



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



**16<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her." - Lk 10:41-42



**Parish Office/Mailing**

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

[www.stcathe.org](http://www.stcathe.org)  
[www.facebook.com/stcathe](https://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](mailto: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**

**ST CATHERINE SCHOOL**

**2835 Kenilworth Blvd.  
(863)385-7300**

**Principal**

**Steve Cullipher, M. Ed.**  
[cullipher@stcatheschool.org](mailto:cullipher@stcatheschool.org)

**Pre-School**

**747 S. Franklin St.  
Sebring, FL 33870**

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

[www.stcatheschool.org](http://www.stcatheschool.org)

**Office summer hours  
8:00 AM—2:00 PM**



**DIOCESE OF VENICE IN FLORIDA**  
**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

July 10, 2025

Dear Monsignor/Father,

Greetings in the Lord, Jesus Christ. With this letter, I wish to address recent news concerning Churches and political endorsements.

As you are likely aware, the IRS recently issued an interpretation of the Johnson Amendment that would allow religious organizations to endorse candidates. Please know that the Church's stance on this matter has not changed, and there should be no endorsement of political candidates or of a particular party. On this matter, a statement from the USCCB may be found enclosed herewith.

Please know that this policy is not intended to be disrespectful of your individual political views. However, these views are your personal views, while that which is proclaimed from the pulpit and the altar cannot be solely the view of the Priest and must reflect the whole Church. While all are familiar with how sensitive and divisive these issues can be, the Priest is called to be pastoral to all. Your understanding and assistance in avoiding endorsements are appreciated, as are your efforts to form the consciences of the Faithful.

I take this opportunity to extend to you the assurances of my continued consideration, as well as my prayers for you and your ministry.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Frank J. Dewane  
Bishop of the Diocese of  
Venice in Florida

FJD/mm  
Enclosure



### WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY

In 2021, Pope Francis established the celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and Elderly on the fourth Sunday of July, near the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus (July 26). **The theme for the 2025 celebration selected by the pope is “Blessed are those who have not lost hope” (cf. Sir 14:2).** "These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the blessedness of the elderly and highlight the hope placed in the Lord as the path to a Christian and reconciled old age.

'In this Jubilee Year, the *World Day* – established by Pope Francis in 2021 – aims to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly is a sign of hope in every family and ecclesial community" (Kevin Card. Farrell).

The U.S. bishops have approved the transfer of the celebration of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in the U.S. to the first weekend after Labor Day (September 6 and 7, 2025) to coincide with National Grandparents (and the Elderly) Day in the United States as many local communities, schools, and parishes have celebrated for some time.

In July in the United States, the observance of Natural Family Planning Week takes place beginning on the Sunday before July 25 and ending on the following Saturday.

### COME & SERVE THE LORD



We are in need of more volunteers to serve as Liturgical Ministers. Please help if you can. A Liturgical Minister is simply being involved with or assisting with the Mass. While the Priest is the presider and main guide for the movement of the liturgy, it is a community effort to complete the Mass, and to do so in a safe, dignified and reverent manner.

#### ALTAR SERVERS

Altar Servers must have received First Communion to serve. These young people serve at weekend Masses, and other liturgical celebrations.

#### LECTORS

Lectors proclaim the readings from the Scriptures during the celebration of the Mass and other liturgies, and read the pulpit announcements and prayers of the faithful.

#### SACRISTANS

Sacristans are “humble servants” of Christ who serve by preparing the altar and sanctuary for Mass, and arranging and managing the liturgical books, sacred vessels, bread, and wine.

#### USHERS & GREETERS

Ushers and greeters do much more than just seat people, take up the collection, stand watch in case of emergency, and greet people. They are the "Open Doors" to fellow worshipers, and hence serve as the face of the Church! They welcome each new arrival, make them feel at home, and point them towards Christ.

### OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR 2025—2026 BEGINS IN SEPTEMBER

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.

## St. Catherine's Youth Group Ave Maria Conference



This summer, several of our youth had the unforgettable opportunity to attend the **Ave Maria Youth Conference** in Florida—a weekend filled with faith, friendship, and powerful encounters with Christ. Alongside **700 high school students** from across Florida, our teens experienced a vibrant atmosphere of praise and worship led by **Epic the Band**, heard dynamic talks from nationally known speakers like **Michael Gormley** and **Mari Pablo**, and most importantly, encountered the living God through the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**, **Eucharistic Adoration**, and the **celebration of the Holy Mass**.

From laughter and late-night conversations to moments of silent prayer and heartfelt confessions, this was a **beautiful and transformative experience** that won't soon be forgotten.

Here are testimonies from some of the students of our youth group that attended:

**Madeline Domisiw:** "This weekend I learned that God is the only one who could make your heart feel complete and that when you look at yourself in the mirror you are awesome because God made you."

**Ella Bruce:** "Something that I learned this weekend is that we are all worth something, that God made us the way he did for a reason. We are not worthless or a waste of space because God decided to put us into this world. I also learned that we always need to have God at the center of any relationship, and that he is the only one that can complete us."

