



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

APRIL 19, 2020
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Chemetha Baker, Rel. Ed. Coordinator
Mr. Kraig Zeronik, Director of Music

SUPPORT STAFF

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

CONTACTING THE PARISH

Rectory: 38 N. Austin Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302

Telephone: 708-386-8077

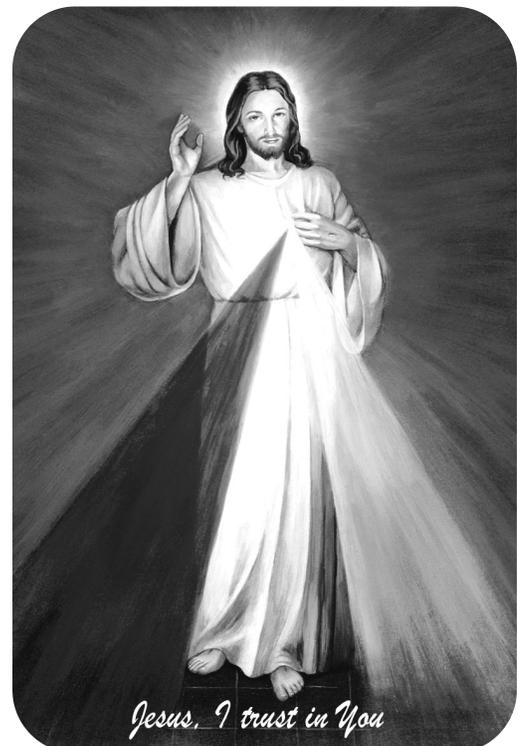
Email: aparedascsoffice@comcast.net

Web: www.stcatherinestlucy.org



Mass Times

**Please note that all public liturgies in
the Archdiocese of Chicago have
been canceled.**



Thoughts from Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today marks the end of the Octave of Easter which is also known as Second Sunday of Easter or the Divine Mercy Sunday. The octave of Easter means simply eight days. The idea of an Octave of a great feast has its roots in the Old Testament. There are many Jewish feasts that lasted for eight days, for example, the feast of Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles.

From the first Sunday of the Easter to the second Sunday of Easter we tried to mimic the events of Easter Sunday. In the year 2000, Saint John Paul II at the Mass in which he canonized the humble religious Sister Faustina Kowalska, declared that Second Sunday of Easter would also be called the “Sunday of Divine Mercy”. St. John Paul II reminded us that the, “Divine Mercy is “the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity...”

We all need mercy because we have sinned and failed to keep our baptismal promises. Another important dimension of mercy is love, the second name of God. We see God’s singular and self-sacrifice revealed in the death of His only begotten Son on the Cross. Our Lord told Saint Faustina three ways that we are called to exercise mercy toward our neighbor namely: by deed, by word, and by prayer. To love as Jesus loved includes practicing mercy towards others. Jesus taught us in the beatitudes that, blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. At Mass on the Sunday of Divine Mercy, we will hear the Gospel account of Our Lord’s appearance to the apostles on the night of the first Easter Sunday. When Jesus appeared to the Apostles, He showed them his hands and the wounds of nails that were caused by Crucifixion. The wounds of Jesus revealed the divine mercy to us/sinners. After showing the Apostles his wounds, Our Lord imparted to them the power to forgive sins and entrusted it to their successors the ministry of reconciliation.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, in the sacrament of Reconciliation, we have a blessed opportunity to experience the Divine Mercy in a powerful way through the forgiveness of our sins. In this sacrament, we encounter our merciful Savior through the ministry of his priests. Through Saint Faustina, our Lord promised an abundance of graces to the faithful who devoutly observe the Sunday of Divine Mercy. This Sunday will be strange as there will not be any special celebrations of the Sunday of Divine Mercy devotions in almost all our parishes because of the outbreak of Corona Virus. But there are various devotional practices revealed through Saint Faustina that can help us in our spiritual lives and we can practice them in our homes since we cannot attend Church services. The devotions include; “reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the image of Divine Mercy, and the simple prayer, “Jesus, I trust in you”. These devotions are not ends in themselves — but they help us to put mercy into action in our lives and to live the beatitudes of mercy by showing it to our neighbors. This is what Divine Mercy devotion requires from all followers of Christ. As Our Lord said to Saint Faustina: “I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love for me”. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse yourself from it. May God bless you as we continue to live the example of Jesus Christ in our lives and let us continue to pray for all that have been affected by Corona virus. 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

