



# St. Catherine of Siena

## Catholic Church and Student Center

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 8, 2023

### October Encounter: The Mass – Why Do We Go?

On Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Catherine's kicked off the second year of its intergenerational faith formation program, Encounter. This year Encounter will be held on the first Sunday of each month, immediately after the 10:30 mass. The theme for this year will be The Mass and this first session focused on the question "Why do we go to mass?" Around 80 members of St. Catherine's were in attendance.

Following lunch, participants collaborated on a matching activity where each table was challenged to connect 15 images from the mass with their names, descriptions and origins of the names. Aimee Beckmann-Collier read St. Luke's account of the first mass – the Last Supper. During the reading, the children of the parish helped visualize the story by populating an illustration of the table with the apostles, the cup and the bread. Creativity in fitting all of the apostles around the table added a bit of entertainment for the audience.

The session then broke into separate groups for preschool & elementary children, middle school & high school students and adults led by Father John Ludwig. Each group spent the remainder of the time discussing the mass in more depth. The next Encounter session will be held on November 5<sup>th</sup> and the theme will be "Eucharist Means Thanksgiving...What Else Does It Mean?"



ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA Catholic Church and Student Center  
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#### PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Protas Okwalo**  
*Pastor*

**Fr. Emmanuel Offiong**  
*Weekend Pastoral Associate*

**Rev. Mr. Rick Condon**  
*Deacon*

**Lyrio Cloma-Read**  
*Office Manager*

**Jan Blessum**  
*Business Manager*

**Megan Schultz**  
*Campus Minister*

**Dennis & Melinda Hendrickson**  
*Music Coordinators*

**Gus and Dee Cordero**  
*Deaf Ministry Coordinators*

**Dave & Sheila Lingwall**  
*Liturgical Coordinators*

**Laura Catherine Carruthers-Green**  
*Faith Formation Coordinator*

#### PARISH COUNCIL

**Aimee Beckmann-Collier**  
*Chair*

**John Chesser**

**Gus Cordero**

**Catherine Lucas**

**Robert Ebow McEwan**

**Mark Schmidt**

**Alexia Simonton**

**Alex Sperry**

**Rosemarie Waskel**

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

**Brendan Comito**  
*Chair*

**Josh Beck**

**Matthew Bell**

**Patrick Carruthers-Green**

**Larry James**

**Annette Roth**

**Kristi Ryan**

#### MASS TIMES

WEEKDAYS

**Monday:** 5:15 PM  
(Communion Service)

**Tuesday-Thursday:** 5:15 PM

**Friday:** 12 NOON

WEEKENDS

**Saturday:** 5 PM

**Sunday:** 10:30 AM

**African Mass:** 2 PM  
3rd Sunday in English;  
other Sundays in Kiswahili

Student Mass: 5 PM

**Last chance Mass:** 8 PM

# Welcome to St. Catherine of Siena

Catholic Church and Student Center

New parishioners and students are invited to register online at [stcatherinedrake.org](http://stcatherinedrake.org) or by contacting the parish office. Please notify the parish office when moving or with change in phone number, address or email.

## Campus Ministry

### Welcome

On Sept. 30, fourteen of us Bulldog Catholic students participated in Drake University’s “Reggie’s Sleepout” event, an annual overnight fundraiser for youth homelessness. We spent much of the night constructing the glorious “Cardboard Cathedral,” which won us an honorable mention in the cardboard competition!

We want to give a HUGE thank you to all of the parishioners who donated their sleeping bags, camping gear, and money to our cause! Without your support and supplies, our Cathedral could not have become a reality. Plus, the sleeping bags helped us from feeling TOO sore the next morning...

Overall, we had an absolute blast— and more importantly, we contributed to an important cause. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for all you do to support us students. We appreciate you very much, and we’re praying for you!



### Mary’s Helping Hands 5k Run

Mary's Helping Hands is excited to announce our upcoming event, a “Pumpkin Spice and Everything Nice Charity 5k + 1 mile Fun Run”! This event will be held on Saturday, 11/18 at Valley Community Center in West Des Moines. This event aims to raise funds and awareness for the needs of parents and babies in our community. 100% of the proceeds go back to the community in need. We believe that with your support, and the support of your community, we can make a significant impact on the lives of those in need. Register at : <https://runsignup.com/>



### Mary’s Helping Hands Volunteering

A group of students go to Mary’s Helping Hands to volunteer every Sunday afternoon from 12-2 p.m. Volunteering includes “shopping” orders for moms and their child(ren) and/or sorting all the generous donations that Mary’s Helping Hands receives. If you are interested in joining this group please contact Maddi Cave or Brooke Doohen to coordinate rides.

## Parish Life & More

### Cookie Collection

The next cookie collection for the Central Iowa Shelter takes place the weekends of October 7-8 and 14-15. Please bring your freshly baked or store bought cookies to the bin in the gathering space on these weekends. Cash donations will be accepted as well. Thank you for your generosity!



### Drake Alumni Choir Concert

Umeri, the Drake University alumni choir (Aimee Beckmann-Collier, conductor), will begin its fifth season with a performance on Sunday, October 15, 3:00 pm, in Sheslow Auditorium. "Beautiful, Truthful, and Good" will focus on music by British and American composers of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries and will feature the gorgeous *Serenade to Music* (with string quartet, harp, and piano) by Ralph Vaughan Williams, as well as works by Gerald Finzi, Stephen Paulus, and Jake Runestad. The concert is under an hour in length and there is no admission charge, although donations will be gratefully received. Come hear!

