



**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



19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. - Mt 14:28-29



**MASS SATURDAY AUGUST 15
AT 9:00 AM IN THE CHURCH**

A New School Year in the Hands of Christ

As a new school year begins, parents often carry a quiet burden that others do not always see. You are thinking about schedules, supplies, homework, discipline, safety, friendships, and the countless small choices that shape your child's growth. Into that very ordinary anxiety, the Lord speaks a gentle word: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

The Gospel reminds us that Jesus comes to his disciples while the wind is still strong and the waves are still rough. He does not wait until everything is calm. In the same way, Christ meets parents right in the middle of the demands of family life, not after every problem has been solved. This is a comforting word for mothers and fathers who want to do what is right, but who sometimes wonder whether they are doing enough. The Lord asks only that we keep our eyes on him. When Peter looked at Jesus, he could walk on the water; when he looked only at the storm, he began to sink. So, it is with family life: peace comes not from perfect control, but from steady trust in God's care.

As we begin this school year, let us pray that parents may be strengthened in patience, confidence, and hope. May the Lord bless your home, guide your children, and give you the grace to lead them with faith, love, and perseverance. And when the days become heavy, may you remember that Christ is close, and that he still says to his people: "Take courage."

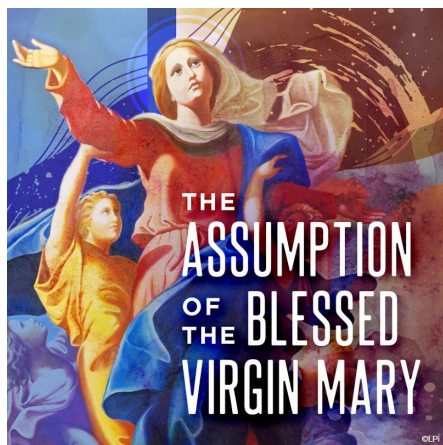
Prayer for Students and Teachers

Lord Jesus Christ, You are the light and wisdom of every heart. Bless all students as they begin this new school year. Give them curiosity, discipline, kindness, and courage. Protect them in mind, body, and soul, and help them grow in knowledge, virtue, and grace.

Bless all teachers and school staff. Grant them patience, wisdom, and joy in their work. May they be instruments of truth, peace, and encouragement, and may their labor bear fruit in the lives of those they serve.

We place every classroom, every lesson, every friendship, and every challenge into Your loving hands. Keep us close to You and teach us always to trust in Your providence. Amen.

Mary's Humility and the Assumption



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary reminds us that God exalts the humble. Mary did not seek attention or glory for herself; she simply trusted the Lord and allowed Him to do great things in her life. The Church teaches that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory as a sign of our hope.

Pope Francis has said that Mary's secret is humility, and that her lowliness opened her to God's grace. This is a powerful reminder for us in a world that often rewards self-promotion, pride, and the need to be admired. Mary shows us a better way: to live quietly, faithfully, and in loving service to God.

As we celebrate this feast, let us ask for grace to imitate Mary's humility. When we stop making ourselves the center, we become more open to the Lord who lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things.

**THE ONLY MASS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE SOLEMNITY
OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY IS SATURDAY AUGUST 15 AT 9:00 AM**

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

As we embark on a new school year, I would like to explain some of the changes you may have noticed at St. Catherine Catholic School.

Understanding the True Cost of a Classical Catholic Education

For many years, Catholic schools have intentionally charged tuition below the actual cost of educating a student. The difference has been covered through the generosity of parishioners, donors, fundraising efforts, and scholarships.

While this approach has helped many families, it also means that every student receives an automatic subsidy regardless of financial need. As educational costs continue to rise, it becomes increasingly important to align tuition with the actual cost of education.

Doing so provides transparency, promotes long-term sustainability, and ensures that financial assistance is available for families who truly need it.

Eliminating Extra Fees for Greater Simplicity

As part of this new tuition model, St. Catherine Catholic School is also moving toward eliminating many of the separate fees that families have traditionally paid throughout the school year.

Rather than asking parents to budget for textbook fees, technology fees, transportation fees, or other required charges, these costs will be incorporated into tuition whenever possible. This creates a simpler, more transparent tuition structure that allows families to better understand the total cost of their child's education from the beginning of the enrollment process.

A comprehensive tuition model also reduces unexpected expenses during the school year, making financial planning easier for families while simplifying school administration.

Preparing for the Education Freedom Tax Credit

This transition also positions St. Catherine Catholic School to be well prepared for the anticipated implementation of the federal Education Freedom Tax Credit, should it become available as currently envisioned.

Many education choice programs are designed around the actual cost of tuition rather than a combination of tuition and numerous additional mandatory fees. By establishing tuition that reflects the true cost of educating a student and incorporating required educational costs into one comprehensive tuition amount, St. Catherine is creating a straightforward and transparent pricing model.

