

From the 2014 Guidebook section of our directory...

## **Welcome to St. Catherine of Siena Parish**

4101 E. 105th Terrace  
Kansas City, Missouri 64137  
(816) 761-5483  
Fax: (816) 761-8795  
[www.saintcatherine.com](http://www.saintcatherine.com)

The Diocese of St. Joseph was established on March 3, 1868.  
The Diocese of Kansas City was established on September 10, 1880.  
They were re-designated the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph,  
August 29, 1956.

His Excellency, Most Reverend Robert W. Finn  
was installed as Bishop, May 24, 2005.  
His Excellency, Most Reverend Raymond J. Boland  
became Bishop Emeritus, May 24, 2005.

According to our current Diocesan Directory  
the 602 people making up the 305 households of Saint Catherine of Siena Parish are among the  
134,173 Catholics who make up a significant portion of the 1,513,005  
people living within the 27 counties of northeastern Missouri.  
Within the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph we are  
one of 11 missions and 87 parishes.

St. Catherine's was established in November, 1925.  
There are 17,423 students receiving elementary through university level Catholic Instruction.

We are 29 Brothers and 223 Sisters.  
We count among our numbers 28 seminarians, 2 pastoral administrators, 107 parish ministers  
64 permanent deacons, 83 religious priests  
and 102 diocesan priests.

The three Catholic hospitals assisted 290,581 patients last year,  
While 11 homes for the elderly served 2,335 residents.  
Our 2 social service centers helped many thousands in a myriad of ways and needs.

-from the Diocesan Statistical Profile.

Dear friends,

October, 2013

We've come a long way since Frank and Catherine Walsh and Tom Mullins sought to persuade Bishop Thomas Lillis to establish a Catholic church in our part of town. Starting with 35 families in 1925, and peaking some

forty years later with 1480 families, Saint Catherine of Siena Parish has seen much growth and weathered many challenges.

We offer this parish directory as a current and convenient tool to identify our many ongoing ministries, committees and resources and this year we are including our 2012-2013 Parish Profile.

Thanks to all of you for the many ways you support our community of faith, especially in your prayers and the dedication and determination you bring to St. Catherine's parish.

Yours gratefully in Christ,

Fr. Bob Kerr

Stewardship: Allowing God's gifts to flow through us.

#### Stewardship Prayer

Almighty and ever-faithful Lord,  
gratefully acknowledging Your mercy  
and humbly admitting our need,  
we pledge our trust in You and each other.

Filled with desire,  
we respond to Your call for discipleship  
by shaping our lives in imitation of Christ.  
We profess that the call requires us  
to be stewards of Your gifts.  
As stewards, we receive Your gifts gratefully,  
cherish and tend them in a responsible manner,  
share them in practice and love with others,  
and return them with increase to the Lord.

Amen

## St. Catherine of Siena

Born in 1347, Catherine di Giacomo di Benicasa was the twenty-fourth of twenty-five children. Her father was a dyer in the small town of Siena, in Tuscany, Italy. She was a pleasant and outgoing child, imaginative and idealistic in her devotion. By the age of six, Catherine was having mystical experiences, seeing angels as clearly as the people they protected. These experiences continued throughout her entire life. She devoted herself to prayer and fasting, resisted all her family's efforts for her to marry having already made a lifelong commitment to God. At age sixteen, Catherine became a Dominican tertiary.

Catherine's visions continued, and her gifts and works for the poor attracted many followers. Skeptics had her brought before the Dominican general chapter in Florence, but their accusations of her sinfulness were dismissed. Soon thereafter, Blessed Raymond Capua was appointed her confessor, and he became her disciple and biographer. Though she had received no formal education, she had a brilliant mind and was a political advocate and peacemaker. Catherine journeyed to Florence and Pisa several times in attempts to bring the

Pope back to Rome during the time when the Popes lived in exile in Avignon, France. In 1376, Pope Gregory XI returned to Rome and Catherine was summoned to be his advisor.

On April 21, 1380, Catherine suffered a paralytic stroke and died eight days later at the age of 33. Her mystical experiences are recorded in her book, The Dialogue of Catherine of Siena.

## Parish Mission Statement

Our mission is to respond to the love of God,  
to be a visible sign of Christ's life.  
We are striving,  
with the help of the Holy Spirit,  
to bring the presence of Christ's life and love to all.

## Mass Schedule

SATURDAY..... 4:00 p.m.  
SUNDAY ..... 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
HOLY DAYS..... 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
\*TUESDAY-FRIDAY..... 8:15 a.m.  
\*MONDAY & SATURDAY-Communion Service..... 8:15 a.m.

