



**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 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



13th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple — amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." Matthew 10:42

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
FRIDAY JULY 3 INDEPENDENCE DAY**



The 250th anniversary of the United States

The 250th anniversary of the United States (July 4, 2026) offers a providential moment to reflect on how the Catholic Church's long story—from Pentecost to the American founding and beyond—has shaped, and been shaped by, this nation's journey in freedom. It is also a moment when the U.S. bishops are explicitly inviting the Church to renew the nation's consecration to Christ's love as America marks this semiquincentennial.

Catholics in the founding era of the USA

When the colonies declared independence in 1776, Catholics were a small minority, concentrated especially in Maryland and a few other pockets, and often lived their faith discreetly because of suspicion and legal disabilities. Yet Catholics had a disproportionate influence on key questions of religious liberty and the emerging constitutional order, helped by an international outlook brought by immigrants from Europe, the Caribbean, and Spanish territories to the south and west.

A pivotal figure was John Carroll, a Jesuit priest who became the first Catholic bishop in the United States and was a cousin of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence. John Carroll not only organized the infant Church in the new republic but also wrote publicly against religious tests for office and supported the protection of religious freedom that would be enshrined in the First Amendment.

Consecrations of the nation and Marian devotion

From very early on, Catholic leaders sought to place the young republic under Mary's maternal care and under Christ's kingship. In 1792—just 16 years after the Declaration—Bishop John Carroll consecrated the United States to Mary, the Mother of God, effectively entrusting the fledgling nation to her intercession.

Later, the U.S. bishops chose the Immaculate Conception as the country's patroness in 1846, well before the dogma was defined in 1854, and again consecrated the nation to Mary's Immaculate Heart in 1959. More recently, in 2020, during the COVID-19 crisis, Archbishop José Gomez led a reconsecration of the United States to the Virgin Mary, renewing this national act of trust in her guidance.

America at 250: faith, freedom, and the Sacred Heart

The United States will mark 250 years of independence on July 4, 2026, an observance often called the Semiquincentennial or "America250." Federal initiatives such as America250 and programs launched by institutions like the State Department and National Park Service are highlighting the story of the Revolution, the development of the republic, and the ideals of liberty that shaped the nation.

Within this broader civic celebration, Catholic voices are emphasizing the intertwined journey of faith and freedom, noting how generations of Catholic immigrants-built parishes, schools, hospitals, and charitable institutions that became anchors of community life across the country. A new podcast project, *America 250*, for example, presents the often-overlooked story of Catholics in the colonies and early republic, showing how Catholic laity and clergy helped expand ideas of religious toleration and contributed to the diversity that now characterizes both American society and the Church in the United States.

2026: Consecration to the Sacred Heart

As the nation approaches this 250-year milestone, the U.S. bishops have decided to consecrate the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, marking the first time they have chosen the Sacred Heart for a national act of this kind. Devotion to the Sacred Heart, whose roots go back at least to patristic meditation and which spread widely after Christ's revelations to St Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17th century, has long been associated with recognizing Christ's kingship over persons, families, and even nations.

This consecration was scheduled around the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart in June 2026, during the bishops' spring plenary assembly in Florida, as a spiritual response to the Semiquincentennial that invites Catholics to deeper conversion and a renewed encounter with the merciful love of Christ. In homiletic and pastoral terms, it provides a rich bridge between the Church's universal history—from Pentecost to the present—and the concrete story of American Catholics seeking to live their faith within a nation still wrestling with the meaning of freedom, solidarity, and the common good.

TOTUS TUUS

Summer Youth Program

**To Jesus, through Mary-
TOTALLY YOURS!**



JULY 5TH - 9TH | 7th - 12th Grade

Sunday through Thursday
6:30 p.m.- 8:45 p.m.

**St. James Mission
Santiago
St. Catherine
Our Lady of Grace**

JULY 6TH - 10TH | 1st - 6th Grade

Monday through Friday
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Five Pillars

- The Eucharist
- Marian devotion
- Catechetical instruction
- Vocational discernment
- FUN!



**\$50/Child
\$125/Family**

**St. James Catholic Church
3380 Placid View Dr. Lake Placid FL 33852** ✨

+863-991-3271 claudia@stcathe.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

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

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

GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP YOUTH GROUP

For more information contact middle school youth group

VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

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

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

This week our summer camp was graced with a special visit from Bishop-Elect Emilio Biosca Agüero, OFM Cap., the newly appointed shepherd of the Diocese of Venice in Florida. The campers, counselors, and staff buzzed with excitement as word spread that a Franciscan missionary bishop-elect—known for his global service and warm pastoral heart—would be joining us.



Bishop-Elect Biosca arrived humbly in his simple Capuchin habit, his presence radiating the joy of a lifelong friar. He was serenaded with a harp solo by our very talented Miriam and treated to a tour of our wonderful school.

Bishop-Elect Biosca's visit left a lasting impression on our camp community. His enthusiasm for mission, love of the outdoors, and deep Franciscan spirituality perfectly aligned with the spirit of summer camp—reminding everyone that faith is an adventure meant to be lived fully. We are grateful for his time with us and look forward to his continued leadership and pastoral example as he prepares for his episcopal ordination.

