



**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](http://www.stcathe.org)

[www.facebook.com/stcathe](https://www.facebook.com/stcathe)

**E-mail:** [office@stcathe.org](mailto:office@stcathe.org)

Monday—Friday 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM

**CLERGY**

**Pastor**

Very Reverend José González, V.F.

[frjose@stcathe.org](mailto:frjose@stcathe.org)

**Parochial Vicar**

Reverend Pawel Kawalec (863)385-3993

**Deacon**

Reverend Mr. Max M. Sévère

Reverend Mr. James R. McGarry (Ret.)

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Weekend**

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday—8:00, 10:00 AM

& 12:00 Noon (Spanish)

**DAILY MASS**

Monday—Friday 8:00 AM

Sat. 9:00 AM

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Saturday 3:00—3:45 PM (in the Chapel)

**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

Office Hours: 8:00 AM —3:00 PM

Web: [www.stcatheschool.org](http://www.stcatheschool.org)

**Mass Celebrations**

Available in our  
YouTube channels



**12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:31

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

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**June 22 - June 29**

**RELIGIOUS  
FREEDOM  
WEEK**

### The World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests

The World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests will be celebrated by the universal Church on June 19, 2020. Occurring annually on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests was established by Pope St. John Paul II in 2002 and encourages priests to reflect upon the importance and dignity of their vocation.

In his Holy Thursday homily on April 9, 2020, Pope Francis reminded priests that in order to serve others, they must first allow themselves to be served by Christ. Just like Saint Peter, priests must be willing to be washed by Christ, forgiven by Christ, and loved by Christ so that they, in turn, may be dispensers of divine forgiveness and love to others.

The Holy Father also remembered those courageous priests in hospital ministry who have died in service to their brothers and sisters suffering from coronavirus. He also commended those priests who serve prisoners and those ministering in remote parts of the world.

We give thanks to priests who are continuing to serve the people of God in this challenging time. Priests are the face of Christ and allow people to encounter Jesus, especially through the celebration of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On this World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests, priests are encouraged to contemplate with gratitude the great gift Jesus has given them in their vocation.

Today we pray for all priests that they may be filled with joy and strength as they continue their important work of shepherding God's people."



### Heavenly Father,

Today we ask You to bless our earthly fathers for the many times they reflected the love, strength, generosity, wisdom and mercy that You exemplify in Your relationship with us, Your children.

We honor our fathers for putting our needs above their own convenience and comfort; for teaching us to show courage and determination in the face of adversity; for challenging us to move beyond self-limiting boundaries; for modeling the qualities that would turn us into responsible, principled, caring adults.

Not all our fathers lived up to these ideals. Give them the grace to acknowledge and learn from their mistakes. Give us the grace to extend to them the same forgiveness that you offer us all.

Help us to resist the urge to stay stuck in past bitterness, instead, moving forward with humility and peace of heart.

We ask your blessing on those men who served as father figures in our lives when our biological fathers weren't able to do so.

May the love and selflessness they showed us be returned to them in all their relationships, and help them to know that their influence has changed us for the better.

Give new and future fathers the guidance they need to raise happy and holy children, grounded in a love for God and other people—and remind these fathers that treating their wives with dignity, compassion and respect is one of the greatest gifts they can give their children.

We pray that our fathers who have passed into the next life have been welcomed into Your loving embrace, and that our family will one day be reunited in your heavenly kingdom.

In union with St. Joseph, whom you entrusted with Your Son, we ask Your generous blessings today and every day.

Amen.



## † From the Pastor

Happy Father's Day! This weekend gives us the opportunity to thank our fathers for their love and sacrifice. Whether our fathers are currently enjoying their eternal reward in heaven or they are a phone call away, it is part of the Church's prayer to reflect in thanksgiving.

A form of Father's Day had been celebrated within the Catholic Church since the 1500s, with ties specifically to Joseph, the legal father to Jesus. In America, because of the proclamation of Mother's Day in 1914, there was a push to do some-thing similar for fathers. While President Woodrow Wilson desired to make Father's Day a federal holiday in 1916 similar to what he had done for Mother's Day, there was pushback by Congress amidst fears of commercialism, so it didn't happen—until 50 years later. It was not until 1966 that President Lyndon B. Johnson established the third Sunday in June as Father's Day in the United States.

