

ST. CATHERINE



OF SIENA ST. LUCY

NOVEMBER 24, 2019

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. Patrick Wangai, Associate Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Rev. Patrick Wangai, Chemetha Baker
Religious Education Coordinators
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: 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 9:00AM—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:

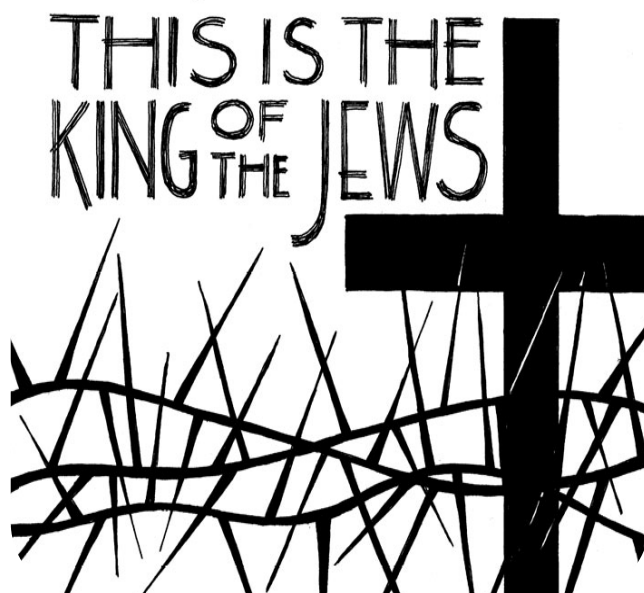
Saturday Morning - 9:00 am
Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm
Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

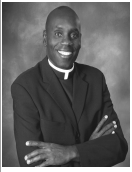
Saturday at 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM; or by appointment.

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 Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we conclude our liturgical year C, I have been informed and I have observed the same thing that there is too much talking in the church before Mass begins. In addition, people occasionally or most of the time leave the church after receiving Communion. There can be a reason why you came to Mass late or leave early but not all the times. Maybe this is something that we will start to think about developing as we are about to begin the season of Advent next week. I am not saying that we don't have to talk before Mass begins but I am trying to highlight the importance of silence before the beginning and immediately after receiving the Holy Communion. After receiving communion, we thank God for having received His sacred Body and drunk his precious Blood. Before Mass, we need to keep silence so that we can prayerfully reflect that we are in a sacred place. The Body of Jesus Christ that we are going to eat or the precious Blood we are going to drink or already drunk will nourish us spiritually.

The Church is not just a building but a sacred building or place that requires one to examine his or her silence but also bearing in mind your neighbor who may be in prayer and will need your tender love and care. Let us talk when necessary. The church being a sacred place brings us together to pray and thank God for what He has done for me and you daily. Some people come to Church early so that they can have a silent period of prayer before Mass begins; unfortunately they can't pray sometimes when the person next to him or her is engaged in a conversation with another neighbor. I am requesting everybody to try and remain silent once you enter the Church before Mass begins so that we can give ample time for some of our brothers and sisters in Christ who want to spend some much-needed time with God before the beginning of Mass.

This also applies during the sign of PEACE. During this time of the Mass, it is not a break or a time to engage in another conversation that was not completed before Mass had begun. I know that many people find silence "empty" and uncomfortable. Let me say a word about that. First, there's no denying some sort of the discomfort. We meet our deeper selves—our consciences, our fears, our hopes, the Word of God within us—only when we're silent, and most normal human beings flee from that encounter rather than encourage it. But there's an unnecessary degree of discomfort because we don't typically know anything that can make silence useful for our spiritual growth. Brothers and Sisters in Christ, please do pay attention that we are in a sacred place and do care about your neighbor.

Finally, today, we celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King and what a better way to end our liturgical year by the celebration of the feast that honors the Son of God who died on the Cross and took away the punishment that was rightly ours. Christ is not like any of the earthly kings who puts heavy burdens on those they govern, but a King who came to live with sinners and died for them. What a privilege to have such King! Have a blessed Thanksgiving. 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 & Ministers of the Word: Jeanne Visteen

Servers: Kathy Paoli

Ministers of Care: Rev. G. Omwando

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

Education Commission

Baptism Com.: Fr. G. Omwando

Bible Study: Russ McCaughey

Religious Education of Children:

Rev. Patrick Wangai, Chemetha Baker

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Parish Development & Services

Commission

Collection Counters: Rev. G. Omwando

Facilities Committee: Jim Podraza,

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.



