Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come.

LUKE 11:3

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY: 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM
SUNDAY: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM (Spanish)
ADORATION: Thursdays from 12:00 - 8:00 PM
RECONCILIATION: Saturdays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM
SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

**BAPTISMS:**
Registration is mandatory two months prior to Baptism month. Please call the office to make an appointment once you have your documents ready. Parents & Godparents are required to attend a mandatory Baptism preparation class one month before reception of the Sacrament. All information regarding requirements and schedules, can be found on the website at [www.stcmtz.org](http://www.stcmtz.org) or Sylvia at ext 100!

**FIRST EUCHARIST:**
The Religious Education Program Registration begins in August and classes start in September. The First Holy Communion program is a two year program. All other classes are one year (K-8).

**CONFIRMATION:**
Youth Confirmation Program Registration begins in August. It is a one year program for all incoming Freshmen or above. Please contact: Paul or Jenny Holland at jenniferdevita@gmail.com for more information. For Adult Confirmation, please call the office.

**MARRIAGES:**
Arrangements and mandatory preparation need to be arranged at least eight months prior to the wedding. No dates can be set prior to an initial meeting with a priest. No exceptions.

**RECONCILIATION:**
Confession times are weekly on Saturday’s from 3:00 - 4:00 PM and by appointment.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**
The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the continuation of the Lord’s compassion for the sick. The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is one of two sacraments which heals and saves the baptized person from sin. The other sacrament of healing is Penance. For an anointing during working hours, please call the Parish office.

**FUNERALS:**
We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services at 925-932-0900. A representative will contact the parish office to coordinate your arrangements.

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**St. Catherine of Siena Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound**
Do you know someone who is homebound and/or ill & would like to receive the Eucharist or just a visit from a friendly face? If so, please email: Deacon Dave Holland at: daveh@cfsoakland.org or call (925-413-9240) with your neighbor’s name, address, and telephone number. St. Catherine Pastoral Care to the Sick & Homebound will arrange for a visitor from the parish.
“WHO ARE WELCOME TO SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA CHURCH?”

All children of God are welcome to St. Catherine of Siena Parish. We follow Jesus Christ by welcoming everyone, by sharing God’s gifts and giving glory to Almighty God. We come together in worship, to empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus to share good news. In our Parish we create a golden culture rooted in deep gratitude and generosity. We form a joyful family community that reaches and receives one another as Christ reaches out and receives us. Our church assures that our facilities in and out testify to the greater honor and glory of God. Everyone is welcome to participate and listen to memorable Gospel readings, reflections and homilies that will enlighten our ethical values. We encourage our visitors to meet our lay ministers, Parish and school staff, and our beloved Priest, Father Anthony our lead Apostolic Disciple, Teacher, Successor, Preacher and Sanctifier (Mark 16:15) (Luke 10:16) (John 20:21-23).

We are Evangelizer of the Holy Gospel. Potential new converts are also welcome. Catholicism is the loyal friend for converts. They are invited to come inside and join us. The curious visitors, attracted or disturbed by Catholic teachings are welcome to come inside, walk around and see how it feels. A simple invitation to come inside— then decide what you think about it. Nineteen and a half centuries ago, Saint Paul proposed to the Athenians who worshiped the unknown gods. (Acts 17.16-34).

The Catholic Church may sound like a controversial institution. Some find its teachings inexplicable, and puzzling. If we look at the Catholic Church controversies and teachings from the inside, the convictions that make those controversies possible are necessary. In answering God’s call, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus who left heavens glory to dwell among us the poor and oppressed of the earth deserving of all help, hope and dignity. Looking from the outside, our simple invitation to all anxious, the unsure, to all curious whether attracted or disturbed by Catholic teachings is to come inside an d join us. Then decide what you think about the unique experience.

What do we teach inside the St. Catherine of Siena Church? And Why? First of all, the Holy Bible does not begin with the Ten Commandments. It begins with the story of the world’s creation and with God’s affirmation that the world He created is good. No one will force you to stay but you are welcome to remain and listen to the prayers, liturgy and homily. It is a huge and liberating terrain on which to live a fully human life—and to prepare for a destiny beyond mundane imagination. Jesus as He said is the way, the truth and the life. He revealed Himself as the Son of the living God. Jesus gives everyone the grace necessary to be saved because of what God did for the World and for humanity in Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Center of the Universe and of History—The Creator of the Universe with no beginning and no end. The Creator of the Universe entered His creation—the Son of God who became incarnate in the womb of a virgin Jewish girl in an obscure village of the Roman empire 2,000 years ago draws humanity into the inner life of God—changes the possibilities in the human condition.