Liturgy Committee:

Chair: Phil Kroker
Vice-Chair: Joyce Wade
Cantors: Rev. George Omwando
Celebration Choir: Kraig Zeronik
Praise Choir: Julius White
Greeters & Ushers: Jim Lewis

Parish Finance Council

Juan Perez

Spiritual Life Commission

Faith & Fellowship:

Connie Rakitan

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

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.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-9; Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20;
 Jn 3:31-36
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17;
 Mk 16:15-20
 Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11;
 1 Pt 1:17-21; Lk 24:13-35

Today's Readings

First Reading — All who believed were devoted to the teachings of the apostles, the communal life, the breaking of the bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42-47).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — God has given us an undiminished inheritance, safeguarded for us in heaven (1 Peter 1:3-9).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

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.

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Second Sunday of Easter
 (or Sunday of Divine Mercy);
 Julian Calendar Easter
 Tuesday: St. Anselm; Yom Hashoah (Holocaust
 Remembrance Day)
 Wednesday: Administrative Professionals Day;
 Earth Day
 Thursday: St. George; St. Adalbert
 Friday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen;
 National Arbor Day
 Saturday: St. Mark

Archdiocese of Chicago

2019 Annual Catholic Appeal **Rebate - Final Installment** (data Through Feb. 14, 2020)



Vicariate: IV

**Parish Name: St. Catherine of Siena—
 St. Lucy**

2019 Goal: \$ 20,059.80

2019 Funds Raised: \$ 31,263.00

Total Rebate: \$ 11,203.20

1st Installment: \$ 10,443.20
(Paid in October 2019)

2nd Installment: \$ 760.00
(Paid in March 2020)



Without our weekly Masses, many families are inadvertently missing their weekly commitment to support our parish. So we recommend online giving as a safe, convenient, and easy way to make gifts -- whether it's for your Sunday offering or a one-time gift such as for special collections. Once you sign up, you will be able to manage your giving preferences at any time, and you won't have to worry about writing a check or carrying cash to church each week. You can manage it anywhere you have an internet connection 24/7.

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*



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Eloise Brown, Scarlett, Dwayne and Paula Evans, Dave Grayson, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Georgine Mullen, Marian McCurry, Dee Norman, Albert Parker, Jr., Joseph Paulus, Raul Perez, Sr. Maureen Sauer, Dolores Sungail, 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.



APRIL 26TH — 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-23

None of the Scripture readings during the seven-week Easter Season are from the Old Testament. But the Acts of the Apostles which is read every Sunday during Easter, frequently quotes Old Testament passage which the early Christians saw as fulfilled in Jesus. Today's reading gives part of Peter's sermon at the first Pentecost. Peter quotes from Psalm 16 which, like most the Psalms, was popularly thought to have been written by David.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

The Christians for whom the first letter of Peter was written were recent converts from paganism. They found themselves a small minority in pagan surroundings. Their neighbors and local authorities made life miserable for them. Today's passage offers encouragement by reminding them that Jesus died and rose for them.



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



Hello, Families

We are living in extraordinary times right now and pray that you and your family are staying healthy and safe!

Even though all schools in the State of Illinois are closed, we here at St. Catherine – St. Lucy School are working hard to prepare for next year! Enrollment is open and we have a spot available for your child!

I invite you to take a look around at our website and check out our social media sites – we are so proud of our vibrant school family!

Please feel free to call me with any questions – I am here to help! My cell phone number is 708-218-0370. Or if email is more convenient, my email address is jcourier@catherinelucy.org.

Thank you for considering St. Catherine – St. Lucy School!

