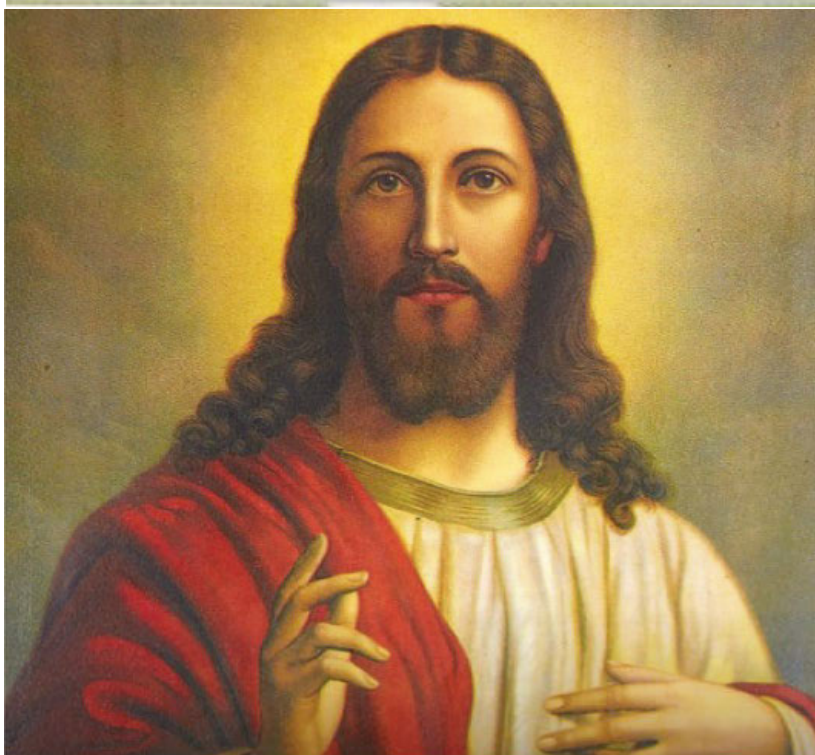


**St. Catherine of Siena
Catholic Church
820 Hickory Street
Sebring, FL 33870**



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30



AUGUST 27TH

**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**

Pope Leo's first 100 days: Leaning into his new role

Pope Leo XIV was elected May 8, making Aug. 16 the 100th day since he stepped out onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica as the new pope. He will celebrate his 70th birthday Sept. 14. While the first 100 days of a pontificate may hint at what is to come, the initial period of Pope Leo's ministry as the successor of Peter and bishop of Rome seemed mostly about him getting used to the role, the crowds and the protocol. According to canon law, the pope "possesses supreme, full, immediate and universal ordinary power in the Church, which he is always able to exercise freely."

In other words, he could have issued a slew of the canonical equivalent of executive orders in his first days in office. Instead, he lived up to his reputation as a person who listens before deciding -- holding a meeting with the College of Cardinals and individual meetings with the heads of Vatican offices. Like his predecessors, Pope Leo confirmed the heads of Curia offices on a temporary basis a few days after his election. Some major nominations are expected in September or early October, starting with his own replacement as prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops.

His choices for members of his team, and whether he decides to have an international Council of Cardinals to advise him will send signals not only about what he wants to do but also how he wants to do it. (Pope Francis set up the Council of Cardinals early in his pontificate to help him with the reform of the Roman Curia and to advise him on other matters, but he did not make the council a formal body.)

Pope Leo went deeper when he spoke about the key objectives of his ministry -- in a pontificate that easily could last 20 years -- during a meeting with the College of Cardinals two days after his election. He asked the cardinals to join him in renewing a "complete commitment to the path that the universal Church has now followed for decades in the wake of the Second Vatican Council."

That path had six fundamental points that, Pope Leo said, "Pope Francis masterfully and concretely set it forth" in his first exhortation, "The Joy of the Gospel." The six points highlighted by Pope Leo were: "the return to the primacy of Christ in proclamation; the missionary conversion of the entire Christian community; growth in collegiality and synodality; attention to the 'sensus fidei' (the people of God's sense of the faith), especially in its most authentic and inclusive forms, such as popular piety; loving care for the least and the rejected; (and) courageous and trusting dialogue with the contemporary world in its various components and realities."

Those realities include the widespread media attention focused on the election of the first U.S.-born pope as well as the fact that people of all stripes feel free to use social media to proclaim what Pope Leo "should" do, "must" or "must not" do. According to a Gallup Poll conducted in the United States July 7-21 and published Aug. 5, Pope Leo was the most favorably viewed of 14 world leaders and major newsmakers; 57% of Americans said they had a "favorable opinion" of him and 11% said they had an "unfavorable" opinion. "These figures closely match Pope Francis' ratings when he assumed the role in 2013, then viewed favorably by 58% and unfavorably by 10%, as well as Pope Benedict in 2005 -- 55% favorable, 12% unfavorable," Gallup said.

Among those surveyed, self-identified Catholics gave all three popes even higher ratings at the beginning of their pontificates, the polling group said, "with Leo viewed favorably by 76%, Francis by 80% and Benedict by 67%." As the weeks passed after his election, Pope Leo seemed to grow more comfortable with a crowd, spending more time blessing babies and enjoying his interactions with the thousands of people who came to St. Peter's Square for his weekly general audiences.

