



**ST. CATHERINE**

**OF SIENA ST. LUCY**

**MAY 10, 2020**  
**FIFTH 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](mailto:aparedascsoffice@comcast.net)**

**Web: [www.stcatherinestlucy.org](http://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,

After the Ascension of Christ, the infant church was faced with so many problems ranging from persecution, lack of material resources, problems associated with the recently converted non-Jewish Christians, hospitality, leadership wrangles, paganism, and State regulations among others. Please note that the first Christians were adults!

Now, when you look at the problems that the Church is going through currently you will realize that they cannot be compared with what the Church went through during the initial formative years. Imagine, during the apostolic age or era, by identifying yourself to be a follower of Christ was enough to lead you the death! Those that did not renounce the faith perished through execution and those that survived continued to thrive because of the Holy Spirit. During this time, as more people lost their lives due to their faith, ironically their numbers kept growing. I bet the persecutors were heavily demoralized as there was nothing; they could do to stop people from following Christ but only to abandon their profession of persecution and became ardent followers of Christ like the example of St. Paul.

The Apostles did not give up their faith and we should not give up our faith during difficult times like today but stand firm and pray so that we can embrace the new realities of life. As the numbers of non-Jew speakers were becoming more Christians by each day, there rose the problem of language for the new Christians especially the “Hellenists”. The Hellenists were Jewish Christians whose mother tongue was Greek. They were Greek-speaking Jews of the Diaspora who had returned to settle in Jerusalem after resurrection of Jesus. Unfortunately, language is also a problem that many Churches face in the United States as more and more immigrants arrive in this country and do not speak the language of the host country. The Apostles were commissioned after resurrection and before Ascension by Christ to take the Gospel to the “uttermost parts of the earth”. To be successful, the Apostles had to study the Scriptures, meditate upon them and then begun to preach to their listeners. They did not think it was reasonable to neglect or abandon the preaching of the Gospel in order to personally attend to the distribution of the alms to some members of the church who were poor, but instead they chose seven Holy men to assist them.

Finally, brothers and sisters in Christ, the “Gospel” is called the “Word of God,” because it is His message; it is what He has spoken, or what He has commanded to be proclaimed to people. We need men and women to come forward and continue to bring the many ministries that we have in our community closer to the people. Last but not least, on this Mother’s Day, I want to thank all mothers for their blessings and contributions they have brought to our community. May we all rely in Mary, the Mother of Christ, who occupies a special place in the hearts of our faith. God bless you and Happy Mother’s Day!

— 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.





## Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday:	Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday:	Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
Thursday:	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15: 9-17
Friday:	Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15: 12-17
Saturday:	Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15: 18-21
Sunday:	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18 or 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 14:15-21

## Today's Readings

**First Reading** — To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers (Acts 6:1-7).

**Psalm** — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

**Second Reading** — We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:4-9).

**Gospel** — “Show us the Father,” Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: “Whoever sees me, sees the Father” (John 14:1-12).

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:	Fifth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day
Tuesday:	Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras
Wednesday:	Our Lady of Fatima
Thursday:	St. Matthias
Friday:	St. Isidore the Farmer
Saturday:	Armed Forces Day

## Mass Intentions for the Week

NOTE: WEEKDAYS MASSES ARE REGULARLY AT 7:00 PM, BUT SOME ARE 5:00 PM, FACEBOOK WILL ALERT YOU.

**Mon. May 11**  
7:00pm †

**Luke Podraza**  
By: Jim and Elaine Podraza

**Tue. May 12**  
7:00pm †

**Alice Marshall**  
By: Jim Marshall

**Wed. May 13**  
7:00pm †

**Florence Brannon**  
By: Jim Marshall

**Thurs. May 14**  
7:00pm †

**Corazon Gaetos**  
By: Cynthia Borah

**Fri. May 15**  
7:00pm †

**Sharon Tsang**  
By: Amanda Pomareda

**Sat. May 16**  
7:00am †

**Effie Hall**  
By: Ministry of Care  
**James Dent**  
By: Donna Kanapes and  
Cynthia Weaver

5:00pm †

**Sun. May 17**  
11:00am †

**Mary and Jim Prindiville**  
By: A Daughter



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](http://www.stcatherinestlucy.org)** to be able to find the link to GiveCentral



## Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Michael Ballew, 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 17, 2020 — 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Last week we heard how the Christian assembly in Jerusalem chose seven of their number to minister to the Greek-speaking Christians who lived there. Philip was one of the seven. Today we find him in Samaria, about 60 miles north of Jerusalem, fearlessly proclaiming the good news of Jesus and experiencing astounding results.

#### Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18

The first letter of Peter was written to Christians whose pagan neighbors continually questioned and ridiculed them about their faith. Since most of the Christians were low-born or slaves, their neighbors couldn't understand why they were so joyful and hopeful. Today's passage offers pastoral advice and encouragement.

## 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

### Send us your E-Mail

Receive Our Weekly Bulletin & E-mail Updates.

We have begun to send our weekly bulletins via e-mail.

Please Contact Amanda at 708-386-8077, Ext. 122 and let her know you wish to receive one.

