

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS



- Saturday, May 28th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Dorothy Rogers**, requested by Cheryl Caneschi.
- Sunday, May 29th, @ 10:00AM, 1st Anniversary Mass for **James Gianotti**, requested by Mary Giannotti.
- Monday, May 30th, @ 8:30AM, 11th Anniversary Mass for **John Leavitt**, requested by Kevin Adams.
- Tuesday, May 31st @ 8:30AM, Mass for **John Warden**, requested by the Ryan & Lepak Families.
- Friday, June 10th, @ 8:30AM, Mass for **Isabell Babbitt**, requested by Marjorie Davis.
- Saturday, June 11th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Hugh & Frances Caldwell**, requested by the Caldwell Family.
- Sunday, June 12th, @ 10:00AM, Mass for **Bernadette Bernier**, requested by the Langlais Family.

Please call the office @ 658-1642 for Mass Intentions. If you would like to bring up the gifts in the offertory procession, please let the usher know when you arrive at church. Mass Intentions remind us of our Christian duty to pray for our dearly departed.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

CATECHISTS NEEDED!! We presently have openings in Grade 1, 2, 7, and 8. For more details please contact Kathi Bonner, DRE, @ Kathidre@aol.com or call 860/658-4737.

2011/2012 REGISTRATIONS - Registration for returning students have been sent by e-mail. If you did not receive your re-registration form, calendar and parent letter, please e-mail Kathidre@aol.com and forms will be sent electronically. Also, check your spam folder in the event the large header sent your e-mail there. **NEW REGISTRATIONS** - If you are new to the program in any grade, a blue "New Registration Form" is now available in the vestibule and atrium.



Registrations are due for all students, new and returning, by JUNE 25TH. Please return completed form with payment to avoid a \$50.00 late fee by JUNE 25TH. For those families who do not use e-mail, your re-registration form will come through the U.S. mail.

All pertinent Religious Education and Confirmation information plus forms will be available on our new website as soon as it is up and running. Watch the bulletin for this announcement.

ASCENSION THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, June 1st - 6:30PM Vigil

Thursday, June 2nd - 8:30AM & 6:30PM

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS

- Monday, 6/6 @ 7PM - "Feed the Hungry" Meeting - Library
- Tuesday, 6/7 @ 7:15PM - Parish Council - Russell Hal
- Tuesday, 6/7 @ 7PM - Tag Sale Meeting - Music Room

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS



- Thursday, June 2nd - Ascension Thursday
- Sunday, June 5th - Catholic Relief Services
- Sunday, June 12th - Refurbishment & Repair

Offertory Collection - May 22, 2011



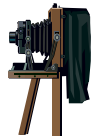
Regular Collection	\$	9,751.60
Loose Cash/Checks	\$	940.35
Envelopes	\$	8,811.25
Budgeted for Week:	\$	9,000.00
Overage:	\$	751.60
Cathedralicium*	-\$	536.33
School Tax*	-\$	536.33

Thank you for your generous support!

* 5.5% of Collection paid to the Archdiocese.

SPACES STILL AVAILABLE TO SIGN UP NEW CHURCH FAMILY DIRECTORY!

The directory will be a valuable tool helping you to place names with faces, and is an excellent reference and info source for our church community. Photography will be in Russell Hall on the following dates: **May 31st - June 1st, weekdays 2:30pm - 8:50pm.** Allow approximately 30-45 minutes for photography, instant viewing and selection of portraits. Every participating family will receive a **FREE** album and a complimentary 8"x10" color wall portrait! **Our goal is 100% participation, so please be sure to sign-up for an appointment.** Schedule your appointment on-line via our website at www.stcatherine.info. For more info or to help with this project, contact **Gina Marecki @ 860/408-1484** or ginamarecki@comcast.net. Sign-up in the atrium.



ATTENTION — ALTAR PARTICIPANTS GROUP PHOTOS - CHURCH DIRECTORY TUESDAY, JUNE 7TH, 5-7PM

6:00PM - Acolytes

6:10PM - Extraordinary Ministers

6:20PM - Lectors

6:30PM - Ushers

(please meet in the church proper)

FROM FATHER MICHAEL...

A blessed and peace-filled **Memorial Day** to all and may we keep the souls of all the dearly departed in our prayers. A safe weekend for all who might be traveling!

With the official start of the summer season, Memorial Day Weekend, we know that for many folks things slow down a wee-bit and the living becomes a little easier—long weekends away, summers at the beach or on the lakes in the high country, or just relaxing on the deck next to the Bar-B-Q. The Church is now different in many ways. While the Mass continues all summer long, some of the ministries of the Church take a well-deserved break, too. **Religious Education** has ended and its final events—First Holy Communion and Confirmation—went beautifully. Our director of religious education, Kathi Bonner, and her catechists did a superior job in teaching the faith and preparing our younger children and young adults alike for the reception of the sacraments. **Youth Ministry** also had another grand year with a host of meetings, activities, learning sessions, and Mission Trip bringing more young adults into a very active and impressive year of Being Church. Last Sunday evening Youth Ministry gathered for their last official meeting of the season—a wrap up event—and celebration of an excellent year of learning what it takes to be a powerful Catholic Christian in the modern world. Judy Pluta, our Youth Ministry Director, does a wonderful job in connecting with our young adults and building relationships in and among the youth ministers that will have a lasting impact on all and of equal import, relationships that illustrate how to apply our 2000-plus year old faith to very modern and trying moral questions. They are not just the future of our Church, they are the Church now.

