ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA ST. LUCY

September 8, 2019

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. Patrick Wangai, Associate Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mrs. Christine Wedekind, Religious Education Coordinator
Mr. Kraig Zeronik, Director of Music and Liturgy

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager
Mrs. Fannie Cooper, School Secretary

CONTACTING THE PARISH & SCHOOL

Rectory: 38 N. Austin Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302
Telephone: 708-386-8077
Email: apomaredascsloffice@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 9:00AM—4:30PM; 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, Thursday and Friday - 8:30 am
(Please enter the Church by Washington Blvd. 2nd door to the West)

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,

The message coming from Jesus is shocking and frightening. The Gospel tells us that: "Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them He said: "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters–yes, even his own life–he cannot be My disciple." Are you surprised Jesus said that to be a disciple you must hate your family? You may be asking yourself, "Doesn't He talk elsewhere in the Gospels about loving everyone, including our enemies?" Sure, remember, Jesus often used figures of speech to give His words a greater impact. He used metaphors, similes, and parables. So, don't get upset because Jesus used hyperbole. Also, the Greek word for hate in this verse means something totally different than our English word for "hate." The word is sane, which means "to prefer above". To be a disciple, you must love Jesus more than you love anyone else–even family members. Your love for Jesus should be so powerful that in comparison, it seems as if you hate everyone else. It is also true that sometimes your love for Jesus will alienate you from others, even your family.

The image Jesus used is a cross. A real disciple is someone who carries his cross. Many Christians are just as confused today about what it means to carry a cross. Following Jesus is a lifelong vocation of adhering to His teachings and commands, and emulating His values, attitude, and actions. Brothers and sisters in Christ, what does it mean to carry the cross of Jesus? Let's begin with what Jesus didn't mean. Many people interpret "cross" as some burden they must carry in their lives: a strained relationship, a thankless job, a physical illness. With self-pitying pride, they say, "That's my cross I have to carry." Such an interpretation is not what Jesus meant when He said, "Take up your cross and follow Me." When Jesus carried His cross up Golgotha to be crucified, no one was thinking of the cross as symbolic of a burden to carry. To a person in the first century, the cross meant one thing and one thing only: death by the most painful and humiliating means human beings could develop. Two thousand years later, Christians view the cross as a cherished symbol of atonement, forgiveness, grace, and love. But in Jesus' day, the cross represented nothing but torturous death. Because the Romans forced convicted criminals to carry their own crosses to the place of crucifixion, bearing a cross meant carrying their own execution device while facing ridicule along the way to death. Therefore, "Take up your cross and follow me" means being willing to die in order to follow Jesus. This is called "dying to self." It's a call to absolute surrender. After each time Jesus commanded cross bearing, He said, "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?" (Luke 9:24-25). Although the call is tough, the reward is matchless.

Finally, brothers and sisters in Christ, following Jesus is easy when life runs smoothly; our true commitment to Him is revealed during trials. Jesus assured us that trials will come to His followers (John: 16:33). Discipleship demands sacrifice, and Jesus never hid that cost. May God bless you.

—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: Rev. George Omwando
Celebration Choir: Kraig Zeronik
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:
Rev. George Omwando
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 Fr. George 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.

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.

Funerals:
Please call the Rectory to set up arrangements with the Christian Burial Mass.

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

Post Summer Challenges

With any luck, summer delights will continue a while past last weekend's Labor Day: refreshing recreation (with maybe an occasional swim) or enjoyable relaxation on the deck (with tasty outdoor grilling). Truth is, for some of us, this year's Labor Day came way too early. With many schools back in session for a while already, mealtimes and driving schedules needed readjustment to coordinate youth sports with adult commitments. Some religious education and parish programs resumed, too. No surprise, then, that this weekend's scriptures sound a little like post-summer challenges. For instance, Wisdom reminds us that believers in God can never be content with "timid deliberations" and "unsure plans." Paul challenges longtime friend and follower Philemon to "let the good you do be voluntary." Jesus instructs "great crowds" traveling with him—including us—on three things necessary for all true disciples to accomplish. On this early autumn weekend, our scriptures describe disciples' lifelong labors.

