

September 3, 2017
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. John J. Carolan, Pastor Emeritus
Ms. Gail Rohmann, Music Director
Sr. Marion Cypser, RSM, School Co-Principal &
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, School Co-Principal
SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager / Adm. Ass't.
Mrs. Fannie Cooper, School Secretary

CONTACTING THE PARISH

Rectory: 38 N. Austin Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302
Telephone: 708-386-8077
Email: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net
Web: www.stcatherinestlucy.org
Hours: 8:30 AM-8:00 PM—Monday, & Thursdays
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Fridays: 8:30 AM—4:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM—4:30 PM; Sunday 8:30 AM—12:00 PM
School - 27 Washington Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302
Telephone: 708-386-5286

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday - 8:30am
Word Service with Communion, Thursday, 8:30am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Morning - 9:00am
Saturday Evening - 5:00pm
Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM; or by appointment.

Baptisms

Baptism of infants and young children is celebrated on the 2nd and 3rd weekends of the month. Parents are asked to attend a Baptism preparation session/class prior to the ceremony. Please call the rectory to register for the preparation and set a baptismal date.

Thoughts from Our Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is success for you? Most definitions include references to achieving goals and acquiring wealth, prestige, favor, and power. “Successful” people enjoy the good life— being financially and emotionally secure, being surrounded by admirers, and enjoying the fruits of their labors. They are leaders, opinion makers, and trendsetters. Their example is emulated; their accomplishments are noticed. They know who they are and where they are going, and they stride confidently to meet their goals.

By these standards, Prophet Jeremiah was a miserable failure. For 40 years he served as God’s spokesman to Judah, the southern part of Israel. Consistently and passionately he urged them to act, but nobody moved. And he certainly did not attain material success. He was poor and underwent severe deprivation to deliver God’s prophecies. Jeremiah is commonly known as the “Weeping Prophet,” and for good reason. During his faithful ministry, Jeremiah was the lone voice of truth and righteousness among a people who had no desire for righteousness. The book of Prophet Jeremiah was written to urge God’s people to turn from their sins and back to God. During the prophecy of Prophet Jeremiah, the nation was sliding quickly toward destruction and was eventually conquered. In our reading today, Jeremiah cried out in despair. He had faithfully proclaimed God’s word and received nothing from God in return but persecution and sorrow.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, have you ever felt as if your efforts were in vain, and questioned if you were making a difference in this life? We find ourselves questioning God, and tempted to abandon the work that we are doing. We are not the first to feel this way. God is able to provide the strength we need and he will never abandon us. While we are not prophets, called to warn a rebellious people of judgment to come, I am sure we have all experienced seasons in life when we could relate to Jeremiah’s feelings. As we strive to serve the Lord and live for Him, we face opposition, often from those we least expect. If you have served the Lord for any length of time, you have likely been tempted to abandon the work, questioning if the effort was really worth it. If you are walking in a valley of doubt and despair, I hope the message today will bring the comfort and encouragement you need to continue for the Lord. Jeremiah honestly felt as if he had been deceived by the Lord. He revealed his displeasure with his current situation. He felt as if the Lord had not revealed unto him the great difficulty he would face. He had hoped for better success, and yet he faced one defeat after another. He was saying, “Lord, why have you brought me to this place? This is not what I expected when you spoke to me about preaching unto the people. This is not what I signed up for.” I hope you understand that if the Lord is pursuing you, He will prevail. The enemy can plant seeds of doubt, but our Lord is more than able to overcome.

May God bless you.

Rev. George O. Omwando

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

WE THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY PARISH, SEEK TO DEEPEN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD AND TO CELEBRATE GOD’S PRESENCE IN WORD AND SACRAMENT. BY ACCEPTING ALL INTO OUR FAMILY WE SEEK UNITY IN CHRIST AND SEEK TO PROCLAIM HIS GOOD NEWS IN THE DISCIPLESHIP OF OUR LIVES.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Parish Pastoral Council
Madonna Sloan and Joyce Wade,
Co-Chairs
Parish Finance Council
John McGuire
Spiritual Life Commission
Faith & Fellowship:
Connie Rakitan
Liturgy Committee:
Cantors: Gail Rohmann
Celebration Choir: Gail Rohmann
Praise Choir: Julius White
Greeters & Ushers: Jim Lewis

Ministers of the Eucharist:

Jeanne Visteen

Ministers of the Word:

Jeanne Visteen

Servers: TBA

Ministers of Care: Shelby Boblick
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Fr. George O. Omwando
Women’s Ministry: Shelby Boblick

Human Concerns Commission

Peace & Justice Committee:

Mary and Martin Senica

Transportation Committee:

Tom Farwell

Education Commission

Baptism Com.: Fr. G. Omwando

Bible Study: Russ McCaughey

Religious Education of Children:

Christine Wedekind

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Parish Development & Services Commission

Collection Counters: Carol Kallok

Facilities Committee: Kevin Kell,

Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson / Cynthia Weaver

(cont’d from pg. 1)

Weddings - Please contact a parish priest to set a wedding date. Allow at least 6 months for preparation.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a sacramental process, celebrated in the midst of this Faith Community. This process assists adults, as well as children over the age of 7, in learning about the Catholic Faith. Through its witness, worship, service, and teaching our Faith Community offers the invitation and support necessary for initiation into the Catholic Church.