Because of our sparkling display of devotion to Church and God, we welcome those who are willing to accept the call for vocation, the religious disciples, professionals and those who desire the life of eternal happiness. The nature of our church is missionary—to be evangelist—all who were baptized share in Christ vocation as priests. Evangelization and charity are the main purpose of church. It is the communion of liturgical worship. Because our church is the body of Christ. We welcome those Christians receiving the seven sacraments—of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and the Anointing of the Sick. We welcome all. You are no longer strangers to St. Catherine, but you are citizens with the Saints and members of God’s household; you are built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the Chief corner stone (Eph. 2:19-20).

We do not worship God because it makes us feel better or good or entertained. We worship God because God is to be worshiped; we look up, to join the legions of Angels and Saint Catherine of Siena who praise God throughout eternity, to focus our mind in God the Holy Trinity. It means looking and thinking about God who is love and Christ loves the Church as a husband loves a wife. (Ephesians 5.25). Our prayer is a way of expressing and sharing in love: the love that is the inner life of God, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. May God bless you all.

C.C. Salonga
WORSHIP
To facilitate a transforming encounter with God as we come together in worship.

3 Essential Things that Explain Why There Are Only 7 Sacraments

The Catholic Church has seven Sacraments. But we also have sacramentals, symbols, icons, and various kinds of rituals and prayers. What makes something a Sacrament specifically – and why are there only seven?

For something to be a Sacrament it has to meet three essential criteria. If something is lacking just one of these criteria, it is not a Sacrament.

A Sacrament is an (1) outward sign and (2) means of grace (3) instituted by Christ. Let’s unpack each of these.

1) Outward Sign

All the Sacraments have outward signs, including words, gestures, and objects like water and oil. This is very important for sacraments because it makes it so we can tell when they are taking place. If a sacrament was invisible, it could be hard to know if you’ve received any!

As St. Thomas Aquinas explains in his Summa (III.60.4), human beings are physical creatures that learn things through our senses. So it makes sense that God would communicate his grace to us in a way that’s accessible to us.

So, for example, when a person is baptized, the minister pours water on their head (or fully immerse them in the water) and pronounces the words given to the Church by Jesus “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

2) Means of Grace

But the Sacraments are not merely symbols: they actually effect the spiritual realities they symbolize.

There are many powerful religious symbols in the Church (and outside of it); but if something is just a symbol, and doesn’t actually give the grace of God, then it isn’t a Sacrament.

This is important because we humans are in desperate need of God’s grace, and the Sacraments are the ordinary means by which we receive it.

3) Instituted by Christ

But many visible signs could possibly be used by God to give someone grace. But for something to be one of the seven Sacraments, it has to have been instituted by Jesus himself during his earthly ministry.

For example, the Rosary is a wonderful spiritual practice; and praying it may even be an occasion for God to give a person grace. But it is not a Sacrament because it was not instituted by Jesus.

Thus, the Sacraments are not something the Church can change or add to; rather, they are something the Church has received from Our Lord and that the Church guards, performs, and passes on.

So why are there only seven Sacraments? Because that’s the number of outward signs of grace that were instituted by Christ!
To assure that our Church and facilities testify to the greater honor and glory of God.

July 21, 2019
WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Sunday Collection  $ 5,151.00
- Fulfilling the Promise  $ 343.33
- Divine Renovation  $ 3,500.00  YTD: $ 25,731.00
- Organ Fund  $ 1,510.00  YTD: $ 3,261.00
- Piano  $ 3,500.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:  Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:  St. Martha
Tuesday:  St. Peter Chrysologus
Wednesday:  St. Ignatius of Loyola
Thursday:  St. Alphonsus Liguori
Friday:  St. Eusebius of Vercelli;
        St. Peter Julian Eymard; First Friday
Saturday:  Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

NEW SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Effective August 4, 2019

- The 10:30 Mass will be changed to 11 AM
- The 12:30 pm Spanish Mass changed to 1 PM

STEWARDSHIP
To create a culture in the parish rooted in gratitude and generosity.

