



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

JANUARY 17, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mr. Julius White, Praise Choir Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager
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

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)



From Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our first reading today talks about the call of Samuel and the Gospel reading also shows us what happened at the call of the first disciples of Jesus. I have found out that listening is so important in life and crucial to make relationships work. We all have built into us the need and want to be listened to. Being listened to communicate things like worth, value, love, and respect. How do you feel when you are pouring your heart out to a parent or a friend and then find out that they weren't listening to you? You feel hurt, upset, and like they don't care about you. Listening is so important and yet we live in a day and age where there are so many distractions to listening that it makes it more and more difficult to do.

Would you know God's voice if you heard it? Well Samuel certainly didn't. The scene in our first reading is pretty funny if you stop to think about it, God kept waking Samuel up and Eli keeps telling him to go back to sleep. In 1 Samuel 3:2ff we read, "And it came to pass at that time, while Eli was lying down in his place, and when his eyes had begun to grow so dim that he could not see, and before the lamp of God went out in the tabernacle of the LORD where the ark of God was, and while Samuel was lying down, (4) that the LORD called Samuel. And he answered, "Here I am!" So, he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." And he said, "I did not call; lie down again." And he went and lay down. Then the LORD called yet again, "Samuel!" So, Samuel arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." He answered, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." (Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, nor was the word of the LORD yet revealed to him.) And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. So, he arose and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you did call me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD had called the boy."

I think the last thing that prevents us from listening to God is because we simply don't want to. God calls out to Samuel; he doesn't just start speaking. He finally delivers the message when Samuel responds to God and says, "Speak, your servant is listening." Samuel could have chosen – out of fear, out of not wanting to know what God had to say, or any other reason – to just ignore God but instead he choose to respond and purposefully listen to what God had to say.

God is speaking today whether you believe it or not. My challenge to all of us this week is to start listening. It is so important to make sure that we are taking time to "be still" and take the time to separate ourselves from the world and everything going on around us. This will help us to hear God's still, small voice and fresh our souls with what and how God sounds like. On top of all that, we must respond as God calls our name. He will not force Himself on us but instead wait for us to be ready and purposefully listen to His leading. The question is, are you ready? Finally, brothers and sisters, next month is our annual catholic appeal fundraising. Our Catholic Annual fundraising has been successful because of your generosity. It is my prayer that we will carry out the same generosity as we have done in the past years.

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
Secretary: Andrea Legatzky
Celebration Choir: TBA
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): Vacant

Women's Ministry: Shelby Boblick

Human Concerns Commission

Peace & Justice Committee:

Kevin Morgan

Adult Education Commission

Baptism Com.: Fr. G. Omwando

Bible Study: TBA

Religious Education of Children: TBA

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Parish Development & Services

Commission

Collection Counters: Vacant

Facilities Committee: Jim Podraza,

Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson / Cynthia Weaver

Weddings: Please contact Fr. George to set a wedding date. Allow at least 6 months in advance for preparation.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a sacramental process, celebrated in the midst of this Faith Community. This process assists adults, as well as children over the age of 7, in learning about the Catholic Faith.

Ministry to the Sick, Hospitalized and Shut—Ins

Please notify the Parish Office so that we can visit and minister to your confined loved-ones.

Funerals:

Please call the Rectory to set-up arrangements with the Christian Burial Mass.

Newcomers

Please fill out a registration form after Mass, or come by the Rectory Office during the week.



