



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion?
... In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:28, 33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD

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

Parish Office/Mailing
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(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

GRANDPARENTS DAY

On March 19, 2021 Pope Francis inaugurated the Year of *Amoris Laetitia* Family, an initiative that offers the Church an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the central role the family plays in transmitting the Gospel and shaping society.

In *Amoris Laetitia*, the document issued to address the complex situations the family faces today, the Holy Father reminds us that, “we must reawaken the collective sense of gratitude, of appreciation, of hospitality, which makes the elderly feel like a living part of the community” (AL191). They still have important work to do in building up the body of Christ as they comprise a significant part of Catholic laity. This celebration is established to treasure the elderly and cherish the gifts they bring.

Modern society advances concepts disregarding human life; through abortion and euthanasia—throw away concepts for those deemed not productive to society rather than reawakening this sense of gratitude and appreciation for all life. Yet the Church reminds all are called to overcome this “throw-away” culture and societal indifference by witnessing the love of Christ to people in all stages of life. Our grandparents and elderly must not be neglected, isolated, or disregarded.

The hearts of seniors feel the pain of their beloved family members falling away from the faith. The concerning statistics are well known, particularly to grandparents—declining Mass attendance, declining belief in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, and young people leaving the Faith shortly after being confirmed. Through their witness and prayers, Grandparents play a crucial role towards reversing these trends. In his message to grandparents and the elderly, Pope Francis reminds the faithful that, “there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to grandchildren.”

Generations of seniors provide an invaluable resource to society and following generations. Their words and examples can foster a rich awareness in children. That “history did not begin with them, that they are now part of an age-old pilgrimage and that they need to respect all that came before them” (AL, 192). Grandparents give a tie to the past, ensuring the most important values are transmitted.

In addition to sharing their faith, grandparents are in a privileged place to be a powerful intercessor for the young people. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI called attention to the gift of prayers the elderly provide. Their prayers “can protect the world, helping it perhaps more effectively than the frenetic activity of many others” (Visit to the Group Home, “*Viva gli Anziani*”, 2 November 2012.).

On this World Day for Grandparents, let us join the entire Church in celebrating all grandparents by a gift of presence, tenderness, and a renewed appreciation for them.

Prayer for Grandparents and Elderly

I thank You, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence: even in times of loneliness, You are my hope and my confidence, You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family and for having blessed me with a long life. I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty, for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for those that are still ahead of me.

I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You call me. Increase, O Lord, my faith, make me a channel of your peace, teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me, to never stop dreaming and to tell of your wonders to new generations.

Protect and guide Pope Leo XIV and the Church, that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth. Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world, the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness and help me to live life to the full in each moment that You give me, in the certainty that you are with me every day, even until the end of the age. Amen.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CLASSES BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH AT 6:00 PM

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.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP YOUTH GROUP

Join us every Wednesday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm for Middle School Youth Group!

We will begin September 17th with a family meeting at the White House located next to the church. Grades 7th and 8th and their parents/guardians are invited!

For more information feel free to contact middle school youth group coordinators:

Kathy (863) 452-7679
or Ken Bruce (863) 273-6822

Let us “encourage one another and build each other up”

1Thessalonians 5:11

YOUTH GROUP

VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

Join us every Friday from 6:30—8:00 PM for Youth Group!
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.



"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

Calling All Men! *That Man is You!*

On September 9, 2025, at 7:00 PM there will be a one-hour information session on *That Man is You!* (TMIY), at St. Catherine Parish, Sebring. TMIY is a Catholic program that honestly addresses the pressures that men face in our modern culture, especially those relating to their roles as husbands and fathers. Since its inception, approximately 100,000 men have been involved in TMIY.