The Mass, which makes the Eucharist present, is the act of thanksgiving that puts things into perspective. When we live our lives in thanksgiving, our hearts in a state of gratitude allow for a more patient and humble response to the world. Many of the great stories in the Bible, not only reveal the mindset of God, but also encourage us to live our lives like God the Father. The Bible does not communicate a distant or uncaring God, but one who is close, loving, and exemplary. We call ourselves Christians because we seek to follow the Christ. We know only God is perfect, but there is goodness in all who seek the truth of God. Father's Day is a time to reflect and be thankful for the ways our fathers have modeled the truth of God. May our gratitude for the love and service of our fathers encourage us to also lay our lives down in service of others.

After celebrating the mystery of the Pentecost Sunday, the Holy Trinity and the Body and Blood of Christ, it is appropriate to be thankful to God our Father and the gift that fathers are to the world. The Trinity is one of the great mysteries of faith that we know only because Jesus revealed Himself to be the Son and promised to send the Spirit upon the Church. On Pentecost, we read the stories of the Spirit descending in tongues of fire to give power and authority to the apostles to speak in God's name. This week invites us to reflect on God the Father as being "Father" from the beginning of time.

There is no time in which the Father is not the Father. While Jesus was born in this world in time, Jesus is begotten of the Father before the beginning of creation, before the beginning of time. There is no time in which Jesus did not exist. We know the Spirit, not only because of the Spirit coming on Pentecost, because Jesus promised the gift of the Spirit and prepared their hearts to receive the gift. Every prayer we pray in the name of God, we pray in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. May this weekend remind us to grow in our relationship, by time spent in prayer, with the persons of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Cont...

The Bible has much to say about the importance of fathers and even uses the picture of a father as a picture of our relationship with God. As we pray the Lord's Prayer, we address God as "our Father" in heaven. We do so through our relationship with Jesus Christ (cf. Galatians 3:26).

Throughout Scriptures, especially in the New Testament, this picture of God as Father is a recurring thread. So what does it mean to be a father? When I hear the word 'Father' to address a priest I think of it as an action verb rather than as a proper noun. It's not a title, it's a description. It's what we do – not just what we are called. I have tried to live up to the examples I've seen of 'fatherhood' throughout my priestly life.

And I have learned much from experience and observation. Let me share them with you who are fathers and you who one day, by the Grace of God, will be.

- I've learned that what a child really needs is your time. Even just a few minutes a day.
- I've learned that a father teaches his children many things – but not by what he says to them as much as by what he does with them.
- I've learned that we should not be threatened by our children, or envious of them or their accomplishments.
- I've learned we should support and encourage our children – not criticize and tear them down.
- I've learned that love definitely means having to say you are sorry when you've hurt your children.
- I've learned that ignoring your children is a far worse punishment than a spanking (although not advised either).
- I've learned to be thankful to God for sharing their life with us.

Can all fathers match up to this during this pandemic? I do not know. I know I cannot – not all the time. But that's Ok. Fatherhood, like Priesthood, is acquired by living and learning. Having a child or being ordained merely begins that process. It is lifelong journey and seen as such – there can be great joy in the journey as you grow together with those to whom you have been entrusted.

So, **Happy Father's Day!** to all men who have raised or influenced the lives of children, whether biological fathers or not.

And finally, **Happy Father's Day!** too to all the single parent women who have been mother and father to their children.

God Bless us all.

Fr. José González  
Pastor



St. Catherine Catholic School  
has the following full-time positions open for the 2020-2021 School Year

First Grade Teacher  
P.E. Teacher

Candidates must have, or be eligible for, Florida certification. Interested candidates should email their resume and cover letter to Dr. Christine Higgins at [higgins@stcatheschool.org](mailto:higgins@stcatheschool.org)

**SACRAMENTS**

**RECONCILIATION**

This sacrament is available in the chapel, 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@stcath.org

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18, Ps 60:3, Mt 7:1-5  
 Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36, Ps 48:2-3ab, Mt 7:6, 12-14  
 Wednesday: *Day*: Is 49:1-6, Ps 139, Acts 13:22-26, Lk 1:57-66, 80  
 Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17, Ps 79:1b-2, Mt 7:21-29  
 Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12, Ps 137:1-2, Mt 8:1-4  
 Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19, Ps 74:1b-2, Mt 8:5-17  
 Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a, Ps 89:2-3, Rom 6:3-4, 8-11, Mt 10:37-42

