

January 6, 2019
The Epiphany of The Lord



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mrs. Christine Wedekind, Religious Education Coordinator

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager
Mrs. Fannie Cooper, School Secretary
Sister Marion Cypser, Social Service/Project Coordinator

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
(Please enter the Church by Washington Blvd. 2nd door to the West)
NO Thursday Communion Service until Further Notice

Weekend Masses:

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

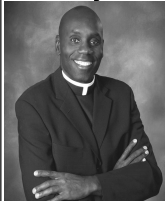
Sacrament of Reconciliation

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. (cont'd in pg.2)

Thoughts From our Pastor Rev. George O. Omwando



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today, we celebrate the feast of Epiphany. The term epiphany means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal. In Catholic faith, we remember the coming of the wise men bringing gifts to visit Christ child, who by so doing "revealed" Jesus to the world as Lord and King. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the child Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32), and was one of the first indications that Jesus came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few.

Today's feast unites three events in the life of Christ when His divinity, as it were, shines through His humanity: the adoration of the Magi; the baptism of Christ in the Jordan, and the first miracle of the wedding feast of Cana. Moreover, at Epiphany, the Church looks forward to the majestic coming of Christ on the "youngest day" when His manifestation as God will be complete. The Gospels of the baptism and the marriage at Cana are read on the Octave Day and the Second Sunday after Epiphany, and later Sunday masses in the Epiphany season continue to show the divine power of our Lord in some of His most striking miracles. The magi themselves were not believers, like the family of Jesus. But they had read about a king that was to be born, and so they wanted to pay their respects and find out about this king. Perhaps they did not understand the significance of this birth, and only time would reveal the gift that Jesus would be. The old teachings told them that this King would bring a heavenly kingdom (the kingdom of God) to the earth. And of course, we are told that they men followed a star that revealed the location of Jesus and his family.

As we know in receiving the gifts, the anticipation of what the gift is builds until we must know what the gift actually is. To do this we must open the gift. Only in opening the gift do we really know whether all that waiting was worthwhile. We open the gift and we find out what it is all about. Opening the gift is the moment you get to "experience the gift." You get to find out what this gift is all about. When you open Christmas presents you spend the next day and a half finding out what the gift does. It took sometime before people knew exactly what Jesus was about, but he did leave some clues. In John's gospel we read, (chap. 15:1) "I [Jesus] am the true vine and my father is the gardener ... (v. 5) I am the vine; you are the branches ... (v. 15) I no longer call you servants, because servants do not know my Father's business. Instead I have called you friends." Jesus offered himself as a means of connecting with our heavenly father, maker of heaven and earth and the sustainer of all life. How then can we share Jesus to those around us?

As we begin the New Year 2019 may God bless you, your family, families, friends and relatives.

— Fr. George

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

Juan Perez

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: Kathy Paoli

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.

End-of-Year Giving

As we approach the end of the year, some may be looking to make special contributions in regards to tax write-offs.

Consider St. Catherine-St. Lucy! Arrangements can be made for transfers of stock as well.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Christmas Memorial Flower envelopes are available at the doors of the church. Please consider making a donation in honor of a loved one. Fill out the envelope and then drop it in the regular collection basket in the next few weeks.

500 Club Certificates

Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in every weekly drawing through October 20th, 2019. The prize each week is \$25 except for three weeks when the prize is \$500. **If we sell all 500 certificates, there will be a 4th drawing for \$500.** Purchase forms have been mailed to registered members of the parish and are available in the back of church. This is a fun way to support the parish and it is open to everyone, not just members of our parish community. Pass the word. Thank you!!!

~ The Fundraising Committee

500 CLUB WINNER

\$ 25.00

January 6, 2019

CATHERINE & THOMAS GILLESPIE,

222



On the Feast of the Epiphany

The family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

A traditional way of doing this is to use chalk to write above the home's entrance. It can also be written somewhere inside the home.

20 + C + M + B + 19

The letters C, M, B have two meanings:

...#They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: *Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.*

...#They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house."

Save the Date

**Sunday, February 10-
10:00 AM**

*African-American Heritage
Celebration followed by a
brunch at Maguire Hall*

**Saturday & Sunday
February 16-17**

Valentine's Bake Sale

Finding God

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew's Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi's home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts.

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Parish Calendar

Monday, January 7

9:30 AM - Bible Study - RRT
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
6:30-9:30 PM - F&F Meeting - RD

Tuesday, January 8

2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
7:00 PM - PPC-Agenda - RRT
7:30-9:00 PM - Praise Choir MMR

Wednesday, January 9

2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
7:00-9:30 PM - F&F Meeting - RD
7:30-9:00 PM - Celebration Choir - CH

Thursday, January 10

12:30-3:30 PM - F&F Meeting - RD
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care -
6:00-8:00 PM - AA - RD
7PM - 2018XmasBazaar Wrap-up Mtg - RDR

Friday, January 11

2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. January 7

8:30 † **Luke Podraza**
By: Joanna Vanni

Tue. January 8

8:30 † **Michael Parker**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Wed. January 9

8:30 † **Russell Kraemer**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Fri. January 11

8:30 † **Hazel Grayson**
By: Ministry of Care

Sat. January 12

9:00 † **Willie Brown**
By: Ministry of Care
5:00 † **Hattie Carr**
By: Donna Kanapes

Sun. January 13

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
8:30 † **Sue and Dick Vanek**
By: Thom and Sue Schouten
10:30 † **Melicie Remy**
By: The Vincent Family

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22 — 4:6; Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a;
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72: 1-2, 10, 12-13;
Mk 6:45-52
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19 — 5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17;
Lk 4:14-22a
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30;
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7;
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church

Due to bulletin early deadlines because of the Christmas Holiday, our stewardship report for the week of January 6, 2019 will be shown in the bulletin of January 13, 2019.