Together for Good
Community of Congregations
Multi-Faith Thanksgiving
Service

When: Today, Nov. 24 at 7:00 PM

Where: New Mount Pilgrim
 Missionary Baptist Church
 4301 W. Washington Blvd.
 Chicago, IL.

Beneficiaries: The Holiday Food & Gift
 Basket Program and Team Brownsville

Daily Mass on Thursday
Thanksgiving day
will be at 8:30 a.m.

The Rectory will be CLOSED
on Thursday & Friday
November 28-29



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TODAY Our 2nd Collection is for
The Catholic Campaign
for Human Development

This weekend, dioceses across the United States will take up the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. When you participate in this collection, you support low-income and marginalized communities in their efforts to provide access to affordable housing, health care, jobs, employee-owned businesses, and rights for immigrants. By supporting CCHD, you help out your own neighbors, because 50% of the local collection stays here in the Chicago area. Please be generous!

Blessing of the Lectors

**Today, during the 8:30 and
 10:30 a.m. Masses**



This year will be shopping at **Ten Thousand Villages** in Oak Park from **Sunday, December**

2nd— Friday, December 6th. More information about this event will be given on our next bulletin.

Parish Calendar

Monday, November 25

9:30 AM - Bible Study - RRT
 2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
 12-2:00 PM - School Mass Rehearsal - CH
 6:30-9:30 PM - F&F Meeting - RD
 7:00 PM - RCIA Class - RRT

Tuesday, November 26

10:15AM - School Thanksgiving Mass - CH
 2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
 3:30 - 7 PM - Parent Teacher Conferences - S
 7:30-9PM - Praise Choir - MMR

Wednesday, November 27

7-10 PM - F&F. Meeting - RD
 7:30-9PM - Celebration Choir - CH

Thursday, November 28 - THANKSGIVING

8:30 AM - Mass - CH

500 Club Certificates

Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in every weekly drawing from October 27th, 2019 through October 19th, 2020. 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

November 24, 2019

JACQUELYN JAVORS FONOROW,

423

Advent Candles

Advent Candles are on sale this weekend of November 23-24 after all masses in the Church's gathering room. They are available for \$5/ set of candles and \$5 for a wreath frame.



Save-the-Date

Sunday, December 8
*Family Mass and
 Breakfast with St. Nick's
 Maguire Hall*

Sunday, December 15
*Anti-Violence Candlelight
 Vigil here at SCSL Church*

Monday, December 16
*Advent Reconciliation
 St. Giles Church*

Sunday, December 22
*Practice for Children's
 Christmas Eve*

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. November 25

8:30 † **Luke Podraza**
By: Elaine and Jim Podraza

Tue. November 26

8:30 † **Corazon Gaetos**
By: Cynthia Borch

Wed. November 27

8:30 † **Albert Brion**
By: Dorothy Brion

Thurs. November 28—Thanksgiving Day

8:30 † **Anthony Vincent**
By: Ministry of Care

Fri. November 29

8:30 † **Russ Ewing**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Sat. November 30

9:00 † **Clement Thomas Shayo**
By: Selina Mushi
5:00 † **Mary D. Koko (27TH DEATH ANNIV.)**
By: The Koko Family

Sun. December 1

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
8:30 † **Elaine Russo**
By: Larry Russo
10:30 † **Gloria Fernandez**
By: Bill and Shelby Boblick

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church



November 17, 2019	\$ 4,529.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 557.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -2,222.00

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 — The Lord said to David, “You shall shepherd my people Israel” (2 Samuel 5:1-3).

Psalm — Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — Thanks to the Father who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light (Colossians 1:12-20).

Gospel — Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom (Luke 23:35-43).

