



**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
Wednesday, December 24th  
Eve Mass 4:00 PM  
Mid-Night Mass 9:00 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
Thursday, December 25th  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

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

**Office Hours**  
Monday—Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 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 & 12:00 Noon  
Saturday: 9:00 AM

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
Saturday: 3:00—3:45 PM  
Sunday: 9:00—9:45 AM

**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 hours  
8:00 AM—3:00 PM

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we celebrate the mystery of Christmas, we contemplate the God who “emptied himself” and came among us as a vulnerable Child, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger. In a world that prizes image, success, and self-promotion, the crib of Bethlehem quietly proclaims a very different way: the way of humility, self-gift, and attentive love of others.

The infancy narratives show us a pattern of life. Mary does not grasp at status but receives God’s initiative with a humble “let it be done,” placing her body, her plans, and her reputation at the service of His saving will. Joseph renounces control and quietly protects the Child and his Mother, putting their safety ahead of his own comfort or expectations. The shepherds and Magi do not seek to be admired; they hasten simply to see, to adore, and to offer what they have. Around the manger, no one is asking, “How do I look?” or “What do I get?” Everyone is asking, “Where is the Child?” and “What can I give?”

This Christmas, every parish and every home can become more like that first stable: simple, honest, and full of attentive love. Concrete choices help make time to really listen to a family member or neighbor instead of needing to win the conversation; quietly helping someone who cannot repay us; stepping back from the need to be praised; asking forgiveness where we have used others or treated them as props in our own story. Perhaps the most countercultural act is simply to pray each day, “Lord Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto yours,” and then allow him to show us where our ego still resists his grace.

Be assured of prayers for you and your loved ones at the altar during this holy season. May the Child of Bethlehem free us from the prison of self, heal every wound in our families and in the Church, and lead us into the true joy that comes only from self-giving love. A blessed and holy Christmas to you all.

In Christ,

Fr. José González  
Pastor of St. Catherine Church

**The priests, and staff of St. Catherine Church  
and St Catherine School wish you a Blessed Christmas!**

**The Office will be closed**

**Wednesday, December 24**

**Thursday, December 25**

**& Friday December 26**



#### **Christmas Prayer for Families**

Loving God,

During this holy season of Christmas,  
we ask for your blessing on all families.

Let Mary’s openness to your wonderous ways  
be an inspiration to place all trust in you.

Let Joseph’s courage provide hope  
during times of anxiety and uncertainty.

Let Jesus’ life ignite all families  
with a spirit of light and love.

May the grace that encircles the Holy Family  
widen to embrace all families.

For this we pray.

Amen.



## ANOINTING MASS



Anointing the sick  
parishioners.

Tuesday, December 23 during a 10:00 AM Mass we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for our homebound and sick

Through the Sacrament of Anointing, Christ strengthens the faithful who are afflicted by illness, providing them with the strongest means of support. Jesus showed great concern for the bodily and spiritual welfare of the sick and commanded his followers to do the same. The celebration of this sacrament is an opportunity for the deepening of the faith of the community who are able to witness the faith and devotion of those being anointed.

## GALA RAFFLE



Members of the 2026 Gala Planning Committee will be selling raffle tickets for a Queen size quilt, donated by our Parishioner, DeeDee Bedard. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

Please contact Toni Joyce at St. Catherine Catholic School to [toni.joyce@stcatheschool.org](mailto:toni.joyce@stcatheschool.org) (863) 385-7300 ext. 231 if you would like to purchase tickets.

## VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

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 contact Youth Group coordinator: Jose Rodriguez (863)245-7597.

## GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP YOUTH GROUP

Every Thursday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm for Middle School Youth Group! Classes will be on the “White House” located next to the Church. Grades 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and their parents/guardians are invited!

For more information contact middle school youth group coordinators: Kathy (863) 452-7679 or Ken Bruce (863) 273-6822.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NO Classes Wednesday December 24th and Sunday December 28th.

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

## OCIA

These classes will be Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Building S300. For more information please call Juana at (863)385-0049.

## PARISH DIRECTORY

We're excited to continue with our new Parish Directory, and we need your help! The directory will be a wonderful way to connect with one another and build a stronger sense of community.

**We invite all parishioners to take part by having your photo included.** Whether you're a long-time member or newer to the parish, we want you in the directory!

- **When:** Thursday, January 15, 2026 from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Friday, January 16, 2026 from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM and Saturday, January 17, 2026 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM.
- **Where:** Parish Hall
- **How:** You have to options to schedule your appointment

By participating, you'll not only be a part of the directory, but you'll also help others get to know you better. If you have a family, feel free to bring everyone for a group photo

If you have any questions or need more information, please don't hesitate to reach Claudia Spradlin at 863-385-0049

We look forward to seeing your smile!

**Church Directory Photography**  
*Schedule your appointment today!*



## WE WANT YOUR NAME ON OUR FENCE!

Many have asked how to get a banner for display on the fence at St. Catherine Catholic School. The answer is simple. **By purchasing a Premier Sponsorship for our 2026 Gala, the Marlen Martinez Memorial**, you too can be a proud supporter.

Just fill out the sponsorship brochure below and send it to Toni Joyce, Advancement Office, [toni.joyce@stcatheschool.org](mailto:toni.joyce@stcatheschool.org) or you can call 863-385-7300 ext. 231

Banners go up beginning January 1, 2026 and remain on the fence for one year.  
Thank you for your support of St. Catherine Catholic School!



*The* **Marlen Martinez Memorial**

**3rd Annual Gala**

March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30pm  
St. Catherine Catholic School  
Sponsorship Form

**I would like to sponsor at the following level:**

\$5,000+ - Platinum Sponsor     \$2,500+ - Premiere Sponsor

\*Please contact us to pledge your Premiere or Platinum Sponsorship, or mail your check by 12/1/25, to guarantee your name appears on tickets and promo posters.

