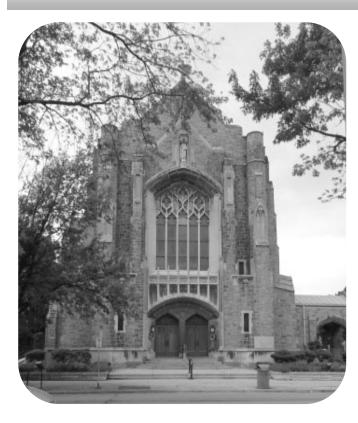


## ST. CATHERINE

# OF SIENA ST. LUCY

# SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 TWENTY-FIFTH 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: apomaredascsloffice@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,

Our Gospel today talks about Grace. Grace is a free gift that God gives to each one of us unconditionally. Even though, grace is given unconditionally, God respects our freedom and never imposes things on us. In some cases, people chose to accept grace and others chose to refuse it. Those who accept the grace that is

freely given by God are transformed to lead a life in conformity with the one of Christ. Those who reject the grace offered to them, for them grace has no value or has no impact on their life. We are all in need of grace because we have sinned, and I have no idea or any reason why someone will refuse a gift that is given to them freely and which will have a good effect on their lives. Even if you reject the grace that is given to you, God's does not lose hope on you as He continues to come to you and find a way of assisting you until you accept grace or reject it. In today's parable, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like "a landowner that went out and hired workers for his vineyard. Some he hired early in the day, telling them that he would pay them the usual daily wage. He went back at various times of the day and found more workers waiting to be hired. Each time as he hired those that were there, he told them that he would pay them what was right."

Brothers and sisters in Christ, We are not told why some had not found work till the evening or if they had shown up at the marketplace late as no other details are given. At the end of the day, the owner came to pay the workers. He began paying those that were last to be hired and paid them a full daily wage. I am sure those that had been working in the farm the entire day were not excited, maybe they thought, they were going to be paid more. When they received the same pay for working the entire day as those that only worked for an hour, I suspect they were not happy. When the landowner heard them grumbling, he tried to explain them that he was not unfair at all. He gave them what they had agreed upon. He did not see the reason why they were unhappy as it was his money. The landowner paid as they had agreed. He had a responsibility to use his money as he will like. In this Gospel, the landowner is God, the workers are us, and the pay received is the kingdom of heaven earned after working for it for a long time or a short time. Grace cannot be compared with fairness. Grace is about mercy. God loves us and mercifully gives us more than we deserve at times. God's grace is for everybody and does not exclude anyone and He is the one decides whoever He gives grace at any time of the day. We should be comfortable with what we have been given. Those who have been attending church for a long time and those that begun going to church recently should not be tempting to think that they are more special than others.

Finally, remember that this weekend we are going to have a second collection to support the education of seminaries studying to be priests for our Archdiocese. I am one of the beneficiaries of this second collection my seminary studies. 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 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

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.

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.

### Direction

Isaiah tells us something that we already know, and yet seem to forget every now and then. He tells us, essentially, that God is God and we are not. When we're confused and troubled and can't figure everything out, it might be wise to recall Isaiah speaking on the Lord's behalf and explaining that God—who is on a much more, well, Godly wavelength than we are—moves in ways we can't even imagine.

Saint Paul, by comparison, has everything figured out. Kind of. At least he understands his calling in life—to magnify Christ in everything he does. That should give all of us the direction we need. Jesus gives us direction, too, explaining to us once again in the parable of the workers in the vineyard that the last will be first, and the first, last.

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# **Humility**

No human being is too big to be humble, but some human beings are too small.

-Anonymous

### **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! 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. Thank you again for your enthusiastic participation, especially as we are not able to resume other previously scheduled fundraising events at this time.