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.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62-67; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68-74; Lk 21:20-28 <u>Thanksgiving Day, Suggested:</u> Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75-81; Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Sunday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Monday:	Thirty-fourth or Last Week in Ordinary Time; St. Catherine of Alexandria
Thursday:	Thanksgiving Day
Saturday:	St. Andrew

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 1, 2019

5:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:30
Altar Servers		
Kathy Paoli	Tom Frank	Mireille Lozes Abigail Agbefe
Ministers of the Word		
Christine Diaz Jacob Diaz	Mary Jane O'Brien Wrenetha Julion	Michelle Agbefe Bill Holmes
Ministers of the Eucharist		
Jack Kernan Pat Koko Carol Brown Grace Bishop	Thom Schouten Ginny Jones Claudia Zinnani Bill Cragg Fannie Cooper Marge Massarello	Diana Cameron Mary Howard Leslie Agbefe Yuna Kim Patricia Long Kim McGuire



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Mike Ballew, Lillian Czaplicki, Scarlett Evans, Dwayne and Paula Evans, Dave Grayson, Kathy Feulner, Phillip Jones Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Georgine Mullen, Kathy Paoli, Albert Parker, Jr., Raul Perez, Jennifer Saldukas, Annette Varga, and Jeanne Vistein

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.



DECEMBER 1, 2019 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The prophet Jeremiah lived at a difficult time in Jewish history. Jerusalem, their beloved capitol, had been destroyed, and most of the people taken captive to far-off Babylon, which is in present-day Iraq. Despite this gloomy setting, Jeremiah expresses the conviction that the Lord will raise up a new leader from the line of David to restore and rebuild their native land.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

The date was some 30 years after Christ's death and resurrection. The place was a city in northeast Greece called Thessalonica, where Christians were being persecuted. Paul, who had brought the Gospel there, heard about their perseverance and sent a letter of encouragement.



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.

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.

Remember a Loved One

We still have many weekday Masses available in our 2019 Mass Book.

We also have the 2020 Mass Book open for your requests. Come to the Rectory to request your Masses. Remember your loved ones or any other special occasion. Mass intentions are only \$10.00.

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 allows our parish to provide its parishioners a safe and convenient way to make regular, automatic electronic contributions. You can go directly to our website: www.stcatherinelucy.org to be able to find the link to GiveCentral

www.catherinelucy.org

708-386-5286

School Scoop



Parent-Teacher Conferences

are set for this Tuesday November 26th from 3:30-7:00pm. School will be closed from Wednesday through Friday for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Grateful

Thank you to all those who helped make the parish Christmas Bazaar a success. A special thanks to the following junior high students who gave up a Saturday afternoon to serve at the luncheon: Jameia Campbell, Kennedy Florent, Lovie Galmore, Kylie Gray, Frankie Kerin, Kyle Morris, LaShondra Owens, Leah Ross, Toni Thompson, Jalen Williams.

Basketball

Basketball season is just starting, and our girls brought home a win last weekend! Please reach out to Ms. Majors for details.



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: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net

An Invitation!

December 22nd from 12-2 PM

As we prepare for our very special Christmas Eve children's liturgy, we want you to know that you are welcome to join us, **children....** together we tell the story of Jesus' birth and we would love you to be a part of it!

We need angels, shepherds, animals, star dancers, wise ones, innkeepers, Mary, Joseph and readers. As for the adults, we can always use extra hands and perhaps a reader or two. Also, if you know of a baby who could be the baby Jesus...let Jean know asap! Our practice is on Sunday December 22nd from 12-2 PM.

Please contact Jean Bacom at: lunamama6@gmail.com and request what part you would like to be. We will do our best to make that happen but **EVERYONE** gets a part and is welcome. Come join us and share the love.

2019 Christmas Bazaar BIG Raffle Winners

..# **Bike.....** *Frank Guidice*
 ..# **Cash.....** *Tom Farwell*
 ..# **Earrings.....** *Eloise Brown*
 ..# **Tablet.....** *Father George*
 ..# **Lamp.....** *Carol Deibel*
 ..# **Quilt.....** *Carol Deibel*

Gift Cards Information

- « #Gift cards for Christmas will be sold for all Masses on November 30/ December 1 and December 7/8.
- « #Pick up is 2 two weeks after the order, December 14/15 and December 21/22.
- « #The gift card form will be in the bulletin on November 23/24 and in the back of church.

The Giving Tree



As you shop this season, please remember the children whose wishes go unanswered by bringing a toy or children's book to put under the tree. They will be delivered to Catholic Charities for their toy showers in mid-December. Questions? Please call Linda at 708-386-6389.

—The Peace & Justice Committee

Christmas Flower Sale!



