

September 24, 2017
Twenty-fifth 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.stcatherineslucy.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,

Our Gospel today talks about grace. *Grace* is a free gift that God gives each one of us unconditionally. Even though grace is given unconditionally, God respects our freedom and never imposes things on us. However, in some cases some people choose to accept grace and others refuse it. Those who accept the grace that is freely given by God are transformed to lead a life in conformity with Christ. For those who reject the grace offered to them, grace has no value or has no impact on their life. We are all in need of grace because we have sinned; and I have no idea or any reason why someone would refuse a gift that is given to them freely and which will have an effect on their lives. Even if you reject the grace that is given to you, God does not lose hope in you. He continues to come to you and find a way of helping you until you accept grace or reject it.

In today's parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like "a landowner that went out and hired workers for his vineyard. Some he hired early in the day, telling them that he would pay them the usual daily wage. He went back at various times of the day and found more workers waiting to be hired. Each time as he hired those that were there, he told them that he would pay them what was right."

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are not told why some had not found work till the evening, or if they had shown up at the marketplace late, as no other details are given. At the end of the day, the owner came to pay the workers. He began paying those that were last to be hired and paid them a full daily wage. I am sure those that had been working the entire day were excited. Maybe they thought they were going to be paid more. When they received the same pay for working the entire day as those that had only worked for an hour, I suspect they were not happy folks. When the landowner heard them grumbling, he tried to explain to them that he was not unfair at all. He gave them what they had agreed upon. He did not see the reason why they were unhappy as it was his money. The landowner paid as they had agreed. He had a responsibility to use his money as he liked. In this Gospel, the landowner is God, the workers are us, and the pay received is the kingdom of heaven earned after working for it for a long time or a short time. Grace cannot be compared with fairness. Grace is about mercy. God loves us and mercifully gives us more than we deserve at times. God's grace is for everybody and does not exclude anyone, and He is the one Who decides whoever He gives grace at any time of the day. We should be comfortable with what we have been given. Those who have been attending church for a long time and those who began going to church recently should not be tempted to think that they are more special than others.

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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. September 25

8:30 **Carlton Shanks (Health)**
By: Ministry of Care

Tue. September 26

8:30 † **Alfred Bishop Jr.**
By: Grace Bishop

Wed. September 27

8:30 † **Elaine Russo**
By: Larry Russo

Fri. September 29

8:30 † **Debbien Cassin**
By: Jean Nelson

Sat. September 30

9:00 † **Dianne Dakis**
By: Cynthia Weaver & Jim Bowers

5:00 † **Winifred Ballew**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Sun. October 1

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**

8:30 **Carlton Shanks (Health)**
By: Parishioners

10:30 † **Virginia Keenan**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Readings for the Week

Monday: Ezr 1:1-6; Ps 126:1b-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Ps 122:1-5;
Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Ezr 9:5-9; Tb:13:2, 3-4abefghn, 7-8;
Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Hg 1:1-8; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a;
Ps 138:1-5; Jn 1:47-51
Saturday: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Jer 31:10-12ab, 13;
Lk 9:43b-45
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5];
Mt 21:28-32

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday: Ss. Cosmas and Damian
Wednesday: St. Vincent de Paul
Thursday: St. Wenceslaus;
St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions
Friday: Ss. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael,
Archangels;
Yom Kippur (Jewish day of atonement)
begins at sunset
Saturday: St. Jerome

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church



September 17, 2017	\$ 4,059.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 852.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
Amount Under-Budget	\$ - 3,249.00

Online donations can be made to St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish at www.givecentral.org

Thanks for your continued financial support!

Today's Readings

First Reading — Turn to the Lord, who is generous in forgiving (Isaiah 55:6-9).

Psalm — The Lord is near to all who call upon him (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — Live your lives in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a).

Gospel — The last will be first, and the first will be last (Matthew 20:1-16a).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass. © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

OCTOBER 1, 2017

5:00 PM

8:30 AM

10:30 AM

Altar Servers

Kathy Paoli Walter Washington Grace McGuire
Michael Giometti

Ministers of the Word

Mary Rose Nauss Tom Frank Terry Sullivan
Frank Pond R. Smith-Quinn David Geffe

Ministers of the Eucharist

Chemetha Baker	Kevin Kell	Diana Cameron
Pat Koko	Fannie Cooper	Jan Kieckhefer
Brenda Fojtik	Annie Rowan	Pat Nelson
Jack Kernan	Ginny Jones	Mary Howard
	Gordon Bell	Kim McGuire
	Claudia Zinanni	Bill Holmes

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.

OCTOBER 1, 2017- 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who ministered to the Jewish people exiled in Babylon six centuries before Christ. In today's reading, he takes up a question we have probably asked ourselves: Is god fair or unfair in his dealings with people?

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Paul wrote from prison to his Christian converts in Philippi, a city in what is today north-eastern Greece. While he was in prison, the Philippians had sent someone to bring money for his support and to stay with him. Paul thanks them by quoting an early Christian hymn which he felt described Christ as a model for the way all Christians should live.

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

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, Reverend John Carolan, Myriam Claude, Lillian Czaplicki, 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, Charles Powell, Jr., Carlton Shanks, Kate Shoevlin, 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

..#We are officially launching our Blended Learning pilot this Friday in grades 3-5. This program uses technology to help personalize lessons to each student's level.

..#It's Flag Football season again! Our kids play on Friday afternoons at McGuane Park, 2901 S. Poplar.