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



### Second Collection TODAY is for: Seminar Education

We ask for your prayers and financial support to help defray seminarians' educational expenses, which includes tuition and fees, room and board and health insurance. Each September, gifts to our annual Catholic Bishop of Chicago/Seminarian Education second collection provide needed funds for the formation of our seminarians at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, as well as for our college seminarians at Saint John Vianney College Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota. As the principal seminary and school of theology for the formation of priests in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, Mundelein Seminary prepares men for ordination as archdiocesan priests who will shepherd parishes, celebrate the sacraments and teach the Catholic faith.

Your contributions to this collection will make a significant impact on each seminarian. You may also give by sending your donation to your parish, noting that it is for the seminarians, or by making a gift online at www.archchicago.org/seminarianfund.

\$ 25.00
\$ September 20, 2020

TERESA MELCHER,

# 379

## **NO Christmas Bazaar** this Year

It is with great sadness that we officially announce the beloved Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon will not take place this year due to the restrictions surrounding the Corona Virus. As a result of this cancelled event, we will NOT be able to accept any donations of physical items for the booths, in particular, for the White Elephant Booth. If you have 'treasures' you were hoping to donate, consider holding them until next year, or bring your donated items to Brown Elephant in Oak Park, or any Salvation Army store, or the Goodwill Store located on Harlem Avenue just north of 22nd Street.

GOING FORWARD, WE HOPE TO RELISH SOME FOND BAZAAR MEMORIES OF YEARS' PAST.

~ The Fundraising Committee

## Faith and Fellowship

Jackie likes to tease Father George about washing his dishes for him. She never met a hug she didn't like. Or a camera. Or a dog. She punches people gently in the arm when she wants them to offer a prayer or clean up after Agape.

Jackie was raised in Tennessee, moved to Chicago as a young adult. and began a lifelong battle with schizophrenia. For many years she lived in a series of facilities placements such as Central Plaza. She now lives in assisted living in Englewood, where a social service agency makes sure that her apartment is clean, that she's eating properly, and that she takes her medication.

She's stayed connected with Faith & Fellowship: calling, participating on Zoom meetings via phone (she doesn't have Internet access), letters, and visits.

As Jackie once said.

"Why do I feel so comfortable here? We all one family. And we love each other.'



# Mass Intentions for the Week

8:30 Luke Podraza By: Elaine and Jim Podraza Tue. **Lorraine Bedore** 8:30 By: Tom and Pat Nelson Wed. Sept. 23 HEALTH 8:30 **Phillip Jones** By: Ministry of Care Fri. 8:30 Jill Hawkes By: Thelma Yee Sat. Sept. 19 8:30 Alfred Bishop, Jr. By: Grace Bishop 5:00 **Rev. Earnest Brown** By: Donna Kanapes Sun. **Sept. 20** 8:30 FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH t 8:30 Elaine Russo By: Larry Russo 10:30 Miriam C. Prindiville By: Tom and Pat Nelson

## Readings for the Week

Monday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Ps 19:2-5; Mt 9:9-13

Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13;

Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44; Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9;

Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163; Lk 9:1-6

Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17bc;

Lk 9:7-9

Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Ps 144:1b, 2abc, 3-4;

Lk 9:18-22

Saturday: Eccl 11:9 — 12:8; Ps 90:3-6, 12-14, 17;

Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25:4-9; Phil 2:1-11 [1-5];

Mt 21:28-32

## Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Matthew Tuesday: Autumn begins

Wednesday: St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

Saturday: Ss. Cosmas and Damian;

Blessed Virgin Mary

# **Today's Readings**

First Reading — Turn to the Lord who is generous in forgiving (Isaiah 55:6-9).

**Psalm** — The Lord is near to all who call upon him (Psalm 145).

**Second Reading** — Live your lives in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a).

**Gospel** — The last will be first, and the first will be last (Matthew 20:1-16a).

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.