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500 Club Certificates

Certificates are $25 each and will be included in every weekly drawing through October 20st, 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 are available in the back of church. Thank you!!!

~ The Fundraising Committee

500 CLUB WINNER

September 8, 2019

BETTY GOEB,

 # 315

Faith and Fellowship
Come and See!

This week brings an opportunity to learn just what Faith and Fellowship is all about. Many parishioners "see us around" or have heard about us, but are curious about just what this program actually does! **On Wednesday, September 11 (1:00 – 3:00 pm, repeated 7:00 – 9:00 pm)** in the Rectory , there will be a presentation/demonstration about this 40-year-old parish ministry of with and for adults with mental illness.

Please…….come and see! Info—Connie Rakitan, 708-383-9276 or faith_fellowship@hotmail.com

Save-the-Date

Mondays, Sept.9--Monday. Oct. 28
Women Fall Series—CH

Wednesday, September 11
F & F "Come & See"

Fri/Sat September 20-21
Tootsie Rolls - OS

Saturday, September 28
Confirmation Ceremony at St. Edmund Parish

Saturday, September 28
SisterHouse 1st Annual Luncheon - Maguire Hall

Sunday, September 29
Walkathon & Picnic - OS

Sunday, October 20
Faith & Fellowship 40th Anniversary

Saturday, October 26
Holy Ghost Bingo (and Bake Sale!)

Confirmation Information

On Saturday, September 14, 2019 our Confirmation candidates will be going to The Shrine of Christ's Passion, in St. John, Indiana for their Confirmation retreat. They will leave by bus at St. Edmunds parking lot promptly at 9:30AM and will return at 3:30PM. Please keep these students in your prayers as they complete their class work and participate in the retreat for this most important Sacrament.

Confirmation will be celebrated at St. Edmund parish, on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 5:30 PM mass.

The sacrament will be celebrated by Bishop John R. Manz. Our choir will join the St. Edmund's choir. Please consider attending this mass to celebrate our students and to also show support for them.

St. Edmund's Parish is located at:
188 S. Oak Park Ave, Oak Park, IL 60302.

Parish Calendar

Monday, September 9
9:30 AM - Bible Study - **RRT**
1 &7:30 PM - Women's Fall Series - **CH**
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M

Tuesday, September 10
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
7-9PM - PPC Agenda - **RRT**

Wednesday, September 11
10:00 AM - Staff Meeting - **RDR**
1-3PM - F&F Information, Orientation Mtg. **RD**
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
7-9PM - F&F Information, Orientation Mtg. **RD**

Thursday, September 12
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
6:00 –8:00 PM - A.A. Meeting **- RD**

Friday , September 13
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M

Saturday , September 14
Confirmation Retreat @ St. John's Indiana

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. September 9
8:30 † Magnolia Ivy
By: Ministry of Care

Tue. September 10
8:30 † Susan Miniscalco
By: Ministry of Care

Wed. September 11
8:30 † Felix Brown
By: Grace Bishop

Thurs. September 12
8:30 † Quentin Stampley
By: Parishioners

Fri. September 13
8:30 † Virginia Keenan
By: Ministry of Care

Sat. September 14
9:00 † Louise Heath
By: Evie Stockinger
5:00 † Mary Cotter
By: Era Yee

Sun. September 15
8:30 For the People of Our Parish
8:30 † Faye Bell
By: The Fundraising Committee
10:30 † Delphino Prosper Mushi
By: Selina Mushi

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6: 20-26
Thursday:	Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Sunday:	Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day
Monday:	St. Peter Claver
Wednesday:	Patriot Day
Thursday:	The Most Holy Name of Mary
Friday:	St. John Chrysostom
Saturday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Stewardship Report

Due to vacation, our stewardship reports for the weeks of September 1st and 8th will be shown later within the September 15, 2019 bulletin. Thanks for your understanding.