Ministry to the Sick, Hospitalized and Shut—Ins

Please notify the Parish Office so that we can visit and minister to your confined loved-ones.

Newcomers

Please fill out a registration form after Mass, or come by the Rectory Office during the week.



Registration

We are getting ready for a new year in Religious Education. Classes for first to eighth grades will start on Wednesday, **September 6, 2017** from 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Lucienne Ministry Center.

Registration for Religious Education is open to all. If you child/children attended the 2016-2017 year they will automatically be registered for this year.

If you are new to the parish or if you have a child entering first grade they need to be registered. In either case please stop at the Rectory or call the Rectory and leave your name and phone number and you will be contacted. Or you can contact Christine Wedekind directly via e-mail at: Christine.wedekind@aol.com.

1st & 2nd Readings for the Upcoming Sunday are offered. Their sole purpose is to help us all of us "receive" and "hear" the word of God.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2017- 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who ministered to the Jewish people exiled in Babylon. In this passage, the speaker is God who uses the image of a watchman to describe a prophet's role. In those times, a watchman was someone who stood on a hill or in a tower to watch for invaders.

Second Reading Romans 13:8-10

In the concluding section of his letter to the Romans, Paul writes about the moral demands of Christian life. This letter was written some years before the Gospels, yet these words will sound very much like words we hear in the Gospels. Clearly, Paul, is drawing upon a pre-Gospel tradition about what Jesus said.

Remember a Loved One

We have **weekday** Masses available in our 2017 Mass Book. Also available is the 2018 Mass Book. Mass intentions are only \$10.00.

Please come to the Rectory to request your Masses. Remember your loved ones or any other special occasion.



Bible Study - Tuesdays 9:30 AM

Please consider in joining us every Tuesday at 9:30 AM only for Bible Study at the Rectory. If you are trying to find answers to your daily life questions, or are willing to have an hour of peace and knowledge about our religion, please come. It is totally free.

Communion & Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Rectory at 708-386-8077 to let us know if you or a member of your family is in need of the sacrament of anointing of the sick or would like to have Holy Communion brought to your house or nursing home or both.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Gregory Ballew, Fr. John Carolan, Myriam Claude, Mary Cotter, Lillian Czaplicki, Dianne Dakis, Louis Dieguez, Raymond Doelker, Beverly Ellis, Normantha Evans, Anita Evenson, Lorri Fisk, Ben Hapka, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Kate Kroker, William Medor, Ron Page, Zoila Reyes, Carlton Shanks, Sue Vanek, and Diane Ward

The name of your close relative will remain on this list for four weeks. After that, you will have to call us again to reinstate it into the list. If you wish to include a name of a sick member of your family here, please call Amanda at the rectory during office hours. Thank you.

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286

School News



...#No school this Monday, in honor of the Labor Day holiday.

...#The library for our primary students has undergone a beautiful transformation, thanks to Radka Pierdinock. Radka is a high school senior who painted and organized our library for her Girl Scout Gold Project. We want to use this space as much as possible. One of our ideas is to "rent" grandparents for 30-60 minutes a week, to read to our littlest students. If you are interested, please call the school office at 708-386-5286, or email Sharon Leamy at sleamy@catherinelucy.org.

...#Our first student Mass will be this Friday, September 8, at 8:30am.

...#A Virtus training session is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12, from 6pm-9pm. It is meant for our new school employees and volunteers, but parishioners are welcome.

...#A group of volunteers will be working around the school on Friday, September 15, from 1-4.



© J. S. Palach Co., Inc.

Bequests

PLEASE consider remembering our parish in your will or trust. We have been blessed in the past by the generosity of so many parishioners and I am hopeful this will continue into the future.

-Father George

Your Attention Please:

The parish is hosting a fundraiser at Lou Malnati's on Lake Street in Oak Park on Wednesday, September 13, 2017. The hours are from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm and applies to Dine-in, Carryout, and Delivery. Please indicate St. Catherine St. Lucy when ordering. Support the parish while dining out. Please see our flyer on page 7 of this bulletin

Save the Date

Wednesday, Sept. 6
Religious Education starts

Monday, September 11
Women Series: Saints, Sisters & Prophets

Wednesday, September 13
Lou Malnati's Fundraiser

Sunday, September 24
Walkathon & Picnic

Sunday, October 1
Baby Bottle Project Starts



© Annika Nelson

Saints, Sisters and Prophets

The women of the west side of Chicago & Chicago's near-west suburbs are invited to gather this fall for reflection & conversation.

