



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

RAISED



"The Lord has truly
been raised!"

LUKE 24:34

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 8:00 AM to 4:00 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 Thursday: 8:00 AM
Friday: 8:00 AM & 12:00 Noon
Saturday: 9:00 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

Walking from Self to Christ: A Reflection on Emmaus



We all know the road to **Emmaus**. It is the road we walk when **hope is disappointed**, when God has not done what we “had hoped.” The two disciples in **Luke 24:13–35** are not villains; they are good, religious men whose hearts have quietly closed in on themselves. They talk about **Jesus**, but they no longer **expect** Him. They discuss the things of God, yet walk **away from Jerusalem**, away from the place of the Cross and Resurrection.

This is how often our lives look. It is usually not loud arrogance, but a subtle **self-preoccupation**: “my” expectations, “my” plans, “my” idea of what God should have done by now. When life does not match our script, we shrink into ourselves. Our prayer becomes a monologue about our disappointments; our faith becomes centered on our feelings instead of **God’s faithfulness**.

Notice how **Jesus** responds. He does not abandon them in their closed circle of conversation. He **draws near** and walks with them, even though “their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.” He asks, “What are you discussing?”—an invitation to bring their **wounded story** into the light. Only when they have poured out their version of events does He gently but firmly confront the real issue: “Oh, how **foolish** you are, and how **slow of heart** to believe....” Their problem is not simply sadness; it is a heart that resists believing **all** that God has revealed, especially the part about the **Cross before glory**.

This is the turning point. The disciples are invited to let go of their **private interpretation** and accept Christ’s interpretation of their story. On the road, Jesus patiently **re-reads their lives in the light of Scripture**, showing that what felt like failure was in fact the very path of **redemption**. Their hearts begin to burn again—not because their egos are comforted, but because the truth is setting them free.

The journey reaches its climax in **hospitality and Eucharist**. They beg Him, “Stay with us.” At table, He takes bread, blesses, breaks, and gives it, and “their eyes were opened and they recognized him.” Around that table, the center quietly shifts from *self* to **Christ**, from *my story* to **His Presence**, from closed sadness to **missionary joy**. They rise “that very hour” and hurry back to **Jerusalem**, to rejoin the community and proclaim what the Lord has done.

This week, the Emmaus Gospel invites each of us to a simple examination of conscience:

- Where am I walking **away from Jerusalem**, avoiding the places where Christ’s Cross touches my life?
- Where do I cling to “we had hoped...” instead of asking, “Lord, how are You present in this?”
- Do I use faith to protect my ego, or do I allow Jesus to **reinterpret my story**, even when it hurts?

When I come to **Mass**, do I ask the Lord not just to console me, but to **open my eyes** and send me out in love? The Risen Lord still draws near to us on our roads of discouragement. He listens, He speaks through **Scripture**, and He reveals Himself in the **breaking of the Bread**. Let us ask for the grace to move from a closed, self-centered faith to a **Eucharistic faith** that burns with love and runs back to serve others.

May our parish be a place where **no one walks alone**, where Christ is recognized in His **Word**, in the **Eucharist**, and in the **brother or sister** who walks beside us.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. —Lk 24:31



WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22 AT 6:30 PM
ST. CATHERINE CHURCH

"Remember, then, that you received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear. Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you, Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come."

—St. Ambrose

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes Wednesday at 6:00 PM and Sunday at 10:00 AM. For more information please call (863)385-0049.

**GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP
 YOUTH GROUP**

Every Thursday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm Classes will be on the in the 806 Hickory Street “White House” located next to the Church. For more information contact middle school youth group coordinators: Kathy (863) 452-7679 or Ken Bruce (863) 273-6822.

VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

Meeting every Friday from 6:30—8:00 PM 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.

SOMETHING NEW

Break open the Word of God every Tuesday at 12:30 PM for the following Sunday’s Gospels. Prepare your heart for the Sunday readings and learn how Lectio Divina can help you to a deeper relationship with God. No need to register, just come to the church.

For information call Marge Rafferty (863)214-3312.