\* Ordinarily in the Holy Spirit Chapel

Our church is equipped with a hearing enhancement system;  
personal hearing aides are available before Mass.

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

SATURDAY..... 3:00 p.m.  
Or other times by appointment

## Parish Staff

Fr. Bob Kerr.....Pastor  
Veronica Ward.....Pastoral Associate  
Bob Sandford..... Director of Music  
Maureen Jungden ..... Outreach Coordinator  
Kim Johnson.....Bookkeeper  
John Johnson..... Buildings and Grounds

## Telephone Numbers

PARISH OFFICE .....816-761-5483  
FAX .....816-761-8795  
WEB SITE ..... [www.saintcatherine.com](http://www.saintcatherine.com)

## Parish Office Hours

MONDAY-THURSDAY ..... 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
FRIDAY ..... 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Bulletin deadline is Friday at Noon

# Holy Spirit Chapel Hours

MONDAY-THURSDAY ..... 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
FRIDAY ..... 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

## Census Information

Please notify the office if you have any changes in your status or if you are moving. If you find any information in this directory to be inaccurate, please notify us immediately so that we may correct our records and have accurate information in the next directory. Thank you.

## Pastoral Committees

**PARISH MINISTRY COUNCIL:** Consists of nine parishioners, the Pastor and a staff representative. There are also two alternates should anyone resign during the year. Each year parishioners nominate people to take part in a discernment process, which calls forward new members. The usual term is three years. Their mandate is to be the eyes and ears of the parish, to recognize needs and to establish goals and priorities. They look to the future as dreamers and visionaries for our people and to call the whole community to respond to the movement and power of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Meetings are normally held the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the staff meeting room and are open to parishioners. Anyone wishing to address the council should contact the Chairperson two weeks before the meeting.

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL:** Code 357 of Canon Law states that each parish is to have a finance council to aid the Pastor in administration of the parish goods. They are an advisory body and participation is determined by the discernment of the council, the Pastor and finance manager. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

## Liturgical Ministries

Each of the following areas of ministry is served by a staff member or a volunteer. To receive more information please call the parish office and you will be directed to the appropriate person.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** This ministry is open to adults as well as young people who have made their First Communion and are in 4th grade or above. Rehearsals are held for major celebrations.

**ART & ENVIRONMENT:** Parishioners are asked to help decorate the church for major feasts-all are welcome. Additionally, anyone willing to help with everyday upkeep of greenery, candles, dust etc. are welcome to volunteer.

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST** primarily serve at the weekend Masses; but their role may include taking Communion to the sick, shut-ins, and nursing home residents. They are Confirmed or currently enrolled in the Confirmation preparation, have a love of the Eucharist and a desire to share Christ's presence with everyone. The Diocese provides training and annual days of renewal are provided to support spiritual growth.

**HOST/HOUSTESS:** Couples or individuals arrive at the Church ten minutes before Mass to make sure everything needed is in the correct place. After Mass they wash the vessels used and set up for the next celebration.

**LECTORS:** Lectors share their love of scripture by proclaiming the Word of God at our liturgies. A strong, clear voice is essential. The Diocese provides training in both theological foundations and practical skills. Our liturgical customs are explained and ongoing formation is expected.

**MUSIC:** Our liturgies are wonderfully enriched by this ministry. We take pride in our dedicated ministers rich repertoire, and a congregation that loves to sing. An organ and grand piano grace our church; other instruments

are welcome. Singers and instrumentalists are needed for most liturgies. Any parishioner desiring to sing and/or play an instrument is encouraged to contact our music director.

We have a flexible schedule to accommodate your availability. The "Sounds of Siena" Choir rehearses at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in the church (check the bulletin for schedule). Our Men's Choir practices on the third Thursday of each month and sings at the third Saturday Mass. Our Youth Choir, 7th grade through young adults, rehearses the second Sunday of each month at 12 noon in the church and provides music for the 11:00 a.m. Mass each third Sunday. The Children's Choir (K-6th grade) rehearses the last Saturday of the month from 2:00-2:50 p.m. in the church and sings at the 11:00 o'clock Mass the first Sunday of each month and at special celebrations. Our Resurrection Choir sings for funerals. If you are available on weekdays in the morning, this choir could be the ministry for you.

**SACRISTAN/CHURCH CLEANING:** Many hands make light work. Regular and occasional help is always needed and men are especially welcome to help (check with the parish office).

**USHERS/GREETERS:** These men and women offer hospitality to people as they gather for Mass or other celebrations in the Church. They may respond to special needs and insure that collections are taken up and bulletins distributed. Everyone is welcome to take part in this ministry. The head usher provides training.

