



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

JULY 5, 2020

FOURTEEN SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mr. Kraig Zeronik, Director of Music

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager
Chemetha Baker, Rel. Ed. Coordinator
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-4:30 PM—Monday through Friday

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, and Friday - 8:30am

(Please enter the Church by Washington Blvd. 2nd door to the West)

NO Thursday Communion Service until Further Notice

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Morning - 9:00 am

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm

Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 10:30 am

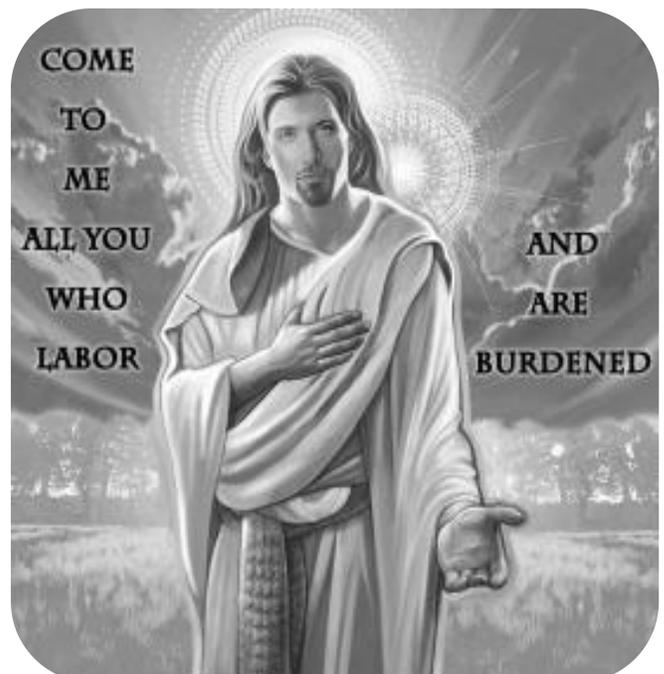
Sacrament of Reconciliation

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,

I hope you had a restful Fourth of July. Having been born in Kenya and a now a citizen of this country, I must say that America has greatness in abundance. I have been to many other countries, as some of you have, and I have seen firsthand that even the poor in America have more than most people in some other countries. America has greatness in her freedoms and liberties. It used to be that everyone respected the rights of others, even if they disagreed with our thoughts. Today, however, society has very little tolerance for anyone else, and even less ability to be civil with others who disagree. Common sense just isn't that common in America anymore.

There are people in America today that are actually undermining the integrity of our country because they are not motivated by principle but rather by selfishness. They want notoriety, fortune, or power, and they don't really care how they get it. They try to revise history to say that our forefathers felt the same way. But that is simply not true. Those brave men who signed the Declaration of Independence had far more to lose than they ever stood to gain. These men and women paid the price for our freedoms because almost all of them lost everything they had for their principles. I cannot help but wonder just how many of us today are that committed to the principles we claim in our lives. The standards of being a Christian must not conform to the standards of this world. As followers of Christ, we must transform this world. The moment, we conform to the standards of this world, and then we are likely to neglect our Christian duty that calls us to love each other, to treat everyone the way we can expect to be treated.

We all know what happened to the people of Israel when they abandoned God. God removed the hedge of protection around His people and thus allowed Israel's neighbors to attack and persecute them. Over the course of many years, America has slowly turned away from God; as a result, this Country's leaders have removed prayer from the schools. Some towns will not let churches do door to door ministry and most recently as we have heard some judges are even claiming that the use of God's name in the Pledge of Allegiance is also unconstitutional. It might not be too much longer until we find the words, "In God We Trust" removed from our currency. We followers of Christ, we must stop complaining but stand fast with our core principles. We must support our faith and denounce the many views that contradict it. When we believe in Jesus Christ, then we believe in the one that send him, From the Gospel, we learn that Jesus, regularly invited people to come to Him to meet their needs. The fatal mistake for the believer is to seek to bear life's load in a single collar. God never intended man and woman to carry his or burden alone.

