



**St. Catherine of Siena
Catholic Church
820 Hickory Street
Sebring, FL 33870**

Parish Office/Mailing

882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870

Tel: (863)385-0049 **Fax:** (863)385-5169

Tel: (863)385-6762 (Spanish)

Web: www.stcathe.org

www.facebook.com/stcathe

E-mail: office@stcathe.org

Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

CLERGY

Pastor

Very Reverend José González, V.F.
frjose@stcathe.org

Parochial Vicar

Reverend Pawel Kawalec (863)385-3993

Deacon

Reverend Mr. Max M. Sévère
Reverend Mr. James R. McGarry (Ret.)

ST CATHERINE SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs. Nicole Loseto

2835 Kenilworth Blvd.

Pre-School 747 S. Franklin St.
Sebring, FL 33870

Tel: (863)385-7300 **Fax:** (863)385-7310

Web: www.stcatheschool.org

Mass Celebrations

Available in our YouTube channels

Masses every day at 8:00 AM

Divine Mercy celebration

April 19 at 3:00 PM



At St. Catherine Church, the Divine Mercy celebration on Sunday, April 19, will be observed remotely At 3:00 PM we will be join together watching a video on our YouTube channel with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the recitation of The Divine Mercy Chaplet from our chapel, followed by Benediction.

Jesus, I trust in You

FROM FR. JOSÉ

Dear Friends in Christ,

Well, it was a Holy Week and Easter like no other. It was surreal to see our nicely decorated Church completely empty on Easter Sunday morning.

Even though we could not have Holy Week and Easter the way we wanted to have it, we did, in fact, have it. The services are still on our YouTube channels and also on our Facebook pages, in English and Spanish. Many people have accessed our Holy Week services. We continue to get comments and letters from people telling us that they saw the services and under the current circumstances, they felt as connected to St. Catherine as they could be. From the standpoint of the priest, it is a bit weird preaching to an empty Church. When I give a homily on Sundays, I feel power from the people in front of me and it helps me impart the message. Preaching to an empty Church means that a priest constantly needs to keep in mind the people who will be viewing it from home.

This is a time when a good number of people are hurting. If you know of parishioners who are dealing with great need currently, please call our parish office. Folks in true need are often reticent to ask for help on their own behalf. You might be the ones who need to do this for them. Our parish is a “family of families.” We are here to worship and serve God, but we are also called to care for each other. Please let us know of families in need.

St. Catherine Church is hurting financially at this time. Our collections have been way down since the Sunday Masses have been suspended. It would be very helpful if you would join the number of families who are making weekly Church donations right out of their checking or savings accounts. If your preference is the collection basket at Church, then it would be very much appreciated if you would mail/drop off your collections at the parish office. We are open every day from Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Or you can use this link for donations online <https://www.osvhub.com/stcathe/funds>

Today, Flocknote is the relevant social media tool to inform our parishioners about the important, urgent ‘need-to-know-NOW’, events. It is imperative we communicate with you quickly. When Communication is crucial, we want to update you on the steps we’re taking. Yes, you can go to our website (www.stcathe.org), check our Facebook pages

English: <https://www.facebook.com/stcathe>,
Spanish: <https://www.facebook.com/stcathesp>
School: <https://www.facebook.com/St.CatheSchool/>

But Flocknote is our digital communications network to inform quickly.

The top priority of every family and organization is COMMUNICATION. Tell your family and friends to register by sending a text message to 84576 and type "StCathe", set up their own account and start using it right away. We have the capability to monitor Flocknote effectiveness as a communication tool through data analysis: such as the percentage of messages that are clicked, opened, or bounced.

A feature of Flocknote is the capability to send messages within your Ministry. If your ministry is using Flocknote, your contact information is already there. To subscribe to notes from other open groups, you can look on the left side of the site for the list of Ministry Groups. If you want to open a group email Claudia at claudia@stcathe.org or Martha at velasquez@stcatheschool.org. Read all the pages of the bulletin for more information about Flocknote.

