers: Manuel Gomez & Dulce Diaz....464-9458	rose@stcathe.org.
ddiaz8558@gmail.com	Respect Life:.....385-0049
Liturgical Ministries: Diane Sochacki.....835-2523	SVDP:835-0571
Ministry to the Sick: Claudia Spradlin991-3271	Ushers: Mike Flood.....471-6381

MINISTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

Women of our parish, come join us and see how St. Catherine's Council of Catholic Women can enrich your life. We meet on the third Tuesday of every month at 4:30 P.M. with a social time starting at 4:00 P.M. Meeting is at building S200 Hickory Street. For more information please call Mrs. Jennifer Lindsey at (618) 521-8730 or email jcsjlindsey@yahoo.com.

GRIEF SHARE GROUP

For more information please contact (863) 385-0049

YOUTH GROUP

For more information please contact (863) 385-0049.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Council Member Business Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the Month at 7:00 PM in Building S200 on Hickory Street with the Rosary being said starting at 6:30 PM. **Fourth Degree Assembly Meetings** are held on the first Monday of **every other Month** at 7:00 PM in Building S200. **New Members and Transfers are ALWAYS welcome!** Any questions please contact Grand Knight Donald Israel (239)691-4777. Thank You!

LEGION OF MARY

Meetings are Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall, Room #17. For more information please contact Mary Ann Buckley (863)385-1386.

PRAYER CHAIN

For questions or more information please call Claudia Spradlin at (863)991-3271 or email claudia@stcathe.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For First Communion, Confirmation classes or more information please call (863)385-0049.

ROSARY

The Holy Rosary will be prayed at 9:30 AM each Sunday in the Chapel.

Raffle: You Can't Win if You Don't Play

To help us achieve our goal of \$100,000 to pay the cost of our insurance, we offer you the opportunity to participate in a raffle with your donation of \$10. For \$100 you can receive 11 tickets (\$10 each, ONE FREE) to win any of the following prizes.

1st Prize : \$3,000 2nd Prize: \$1,500 3rd Prize: \$500

The proceeds will go to help the Parish offset the price of our Insurance Premiums.

Time to move the thermometer!

BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW: <https://stcatherineofseb.flocknote.com/give/33806> and we will send your tickets by regular mail.

For those who wish to enter personally (rather than electronically) raffle tickets will also be available:

- At the Parish Office
- After Masses



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