At his general audience Aug. 6 -- held outside on a very warm summer day -- the pope finished his formal program in less than an hour, then spent another two and a half hours shaking hands, posing for photos with pilgrim groups and having unusually long conversations with dozens of newlywed couples before offering them his blessing. As a Curia official, the future pope had a reputation of being somewhat reserved, but Pope Leo has shown he has a special tool for connecting with a crowd: speaking English and Spanish as well as Italian, the Vatican's official working language. While his U.S. roots and Peruvian missionary experience undoubtedly will impact his papacy, he has been very respectful of the Italian tradition of not making major announcements or changes during the summer holidays.

**OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR 2025—2026
BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 10TH**

REGISTRATIONS WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27 AT 6:00 PM IN THE PARISH HALL

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

YOUTH GROUP



VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

**Join us every Friday from 6:30 - 8:00PM for Youth Group!
We will start September 5th and will be meeting at the white
house located next to the church. Grades 9 - 12 are invited!**

**For more information feel free to
contact youth group coordinator:
Jose Rodriguez (863) 245 - 7597**

FOLLOW US!



@stcatherinevoh

**"But those who hope in the Lord
will renew their strength. They will
soar on wings like eagles; they will
run and not grow weary; they will
walk and not be faint."
Isaiah 40:31**

COME & SERVE THE LORD

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.

Dear Friends and Supporters of St. Catherine Catholic School,

This past week we prayed The Rosary as a school while students participated in the sacraments of confession and reconciliation. After the Celebration of the Assumption of Mary last Friday, our students in grades 3-8 were treated to a religious retreat in the parish hall, presided over by Mother Nikopoia and Sister Faithful. Our theme for this year is Living our Faith: Finding Christ in



Your Life. The sisters taught the children how easy it is to find Jesus in your life every day, if you make it a priority and invite him in. They also studied the bible, learned about prayer and adoration, and played a few games. We are eternally grateful for the sisters' participation and their commitment to solidifying our Catholic faith in the students of our school.



We also held our first fundraiser of the year at Caliber Carwash. Thank you to all who participated and stopped by to get a carwash and support St. Catherine Catholic School. A special thank you to our alumni who came back to help, showing their support for Catholic Education.

We are still searching for a music teacher and a PE teacher. If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please contact me, cullipher@stcatheschool.org. Either 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.

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. You can also contact our advancement associate, Toni Joyce, at 863-385-7300 if you have any questions.

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

St. Catherine of Sienna, Pray for Us!

Mr. Steven Cullipher, M. Ed.
Principal



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: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10, Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b, Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8, Ps 139:1-3, 4-6, Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13, Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab, Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13, Ps 128:1-2, 4-5, Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429), Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12, Mk 6:17-29

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11, Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9, Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29, Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a), Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a, Lk 14:1, 7-14



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

Twenty-First in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions of the Week

SATURDAY August 23rd

4:00 PM DAVID NUTTER † Mary Nutter

TONY SALCEDO † Shelly & Riley

Joe & Marge Rafferty (Wedding Anniversary) —
Marge Rafferty

SUNDAY August 24th

8:00 AM ELENA ZAMORA † Joseph Curiel

Emily Dames (Special Intentions) — Alba Sequeira

10:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

MONDAY August 25th

8:00 AM ROSA PÉREZ † Susana Perez

For a Greater Respect for All Human Life — Fr. José

TUESDAY August 26th

8:00 AM HECTOR GARCIA † Susana Perez

WEDNESDAY August 27th

8:00 AM FR. SEAN MULCAHY † Nora Schmidt

THURSDAY August 28th

8:00 AM Marilyn Lower (Special Intentions) — Marilyn Lower

FRIDAY August 29th

8:00 AM JOE RAFFERTY † Peggy Pierce

SATURDAY August 30th

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

SUNDAY August 31st

8:00 AM DONALD ROWE † Becky Johnson

10:00 AM ELIZABETH (Betsy) HULSEBOSCH † Charles
Hulsebosch

LINDA JACKSON † Jim & Eileen Jackson

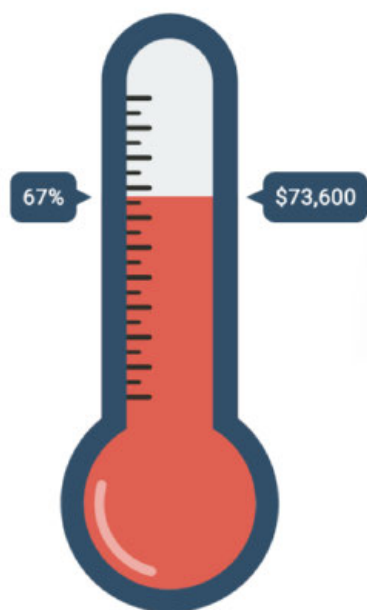
MASS INTENTIONS

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: Charity Fund****Next Week: Youth Group****August 17th****Regular Collection: \$5,306.00****Insurance: \$1,836.00****Weekly Online Giving: \$1,558.00****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: \$122,034.00**

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 31 visitors/shoppers with a total of 109 family members. 12 volunteers/ Vincentians operated the food pantry.

We shared Holy Communion and prayer with 7 patients and their family at the hospital.

We invite anyone interested in joining or learning more about our efforts to join us in the food pantry at 10:00 am every Tuesday. We could really use a couple of bilingual volunteers at 9:30 am.

For more information, please call us at 863-835-0571

We 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 las 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	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.

GRIEFSHARE 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.

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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(863) 314-0057-fax
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