Today's Readings

First Reading — You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

Psalm — In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

Second Reading — Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

Gospel — Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? (Luke 14:25-33).

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

September 15, 2019

5:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:30
Altar Servers		
Michael Giometti	Walter Washington	David Detmer Claire Detmer
Ministers of the Word		
Jacob Diaz Christine Diaz	Shirley Jones Ken Blair	Bill Holmes Keshang Jordan
Ministers of the Eucharist		
Chemetha Baker Pat Koko Grace Bishop Brenda Fojtik	**Elaine Podraza** Annie Rowan Renee Smith-Quinn Thom Schouten Bill Cragg Claudia Zinanni	**Terry Sullivan** Scarlett Evans Patricia Long Jan Kieckhefer Jeanne Visteen Yuna Kim

Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Mary G. Ballew, Jeanette Cannon, Sister Marion Cypser, Lillian Czaplicki, Normatha & Larry Evans, Dave Grayson, Anna Fabach, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Georgine Mullen, Albert Parker, Jr., Scarlett Evans-Perez, Raul Perez, Edith Ruiz, Jennifer Saldukas, and Nancy Staunton.

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.

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 15, 2019 - 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14

The book of Exodus tells of the Israelites' escape from Egypt and their covenant with God and Mount Sinai. In today's passage, Moses has been up on the mountain for 40 days conversing with God. In his absence, the Israelites have despaired and built a golden calf to worship as a god.

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The first letter to Timothy was written about 30 years after Paul's death. It was written in Paul's name, a practice common in the ancient world. In today's portion of this letter, the unknown author sketches a portrait of Paul as someone we should imitate.

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 is totally free.

Remember a Loved One

We still have **weekday** Masses available in our 2019 Mass Book. We also have the 2020 open for your requests.

Mass intentions are only $10.00. Please come to the Rectory to request your Masses. Remember your loved ones or any other special occasion.

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.

Attention Young Readers!

We have a new resource for the younger members of our community in the book cart. There are a variety of books at various reading levels but all appropriate for church. Please feel free to take a book during mass and, as always, return it to the cart at the end of mass.

Update Personal Info

Please DO NOT FORGET to update us with your new cell phone number, e-mail address, or any other change of status. Please contact Amanda at 708-386-8077 or via e-mail at: apomaredascsloffice@comcast.net

Thank you!

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286

School Scoop

Still Accepting Applications for the 2019-2020 school year!

Please keep our wonderful staff, students, and families in your prayers as we kick off this new school year. And please check back here every week as we share new and exciting things happening at the school.

Notice

(In case you haven't heard)

Thursday Mass has resumed at 8:30 AM in the St. Catherine-St. Lucy Chapel.

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*

give central

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 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*

Cluster Tutoring needs you!

Help students from Chicago's Austin community realize their potential through one-to-one learning. We have a reading specialist, a computer room, math coaches, and a fully stocked library. Tutoring is 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays at Circle Urban Ministries, 118 N. Central in Chicago or on Thursdays at First United Church of Oak Park, 848 Lake St., and runs from September to mid-May.

You can attend one of two information sessions for new tutors at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 10, and Thursday, Sept. 12, both at First United.

Info: Kara Kalnitz at 773-378-5530 clustertutoring@clustertutoring.org or

Food for Thought...

All Things are Vanity

"Eat and drink and be merry!"
That sounds like advice
to have fun.
But hark! It is best to be wary:
"tomorrow your life
may be done."
If you feel that the sun will not rise,
then you should prepare to just chill;
Embracing a step of the wise,
stay home and review your will.

In Ecclesiastes we're warned,
also by Luke and by Paul,
Both vanity'n greed should be scorned,
and lying's a blatant foul ball.
Provide for the hungry, Luke warned;
Respond to God's grace-bidding call.