Thanks for your understanding!

Today's Readings

First Reading — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

Psalms — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

Second Reading — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

Gospel — Magi from the east arrived, looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

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

JANUARY 13, 2019

5:00 PM

8:30 AM

10:30 AM

Altar Servers

Michael Giometti Kevin Morgan Mireille Lozes

Ministers of the Word

Frank Pond Tom Frank Bill Holmes
Paul Koko Peter Barber Bill Sullivan, Jr.

Ministers of the Eucharist

Chemetha Baker Walter Washington Diana Cameron
Pat Koko Ginny Jones Pat Long
Michelle Coleman Marjorie Fields Terry Sullivan
Grace Bishop Bill Cragg Doris Brown
Gordon Bell Kim McGuire
Claudia Zinanni Scarlett Evans

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord;
Blessing of the Home;
National Migration Week
Monday: St. Raymond of Penyafort;
Julian Calendar Christmas

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.

JANUARY 13, 2019 — THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

This passage from the book of Isaiah begins with God calling the prophet to encourage the Jewish people exiled in Babylon. He is to tell them that they will return home soon, and the road of the return will pass through the desert. We will also hear God call the *people* to proclaim from a mountaintop the goodness of God.



Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14:3:4-7

The letter to Titus was written about 30 years after Paul's death, and was written in Paul's name, a practice common in the ancient world. Titus was a traveling companion of Paul, and later was in charge of a Christian community on the island of Crete. The verses we are about to hear are also read at Masses on Christmas.

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

Update Personal Info

Please update us with your cell phone number, e-mail address, or any other change of status.

Please call Amanda 708-386-8077
apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net
Thank you!



Bible Study - Mondays 9:30 AM

Our Bible Study group meets on Mondays ~ 9:30—11:00 AM in the Rectory.

We use the New Collegeville Bible Commentary from Collegeville, Minnesota. We read the scriptures, weekly psalms, and the commentary. Then we discuss it. It is an enlightening experience and 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

Theresa Adcock, Coletta Ali, Mary G. Ballew, Jeanette Cannon, Lillian Czaplicki, Normantha & Larry Evans, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Mary Ann Parker, Albert Parker, Jr., Carlton Shanks, Nsanda S. Stumps, Kate Shoevlin, 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.

Remember a Loved One 2019 Mass Book is here!

We have **weekday** Masses available in our **2019** Mass Book. Please come to the Rectory for Masses.

Please contact Amanda at the Rectory 708-386-8077 or by e-mail: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net

From the Religious Education Coordinator

The Christmas Season has officially started. Not the Christmas season that the merchandisers talk about, the real Christmas Season, and it started with the 5:00 p.m. mass on December 24 right here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy. What a wonderful way to celebrate the season. The children from Religious Education and the school did a wonderful presentation of the gospel message. This year we had more children participate and it was heartwarming to see the joy on their faces to know that they told the story. It was wonderful to see our church filled and at the postlude to see the participation in "*Children Go Where I Send Thee*".

All of this would not have been possible without the energy, time and effort put into the program. Thank you to Jean Detmer who rallied the children together and helped prepare the children in singing along with Marie Drake Alexandre, Juan Perez and Connie Rakitan. For Rick Carter who provides direction and is the prop master; costumers Joyce and Bob Proce; providers of music, Dan Cochrane and Tim Davis; the children who provided prelude music, and the adult choir members who provided carols before mass; behind the scenes helpers, Chemetha Baker and Molly Dula-Weber. Thank you to all the children who participated, almost too many to mention, you know who you are. I know Father George identified the people involved at the end of mass, but I wanted to say a big **THANK YOU** to you all for making this a wonderful cooperative effort for our parish.

Thank you, Merry Christmas and a Happy New year from Religious Education.



Faith and Fellowship Needs Help

If you can give a couple of hours on Wednesday evenings or Thursday afternoons, we would like to invite you to become part of our faith-sharing groups. We enjoy a peaceful atmosphere of friendship, prayer and reflection, and warm hospitality. You will nurture your own spiritual life at the same time as helping others. Come and see!

Contact Connie Rakitan via e-mail faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or give her a call at: 708-383-9276.

SCOUTING – Plain and Simple

A wonderful **Boy Scout Troop (ages 11 – 18)** meets at *Brooks Middle School at Washington and Kenilworth in Oak Park* every **Thursday night from 7:15–9:00 pm.**

You name it and they do it. Troop 28 is a uniformed unit. National registration is \$36, which is paid out of a Troop annual membership fee of \$100. We don't engage in any other fundraising or sales for the Troop or Council benefit. In the last 30 years, 26 Scouts have achieved the Eagle Rank from this Troop.

