

**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 8:00 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

**The office will be closed on Monday, May 25th
in observance of Memorial Day**

**THE LAST MASS ON FRIDAYS AT 12:00 NOON
WILL BE ON MAY 30th**

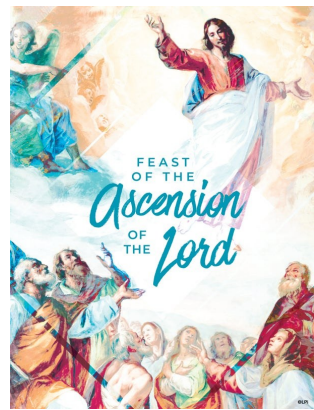
**THE LAST MASS ON SATURDAYS AT 9:00 AM
WILL BE ON MAY 31st**

THESE MASSES WILL CONTINUE IN THE FALL

Reverend Emilio Biosca Agüero, OFM Cap., as Bishop-elect of Venice



Pope Leo XIV has accepted the resignation of Bishop Frank J. Dewane, 76, from the pastoral governance of the Diocese of Venice, and has appointed Reverend Emilio Biosca Agüero, OFM Cap., as Bishop-elect of Venice. Father Biosca is a member of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of Saint Augustine in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and currently serves as pastor of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington, D.C.



“Why Are You Standing There Looking at the Sky?”

In the first reading for the Ascension of the Lord, the Apostles watch as Jesus is taken up into heaven. Then two angels suddenly appear and ask a very direct question: “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?” The Lord has just entrusted them with a mission, promised them the Holy Spirit, and sent them out as witnesses “to the ends of the earth.” The time for simply “looking” is over; the time for living and witnessing has begun.

That question—“Why are you just standing there?”—is quietly addressed to us as well. We live in what many have called a “pandemic of egoism”: a culture where the self is at the center, where image can matter more than reality, and where other people can be reduced to supporting roles in “my” story. Sadly, this spirit can even seep into our spiritual lives and into the Church: faith becomes about my comfort, my opinions, my preferences, rather than about God’s glory and the salvation of souls.

The Ascension shows us a very different pattern. Jesus does not cling to visibility, control, or earthly glory. He entrusts his work to ordinary, fragile disciples. He “ascends” to the Father not by pushing others down, but by having poured himself out completely on the Cross. His exaltation is the fruit of humility, obedience, and love. In other words, Ascension is the victory of self-gift over self-absorption.

For some people, “egoism” is not a theory but a wound. Many have suffered under egoistic parents, spouses, coworkers, or even religious figures: people who needed to be admired, who rarely admitted fault, and who used others rather than truly loving them. If this is part of your story, know that Ascension can be a source of real hope. Your identity and dignity do not come from the verdict of any human being. They come from the risen and ascended Christ, who has taken our humanity into the very heart of God. Your life is “hidden with Christ in God.” In him, you are not an object or a prop; you are a beloved son or daughter.

At the same time, the Church invites all of us to examine our own hearts. Egoism always looks clearer in others than in ourselves. Yet the seeds of it can live quietly in our habits: the need always to be right; the tendency to make every conversation about us; the refusal to receive corrections; the subtle way of turning our life into a stage. The Ascension calls us to a different path: to “descend” in service so that Christ may truly “ascend” in our hearts and in our family.

How might we respond this week?

- By asking honestly: In my family, in my parish, at work, do I act as if everything revolves around me, or around Christ?
- By choosing one concrete, hidden act of service that benefits someone else with no recognition.
- By coming to Mass asking not, “What will I get out of this?” but “How can I give myself to God and neighbor today?”

At every Eucharist, the Lord who ascended is truly present among us. He draws us into his own offering to the Father and into his mission to the world. As we celebrate the Ascension, let us ask for the grace to move from a life centered on “me” to a life centered on Him—so that, when people meet us, they do not simply see another self-promoting ego, but catch a glimpse of the humble, risen, and ascended Lord.



Whether you're graduating from High School, or College, we invite you and your families to

a special Thanksgiving Mass in your honor on Sunday, May 31, 2026.

Please choose the Mass Time you normally attend with your family:

- 10:00 AM – English
- 12:00 PM – Spanish

Please come dressed in your graduation cap and gown as we give thanks to God for your accomplishments and pray for His guidance in your next chapter.

For more information, contact: 385-0049

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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.

GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP YOUTH GROUP

Every Thursday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm Clases 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.

SOMETHING NEW

Break open the Word of God every Monday after the 8:00 AM Mass 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)



St. Catherine Catholic Parish utilizes a system called "Flocknote" to keep in touch with members. By signing up for this service at <https://stcatherineofseb.flocknote.com>, you will receive text messages for any urgent information (such as weather cancellations or last-minute event details).

You can also send the text message STCATHE to 84576 to automatically sign up for your Flocknote. Don't worry, we're not going to send you spam.

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

This week we were blessed to have First Class Relics of St. Carlo Acutis, St. Maria Goretti, and St. Gemma Galgani. Students were provided with prayer cards for St. Carlo Acutis and St. Maria Goretti, which were touched by the First Class Relic, making the prayer cards Third Class Relics that they can keep for prayer and meditation. Many students also touched their brown scapulars to one of the relics, making it a Third Class Relics as well. What a wonderful blessing! Thank you to Ms. Lazo for coordinating this fantastic event.