**Video Series on the
 Gospel of John**

**Thursdays at 6:00 PM
 Apr 9 to May 28**

Building S200 - Hickory St & Lakeview Dr

Videos, Schedule, & more: www.Isaiah11.com

Contact:

Jennifer Lindsey 618-521-8730 (voice/text)
 Jonathan Spence 508-333-0483 (voice/text)

Dear St. Catherine Catholic School Families, Faculty, Staff, and Parish Community,

As we head into the final stretch of the 2025-2026 school year, I want to take a moment to celebrate two events that highlight the best of our school community—our Annual Sports Banquet and the Spring Family Picnic.



Sports Banquet – Celebrating Excellence on and off the Field

On Friday, April 10 we honored our student athletes at the Annual Sports Banquet. This special evening recognized the hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship displayed by our students throughout the year. While we could not field teams for soccer or flag football this year, our outstanding cheerleaders carried on with school spirit that rivaled any professional sports team's cheerleaders.

In addition, we honored students who had participated in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Shootout. Many of these students went on to the regional shootout at St. Charles Borromeo in Port Charlotte. This is a night where we celebrated not just athletic achievement, but also the character and perseverance our students show every day.

Spring Family Picnic – Fun, Food, and Community



On Saturday, April 11, we held our annual spring picnic. We enjoyed delicious food with hamburgers and hot dogs provided by the Knights of Columbus (thank you gentlemen!) along with cotton candy, popcorn, and chips provided by the PTO (thank you PTO!). Our 8th graders sold soft drinks and water to support their upcoming senior trip to Universal Studios.

We also had face painting, musical chairs, basketball, soccer, and other games. And for some reason, there was an exceptionally long line to try to dunk the principal in the dunk tank!

These events perfectly represent what makes our school special—dedication to excellence and a strong sense of community.

Thank you for your continued partnership in making this a fantastic year!

Other Announcements:

We are currently hiring for next year:

- School bus drivers
- Aftercare attendants

If you or someone you know are interested, please contact me at cullipher@stcatheschool.org.

We are still raising funds to replace our **playground equipment**. As soon as we reach the halfway point, we can replace the condemned playground set while we continue to plan the replacement of the remaining equipment. Your gift is greatly appreciated. You can send your check to the school with “playground” in the notation.

Registration is open for the 2026-2027 school year. Please contact Mrs. Gloria Lopez for information or registration assistance, admissions@stcatheschool.org.

God Bless,
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: Acts 6:8-15, Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30, Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51-8:1a, Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab, Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8, Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a, Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40, Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20, Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20, Ps 117:1bc, 2, Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14, Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17, Mk 16:15-20

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6, 1 Pt 2:20b-25, Jn 10:1-10

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

Third Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions of the Week

SATURDAY April 18th

9:00 AM BONITA B. ELLIS † From her entire Family

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

SUNDAY April 19th

8:00 AM BONITA B. ELLIS † From her entire Family

WILLIAM ZITELLI † Gladys Zitelli

10:00 AM MICHAEL COLLURA † The Crews Family and his wife Kathy

CHRISTINE PERRY † & FR. ENRIQUE SERA † Frankie Hernandez

MONDAY April 20th

8:00 AM BONITA B. ELLIS † From her entire family

DENISE MORALES † Mother

TUESDAY April 21st

8:00 AM BONITA B. ELLIS † From her entire family

Gregorio Astorga Mendoza (Health) — Anonymous

WEDNESDAY April 22nd

8:00 AM For peace in the world — Fr. José

THURSDAY April 23rd

8:00 AM CARLOS FERNANDEZ † Erica Bowen

FRIDAY April 24th

8:00 AM Rheema Mavelil Family (Special Intentions — Rheema Mavelil

12:00 PM WILLIE COLÓN † Katherine Marron

SATURDAY April 25th

9:00 AM For Pope Leo XIV — Fr. José

4:00 PM JOE RAFFERTY † Marge Rafferty

CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHEY † Madonna Williams

TODD VOWELS † Rita Vowels

SUNDAY April 26th

8:00 AM For Religious Vocations — Fr. José

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: Home Mission Appeal
Next Week: Youth Group