It was truly a blessing to welcome this joyful shepherd into our midst. Deo Gratias!

Kids Play the Pipe Organ

Our campers were also treated to a special visit to First Presbyterian Church in Lake Placid, where our Warrior friend, Joshua Klatt, demonstrated the pipe organ to our students. Students were even given the opportunity to play a few notes on the pipe organ! Joshua frequently helped our school during the period when we had no music teacher. Once again, we are grateful to Joshua for sharing his God-given talents with our students. Thank you Joshua!



Other Announcements:

We are still raising funds to replace our **playground equipment**. Some of the existing playground is unusable. 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. A big Thank You to those who have already donated toward this worthy and important cause. If you would like to support the physical and social development of our students, you can send your check to the school with "playground" in the notation.

We are Hiring

We are in need of a bus driver for the next school year to transport our students from Lake Placid to and from school each day and drive for the occasional field trip. If you, or someone you know, are interested, please reach out to me at cullipher@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 12:1-11, Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18, Mt 16:13-19
 Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12, Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8, Mt 8:23-27
 Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24, Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17, Mt 8:28-34
 Thursday: Am 7:10-17, Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11, Mt 9:1-8
 Friday: Eph 2:19-22, Ps 117:1bc, 2, Jn 20:24-29
 Saturday: Am 9:11-15, Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14, Mt 9:14-17
 Sunday: Zec 9:9-10, Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14, Rom 8:9, 11-13, Mt 11:25-30

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

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY June 27th**

4:00 PM CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHEY † Madonna Williams

JACK H. WILLIAMS SR. † Madonna Williams

SUNDAY June 28th

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

10:00 AM Kathy Berard (for health) — The Lucas Family

Shawn Newman (health) — Chet Furgala

MONDAY June 29th

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

TUESDAY June 30th

8:00 AM LIA AYALA † Teresa Ayala

WEDNESDAY July 1st

8:00 AM For our nation — Fr. José

THURSDAY July 2nd

8:00 AM FRANK S. TOROK † Jeffrey Kindler

LUISA WONG † MTY

FRIDAY July 3rd

8:00 AM Reema Mavelil Family (Special Intentions) — Reema Mavelil

SATURDAY July 4th

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

SUNDAY July 5th

8:00 AM DECEASED MEMBERS of the CEGELSKI FAMILY † Gladys Zitelli

DECEASED MEMBERS of the KIELAR FAMILY † Gladys Zitelli

10:00 AM ROBERT ELLIS † Pat LeFiles

Shawn Newman (health) — Chet Furgala



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: Peter's Pence Collection

Next Week: Youth Group

June 21st

Regular: \$5,153.00

Charity Funds: \$961.00

Weekly Online Giving: \$849.00

For Online Giving instructions visit

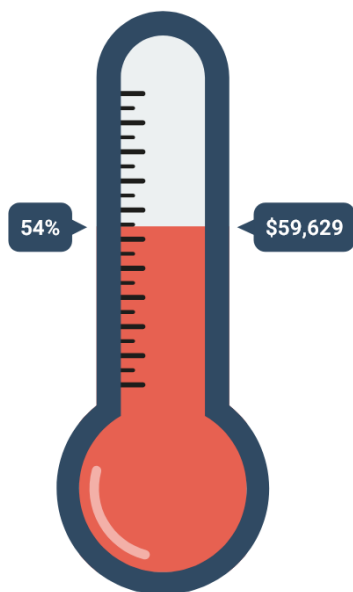
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>

Flocknote May: \$4,852.00

For Online Flocknote Giving visit

<https://stcatherineofseeb.flocknote.com/fundit/give>

INSURANCE FUND 2026

GOAL: \$110,000

CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL 2026

Our assessment for 2026 is \$123,000.00

We have received \$98,757.50

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/

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Pancake
Breakfast

Pancakes and sausage will be available in the Parrish Hall after the 8:00 and 10:00 Masses each Sunday until August 30.

Asking for a minimum donation of 5.00 for each plate.

Prepared for you by the Knights of Columbus and the CCW.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

We served 47 visitors/shoppers with a total of 148 family members.

10 Volunteers/Vincentians and 1 student operated the food pantry.

We received 2 monetary and 13 food donations from Parish families.

We would appreciate donations of peanut butter, dry beans and canned meat. 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. Our address is 806 Hickory St.

Thank you and may God bless you for your generosity and support.

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.F
385-0049

Arts and Environment: Gloria Fontanes.....385-0049
 Altar Servers: Doroteo Rodriguez.....305-726-1098
 Liturgical Ministries: Diane Sochacki.....835-2523
 Ministry to the Sick: Claudia Spradlin991-3271

OCIA: Juana Nava.....385-0049
 navaj@stcathe.org
 Religious Education: Rose Hall.....385-0049
 rose@stcathe.org.
 Respect Life:.....385-0049
 SVDP:835-0571
 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.

GRIEF SHARE 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. Any questions please contact Don Israel 239-691-4777.

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)

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. Information call Marge Rafferty (863)214-3312.

THE GREAT ADVENTURE
 Your Journey Through the Bible

The Bible Timeline
The Story of Salvation

Jeff Cavins
 &
 Fr. Mike Schmitz

Thursdays at 6:00 PM - Starting June 18
 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)

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