St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts & giving glory to God.
SCHOOL WEBSITE:  has passed. The next deadline for submissions for the weekend by the publisher and plan ahead accordingly. Deadline for July 22.

TELEPHONE

PARISH WEBSITE:  Mailing Address:  Closely watch early deadlines imposed.

EARLY DEADLINES:  Announcements are requested to appear. Please submit requests in the bulletin, email request to: bulletinsubmissions@gmail.com. The deadline for requests is no later than noon on Fridays one week prior to the date of the bulletin in which the announcement is requested to appear. Please submit requests in advance of the event date and the deadline. Submissions should be brief and will be edited and approved by parish clergy before being published. Allow ample time for the approval process. Everyone will be made to include the submission when requested; though, not all submissions are guaranteed placement. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

For intentions call the Parish Office

PARISH STewardship

JULY 1, 2018  CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection  $4,714.00
Passion to the Streets $53.41
Peter’s Pence/Holy Father  $1,240.00
SCS Education Fund $636.00

JULY 8, 2018  CONTRIBUTIONS

Sunday Collection $5,968.00
Maintenance $1,430.00
Peter’s Pence/Holy Father $140.00
SCS Education Fund $45.00

Thank you for your continued generosity!

VISIT OF THE PILGRIM CROSS

The replica of the Pilgrim Cross brought by the Spaniards to the Philippine shore in 1521, has arrived at St. Catherine Parish. There will be a prayer service every night until July 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the church. This Diocesan Jubilee celebration is a Filipino custom for all Catholics to embrace and not exclusive for any one culture.

For more details, please contact Deacon Albert Dizon.

Catechetical Congress Oakland Diocese

SAT, AUG 11, 8:15 AM TO 4 PM
Bishop O’Dowd High School, Oakland
Early Bird Registration: $35 Cross Jul 15
Late Registration: $40
Questions: Pcollyer@oakdiocese.org

The axe forgets; the tree remembers. -African Proverb

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE FOR FAITH SHARING: Consider sharing with us your faith journey, your walk with Our Lord. How has He worked in you for the good of others? Articles should be between 300-500 words, your own testimonial to your Catholic faith, and submitted with a portrait to FaithSharingSCS@gmail.com. By making a personal submission to the bulletin, you agree to having your words edited, printed, and shared by the Parish and Communications Committee and agree to a photo release of your image. Consider this, please.
Dear friends in Christ,

Evangelization! Does this word intimidate you? It should not. The term evangelization has a very rich meaning. In the broad sense, it sums up the Church’s entire mission: her whole life consists in accomplishing the traditio Evangelii, the proclamation and handing on of the Gospel, which is “the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes” (Rom 1:16) and which, in the final essence, is identified with Jesus Christ Himself (cf. 1 Cor 1:24). Understood in this way, to evangelize does not mean simply to teach a doctrine, but to proclaim Jesus Christ by one’s words and actions, that is, to make oneself an instrument of His presence and action in the world.

Jesus Christ was the first Missionary! He was sent by the Father to proclaim Good News, calling all to conversion of heart. Before going back to the Father, Christ entrusted His mission of evangelization to the Church, “As the Father has sent Me, so I send you” (John 20:21) and “go out into the whole world and preach the Gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned” (Mk 16:15-16). Therefore, the Church is to continue the mission of Christ in the world. For this reason, the Church has a right and duty to call people into the relationship with God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Church does it in many ways. In the early days of the Church, the Jews and Greeks or Gentiles converted to Christianity by witnesses and proclamation of the Gospel by the Apostles. First, there was a public kind of evangelization: The synagogue and the Church, the Jews and Greeks or Gentiles converted to Christianity by witnesses and proclamation of the Gospel by the Apostles. Secondly, there are Christian communities with adequate and solid ecclesial structures. They are fervent in their faith and in Christian living. They bear witness to the Gospel in their surroundings and have a sense of commitment to the universal mission. In these communities the Church carries out her pastoral activity and pastoral care. Between mission and pastoral activity there is an intermediate situation that calls for a “New Evangelization.”

