



# St. Catherine of Siena

## Catholic Church and Student Center

Palm Sunday • April 2, 2023

### Upon Reflection...

*a semi-regular series from some of the world's finest spiritual writers*

### At-One-Ment

*The most common reading of the Bible is that Jesus "died for our sins." The terrible and un-critiqued premise of many "substitutionary atonement theories" is that God demanded Jesus to be a blood sacrifice to "atone" for our sin-drenched humanity. As if God could need payment, and even a very violent transaction, to be able to love and accept God's own children! These theories are based on retributive justice rather than the restorative justice that the prophets and Jesus taught.*

*Franciscan theologian John Duns Scotus (1266-1308) was not guided by the Temple language of debt, atonement, and blood sacrifice, which was understandably used by the Gospel writers and by Paul. Instead, he was inspired by the cosmic hymns in the first chapters of Colossians and Ephesians and the Prologue to John's Gospel.*

*The incarnation of God and the redemption of the world could never be Plan B, a mop-up exercise in response to human sinfulness; Jesus' birth, life, and death had to be Plan A, the proactive work of God from the very beginning. We were "chosen in Christ before the world was made" (Ephesians 1:4). Jesus did not come to change the mind of God about humanity. Jesus came to change the mind of humanity about God!*

*[The] Church has never rejected the Franciscan position, [although] it has remained a minority view. That position is basically saying that no atonement is necessary. There is no bill to be paid; there is simply a union to be named.*

**Richard Rohr, cac.org., 5 Feb 2020.**  
Lightly edited for length

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#### PARISH STAFF

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Liturgical Coordinators

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

#### PARISH COUNCIL

**Aimee Beckmann-Collier**  
Chair

**John Chesser**

**Gus Cordero**

**Rosemarie Kroner**

**Catherine Lucas**

**Robert Ebow McEwan**

**Mark Schmidt**

**Alexia Simonton**

#### FINANCE COUNCIL

**Brendan Comito**  
Chair

**Patrick Carruthers-Green**

**Abby Crupi**

**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: 5 PM

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

**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

#### Spring Break Mission Trip to Omaha by Colin Flattery (FOCUS Missionary)



Drake students, Michael Bracco and Callie Doohen, Des Moines University student, Natalie Boyce and FOCUS missionary Colin Flattery traveled to Omaha to serve coffee and love to the homeless in Omaha with students from New Jersey.

Over spring break, I was able to take three students on a mission trip to serve with an organization called "Hope of the Poor" in Omaha, NE along with students and missionaries from Ramapo College in New Jersey. Students Michael Bracco, Callie Doohen, Natalie Boyce, and myself were able to spend the week encountering and embracing poverty by serving coffee and oatmeal out of a small, old garage in downtown Omaha, a short distance from a complex of homeless shelters and veteran housing. It

was so moving to be able to care for the most basic physical of needs to many people, but most of all we were able to care for the worst poverty – the poverty of being unloved. It was such a simple, but deeply profound week being able to meet Jesus in the smallest and seemingly insignificant moments of greeting the poor, asking their name, hearing their stories, praying with them, and just being with them. We were able to change our lens of the poor to see them as people and not projects to fix. I am so proud of the students and their courage and zeal to go out and serve those with great need in a place not unlike Des Moines!



Natalie Boyce and Callie Doohen enjoy coffee and conversation with the homeless who come to the Hope of the Poor coffee garage.



Michael Bracco served coffee to the homeless at Hope of the Poor coffee garage.

### David Robinson Annual Scholarship Award

The David Robinson Annual Scholarship Award was established in 2013 in honor of Dr. David Robinson, Drake Physics Professor, who died on February 3, 2012. The goal is to foster student leadership through service and/or the community life of St. Catherine of Siena, Drake Newman Community. It is awarded to Drake University students registered and active at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church and Student Center.

Each year, the David Robinson Scholarship gives up to \$5,000 for the purpose of paying the student's educational expenses. The application form is available on our website. Applications are accepted until April 14, 2023. Students may send their applications to:

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic  
Church & Student Center  
Attn: Scholarship  
1150 28th St  
Des Moines, IA 50311  
or [office@stcatherinedrake.org](mailto:office@stcatherinedrake.org)

CDA Court Ave Maria #302 will award two \$500 education scholarships for use in 2023. One scholarship will be awarded to an individual graduating as a high school senior Class of 2023 and the other scholarship will be awarded to an individual considered a Non-Traditional Student defined as a Post High School student. Application is April 30, 2023. Each scholarship application form contains the criteria and requirements for submission.

[www.iowacatholicdaughters.org/ct-ave-maria-302-des-moines](http://www.iowacatholicdaughters.org/ct-ave-maria-302-des-moines)

## Parish Life & More

### What is Triduum?

We are approaching the most beautiful and meaningful liturgies of the church year – the Triduum. Triduum means “three days” and reflects that, although Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday (the Easter Vigil) are three separate days, the liturgies that connect them are a continuing celebration of the mystery and meaning of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection.