Christmas flowers and plants will arrive the weekend of **December 14-15!** Put Poinsettias, Cyclamen, Christmas Cactus, Green Plants and beautiful baskets on your gift list. Flowers will be sold after all the masses.

Buy Your Gift Cards At
St. Catherine-St. Lucy
 This Christmas
 (or cards for your personal use)
 In the Church Gathering Area
 (See information above-mentioned)



grocery- restaurant - retail - specialty.....Choose from over **200** cards!
 Read our Gift Card article on page 3 of this bulletin!

Of Kings and Kingship

Americans have an uncomfortable relationship with kings. The American Revolution was fought for independence from King George, after all. Nonetheless, today every Catholic church around the world celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Today's feast invites us to look beyond our national loyalties and rejoice in our primary identity. We are children of God in Jesus, Christ the King.

Our readings help us consider what it's like to belong to God's kingdom. The book of Samuel captures the deep longing of the Israelites for a king to shepherd them. Saint Paul reminds the Colossians that we belong to the kingdom of Christ, whose power he praises in a beautiful hymn.

Finally, Luke's Gospel calls to mind the kind of king Jesus chooses to be—a suffering servant, a man for others. By sacrificing his life for us, Jesus throws open the gates of Paradise.

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Food for Thought...

Christ the Universal King

*Image of the invisible God,
the firstborn of creation,
as Paul wrote, God created
all things,
to share with every nation.*

*Luke speaks of Jesus King during His
passion;
Pilate asked "are you a King?"
Jesus had faith in His Father's power
to Him life eternal bring.*

*Christ the King has offered us a model
(as we pray "thy kingdom come")
of grace and liberty and perfect love,
presenting Kingly depths to plumb.*

*We are called to honor Christ's true
Kingship,
through God's reconciling love.
We bow before His royal throne,
in praise from earth and heav'n above.*

11/24/19 TGL

Very Grateful

The Fundraising Committee and in particular, the Christmas Bazaar/Luncheon Committee members wish to extend a HUGE thank you to the many folks who helped make the **2019 "Peace On Earth" Bazaar** and Luncheon such a marvelous success. Of the many fund-raising events throughout the year, the Bazaar and Luncheon is one of the most labor intensive, but nets some of our highest financial results. The many volunteers include Parish and School Staff members, wonderful help from many of our St. Catherine-St. Lucy School students, as well as hours of planning and work from parishioners and focused committee members. Net profits realized are only one aspect of these efforts.

More important is the comradery of our many volunteers, and the parishioners' and friends' fun and togetherness that happen at the annual Bazaar and Luncheon. We raise funds, but we are truly about FUNdraising!



A reminder that on Sunday, December 8th, at 10:30 AM there will be a family mass and that the St. Nick's Pancake Breakfast is also this date following 8:30 and 10:30 masses.

Registration is always open. If you have a child/children who you would like to register, contact the Rectory, leave your name and number and someone will call you. It is never too late.



BREAD for all who hunger



*- an Advent interfaith bread baking day
of reflection with Br. Joseph Kilikevice,
OP*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2019,
10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality
708 N. Harvey Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302**

Gifts from the earth - whole wheat, water, honey and yeast are kneaded into loaves bringing us together to wait with all people for hunger to be satisfied. The ancient, sacred task of bread baking invites prayerful reflection on our longing for what is promised to all who wait. The bread we serve to others is a remembering of our call to be inclusive, respectful, generous, forgiving and loving. No one is excluded from a place at the table.

Give yourself the gift of a quiet day away from the busyness and stress of pre-holiday shopping malls. You will bring home the loaf you make to feed those you love.

Your \$40 donation pays for tuition, all bread baking ingredients and lunch. Take a \$10 Discount if registering before.

Trinity High School Entrance Exam

Trinity High School will be hosting its 8th grade Entrance Exam on Sat., December 7, 2019. The test will begin promptly at 8:00AM. Doors open at 7:30AM. Please bring two number 2 pencils and a \$25 test fee payable in cash or a check made out to Trinity High School. Registration opens Friday, November 22 at www.trinityhs.org/register. Trinity H.S. is located at 7574 W. Division Street in River Forest. Please enter through the auditorium doors on Lathrop. Info: Mary Beth Lavezzorio, Director of Admissions, at 708-453-8343 or mblavezzorio@trinityhs.org.