



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020
TWENTY-THIRD 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,

Sometimes it is good to know the background of someone as this plays a significant part of their life's journey. Many times, we hear the stories of prominent people who were previously struggling with life. Their stories tend to inspire us particularly when it comes to matters pertaining faith. Sometimes, people's background can be misused and therefore harmful to the good of the society. No matter what kind of background you come from, Christ died for everyone and not just for a single person. We were all be baptized in the name of Christ and each person is equal and is God's gift.

However, the society in which we grow may let us know that we are not equal. This could affect our self-esteem but please don't mind what you are told by the society, from your boss, your neighbor or your husband/wife etc.... because it is not coming from the mouth of Jesus and it's nowhere it is taught in the bible. I look at bible as our GPS. If you get lost, the GPS is always working hard in the background to give you another alternative direction. It is never tired and likewise we should be never being tired while trying to forgive. In one of my Facebook postings that are now deactivated, I suggested that; it is possible to read the bible meticulously, to know the bible inside out from cover to cover, to be able to quote it word by word and pass examination on it -and yet completely miss its real meaning.

As Christians, we should follow the teachings of Christ. How do you respond when you have been mistreated and hurt by someone? All of us would probably have to admit that when we have been mistreated, we find it hard to have a Christ-like mind and to express the forgiving Spirit of Christ toward those who have mistreated us. We are more likely to become angry and try to seek revenge. But responding with anger, hostility, bitterness, and retaliation is the Devil's way of destroying your home, your family, and your fellowship with others. We all have experienced the pain of being mistreated. Every human being experiences mistreatment from others. How we deal with it will go a long way toward determining our wellbeing and happiness in life. Our Lord specifically places on us the obligation to give the gift of forgiveness to those who mistreat us. We often find it difficult to be forgiving, because we have a natural impulse to retaliate. We may find it difficult to be forgiving because we labor under the impression that to be forgiving may encourage continued mistreatment. Some people believe forgiveness is a sign of weakness, so they withhold their forgiveness because they don't want to appear weak in the eyes of others. Or we may find it difficult to be forgiving because we want the one who injured us to be worthy and to deserve the gift of forgiveness. God's forgiveness of each one of us is free, and it's complete, and it's forever. He doesn't hold our sins over our head, but, instead, He offers forgiveness to each of us personally. On the basis of His forgiveness of us, we can be forgiving toward others. If you have been holding a grudge against someone, you can give yourself a clean heart and a clear conscience if you will ask our forgiving God to help you forgive to that person who has injured you the gift of forgiveness.

From our Gospel today, we learn that there is not set limit when it comes to forgiveness. We should always try to forgive it all. 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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. Sept. 7 - Labor Day

8:30 **Michael Ballew**
HEALTH By: Cynthia Weaver

Tue. Sept. 8

8:30 † **Luke Podraza**
2ND ANNIV. DEATH By: Jim and Elaine Podraza

Wed. Sept. 9

8:30 † **Dennis Gibson**
By: Tom Nelson

Fri. Sept. 11

8:30 † **Felix Brown**
By: Grace Bishop

Sat. Sept. 12

8:30 † **John R. Ludwick**
By: James Hargadon

5:00 † **Bruce Kusenda**
By: Brenda Fojtik

Sun. Sept. 13

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**

8:30 † **Edward Jean**
By: The Vincent Family

10:30 **Phillip Jones**
HEALTH By: Ministry of Care

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-7, 12; Lk 6:6-11, nos. 907-911
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]
Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24; Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Ps 84:3-6, 12; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-13, 17-18; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday: Sir 27:30 — 28:7; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Labor Day
Tuesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday: St. Peter Claver
Friday: Patriot Day
Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Mary; Blessed Virgin Mary

Today's Readings

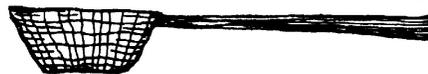
First Reading — Warn the wicked and try to turn them from their ways (Ezekiel 33:7-9).

Psalm — If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts (Psalm 95).

Second Reading — Owe nothing to anyone, except mutual love (Romans 13:8-10).

Gospel — If two agree about anything for which they pray, it shall be granted to them (Matthew 18:15-20).

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

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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*

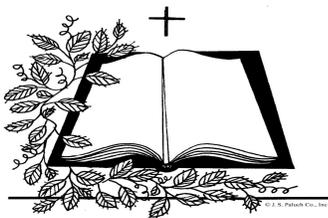


Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Colletta Ali, Michael Ballew, Joan Creedon, Kathy Feulner, Marcial Gomez, Dave Grayson, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Mary Kiolbasa, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Deborah Llorence, Jimmy Llorence, Marian McCurry, Nancy McKinnis, Irma Monteverde, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Sunny Okoeguale, Scarlett & Paul Perez, Jennifer Saldukas, Chuck Scott, Lawrence Tabichi, 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



SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 — 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 27:33-28:9

The book of Sirach was written by a wise teacher who lived 200 years before Christ. Sirach ran a school for young people in Jerusalem. In today's section, he teaches his students the importance of forgiveness.

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

After dealing with the controversies which divided the early Christian community in Rome, Paul wrote about the need for tolerance and for sensitivity to the feelings of others. In today's passage, he points out that this affects our use of the gift of freedom.

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.

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.