Asking the blessings of the Risen Jesus in these most difficult of days, I am sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Jose

LETTER FROM BISHOP FRANK J. DEWANE

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

During Easter Season, as the Church rejoices in Our Lord's Resurrection, my prayer is that you and your family are safe and strengthened by God's grace in these uncertain times. You will recall that I promised to give an update regarding the Coronavirus and our efforts in the Diocese of Venice to ensure the health, safety, and the spiritual well being of all our Catholic Faithful.

The decision to suspend public celebrations of the Liturgy was among the most difficult I have had to make as your Bishop. The decision required the Diocese to weigh the needs of public health in a time of pandemic against the great sacrifices that a suspension would require of the Christian Faithful and our Priests. Knowing it would be difficult for you not to fully participate in the Holy Mass or gather with your fellow Parishioners for other activities, was something I sincerely understood. It was also on my mind that your Priests would need to labor strenuously and find innovative ways to compassionately care for Parishioners.

It has been edifying to see how the Catholic Faithful, led by their Priests, have embraced these challenges and found creative ways to give witness to our spiritual communion in Christ. Throughout these days, I have been privileged to hear many stories from Parishioners about how they have, in their homes, remained Faithful to their life of prayer and worship of God. The efforts of parents, caregivers, Catholic School teachers, catechists, Parish staff and so many of our people, have made the difficulties being experienced an opportunity for heroic acts of Christian Charity and love. Priests are to be acknowledged for the pastoral ways in which the Holy Mass and the Sacraments have been offered to the Faithful; at the same time, placing themselves at risk to attend the sick and dying. Likewise, I am grateful to the Parishioners who have continued their generous stewardship towards the Parishes and Schools of the Diocese which face financial challenges in these present circumstances.

In a particular way, let me express my appreciation to the many families who, from home, united in their Parish Holy Week and Easter Liturgies. All the Faithful can be proud of the efforts made during these difficult days to maintain spiritual communion and practice their Catholic Faith. Trusting in Our Lord who abides with us, we have found hope and strength to weather the hardships.

No matter how difficult this time has been for many of us, I ask you to prayerfully intercede for those who have died from the Coronavirus and for their family and loved ones who grieve. Likewise, please lift-up in prayer healthcare workers and others, who, with dedication, are combating this disease and compassionately caring for the sick and dying. Pray also for wisdom for our public officials that they may guide us with competence and concern.

Please know that the Diocese appreciates the sacrifices you have made and is looking forward to the time when public celebrations of Holy Mass can resume. With me, Diocesan Officials are monitoring public health data as a process of planning begins. It is necessary to determine how and when your Parish can resume normal operations safely, while maintaining careful vigilance to protect those at greater risk of serious illness. The upcoming weeks will indeed require patience. Only after necessary steps are taken, can there be certainty regarding when to begin a phased return to normal Parish activities and public gatherings.

Likely, the present circumstances regarding public Masses will last for the near future. Celebrations of Confirmation, First Communion, and reception into the Church for Catechumens and Candidates will continue to be postponed until it is feasible to reschedule them with some certainty. Parishes will keep the Faithful updated as greater clarity regarding Diocesan plans is possible.

Let us remember that with Faith, our sufferings and sacrifices can be a source of redeeming grace. If we offer our sufferings to God and unite them with the Passion of Our Lord, we will be made stronger in Faith and greater witnesses to the hope that is ours in the Risen Christ.

As we commemorate Divine Mercy Sunday, let each one of us put aside our doubts and united as a believing people, express with new resolve: "Jesus, I trust in You"

Sincerely Yours in Christ,
+ Frank J. Dewane
Bishop the Diocese of Venice in Florida

Dear Parishioners,

We will continue to communicate with you about our Parish events and activities, as often as possible so that you are aware of what is going on at St. Catherine.

