

ST. CATHERINE



OF SIENA ST. LUCY

OCTOBER 11, 2020

TWENTY-EIGHTH 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,

During the time of Jesus Christ, weddings were taken seriously and so was the invitation to one. The wedding feast in the parable today was even taken more seriously because it was arranged for the son of a king. To be invited to such a wedding was a very great honor indeed. In today's Gospel, Jesus used the analogy of the wedding feast to teach the Chief Priests and Pharisees a lesson. For Jesus, such a wedding was a picture of the kingdom of heaven that he came to extend to those who would worship God. It is obvious therefore, that the king is God the Father; the bridegroom is Jesus, the king's son; and the invited guests were God's covenant people i.e. the Jews.

The entire Gospel of Matthew is for instance about an invitation to enjoy the full blessings of the kingdom of God. In this parable, we see the true nature of being invited to the wedding feast whose host was God. And an invitation by God must be treated seriously always. In this parable, the Father loved his Son, because he organized a wedding in his delight. In those days, this would have been a very great event, with many days spent feasting and celebrating and the news about the wedding would have reverberated throughout the whole land. This is because the king was calling all people, (i.e. all the Jews in the land), to honor and celebrate the union of his beloved son with his bride. It must have been a very sad day for the King that all those that were invited claimed to be very busy. Some invited guests actually went so far as to 'make light' of their invitations; some passively; by attending to things on their farms, or to their businesses but others 'made light' of it actively by actually seizing the servants who came to invite them, and killing them. Today, we continue to hear and know that not so many people go to church and the number of young people attending Mass has tremendously gone down. Everybody is always invited to come to Church, but others decide not to attend Mass for reasons that are well known to them. After those were invited did not show up, the king graciously sent his servants to go out onto the highways to find as many people as they could and invite them to come to his son's wedding and fill the banquet table. This invitation shows that the Father extended grace towards those who had NOT been invited, and by that, I mean, the Gentiles. Jesus tells us the servants gathered all whom they found, both the bad and the good. There were no qualifications other than to come and honor his son. The offer to come to the wedding feast was open to all who would receive it. The only condition to the wedding feast that was required was to wear a wedding garment. It was surprising that there was one guest who came without a wedding garment. The wearing of a wedding garment was an important addition to the dignity of the feast, but this man was wearing no such garment.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are all invited to the table of God's kingdom, on condition that we accept the grace that He has given to us and repent from our sins and follow Christ and his ways. Following Christ is not that all is easy because sometimes we drift away from our baptismal promises and commit sins that are forgiven by God once, we ask for forgiveness. May we always listen and attend to the voice of God when he calls us. Let us not be like the wedding guests who refused to attend the King's wedding feast. 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.

2020 Baby Bottle Project is Back!!! Until October 23

Our parish is participating in the **Baby Bottle Project** benefiting the Women's Center of Greater Chicagoland. This non-profit organization assists mothers and families experiencing crisis pregnancies by offering emotional financial, material, and spiritual support through counseling, clothing & monetary provisions, prayer, and other aid. Each year the 3 locations together have over 5,000 appointments with expecting mothers. By God's Grace, The Women's Centers have saved almost 40,000 babies—and their mothers—from abortion since opening in 1984.

Please take a Baby Bottle home with you from the church this weekend, fill it with your spare change, and return it the weekend of **October 23rd**

Thank you for helping defend life, and remember to keep all pro-life undertakings in your prayers.

Also if you are making a donation by check, please make it payable to: *The Women's Center*. Thank you!

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*



500 CLUB WINNER

\$ 25.00

October 11, 2020

CAROL KALLOK,

220

(See page 7 of this bulletin for more information about the 500 Club.)

Faith and Fellowship

Would You Like to Be a Pen Pal?

As we continue to muddle through the pandemic, social distancing, and quarantine, Faith and Fellowship has maintained its sense of community with cards, letters, care packages, phone calls, and even Zoom. Not as ideal as our regular get-togethers at the parish; still, "better than a sharp stick in the eye."

There are, however, people living at Central Plaza and Columbus Manor, who are not members of Faith and Fellowship and who are feeling especially stressed during these difficult times. As Howard Schultz has said, "People have a longing for human connection." **It would be great if members of the St. Catherine-St. Lucy could reach out by writing a short note every few weeks to one or two people, letting them know that the church is with them. Sound like something you might want to try? We can make it happen! 708-383-9276 or faith_fellowship@hotmail.com.**

Food for Thought

The Banquet of Life

Jesus' parable from that great prophet Isaiah, has God as King wanting to host a banquet of love.