## **Consolation and Support**

**PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:** If someone in your family or someone you know is sick, please call the parish office. Eucharistic Ministers will bring Communion each week or a family member can be trained to do this.

**HOSPITALIZATION:** Anointing of the Sick may be administered to those expecting surgery or to those needing special care before admittance to the hospital. Please ask to be anointed after any Mass. Most hospitals have a chaplain's office that also helps to meet the spiritual needs of the sick. Please note that for confidentiality reasons, hospitals no longer notify us that parishioners are patients; this has to be done by the family.

**EMERGENCIES:** (Deaths, serious illness) Please call the office or the emergency number after office hours. We seek to bring Christ's healing and sustaining presence at all times of difficulty.

**CARDS TO THE SICK & BEREAVED:** This ministry extends our care and concern for those who are sick or who have lost a loved one. The hospital is called to assess where to send cards and the parish office tries to keep in touch to see in what ways we might be of help. Cards are one way we can assure the sick and bereaved that they remain in our thoughts and prayers.

**BLUE RIVER CARE CENTER:** We currently minister to residents at Blue River Care Center located at 10425 Chestnut Dr., Kansas City, MO, by providing a weekly Communion Service for Catholic residents. There are other ways to help, including feeding patients, writing letters and just keeping company.

**CONSOLATION AND SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS:** If you need a safe place to talk or a cup of coffee you will find us in the Parish Offices. Respite care is not available.

## **Youth Ministry**

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (Kid's Word):** Each Sunday of the school year during the 11:00 a.m. Sunday Mass, children are encouraged to experience the Word of God at their own level. Children are dismissed at the beginning of the Mass and return before communion. Adult and youth helpers work with a volunteer program coordinator.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (RCIC):** School-aged children wishing to become Catholic or learn more about the Catholic faith are invited to join this process of faith formation and learning. For more information, a parent or child may contact the parish office.

## **Sacramental Life**

**BAPTISM:** Except in rare circumstances, Adult Baptism is celebrated as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at the Easter Vigil Mass.

**INFANT BAPTISM** is celebrated throughout the year (except Lent) during the Sunday Liturgy. Parents attend a preparation class. Classes are held as needed in the parish office building. To register, call the office.

Baptism of older children takes place after individual preparation. Call the office for more information.

**CONFIRMATION:** Currently in our Diocese, the Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated not before a young person reaches their sophomore year of high school. The preparation aims at nurturing and stretching the growing faith of youth. (Confirmation of Adults is made available periodically when scheduled by the Bishop.)

**FIRST COMMUNION & RECONCILIATION:** Preparation for these Sacraments is a cooperative effort between parents and parish. Information is publicized through the parish bulletin. Parents are asked to determine their child's readiness to celebrate the sacraments. (Second grade is the customary time for celebrating 1st sacraments at the parish.) Celebration of First Communion ordinarily takes place during the Easter season after the child has celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Anyone seeking physical, mental or spiritual healing is encouraged to receive the sacrament. The sacrament may be requested in anticipation of hospitalization, serious illness or near death. The Church very much wants to bring Christ's healing, sustaining presence to any member of our community during times of illness. Please call the parish office. In case of emergency, call the pastor.

**MARRIAGE:** Couples are asked to contact the parish office soon after their engagement and at least NINE months prior to the anticipated wedding date. Marriage preparation involves four phases: initial interview, marriage inventory and discussion material; Engaged Encounter; and planning the liturgy with the celebrant. If there have been previous marriages, dates cannot be set until the annulment process has been completed.

**ANNULMENTS:** The parish has an annulment advocate who will begin the process with those seeking healing and/or the possibility of remarriage within the Church.

## **Adult Educational & Spiritual Formation**

Adult spiritual growth is ongoing, and our parish is committed to the deepening of each person's relationship with God. The parish offers a variety of opportunities for responding to God's invitations to gain a deeper awareness of His presence and action in our lives and participation in the Divine mystery. Study groups, scripture sharing, seasonal presentations, retreats and diocesan workshops are offered at various times and in many formats. In addition, individual spiritual direction is available.

To find out more about current offerings, consult the bulletin or call the parish office.

Your suggestions for future programs are always welcome.

**CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:** Adults wishing to become Catholic or to learn more about the Catholic faith may take part in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). During this process adults are welcomed in

various ways to feel at home in the Catholic Church. [We encourage parishioners to become part of this process of welcoming new members by sharing their faith at gatherings, helping with retreats, and by sponsoring new members. Training and encouragement are parish led.]