And so, life goes on... we rejoice in all that we have accomplished as a parish this year—and to what we will accomplish in Christ's name in the future. While summer may see a slow down, be sure that we are planning and working toward September when all will resume full force. With that being said, we recognize that feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, visiting the lonely, and carrying out baptisms, weddings and funerals continue. Angel Food Ministries (where last week they provided food to 70 local families and seniors in need), the Men's Club, visits to McLean and Saint Francis Hospital, and much more continue all year long. Should you need anything, the office remains open during the summer as Christ's mission and ministry continues.

Just a reminder that our **parish photo album project** continues until June 1st and if you have not yet signed-up to have your family or individual photo taken, please contact our project leader Gina Marecki at 860/408-1484 for details and information.

Dear Parishioners:

A **Universal Church** – is what the word “Catholic” means, universal and open to welcome all into the faith of Jesus Christ. This “meaning” applies not only to those who might come into our faith, by joining our Church, but it also applies to how we live out our faith—how we help others—we are universal in our approach. We do not just feed Catholics nor do we house or give medical attention to Catholics only; and our prayers—perhaps the most important “gift” we can offer are for the whole of creation, and not just our Catholic brothers and sisters. This is the essence of the Easter Joy we celebrate—the

fact that God sent His only Son into the world for all peoples. How He (Christ) commanded his apostles to “go out and teach the whole world, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” We continue that Tradition of our faith today. One specific way is through the **Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA)**.

I want to take a few lines here to talk to the entire parish about the AAA. I have not taken the opportunity to preach about the AAA in the homily much this year. That is not because I do not support it or believe in it, on the contrary, I am fully and totally committed to it both as a priest and as an individual donor. I have not talked about it because we, as a parish, are involved in a lot of activities and the time frame in which the homily happens is limited.

To that end, I want to ask—rather invite and encourage—each of us to consider supporting the AAA this year. Why? There are a number of reasons: **first**, the need is so very great in these difficult times. If we feel any gratitude about our own situations, then a Christ-like response would be to help others out. **Second**, next to the federal and state governments, **your Catholic Church is the largest provider of resources and services to families and individuals in need**. From food shelters and homeless shelters, to hospitals and nursing homes, to the Malta House mobile health centers that provide health services and medicine to the poorest in our society to refugee centers, inner city teen centers, to mental health, marriage and personal counseling; to retreat centers, and to academic services and to ministries of every kind meeting the untold human needs—it is you, the Catholic Church, that is creating so much Light in this often times dark world. And all of the above does not even begin to touch the level of pastoral counseling or services offered. This is not a “bragger's statement,” but rather a statement of fact or better yet, a statement of the essence of the Catholic Church—*servant leadership*.

And so I write to you today—especially to those who have never before considered supporting the AAA, to pray about it this year. I am not asking for large donations. I am asking that each of us—everyone—do *something*. That something is up to you—depending on what you can afford and how grateful you feel. If each Catholic in the archdiocese gave just a little then a great amount could be accomplished. The cost of a couple of movies, a week's worth of lattes, one night's dinner out. A simple payment of gratitude for all that God has given to us.

I write this because **at this point in time** our parish assessment (each parish is asked to raise a certain amount of money for the AAA) is off target. **Our assessment is \$100,000 and from 217 gifts we have raised \$66,517.33**. In our neighboring parishes the picture is as follows: **St. Mary in Simsbury**, from 409 gifts has raised \$205,450; **St. Ann in Avon**, from 433 gifts has raised \$150,519.50, and **St. Mary in Unionville**, from 381 gifts has raised \$92,498.

My goal or intention is not to compete with anyone. Rather, I would ask us all to consider what we each can offer-- \$25, \$50, \$150—what ever it may be is what is pleasing to God. Blessed Mother Teresa said it best, “it is not the size of our action that counts but the amount of love that is put into the action that matters.”

In the next few weeks I will put envelopes in the Church for the AAA. You may also make a donation of love in the offertory collection and mark the envelope as “AAA” or you can go online at the Archdioceseofhartford.org and go to the left side and select “Donate to Archbishop's Annual Appeal.” Be sure to note your parish as St. Catherine of Siena, West Simsbury.

And, thank you!!!

**End of Bulletin
Information on this page is not printed**

Church: St. Catherine of Siena

City: West Simsbury, Connecticut

Account # 04-0523

Run #

Routing Code: O

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