

ST. CATHERINE



OF SIENA ST. LUCY

FEBRUARY 23, 2020
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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,

First, I will like you to know how grateful we are to everyone who assisted in our last weekend Valentine's Bake Sale, and thanks also to all our marvelous volunteers who assisted in many ways so that everything went on well.

In today's second reading to the Corinthians' community, St. Paul reminds us that our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit. When St. Paul talked about the body as a temple, he was referring to the Corinthian church as a whole, and as the temple of God, the Holy Spirit rested on each of its member. There is a parallel as followers of Christ. Like the Corinthians, we are also God's temple in that we are to be God's agents in our world because we have been baptized and adopted as children of God. In order for us to do that work of sharing the Good News of Christ in the world, we need the power of the Holy Spirit working in us. When it does, we will have a happy and fulfilling life as God's disciples provided that we follow His instruction especially by obeying His commandments.

Ash Wednesday is in three days, which is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Following the example of the Ninevites (Jonah 3: ff) who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us that life on Earth passes away. We remember this when we are told "Remember, Man or Woman is dust, and unto dust they shall return." Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The forty days represent the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptations of Satan and preparing to begin His ministry. Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparations for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early Church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism.

Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give themselves for others. Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection. Catholics ages 18 to 59 should fast on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting. May God bless everyone.

— 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:

Kevin Morgan

Adult 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.



500 CLUB WINNER
\$ 500.00
February 16, 2020
CONGRATULATIONS to:
JANET & E.J. TALBOT,
102

500 CLUB WINNER
\$ 25.00
February 23, 2020
MILES JACKSON,
55

"This is your chance to show off your creative baking skills if you have been watching *"The Great British Baking Show"* and want to give it a try. Don't worry - we will all be as encouraging as Mary Berry."

2:30-6:00 PM - Day Care - **M**
5:30 PM - Alms Meatless Dinner - **M**
7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross - **CH**

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. February 24

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

Tue. February 25

8:30 † **Herman Wouk**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Wed. February 26

8:30 † **Al Cademartrie**
By: Tom Cademartrie

Thurs. February 27

8:30 † **Sue Miniscalco**
By: Ministry of Care

Fri. February 28

8:30 † **Bradley Cousineau**
By: Michelle Darang-Coleman

Sat. February 29

9:00 † **Rev. John Carolan**
By: Ministry of Care
5:00 † **Vicente Yee Canama**
By: The Yee Family

Sun. March 1

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
8:30 † **Bradley Cousineau**
By: Cynthia Weaver & Jim Bowers
10:30 † **Richard Keefe**
By: Carol and Tom Frank

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17;
2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17;
Rom 5:12-19 [12, 17-19]; Mt 4:1-11



Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church



February 16, 2020	\$ 2,900.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 427.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -3,981.00

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 — Take no revenge and cherish no grudge; love your neighbor as yourself

(Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — You are the temple of God, and holy (1 Corinthians 3:16-23).

Gospel — Offer no resistance; love your enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).

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 — MARCH 1, 2020

5:00 PM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Altar Servers		
Kathy Paoli	Kevin Morgan	Esteban Perez
Ministers of the Word		
Paul Knight Dan Brown	Tom Frank Thom Schouten	David Geffe Bill Holmes
Ministers of the Eucharist		
Chemetha Baker Pat Koko Carol Brown Michelle Darang-Coleman	Elaine Podraza Ginny Jones Thom Schouten Bill Cragg Renee Smith-Quinn Marge Massarello	Diana Cameron Mary Howard Marie Wheel Yuna Kim Patricia Long Kim McGuire



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, 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 Annette Vargas.

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.



MARCH 1ST - 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The account of the sin of Adam and Eve is a classic example of how everyone sins. The author recognized that there is a standard pattern: We toy with temptation...we fall...then we make excuses.