**Manuel Domisiw:** "The main thing that really stuck out to me this weekend was the talk about regretting the things that I didn't do. This talk personally stood out to me because before, I was too scared to do a lot of things such as roller coasters. Now I see that fear holds a person from being free, and if I am to be afraid, I know that I can just pray to Jesus or any of the saints to give me strength and courage. The other talks and events were also great.. Overall, this conference has strengthened my relationship with God and helped fix my mindset."

**Manuel Gomez-Diaz:** "A message that really stuck out to me was being a man includes being a sacrifice. Jesus is an example of this being the sacrificial lamb for the world and we can also follow saints who mirror Jesus like characteristics. Sacrificing means laying down your life for others which can mean putting others before you. This stands out in marriage or any relationship and being a steward to others. Another role model is St. Joseph who protected Jesus at birth and provided for his holy family by being a carpenter."



**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: Ex 14:5-18, Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, Mt 12:38-42  
 Tuesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17, Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, Jn 20:1-2, 11-18  
 Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15, Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28, Mt 13:1-9  
 Thursday: Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b, Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56, Mt 13:10-17  
 Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15, Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6, Mt 20:20-28  
 Saturday: Ex 24:3-8, Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15, Mt 13:24-30  
 Sunday: Gn 18:20-32, Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a), Col 2:12-14, Lk 11:1-13



**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](http://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

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time****Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY July 19th**

4:00 PM PHIL & ANN CHUPKA † Rose Chupka Cookman  
 JORGE SANTOS † Roxana Santos

**SUNDAY July 20th**

8:00 AM DENISE MORALES † Mother  
 JEANNE LESNIAK † Jerry  
 10:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

**MONDAY July 21st**

8:00 AM EFRAIN RIVERA † Candida Reyes

**TUESDAY July 22nd**

8:00 AM KATHLEEN BENEDICT † Marcia Kissane

**WEDNESDAY July 23rd**

8:00 AM EFREN AND LUCILA BENDIJO † Karen Bendijo-Angsinco

**THURSDAY July 24th**

8:00 AM For peace and harmony throughout the world — Fr. José

**FRIDAY July 25th**

8:00 AM MARGARO RODRIGUEZ † Jose Rodriguez  
 For a Greater Respect for All Human Life — Fr. José

**SATURDAY July 26th**

4:00 PM CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHEY † Madonna Williams  
 EDD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan  
 TODD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

**SUNDAY July 27th**

8:00 AM THOMAS J. TIRDIL † Katherine Tirdil  
 10:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

**MASS INTENTIONS**

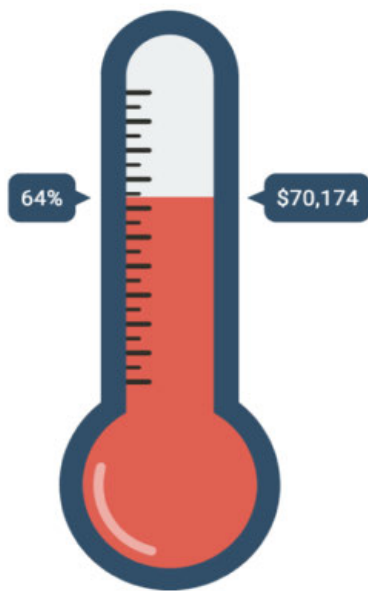
Mass Intentions forms are available at the Parish Office or online, at

<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: Insurance****Next Week: Charity****July 13th****Regular Collection: \$5,039.00****Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa: \$1,460.00****Weekly Online Giving: \$776.00****For Online Giving instructions visit****<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>****Flocknote June: \$3,021.00****For Online Flocknote Giving visit****<https://stcatherineofseb.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: \$110,430.00**

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.

**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

This week we served 19 visitors/ shoppers with a total of 48 family members. 9 volunteers/Vincentians operated the food pantry with 2 students. We received 2 donations from Parish families.

We shared Holy Communion and prayer with 4 patients and their family members at the hospital. This would appreciate donations of rice and dried beans.

We invite anyone interested in joining or learning more about our efforts to join us in the food pantry at 10:00am every Tuesday.

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



**Food Pantry**  
For the Needy & Poor

806 Hickory Street  
Sebring, FL

(white house adjacent to St. Catherine Catholic Church)

Open  
Tuesdays

10 am -  
11 am

**Despensa de Alimentos**

Para los Necesitados

Los Martes

**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](https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/) for further information.

## ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

**Pastor: Very Reverend José González, V.F**

.....385-0049

Arts and Environment: Gloria Fontanes.....385-0049

Altar Servers: Manuel Gomez & Dulce Diaz....464-9458

ddiaz8558@gmail.com

Liturgical Ministries: Diane Sochacki.....835-2523

Ministry to the Sick: Claudia Spradlin .....991-3271

OCIA: Juana Nava.....385-0049

navaj@stcathe.org

Religious Education: Rose Hall.....385-0049

rose@stcathe.org.

Respect Life:.....385-0049

SVDP: .....835-0571

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 call (863) 385-0049

### YOUTH GROUP

For more information please call (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](mailto: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. The raffle will take place November 16th in the Parish Hall. 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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Director of Physical Therapy  
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