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** During Advent and Lent, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed each Saturday in the Holy Spirit Chapel. In addition, a Holy Hour, including Benediction, the Rosary, Litany of the Saints, Scripture Readings and time for quiet reflection, is offered at 7:15 p.m. each first Tuesday in the chapel.

**SPRED (Special Religious Education for the Developmentally Disabled):** Our parish operates one of the six existing SPRED centers in our Diocese. This program provides a structured learning environment for developmentally delayed persons ages 21 or older. In addition, other opportunities for the developmentally disabled to experience meaningful participation as members of our faith community, such as, special liturgies and social events are provided. Catechists aged 21 or older are needed for the sessions that operate for 24 weeks each year. Training is held each August, but don't delay in making an inquiry and finding out more about this important ministry.

For more information call Judy Shute at 816-765-9805.

**ROSARY GROUP:** Each Tuesday evening at 7:15 p.m. in the Holy Spirit Chapel, a group meets to pray for the Pope's intentions, vocations, missionaries and the needy. On the first Tuesday of the month, Benediction is included. Everyone is invited.

**PARISH LIBRARY:** Our library is currently located in the parish office building. It offers parishioners access to books and magazines supporting spiritual growth, church teaching and history. Students may find the library a helpful resource for school assignments.

The library accepts financial donations, memorials and current books, and journals relating to spiritual, religious and personal growth.

## **Parish Service/Outreach**

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE OUTREACH:** St. Catherine of Siena Outreach and Food Pantry helps those who, finding themselves in an emergency situation, need assistance to help tide them over or get them through the emergency. We serve members of our parish family and others who reside in our neighborhood. St. Catherine's Outreach and Food Pantry is funded through the generosity of the parishioners and staff of the parish as well as other social service agencies.

**HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC WORKER HOUSE:** This ministry, based at 31st and Troost, exists to provide food and short-term shelter for the homeless and the poor. The parish provides money to buy one meal each month (serves 200+) and sends four adults to serve the meal on the third Wednesday of the month. The commitment is approximately 4:00-8:00 p.m.

**FUNERAL DINNERS & RECEPTIONS:** This ministry meets two critical needs in our parish:

1. Receptions to celebrate special events in our parish;
2. Funeral dinners to ease the distress of a grieving family and friends following the death of a parishioner.

Two teams of parishioners accept responsibility for providing a covered dish meal when a death occurs. For receptions, helping at one event each year is typical. Help is needed in providing a dish, or serving the meal, or making the necessary phone calls. A little help goes a long way!

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY:** The parish has an active group that offers hope and comfort to those who are grieving. There is a Grief Support Meeting on the second Saturday of each month, beginning at 10:00 a.m in the office. Anyone experiencing loss is most welcome to attend. (Those grieving divorce or job loss may also find this group beneficial.)

# Campus Support

**OFFICE ANGELS:** Share the joy of helping to make St. Catherine's serve all parishioners to the best of our ability by volunteering for any of the tasks below on an as-needed basis:

Secretarial support-computer skills of great value  
Receptionist  
Stuff, label, and stamp our mailings

**DREAM TEAMS:** A group of volunteers formed the initial Dream Team in October of 2009. Meeting each Thursday, they contribute their time and talents tending to the upkeep and maintenance needs of St. Catherine's.  
Another group of volunteers work diligently year round to prepare and run our biannual garage sale. Included in the Dream Teams are volunteers who provide lunches.

**GARDEN ANGELS:** Still another group of volunteers maintain our beautiful flower beds – anyone willing to put in a few hours here and there to keep up the appearance is very much appreciated.  
Call Liz Walsh or Nancy Gallagher for more information.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE:** The Building Committee utilizes the expertise and experience of our parishioners to both envision and facilitate the most efficient use of our campus and facilities.

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Each week our donations must be counted and prepared for bank deposit. Sensitivity to the confidentiality of donor gifts is essential. There are two teams that work alternate months.

# Parish and Beyond

**BUILD OUR PARISH (BOP) COMMITTEE:** Addresses issues enhancing community relations and membership.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Organized as a mutual benefit society for Catholic laymen in 1882, the Knights have remained committed to charity, unity, fraternity, and patriotism. Activities fostered by the Knights include funding scholarships, providing loans to Catholic institutions, insurance programs for members, and much more. The Knights support parish activities and sponsor a variety of service events each year. Men over 16 years of age are welcome members. Meetings are held every Tuesday at the Knights Hall at 5111 E. 112th Terrace (off Grandview Rd.), Tel. 816-966-1492. Our parish contact is Ivo Feuerborn and you may contact him at 761-3933.