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

Paul's letter to the Romans is his most detailed and important theological work. His purpose in this passage is not to teach about original sin, but to contrast Adam and Christ. From Adam we inherited a strong pull toward sin. From Christ (the "new Adam") we received a gift that is incomparably stronger: Divine Grace.

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.



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 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: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286

School Scoop

REGISTRATION FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR COMING SOON!

- ..# Before and After Care available
- ..# Warm, fun and academically sound Pre-School program
- ..# State of Illinois and Archdiocese of Chicago academic standards strictly adhered to
- ..# We meet each growth at an individual pace
- ..# All Junior High classes are taught by subject expert teachers
- ..# Students are prepared socially, spiritually, and academically for high school



Signs of Lent Ashes

Each week we are highlighting a different sign of the Lenten Season, beginning with ashes.

This penitential symbol has its roots in the Old Testament books of Esther, Samuel, Isaiah, and Jeremiah, and are a reminder of the impermanence of our earthly life. The ashes are made from the burning of blessed palms (from Palm Sunday the year before) and are placed on our foreheads in the form of a cross: it is in Jesus that we are saved from our sins, and are given eternal life.

Reminder

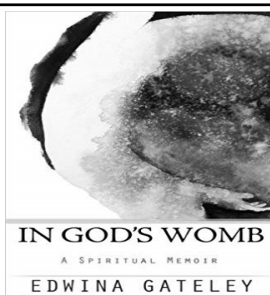
To all organizational leaders and head ministers:

Please let Fr. George know if you have any announcements for the weekend masses at the beginning of the previous week. His e-mail is gomwando@gmail.com. You can also e-mail Amanda at: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net. Thank you.

The women of Chicago's west side and of the near-west suburbs are invited to gather for winter spirituality!

Shelby Boblick will facilitate the discussion, and we'll use as a catalyst **In God's Womb**, a spiritual memoir by Edwina Gateley. "I am here because of my journey, which has brought me to this point after more than 40 years of working as a Catholic laywoman in the Church. And I also look back to see where this motivation and passion has come from. It certainly has not come from reading books and studying theology. It has come from my experience of God, something over which I have not had much control, having only been vulnerable to God's call in my life."

(p. 1) This series will be an introduction to Edwina Gateley whose life has been described by Publisher's Weekly as "fascinating – an exceptional blend of contemplation and action". Edwina is a poet, theologian, artist, writer, and lay minister. She is a single mom and has been described as a modern day mystic and prophet.



Edwina Gateley will facilitate a half-day retreat at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church on Saturday, April 18 beginning at 9 am. It will be a special opportunity...not to be missed...open to all men and women...and may be one of the last mid western US opportunities to hear Edwina speak before she retires to Ireland.

Shelby will supply the books each week for this series. No need to prepare in advance. Shelby will sell the books used during the series at the conclusion of the series. It matters not at all if you miss a week or 2. You are welcome to join as your schedule permits. Drop-ins are encouraged! Bring your female friends, visitors, or relatives. We'll offer duplicate sessions each Monday: one at 1:00 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m. No need to come at the same time each Monday. Sessions last no longer than 90 minutes.

Mon., Feb. 24 Moving On; Chicago Theological Union, Chicago
 Mon., March 30: The Streets; Genesis House
 Mon., April 6: Motherhood; The House of Sophia
 Mon., April 13: Public Speaking; The Answer

We meet in the gathering area of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church at 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, IL. The church is handicapped accessible. Only the doors on Austin Blvd. will be open. There are assistive listening devices available. Questions or concerns? Call Shelby Boblick at 630-240-2765.



Archdiocese of Chicago
PLEASE MAKE YOUR GIFT TO
THE 2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

**Come, follow me...
 and heal our world**

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal request mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes, and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer Jesus' call to **"Come, follow me... and heal our world."**

In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our parish. **For example, Appeal funds support needy students of our school, subsidies to deacon formation among other programs. We are grateful that we have a student from our own parish preparing to be a deacon.**

As we contemplate God's many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude. Your financial support for the work of our parish, our archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give generously to the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal.