Thirdly, there is an intermediate situation, particularly in countries with ancient Christian roots, and occasionally in the younger Churches as well, where entire groups of the baptized have lost a living sense of the faith, or even no longer consider themselves members of the Church, and live a life far removed from Christ and His Gospel. In this case what is needed is a “New Evangelization” or a “Re-Evangelization.”

What is new then? It is not about having a new content of faith, but it is rather about new methods, new ardors, and new expressions that are applicable to our times. Here are four suggestions on the New Evangelization by Bishop Robert Barron.

1 – Lead with the Beautiful. Less threatening. We are a beautiful religion. You can come to learn to love from beauty. Look at what Pope Francis is doing by leading with the beauty of a holy life, then lead them to the good and the truth.

2 – Don’t dumb down the Message! Doesn’t help when we keep the faith the one thing that is dumbed down in our society. Evangelize by being clear, articulate, and smart – with the full arsenal of our tradition. A dumbed-down Catholicism will not serve.

3 – We have to preach with Ardor! We need some fire! People only listen to a really excited speaker. Muster up some excitement for the Gospel! We are light-bearers to the end of the world. The risen Jesus is the Good News! People don’t die for myths, legends, and literary devices – they do it for a resurrected Jesus! We need to be clear about that.

4 – To be a good evangelist – You have to tell the Great Story! There is a temptation to present a “pure Christianity” without the Old Testament story. This means the story is an abstract version, who is more of a “Gnostic guru”. The New Eden is now established in the person of Jesus. If you de-Judaize Jesus, He becomes just another spiritual teacher. Evangelization is a subversive message there is a new King in town! And I add this: 5- share your story with God. Your story is powerful! How did you decide to follow Him? How did He help you? Saint Peter tells us to “Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for your hope” (I Peter 3:15).

May we all be on fire to share our story to all.

Blessings,

Rev. Anthony Huong Le
Saint Catherine of Siena Ignite Team is offering an eight-week Bible study by Jeff Cavins and Sarah Christmyer with two opportunities to participate: either on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 7:15 PM beginning OCT 10 or Saturday mornings from 11 AM to 12:30 PM beginning OCT 13. Register with Cindy Buscaglia @ 925-787-8396. Workbook is $19.95 + shipping.

**IGNITE**


**WEEKLY REFLECTION with CLERGY**

on the **SUNDAY READINGS**

Every Monday evening from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm

St. Gabriel Room in the Parish Center

**SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH BOOK CLUB**

Join a community in engaging with themes and questions of Catholic faith through literature. Hosted guided reading and discussion of fiction and non-fiction books in communal text-based spiritual nourishment. Read along or read on your own time. Participate in guided reading every month or choose time when scheduling allows. Whether you read alone, with your family, or attend our discussions, all are welcome to share in our literary journey.

“CATHARINE OF SIENA: A PASSIONATE LIFE” —DON BROPHY

Read up to Ch.13 and join the discussion on Thursday, July 26 at 7 pm in the evening at the Parish Center

FOR INFO & TO BE PUT ON THE EMAILING LIST

CONTACT: IGNITESCS@GMAIL.COM

**Northern California Kickoff for Catholic Youth & Young Adult Ministry**

**nor-cal-jam-2018**

SAT. SEP. 15. 9am to 9pm @ Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Vallejo

tickets & info: www.onfireorcal.com

Bible truth: each person marvels to find in the divine scriptures truths which they themselves have thought out. —St. Thomas Aquinas

**St. Vincent de Paul Conference Corner**

INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL?

We are more than only a food pantry!