Mass Intentions for the Week

<u>Mon. Jan. 18</u>		
8:30	†	Luke Podraza By: Elaine and Jim Podraza
<u>Tue. Jan. 19</u>		
8:30	†	Patricia Burns-Sheehan By: Tom and Pat Nelson
<u>Wed. Jan. 20</u>		
8:30	†	Donna Colorado By: Evie Stockinger
<u>Fri. Jan. 22</u>		
8:30	†	Joanna Vanni By: Ministry of Care
<u>Sat. Jan. 23</u>		
8:30	†	William Prindiville By: Ministry of Care
5:00	†	Alfred Bishop By: Grace Bishop
<u>Sun. Jan. 24</u>		
8:30		FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30	†	John Richmond By: Michael and Luanne Cypser
10:30	†	Alexandre D. Vincent By: The Vincent Family
	†	Stephen M. Lillis (6 TH ANNIV. DEATH) By: His Family

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday:	Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday:	Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 7:25 — 8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
Friday:	Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10-14; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday:	Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday:	Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
Tuesday:	Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany)
Wednesday:	St. Fabian; St. Sebastian
Thursday:	St. Agnes
Friday:	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
Saturday:	St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope

2020 Statement of Contributions

Starting this week, you can **request** a list of your Sunday contributions for the past year. Please call or write to Amanda at 708-386-8077, via e-mail at: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net. Thank you.

Today's Readings

First Reading — Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

Psalm — Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — Your bodies are members of Christ; glorify God in your body (1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20).

Gospel — The first disciples saw where Jesus was staying and they stayed with him (John 1:35-42).

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.



Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you.

— 1 Corinthians 6:19a



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, Erin Arellano, Elizabeth Cotter, Kathy Feulner, Katherine Fisher, Dave Grayson, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, William Johnson, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen, Kroker, Cache Lane, Deborah Llorence, Jimmy Llorence, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Scarlett & Raul Perez, Charlene Pour, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Lawrence Tabichi, Annette Varga, and Sr. Teresita Weind.

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 all of us



JANUARY 24, 2021 — 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The Book of Jonah is only two pages long and tells a parable about a man called by God to preach repentance to the pagan city of Nineveh. Jonah's first response was to sail as fast as he could in the other direction. After his adventures with a large fish, God called him a second time. Today's passage picks it up from there.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

In this section of the first letter to the Corinthians, Paul responds to written questions they had sent to him. Some questions had to do with how we, who believed in the next life, should relate to the things of this life. Paul expected that Jesus would return in glory soon, so he gives some advice which we hear in this reading.

Parish Calendars

We still have the new Parish 2021 Calendars. They are available in the gathering area after all Masses.

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.

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.

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

- ..# Progress reports will be ready during the week of January 18.
- ..# Monday, February 1st, is the 100th day of school.
- ..# Black History Month: The Archdiocese is creating a virtual prayer service for every Friday in February. They will send me a Zoom link, and I will forward to you. Each service lasts about 20 minutes; there are also class resources included for you.
- ..# Work on the playground is officially completed! The new fence and surface look amazing. Our thank you again to the estate of Fr. Flavin, who once worked at St. Catherine-St. Lucy.
- ..# New energy-efficient, cost-effective lights have been installed in the gym—and they make a hug difference. The area is so much brighter at a lower cost.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

A Conversation with Faith and Fellowship Tuesday, January 26, at 7:30 pm

Faith & Fellowship provides pastoral outreach and inclusion opportunities with our sisters and brothers disabled by severe and persistent mental illnesses. We cordially invite you to join a Zoom conversation on Tuesday, January 26, at 7:30 pm. Come and hear the stories of members whose ministries and lives have been changed by their encounters with God's people. To register and be sent the Zoom link. For more information, please contact Connie Rakitan at 708-383-3816 or via e-mail: faith_fellowship@hotmail.com



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

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: apomaredascsloffice@comcast.net

Pass the Link to your Friends!

By just forwarding to friends who may not be on the church email list.

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.



Parish Events

All special events in the church and school remain canceled as a precaution against the spread of the COVID-19.

Our Pastor keeps on observing 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.

Father George was recognized as a villager of the year!!

OAKPARK.COM

Helpers and heroes bring us through

A year like no other brings us 16 Villagers of the Year

Powered by the Wednesday Journal of Oak Park & River Forest

-Rev. George O. Omwando

Keeping the parish running with short staff -

While helping others in need during the pandemic, Rev. George Omwando has almost singlehandedly kept St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Parish running during 2020.