**RESPECT LIFE:** As Catholics, we support life from conception to natural death. Issues such as terminal care, living wills, euthanasia, stem cell research and the death penalty all fall under this banner. We take an active part in the legislative process, help the Crisis Pregnancy Center with a baby shower each October, and sell Mother's Day Carnations for the Missouri Right to Life campaign. To become actively involved with Respect Life, please call Rosemary Malena.

**HEALING AFTER ABORTION:** Anyone suffering the pain of guilt or loss after an abortion can find healing and hope through PROJECT RACHEL. The telephone number is 816-591-3804. Calls are confidential.

**VOCATIONS COMMITTEE:** Fosters an awareness of the need for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. An effort is made to encourage those who are considering a religious vocation and to educate young people as to the possibilities that exist within this calling. Members actively support men and women who are currently committed to religious life. Men and women over 16 years are welcome.

**SCOUTING:** For information on programs contact: Scoutmaster Matt Ismert (816-966-9607) for Boy Scout Troop 631; John Meyer (816-763-3955) for Cub Scout Pack 631 (Tiger, Cubs and Webelos).



MISSOURI CATHOLIC CONFERENCE: Parishioners network with Catholics throughout Missouri through letters, phone calls, and visits to the Jefferson City to lobby our legislators and governor to enact laws that reflect Catholic social teachings and ensure the dignity and needs of each person within our state. Past concerns include pro-life, welfare reform, prison concerns and education. The annual autumn conference in Jefferson City is usually well attended.

## Miscellaneous Items

There are some simple ways in which to help others-the parish collects a number of items to benefit the outreach program and the Emergency Assistance Fund.

ALUMINUM CANS: The parish collects and recycles aluminum cans and clean foil on a regular basis to provide support to our emergency assistance fund. There is a fenced area for collection in the parking lot.

ALUMINUM POP TABS: The parish collects these pop tabs and a member of the Knights of Columbus delivers them to the Ronald McDonald House where they are recycled. The money is used to assist the Ronald McDonald House. You may place them in the 'drop box' in the kiosk at the back of church

BEST CHOICE BAR CODES: These bar codes are also collected to benefit the emergency assistance fund. There is a 'drop box' in the kiosk in the vestibule.

CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS: Schools save these labels. Once again use the kiosk drop box.

GENERAL MILLS CEREAL BOX TOPS: These benefit education and may be left in the kiosk drop box.

PAPER RECYCLING: The parish encourages the recycling of paper products, including magazines, catalogs, newspapers, office paper and envelopes. (NO CARDBOARD OR TELEPHONE BOOKS.) The recycling bins are located off of 105th Terrace next to the maintenance garage; and are emptied weekly. Funds generated support the parish.

TOILETRY ITEMS: Unopened items from hotels are welcomed at our outreach office-food stamps cannot be used for personal care items, and so we try to help provide them.

## None of us gets out of this world alive!

### It would be nice to go gracefully!

No one wants to be told they 'have' to move and yet aren't we being childish when we refuse to accept that our strength and capabilities may be diminishing? Is the yard too big, the stairs too many or too steep? Maybe I do need to stop driving. Will I moan about these changes or act upon them? Seniors who decide on their own to move to more manageable accommodations or assisted living are happier with their decision.

What will I do if suddenly faced with a stroke, or cancer or other major illness? Have I made a living will, told my children and friends clearly what type of care I want or what would make life unbearable for me? Have I ever voiced my fears about getting older or asked my children what they think about my growing old?

Can my children access information about my finances should they need to do so in an emergency? Are my finances in order? Do I have a will and durable power of attorney? Are my funeral plans in place and paid for or covered by insurance? Can the survivors make needed changes?

When a death occurs the family typically must make over two hundred decisions in the space of a few hours. A basic plan ought to be in place at the point of retirement, if not before, and a promise made to revisit it on those big birthdays – 70, 75, 80, etc. An illness or accident might change those plans so maybe there could be more than one scenario mapped out.

“We are just going to grow old together” sounds romantic but it might not be what happens and it isn’t enough for a family to go on. There are several conversations that need to happen, between spouses, with grown children and then maybe we all investigate different living possibilities. What is available locally, am I willing to move to be nearer adult children?

People say “I do not want to be a burden” – by making plans and sharing them we can avoid that possibility.

Those who have died are effectively helped  
by the prayers of the living.

The following prayers may be helpful in remembering our family or friends who have passed away.

Praise be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Father of mercies, the God of all consolation!  
God comforts us in our affliction, enabling us to comfort others  
with the same consolation we have received.  
Loving and merciful God, we entrust  
our brothers and sisters to your mercy.  
You loved them greatly in this life:  
now that they are freed from all its cares,  
give them happiness and peace forever.  
The old order has passed away: welcome them into paradise  
where there will be no more sorrow, no more weeping or pain,  
but only peace and joy with Jesus, your Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
forever and ever. Amen.