\$1,500 - Gold Sponsor     \$1,000 Silver Sponsor

\$500 - Bronze Sponsor     \$250 - Angel Sponsor

Other \_\_\_\_\_

I am excited to attend, please mail me my tickets to the address below.

Street Address:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

I am unable to attend, please donate my tickets.

Sponsor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

All sponsor levels will be featured on all printed material at the event if received by 12/31/2025.

More Information  
Contact:  
Toni Joyce  
(863) 385-7300  
Ext. 231

Please make checks payable to St. Catherine Catholic School & Mail with this page to:  
St. Catherine Catholic School  
Office of Advancement  
2835 Kendallworth Blvd.  
Sebring, FL 33872

This is a ticketed event for which individual tickets will be sold in advance for \$125.00 starting 1/5/2026. St. Catherine Catholic School is a tax exempt, non-profit 501(c)3 organization.

**SACRAMENTS****RECONCILIATION**

This sacrament is available every Saturday from 3:00—3:45 PM and Advent Sundays from 9:00—9:45 AM 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](mailto:office@stcathe.org).

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28, 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd, Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24, Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14, Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16, Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29, Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: *Vigil*: Is 62:1-5, Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a), Acts 13:16-17, 22-25, Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

*Night*: Is 9:1-6, Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11), *Day*: Is 52:7-10, Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c),

Heb 1:1-6, Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59, Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17, Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4, Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12, Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14, Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1), Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17, Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**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

**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY December 20th**

9:00 AM ANTONIO CAPULONG SR. † Sol Capulong  
 Danielle Eggebrecht (special intentions) — Dave & Kelli Eggebrecht  
 DENISE MORALES † Mother & Brother

4:00 PM CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHIEY † Madonna Williams  
 JACK H. WILLIAMS SR. † Madonna Williams

**SUNDAY December 21st**

8:00 AM WILLIAM & MADALYN PLESKOVIC † Mark & Barbara Walczak  
 THOMAS TIRDIL † Katherine Tirdil

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

**MONDAY December 22nd**

8:00 AM ANTONIO ANIMAS ARGÜELLES † Magdalena Animas Ruiz  
 Mackie Boone (Special Intentions) — Gary & Rose Marlow

12:00 PM VINCENT CIMINO † Carol Gibson-Farley  
 JOSEPH La GEORGE † Carol Gibson-Farley

**TUESDAY December 23rd**

8:00 AM For all homeless people — Fr. José

12:00 PM John Hargaden (Special Intention) — Kelly Hargaden

**WEDNESDAY December 24th**

8:00 AM FRANK & DAVID BAILEY † Ann Bailey  
 MAUREEN HELMS † Friends

12:00 PM For all homeless people — Fr. José

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

9:00 PM For All Living and Deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

**THURSDAY December 25th**

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

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

**FRIDAY December 26th**

8:00 AM JOE RAFFERTY † Marge Rafferty

TOM RAFFERTY † Marge Rafferty

12:00 PM DAVID BAILEY † Ann Bailey

FRANK BAILEY † Ann Bailey

**SATURDAY December 27th**

9:00 AM SOULS IN PURGATORY † Sol Capulong

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

**SUNDAY December 28th**

8:00 AM SOULS IN PURGATORY † Kim Torres

DONALE ROWE † Kathy Berard

10:00 AM MARGARET MERCURE † Rosaleen Marlow

## BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER

## OFFERINGS

Second Collections

This Week: Retirement for Religious  
Next Week: Youth Group

December 7th Collections

Regular Collection: \$8,479.00  
2nd Collection: Insurance: \$2,187.00

Weekly Online Giving: \$1,266.00  
Immaculate Conception: \$ 1,256.00

December 14th

Will be reported in the next Bulletin

For Online Giving instructions visit  
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>

Flocknote November: \$2,965.00

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: \$159,888.33

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>

## ▲ Giving Tree Online Donations Now Open! ▲

This holiday season, we're collecting **Christmas gifts for children** through our annual **Giving Tree** program. Your generosity helps bring joy and comfort to kids in our community who need it most.

If you'd like to donate but **prefer not to visit the stores**, no problem — **you can participate online!** Simply go to Flocknote at <https://stcatherineofseb.flocknote.com/give/44923>

or click in the QR

Every gift, big or small, makes a difference. Thank you for helping us make this Christmas a little brighter!



## SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week we served 43 visitors/shoppers with 133 family members.

We received ten donations from Parish families. Your generosity continues to restore hope.

Twelve Vincentians/ Volunteers operated the food pantry.

We visited nine patients and their family members at the hospital and shared prayer and Holy Communion.

If you're interested our efforts join us every Tuesday at 10:00 AM.



**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](#) for further information.

## ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

<b>Pastor: Very Reverend José González, V.F</b>	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 Spradlin .....991-3271	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 jcsojlindsey@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 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).

**ROSARY**

The Holy Rosary will be prayed at 9:00 AM each Sunday in the Chapel.

**"That Man Is You!"** "TMIY" is a **Catholic men's program** built to transform men and form authentic leaders capable of transforming their families and society. It's **FREE!**

We gather every Saturday from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM in Building S300. No registration is required, just come every Saturday. For more information call Edward DeCastro 315-260-4153 ([decastroem70@gmail.com](mailto:decastroem70@gmail.com))



**HOLIDAY  
DEADLINES**

**HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES**

For the bulletin January 4th 2026; Thursday, December 23rd

Articles have to be submitted to [carmen@stcathe.org](mailto:carmen@stcathe.org). Any question  
• please call 863-385-0049.

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