Hospitality Sunday
Are you interested in taking part in the welcoming and hospitality of our parish community?
Hosts are still needed for :
- August 4, September 1
- November 3, 10, 24
- December 22, 29

Individuals, organizations, and ministries are invited to host. Please email or call the parish office to sign-up.

NO Baptisms or classes will be conducted during the months of JULY and AUGUST. We will resume our normal schedule in September
DISCIPLESHIP

To empower a community of Christian people walking together as disciples of Jesus in order to share His good news.

St. Catherine of Siena Conference

“No work of charity is foreign to the Society”.  
Founder Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul

A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

Vincentian Members/Members Needed

Active members: 35
Goal: To increase and create a diverse group of members who can help spread actions of love to people in need. If you can help once a month or once a week, please join us. We have a pantry every Saturday morning and do home visits as needed to our neighbors. We provide you with training. For more information call Karen Glen at 925-788-7716

Visits with People in Poverty – Your Donations

The vocation of the Society’s members is to follow Christ through service to those in need and so be a witness to His compassionate and liberating love. Your donations have helped members execute their commitment through person-to-person contact. Home visits include financial assistance with rent, utilities, DMV, insurance and other expenses. The pantry provides food. In this quarter of 2019, Vincentians reached out in the following ways:

- Visited 9 households to offer material and spiritual help.
- Conducted 12 food pantry’s
- Helped 215 families through food pantry
- Served a total of 224 families

SERVICES BY VINCENTIANS

(APRIL 2019 —JUNE 2019)

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The pilgrim experience of going by foot to Santiago de Compostella, the shrine of St. James, reached its high point this week at the feast of the Apostle, with tens of thousands of pilgrims on the road. Typically, they cover twelve to twenty miles a day through rough territory. The difficult journey and the often primitive lodging facilities are made bearable by the joy of the pilgrims, their songs and prayers. When their journey is documented properly, they receive the scallop shell, a reminder not only of James the fisherman, but also his call to fish for human beings and to baptize the nations. In the Middle Ages, those who wore this badge on their hats were granted lodging and hospitality wherever they went. Next to the palm, the sign of a Jerusalem pilgrim, the scallop shell was most highly prized.

In the Middle Ages, some people so enjoyed the pilgrim road, although it was filled with discomfort and danger, that they spent most of their lives on the road. Today, some people take up the route for exercise, but are drawn gradually into the spirituality of the journey. As you make your summer travels, always fold in an element of pilgrimage: a long walk through beautiful countryside, a visit to a church, a prayer of gratitude for your journey through life’s hills and valleys.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
St. Catherine of Siena Parish follows Jesus by welcoming all, sharing our gifts, and giving glory to God.

And the Lord said “Let there be Light”
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Teach and learn as you go

Teaching is mostly conceived as an academic process relegated to schools or online programs. But the most meaningful lessons we learn happen far from classrooms. What did you learn simply from growing up in the environment that produced you? What did you imbibe from family members, storybooks, personal heroes, or actual experiences? When the disciples of Jesus ask for praying lessons, they’ve already observed how disciplined Jesus is in his own habits. Jesus teaches them the Lord’s Prayer—but he’d already taught them, by his example, the importance of praying.

TODAY’S READINGS: Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13 (111). “When he had finished praying, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray.’”

Monday, Jul 29, 2019

MEMORIAL OF MARTHA

Friends ask friends

Martha isn’t one to beat about the bush. After her brother dies, she marches up to Jesus and tells it like it is: “Lord, if you had been here . . .” This is the same Martha who once asked Jesus to act on her behalf when she slaved away as her sister sat at his feet: “Tell her to help me.” The Bible tells us that Jesus was a good friend of Martha. Thanks to Martha, it also shows how we can count on Jesus as a friend—trusting him enough to be candid about our needs. Just ask.

TODAY’S READINGS: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). “The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous.”

Tuesday, Jul 30, 2019

MEMORIAL OF BLESSED SOLANUS CASEY, O.F.M., CAP.

God opens a door

Blessed Father Solanus Casey (1870-1957) is on his way to sainthood. That might have surprised those who knew him in seminary where he was considered so academically slow that, once ordained, he was not allowed to preach or hear Confessions! What he could do was greet people as the porter (doorkeeper) at the Capuchin monastery in Detroit where he lived. More than 20,000 people attended Solanus’ funeral services, for he turned the front door job into a holy and humble ministry that welcomed the stranger and consoled the many who visited daily. If today you fear you are not worthy, remember that all things are possible with God.