..#Watch for information about our upcoming 8th Grade fundraiser on Friday night, September 27.

..#There is no school on Monday, October 9, in observance of Columbus Day

Education

Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army.

—Edward Everett

Saturday, October 7th - 11AM in the courtyard



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



News

On September 6th we had our first gathering for Religious Education. It is not too late to register if you aren't already, and if your child was in the program prior to this year and for some reason needed to leave you are all welcome. Our program begins with first grade and goes to eighth grade. We will have First Communion in May, and Reconciliation in the spring. If you still wish to register your child you can contact Christine Wedekind by e-mail at Christine.wedekind@aol.com.

We meet on Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and music and prayer are a part of our program, but not every Wednesday night. A calendar can be provided to you. It's never too late to have faith formation.



Baby Bottle Project



Next weekend of **September 30th -October 1st-** our church will be participating in **The Baby Bottle Project** benefiting *The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland*.

You may not realize this but *The Women's Center* is probably the last resource many women have to help them choose life for their baby. Sadly, if *The Women's Center* didn't exist, most of the women who previously visited our facilities, probably wouldn't have brought their babies into the world. But because of our establishment, and Life Saving Work, our organization has helped save almost 40,000 babies in 32 years.

Now to help you visualize 40,000 babies, just think of a Major Big Ten University campus, like Michigan State, which has around 42,000 students. So basically that's like saying the entire student body of the campus is here today because of our work! Needless to say, that's a lot of babies we have saved!

And while *The Women's Center* does fantastic work, you have to remember that there are almost 3,600 babies being aborted daily in the United States alone. If you do some quick math, and take just 2 weeks, and multiply that by 3,600 babies, that equates to 50,400 babies being aborted every 14 days!!!!

If you want to get involved, consider volunteering at *The Women's Center*. Call: 773-794-1313. And, please remember to bring your Baby Bottle back to church. Every penny, dime and quarter adds up and helps us continue our Life Saving work. Thank you!

Please take a Baby Bottle home with you from the church on Sept.30-Oct.1, fill it with your spare change, and return it the weekend of Oct. 21-22.

Thank You

from Faith and Fellowship!

Many thanks to ALL of you who helped IN ANY WAY with last weekend's Tootsie Roll Drive — whether you were out in the street or at the El Station; whether you made a donation at the intersection or at church; whether you helped behind the scenes; or any or all of the above! God bless you for your generosity; we love you and you are in our prayers.

If you are interested in knowing more about Faith and Fellowship or would like to help in any way, contact Connie Rakitan at faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708-383-9276.

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 Sleevi, *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 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

An Invitation

A well organized **Boy Scout Troop** meets at Brooks Middle School in Oak Park on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:00 PM. Boys aged 11-13 are most welcome to join. This is a full uniformed Troop—no jeans. September activities are fishing, apple picking, crime prevention and energy. We also will have a brief review of food borne diseases, related to the Cooking Merit Badge, and selections from the First Aid Merit Badge.

Brooks Middle School is located at 900 W. Washington Blvd. in Oak Park. Call 708-456-0730 for more details. There are annual dues — we sell nothing.



Walk for Awareness 2017

A 2 Mile community walk to raise Awareness of Domestic Violence, and show Support for Victims

Sunday, October 15, 2017

Keystone Park, 7851 West Lake Street,
River Forest 60305

Registration & Check-in: 1:00 p.m.

2 Mile Walk Start: promptly at 1:30 p.m.

There is no charge to participate, but all walkers must sign a waiver before joining in the walk.

Please be aware no “wheels”, including bicycles, tricycles, rollerblades and inline skates, will be permitted on walk course. Strollers are allowed on the course. Please leave your pets at home for the safety and comfort of all walkers.

* The Domestic Violence Outreach Ministry (DVOM) of Oak Park/River Forest/Forest Park is composed of volunteers from St. Luke, St. Edmund St. Bernadine, and Ascension parishes. The DVOM is part of the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Domestic Violence Outreach Mission.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO |

835 N. Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611
312-534-8230



September 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Chicago through our second collection. By offering our financial support we provide these young men with the critical education and training they need to shepherd our parishes and administer the sacraments. Last year, more than \$978,000 was collected and I am thankful for your past and present support.

Pope Francis reminds us that, “The Church and the world need mature and balanced priests, intrepid and generous Pastors, capable of closeness, of listening and mercy.” There are currently 54 seminarians preparing for a life of service as your future parish priests. Our seminarians’ motivation and enthusiasm in their pursuit to answer God’s call is inspiring. They are the future guides for the spiritual and intellectual formation of our Catholic communities and are well deserving of our prayers and financial support.

Contributions made to this collection alleviate monthly expenses such as tuition and fees (\$1,672), room and board (\$638), and health insurance (\$171) for each seminarian and will be used solely for the formation of new priests for the Archdiocese of Chicago. You may utilize the remittance envelopes provided to your parish or should you find it more convenient, feel free to contribute online through our website at www.archchicago.org/seminarianfund.

For your generous support in the past and for your consideration of support again this year, I thank you. May God continue to bless you abundantly. Please know that I keep you in my daily prayers and intentions, and I ask for yours in return.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago



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*

Catherine of Siena A Women for Our Times

September 26, 2017 | 7:00 p.m.

**Adrian Dominican Sister
Nancy Murray, OP**

Performs as St. Catherine of Siena

At St. Giles Parish 1045 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302. For more information, please call 708-383-3430

Free Will Offering.