The already small staff was reduced last year, after a staff member died, a musician departed, and Omwando's associate pastor retired. With parishes consolidating, he feared if he hired replacements, they might end up losing their jobs. "It is not right to hire a person if in one year he could lose his job," said Omwando.

In addition to taking on the responsibilities handled by staff, he has been navigating guidelines, streaming services online and working with banks to secure loans. He's been counseling overwhelmed parishioners, who have reached out more frequently than before the pandemic.

And he still finds time to help neighbors, allowing people to use the church's address to have food delivered when their own homes are outside a restaurant's delivery area.

"As long as they tell me in advance. Otherwise, if they deliver the food and I'm hungry, I'm going to eat it," Omwando said with a smile.

He has dipped into the rectory's food supply to feed hungry neighbors in Austin. However, he had to make some difficult decisions in the name of safety, such as limiting the number of people who can attend funerals, which he finds not easy to do.

"I've made a lot of decisions that were not popular, but in the long run, these decisions are good."

—Stacey Sheridan

Food for Thought

Seeking the Inner Peace

“The future is more beautiful than all the pasts.”
 Words from Pierre Teilhard de Chardin. He said that
*“God does not stand aloof from the world, at a distance,
 .disinterested; on the contrary, God chooses
 to involve Himself deeply and thoroughly
 in our world.”*

*When darkness closes in on our lives, we might doubt
 the nearness of God. Like the Israelites in Isaiah,
 we shrink with fear, worry and self-doubt. Anxiety,
 with the virus at its peak, denies us inner peace.*

But...it is important to move on.

*Otherwise, we live in the past, chasing shadows
 that breed inner turmoil, robbing our soul of its
 sustaining power. This new year gives us fortitude
 to develop a deeper awareness of what it takes
 to live a life filled with joy—“the infallible sign
 of the presence of God.”*

“The future is more beautiful than all the pasts.”

1/17/21. TGL

Sources: Rev. R. Faricy: Life of Teilhard; quotes from Teilhard; Isaiah 60:1-6;
 Matt 2:1-12; NCR.



Coordinator of Music – part time

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy
 Oak Park, IL 60302

Pastor: Fr. George Omwando

gomwando@archchicago.org

708.386.8077

We are looking to hire a Coordinator of Music who would be responsible for facilitating the musical worship life of the parish community by coordinating the activities delineated below:

- #Select and prepare sacred music for all church liturgies including Sunday and Holy Day Masses, civil holidays, and special liturgies.
- #Arrange for musical coverage for weekend Masses (accompanist and cantor).
- #Prepare cantors for Sunday Mass.
- #Work on sacramental celebrations in conjunction with school and religious education staff.
- #Meet with grieving families and offer guidance with regard to music selections for funerals.
- #Meet with engaged couples to provide guidance in selection of sacred music for their wedding liturgies.
- #Prepare worship aids for Weekend Masses, Triduum, Christmas, etc.
- #Assist in liturgy planning.
- #Demonstrate ability to play both piano and organ.
- #Demonstrate the ability to play instrument and sing at the same time when necessary.

There is also an interest in discussing potential candidate's knowledge of technology as related to video streaming and YouTube.

For additional information, please contact Fr. George via email above. Please note that this position is **open immediately upon qualification** and it carries no benefits. Typically, at this time, the position covers 8-10 hours per week. There is no choir involvement during this time of COVID restrictions. Previous experience in participation and leading parish music ministry is mandatory. Please send a resume and reference(s) from previous assignment(s) to the pastor.



Legal Assistance Available

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.

Grief Support Group

St. Giles Parish—

Mc Donough Hall

1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park

Beginning February 3, 2021

Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 12:00

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. We know it hurts, and we want to help.

To register, please call 708-223-4912 or contact via e-mail at: griefshare@stgilesparish.org