Sing of my cup overflowing. (Psalm 23)

The end of sorrow, shame and death—a real Mardi Gras! Jesus was depicting how God loves and longs to share of His joy with all humanity.

But the King became a very tragic character, 'Cause no one was concerned about what he thought or felt; They focused on their own pursuits.

Today we find a different kind of malefactor, who's mean-spirited, selfish, and loves the Bible Belt. Haughtiness can be contagious.

Today's parable shows that Jesus' sympathetic, tender portrait of His ever-inviting Father, is evidence of God's unrequited love.

Jesus offers us a choice today: be prophetic; Cast off spoilers; accept God's invitation to His banquet of life spread out before us.

I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come. (Ps. 23)

10/11/20. TGL

Sources: NCR Column: M. McGlone; Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matt 22:1-14



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. Oct. 12		
8:30	†	Deceased Members of The Coleman Family
Tue. Oct. 13		
8:30	†	Joseph Stockinger By: Evie Stockinger
Wed. Oct. 14		
8:30	†	Mary Doyle By: Tom and Pat Nelson
Fri. Oct. 16		
8:30	†	Susan Raucci By: Pat Pomykalski
Sat. Oct. 17		
8:30	†	Clayton Rice By: Shelley Sandow
5:00	†	Sister Sheila Lyne, RSM By: Tom and Pat Nelson
Sun. Oct. 18		
8:30		FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30	†	Anne Solome By: Evie Stockinger
10:30	†	Mary Ann Peña By: The Kyle-Bales Family

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31 — 5:1; Ps 113:1b-5a, 6-7; Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Gal 5:1-6; Ps 119:41, 43-45, 47-48; Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Gal 5:18-25; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Eph 1:1-10; Ps 98:1-6; Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Eph 1:11-14; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13; Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	Eph 1:15-23; Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-7; Lk 12:8-12
Sunday:	Is 45:1, 4-6; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 7-10; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	Columbus Day; Canadian Thanksgiving Day
Wednesday:	St. Callistus I
Thursday:	St. Teresa of Jesus
Friday:	St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque; National Boss's Day
Saturday:	St. Ignatius of Antioch

Congratulations to Kevin Morgan and his wife Marci

Congratulations to our parishioner Kevin Morgan who was instituted into the Ministry of Reader this past Sunday. Kevin is one of 24 deacon formation candidates who were instituted as Readers this past Sunday. He is now required to be faithful in handing the Word of God so that it may grow strong in the hearts of His people. Additionally, being an instituted Reader also means *"taking on a special office within the Christian community."* Besides proclaiming the word in the liturgical assembly, an instituted Reader is responsible for: instructing children and adults in the faith, preparing them to receive the sacraments worthily and bringing the message of salvation to those who have not yet received it. Please keep Kevin Morgan in your prayers as well as all of the candidates in formation who were instituted as Readers, their wives and their families. That they might continue to answer God's call to serve His Church.

Today's Readings

First Reading — On this mountain the Lord will make for all peoples a feast of rich food and choice wines (Isaiah 25:6-10a).

Psalm — I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life (Psalm 23).

Second Reading — God will supply whatever you need (Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20).

Gospel — I have prepared my banquet, and everything is ready. Come to the feast! (Matthew 22:1-14 [1-10]).

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.



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, Kathy Feulner, Dave Grayson, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Deborah Llorence, Jimmy Llorence, Marian McCurry, Nancy McKinnis, Coralie Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Scarlett & Paul Perez, Charlene Pour, Lillian Sakowicz, Jennifer Saldukas, Chuck Scott, Donna Solome, 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

OCTOBER 18, 2020 — 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

When today's passage from the book of Isaiah was written, the Jewish people had been held in exile by Babylon for more than 40 years. Cyrus, the king of neighboring Persia, was preparing to invade Babylon. The prophet sees Cyrus, a pagan king as an instrument of God. Through this military victory, God will free his people and allow them to return home.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1: 1-5

Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians is the earliest of all New Testament writings, coming only about 20 years after the Resurrection of Jesus. Today's reading gives us the letter's opening words. In just five verses, we hear references to God the Father, the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit, and also faith, hope, and love. It indicates how quickly these essentials of our faith became part of our Christian tradition.

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



SCSL Parish Fundraiser

Eat Out at Russell's BBQ

1621 N. Thatcher Ave, Elmwood Park, IL 60707— 708-453-7065
Tuesday, October 13
10:30 AM to 9:00 PM.

Enjoy eating wonderful food and receiving a 10% giveback on food sales to our parish on Tuesday, October 13th. You can eat indoors or outdoors. Call your order in for drive-thru pickup and you can also place an order for pickup outdoors. Plenty of free parking. Thanks and have a great time!

