



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God." - Lk 12:20-21

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

GLPI

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD^{©GLPI}

AUGUST 6

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

ST CATHERINE SCHOOL
2835 Kenilworth Blvd.
(863)385-7300

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

Pre-School
747 S. Franklin St.
Sebring, FL 33870
(863)385-7300 Fax: (863)385-7310
www.stcatheschool.org
Office hours
8:00 AM—3:00 PM

How to become Catholic in 2025: A step-by-step guide

The election of Pope Leo XIV led to a renewed interest in people searching for information on how to “become Catholic.” Here’s a guide to becoming Catholic in 2025.

1) Are you baptized?

There are three sacraments in particular, known as the “sacraments of Christian initiation,” that a person must receive in order to come fully into communion with the Church that Christ founded, and baptism is always the first. (A sacrament is a visible sign of God’s grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to his Church; the Church has seven of them total.). The other two sacraments of initiation are the receiving of Christ’s body and blood via the Eucharist, also called holy Communion,

and confirmation — whereby the Holy Spirit “confirms and strengthens baptismal grace” within a baptized Catholic.

If you’ve been validly baptized as a Catholic at some point in your life, even as an infant, then technically you’re already Catholic. If you were baptized a long time ago at a Catholic church, that church likely still has a record of your baptism and can provide it to you if you ask.

That said, if you’ve been baptized, confirmed, and made your first Communion but have drifted away from your Catholic faith, you can always return to full communion with the Church by going to the sacrament of confession, also called reconciliation or penance. And if you were baptized a long time ago but never received your first holy Communion or confirmation, you can do so after participation in a period of formation; talk to a priest to learn more if that’s your situation.

If you’ve been baptized a Christian — but not a Catholic — that baptism is likely valid as long as it was done using the formula: “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”. But there’s more you must do before you’re fully in communion with the Catholic Church.

2) Talk to Fr. Jose.

Contact Fr. Jose at 863-385-0049. If you have Catholic friends, they can likely help you with this. Fr. Jose wants to meet with you to discuss your desire to become Catholic and help to guide you through the next steps of the process.

3) Join OCIA.

The next step is to officially join OCIA, the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. (This process was previously, for a long time, called RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, until a name change in 2021.) OCIA is the Church’s official process for initiating prospective Catholics into the Church who have attained the age of reason, generally around the age of 7. Classes begin in September. Everyone is welcome to the classes to refresh their faith.

The first step — if you are unbaptized — is entering the catechumenate; becoming known, thereafter, as a “catechumen.” You will ask someone who is a fully initiated Catholic who is 16 years old or older (among other requirements) to be your “sponsor” to help to guide you through the journey. Once you feel ready, the priest and parish team who are working with you may give you approval to make a request for baptism.

If you are already a baptized Christian, however, this first step looks a little bit different. There’s a recognition that you’ve already given your life to Christ as a baptized Christian and may have been active in other Christian communities. You’ll become, instead of a catechumen, a “candidate.” You will likely go through a similar formation program to the catechumens, helping you understand and experience the teachings and practices of the Catholic Church.

At the Easter Vigil Mass, which takes place the Saturday evening before Easter Sunday, catechumens will receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and the Eucharist, thereby coming into full communion with the Catholic Church. Candidates, having already been baptized, will make a profession of faith in the Catholic Church when they are ready to do so and will preferably be received into the Church on a Sunday during the year. Before that, however, candidates will be required to go to the sacrament of confession and are encouraged to do so frequently during their formation. (Baptism wipes away all sins committed prior, so catechumens do not need to do this.)

Welcome home to the Catholic Church!

For more information call Juana Nava at 863-385-0049 or email navaj@stcathe.org

Dear St. Catherine Catholic School Families and Friends,



The usual preparations for the new school year have been underway over the summer. Our maintenance and custodial crew have been hard at work cleaning, painting, repairing, and updating our facilities. Thank you, Hector, Silvia, and Nancy! An additional thanks to the Olguin family for painting the front offices and to James Carrero and Isabella Gomez for painting the main school hallway.

We will continue our theme for this school year: Unapologetically Catholic. We will be increasing the visibility of our faith with a renewed focus on the traditions of the Catholic Church. We have renewed our partnership with Hallow to "help teachers strengthen their students' mental and spiritual lives through encountering Christ in meditative prayer."

We have also planned several more spiritual retreats for the coming year. Middle school students will be spending time at Campo San Jose in prayer, meditation and reflection.

We are welcoming several new teachers to our faculty. More details will be provided in August.

We are still searching for a music teacher. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please contact me, cullipher@stcatheschool.org. The position can be part-time or full-time and we can assist with the necessary qualifications. Please pray that the Holy Spirit moves someone's heart to join our purpose of guiding our students to sainthood.



We will have our back-to-school open house on August 7 & 8 from 4-6pm. PTO will be represented in the library with plenty of information about fundraising and volunteer opportunities.

We will have our first fundraiser of the year on August 16 & 17 at Caliber Car Wash on US 27. This will also be an opportunity for middle school students and families to earn service hours. Please stop by Caliber Car Wash on those dates and tell the attendant that you are supporting St. Catherine Catholic School. Caliber

Car Wash offers a very generous portion of proceeds to the school. Thank you for your support.