Finally, we need to learn how to experience rest. If all we needed was physical rest, we can always take a nap. If we needed only emotional rest, we can always take a vacation. But where can we find spiritual rest? How can we obtain relief regarding the deepest issues of life at the deepest level of our hearts? The place to find a spiritual rest is in the Church. Therefore, it is necessary to find time especially this time when we are gradually opening the Church, to go and attend Mass. At Mass, we are able thank God for many things that he has done for us. Christ loves each one of us conditionally. We must rejoice for Christ's presence amongst us like the Israelites who were assured by the prophet Zechariah to rejoice because the Lord has sent his only Son to live with them. Christ comes to live us with us to show us the way to the father. May God continue to 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:

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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <u>Mon. July 6</u> 8:30 | † | Luke Podraza By: Jim and Elaine Podraza |
| <u>Tue. July 7</u> 8:30 | † | Brian Donnelly By: Tom Nelson |
| <u>Wed. July 8</u> 8:30 | † | Harris Davis By: Cynthia Weaver |
| <u>Thurs. July 9</u> 8:30 | † | Rose Beesley By: Ministry of Care |
| <u>Fri. July 10</u> 8:30 | † | Mary Cotter By: Ministry of Care |
| <u>Sat. July 11</u> 9:00 | † | Vincent Gorman By: Ministry of Care |
| | † | Ruth Connery (28 TH ANNIV.) |
| <u>Sun. July 12</u> 8:30 | | FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH |
| 8:30 | † | |
| 10:30 | † | |

Readings for the Week

| | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26 |
| Tuesday: | Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9: 32-38 |
| Wednesday: | Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10: 1-7 |
| Thursday: | Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15 |
| Friday: | Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23 |
| Saturday: | Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33 |
| Sunday: | Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9] |

Saints and Special Observances

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Sunday: | Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Monday: | St. Maria Goretti |
| Thursday: | St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions |
| Saturday: | St. Benedict |

Today's Readings

First Reading — Rejoice heartily, O Jerusalem! For see, your savior comes (Zechariah 9:9-10).

Psalm — I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

Second Reading — The one who raised Christ from death will give life to your mortal bodies also (Romans 8:9, 11-13).

Gospel — Come, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:25-30).

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.

Weekly Offering



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Summer Stewardship

A gentle reminder that our stewardship of our parish does not go on vacation! If you go on vacation or your plans keep you from being present here on the weekends, please try to “make up” your regular offering another weekend.



We understand that every one is not ready to attend Mass directly in the Parish. But 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.

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

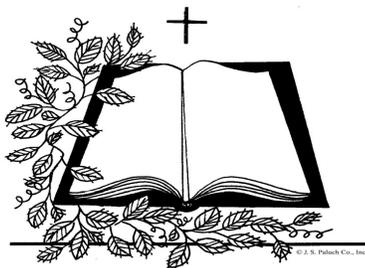


Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Michael Ballew, Eloise Brown, Vivi De-Leon, Blanca Diaz, Gladys Evans, Dave Grayson, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Georgine Mullen, Marian McCurry, Jeff Nesbitt, Irma Monteverde, Sr. Maureen Sauer, Dolores Sungail, Annette Varga, and Bern Wheel.

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.



JULY 12, 2020 -- 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

Because the Israelites were exiled in the pagan land of Babylon, the assuring words that God had previously spoken to them now seemed empty. In today's passage, the prophet Isaiah will use an image from nature to describe how God's word always bears fruit and comes true no matter how unlikely it seem.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 18-23

As we continue reading from the eighth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, he tells us that sin affected not only human beings but also all creation, and the coming of Christ had a healing effect on both. It is evident that Paul is not pessimistic about this world.

Remember a Loved One

We have the 2020 Mass Book available with weekend and weekdays masses. Please call us to request your Masses. Remember your loved ones or any other special occasion. Mass intentions are only \$10.00.

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.

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

Spiritual Options for Summer 2020...

The Well Spirituality Center's Summer Retreats and Programs on Zoom will enable us, like never before, to connect with new people, fascinating ideas, and expansive spirituality from all over the country and around the world.

Here's a link to view The Well's Summer lineup. Please share this with friends! And help out by signing up early...

<https://csjthewell.org/retreats/>

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286



School Scoop

Summer Hours

- ..# Parents may come in to register or pay fees, **Mondays through Thursdays, from 9am-1pm.**
- ..# The School Office is open for limited hours this summer.
- ..# **All who enter the building must wear masks** and are asked to use the closest stairway when going to the second floor.
- ..# Please visit only the office; classrooms are being cleaned over the summer and are not open.

Vocations

To speak about your thoughts and your calling. Speaking with a priest you admire is an important part of the vocation process, so please feel free to contact your Pastor or preferred Priest. Or in our area contact:

VICARIATE IV

Fr. Robert Krueger

Assistant Vocation Director

708.484.0015

rkrueger@archchicago.org

rkrueger@stleonard.org

St. Leonard

3318 South Clarence Avenue

Berwyn, IL 60402-3752



Re-Opening the Parish for Mass

St. Catherine of Siena—St. Lucy Parish has opened for the celebration of Masses. We sincerely ask you to follow the stipulations below. But first, there is the link for parishioners to sign up. When you receive the e-mail, click on the button to SIGN UP, and please review the available slots on this attached link. Do it as soon as you can because the number of people for each mass is restricted to 40.

