



**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)

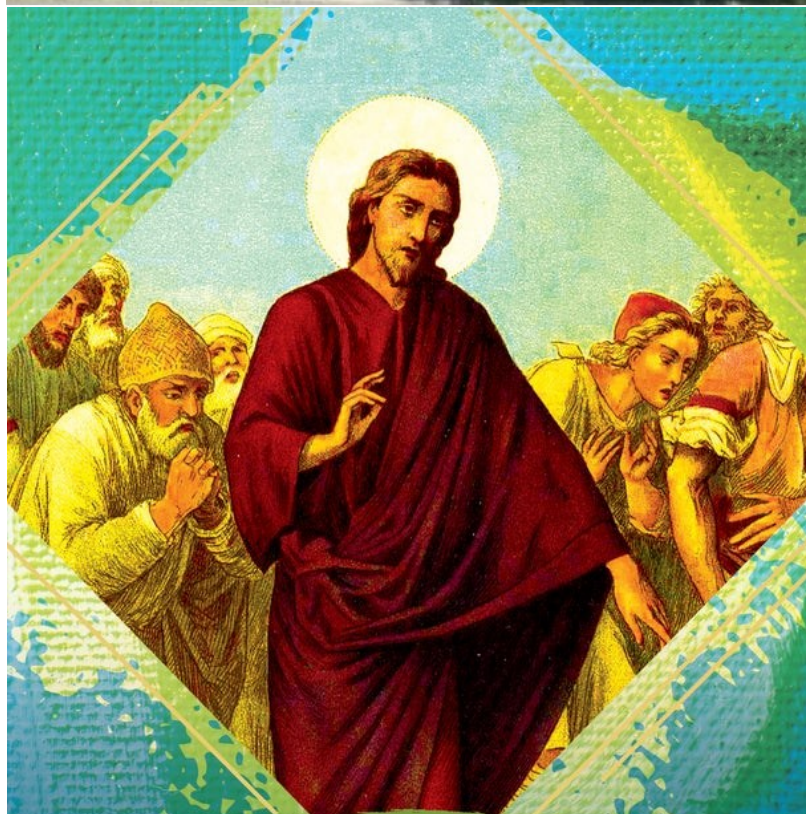
DAILY MASS
Monday to Friday: 8:00 AM

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



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“He replied, ‘No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest.’” - Mt 13:29-30

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

“The righteous will shine
like the sun in the kingdom
of their Father.”

MATTHEW 13:43A

Welcome Bishop Emilio



Formally introduced by Bishop Emeritus Frank J. Dewane during a May 13 press conference in Venice, Bishop Emilio said he “accepted the appointment with trust in the Divine Providence of God.” He also expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Holy Father, Pope Leo, for “his prayerful support and for the confidence he has placed in me through this appointment. Mindful of the weight of

this responsibility, I entrust myself to Our Lady of Mercy and to St. Mark, co-patrons of this youthful and thriving Diocese of Venice.”

The call he received from Apostolic Nuncio Cardinal Christophe Pierre was a “big surprise. The nuncio called and I was in confessions before the evening Mass on Saturday. I saw the nunciature had called, which wasn’t totally unexpected as some priests from Cuba were coming to visit. I figured that was the call.”

Of course, that was not why he received the call; it was about the appointment by the Holy Father to lead a 10-county diocese in Southwest Florida.

“On a personal level, I am amazed at the way Divine Providence has worked throughout my life,” Bishop Emilio said. “Sometimes we experience moments of tremendous sadness and sorrow that catch us by surprise and sometimes moments of great wonder. Ten to twelve years ago, at a Capuchin Provincial Chapter, two elderly Capuchins who had served in Papua New Guinea, told me, “One day you are going to be a Bishop, and then you will need a lot of prayers.” This was just a conversation between us. But when it happened, I remembered, and now I am in the part of needing many prayers.”

Preparing to lead the Diocese

Since the announcement of his appointment was made, Bishop Emilio has been pulled in many directions. He worked diligently to ensure the transition to a new pas-

tor at Sacred Heart in Washington went smoothly, while at the same time tried to gain information about the Diocese of Venice.

Relying on prayer, he first received the names of all priests, religious and Diocesan staff so he could pray for them. In addition to meeting in the Catholic Center in Venice with Bishop Dewane and other key personnel, Bishop Emilio set up a series of regional Deanery meetings with priests, women religious, and deacons for the week of June 15-19. These meetings served the purpose of meeting as many priests, religious and deacons, receiving feedback from them and sharing his own story.

“I really enjoyed it,” Bishop Emilio said. “I think this set up nicely another pastoral another piece that will come after the ordination.”

That piece includes meeting the Catholic Center staff and gradually making key appointments, such as vicar general, vicar for priest, vicar for religious, director of religious education and more.

Bishop Emilio also plans to spend his first months making initial visits to all 61 parishes. The visits to the 15 Catholic schools in the diocese will come in October and November.

With a sense of responsibility and some urgency, Bishop Emilio said he wants to meet the pastors, priests, deacons, religious and lay leaders at their parishes. Later, before the end of the first year, he hopes to make more formal, official visitations, at each parish.

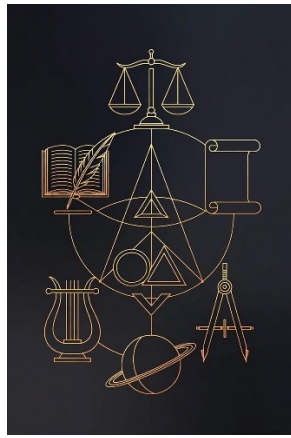
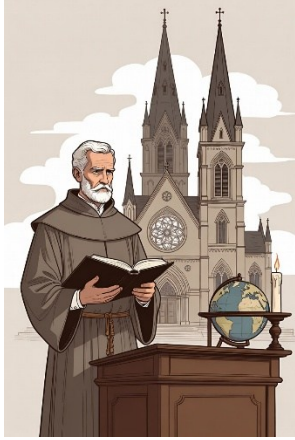
Prior to his ordination and installation, Bishop Emilio took some time wrapping up the transition at his former parish, visiting family, and preparing to go on retreat at the Capuchin Hermitage near Salisbury, Pennsylvania, not far from Cumberland, Maryland.

“It was a difficult time turning over the beautiful parish of the Shrine of the Sacred Heart while also learning about the diocese,” Bishop Emilio said. “Now going to our Capuchin Hermitage will allow time for prayer, silence and concentration on Venice.”

Bishop Emilio asks that all pray for him as he is ordained as a bishop and installed as the third shepherd of the Diocese of Venice in Florida.

Welcome to Florida, Bishop Emilio!

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



Continuing from the previous introduction to Classical Catholic Education, I would like to emphasize why we are making this transition and why Classical Catholic Education is more important now than ever.

Why the Transition Now?

In a time of deep cultural confusion, technological disruption, political polarization, and declining trust in institutions, Classical Catholic Education offers a compelling antidote. It is not a nostalgic retreat but a forward-looking formation that equips individuals to think clearly, live virtuously, and contribute meaningfully to the common good.

Modern society often promotes a fragmented view of reality: truth as subjective, beauty as personal preference, and goodness as whatever feels right. This leads to confusion, especially among young people facing mental health challenges, identity crises, and a loss of purpose.

Classical Catholic Education rejects relativism. It teaches that **truth, goodness, and beauty** are objective realities grounded in God—the source of all three. Students study the Great Books, Scripture, the Church Fathers, and Western civilization not as relics, but as living wisdom that helps them understand human nature, moral order, and the consequences of ideas. This cultivates **intellectual and moral virtues**—prudence, justice, fortitude, temperance, faith, hope, and charity—essential for healthy individuals and societies.

By forming people who can reason rigorously (through the Trivium) and appreciate the ordered cosmos (through the Quadrivium and sciences), it produces graduates less susceptible to manipulation by ideology, propaganda, or fleeting trends.

Forming Wise Citizens for a Free Society

Democracies and free societies depend on citizens who can deliberate, discern truth from falsehood, and prioritize the common good over self-interest. Classical education has historically been the training ground for such citizens. It emphasizes **rhetoric** (persuasive and truthful communication), **logic** (clear thinking), and a deep knowledge of history—lessons from Rome's fall, the saints' witness, and Christendom's achievements.

In contrast to narrow vocational training or skills-focused models, it develops the whole person. Research on classical Christian school graduates shows higher rates of civic engagement, stable families, church involvement, and optimism—outcomes that strengthen communities. Catholic classical education adds the fullness of faith, producing “leaven in society”: people who serve with charity, lead with integrity, and defend human dignity.

Addressing the Failures of Modern Education

Many recognize a crisis in contemporary education: stagnant or declining outcomes despite increased spending, struggles with basic literacy and numeracy, and a loss of joy in learning. Progressive models often prioritize self-expression and job readiness over wisdom and virtue, sometimes at the expense of transmitting cultural inheritance.

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Classical Catholic schools frequently report strong academic results alongside deeper formation. They emphasize wonder, memorization of beautiful things, Socratic discussion, and mastery of content—methods proven over centuries. In a world of AI and information overload, the ability to think critically, write clearly, and pursue lifelong learning is more valuable than ever.

Renewing Civilization from Within

Catholic classical education immerses students in the civilization inspired by the Gospel—one that built universities, hospitals, cathedrals, and the framework for human rights. It does not idolize the past but draws wisdom from it to innovate responsibly in the present. Issues like bioethics, technology's impact on humanity, family breakdown, and social justice demand more than technical solutions—they require moral clarity and a transcendent vision.

Graduates are primed to be leaders in every sphere: business, law, medicine, arts, politics, and the Church. They are grounded in the past, engaged with the present, and hopeful for the future. We are proud to be making this transition to Classical Catholic Education because it produces better-formed students who are not only academically capable but also wise, virtuous, and rooted in their faith—preparing them to be leaders who think clearly and live faithfully. Our students are our future, and we are blessed to have the opportunity to help them realize the intentions that God has for them.

God Bless,

Steven Cullipher, M. Ed.
Principal

2026—2027



Our Religious Education program for the year 2026—2027 begins in September. The registrations are available now

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.

Classes will be Wednesdays from 6:00—7:30 PM and Sundays from 10:00—12:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

Registration are for Pre-Communion, First Communion, Post Communion and Confirmation. For more information please call (863)385-0049.

GROWING IN FRIENDSHIP YOUTH GROUP

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

VOICES OF HOPE YOUTH GROUP

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

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. For more information, or to register for classes, please call Juana at (863)385-0049.

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 6:1-4, 6-8, Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23, Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20, Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8, Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13, Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11, Mt 13:10-17

Friday: Jer 3:14-17, Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13, Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15, Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6, Mt 20:20-28

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12, Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130, Rom 8:28-30, Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

***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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**Mass Intentions of the Week****SATURDAY July 18th**

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

SUNDAY July 19th

8:00 AM Shawn Newman (health) — Chet Furgala

Gerald Schommer parents and children — Jennifer & David Roush

10:00 AM LIA AYALA † Teresa Ayala

MARIA LOPEZ † Kelly Hernandez

Robert and Mary Lu Creekmur 62nd Anniversary

MONDAY July 20th

8:00 AM DENISE MORALES † Mother

TUESDAY July 21st

8:00 AM TOM DiREENO † Bridget DiReeno

ANTONIO LUMBAB † Pacita Powell

CLIFFORD & BETTY POWELL † Pacita Powell

WEDNESDAY July 22nd

8:00 AM KATHLEEN BENEDICT † Marcia Kissane

THURSDAY July 23rd

8:00 AM ALEJANDRO & JURIA LUMBAB † Pacita Powell

CHRISTINE PERRY and FR. ENRIQUE SERA † Frankie Hernandez

FRIDAY July 24th

8:00 AM Cyriac Chazhicattu (Birthday) — Albey Chazhicattu

For people who suffer from depression — Frankie Hernandez

SATURDAY July 25th

4:00 PM CHARLES & CATHARINE RITCHEY † Madonna Williams

TONY SALCEDO † Shelly & Riley

SUNDAY July 26th

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

10:00 AM MAIRIN OGLE † John & Tina Haley and Family

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

**Budgeted for First Collection Weekly
from 07/01/2026 to 06/30/2027: \$10,000**

Collected July 12th: \$6,256.00

Difference \$3,744.00

Insurance: \$1,659.00

Weekly Online Giving: \$772.00

Second Collections

**This Week: Solidarity Fund for the
Church in Africa**

Next Week:

To assist in recovery efforts in Venezuela

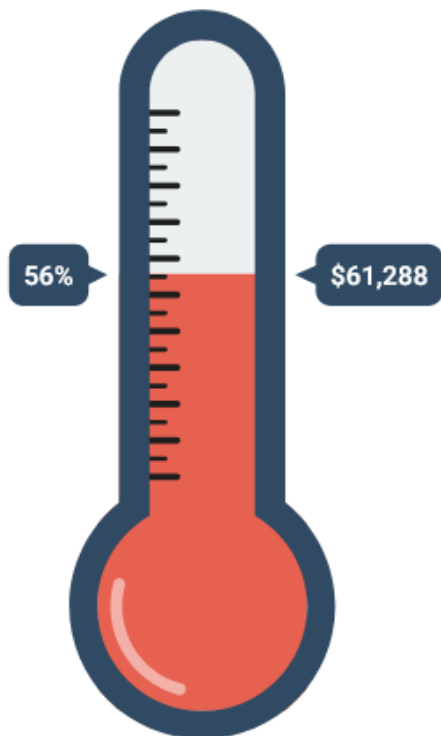
**For Online Giving instructions visit
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>**

Flocknote June: \$4,757.00

**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 \$112,879.50

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.

To contribute online go to

dioceseofvenice.org/ways-to-give/cfa/

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Last week we visited 5 patients in the hospital and shared prayer and Holy Communion.

We served 44 visitors/shoppers with a total of 141 family members. 11 Volunteers/Vincentians and 2 students operated the food pantry. We received 18 donations from Parish families.

We would appreciate donations of canned chicken and tuna, canned spaghetti sauce, spaghetti and Mac and cheese. 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. You can also donate using the QR code included below.

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.



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.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

O CIA: 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. Family of the month "The Schmitz family". Knights of the month, "Anthony Fontanes and Steve Cullipher". 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.

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.

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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mkeim@lakeplacidhrc.com • lakeplacidhrc.com

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Broker Associate/Team Owner/
LPT Corporate Mentor
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Tania@mbnarealty.com
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