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302

708-386-5286



School Scoop

- ..# There is no school on October 12, for Columbus Day.
- ..# There is no school on October 13, for Teacher in-service.
- ..# The School is selling Krispy Kreme donuts. You can support the school by ordering these delicious donuts. Please call 708-386-5286. The sale will be open through October 23rd. Pick-up order is by Friday, October 30th.

Archdiocese of Chicago Human Dignity & Solidarity

Keep Hope Alive— 2020 Immigration Benefit

On October 29, 2020, 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. Call Mark Goebel at 312-534-8383 or via e-mail at: mgoebel@archchicago.org

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

Pro-Life

Seeing with a Wider Lens

By Bridget Spurduto

As the Season of Creation draws to a close and the bounty of summer fades into autumn, I find myself filled with gratitude for the fullness of life and a longing to give myself over in the service of life. It may sound like a lofty goal, but even small, inspired actions have the potential to make a difference in raising awareness.

I recently had a conversation with a brilliant and skilled chiropractic healer who is deeply rooted in her traditional catholic faith. She praised the Trump administration for his pro-life stance and the anti-abortion legislation that has been passed during his presidency.

I calmly replied, "I understand that, but there is a disconnect for me. He claims to be pro-life, but the same administration frequently uses mockery, degradation, marginalization and insults to end the fuller life of someone or something. For instance:

- ..#**Divisive and hate-filled language and policy is killing the unity of our country.**
- ..#**The current administration's immigration policies are eliminating families.**
- ..#**A healthy, hopeful future is being eroded for children in cages at the border.**
- ..#**The dignity of Black lives is being eliminated daily.**
- ..#**The well-being of our elders is being eroded with every attempt made to dismantle Social Security.**
- ..#**Affordable health care for every resident of the United States is at risk of being gutted.**
- ..#**The reinstatement of the federal death penalty is killing the dignity of human life.**
- ..#**And with the roll back of environmental policies, Earth is being slowly wiped away."**

She simply stared at me in silence as she absorbed the weight of my words. To paraphrase Cardinal Bernardin, a pro-life stance must span from birth to death and everywhere in between. This is the basis of sound catholic teaching which preaches that God is everywhere and ALL of life has dignity because all life is of the Divine. Whenever we kill life in any form, we kill a manifestation of God. *How are you being invited to say "yes" to life?*

"The wording of the article originally published by The Well has been modified."

500 Club Update

October is here which means the 2020-2021 season of the 500 Club will be starting soon. **The weekly drawings for the new season begin the weekend of October 25th.** The prize each weekend is \$25, except for the first weekend and two additional weekends when the prize is \$500. **We hope you are, or will be, among the certificate owners during the new season if you want to be.** All certificates purchased for the 2020-2021 season are eligible to win each and every weekend from the time of purchase through October 17th, 2021. **NOTE: Purchases must be made by Oct 23, 2020 to be included in the first drawing which will be held on Oct 25, 2020.**

We are hoping to again sell all 500 certificates during the course of the season to maximize our profit since we have already had to forego our Donut Day at the Farmers' Market, the White Sox game outing, the Night at the Races, and the Walk-a-Thon fundraisers in just the last few months alone. The 500 Club is a socially distant way for us to financially support the parish and to have some fun as well. If we sell all 500 certificates as we did for the current season, we will again replace one of the \$25 prizes with a fourth \$500 prize. **Certificates can be purchased for yourself or as a gift for someone else for any occasion or for no occasion at all!!!**

Applications for the 2020-2021 season of the 500 Club have been mailed. For additional applications, please contact Elaine Podraza at 708-524-1461 or use the application below. Certificates are \$25 each. You can also purchase certificates using Give Central on the parish website, www.stcatherinestlucy.org. Thank you again for your enthusiastic participation.

Peace, wellness, prayers, and gratitude!
~The Fundraising Committee

500 Club CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ Number of certificates requested

_____ Amount Enclosed (Certificates are \$25 each. Make checks payable to St. Catherine - St. Lucy Parish)

_____ Certificate Numbers requested (if available)

THIS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCT 23, 2020 TO BE IN THE FIRST DRAWING WHICH TAKES PLACE ON OCT 25, 2020.

**MAIL THIS FORM AND YOUR PAYMENT TO ST. CATHERINE – ST. LUCY PARISH, 38 N AUSTIN BLVD, OAK PARK IL 60302
OR PLACE THEM IN THE COLLECTION BOX AFTER MASS. THANK YOU!!!**