



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

JULY 19, 2020

SIXTEEN 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 Mass until Further Notice

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Morning - 8:30 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,



This coming Saturday and Sunday we celebrate the lives of three important saints: Saint James, Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saint James feast fall on Saturday and Saints Joachim and Anne memorial falls on Sunday the day our Lord's resurrection. Sunday is always reserved for the Lord's celebrations and therefore takes prevalence and we cannot celebrate this memorial.

Saints are ordinary human beings who have followed their call of being a good Christian. They are like us in everything and nobody is born a saint, but we are all born with a potency of becoming saints. The saints are there to show us that everything is possible under the grace of God. Grace is a free gift that is given by God to us but has no effects on our lives unless it is accepted. God does not impose grace on us because He respects our freedom. Once grace has been accepted, it becomes transformative, i.e. changes our lives to be in conformity with that of Jesus like Saints James (feast day Saturday) and (saints Joachim and Anne-Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary-Sunday). St. James was an Apostle of Christ and we come to know him through the Gospels of: (Matthew 4, 21-22; Mark 1, 19-20; and Luke 5, 10-11). We are told in these Gospels that James and his brother John were fishermen, and sons of Zebedee. They were partners with Simon Peter and called by Jesus from mending their nets beside the Sea of Galilee. All the twelve Apostles are in recorded in the Gospels of: (Matthew 10, 2-4; Mark 3, 14-19; and Luke 6, 13-16). All the three Gospels show us that James and John were the first four Apostles to be called by Jesus. James and John were present at the healing of Peter's mother-in-law (Mark 1, 29), and at the raising of Jairus's daughter (Mark 5, 37; Luke 8, 51). They are all described in private conversation with Jesus on the Mount of Olives (Mark 13, 3). They were also present, with Peter (but not Andrew), at the Transfiguration, a key event in Jesus's life (Matthew 17, 1-13; Mark 9, 2-8, and Luke 9, 28-36), and again, the same three disciples are called apart from the others in Gethsemane (Matthew 26, 37; and Mark 14, 33). On Sunday, we also celebrate the memorial of the Saints Joaquim and Anne. By tradition, Joaquim and Anne are considered to be the names of the parents of Mary, the Mother of God. We have no historical evidence of any elements of their lives, including their names. Any stories about Mary's father and mother come to us through legend and tradition. All these saints and countless saints accepted God's grace and shows us the way to heaven.

Let us ask them to pray for us and as their example of life show us how we can live the virtues of our Gospel calling. It is not impossible to be a saint and we do have so many saints that we know in our communities who live their vocation as Christians. These saints were as the Gospels tell today friends of God and enemy of the devil. May we try to follow their example always. 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:

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.

Good Seeds

Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flour. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables—the parable of the man sowing good seed. Lest we think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus' interpretation should be seen for what it is—a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today's believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today's Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to preparing for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be.

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Mark your Calendars

Saturday, August 1st

Sunday, August 2nd

When the Second Collection will take place for the:

Mission Cooperation Plan

Each summer the Mission Office of the Archdiocese of Chicago facilitates the Mission Cooperation Plan, an opportunity for more than 100 international missionary dioceses, congregations, and organizations to share their stories and invite support from our faith communities. This year, although travel is impossible during a pandemic, the needs are greater than ever for communities of faith in under-resourced areas throughout our world.

Please consider how your church can participate in this year's adapted Mission Cooperation Plan.

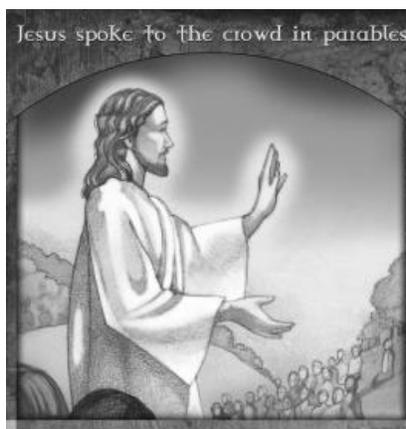
Mass Times

Please note that all public liturgies in the Archdiocese of Chicago are limited due to the COVID pandemic. To attend one of the open Masses at St. Catherine—St. Lucy you must pre-register through our Sign-up Genius reservation system. A new link to the sign-up page is sent out each week for the next weekend's Masses. To receive this link, please contact Amanda at 708-386-8077 during office hours or via e-mail at: apomaredascsloffice@comcast.net

Pass the Link to your Friends!