Saints of God, come to their aid!  
Come to meet them, angels of the Lord!

Lord Jesus, our Redeemer,  
you willingly gave yourself up to death that all people might be saved  
and pass from death into a new life.  
Listen to our prayers, and look with love on your people.  
Lord Jesus, holy and compassionate:  
we humbly ask that you forgive any sins they may have committed.  
By dying you opened the gates of life for those who believe in you:  
by your glorious powers give our brothers and sisters  
light, joy, and peace in heaven where you live forever and ever. Amen.

## **Planning A Funeral**

### **Let Us Help You**

Death in some ways is nearly always unexpected. Even when a loved one has been sick for some time the actual moment of death takes us by surprise. The family, then, generally has many decisions to make in a short space of time. The staff at St. Catherine’s want to help as much as possible so that the family can celebrate the life of their loved one in a way that best honors that life and respects the faith of the community.

This information has been designed to help make you aware of the possibilities when planning a wake and funeral Mass for yourself or a loved one. It is not morbid to plan ahead for your own funeral or that of a parent or loved one. It can lessen the stress at the time of death to know that readings and music have been chosen. We have materials to help you and we are happy to assist. If your loved one was not Catholic we can still offer a Mass of Christian Burial or we can prepare a service that meets your needs.

INFORMING THE PARISH OFFICE

Please call the office at 816-761-5483 as soon as possible after a death has occurred. It is even helpful if you contact us when someone may be close to death, we can alert those who help with the arrangements so that we are better able to provide your family with everything you need.

#### THE FUNERAL HOME

If you need help in selecting a funeral home please ask. Your funeral home will call us to confirm or ask for times of services. We normally schedule a funeral Mass for 10:00 a.m. At the time the wake service is held we typically begin with a Rosary or Scripture Service to prevent interrupting the visitation.

#### TIME AND PLACE OF SERVICE

In recent years it has become more common to have both the wake and Mass in church—where we worship. The wake may be held in the evening, with a Mass and burial the next day, or we can also do a visitation in the morning before the Mass and burial. In winter time wakes tend to be earlier to avoid driving after dark.

MEETING WITH THE PASTOR and a bereavement minister who assist the family in making arrangements for the wake and Mass of Christian Burial or Memorial Mass. We prefer that arrangements are made in concert with our staff, otherwise it may be difficult for the parish to satisfy your needs and our requirements.

We prefer to meet with you in the Parish office as soon as possible after the death to help in the selection of readings and music for the services and to gather information about the deceased for our records. The Pastor likes to hear the stories about your loved ones, those stories often influence the choice of readings and music.

#### THE FUNERAL MASS

Funeral Masses should be blessed with music. We prefer to use our musicians, either a cantor or the Resurrection Choir and accompanist. Outside musicians often incur additional costs and extra rehearsals may be needed.

We have a list of appropriate music from which to choose; as well as a booklet of readings, and suggestions for intercessions so that the Mass can be your personal celebration of life. The parish will prepare a simple worship aid once your choices are made. If you would like a photograph of your loved one on the front please provide a clear picture.

#### CREMATION

Many people opt for cremation. Cremation used to take place after the funeral Mass but we can celebrate a Memorial Mass with the cremains. The ritual is very much the same.

#### LUNCHEON

The ladies of the parish typically prepare a luncheon for family and friends—usually in Ruysser Hall. We will ask for an estimate of the number you expect to attend. Consider the time it may take to go to the cemetery and return. Keep in mind that if people take time off work they may not be able to stay for lunch.

#### COSTS

There is no fee to have a wake or funeral Mass or luncheon at St. Catherine's. However, people often ask what is an appropriate donation to the parish.

Customarily we make the following stipends to those who help with the liturgy.

Cantor/Choir \$100

Accompanist \$100

Presider—your free will offering should be a separate check given directly to him.

Altar Servers—young people \$20; adults do not accept any money.

Luncheon—a free will offering that would help support this ministry is always appreciated.

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

When considering memorials, instead of flowers please remember the food pantry or our different ministries at St. Catherine's or the general needs of the parish. Your contributions over the years have enabled the parish to provide many ministries.

## REMEMBER ST. CATHERINE'S IN YOUR WILL

You might remember the Parish through wills and bequests to insure that these ministries will continue well into the future. A memorial to the parish could allow many good things to happen in your memory.