Join us at the Ozanam Orientation

Tuesday, July 24 @ 5:00 PM

in the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall

For more info call Karen @ 788-7716

**For information about St. Catherine of Siena all-year-round RCIA program, please contact the parish office at stcathmtz@yahoo.com Or call 925-228-2230**

**READY TO PLAY BASKETBALL?**

Saint Catherine of Siena CYO Basketball 2018-19 Registration is open up until August 31st

Open to girls and boys, 2nd to 8th grades

Please visit CYO website for eligibility and pricing info: www.stmtzrgy.org

**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH BOOK CLUB**

Join a community in engaging with themes and questions of Catholic faith through literature. Hosted guided reading and discussion of fiction and non-fiction books in communal text-based spiritual nourishment. Read along or read on your own time. Participate in guided reading every month or choose time when scheduling allows. Whether you read alone, with your family, or attend our discussions, all are welcome to share in our literary journey.

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**Mark Your Calendars!**

Faith Formation Registration 2018-19

Sunday, August 26 after all Masses

For more info, please call the Parish Office or

Contact Andrea Watkins at drestcath@yahoo.com

Director of Religious Education for PreK through 8th

Contact Deacon Dave Holland at daveh@cfcsoakland.org

High School students Youth Group and/or Confirmation

Ten St. Catherine of Siena parishioners joined Fr. Anthony on the fourth of July marching in the annual parade in downtown Martinez. Happy Independence Day!
I was born in 1949 and raised in the Bronx. After graduating Fordham University I taught high school science at Cardinal Spellman H.S. My wife Kathleen was a visiting nurse. After two years I switched to teaching religion. It was a grace filled period because I quickly realized that to teach, I had to live it first.

I needed to follow the Teacher, Jesus. (“You have only one Teacher.”) Teaching all grade levels in High School was a challenge and I found myself bombarded with questions from the youngsters. I met some people who introduced me to the Word of Life – it is a sentence of the scripture that could be lived each month. I recall the first one which I taped over the kitchen counter to help me remember – “our love should not be words but actions.” This time washing the dishes and meditating on those words I felt that Jesus Himself was growing in me and I felt free from my grumbling self. I sometimes resented doing more than my fair share of the dishes at night. This newfound freedom was worth the “cost of discipleship.”

By 1991 we had five children ages six to seventeen years. I needed a job because of the downturn in the economy and so we moved from the East Coast to Concord, California where we attended St. Bonaventure parish. I was now working in sales and marketing and worked in that field almost thirty years in total. I joined a small Christian community group in the parish that met twice a month to share our experiences of faith.

A shock came in 2006 when my wife decided to live independently. There was nothing I could do to change her mind. We sold our family home and I moved to Rossmoor, attending St. Ann’s parish. Living alone in a condo in Rossmoor behind gates that seemed more a prison than a protection was difficult. I found solace in thinking of the Holy Family fleeing to Egypt to protect the baby Jesus. I, too, needed to protect my faith, a faith that was really being tested. I managed to attend retreats every month and have conference calls with friends who shared the same love for Jesus. I kept living the Word and did not give up.

Around the same time I decided to retire from sales and go back to teaching. I was hired to teach science and religion at St. Francis of Assisi School in Concord.

In November 2016 I was given a diagnosis of stage four prostate cancer. This was a shock. However, in the context of faith I was not knocked off my feet, honestly, because I had a lot of friends and family that support me. Just before starting chemo I moved to Martinez to live with my daughter and her husband. I joined St. Catherine parish, and when I can, I sing with the 8:30 AM choir and attend daily Mass. I look forward to the new Ignite activities that are being offered in our parish.

—Jim Webber
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LITURGY SCHEDULE

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM
8:30 AM Children’s Liturgy of the Word
10:30 AM
12:30 PM Spanish