By just forwarding to friends who may not be on the church email list, particularly if they haven't seen them in church since we reopened. Sometimes people have updated their email addresses and not updated all their contacts.

NOTICE: We wanted to let everyone know that if you sign-up for Mass after Friday, they will not be on the sign-up sheets.



2021 Mass Book Open

If you have a loved one who is ill or has passed away ... or any special occasion or petition you'd like to bring before the Lord ... consider offering your prayers at a Mass.

Our book is open for personal intentions for the remainder of this year and for the 2021 year.

500-CLUB WINNER

The \$500.00 winner for this weekend of July 19th will be announced next weekend in the bulletin of July 26th.

500 Club Certificates

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!

We are delighted to let you know that we have sold all of the 500 Club certificates available for the 2019-2020 season. All 500 certificates are eligible to be the winner in each weekend drawing through October 18th, 2020. The prize each weekend is \$25 except for the July 19th weekend when the prize will be \$500!!! This is possible because we sold all 500 of our certificates. Thank you for your enthusiastic response to our recent mailing.

In August we will do the mailing for the 2020-2021 season which begins October 25th of this year. In the meantime, you are always welcome to make a straight donation to the 500 Club which would help offset our postage costs or to the parish to use toward general operating expenses.

Peace, wellness, prayers, and gratitude!

~ The Fundraising Committee

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed





Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. July 208:30 (1ST ANNIV. †
OF DEATH)**Arturo C. Alegria**
By: His children**Tue. July 21**

8:30 †

Johnnie Ernst
By: Evie Stockinger**Wed. July 22**

8:30 †

Irene Morgan
By: Tom and Pat Nelson**Thurs. July 23**

8:30 †

J.C. Fields
By: Cynthia Weaver**Fri. July 24**

8:30 †

Albert Brion
By: Dorothy Brion**Sat. July 25**

8:30 †

Luke Podraza
By: Jim and Elaine Podraza

5:00 †

Sun. July 268:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**8:30 † **Albert Brion**
By: Dorothy Brion10:30 † **Barbara Wheel**
By: Ministry of Care

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday:	Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thursday:	Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17
Friday:	Jer 3:14-17; Jer 31:10-12abcd, 13; Mt 13:18-23
Saturday:	2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-6; Mt 20:20-28
Sunday:	Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Apollinaris
Tuesday:	St. Lawrence of Brindisi
Wednesday:	St. Mary Magdalene
Thursday:	St. Bridget
Friday:	St. Sharbel Makhluf
Saturday:	St. James

Today's Readings

First Reading — You taught your people that those who are just must likewise be kind

(*Wisdom 12:13, 16-19*).

Psalm — Lord, you are good and forgiving (*Psalm 86*).

Second Reading — The Spirit comes to aid us in our weakness (Romans 8:26-27).

Gospel — Jesus proposes parables to the crowds, teaching them of the reign of God

(*Matthew 13:24-43 [24-30]*).

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 and under Steward & Giving tab you will 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, Theresa Hancock, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Kathleen Kroker, Marian McCurry, Jeff Nesbitt, Irma Monteverde, 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 26, 2020 -- 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

King Solomon ruled about 950 years before Christ. His wisdom was legendary. Today's reading describes an event from early in Solomon's rule that tells how he became a wise person.

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

As we continue our readings from the eighth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, we will today hear Paul use the word *predestined*. This word does not mean that individuals are locked into a destiny over which they have no control. Rather, it means that in Christ, God provides abundant grace for everyone.

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.

We will be open for our First Day of School is on Wednesday, August 19th.

Pray For Our Deceased

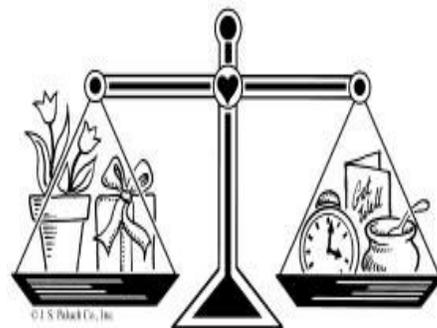


Rufus Moore

May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his sister, Annie Rowan and his extended family. Annie is a faithful parishioner and devoted SCSL volunteer.