## Around the Diocese

### Joe Heschmeyer Live on the Eucharist

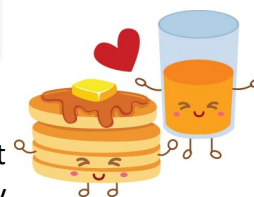
"Seven Mysteries of the Faith Unlocked by the Eucharist" with Catholic Answers Staff Apologist Joe Heschmeyer, Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1026 N Eighth Avenue in Winterset. Instead of treating the Eucharist as just one more doctrine amongst many, Joe shows in this talk how a right understanding of the Eucharist is key for understanding (1) the New Covenant; (2) the Old Covenant; (3) the Mass; (4) Early Christianity; (5) the Church; (6) the lives of the Saints; and (7) your own spiritual life. Enjoy a light reception following the talk while viewing the Eucharistic Miracles of the World banner display. Register at [IowaCatholicRadio.com](http://IowaCatholicRadio.com).

Bulletin announcements are due by noon of Wednesday each week. Submit to: [office@stcatherinedrake.org](mailto:office@stcatherinedrake.org)

## Around the Diocese

### Breakfast with the Bishop

Mark your calendars for the next Breakfast with the Bishop on Friday October 13, from 9-10:30am. Join Bishop Joensen and Catholic Charities to learn more about our Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program serving southwest Iowa. Register today at [DVSABreakfast.givesmart.com](http://DVSABreakfast.givesmart.com) or contact Catholic Charities' Community Relations Manager, Emily Klisares at [eklisares@catholiccharitiesdm.org](mailto:eklisares@catholiccharitiesdm.org) or call 515-237-5078.



### Man-Up West October 13, 2023

Fr. Ignatius Makoji, Hospital Chaplain/Missionary of Divine Mercy joins Man-Up West Power Lunch. He was ordained in 2013 in the West African Country of Niger where he served as the Superior General for the Congregation of the Missionaries of Divine Mercy before coming to the United States. On Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Makoji will share his experience and spiritual knowledge of living out the mission of Divine Mercy at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, 7075 Ashworth Rd, West Des Moines, IA 50266. Lunch from Chick-fil-A for a free will offering will be available. Please register for this event at: [www.iowacatholicradio.com](http://www.iowacatholicradio.com).

### St. Ambrose Cathedral Monthly Healing Service

On October 18, all are invited to attend a healing service at St. Ambrose Cathedral beginning at 5:30 PM. "*Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*"

### Accountant Opening at the Diocese

If you are looking for an opportunity to work in a flexible environment and have a desire to serve the parishes and schools of southwest Iowa, we have a great opportunity for you. This position analyzes financial information, prepares reports, assists in the annual financial audits and the annual budget process as well as providing support for and reviews of our parishes and schools.

For more information about the position, please see our website <https://www.dmdiocese.org/about-us/employment/diocesan-openings>



## Upon Further Review

From Loyola Press

Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist. In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son. After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

In telling the parable, Jesus is clearly drawing upon Isaiah 5:1-7, which is today's first reading and one that the priests and elders would have known well. Jesus doesn't, therefore, have to explain the symbolism of the parable; the Pharisees would have understood that the vineyard represented Israel, the landowner represented God, the servants represented the prophets, and the bad tenants represented the religious leaders. Yet Jesus nonetheless explains the meaning of the parable for his audience: the Kingdom of God will be taken from the unbelieving and given to the faithful. The chief priests and elders have condemned themselves with their answer to Jesus' question.

Today's Gospel has a parallel in Mark 12:1-12. There are some notable differences, however. In Matthew's version, the religious leaders condemn themselves; in Mark's Gospel, Jesus answers his own question. Matthew names the religious leaders as Pharisees and chief priests. Clearly this Gospel shows the tension that was mounting between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders who thought that his message was dangerous. Matthew's Gospel was written about 70 years after Jesus' death and reflects the conflicts and tensions found in the Christian community for whom Matthew was writing. Many biblical scholars believe that the tension between Matthew's community and their Jewish neighbors can also be heard in today's reading. This Gospel reminds us of the importance of listening to God's word. God speaks to us in many ways—through Scripture, through our Church tradition, in our Church's teaching, and through modern-day prophets. Are we attentive and receptive to God's word to us through these messengers?

### Donations

*Please assist St. Catherine's by mailing a check to the office or giving online by clicking on the DONATE button on our website or by completing an ACH form for automatic withdrawals.  
**Thank you for your generosity.***

## Faith Formation



Everyone is invited to join the St. Catherine's community for Encounter, our monthly parish-wide intergenerational faith formation program. Encounter is not just for families with school-age children; it's for everyone! Encounter begins with a shared meal followed by a variety of faith formation activities designed for all ages and stages of life and faith journeys.

Encounter will be held after 10:30 a.m. Mass on the first Sunday of each month with the next session taking place on Sunday, November 5th. No registration is required this year. Our theme for the 2023-2024 academic year is Mass. Come learn more about the "why" and origins behind the familiar prayers and rituals at Mass.

Please bring a side dish (not a dessert) to share at lunch.

Contact Laura Carruthers-Green [lauracatherine.green@gmail.com](mailto:lauracatherine.green@gmail.com) with any questions.

### OUR MISSION

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center at Drake University is an inclusive and supportive community of resident parishioners and students striving through liturgy, community, service, and faith formation to grow as servant leaders for the Catholic church and broader community.

### OUR VISION

St. Catherine of Siena, a Newman community, is an inclusive “home away from home.”