WEEKDAYS:* 8:00 AM
*Note: Thursday is a Communion Service

HOLY DAYS: 8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00 PM

ADORATION: Fridays from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers
Jack Watkins…………………………………………………925-957-0437
Art and Environment
Beth Churchill………………………………………………925-200-6300
Bingo
Don Brocca…………………………………………………925-858-7330
Catholic Youth Organization - CYO
Gina Marks…………………………………………………925-817-9429
Children’s Liturgy of the Word
Debbie Frieberg…………………………………………925-212-7465
Communications
Eugene Dizon………………………………………………925-370-8143
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Viviana & Marty Magee…………………………………925-228-6460
Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins………………………..Ext 30 925-228-2230
Finance
Don Brocca…925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller…925-335-9395
Grief Ministry/Card Ministry
Mary Cook…………………………………………………925-229-2665
Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz…………………………………………925-997-2432
Hospital/Sick/Homebound
Tom Green/Region of Mary……………………………925-228-4387
Ignite
Cindy Buscaglia…………………………………………925-787-8396
Italian Catholic Federation - ICF
Tom Cook…………………………………………………925-229-2665
Knights of Columbus - K of C
Rik Silva……………………………………………………925-334-2429
La Comunidad Latina
Lucia Cruz…………………………………………………925-348-2620
Lectors
Deacon Albert Dizon……………………………………925-370-8143
Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer………………………………………………925-658-1442
Loaves & Fishes
Denice Silva………………………………………………925-372-0740
Maintenance
Parish Office………………………………………………925-228-2230
Mary Help of Christians - MHC
Margarita Flores…………………………………………925-812-1279
Pastoral Advisory Council
Karen Glen…925-788-7716 & Karen Sandri…925-370-7997
Respect Life
Linda Easterday…………………………………………925-372-3845
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults - RCIA
Fr. Anthony Huong Le……………………………………925-228-2230
Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Andrea Watkins………………………..Ext 30 925-228-2230
SECP: No More Secrets - Survivor Outreach
Stasia McNamara…………………………………………925-372-6091
San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion…………………………………………925-381-1835
Social Awareness
Anne Critt………………………………………………….925-356-8822
Spark (young adult group ages 18 years to 35 years)
Rosemary Cook…………………………………………925-229-2665
Stewardship
Karen Glenn………………………………………………925-788-7716
Sociedade Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI
Annette Liberty…………………………………………925-228-8428
St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP
Karen Glenn………………………………………………925-788-7716
Stewards
James McLaughlin………………………………………925-228-1051
Young Ladies Institute - YLI
Gail Alexandra…………………………………………925-698-7644
Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)
Deacon Dave Holland…………………………………925-372-7015

Before serving or continuing in your ministry, complete the Diocesan required Safe Environment for Children Project Training @ www.virtusonline.org. Thank you.
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### READINGS & REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

**SAT, JUL 15, 2018: MEMORIAL OF KATERI TEKAKWITHA, VIRGIN**

**“Through Him, with Him, in Him.”** This phrase from the Eucharistic Prayer we hear at every Mass says a lot with a few well-chosen prepositions. Whatever it is we’re out there doing, we’re never doing it alone. It’s *through* Christ that we serve the needs of our families, friends, and strangers too with our charity. It’s *with* Christ that we suffer burdens of loss, betrayal, sickness, loneliness. It’s *in* Christ that we’re strengthened to speak the truth, seek justice, and promote peace with our words and actions. Take a moment to ground yourself in Christ.

*Today’s readings:* Amos 7:12-15; Ephesians 1:3-14 or 1:3-10; Mark 6:7-13 (104). “In Him we have redemption... in Him we were also chosen... in Him you also... were sealed.”

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**MON, JUL 16, 2018: MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**

Our Lady of the hour of death for my sake will find it.”

Death has a way of focusing one’s attention. You may intend someday to pay more attention to your faith and “get right with God.” But, as you learned in school, you shouldn’t postpone studying until the night before finals. Today is the Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, who in 1251 appeared to Saint Simon Stock, an English Carmelite, and bestowed on him the scapular and the promise to intercede at the hour of death for all who wore it in life. The original scapular was the brown sleeveless tunic that is still a part of the Carmelite habit today. The best way to prepare for a good death is to live a better life—starting today.