# Catholic Wisdom & Knowledge



Grace: God's love outside the Trinity;  
The experience of the gift of God's presence.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up, and went according to his custom into the synagogue on the Sabbath. He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down, and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him. He said to them, "*Today this scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.*"—Luke 4:14-21

Faith comes through hearing.  
—Romans 10:17  
Will Jesus find faith when he returns?-Luke 18:8

To be my disciple make my word your home.  
You'll learn the truth and it will make you free, and then, you'll be my disciple. —John 8:31-32

Don't just listen to God's word, act on it!  
—Luke 8:21; James 1:22

*In the long run,  
is there any other way of handing on the gospel  
than by sharing with another person  
one's personal experience of faith?*  
Pope Paul VI

Three sources of wisdom and knowledge:  
*Scripture:* tells us how and why we're here with an understanding of God and God's ways.  
*Church Teaching:* offers Objective Moral Truth to inform and help form our conscience.  
*Human Reason:* Natural Law—participation by us in God's ongoing work of creation.

Faith: the guarantee of things hoped for, evidence of things unseen. —Hebrews 11:1-40

The Ten Big Ones—Exodus 20:1-17

Once the Israelites, God's chosen people, came to a mountain. God told their leader to come up to the mountain. When Moses started up the mountain, it was covered with a thick cloud and there was loud rolling thunder and lightening flashes. God said:

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other god but Me.
2. Do not take My name in vain.
3. Remember to keep My day holy.
4. Honor your parents.
5. You shall not kill innocent life.
6. Do not commit adultery.
7. Do not steal.
8. Do not lie about your neighbor.
9. Do not covet another's spouse.
10. Do not covet another's goods.

The Two Great Ones—Mark 12:29-31

1. You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart,  
your whole soul and with all your mind.
2. You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

**I desire mercy, not sacrifice.** —Matthew 9:13

**Mercy trumps judgment.** —James 2:13

Morality

The internal foundation for making ethical daily decisions.

Conscience

Practical moral judgment about what to do—alone before God.

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Counsel the doubtful. Instruct the ignorant. Admonish the sinner.

Comfort the sorrowful. Forgive injuries.

Bear wrongs patiently. Pray for the living and the dead.

Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the hungry. Give drink to the thirsty. Clothe the naked.

Shelter the homeless.

Visit the sick. Visit the imprisoned. Bury the dead.

From the Council of Nicea, 325 AD

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us... and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.  
*If you want peace, work for justice; if you want justice, defend life;  
if you want life, embrace the truth revealed by God.*  
—Pope John Paul II

Beatitudes—Happy Attitudes  
—Matthew 5:3-12

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,*  
theirs is the kingdom of God.  
*Blessed are the meek,*  
they shall possess the land.  
*Blessed are those who mourn,*  
they shall be comforted.  
*Blessed are those*  
who hunger and thirst for justice,  
they shall be satisfied.  
*Blessed are they who show mercy,*  
they shall obtain mercy.  
*Blessed are the pure of heart,*  
they shall see God.  
*Blessed are the peacemakers,*  
they shall be called children of God.  
*Blessed are those*  
who suffer persecution for justice' sake,  
theirs is the kingdom of God.  
*Blessed are you when*  
they insult and persecute you because of me.  
Your reward in heaven will be great.

*Blessed are those who have not seen but believe.*  
—John 20:29

Evil is anything that detracts from our love of God, our neighbor or ourselves—Pride, Lust, Anger,  
Covetousness, Envy, Sloth or Gluttony.  
Evil promotes the belief that ignorance is bliss.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit—Isaiah 11:2  
Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding, Piety, Counsel,  
Fortitude, Knowledge of the Lord.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit—Galatians 5:22  
Joy, Charity, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Fidelity,  
Long-suffering, Humility, Modesty, Continenence, Chastity.

Prayer: The persevering language of Faith;  
adoration, praise, thanksgiving, petition, distress,  
contrition, astonishment, narration, meditation.

Prayer will not go unheard.—Luke 11:5-13  
The Sacramental Principle:  
What is always and everywhere true  
must be recognized sometime, somewhere.

What is a Sacrament?

A saving, symbolic action arising from the ministry of Christ, continued in and through the church, and which when celebrated in faith, joins us to Christ's worship of God, forming us more in the likeness of Christ.

The Sacraments

Baptism: recognition and commitment to life beyond ourselves in covenant Christian community.  
Confirmation: strengthened and sealed by the gift of the Holy Spirit to serve and participate more fully as a member of the church.  
Eucharist: Thanksgiving of and for the life, death and resurrection of the Lord celebrated as ritual in communion with the church.  
Penance: reconciliation with God, neighbor and self—celebration of God's mercy and forgiveness of sin. {A spiritual CONTROL/ALT/DELETE}  
Marriage: covenant partnership of love between a man and a woman which reflects a kind of human image of the Blessed Trinity.  
Holy Orders: deacon, priest, bishop; the continuation of the apostolic mission from Christ entrusted to the church.  
Anointing of the Sick: grace, healing and comfort of the Holy Spirit for those approaching death.