Other Announcements:

We are currently hiring for next year:

- School bus drivers
- Aftercare attendants
- Substitute teachers

If you or someone you know are interested, please go to <https://dioceseofvenice.org/offices/offices-departments/human-resources/>

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.

God Bless,
Steven Cullipher, M. Ed.
Principal



ST. CATHERINE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

SUMMER CAMP

2026

ACTIVITIES

- Orchestra (June 8- June 26)
- Sports
- Art
- Academic Support
- Local Field Trips
- Religious Instruction

JOIN NOW!

SCAN ME

JUNE 8-JULY 24
7:30 AM-5:00 PM

Contact Us (863) 385-7300
Talilah.Emilio@stcatheschool.org

ST. CATHERINE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

2026 - 2027 SCHOOL YEAR

PARENTS / GUARDIANS:

- IS YOUR CHILD ENROLLED YET? PLEASE SUBMIT THE RE-ENROLLMENT PACKET (FAMILY PORTAL)
- ALSO, PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETE THE STEP - UP FOR STUDENTS APPLICATION
- SEND THE AWARD ID # TO MRS. GLORIA VIA EMAIL: GLORIA.LOPEZ@STCATHESCHOOL.ORG
- APPLY FOR 26-27 FINANCIAL AID (FACTS FINANCIAL AID)

Christ-Centered Classical Education for grades Pre-K through 8

If you need additional information
Please call (863)385-7300 Ext. 233

www.stcatheschool.org
admissions@stcatheschool.org

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 19:1-8, Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab, Jn 16:29-33
 Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27, Ps 68:10-11, 20-21, Jn 17:1-11a
 Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38, Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab, Jn 17:11b-19
 Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11, Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11, Jn 17:20-26
 Friday: Acts 25:13b-21, Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab, Jn 21:15-19
 Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, Ps 11:4, 5 and 7, Jn 21:20-25
 Sunday: Acts 2:1-11, Ps 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34, 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13, Jn 20:19-23

***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

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

**The Ascension of the Lord
 Mass Intentions of the Week**

SATURDAY May 16th

9:00 AM For Pope Leo XIV — Fr. José
 4:00 PM PAULINE (Birdie) DORMAN † Fr. José
 JOE RAFFERTY † Marge Rafferty
 TONY SALCEDO † Shelly & Riley

SUNDAY May 17th

8:00 AM ALFREDO PAZMINO † Maria Von Drewitz
 MILDRED SEALE † Maria Von Drewitz
 10:00 AM EDD & TODD VOWELS † Rita Vowels
 In Thanksgiving for the Pardo Family — Catherine Usher

MONDAY May 18th

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

TUESDAY May 19th

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

WEDNESDAY May 20th

8:00 AM DENISE MORALES † Brother

THURSDAY May 21st

8:00 AM For peace in world — Fr. José

FRIDAY May 22nd

8:00 AM MARY CYRIAC † Albey Chazhicattu

12:00 PM For St. Catherine Catholic School — Fr. José

SATURDAY May 23rd

9:00 AM PETER W. POWELL † Pacita Powell

4:00 PM TODD VOWELS † Rita Vowels
 JACK H. WILLIAMS SR. † Madonna Williams

SUNDAY May 24th

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

10:00 AM For all school students — Fr. José

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 Communication Campaign

Next Week: Insurance

May 10th

Regular: \$6,690.00

Youth Group: \$1,627.00

Weekly Online Giving May 3rd: \$1,151.00

Weekly Online Giving May 10th: \$887.00

For Online Giving instructions visit

<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>

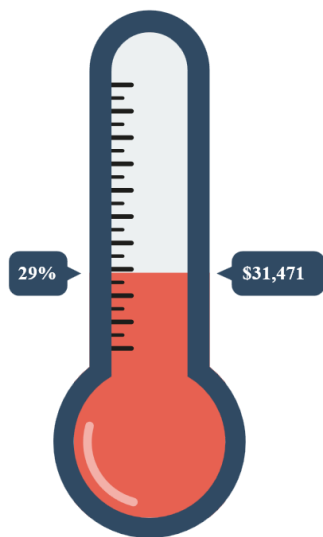
Flocknote April: \$4,464.00

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 \$83,901.00

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

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 41 visitors/ shoppers with a total of 136 family members. 11 Vincentians/Volunteers operated the food pantry.

We would appreciate donations of Cereal, Peanut butter and canned Soup. 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 10:00AM. Our address is 806 Hickory St.

Thank you for your generosity and support. You are helping restore 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: dioceseofvenice.org/

for further information.

ORGANIZATION DIRECTORY

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

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

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

Religious Education: Rose Hall.....385-0049
rose@stcathe.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.

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.

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. Welcome new members Steve Cullipher & Tom Miro. Any questions please contact Don 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 9:00 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. 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

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.

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.

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

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



SCAN HERE! with an arrow pointing to the QR code.



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