I ask that you keep St. Catherine Catholic School, including our students and teachers, in your prayers. I invite you to join our Guardian Angels in supporting our mission of sharing the love of Jesus Christ with the world. More information can be found on our website www.stcatheschool.org and clicking on the Giving/Guardian Angel tab at the top of the page.

May God Bless You and God Bless St. Catherine Catholic School.

Mr. Steven Cullipher, M. Ed.
Principal

Prayer for School

May God bless, guide, and protect those in our community returning to school this season.

May He grant students peaceful spaces to study, learn, and grow.

May He grant teachers joy, patience, and inspiration.

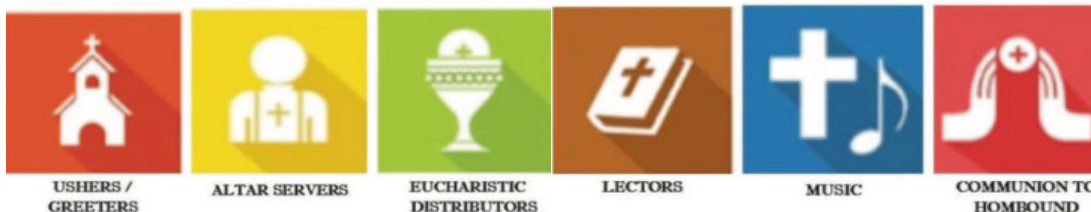
May He grant all who support education grace, peace, and blessing.

In Your name we pray,

Amen.

©LPi

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 paper-work 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.

Prayer for Safety In Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children.
The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude.
You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger
over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant,
can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land,
and spread chaos and disaster. During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father.

Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose
wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead
with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common
to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps
of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us.
Amen.

[Composed by Most Rev. Maurice Schexnayder (1895-1981),
Second Bishop of Lafayette (1956-1973), following Hurricane Audrey in 1957]

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: Nm 11:4b-15, Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17, Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13, Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13, Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14, Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9, 2 Pt 1:16-19, Lk 9:28b-36

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13, Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9, Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dt 4:32-40, Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21, Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51, Mt 17:14-20

Sunday: Wis 18:6-9, Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b), Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12, Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40



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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY August 2nd**

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

SUNDAY August 3rd

8:00 AM DONALD ROWE † Buschmann Family

10:00 AM DAVID JACKSON † Jim & Eileen Jackson

MONDAY August 4th

8:00 AM MARTIN & ELPEDIA LUMBAB † Pacita Powell

TUESDAY August 5th

8:00 AM FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY † Susana

WEDNESDAY August 6th

8:00 AM EZEQUIEL RAMOS † Magdalena Animas Ruiz

THURSDAY August 7th

8:00 AM For our teachers and students — Fr. José

FRIDAY August 8th

8:00 AM For our Catholic School — Fr. José

SATURDAY August 9th

4:00 PM CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHEY † Madonna Williams

JACK H. WILLIAMS SR. † Madonna Williams

SUNDAY August 10th

8:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

10:00 AM ELIZABETH ANN PADEN BARINA †

EDD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

TODD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

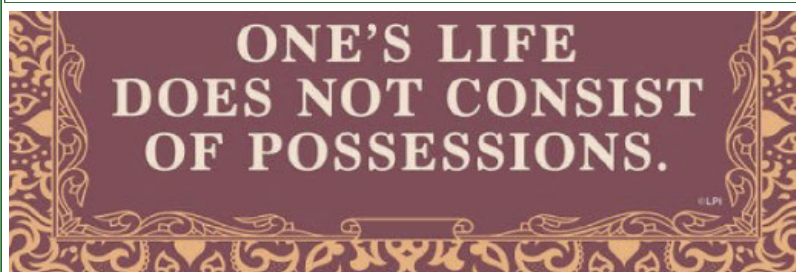
MASS INTENTIONS

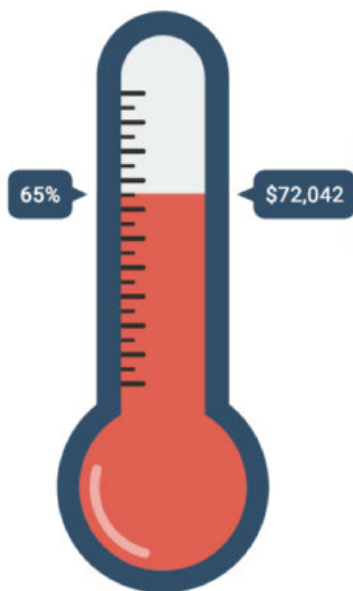
Mass Intentions forms are available at the Parish Office or online, at

<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: Youth Group****Next Week: Florida Catholic****July 27th****Regular Collection: \$5,741.00****Charity: \$1,567.00****Weekly Online Giving: \$1,136.00****For Online Giving instructions visit****<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>****Flocknote July: \$2,493.00****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: \$116,012.00**

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 24 visitors/ shoppers with a total of 64 family members. We received 4 donations from Parish families. 9 Vincentians/ Volunteers and 2 students operated the food pantry.

We shared Holy Communion and prayer with 6 patients and their family at the hospital.

The pantry is open every Tuesday at 10 am. If you are interested in joining or learning more about our efforts please call 863-835-0571.

Thank you for your generosity and support.



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://www.dioceseofvenice.org/safe-environment)** for further information.

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 jcsolindsey@yahoo.com.

GRIEF SHARE GROUP:

For more information please call (863) 385-0049

YOUHT 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

For 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
Lic #: PT4952
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(863) 314-0057-fax
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