May the angels lead him into Paradise



The Parish is Open for Masses

As you know, St. Catherine-St. Lucy has passed certification by the Archdiocese of Chicago to begin offering public Masses on a limited basis. SCSL parishioners are encouraged to update us with your current e-mail in order to receive the weekly notifications of our reopened Sunday Masses and other liturgies as they are scheduled. Each email will contain the link that is needed to sign up in our reservation system on *SignUp-Genius*. **NOTICE:** We wanted to let everyone know that if you sign-up for Mass after Friday, they will not be on the sign-up sheets.

- ..#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 is permitted.
- ..#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



Faith and Fellowship

A Gift of Pride

Several weeks ago, on Independence Day, we had an opportunity to reflect on what it means to be an American – and under present circumstances, that isn't necessarily a simple thing. It was, however, a reminder of something that had happened here at St. Catherine—St. Lucy back in February. One of our Faith and Fellowship Partners – Eric, originally from Mexico – had been invited to carry the American flag in the Entrance Procession of the celebration of the African-American Heritage Mass. Afterwards, one of the Catechists asked him how he had felt. Eric said, “I felt proud. I felt like a soldier defending my country.” This is a guy who doesn't get a lot of opportunities to know pride: formerly homeless, significantly disabled by mental illness, and now more isolated than ever by the Covid-19 quarantine at Central Plaza. But in his heart Eric can go to that place of pride, and look forward to returning to a parish and a program that gave him that gift.



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.

DO

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.

—Theodore Roosevelt

Expand your love

Open Wide Our Hearts The Enduring Call to Love

(a pastoral letter against Racism)
United Conference of Catholic Bishops

Please find it at: <http://usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/index.cfm>

The document Open Wide Our Hearts The Enduring Call to Love - A Pastoral Letter Against Racism was developed by the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). It was approved by the full body of bishops as a formal statement of the same at its November 2018 General Meeting and has been authorized for publication by the undersigned. Msgr. J. Brian Bransfield General Secretary, USCCB



Counseling Support Line

If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you'd like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at 312-948-6951 anytime M-F from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Spanish speaking counselors are available. If you leave a message after hours, a counselor will call you back.

Legal Assistance Dept.

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department has attorneys and volunteer attorneys available to provide advice in numerous areas of law. If you are unsure about your legal rights or lost in the legal system, let us help you. Services include in-depth advice and possible direct representation on many issues, including landlord/tenant issues, family law, consumer and debtor rights, foreclosure, employment issues, orders of protection, power of attorney, and more. CCLA provides free to low-cost legal services to eligible low-income individuals. For help and more information, contact the legal advice line at 312-948-6821.

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer? Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago is looking for volunteers to serve throughout our more than 150 locations helping improve the lives of the people we serve. For more information, visit us at ccofchicagovolunteer.com, e-mail: volunteer@catholiccharities.net, or call the Volunteer Relations Dpt. at 312-655-7322.

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

Words and Weeds

*A man of words and not of deeds
Is like a garden full of weeds.*

—Anonymous nursery rhyme

SAINT SHARBEL MAKHLŪF (1828-1898) July 24

The convenience store owner chatted animatedly in Arabic with coworkers, but hardly at all with his American clientele. So soon after 9/11, he probably figured, with my accent, the less said, the better. That changed when an American customer recognized Saint Sharbel's portrait on the wall: "So you're Lebanese Maronites!" The owner was happily incredulous: "You know our saint?" "Not at first," the customer admitted. "But we help the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, and their magazine published that picture and called Sharbel the 'Paradoxical Artisan of Peace.' " "Everyone thinks we're Muslims," said the owner, "and some of my workers are. Saint Sharbel helps us live together in peace!" A hermit for twenty-three years, little is known of Sharbel's life. He died after suffering a stroke while celebrating the liturgy. Miracles attributed to his intercession number in the thousands, and in war-torn Lebanon, Catholics, Orthodox, and Muslims pray together where his incorrupt body is entombed. How lovely if after our passing, we too could be remembered for having brought very different people to the one God, together in peace.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

AUGUST 3-7

THE SENSE OF WONDER:

Learning to Thrive
in a time of Pandemic

Among all the uncertainties facing us lies a greater certainty, one rooted in the deep & inviolable beauty of this life. Develop simple practices of attentiveness during this retreat, listen to poets & artists to sharpen your capacity to wonder, & learn to find mystery in the midst of where—and who—we are.

Online

csjthewell.org/retreats/



FACILITATED BY
MARK BURROWS