Wednesday, Jul 31, 2019

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PRIEST

Surrender yourself

Saint Ignatius, that wounded Spanish soldier of the 1500s—whose conversion grew a group of “soldiers for Christ”—liked bold sayings. Such as: “Go forth and set the world on fire.” Not to mention his Jesuit order’s motto: “All for the greater glory of God.” Once Ignatius saw the Kingdom as Jesus did, there was no turning back—no price too high. The key? Be a soldier who surrenders. His Suscipe (“surrender”) Prayer says it all: “Receive, Lord, all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my whole will . . . Give me only your love and your grace. With this I am rich enough.”

TODAY’S READINGS: Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46 (403). “When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has.”

Thursday, Aug 01, 2019

MEMORIAL OF ALPHONSES LIGUORI, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Reconcile yourself

A shrinking number of Catholics—even those who attend Mass regularly—go to Confession. Don’t be tempted to skip this sacrament; pray for help from Saint Alphonsus Liguori, the patron of confessors, who preached in the 18th-century slums of Italy. He never refused anyone absolution and even fought against a heresy that treated penitents like criminals. Part of the mission of the order he founded, the Redemptorists, is to bring people back into a life of grace through Confession. With the help of his intercession, embrace the healing of forgiveness and be reconciled with your loving God.

TODAY’S READINGS: Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53 (404). “The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous.”

Friday, Aug 02, 2019

MEMORIAL OF PETER JULIAN EYMARD, PRIEST

Receive and be transformed

Saint Peter Julian Eymard (1811-68) founded the Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament dedicated to setting the “four corners of the world on fire with eucharistic love.” His vision of priests, sisters, deacons, and laypeople all actively participating in the Eucharist anticipated and helped shape the liturgical renewals of the 20th century. Peter Julian saw the Eucharist as our hidden treasure that needed to be brought into the light so that Jesus could “once again take his place at the head of Christian society.” “Receive Communion often,” he wrote, “and Jesus will change you into himself.” What can you do to help the “reign of the Eucharist” increase?

TODAY’S READINGS: Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58 (405). “Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds?”

Saturday, Aug 03, 2019

Be guided by good conscience

Conscience is that still small voice deep within that guides us in making moral judgements. It is a lifetime’s work to form conscience using God’s law of love as the measure of what is upright. How do we do that work of formation? We pray for the guidance of God’s Spirit, seek the wisdom of faithful friends, read scripture, and consider teachings of the church. So formed, we “must always obey the certain judgment of conscience” as the Catechism says. Conscience has been well attended when a decision, no matter how tough or even unpopular, brings a sense of freedom and peace of heart.

TODAY’S READINGS: Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12 (406). “For John (the Baptist) had said to (Herod), ‘It is not lawful for you to have her.’”

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 28, 2019

You were buried with him in baptism, in which case you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

— Colossians 2:12
UPCOMING EVENTS

LEAD ME LORD
Diocese of Oakland Catechetical Congress 2019
Saturday, August 10, 2019
Registration opens at 9:30 am
(Bishop O’Dowd High School)
OAKLAND, CA 94605

Retrouvaille... A lifeline for marriages. Do you feel lost, frustrated, hurt, or angry with your spouse? Retrouvaille helps married couples heal and renew their marriages.

The next Oakland Retrouvaille Program begins August 2-4, 2019. To register: contact Gus or Edda Rivera at (510) 709-6063.

www.HelpOurMarriage.com

Mission Cooperative

St. Catherine of Siena welcomes Fr. Kabipi on August 3rd and 4th to speak on behalf of the Diocese of Bunda in Tanzania

As a church in Bunda, Rev. Narcis Kabipi is fulfilling the following missionary works:

Evangelization We are training Catechists, Seminarians and Lay Apostolate, to support Religious education, RCIA programs etc.

Formation of Priests and Religious Vocations: We are financing the training of Senior Seminarians in theological and philosophical studies within our country and supporting religious training in the Diocese.

Pastoral Development Programs: Due to increase numbers of Parishioners and Vocations we are constructing new Churches, Outstations, rectories, Convents and schools in order to serve better our people.