Questions: call Tom at 708-456-0730.

Dine Out with Friends

February 2019 TBA
Kenyan Dinner

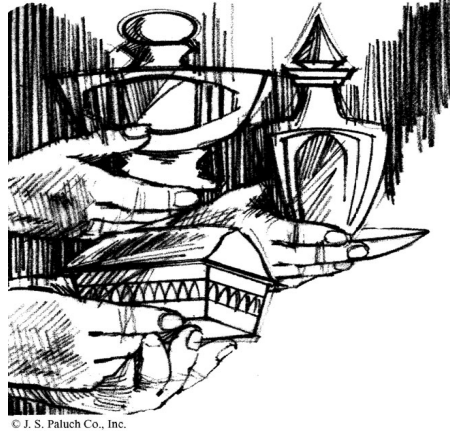
May 2019 TBA
Lou Malnati's

Rootedness

*The flower does not bear the root.
The root bears the flower. The rose
is merely evidence of the vitality of
the root.*

—Woodrow Wilson

They presented him with gifts



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Epiphany

Solemn things of mystic meaning:

Incense doth the God disclose;
Gold a royal Child proclaimeth;
Myrrh a future tomb foreshows.

—Roman Breviary, Epiphany;
Prudentius, fourth century

January 18–25, 2019

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Each year, Christian churches and communities from a different part of the world develop the theme and texts for the Week of Prayer. The 2019 theme is:

“Justice, Only Justice, You Shall Pursue” (cf. Deuteronomy 16:20).

Events related to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:

January 26, 2019

7 p.m.

St. Dorothy Church
450 E. 78th Street

Join us and the whole Christian community from Jan. 18-25 in praying for the unity that Christ desires of us.

Contact: 312.534.5325
eia@archchicago.org



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*

Liturgical Bits & Bytes “Bereaved During the Holidays”

Christmas Time is not a time of cheer for everyone. People who recently lost loved ones, or for whom this is the first holiday season without their loved ones, experience a great deal of sadness during this time. If we know someone in this situation, let's reach out to them; take time to be with them or to go places with them so that their feeling of loneliness is perhaps a little less. We can't replace the loved one, but we can let the bereaved person know that they are still important to and cared for by others.

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department has attorneys and volunteer attorneys available to provide advice in numerous areas of law. If you are unsure about your legal rights or lost in the legal system, let us help you. Services include in-depth advice and possible direct representation on many issues, including landlord/tenant issues, family law, consumer and debtor rights, foreclosure, employment issues, orders of protection, power of attorney, and more.

CCLA provides free to low-cost legal services to eligible low-income individuals. For help and more information, contact the legal advice line at 312- 948-6821.

Archdiocese of Chicago Immigration Ministry Film Festival

Gospel Without Borders

Presents:

Hope Has Two Daughters: Anger and Courage

- ..# Video
- ..# DACA Speaker
- ..# Small Group Discussion

At Giles Parish, Oak Park, IL
McDonough Hall (second floor)



The Women's Center

In our nation about one million abortions are performed each year. The aborted babies aren't the only victims. Their mothers are also victims, who in many cases were pressured into the abortion. Sooner or later they experience horrible grief and depression. At The Women's Centers we try to help women struggling with a problem pregnancy and save them from grieving later.

Volunteers Needed: This is a great opportunity to work with friends or meet new friends and help a good cause. Flexible hours are available and drop-ins are welcome at our Cicero Ave. office -to sort donated items, to assist clients in our Family Room and help with mailings and baby bottle projects. We need a receptionist for Saturdays at our Evergreen Park office. For more info on any of these volunteer roles, call us at 708-320-4066.



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*Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!
Your light has come, the glory
of the Lord shines upon you.*

— Isaiah 60:1

Pro-Life

*"Abortion is not a sign that women
are free, but a sign that they are
desperate."*

—Frederica Mathewes-Green

Project Rachel

A post-abortion healing hotline
and referral service for women and
312-337-1962
888- 456-HOPE

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286

School News

We will all be back tomorrow,
Monday, January 7th.

*Happy NEW YEAR
to our parish family!
Thank you for all your love
and support throughout the
school year.*



Vocations

We invite you to visit Vocations office to learn more about becoming a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Visit the Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association. For more information about becoming a deacon for the Archdiocese of Chicago, visit the Institute for Diaconal Studies at the University of St. Mary of the Lake/Mundelein, Illinois. Rev. Francis Bitterman, 312-534-8298 Archdiocesan Vocations Office Email: fbitterman@archchicago.org

Treasures of Our Tradition

Monday of this week is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 B.C. Julius Caesar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6. This put an end to a system in which officials called "pontiffs" were able to tweak the calendar by adding extra days in as needed. He invented two new months at that time, December and January; and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs had made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named "The Last Year of Confusion." The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar was still off by nearly twelve minutes a year, and lost a full day every 130 years.

Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years. The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia's Julian calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.