The following are a few ways in which you may stay connected:

Sign up for text and email messages by clicking on the link

<https://StCatherineofSeb.flocknote.com/everyone>

To subscribe to text messages, text StCathe to 84576.

"Friend" our Facebook page in English: <https://www.facebook.com/stcathe> , then "Like" and "Follow"

"Friend" our Facebook page in Spanish: <https://www.facebook.com/stcathesp> then "Like" and "Follow"

"Friend" our Facebook page for the School: <https://www.facebook.com/St.CatheSchool/> then "Like" and "Follow"

Subscribe to our YouTube page in English at St. Catherine Catholic Church, Sebring Fl.

Subscribe to our YouTube page in Spanish at Iglesia Catolica Santa Catalina en Sebring, Fl

- Check our website <https://www.stcathe.com/> for updates.

Many people have expressed their gratitude for using the technology that allows us to stay together. Please know that we are committed to continuing the good work of our Parish at this time.

Thank you for the many ways you support our mission. It is our hope that you continue to support the work of our Church. St Catherine is dependent upon your weekly financial gifts to continue its ministries in this critical time of crisis when we are not able to go to Mass. Please use this time to transition to online giving by going to

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

And create an account. Your generosity is deeply appreciated. I want to express my gratitude to all those who have registered for the online donations or have dropped off or mailed in their weekly donations. While there may not be Mass or any other activity going on at the present time, we still have bills to pay just like you at home. If you have not dropped off your donation yet, it can be mailed to St. Catherine or dropped in the office.

What a comfort it is to know that we are not alone. God is always with us, and even during this time of physical separation, we can continue to support each other in prayer. As a parish, let us pray for one another, in the unity of the Holy Spirit.

Join us in prayer for the repose of those who have died, for the recovery of those who are sick, for the strength of healthcare workers and caregivers, and for an end to this health crisis.

Please be assured of our prayers for all of you, our parishioners, and know that our Parish community is here for you.



Flocknote For Ministry Leaders

Using Flocknote to communicate with your ministry or group of people is no more different than using your own personal email client when sending an email. For example: just as you would login at gmail.com in order to send or check your personal emails, using Flocknote simply means logging in to flocknote.com and sending emails from there.

So if it's just the same, what's the difference?

It's a matter of security and practicality. Here are a few scenarios that could be avoided if you use Flocknote:

1. **Email limitations:** most email clients cap the number of email recipients at 100. If you have a large ministry, you will have to send multiple emails to two groups or more.

2. The only information that you must be enter is your email address and/or your cellphone number.

Comments vs. replies: Have you ever sent an email to a large group and received too many replies? How about people not replying to the latest email in the thread, missing attachments, etc.?

With Flocknote, you are sending one email to your whole group, and they can leave comments on that *one* email, making things simpler.

3. **Spam emails and malware:** if one of your members has an email account infected by malware, you could be putting all your recipients at risk. This is more common than many people think.

4. **BONUS – design beautiful emails:** with Flocknote, you can design beautiful newsletter-type emails with images, videos, polls, events with RSVP function, and more.

BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER

OFFERINGS

We thank you for your generosity

April 12: Regular Collection;

\$5,270.00

Online Giving: This week; \$1,498.00

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

Second Collections

(available Online and in your envelopes)

This Week: School Support

Next Week: Catholic Home Mission Appeal

CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL 2020

Our assessment for 2020 is **\$110,000.00**. We have received pledges of **\$57,685.42**. We are at **52.44%** of our goal! Please make checks payable to CFA and in the Memo write "St. Catherine".

Thank you for your generous support to St. Catherine's and the CFA. Watch the video listed below for more information:

DO YOU HAVE A RETIREMENT ACCOUNT?

The owner of an IRA or 401k names a beneficiary. One way to avoid taxes on your inheritance altogether is to designate St. Catherine Parish as your beneficiary. When you name a charity as a beneficiary to receive your IRA or other retirement assets upon your death, neither you and your heirs nor your estate will pay income taxes on the distribution of the assets. Changing the beneficiary of a retirement account is a simple process and does not generally require a change to your will or trust.