Save the Date

**Mondays, February 24
 thru- Monday, April 13**
*Women's Winter
 Spirituality Series in CH*

Friday, February 28
*Alms Meatless Dinner at
 Maguire Hall*
*Stations of the Cross
 begin in Church*

Sat.-Sun. March 7-8
Fair Trade Sale

Sunday, March 15
Spring Big Raffle

Saturday, April 25
*Four Winds Casino Trip
 OS*

Lenten Retreat

The Treasured Aramaic Words of Jesus

Saturday, March 7th, 10 to 4

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

"Whole, ripe and complete are those who soften what is rigid within, they shall receive strength from the universe."

(Translation from the Aramaic text of the phrase more commonly known as, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.")

Is it possible to uncover deeper, more profound meanings in the words of Jesus recorded in the Bible? His words are familiar to us in translation from Greek and Latin texts. Other thought provoking, meanings can be discovered in ancient texts written in the Aramaic language he spoke.

Silence, contemplation, and participant sharing will contribute to experiencing the deep, abundant, and fertile wisdom found in the words of Jesus. The mantric sounds of Aramaic words are taught through chant and movement within a circle of prayer. Contact Br. Joseph Kilikevce, OP for registration details.
shemcenter1993@gmail.com

English Literacy Volunteers Needed

Help adult immigrants learn English at Aquinas Literacy Center! Volunteer as a one-on-one tutor for just 90 minutes per week at 1751 West 35th Street in Chicago. You do not have to speak another language; all tutoring is in English.

Join us for our upcoming next tutor training 2-day workshop: Friday, March 13th (6-9pm) and Saturday, March 14th (9am-4pm). Registration needed. For more information, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at sabrinaaquinasliteracycenter.org or 773-927-0512.

Aquinas Literacy Center is sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Food for Thought...

Law as a Road Sign

*Jesus was interpreting the law of Moses:
Know and follow it, as you would a road sign.
At journey's end you will have reached your chosen goal;
Unlocking your potential lets your vict'ry shine.*

*Being irritated is just a human trait,
but don't let anger grow, losing control.
Anger leads to fury, and incites revenge;
It's incandescent—hear the warning drumroll.*

*We should decide what's best for adversaries,
and reach out to those we have offended.
Jesus says look at law's purpose, not its letter;
Interpret for the changing times; be open-ended.*

2/23/20 TGL

Sources: Matt. 5:17-37. Rom. 7:7-25.

FOOLISHNESS

Sometimes the idea of repentance seems old-fashioned, naïve, even foolish. But if you're looking for real foolishness, you'll find it in today's readings.

We begin with Leviticus and the admonition, "Take no revenge and cherish no grudge" (Leviticus 19:18). We've heard that message before, of course, so we might forget how far it is from the so-called "practical realities of life." Saint Paul warns us about being practical, though. Whoever considers oneself wise had better "become a fool," because "the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God" (1 Corinthians 3:18, 19).

This "foolishness" continues in the Gospel: "Offer no resistance to one who is evil" (Matthew 5:39). In fact, offer the other cheek when you've been slapped. Hand over your coat as well as your shirt. Be like God, who sends sunshine and rain on the bad as well as the good. "So be perfect," says Jesus, "just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (5:48).

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Mercy Made Flesh — Encountering God Behind Bars

Sunday, March 15th | 12:15 pm

St. Vincent Ferrer - 1530 Jackson Ave, River Forest, IL 60305

A fresh look at corporal work of mercy. Guest Speaker: Joshua Stancil, former inmate, Magnificat contributor, and author of *'Shakedown, Shanks, and Shackles: A Writer's Guide to Prison Life'*

Gathering after the 11:00 mass at 12:15 in Kyte Hall, Room 3.



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.

You can go directly to our website: www.stcatherinestlucy.org to be able to find the link to *GiveCentral*