



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA **ST. LUCY**

**JANUARY 12, 2020
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**



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

Rector: 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 Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Christmas is over and for many now it is a time of recovery from the pressures of celebration, from the trials of family, from the financial expenses of the “retail spirit of Christmas.” We must thank God for having walked with us during this season. As we have begun this new civil year 2020, we do the same by asking God to take care of us daily.

Today we celebrate the baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ before He began His public ministry. Last week, we celebrated the feast of Epiphany when Christ was manifested to the whole world. In this manifestation, it shows that Jesus was not born to serve one group of people only, i.e. the Jews, but to also to non-Jews. From the Eve of Christmas until today, this season is known as Christmastide which is characterized with the celebration of remarkable feasts. For instance: Christmas, St. Stephen (1st Martyr), St. John the Evangelist and Apostle, the Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary (January 1st), the Holy Innocents and the Epiphany. These feasts are supposed to deepen our understanding of who Christ is and what kind of people He draws to Himself.

In today's feast of the baptism of our Lord, there are two key players: Jesus Christ and His cousin, John the Baptist. John the Baptist's ministry was to prepare the way for the Messiah. His message was simple and straightforward as he asked people to repent because the kingdom of heaven was near! (Matthew 3:2). When people repented, he baptized them. When Jesus Christ arrived on the scene, the Jewish people were looking for a deliverer to make things right in their country. The Jews were a people whose land was occupied by an oppressive foreign government, and they longed for freedom. But it was more than that. It was a people whose relationship with God had grown cold. To know someone is to love him or her, and to love someone is to follow him/her. To fulfill people's desire, Jesus' baptism was an affirmation of John's ministry, and by doing this it was as if Jesus was saying, *“John, I want you to baptize Me, because that will show that your message was true, your ministry was true, and it will link Me, the Messiah, with your ministry, which was to pronounce the coming of the Messiah, and it will link My ministry with your ministry as building upon it.”* So that is the first thing that that baptism of Christ was – to fulfill all righteousness that he had with God. Jesus' baptism also served to relieve John's doubts about the Messiah who was coming. We know from John 1:31 that John himself had been unsure about the identity of the Messiah up until this time. In fact, we are told in the Gospels elsewhere that John had his doubts even later. For John the Baptist, Jesus did not turn out to be quite who he was expecting, and he had to ask the Lord on at least one occasion, "Are You the one, or is there another?" This baptism was the Lord Jesus' gift to John to assure him, "Yes I am the one." This baptism also serves to confirm the message of John. It symbolizes the Lord Jesus' identification with His people and their plight. It is as if Jesus is saying, "Yes, John's message is right. You are sinners, you do need redemption from sin. And My receiving of this baptism is My sign that I am identifying with you. I will be the sin-bearer, so the baptism of repentance has efficacy."

I hope this Christmas season has deepened and will continue to deepen your faith or your own knowledge of Christ. If you do not know him or your faith is wavering, please seek help from friends, relatives, or any one of our pastoral staff that you are comfortable with who can accompany in your journey of faith. We all need help from others. 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.

This is my Beloved Son

This Sunday's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord closes the Christmas season. In the scriptures we see one more epiphany, or manifestation, of the Spirit of God in Jesus—but this time it is as an adult, rather than as a child. Jesus' baptism also serves as the inauguration of his prophetic mission and the messianic age.

Today's reading from Isaiah describes God's chosen Messiah, upon whom God's spirit rests. In the Acts of the Apostles Peter says that "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power" (Acts 10:38). Finally, in the proclamation from Matthew's Gospel Jesus' baptism in water goes almost unnoticed. The crucial moment comes when the Spirit of God comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven echoes the words of Isaiah: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

Parish Calendar

Monday, January 13

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

Tuesday, January 14

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

Wednesday, January 15

10:00 AM - Staff Meeting - RDR
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
12:30-3:30 PM- F&F Mtg - RD
7:30-9PM - Celebration Choir - CH

Thursday, December January 16

12:30-3:30 PM- F&F Mtg - RD
2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - M
6:00 -8:00 PM - A.A. Meeting - RD

Friday, January 17

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

UNITY

Unity is vision; it must have been part of the process of learning to see.