Fight against moral somnolence,
consort not with evil highbinders.
'Tho your possessions be dense,
don't wear those view-blocking blinders.
Lord, to us kindness dispense,
make us for love Your pathfinders.

Notes: Biblical sources are Ecclesiastes 1:2 & 2:21-23;. Psalm 90;. Paul to Colossians 3:1-5, ,9-11; Luke

—TGL 9/8/19

TOOTSIE ROLLS !!

The Knights of Columbus helps support our Faith & Fellowship program, and we do this by participating in the annual Tootsie Roll drive.

On the September 20/21, we will be at the intersection of Madison and Ridgeland collecting donations that will be used for F & F – our parish's unique ministry; there's no other like it in the whole Archdiocese!

Contact Connie Rakitan at faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708/383-9276 to sign up for a time to volunteer for this important fundraiser. And bring a friend – or two!

Women in Recovery ROCK

Celebrate the women of Sister House who made a commitment to their recovery from substance abuse and who are being spiritually transformed to the fullness of their potential to benefit themselves, their families, their communities, and future generations.

Recovery is Possible!

Sister House

1st Annual Luncheon

Saturday, September 28, 2019
1:00 –4:00 PM

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Maguire Hall
34 N. Austin Blvd. Oak Park, IL

$35.00 ($45.00 at the door)

For more information and tickets: Contact SisterHouse at 773-626-0525 / www.sisterhousechicago.org

SisterHouse is a 501 ©(3) tax exempt charitable organization

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

Join Us to Explore Love and Forgiveness....

"Lessons from Afghanistan is a compelling exploration of love and forgiveness by Afghan women in a country that has been war-torn for three decades. These writers have borne not only the burden of bloodshed but carry with them the stigma of simply being born female in a deeply patriarchal and conservative society.
You will be inspired not only be the resilience of these women, but their courage to love, and not just for their country, but for us all. Their love seeps from the pages of this book into our souls."

Shelby Boblick will facilitate the-sessions and supply the materials each week. No need to prepare in advance. We'll focus on a different topic each week. It matters not at all if you miss a week or several weeks. You are most welcome to join us when your schedule permits.

We'll offer duplicate sessions each Monday: one at 1 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m. 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, 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, IL. The Church is accessible by ramp, and assistive listening devices are available. Questions? Call Shelby at 630-240-2765

Monday, Sept. 9 Session 1:
Defining Love and Forgiveness

Monday, Sept. 16 Session 2:
Self Love

Monday, Oct. 7 Session 3:
Discovering Love for Others

Monday, Oct. 14 Session 4:
Finding Forgiveness in Our Lives

Monday, Oct. 21 Session 5:
Love and Forgiveness that Transcends Boundaries

Monday, Oct. 28 Session 6:
Incorporating Love and Forgiveness into Our Lives

Food.....Family.....Friends.....Fun !!!!

The 16th Annual St. Catherine — St. Lucy

Walk-A-Thon & Picnic

Sunday, September 29, 2019 | 1-3pm

Taylor Park in Oak Park (Division & Ridgeland North side)

~ EVERYONE IS WELCOME ~

A 5k (6 laps) plus A great Picnic with games and food for everyone

Come out and walk or just come to support walkers

Walk with your family...Walk with Friends...Walk with your Neighbors

There will be games and face painting for the kids as well as fun games for the adults!

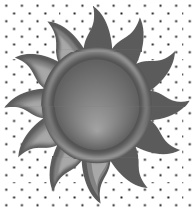
Participants will be served BURGERS, DOGS, CHIPS, SODA / H2O & BROWNIES.

The proceeds will go directly to St. Catherine- St. Lucy Parish.

All donations are greatly accepted.

Some Lou Malnati's and Baker Square Gift cards will be raffled off the day of the walk. Tickets can be purchased after masses.

Envelopes will be available every week starting September 8th after each Mass.

Envelopes must be turned in no later than Sunday, September 29th.

Come & Support Our Parish !!