Another way to avoid taxes if you are required to take a minimum distribution from your retirement plan would be to consider making a qualified charitable distribution, naming St. Catherine as the eligible charity.

Please contact Claudia Spradlin in the Parish Office at (863)385-0049 or claudia@stcath.org and we can provide you with details and instructions.

Thank you for your support of St. Catherine Parish. Our parishioners are our only source of funds and your contributions keep the lights on, enable parish ministries, and support our outreach to the poor.

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the sick

Baptism

Marriage

Reconciliation

For questions or more information (863)38500-49 or e-mail at office@stcath.org.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We thank you for your generosity. We need your contributions to pay the bills and continue to serve you in these circumstances, waiting for a day when we all can celebrate the Mass together again. If you have envelopes, you can mail them to:

St. Catherine Church
 882 Bay St.
 Sebring, Fl 33870

To make your contributions online, you can register at:

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

If you have any questions, you can call us at (863)385-0049 Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. The parish office is open the same hours. Blessings on all—stay safe and well and please let me know if you have need of anything that I can pick up or drop off for you.

Yours in Christ
 Fr. José

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.stcath.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

Florida Catholic

Florida Catholic has suspended print production for the months of April and May. However, their ministry will continue as they are offering an e-edition free of charge throughout April. Visit the link below each Friday to view a new, free e-edition of the Florida Catholic.

<https://digital.thefloridacatholic.org/Florida-Catholic-04172020-e-Edition/VE-1/#>



flocknote

Keep in touch with us

VIA EMAIL AND TEXT MESSAGE

Flocknote Guide

Flocknote is a communication tool used by St. Catherine parish. We encourage anyone who wants to be connected and receive information from us to sign up. **This is not the same as parish registration.** Parish registration forms are available in the parish office or on the website. Registering for the parish is important for many reasons, including sacramental readiness, parish census and financial reporting.

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BASICS

How do I sign up for Flocknote?

Many ministries have had "Sign up sessions", and some ministry members have already been added by leaders and staff. If you are not already signed up, you can do so by phone or online:

By cell phone: text **StCathe** to 84576

Online: visit <https://stcatherineofseb.flocknote.com/> and look for the "sign me up" form.

Upon signing up, you'll be prompted to complete the registration process either in a follow-up verification email, or in a follow-up text.

I'm signed up, but how do I log in?

STOP! You might not ever need to login in.

You can receive our parish communications, manage your group subscriptions, and contribute to the conversation without creating a password. See below for instructions to **get to your dashboard** without a password.

BUT if you are a group admin or note sender, or you want to be able to go back and look at previous notes and

Cont.....

comments, you might find it easier to log in directly sometimes. No worries--setting up a login only takes a few seconds.

Go to flocknote.com/login

Enter your email address (or your phone number if you registered by texting)

Click "Reset or create a password" below the big blue Sign In button .

Now click the big yellow Reset my password button and follow the prompts from there. You'll receive a link to create your password. Click the link, set the password, and you're all set.

How do get to my dashboard to I change my preferences or to send notes?

Many users will never need to go to the Flocknote dashboard on the web. And you don't need the dashboard to unsubscribe from a group. But if you need to change your contact information, or join a new group, or if you're an admin or note sender, you'll need to go to your dashboard.

If you already have a login setup for Flocknote, log in at flocknote.com/login to get to your Flocknote dashboard.

If you don't have a login (or if you just find this more convenient):

First, find a Flocknote in your email and click the Add a Comment button on the bottom of the note.

When the note opens in your browser, click the group name or newsletter header at the top.

This will take you to your Flocknote dashboard.

As a Group Admin or Note Sender, you will see these buttons:

Blue pen: Write a Note to send by email or text.

Green plus: Add members to a group that you administer

Purple bell: Change your notifications

... : "More" - click to change your info, manage groups, etc.