Human Sexuality is a Gift  
It is personal, good, essential and relational.  
It must account for the dignity and quality of our relationships.

The world—all of God's creation—is good  
but Culture is not Gospel!

Virtue:  
a strength—a habit of doing good.

The Theological Virtues:  
Faith, Hope, Love.

The Cardinal Virtues:  
*Prudence*—right choices  
*Fortitude*—moral strength  
*Temperance*—moderation  
*Justice*—right moral action;  
the will to treat others fairly.

Spiritual Discernment  
Galatians 5:19-23; 1 John 4:1-6  
A way to know if a decision is right  
is to ask if it enhances life or not;  
does it build up the Body of Christ or not?  
To be wise be informed. Seek counsel.  
Follow traditional doctrine and morality.  
Know the tree by the fruit. —Matthew 7:15-20  
*God's Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all that Jesus said.* —John 14:15-26

—:—Lenten Regulations—:—

*Fast* binds those 18 to 59 years of age: one full meal is allowed. Two other meals to maintain strength may be taken, but together they should not equal another full meal.  
*Abstinence*—no meat—for those over 14 years. Eating between meals is not permitted.

#### The Jubilee Year Pledge

Pray regularly for justice and peace. Learn more about Catholic social teaching and its call to protect human life. Stand with the poor and care for creation. Reach across boundaries of religion, race, ethnicity, gender and disabling conditions. Live justly in family life, school, work, the marketplace and the political arena. Serve those who are poor and vulnerable, sharing more time and talent. Give more generously to those in need at home and abroad. Advocate for public policies that protect human life, promote human dignity, preserve God's creation and build peace. Encourage others to work for greater charity, justice and peace.

#### Our Catholic Political Responsibility

We welcome the growing discussion of the role of moral values in public life and religious groups in the public square. We recognize that religious voices in public life must persuade, not just proclaim, and that the test of our witness is not only how strongly we believe, but how effectively we persuade and translate our beliefs into action. The challenge for our Church is to be principled without being ideological, to be political without being partisan, to be civil without being soft, to be involved without being used. Our moral framework does not easily fit the categories of right or left, Republican or Democrat. We are called to measure every party and movement by how its agenda touches human life and human dignity... In the Catholic tradition, citizenship is a virtue; participation in the political process is an obligation. We are not a sect fleeing the world, but a community of faith called to renew the earth—from USCC: *Political Responsibility*.

Catholic social teaching principles and issues:

The life and dignity of the human person.

Human rights and responsibilities.

Our call to family and community.

Solidarity—active concern for others.

The imperative for the poor.

The dignity of work and of worker's rights.

Proper stewardship—care of God's creation.

*How can we be more loving, more forgiving?*

God helps those who *can't* help themselves.

As little as a cup of cold water will be rewarded.

—Matthew 10:42

#### The Hard Mysteries of Life

Life is hard. Know this ahead of time and don't waste your life trying to make it easy for yourself, as uninitiated people of the world will try to do. Christians must be signed with "the cross" at the outset or we will spend all our lives avoiding it.

You are going to die. You must acknowledge your mortality. Jesus suffered and died, and so will you.

Denial of death is a trap. Your hardships and wounds must become "sacred wounds" to prepare you for the final letting go.

You are not that important. Look to Jesus' example which shows that it's humility that is of central importance for human truth and happiness.

You are not in control. Avoid the temptation of idolatry. Reality and God are in control. You must admit that you are limited and need to rely on Another.



Your life is not about you. You are a fragment of something and Somebody much bigger than yourself. Your job is to listen, obey and adore, not calculate. You are a part of a Great and Holy Mystery. Otherwise you will assume that you create all the patterns and it is your job to figure them out by yourself. This is "Faith" in the most refined sense of the term!

Finally, it is Jesus who binds all our mysteries together with hope!  
Plant a habit, reap a virtue.  
Plant a virtue, reap a character.  
Plant a character, reap a destiny.

Prayer for the gifts of Saint Catherine of Siena  
God of Wisdom  
you made our sister Catherine  
burn with divine love  
in contemplating the Lord's passion  
and in serving your Church.

With the help of her prayers  
may your people, united in the mystery of Christ,  
rejoice forever in the revelation of his glory,  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.  
Amen