—Henry Adams

Paperback Book Collection

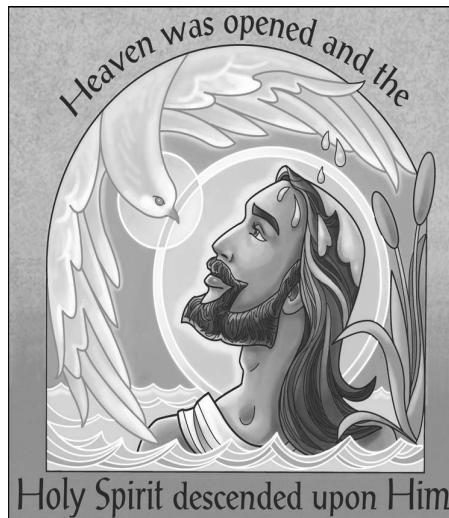
Monday, January 13 - Saturday, January 18

**Drop off paperback books at the Rectory
between 9:30 am - 3:00 pm.**

St. Catherine and Illinois Birth Justice are sponsoring a collection of paperback books to be delivered to women in federal prisons, eight state prisons, and Cook County jail.

Please bring **paperback books only**. You can also bring the books to the back of the church this weekend and the next, **January 18-19**. Types of books most requested are dictionaries, true crime, craft books, puzzle books, Christian urban fiction, daily affirmations and devotionals, bibles, exercise, graphic novels, celebrity memoirs.

Visit **Chicago Books for Women in Prison** website for more suggestions.



500 Club Certificates

Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in every weekly drawing from now 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 are available in the back of church. This is a fun way to support the parish Pass the word. Thank you!!!

~ The Fundraising Committee



Certainty

The Son of God died; it is by all means to be believed because it is absurd. And he was buried and rose again; it is certain because it is impossible.

—Tertullian



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. January 13

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

Tue. January 14

8:30 † James Woolfolk
By: Grace Bishop

Wed. January 15

8:30 † Alice Marshall
By: Ministry of Care

Thurs. January 16

8:30 † Arturo C. Alegria
By: Karla Alegria

Fri. January 17

8:30 † Margaret Kottcamp
By: Ministry of Care

Sat. January 18

9:00 † Dewey L. Seltzer
By: Erica Seltzer
5:00 † John Wells
By: Cynthia Weaver

Sun. January 19

8:30 FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30 † Alex Melynczyk
By: Cynthia Weaver & Jim Bowers
10:30 † Edward Klein
By: Thomas Farwell

Readings for the Week

- Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;
 Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10;
 Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;
 Mk 1:40-45
 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7;
 Mk 2:13-17
 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3;
 Jn 1:29-34

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
 Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time; St. Hilary
 Friday: St. Anthony
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary;
 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church



December 25, 2019 - Christmas	\$ 8,689.00
On-Line GiveCentral - Christmas	\$ 330.00
	\$ 9,019.00

December 29, 2019	\$ 3,861.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 2,363.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -1,084.00

January 5, 2020	\$ 6,638.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 752.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
SURPLUS	\$ 82.00

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

Thanks for your continued financial support!



LITURGICAL MINISTERS — JANUARY 19, 2020

5:00 PM	8:30 AM	10:30
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Altar Servers

Michael Giometti	Walter Washington	Mireille Lozes Abigail Agbefé
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Ministers of the Word

McLane Lomax Debra Lomax	Tom Frank Renee Smith-Quinn	Patricia Long David Geffe
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Ministers of the Eucharist

Chemetha Baker Susan Kumler Lessie Dean Era Yee	Elaine Podraza Kevin Kell Ginny Jones Annie Rowan Marjorie Fields Fannie Cooper	Diana Cameron Terry Sullivan Yuna Kim Mary Howard Kim McGuire Bill Holmes
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Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Mike Ballew, Shelby Boblick, Eloise Brown, Lillian Czaplicki, Scarlett Evans, Dwayne and Paula Evans, Dave Grayson, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Georgine Mullen, Dee Norman, Kathy Paoli, Albert Parker, Jr., Raul Perez, Jennifer Saldukas, and Dewy Seltzer

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.



JANUARY 19, 2020 - 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

The book of Isaiah in four different places speaks of a mysterious servant of God. This servant is sent to do great and marvelous things that touch the entire world. Christians have traditionally thought of Jesus as the fulfillment of these passages.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

For the next several Sundays our second reading will be taken from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians. Today's readings presents the opening words of that letter. It is an example of the salutation used in classical letter writing: Paul identifies himself, acknowledges the community to whom he is writing, and extends warm personal greetings.

January 12, 2020



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 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

Update Personal Info

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

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286



School Scoop

Happy 2020!

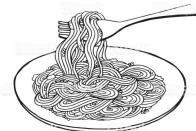
We hope everyone had a beautiful Christmas and rang in a very happy New Year.

Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, January 19th—11:30 AM - 2:30 PM | Maguire Hall

Help support the St. Catherine-St. Lucy 8th Grade class by coming to the Spaghetti Luncheon on Sunday, January 19, from 11:30 AM -2:30 PM in Maguire Hall. Tickets are \$8/per person, and food is from Home Run Inn. Come on over after Mass for the perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon!