Shelby Boblick will facilitate the discussion, and we will use as a catalyst written and painted portraits from 3 different books: *Sisters and Prophets* by Mary Lou Sleeve, *A Passion for Life* by Joan Chittister with Robert Lentz, and *Chasing the Saints* by Donna Pucciani.

These "intensely personal stories remind us that these women are related to us; they are family; they are our own. They are also gifted, visionary. Through them we learn something about ourselves and God. Shelby will supply the materials each week.

- September 11: St. Clare of Assisi: Holy Madness**
- September 25: The Seeker: Your own lost coin?**
- October 2: Joan of Arc: A Voice of Conscience** *Note: The author Donna Pucciani of chasing the saints will join us for the Oct. 2 sessions!*
- October 9: Anna: Whose whole life said "Hello!" to God**
- October 16: Kateri Tekakwitha: Icon of Otherness**
- October 23: Woman of Faith and Blood: Where fringe had such benefits!**
- November 6: Teresa of Avila: Face of Fire**
- November 13: Four Daughters & Their Mother: Whose Future is Unscripted**

We'll offer duplicate sessions each Monday: one at 1:00 PM and another at 7:30 PM. Please join us at whichever time suits your life. No need to come at the same time each Monday.

We'll meet in the gathering space of St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church. The Church is accessible by ramp, and assistive listening devices are available.

Please join us! Questions or concerns...call Shelby Boblick @ 630-240-2765

Give Central allows our parish to provide its parishioners a safe and convenient way to make regular, automatic electronic contributions and can also be used for special events and other collections.



We understand that most transactions today are done electronically. We want to provide you with that same convenient option at church. You can go directly to our website: www.stcatherinestlucy.org to be able to find the link to GiveCentral

FUNDRAISING Giveback EVENT



Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Time: 11:00 am- 11:00 pm

**Location: *Lou Malnati's*: Oak Park
1038 Lake Street — 708-358-0800**

DINE-IN • CARRYOUT • DELIVERY (within zone)
**Excludes Online Ordering*

FOR QUESTIONS:

**Please contact Jeanne Visteen-
jvisteen@yahoo.com
708-383-2068**

Lou Malnati's will donate 20% of total sales to St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church (20% based on pre-tax purchase, excluding alcohol) from every order received. Dine in, Carryout or Delivery (within zone) with this FLYER on 9-13-17.

Fundraiser/Flyer Must Be Mentioned At Time of Order

Cannot be combined with any other promotional offers including but not limited to: Discounts, Deep Dish Dough rewards redemption or Malnati's Mail welcome coupon. **Offer valid only at the date and location listed above.**

Your One Wild and Precious Life

A retreat weekend for men,
September 29, 30, October 1, 2017
LaSalle Manor, Plano IL

Mary Oliver ends one of her beautiful poems with a grand slam, thought provoking, heart opening question. *"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?"* This question will be explored on the annual Male Spirit retreat offered by the Oak Park Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality.

LaSalle Manor Retreat Center features 45 wooded acres about one hour and a half drive from Chicago, a beautifully crafted rustic log and stone main lodge with modern conveniences, delicious food and private rooms.

Registration and further information can be had by contacting, Br. Joseph Kilikevics, OP 708-848-1095
shemcenter@comcast.net

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd at St. Giles Parish in Oak Park

St. Catherine—St. Lucy parishioners have a new opportunity for religious education of their children through the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program offered at St. Giles Parish in north Oak Park.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori-based approach to faith formation that is rooted in the Bible and the Liturgy of our Church. Children gather in a prepared environment called an "atrium" where they live a shared experience of the most essential proclamations of the Christian faith.

St. Catherine-St. Lucy parishioner Rachel Faulman is a long-time catechist in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, and she has worked in the program at St. Giles Parish for several years. Interested families who would like to find out more about Catechesis of the Good Shepherd may contact Rachel at rfaulman@gmail.com.

Pro Life The Consequences of Being Wrong!

Any reasonable person considers the possibility that he (or she) could be wrong regarding any important position they take.

If the pro-life movement is wrong, then we are guilty of trying to deny women a so-called right to privacy (which has never been part of our Constitution).

But, if the pro-abortion side is wrong, then they are indisputably and directly responsible for the slaughter and mass murder of millions of innocent children---three and a half thousand a day in the United States.

So, the question is, would it be better to be pro-life and wrong, or pro-choice and wrong? The answer is very clear!