This annual appeal is meant to help unite our diocese with the Universal church and to raise mission awareness and concern for the peoples of the world.
Part I. Faith Formation (preschool to 8th grade)
8:30 AM  Parents and children are expected to celebrate the 8:30 AM Holy Mass
@9:30   Hospitality
Parents are invited to hospitality, presentation, and sharing in the Hall
Children are sent immediately after the Holy Mass to the Hall with their parents and later dismissed to the classrooms.
@10:45 Parents and children gather in the Hall for dismissal

Part II. Confirmation (9th -11th)
11:00 AM  Parents and children are expected to celebrate the 11:00 Holy Mass
@12:00 PM   All are invited to Hospitality in the Hall
@12:30 PM   Presentation (both) presentation and Sharing for Parents in the Hall
Confirmation candidates are dismissed to have presentation and sharing in the Parish Center/or in the School with leaders.
@1:45 Dismissal

Please note that family and parish-wide events will be added to the curriculum. In this way, adults will find opportunities to get involved in learning more Catholic teachings. There will be retreats, small groups, and faith sharing on Scripture available. The current curriculum for elementary and youth Sunday Family Faith Formation will be enhanced with more family-oriented materials and resources.

We believe this change will wonderfully impact our community. Nonetheless, we understand you might have some concerns and questions.
Please contact us:
Mrs. Andrea Watkins @ drestcath@yahoo.com for children faith formation, First communion and Reconciliation
Mr. & Mrs. Paul and Jenny Holland @ stcathym@gmail.com for Confirmation and Youth Ministry.

Did you know St. Catherine has a softball team?
The St. Catherine of Siena softball team is made up of Parish and School dad’s who compete against other local Church’s in the Parish league. They play on Monday evenings at the Martinez Marina fields. For more information: contact Jeremy Cooley at jermnjoe@yahoo.com
NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY—THURSDAY  8:30 AM - 1 PM
2:00 PM -  5 PM
FRIDAY   8:30 AM - 1 PM

MINISTRIES/ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTS

Altar Servers
Jack Watkins.................................925-957-0437

Beneath His Cross Apostolate
Jessica Preciado.............................925-354-1656

Bingo
Don Brocca .................................925-858-7330

Catholic Youth Organization - CYO
Gina Marks .....................................925-817-9429

Communications
Sylvia Lloren..................................Ext 1001 925-228-2230

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
TBD................................................925-228-2230

Faith Formation - Religious Education (PreK-8th Grades)
Andrea Watkins ..............................Ext 1005 925-228-2230

Finance Council
Don Brocca.................................925-229-4158 and Dennis Koller...925-335-9395

Grief /Card Ministry
Mary Cook ......................................925-229-2665

Guadalupe Society
Guadalupe Cruz..............................925-997-2432

Hospital/Sick/Homebound
Tom Greerty ....................................925-228-4387

Hospitality
Debbie Pelizzari .............................925-370-3874

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 Communidad Latina
Lucia Cruz......................................925-348-2620

Lectors
Carlos Melendez..............................510-385-0506

Legion of Mary
Bobby Kiefer .................................925-658-1442

Loaves & Fishes
Denice Silva ....................................925-372-0740

Maintenance
Troy Killorn .....................................925-228-2230

Mary Help of Christians - MHC
Margarita Flores..............................925-812-1279

Music Ministry—Choir
Troy Killorn .....................................Ext 1003 925-228-2230

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
TBD/Karen Glen ................................Ext 1004 925-228-2230

Safe Environment for Children Project - SECP
Andrea Watkins ..............................Ext 1005 925-228-2230

San Lorenzo Ruiz Community - SLRC
Esther Concepcion...........................925-381-1835

Social Awareness
Anne Crisp .....................................925-356-8822

Stewardship
Karen Glen .....................................925-788-7716

Social: Portuguesa Rainha Santa Isabel - SPRSI
Annette Liberty ..............................925-228-8428

St. Vincent de Paul Society - SVdP
Karen Glen .....................................Ext 1004 925-788-7716

Ushers
James McLaughlin...........................925-228-1051

Young Ladies Institute - YLI
Rori Polvorosa ................................510-734-4907

Youth Group/Confirmation (High School 9 to 12 Grades)
Paul & Jenny Holland......................Ext 1008 925-228-2230

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