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

- ..# On Friday, September 11th, at 8:30am, we will have a ceremony around the flag to honor the 9/11 anniversary. The students who are here will come outside. Teachers and parishioners are always welcome to attend.
- ..# Thank you—for your patience and flexibility as we work through our opening days of school. We had a couple technical bumps but nothing overwhelming. St. Catherine-St. Lucy is off to a great start!
- ..# Remember that our doors are open for any child needing a place to do their schooling. We will provide Chromebooks; students should bring their own supplies, including earphones and a water bottle. Breakfast and lunch are provided.
- ..# The teachers will reach out to parents if students miss any of their classes. In Junior High, students are expected to be in every Zoom session—not just their homeroom.
- ..# We tried out some of our special classes this week (gym, music, Peacemakers, library). Zoom links will be in each grade's Google Classroom. Computer classes will start within the next two weeks.
- ..# Students both at home and in school are to wear a school shirt—uniform shirt, gym shirt, spirit wear shirt. Students in school should wear gym shoes every day.



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



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 *SignUp-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: apomaredascsoffice@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.

Help End Hunger. Join Our Community

Catholic Charities W. Suburban
1400 S Austin Blvd., Cicero, IL 60804
708-329-4046

CONTACT: Angela Christian
HOURS: Mon & Tues: 9:30 am-11am; 12:30 pm-2pm; Thur: 2:00-6:00 pm | SERVICE AREA: West Suburbs

Fair Trade

Are you yearning for coffee or chocolates?

Please contact Marge Massarello
email: micamafi@yahoo.com
phone: 708-383-7032

Coffee - Columbian - bean, ground
Mama Tierra - ground Chocolate chips, minis, bars, hot cocoa

500 CLUB CERTIFICATES UPDATE

Just a reminder that our current season of the 500 Club continues with weekly drawings through October 18th, 2020. It is great to know that we have your support and that we have owners of all 500 certificates for the first time ever! Selling all 500 certificates along with a few donations allowed us to reach a profit of almost \$9600 through this fundraiser. We were also able to have a fourth special drawing for \$500 on July 19th. Each certificate continues to be eligible to be the winner on any of the remaining weekends and the prize for each of those weekends is \$25.

Applications for the 2020-2021 season of the 500 Club have been mailed. The new season begins October 25th, 2020. Looking forward to your participation. For additional applications, please contact Elaine Podraza at 708-524-1461

Peace, wellness, prayers, & gratitude!

~ *The Fundraising Committee*

A Spirituality During Covid 19 —Via Zoom Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00 PM

The University of St. Francis (USF) welcomes international speaker Edwina Gateley for a special live-streamed presentation "A Spirituality during COVID-19" on Tuesday, Sep. 8th at 7PM. The presentation, part of USF's annual "Women in the Church" lecture series, will be streamed via Zoom.

To request a presentation link, please contact Janine Hicks by email at jhicks@stfrancis.edu or call 815-740-3807 (please be sure to leave an email address in your message).

News from The Well, Spirituality Center

The Overstory book study
Wednesdays, Sept. 2, 9, 16
1-2:30 PM (CDT)

Have you read the Pulitzer Prize-winning *The Overstory* by Richard Powers and been looking to discuss it? Called “a gigantic fable of genuine truths” by Barbara Kingsolver, *The Overstory* blends environmental fiction with human drama. Jan Kieckhefer and Shelby Boblick will co-facilitate 3 sessions to discuss this epic. Combining spiritual, scientific and literary insights, they’ll focus on characters in the first session, the environment in the 2nd, and civil disobedience last. It is best to have completed the novel ahead of the conversations.

**THIS PROGRAM IS ON ZOOM.
REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE
ZOOM SIGN-IN INFORMATION VIA
EMAIL UPON REGISTRATION + A
REMINDER THE DAY BEFORE THE
PROGRAM.**

The cost of this series is \$45 (does not include the book). Scholarships and payment plans are available for those who need them. We invite those of you who may wish to do so to support the work of The Well with an extra donation.

For more information and to sign up go to: <https://csjthewell.org/programs/the-overstory-book-study/>

Grief Support Group St. Giles Parish

Mondays 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.
September 14—December 7, 2020
McDonough Hall, 1101 Columbian Ave.,
Oak Park

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

To register, contact 708-223-4912 or griefshare@stgilesparish.org

Food for Thought

Fighting Global Evils

*Prophets are portrayed as people in hope grounded;
They see evil as a toxic degradation
of what it can and should be.*

*A prophet’s mission from the Lord is founded
on people’s beauty in interpretation,
and beauty within themselves.*

*September First the Season of Creation starts,
as we confront challenges interrelated,
that are enough to test the Prophet.*

*Institutionalized racism tears at our hearts;
The environmental crisis grows unabated;
We fear Covid-19’s pandemic.*

*These three global evils offer us a chance to change
the course of history; start with one—with all our aim;
Let us assume responsibility.*

*We speak in God’s name, on behalf of creation’s range.
Where two or three are gathered in His name,
He is in the midst of them.*

9/6/20. TGL

Sources: NCR Column, M. McClone; Matthew 18: 20.

Domestic Violence Outreach Update

Save the Date for the annual
ACDVO Mass scheduled at Holy
Name Cathedral on September 26,
2020 at 5:15 pm.

Archdiocese of Chicago Human Dignity & Solidarity Keep Hope Alive— 2020 Immigration Benefit

Mark your calendars, **October 29, 2020**, for the virtual KEEP HOPE ALIVE Benefit “15 Years United for Immigrant Justice”, hosted by Cardinal Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago. This **online event** will take place at 6:30 pm. CST, 7:30 pm EST, 4:30 pm PST and support the *Archdiocese of Chicago’s Immigration Ministry* and its local and national programs, including the immigrant leadership ministry *Pastoral Migratoria*. Contact Mark Goebel at 312-534-8383 or via e-mail mgoebel@archchicago.org for more information about sponsorship and event updates.

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

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