As a Regular Member, these are the buttons you'll see:

The purple bell: notifications

The person (1st grey circle) is where you can change your personal details (name, email, cell number).

The question mark for Help.

The arrow to Log Off.

How do I sign up for a group?

Sign in or navigate to your dashboard as described above.

On the left side you will see a list of the lists you're currently subscribed to.

Scroll to the bottom and click the "Show All Groups" button.

If you see a group with a lock next to it, that's a "closed" group. You can request to join, and will be approved by an admin if it's the right group for you.

Some groups (such as staff) are "hidden" and members can only be added by an existing admin, not by request. These groups will only show up in your list if you are a member of them.

How do I remove myself from a group?

The easiest way is to click "Unsubscribe" at the bottom of any note you have received from that group. (If it is a subgroup, you will remain a member of the parent group if you belong to any other subgroup. If you unsubscribe from a parent group; you will automatically be unsubscribed from all subgroups. (You can also unsubscribe by going to your dashboard, clicking the purple Notifications bell, and hitting the X next to the group you want to leave.)

How do I change the email address or mobile phone number associated with my account?

Whether you were signed up by a group admin or you signed yourself up, you can change your contact information at any time.

Note: This does not update your information in the parish registry, it simply changes how we communicate to you through Flocknote, so you can use a family email and home phone with the parish, and a personal email and cell phone with Flocknote.

Cont.....

Follow the directions above to get to your dashboard.

Select **My Info** button with the person icon (for admins, My Info is under the ... MORE button). Adjust your phone number or email as needed and select **Done**

NOTIFICATIONS:

Can I get all my Flocknotes by email?

(If you don't have a phone number listed, all notes will only come to you as email.) Log into Flocknote as described above. In the menu on the left side of the screen, select the purple "Notifications" bell.

This screen lists all the groups to which you belong. Next to each group are 4 icons.

- An email button
- A mobile phone button
- A fancy quotation bubble
- And a big "x"

If you want to receive emails from a group, make sure the email button is selected. It will be a darker blue.

At the same time, if you want to receive emails, deselect the cell phone icon for that group. **When a text message is sent to the group, it will come to you as an email.**

Can I get all my Flocknote messages by text message?

First, read the answer to the previous post. Secondly, only choose this option if you have a smartphone. When you select the purple button to change your notifications, the screen with all the groups that you belong to will appear. Deselect the email icon so that it is no longer a darker blue. Keep the mobile phone button selected as a darker blue. **Now, any message sent, even an email, will come to you as text message. When that occurs, you will receive a link to the message which you can view on your smartphone.**

If I make a comment on a post, who will see it?

If you comment on a Flocknote message, the comment will be visible to everyone in your group who looks at the comments, unless you check the box to "Make private." In that case, only the note sender, group admins, and parish admins can see your response. If you reply directly to the note via email, that will also be posted as a **private** comment, visible only to the author of the Note, and to the group and parish administrators.

How can I see all the comments that are added to a post?

If you really want to be connected to your group, then you can have all the comments sent to your email automatically. This is helpful if you are a group leader or want to be kept up to speed on the overall conversation of the group. Follow the instructions above to go to the Notifications screen. The third icon, shaped like a quotation bubble, turns on the Comments setting. If it is dark blue, this means that every comment made to a post will be emailed to you. That way you'll be kept up to speed on all the correspondence.

LEAVING the network

I am moving--What do I need to do to remove my registration?

If you want to keep receiving our eNews after you move, just follow the directions above to remove yourself from any other groups you don't want to hear from. **To remove yourself from our network altogether**, go to your dashboard and click the purple Notifications bell icon. The first option is your notification settings for the Assumption/Resurrection network. Click the 'x' icon to the right to leave all groups within the Assumption/Resurrection Flocknote network.

Flocknote is different than being registered at the parish, so if you are moving, we would ask that you call our office to remove yourself from our parish registry and mailings. We will miss you!