Jennifer Courier
Advancement Director

To request more information:

Contact SCSL School Admissions Office
Mon-Fri 8am - 4pm
708.386.5286 x 105
jcourier@catherinelucy.org

Please visit: <https://www.catherinelucy.org/>

For any additional questions or concerns you may have. We are here to assist you!

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Thomas Sheehan
 May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his cousin Tom Nelson and his extended family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
J.C. Fields
 May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his wife Marjorie and his extended family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Fannie Scott
 May she rest in peace!

We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace her son Chuck who works in our school as part of the maintenance team, and extended family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead her into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Al Parker, Jr.
 May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his extended family.

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Lillian Czaplicki
 May she rest in peace!

We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace Shelby Boblick and extended family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead her into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Harold Davis
 May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his Mother-in-Law, our dear Doris Brown and his extended family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased
 †
Bobby Lekas
 May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his extended family. Bobby was a former parishioner of the SCSL Parish

May the angels lead him into Paradise



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“Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” – John 20:29b

SCSL Raffle Prize Winners

March 15, 2020 (drawing took place in the Rectory on 3/31/2020)

1st Prize (\$1000) - Craig Stevenson

2nd Prize (\$500) - Brenda Fojtik

3rd Prize (\$250) - Elaine and Jim Podraza

4th Prize (Apple iPad with Retina Display MD512LL/A)
- Jennifer Burns

5th Prize (\$100) - J. Martin Konecki

6th Prize (\$100) NOTE: This replaces 2 Tickets to the Parish Outing to
Four Winds Casino - Renee Smith-Quinn

7th Prize (\$50 Gift Certificate to Trattoria 225 Restaurant in Oak Park)
- Ernesto Borges



Food for Thought...

The Joy of Faith and Forgiveness

"Blessed are those who have not seen, but have believed;"

Words spoken by Jesus after His resurrection.

The apostles and Thomas believed when they saw;

Jesus forgave with His gift of spiritual perfection.

To follow Him, they'd sold their goods and shop;

On the road to faith, doubt is but a stop.

Peter wrote in his first letter about faith:

It's genuineness is more precious than is gold.

Up to this point in our lives, no one has seen the Christ,

but we embrace what from the prophets we've been told:

Through our faith, we'll attain our goal

of the salvation of our soul.

Mark tells of the paralytic brought to Jesus,

to demonstrate the importance of forgiveness,

And before the crowd, Jesus healed and forgave him.

Refusal to forgive would bring paralysis,

freezing offenders at the time

they'd planned to make forgiveness prime..

When Jesus came, he greeted them with a calm
"shalom."

For the disciples, it was birth into a living hope.

Jesus' peaceful greeting said you can never be

sinful enough for God to give up on you...no downslope.

The gift of shalom's commission

was ministerial precision.

Thomas created faith beyond what he had;

His message to us today is that humility

Is essential for giving and receiving the grace
of forgiveness, and calls for great integrity.

Resurrection accounts remind us

Christian faith's long journey will find us

Forgiveness and peace.



Virtual Crop Walk

Beyond Hunger in Oak Park, Forest Park Food Pantry, Pine Ave and St. Martin de Porres food pantries in Chicago, Proviso and First Baptist Church pantries in Melrose Park, Vision of Restoration food pantry and Quinn Center of St. Eulalia hunger ministries in Maywood, Cluster Tutoring and Housing Forward. All these agencies are feeling the pinch during the COVID-19 pandemic and need all of our support even more than before. The 75% that goes to CWS-Global will help our brothers and sisters in 55 countries around the world who are no less in need.

This year the walk will be virtual but the needs are actual.

Please help us to meet these needs by making a donation of \$25, \$50, \$100 or more as you are able. You can make a BIG difference. Visit our personal page where you can make a secure online donation or you may send a check made payable to CWS/CROP to:

The Despotes
7757 Van Buren Street Unit 516
Forest Park, IL 60130

Please visit our personal page: <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/oakparkil/Member/MyPage/3780379/Joanne-Ted-Despotes>

Pro-Life

"Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother. Abortion is profoundly anti-women. Three quarters of its victims are women: Half the babies and all the mothers."

~ Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta