



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA **ST. LUCY**

MAY 3, 2020
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

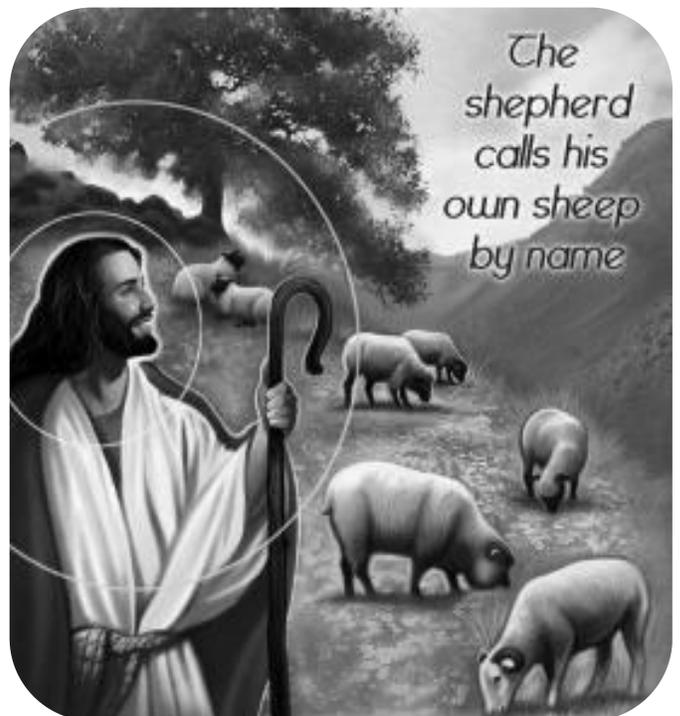
Telephone: 708-386-8077

Email: aparedascsoffice@comcast.net

Web: www.stcatherinestlucy.org

Mass Times

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL PUBLIC
LITURGIES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF
CHICAGO HAVE BEEN CANCELED.**



Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;
Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;
Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19;
1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12



Today's Readings

First Reading — All peoples called by God will receive the gift of the Spirit if they repent and are baptized (Acts 2:14a, 36-41).

Psalm — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — Once we were like straying sheep; but now we have been returned to the shepherd, our guardian (1 Peter 2:20b-25).

Gospel — The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John 10:1-10).

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: Fourth Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Tuesday: Cinco de Mayo

Thursday: National Day of Prayer



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*

Universal Offertory Program (DONATE)

Support your parish at this critical time. Parishes rely on the generosity of their members to cover expenses related to ministry, maintenance, staffing, community outreach programs and other pressing needs.

Please consider using this link or call 312.534.7959 to make a one-time or recurring gift to your parish and support the vital ministries and services it provides. Please select your parish name from the drop-down menu on the form.

Coronavirus Emergency Fund (DONATE)

Assist those significantly affected by COVID-19.

The archdiocese has created a Coronavirus Emergency Fund to help alleviate the financial hardship caused by the outbreak. This fund will support ministries serving those in need and members of our community who have been negatively affected by the pandemic including parents of Catholic school students struggling to make tuition payments. Our neighbors down the street and across the archdiocese need our help at this critical moment.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

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

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.



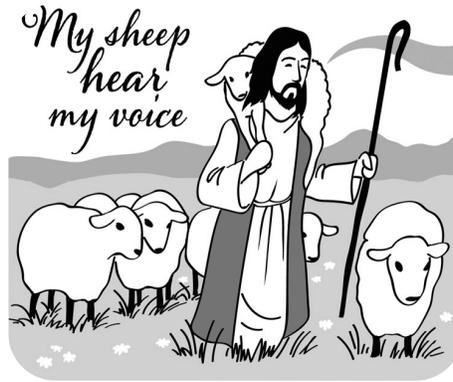
MAY 10, 2020 — 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 6:1-7

In Jerusalem at the time of Christ, some Jewish people spoke Greek, other spoke Aramaic, and each group went to its own synagogue. It appears that the apostles were among those who Aramaic. In today's reading, we will hear some of the problems this created in the Christian community and how these were addressed.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

The first letter of Peter was written to a Christian community that felt alienated from their pagan neighbors. Today the author reminds them that they belong to a special group of people, the people of God.



Sheperds Like Jesus

Each year this Fourth Sunday of Easter celebrates Jesus the Good Shepherd. Today's Gospel seems especially timely, for as Christians worldwide suffer persecution like Paul and Barnabas, Jesus promises his sheep enduring, invincible safety: "They shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand." But we who are free to live our faith peacefully sometimes take our membership in Jesus' flock for granted, wandering astray to seek our own pleasure and prosperity. May Good Shepherd Sunday inspire us, so often lost and found ourselves to assist Jesus in seeking, finding, and gently carrying home our fellow precious lambs.

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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 Latest Scoop

..#The news that we cannot return to our building this school year is not what we wanted to hear, but we know that is necessary to keep everyone safe.

..#Our plan/hope is to host the summer camp again. We will send out a survey to parents to gauge interest.

..#Work will continue from the teachers throughout this school year. Students are responsible for their assignments, and grades will be given for the third trimester.

2020-2021 School Enrollment

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 via email at:

jcourier@catherinelucy.org.

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

Jennifer Courier
Advancement Director

Contact SC SL School
Admissions Office
Mon-Fri 8am - 4pm
708.386.5286 x 105



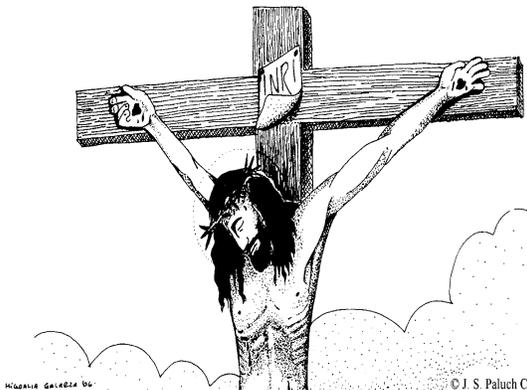
Saints Philip and James, Apostles

May 3

Call Philip the gospel's "Answer Man." "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathaniel asked Philip, who had proclaimed Jesus "the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets" (John 1:45). Jesus asked Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" (John 6:5). Greeks brought Philip their request: "We would like to see Jesus" (John 12:21). Philip's answer to each question: bring people to Jesus! At the Last Supper, finally, Philip had a request of his own: "Show us the Father!" (John 14:8). Jesus had three last questions for Philip: "You still don't know me? How can you ask that? Don't you believe?" And an answer: "I am in the Father and the Father is in me" (John 14:10).

Today's James is not John's brother, Zebedee's son, but, tradition says, author of the New Testament Letter of James, who died praying for his murderers in Jesus' words: "Forgive them, for they know not what they do." Few historical details for either saint, but lessons aplenty: Bring every question we have and everybody we meet to Jesus; be, as James' letter challenges, "doers of the word and not hearers only" (James 1:22).

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S.



Pray For Our Deceased



Dolores Lombardo

May she rest in peace!

*We lift her up with our
prayers while we embrace
her extended family.
Dolores served as the house-
keeper at SCSL for many
years*

May the angels lead her
into Paradise

CRS Rice Bowl Update

If you have not returned the Rice Bowl you took at the beginning of Lent, you still have time to do it, just bring it to the Rectory, by calling 708-386-8077 to arrange a time to drop it or e-mail me at apomaredascsloffice@comcast.net.

Thank you to all who participated in CRS Rice Bowl with us throughout Lent! Given the realities of COVID-19 and that communities are unable to physically collect CRS Rice Bowls, you can submit your CRS Rice Bowl gift online, by phone (1-877-435-7277) or mail:

Catholic Relief Services, CRS Rice Bowl—P.O. Box 17090, Baltimore, Maryland 21297-0303

TODAY—Virtual Annual CROP Walk

If you wish to donate for this worthy cause, please contact Bill Cragg who is our Parish Recruiter, phone: 708-383-5776.

Proceeds from the Walk go towards feeding and housing the hungry around the world. In addition, 25% of the money goes to local charities like West Suburban PADS, Pine Avenue, OPRF & Columbus Park Food Pantries, and the Cluster Tutoring Program.

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

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.

Archdiocese Chicago Virtual Pre-Cana Meetings

The Office of Lifelong Formation will be hosting virtual Pre-Cana meetings for couples preparing for marriage. You can learn more here: <https://pvm.archchicago.org/virtual-precana>

Pro-Life

"The primary moral judgment on candidates and their positions is to be made in the light of their concern for protecting human life from conception to natural death."

-Cardinal Francis George

He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness.

— 1 Peter 2:24a

Food for Thought...

Ego Sum Pastor Bonus

Peter, unlike Thomas, did not need up-close inspection; He became strong after Jesus' cross and resurrection. He told his disciples: "Change the way you think and act and are; Explore your feelings; let your behavior follow; travel far." The disciples invited folks to a lighted prism, showing how creation was symbolized in baptism.

The disciples' proclamation, and people's decision to be baptized, are a response to gospel concision. Jesus calls Himself the Gate, as the way into a new life, revealing deepest meaning and purpose, without endless strife. You have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your soul, to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, a sacred goal.

We are invited by today's liturgy to allow Jesus' resurrection to make a difference right now, in who we are, not just in what we think or what we do. So Peter would say: "When you catch on, you get caught up, too." And he'd add: "Nothing is the same, and nothing will be craved." I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved.

5/3/20. TGL

Source: NCR Column; Title: John 10:14.

Catholic Charities—COVID-19 Update

Our thanks to the remarkable staff, partners, donors, and volunteers who are helping us meet the needs of those least able to navigate these unprecedented circumstances. We are in your debt.

Service Update:

- ..# **For urgent needs, please call 312-655-7700.**
- ..# Meals to go are available at Congregate Meal sites and Senior Centers. Catholic Charities has suspended all senior group activities and adult day care amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ..# Our home care services continue, and are following a more sophisticated protocol as there are seniors who have no one to drop off groceries and provide basic hygiene assistance.
- ..# Food pantries and evening meal programs will continue to provide food depending on supplies and safe distribution protocols. Please check under Our Services/Emergency Services for locations and phone numbers.
- ..# Counseling, case management, and other services that can be provided remotely are being delivered accordingly. Please call your case worker or program contact if you need assistance.



Mother Blest

Though she was the Mother of the Lord, yet she desired to learn the precepts of the Lord, and she who brought forth God, yet desired to know God.

—St. Ambrose



Mundelein Seminary Hosting Virtual May Crowning Online

TODAY at 1 p.m.

In lieu of the annual on-campus event hosted by Mundelein Seminary every spring, a virtual May Crowning ceremony will be streamed online on Sunday, May 3 at 1 p.m. to allow Catholics across the country and around the world to participate from their homes.

The ceremony will be led by Mundelein Seminary rector Father John Kartje and feature readings and musical contributions from Mundelein seminarians who are currently sheltering in place and helping to serve at parishes across the country, while also completing their academic semester through distance learning.

"While it is unfortunate that we cannot welcome people to our campus this year, we are grateful for the opportunity to gather virtually and continue the seminary's tradition of honoring Mary, the mother of God," said Father John Kartje. "We hope the online event will allow even more people to become connected through prayer during these uncertain times."

You can sign up to receive a link to the online video stream on May 3 at www.usml.edu/maycrowning. The ceremony will also be posted on the Mundelein Seminary website and social media outlets on that day. Contact: Media Relations Office, 312-534-8227

Thoughts from Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the Catholic Church, the Month May is devoted to Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus. This tradition informally began in the middle Ages to counteract secular customs that were arising during that time. A more structured dedication began to develop in the 18th century and was fully established by the end of the 19th century. Mary, has a unique role in salvation history as the Mother of God, conceived without Sin, who by her own free will agreed to bring the "Word made flesh", (John 1:14) our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into the world. Mary is prefigured as the one who would crush the head of the serpent (a figure of Satan) in Genesis 3:15 through her Divine Son. Still She in no way does not overshadow Him, nor would She ever wish to! Her life in the Gospel years was one of service and great devotion to Jesus, from the cave in Bethlehem where she gave birth to Him, to Calvary in Jerusalem where she stood by His cross in His Crucifixion, from Crib to Cross, as it were. While Mary has a somewhat low profile in the Gospels, her words there still resonate with us today and challenge us to follow her example of humility, obedience, and service to God. We read that when Mary gave her famous assent to becoming Jesus' mother when she accepted the message and declared: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word" (Lk 1:38). A short time later Mary proclaimed with joy in the Magnificat when visiting Elizabeth, her relative that "her soul magnifies the Lord, and her spirit rejoices in God her Savior" (Lk.1:46-47). Usually the month of May can bring so much excitement like; end of the school year, graduations, summer plans, weddings etc. Sadly, these are not going to take place due to the Covid-19 outbreak. But, we should not forget our devotion to Mary by even reciting a decade of rosary or spending sometime in your house to pray for Mary's intercessions.

This fourth Sunday of Easter is also known as the Good Shepherd Sunday and it's derived from today's Gospel (John 10:1-10). In this Gospel, Jesus calls himself as the "the Good Shepherd." He described Himself as not only "the Shepherd" but the "Good Shepherd." What does this mean? In this case, Jesus was making a contrast between Himself and the religious leaders, the Pharisees (John 10:12-13). He compared them to a "hireling" or "hired hand" that doesn't really care about the sheep. In (John 10:9) Jesus spoke of thieves and robbers who sought to enter the sheepfold stealthily. In that passage, the Jewish leaders (Pharisees) are contrasted with Christ, who is the Door. Here, in (John 10:12), the hireling is contrasted with the true or faithful shepherd who willingly gives up his life for the sheep. But a hired shepherd works for wages, which are his main consideration. His concern is not for the sheep but for himself. Interestingly, enough, the shepherds of ancient times were not usually the owners of the flock. Nevertheless, they were expected to exercise the same care and concern the owners would. This was characteristic of a true shepherd. However, some of the hirelings thought only of themselves. As a result, when a wolf appeared—the most common threat to sheep in that day—the hireling abandoned the flock and fled, leaving the sheep to be scattered or killed (John 10:21-13)). Let us listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd who never abandons us.

Finally, let us continue to pray for men and women who have died due to Corona Virus and those that are struggling with any situation daily. We also pray for the doctors, nurses, aids, and all of those that are within this working force. 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 in advance 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.