The transformative effects in participants have been most evident in helping men become better husbands and fathers, strengthening them in virtue, and in increasing parish participation. This information session is open to all men, whether you are a member of St. Catherine's or another parish. It is being promoted by the Evangelization Department of the Diocese of Venice and is endorsed by Bishop Dewane. Come to the information session on September 9 and find out more!. For more information call at (863)385-0049

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



The RCIA process is now called OCIA, reflecting a closer translation of the process by which adults are initiated into the Catholic faith, specifically our Roman Catholic tradition, and become initiated into the life of our Church through the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

If you know of anyone who is interested in learning more about our Catholic Faith, about becoming Catholic or in need of the Sacraments, please extend an invitation to them to come to the RCIA sessions.

These classes will begin in September 10th in the Parish Hall. For more information, or to register for classes, please call Juana at (863)385-0049.



Dear Friends and Supporters of St. Catherine Catholic School,

Last week we welcomed our 2026 Graduating Class with a sunrise breakfast in the parish hall. Father Jose spoke with the students reminding them that being a senior at St. Catherine Catholic School is a privilege that comes with great responsibility. As eighth graders, these students are expected to exemplify the virtues of being a Catholic school student. We wish them well in their final year and expect great things as they prepare to journey to high school.

On September 27-28, the eighth graders will have an overnight retreat at Campo San Jose in Lake Placid where they will be immersed in our theme of Living Our Faith: Finding Christ in Your Life. We are planning to have several guest speakers to do a deep dive into the little things in our lives that make us Unapologetically Catholic.

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

Graduating Class sunrise breakfast



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: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30, Ps 13:6ab, 6c, Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday: Col 2:6-15, Ps 62:6-7, 9, Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: Col 3:1-11, Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab, Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Col 3:12-17, Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6, Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14, Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11, Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17, Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7, Lk 6:43-49

Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9, Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38, Phil 2:6-11, Jn 3:13-17



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-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY September 6th**

4:00 PM EZEQUIEL RAMOS † Magdalena Animas Ruiz

EDD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

TODD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

SUNDAY September 7th

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

10:00 AM ALICE DAUGHERTY † Don & Pat Israel

FOR THE MAYS & HOLLENBERG FAMILIES † Pat Israel

MONDAY September 8th

8:00 AM ANNA CONNELLY † Kathleen Collura

Bob Walters (special intentions) — B. Walters

TUESDAY September 9th

8:00 AM JOE RAFFERTY † MTY

WEDNESDAY September 10th

8:00 AM FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY † Kim Torres

THURSDAY September 11th

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

FRIDAY September 12th

8:00 AM BONITA LESNIAK † Jerry & Jean Lesniak

SATURDAY September 13th

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

SUNDAY September 14th

8:00 AM CHARLES BRADY † Robert & Stacey Barone

ELIZABETH ANN PADEN BARINA † Richard M. Barina

10:00 AM TODD & EDD VOWELS † Rita, Laurie, Tim & Susan

Peter & Crol Kent (63rd Wedding Anniversary) —
The Kent Family

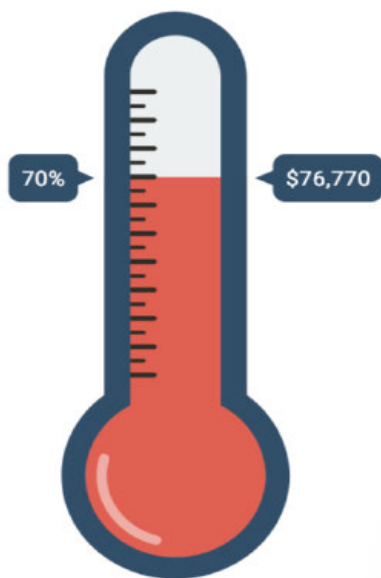
MASS INTENTIONS

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: Catholic University of America****Next Week: Charity Fund****August 31st****Regular Collection: \$5,551.00****Youth Group: \$1,340.00****Weekly Online Giving: \$534.00****For Online Giving instructions visit****<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>****Flocknote August: \$2,900.00****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: \$137,009.00**

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 27 visitors/ shoppers with a total of 79 family members. 14 Volunteers operated the food pantry.

We received donations from 2 Parish families. This week we invite you to donate rice and beans if possible.

We thank you for your generosity and support.

For more information please 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 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)** 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 jcsjlindsey@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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