*Today’s readings:* Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34—11:1 (389). “Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

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**TUE, JUL 17, 2018: Empty the schedule for a while**

As you take some time for fun and pleasure this summer, remember that what you are doing is holy. It is our duty to rest, repair, and restore ourselves. Several times a year that actually means vacating our normal routine and residence. The word *vacation* comes from the Latin *vacare,* “to be empty, be free.” Taking a vacation is a separate and very different act from making a retreat (from the Latin for “withdraw”), though that, too, is often a holy act. Without the release a vacation provides, our lives can easily get thrown off balance, which leads to stress, exhaustion, apathy, and eventually hardness of heart—a trait Jesus condemns in today’s gospel.

*Today’s readings:* Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24 (390). “If the mighty deeds done here had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until now.”

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**WED, JUL 18, 2018: MEMORIAL OF CAMILLUS DE LELLIS, PRIEST**

Using what ails us

A six-foot-six-inch-tall soldier, strong and commanding, Camillus was brought low by pain and disease. His addiction to gambling led him to poverty. Instead of giving up, he worked to heal others and brought others to toil with him. Now he is the patron saint of hospitals and the sick as well as of nurses. He used the limitations, pain, and shortcomings of his own life to bring healing to others and to sanctify himself. What ails us today that we can use to help others and ourselves?

*Today’s readings:* Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 1:25-27 (391). “Although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike.”

---

**THU, JUL 19, 2018: What’s in a name?**

It makes a difference whether you know someone’s name. To be introduced to a person involves learning their name. It puts you on personal terms. It was the same for the ancient Israelites, even when it came to God. When Moses asked God who he should say sent him, God revealed the divine name to Moses to tell the people. In this way they would know the Lord cared for them and would act on their behalf. Call on the Lord by name and ask God to be active in your life.

*Today’s readings:* Isaiah 26:7-9, 12,16-19; Matthew 11:28-30 (392). “This is what you shall tell the children of Israel: I AM sent me to you.”

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**FRI, JUL 20, 2018: Follow the law of love**

The Pharisees were a sect that demanded strict interpretation and observance of Mosaic Law. They sometime preferred rules and regulations to thoughtful consideration of circumstances or the larger picture. It’s not hard to see why: Laws are neat, impartial, neutral, clear. Moreover, when we simply follow laws, thinking is generally not required! Jesus, however, calls His followers to a higher standard: to love, which, as Archbishop Desmond Tutu rightly observed, “is much more demanding than law.” Just for today, let’s immerse ourselves in the “something greater” that Jesus talked about. Let’s immerse ourselves in love. What would your day be like if you did so?

*Today’s readings:* Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12:1-8 (393). “I say to you, something greater than the temple is here.”

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**SAT, JUL 21, 2018: MEMORIAL OF LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

The gift of a broken heart

In his *Personal Narrative*, the early American sermon writer Edward Fitzgerald reveals something important about love when he says, “I have greatly longed of late for a broken heart, and to lie low before God.” It is unlikely any of us long for a broken heart. But to consider a broken heart a gift, Fitzgerald must have seen something akin to what Saint Lawrence of Brindisi approached when he wrote, “Love stirs itself from sorrow; and love itself is in equal measure lanced with sorrow.” The lower we lie in sorrow, the further we can experience God’s sacrificial love that comes down to us. Moreover, the pureness of our emotions when we are steeped in sorrow allows us to offer up to God a supple material for His grace. Instead of fearing your brokenness, use it to open God’s grace.

*Today’s readings:* Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21 (394). “Many people followed him, and he cured them all.”

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**SUNDAY, JUL 22, 2018: SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Ease up!

Are you living at one speed all the time: busy, busy, busy? Some of us are overextended, many of us have never learned to say no, and more than a few of us hang our self-worth on the precarious hooks of what we can accomplish. Even Jesus took time out for retreat and recollection. When was the last time you went on retreat? Do you take the occasional night off, observe a real Sabbath rest, sit for five minutes in a quiet, empty church? Block out time on your calendar not to do, but to be with God.

*Today’s readings:* Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34 (107). “Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.”