While final regulations and implementation details will ultimately determine how any federal program operates, this proactive approach ensures that St. Catherine is prepared to serve families effectively under future education funding models.

God Bless,

Steven Cullipher, M. Ed.

Principal

—Continue next week

2026—2027

**Our Religious Education program for the year 2026—2027
begins in Wednesday September 9 & Sunday September 13.
The registrations are available now**

Registrations are available in the Church vestibule. You also may complete the paper-work 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: Anthony Fontanes (863)235-1500.

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.

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)

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Pancakes and sausage will be available in the Parish 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.



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.

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: 2 Cor 9:6-10, Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9, Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday: Ez 2:8-3:4, Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131, Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday: Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22, Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Ez 12:1-12, Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62, Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63, Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6, Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab, Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16, 1 Cor 15:20-27, Lk 1:39-56

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7, Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8, Rom 11:13-15, 29-32, Mt 15:21-28

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mass Intentions of the Week**SATURDAY August 8th**

4:00 PM PATRICK WM. ELLIS SR. † Pat LeFiles

TONY SALCEDO † Shelly & Riley

JOY STEWART † Tim & Janice Stewart

SUNDAY August 9th

8:00 AM LUIS S. DELGADO † The Delgado Family

WILLIAM ZITELLI † Gladys Zitelli

Shawn Newman (health) — Chet Furgala

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

MONDAY August 10th

8:00 AM CHUCK MAY † Bob Babik

TUESDAY August 11th

8:00 AM MARY BABIK † Bob Babik

FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY † Kim Torres

WEDNESDAY August 12th

8:00 AM LOUIS BABIK SR. † Bob Babik

LOUIS BABIK JR. † Bob Babik

THURSDAY August 13th

8:00 AM BO FULLERTON † Bob Babik

FRIDAY August 14th

8:00 AM BO FULLERTON † Bob Babik

SATURDAY August 15th

9:00 AM For Bishop Emilio Biosca — Fr. José

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

SUNDAY August 16th

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

10:00 AM LUIS S. DELGADO † The Delgado Family

DENNIS SIMINIAK † Mary Tucker



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 August 2nd: \$7,255.00

Deficit: \$2,745.00

Youth Group: \$1,400.00

Weekly Online Giving: \$559.00

Second Collections

This Week: Florida Catholic

Next Week: Insurance

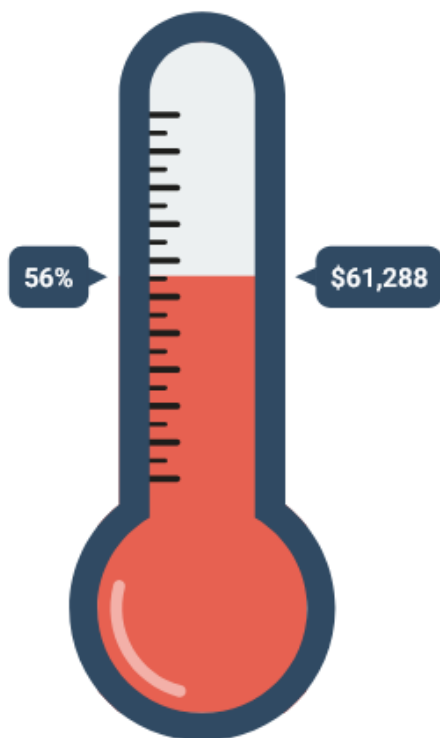
For Online Giving instructions visit
<https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>

Flocknote July: \$3,375.00

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 \$123,000.00

We have received \$118,900.36

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 7 patients in the hospital and shared prayer and Holy Communion.

We served 35 visitors/shoppers with a total of 92 family members. 10 Volunteers/Vincentians and 1 student operated the food pantry. We received 11 donations from Parish families.

We would appreciate donations of canned soup, cereal, 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. You could 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 863-835-057.



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. 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.

Raffle: You Can't Win if You Don't Play

To help us achieve our goal of \$110,000 to pay the cost of our insurance, we offer you the opportunity to participate in a raffle with your donation of \$10. The raffle will take place December 20th 2026 at 2:00 PM in the Parish Hall. For \$100 you can receive 11 tickets (\$10 each, ONE FREE) to win any of the following prizes.

1st Prize : \$3,000

2nd Prize: \$1,500

3rd Prize: \$500

The proceeds will go to help the Parish offset the price of our Insurance Premiums.

Time to move the thermometer!

BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW: <https://stcatherineofsebflocknote.com/give/54994> and we will send your tickets by regular mail.

For those who wish to enter personally (rather than electronically) raffle tickets will also be available:

- At the Parish Office
- After Masses