Tickets can be purchased through the school (send money in an envelope marked "Spaghetti Luncheon") or at the door.



Today's Readings

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).

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.

Grief Share Group

Starting in January 29, 2020

St. Giles is sponsoring a Grief Share program, a special support group for people dealing with the loss of a family member or a dear friend. We invite you to consider joining us for this new program, which will begin in January 29, 2020.

Grief Share is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. One group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

The program consists of 13 sessions and utilizes videos, group discussion, and a personal workbook. The focus is to assist you begin to gain closure in your loss.

**Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
January 29 - May 6**

**St. Giles Parish, McDonough Hall
1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park
To register, contact 708-223-4912,
or griefshare@stgilesparish.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*

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Please consider making a donation to our Christmas Altar Flower display in honor of a loved one. Please be sure to fill out the envelope clearly so that all names can be included in a future bulletin. Completed envelopes can be dropped into the regular collection basket during the next few weeks.

Baptisms

**Julian Andre House,
Daphne Marie Cruz,
and Rosalie Ofelia**



York became children of God through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism during the months of September through December of 2019. We pray that they will live their baptism by continuing to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ all the days of their lives.

Pray For Our Deceased



Dewey L. Seltzer
May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his daughter Erica, his two sons and family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Food for Thought...

The Call to be Servant of God

Jesus accepted baptism as a sign of communion with us; Ours is a sign of communion with God, as well as with one another. Knowing from Isaiah he was to be called to be servant of God, He was the longed-for son of Israel, the son in whom God was well pleased.

Jesus' baptism's the first revelation of Him as Emanuel, of God an incarnation humble, in the midst of all humanity. It's a story fleshing out what the hymn from scripture teaches us: Though in God's form, Christ did not regard equality with God to be grasped.

By choosing solidarity with us in all of our weaknesses, His baptism depicts Him as one of us, with the confines of human life. We conceive of God as incarnate, sharing all our limitations, submitting to baptism In order to reveal His limitless love.

*And a voice came from the heavens saying,
"This my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased."*

(Phil. 2:6; Matt. 3:17)

Catholic Charities Maternity & Adoption Services

Pregnant? There are options. What do I do? Who should I tell? It's scary. You can turn to us. Catholic Charities Maternity & Adoption Services has resources to serve teens, single women, and couples facing unplanned pregnancies. We are here to help, without pressuring you. We can talk about your options as you plan for your child's future. We can help you whether you decide to parent your child or make a plan of adoption. If you are not sure what to do, our 24-hour hotline has caring and professional counselors available to help you. Our services are free and confidential. Call 312-454-1717. For more information, visit: www.catholiccharities.net/adoptionservices.



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.

January 12, 2020



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The Baptism of the Lord

A voice came from the heavens, saying,

"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

— Matthew 3:17

Attention Young Readers!

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

Evening Prayer and Public Reception for Bishop Alberto Rojas

All are invited to attend this celebratory event as we congratulate Bishop Rojas on his appointment and thank him for all he has done for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Date: Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020
Time: 5:30–8:30 p.m.
Place: Shrine of
Our Lady of Guadalupe /
St. Joseph Chapel
1170 N. River Rd.
Des Plaines, IL

Convening at the Intersection of Trauma, Faith and Resilience to Connect, Learn, Heal, and Serve

Save the Date:

Thursday, January 30 | 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Chicago Teacher's Union Foundation, 1901 W. Carroll Ave., Chicago

Keynote speaker: Dr. Iva Carruthers
Registration fee: \$30; Students: \$15. Scholarships available. Questions? Contact Octavia Tyson at: octavia.tyson@cityofchicago.org.

To register for this event, visit faithandresilience.eventbrite.com.

Saint Hilary (c. 315-367)

January 13

Born in Poitiers, France, whose populace would later elect him bishop, Hilary, married and a father, was converted from paganism to Christianity through his reading of scripture. The focus of his prayerful study was the Prologue to the Gospel according to John, which portrays Jesus as the divine Logos, eternally begotten of the Father. As a result, Hilary became in the words of the biblical scholar Jerome, "the Latin Trumpet against the Arians," heretics who believed Jesus to be merely human, not divine. In defense of Christ's divinity, Hilary was not only eloquent in debate but utterly fearless in the face of relentless persecution and even exile. Thus by the witness of his own discipleship, Hilary taught that faith in Jesus as the divine Son of God has consequences. Reflecting on Jesus' challenge to his disciples, "You are the salt of the earth" (Matthew 5:13), Hilary notes that, as salt both preserves from corruption and adds savor to food, so must the faithful disciple bear a witness that, by word and example, leads others to immortality and virtuous living.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright
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