## 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](mailto:apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net)

27 W. Washington Blvd.  
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286

## School Scoop

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for the generosity and support you have shown our school this year. I would also like to thank you for your financial support of our 8th grade, as they hosted events to raise money for their class trip. Unfortunately, the 8th grade trip along with the rest of the celebrations were cancelled this year. Although parents are receiving full refunds, their disappointment is very real.

We are coming up with plans to celebrate the Class of 2020. We will use the school's portion of the refund to purchase a banner, class t-shirts, yard signs, and pizzas for our graduates.

Thank you again for your love and kindness.

**Mrs. Sharon Leamy**  
Principal

## 2020-2021 School Enrollment

Hello, Families

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](mailto:jcourier@catherinelucy.org)**  
**Admissions Office**  
**Mon-Fri 8am - 4pm**  
708.386.5286 x 105

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

**Jennifer Courier**  
Advancement Director



## Faith and Fellowship – Staying Connected

We don't let social isolation stand in our way! Faith and Fellowship Catechists have been meeting via Zoom since before Easter and have been regularly connecting with our Partners via phone calls, greeting cards, and care packages; most of them don't have e-mail access. One group even had the bright idea to enclose self-addressed stamped envelopes, and we have heard back from several of them. We'd like to share with you one of the responses:

**Hello, how are you doing?  
I am doing fine; I received the package you sent a few days ago, I want to thank you. I miss everyone in Faith and Fellowship and hope we are able to see everyone soon. I miss everyone from Columbus Manor. Could you write me back when you receive this letter? I will be looking forward in hearing from you, soon.  
Thank you for everything.  
Peace always,  
Jeff N.**

## 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

*"When we die, we will come face to face with God, the Author of Life. Who will give an account to God for the millions and millions of babies who were not allowed a chance to live, to experience loving and being loved?"*

—Mother Teresa of Calcutta



## Month of Mary Pray the Rosary

*“Rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home during the month of May”* – Pope Francis

Pope Francis is encouraging the faithful to pray the Rosary during the month of May, when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

For this reason, he says to everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity.

## Parish Events

Until further notice, all events in the church and school are canceled as a precaution against the spread of the COVID-19 flu.

Our parish office is closed. However, we will be checking our mail, emails and voice messaging each day. Click here for our staff directory and call or email us if we can be of any assistance to you if you have an emergency.

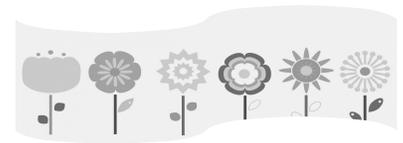
Our Pastor will observe all health precautions and distancing as we minister to you.

Please call 708-386-8077 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm Monday-Thursday. For emergencies, call 708-560-6109 after hours.

## Mary Our Mother

*What a joy to remember that Mary is our Mother! Since she loves us and knows our weakness, what have we to fear?*

—Saint Thérèse of Lisieux



## 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

## 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 all 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.

Food for Thought...

## The Ultimate Victory of Love.

Jesus' words to His disciples at His parting, showed an intimacy level that was new.

“Do not let your loving hearts be troubled; Trust in God, and trust in me.”

Their concern for where He's going had Him charting the myst'ry of how God the Father they would view.

“The Father is in me, and I in Him;

My love for you is God's love.”

Jesus offers us a way of life—ever-expanding web of relationships that bind us with God ever thus.

“I offer you a wind that warms you, a breeze of the Spirit.”

Through growth, we all strive to follow His commanding, so that we love one another, as He loves us.

His resurrection gives witness to the victory of love.

5/10/20. TGL

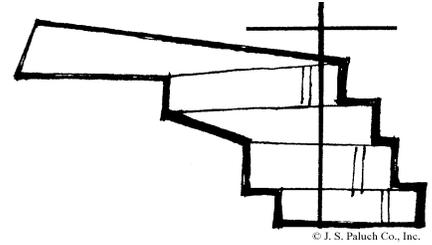
Source: NCR Column; John 14: 1-12.

## 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.



*“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

—John 14:6

## Saint Damien Joseph De Veuster of Moloka'i (1840-1889)

In the mid-1990s, a heavily bearded, bespectacled Robin Williams appeared on *Late Night with David Letterman*, whose host was clearly taken aback. Letterman inquired as to why the wild look. Uncharacteristically subdued, the usually manic comic responded that he was producing and starring in a movie about a most extraordinarily compassionate man, Damien, the Leper Priest of Moloka'i.

Some saints transcend religious and ethnic boundaries to touch the heart that beats in each human being: Francis of Assisi; Mother Teresa; and, though Williams' film was never completed, his admiration speaks, as does Damien's statue outside the capitol in Honolulu, of this newest saint's universal appeal. Far from his native Flanders' idyllic beauty and rich culture, Damien volunteered to bear Christ's light into Moloka'i's bleak leper colony, building decent homes, opening schools, establishing clinics, planting farms, sharing the sufferings—and the social stigma—of those with whom he delighted to identify: “We lepers,” he would proudly say when finally he contracted leprosy.

Saint Damien challenges us to identify the lepers of our own day, to examine our compassion for and our identification with them.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S.