**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](http://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



**SATURDAY June 20th**

9:00 AM GERALD AND BETTY MAY † Mark May  
 TEXIN VELLAPALLY † (13th Memorial Day) Mina  
 ROBERT JOHN MARQUARDT † Marlene Marquardt

4:00 PM For all living and deceased Fathers — Fr. José

**SUNDAY June 21st**

8:00 AM For all living and deceased Fathers — Fr. José

10:00 AM For all living and deceased Fathers — Fr. José

**MONDAY June 22nd**

8:00 AM Jerry Grinkiewicz (for health)—JoMarie Grinkiewicz  
 JOSEPH E. HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

**TUESDAY June 23rd**

8:00 AM JOSEPH E. HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

**WEDNESDAY June 24th**

8:00 AM BARBARA STAPLEFORD † Glenda Brannen

PAUL HENNEBERRY † Hannah Henneberry

JOSEPH E HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

**THURSDAY June 25th**

8:00 AM Novena Mass for Life — For a greater respect for all human life

JOSEPH E. HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

MAUREEN & SAM GRIFFIN † Gary & Rosaleen Marlow

**FRIDAY June 26th**

8:00 AM JOSEPH E. HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

**SATURDAY June 27th**

9:00 AM JOSEPH E. HOOPER JR. † Daniel & Maria Ford

HAROLD THOMAS † Vera Nigh

4:00 PM JANNIE EBEET † Joe & Marge Rafferty

CARMEN LOMONOCO † Joe & Marge Rafferty

**SUNDAY June 28th**

8:00 AM BETTY AND JOHNNY COXE † John Coxe

FRANCIS PLESKOVIC † Mark and Barb Walczak

WILLIAM AND MADALYN PLESKOVIC † Mark and Barb Walczak

10:00 AM For all living and deceased Parishioners — Fr. José

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mass Intentions forms** are available at the Parish Office or online, at [www.stcath.com](http://www.stcath.com). 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.*

**CARES Act****CARES Act**

Around the world and here at St. Catherine, we are witnessing incredible acts of kindness, faith and generosity. People are helping one another, praying for each other and supporting those in need during these unprecedented times. We are so grateful that even during an economic crisis, individuals and families continue to support St. Catherine Parish and School.

As many people are aware of, the Federal Government recently passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). However, most people are not aware that the CARES Act provides some additional tax benefits to those who donate to churches and other charitable organizations in 2020.

One of the new tax benefits will make it possible to take an above-the-line deduction for qualified charitable contributions up to \$300 for the 90 percent of taxpayers who do not claim itemized deductions on their federal income tax returns.

The CARES Act also relaxes some of the limits on charitable contributions. There are not many people with the ability to donate most of their income to charities, but for those that do, they can now get an increased federal income tax deduction for qualified charitable contributions. The deduction limit has been increased from 60 percent of their Adjusted Gross Income to 100 percent for 2020. In addition, the limitation on corporate donors has been increased from 10 percent to 25 percent of taxable income. Corporations can also increase their food donations from 15 percent to 25 percent of taxable income.

These income tax changes were included by the Federal Government to help individuals and families continue their support during this pandemic for the charitable organizations about which they care most, including St. Catherine Church and School.

To learn more about the CARES Act or how to support St. Catherine Church and School, please contact Claudia Spradlin at 863-991-3271

or by email at [claudia@stcath.org](mailto:claudia@stcath.org). You can also visit our website at [www.stcath.org](http://www.stcath.org).



**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 to make arrangements for a Memorial Candle which will be accompanied by a small plaque with the name of the person.

**BOOKKEEPER'S CORNER****OFFERINGS****June 14**

**Regular Collection: \$4,510.00**  
**Second Collection; School Support: \$1,816.00**

**Online Giving: This week; \$796.00**

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

**Second Collections**  
**(available Online and in your envelopes)**

**This Week: Charity Funds**  
**Next Week: Peter's Pence Collections**

**CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL 2020**

Our assessment for 2020 is **\$110,000.00**. We have received pledges of **\$67,510.42**. We are at **61.37%** 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](mailto: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.

***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-06122020-e-Edition/VE-1/#>