April 12th

Regular: \$6,424.00
Insurance: \$3,163.00

Weekly Online Giving: \$984.00

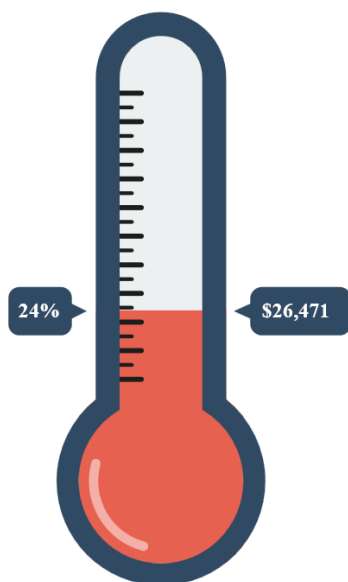
For Online Giving instructions visit
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcath/funds>

Flocknote March: \$3,671.00

For Online Flocknote Giving visit
<https://stcatherineofseb.flocknote.com/fundit/give>

INSURANCE FUND 2026

GOAL: \$110,000



CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL 2026

Our assessment for 2026 is \$123,00.00
We have received \$43,667.00

Please make checks payable to CFA and in the Memo write "St. Catherine". All donations in excess of our assessment will be returned to the Parish. Thank you for your generous support to St. Catherine's and the CFA.

Watch the video of Bishop Dewane:
<https://vimeo.com/1158620553?fl=pl&fe=cm>

To contribute online go to
[s://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/](https://dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/)

RED MEMORIAL CANDLES

Are in the back of the church adjacent to the Chapel. A Memorial Candle is lit and remains lighted at all times for one year in memory of a person who has passed away. You may commemorate a loved one by lighting a candle for one year with a donation of \$150.

Please come to the Parish Office (863)385-0049 to make arrangements for a Memorial Candle which will be accompanied by a small plaque with the name of the person.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Last week we served 40 visitors/shoppers with 150 family members.

We received 4 food and 1 monetary donation from Parish families. 12 Vincentians/ Volunteers operated the food pantry.

We visited 11 patients in the hospital and shared prayer and Holy Communion.

We would appreciate donations of canned Tuna and Rice.

You can place the items in the Ministry room at the Church entrance.

If you would like to make a monetary donation you can make a check payable to St Vincent de Paul and place it in the Poor Box at the Church entrance.

If you would like to join us or have a need we are open every Thursday at 10AM.

Your support restores hope to those that face hunger in our community.

Our phone number is 863-835-0571

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

Pastor: Very Reverend José González, V.F385-0049

OCIA: Juana Nava.....385-0049
navaj@stcath.org

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

Religious Education: Rose Hall.....385-0049
rose@stcath.org.

Altar Servers: Doroteo Rodriguez.....305-726-1098

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 jcsjindsey@yahoo.com.

"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. 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 315-264-4153 (decastroem70@gmail.com)

GRIEFSHARE GROUP

Many of us have recently lost a loved one, life continues; for those of us who grieve, the hurt stays with us. God doesn't intend us to grieve on our own. Meeting first Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM in the Building S200, together, we will pray, share and support one another in our grief. Continuing the first Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM. For information text or call Marge Rafferty (863)214-3312.

CAR RAFFLE
St. Catherine Catholic Church Inc. will be holding a **Car Raffle** to pay the insurance necessary to maintain our ministries and ongoing needs of the parish.
Tickets are available now at the parish office and after all weekend Masses; all proceeds will benefit St. Catherine Catholic Church Inc., and its charitable works.

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 Steve Ashley 863-414-4169. Thank You!

Please note: The grand prize winner is responsible for all fees associated with licensing, registration, insurance, and taxes (including income tax, luxury tax, special taxes, shipping, and all title and sales taxes). The grand prize winner may, alternatively, elect to receive a cash prize in the amount of \$15,000.00.

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.

The raffle regulations are posted on our website, at the entrance of the Church and the Parish Hall.

PRAYER CHAIN

For questions or more information please call Claudia Spradlin at (863)991-3271 or email claudia@stcath.org.

Thank you for your generous support of St. Catherine Catholic Church Inc., through this fundraiser that helps sustain our worship, formation, and outreach.

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



SCAN HERE!



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