### Fall 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 be used for special events and other collections.

You can go directly to our website: <a href="www.stcatherinestlucy.org">www.stcatherinestlucy.org</a> and under Steward & Giving tab you will be able to find the link to GiveCentral



Colletta Ali, Michael Ballew, 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 McQurry, Nancy McKinnis, Irma Monteverde, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Sunny Okoeguale, Scartett & Raul Perez, Jennifer Saldukas, Chuck Scott, Lawrence Tabichi, Annette Varga, Sister Teresita Weind, 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 27, 2020 — 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who ministered to the Jewish people exiled in Babylon six centuries before Christ. In today's reading, he takes up a questions we have probably asked ourselves: Is God fair or unfair in his dealings with people?

# Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Paul wrote from prison to his Christian converts in Philippi, a city in what is today northeastern Greece. While he was in prison, the Philippians had sent someone to bring money for his support and to stay with him. Paul thanks them by quoting an early Christian hymn which he felt described Christ as a model for the way all Christians should live.

### 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**

### Keeping Everyone Safe COVID Safety Protocol

While we wish we could have all grades under one roof, we are grateful to have our earliest learners and several remote learners here in the building. We are living in unprecedented times and need to remember, above all else, the safety of our students.

We ask that families be open and honest with us about illness and possible exposure. This is the only way we can manage the health and safety of our staff and students.

### First Fundraiser of the School Year

Our favorite fundraiser of the year happens to be our FIRST fundraiser of the year!

Information coming soon about our Krispy Kreme Fundraiser - this year we have added a few easy ways to keep everyone safe and socially distanced and still raise lots of money for our school!

# Pray For Our Deceased

Carlton Shanks

RIP 9/5/20

May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his sisters Sandra & Veronica, his nephew, Charles, and his extended family with a powerful promise of beauty even in our darkest moments.

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



### **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.

# 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

### **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 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.

# Pro-Life Let's Vote Pro-Life In November

We Americans have shared many years of pride for our country and accomplishments. We have also suffered pain in the loss of thousands of our military who died to keep us safe. We have survived the Great Depression and many, many storms such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes through the years.

But we still have the biggest hurdle of all. We need to abolish abortion once and for all! It is the killing of tiny innocent babies in the womb of their mothers. Babies are a precious gift from God. And no one has the right to kill them! They used to be safe in their mother's womb. But since 1973 when abortions were made legal it has become the most dangerous place for a baby to be. All the baby wants is to be loved and cherished.

With the November 3rd election coming up, we have the means to right this terrible wrong.

Abortion has already killed over 62 million babies in the USA since 1973. We could help save the lives of millions of babies.



### **Fair Trade**

# Are you yearning for coffee or chocolates?

Please contact Marge Massarello email: <a href="micamafi@yahoo.com">micamafi@yahoo.com</a> phone: 708-383-7032

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

# **Grief Support Group** St. Giles Parish

Mondays 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

September—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 your through the difficult days ahead.

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

# News from The Well, Spirituality Center

### From Culture War to Revolution of Tenderness Saturday, Sept. 26

9:30 AM - 12 PM and 1 - 2:30 PM (CDT)

Pope Francis urges us to seek out new ways of thinking and to deepen our capacity for kinship with those whose worldviews diverge sharply from our own. The path from polarization to solidarity is the focus of this workshop, just in time to contemplate the approaching election and the searing issues of the day. Facilitated by Mike McGillicuddy. Cost: \$50.

Register for programs online: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048. All programs are on Zoom during this time of Covid-19. Food for Thought

### A Parable of Confusion

The charge that "it's not fair" was made by workers who were all paid the same for different hours.

They might have worked one hour as did some shirkers;

They felt the landowner abused his powers.

Jesus made the point the man showed tender nous, hiring men who'd not had work for that full day.
When he paid the same, his act was generous;
Of God's fairness judge; hear what the prophets say.

We may never understand God's justice plan, or His ways above our simple formations. But one treasured gift from God is clear to man: God's generous beyond all expectations.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son. (Acts 16:14b) 9/20/20 TGL Sources: Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 20:1-16a.

Open our

Hearts,

O Lord,

to listen to

the words

of your

Son.



# Domestic Violence Outreach Update

The annual ACDVO Mass is 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@calledtoprayer.org