- ...#Please come 15 minutes before mass starts.
- ...#Enter the church by Austin Blvd. only.
- ...#Exit the church by Washington Blvd. only.
- ...#Mandatorily wear a mask.
- ...#Your hands will be sanitized once you enter the church.
- ...#Sign-up at the entrance.
- ...#From this weekend on, entrance to Sacristy's bathroom is prohibited.
- ...#You will be assigned where to sit within the church.
- ...#No congregational singing.
- ...#Avoid touching the pews.
- ...#Follow the signs inside the church.
- ...#Please sit on the pews that are marked.
- ...#No Sign of Peace will be exchanged.
- ...#You will receive a Worship Aid, which will be discarded after each mass.
- ...#Communion will be received only on your hands.
- ...#After Mass, sanitize your hands.
- ...#You are NOT allowed to gather or stay in church after mass.

These guidelines were developed by the Catholic Conference of Bishops of Illinois, based on the State of Illinois and CDC regulations.



Prayer in a Time of Pandemic

O God of compassion, your people are anxious in this time of pandemic. Send your Holy Spirit among us to dispel our fears.

We cry out to you in our confusion; comfort us in our affliction. Grant our leaders wisdom to guide us. Strengthen and sustain those who are ill, and be with those who care for them.

Help us to travel this road in solidarity with our neighbors, with our eyes fixed on the salvation promised us through the death and Resurrection of your Son, who is Lord forever and ever.

Amen.

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Parish Events

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

Our parish office is still closed to the public. However, we are checking our mail, emails and answering your calls.

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

Please contact or email us if we can be of any assistance to you at 708-386-8077 Monday-Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

For emergencies, call 708-560-6109 after hours.

Archdiocese of Chicago

A Call to Prayer

Bringing a light in the midst of darkness

Are you feeling overwhelmed by the effects of the pandemic and in need of prayer? We are here to pray with you and ask God for your needs.

Who we are: Volunteers from parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago who feel called to accompany through prayer anyone who feels the need for support during this time of uncertainty and isolation.

What we offer: A phone line staffed with people from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day, as well as 24-hour voice mail and e-mail connections. Our prayer partners are here to pray with you: opening our hearts to God, asking for His blessings and peace.

312.741.3388 |
praywithme@calleddtoprayer.org

Food for Thought

Glory

Glory's meaning is developed in the Bible; In Hebrew it described a person's substance, and their importance and integrity. Then it meant a visible manifestation of our God's steady presence and protection, as was the bright cloud of the Exodus.

The disciples saw Jesus, and knew His glory was shared with the Father who's invisible. They would see glory in His transfiguration, and in the fullness of people, as in children. The greatest showing of God's glory occurs with Christ's death on the cross: light conquers the darkness of sin, and love defeats death.

God gave us the glory of earth...our common home.
His glory shines in our world, where suffering intersects hope, and justice and mercy meet.
Our Constitution sets the laws of freedom;
Then slavery abolished, and Civil Rights confirmed;
The glory of the Declaration of Independence.
All are worth fighting for, every glorious day.

7/5/20. TGL

Sources: NCR, P. Marrin; John 17:3;20-26.



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 or write: www.catholiccharities.net/adoptionservices

Black Lives Matter Oak Park—River Forest Community of Congregations

At this time we are asking for your continued support for the hunger relief ministries of our neighboring Westside congregations *New Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church* (4301 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, IL 60624) and for *Greater St. John Bible Church* (1256 N. Waller Ave., Chicago IL 60651), who are working to meet the food insecurity needs of their communities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and recent destruction of local grocery stores.

Please contact Katie Avalos with questions at 312-560-3968 or oprffcoc@gmail.com

Community of Congregations
P.O. Box 3365
Oak Park, IL 60303-3365



Pro-Life

The Pro-Life Action League invites you to join the upcoming "Face the Truth" Tour, and annual pro-life public education initiative that reaches tens of thousands of people with the reality of abortion.

From July 10-18, pro-life volunteers will hold signs at major intersections across Chicagoland, depicting the beauty of life in the womb as well as the horrible injustice done to the unborn victims of abortion.

The Face the Truth Tour changes hearts and minds, guides post-abortive women and men to healing and peace and saves babies from abortion. For more information on this powerful pro-life campaign, including the complete Tour schedule, visit ProLifeAction.org

The Right Direction

*If we walk one step toward God,
God will run ten steps toward us.*

—Anonymous



If you know or suspect someone is a victim, please check on them! If they are in immediate need, help them call 911, the National DV Hotline: 800-799-7233, the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline: 877-863-6338, or another reputable DV resource to help them connect with support and services.