We invite you to participate in all three of these powerful rites.

#### **Holy Thursday (Thursday, April 6, 7:00 pm) – Washing of the Feet**

Following Jesus’ example of humble service, washing another person’s feet and having your own washed is a deeply moving ceremony in which all those attending Mass are invited to participate. Many St. Kate’s households have found this to be one of their most cherished rituals of the entire year. This Mass also includes the presentation of the consecrated oils used in our parish sacraments of baptism, confirmation and anointing of the sick, and finishes, not with a real conclusion, but a quiet “stripping of the altar,” in which we are reminded of the desolation and abandonment Jesus must have felt as his friends denied him and he was given over to the authorities.

#### **Good Friday (Friday, April 7, 7:00 pm) – Veneration of the Cross**

This is the only day of the year when Mass is not celebrated. This liturgy is a communion service, using bread consecrated at the Holy Thursday Mass. It offers us the opportunity to reflect on Jesus’ passion and death. It includes the solemn ceremony of acknowledging Jesus’ crucifixion by touching or bowing before the cross. Again, the service closes without a real end.

#### **Easter Vigil (Saturday, April 8, 8:00 pm) – Blessings, Renewal, and New Life**

This final service of the Triduum begins in darkness with the blessing of the new fire. The Exultet (just as it sounds – an exultation of the mysterious and special nature of this night) and several Scripture readings, which summarize salvation history.

Then the Gloria, which has not been heard since Lent

began, is joyfully sung by the community and we move from sadness to the joy of the resurrection. Those who have been preparing for membership in the Church will receive the sacraments of baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist, and we will welcome them into our faith community as we renew our own baptismal vows. It is an Alleluia evening!

You, your family, and friends are invited to experience the power of these special liturgies as you join the St. Catherine’s faith community in worship. The Thursday and Friday liturgies last no more than 75 minutes. The Easter Vigil is a bit more than two hours long.

We hope you’ll consider joining the community in celebrating these most sacred days of our faith. You’ll find them unforgettable.

### Lenten Collections

1. This weekend, we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ’s love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection.

2. Next weekend is the Pontifical Good Friday collection which helps Christians in the Holy Land. It also helps preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity. Your support is essential.

### Cookie Drive for Homeless Shelter

The next date for the Cookie Collection for the Central Iowa Shelter are the weekends of April 8-9 and April 15-16. Please bring your fresh or store bought cookies to the cookie bin in the gathering space by those dates. Thank you for your generosity.

### Spring Clothing Drive - April 30th

As you do your Spring house cleaning, please save those gently used clothes you do not need to bring to St. Kate's on April 29th and 30th for our Clothing Drive. Thank you.

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



## Upon Further Review

From The Word Among Us

*Who is this? (Matthew 21:10)*

*Who is this*, who enters the holy city "meek and riding on an ass" (Matthew 21:5)? This is "Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee" (21:11), a wonder-worker who preaches the good news of the kingdom of God. Today we cry out with the crowd, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (21:9).

*Who is this*, who consecrates bread and wine so that it becomes his Body and Blood and then offers himself for our forgiveness (Matthew 26:27-28)? This is Jesus, the Lamb of God, who enters our lives every time we receive him in the Eucharist.

*Who is this*, who in the Garden of Gethsemane prays to his Father, "Let this cup pass from me," and then surrenders to his Father's will (Matthew 26:39)? This is God incarnate, fully human and fully divine, who understands our suffering because he himself has suffered?

*Who is this*, who refuses to defend himself when accused of blasphemy (Matthew 26:63-65)? This is the One who is "seated at the right hand of the Power" and "coming on the clouds of heaven" (26:64), the One we will one day meet face-to-face in all his glory.

*Who is this*, who is mocked and spat upon and hailed as "King of the Jews" (Matthew 27:29)? This is the King of the universe, and our King, too. May he reign in our lives more and more each day!

*Who is this*, who is beaten, whipped, and crucified, and who cries out and then gives up his spirit (Matthew 27:46-50)? "This [is] truly the Son of God!" (27:54), who loved us so much that he took our sins upon himself to save us.

*Who is this*, whose battered body is laid in a tomb (Matthew 27:60)? This is Christ the Lord, who will burst from the grave on the third day and defeat sin and death forever. May he be forever praised!

*"Jesus, as I begin this Holy Week, may I come to know you ever more deeply."*

### Donations

*Please assist St. Kate'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

Encounter, our new intergenerational faith formation program, has been wildly popular with parishioners of all ages and stages of life. We invite you to share food, fellowship, and formation with the St. Kate's community during our final two sessions, when we will explore the following topics:

April 16 – Praying in the Easter Season

May 21 – St. Francis of Assisi & Franciscan spirituality



## OUR MISSION

St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Student Center is a spiritual "home away from home" for resident parishioners and Drake students alike. We strive, through worship, prayer, fellowship, study, and service, to be disciples of Jesus today, so that we will be the leaders of the Catholic Church and Community tomorrow.