



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

FEBRUARY 28, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



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: 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

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,

On this second week of lent, I want to talk more about the three traditional pillars of Lenten observance and that is: *prayer, fasting and almsgiving*. The more we pray during any Lenten time, the more prayer draws us closer to the Lord. The kind of prayers that we should pray during lent enables God to grant us grace to live out our baptismal promises more fully. We might pray for the Elect who will be baptized at Easter and support their conversion journey by our prayers. We might pray for all those who will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation with us during Lent that they will be truly renewed in their baptismal commitment. During Lent we fast as a means of developing self-control. Fasting is often an aid to prayer, as the pangs of hunger remind us of our hunger for God. The first reading on the Friday after Ash Wednesday points out another important dimension of fasting. In the reading, prophet Isaiah insists that fasting without changing our behavior is not pleasing to God. For the prophet, he insist that the right fasting should be about, “releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own” (Is 58:6-7).

Our fasting should be linked to our concern for those who are forced to fast by their poverty, those who suffer from the injustices of our economic and political structures, those who are in need for any reason. Thus fasting, too, is linked to living out our baptismal promises. By our Baptism, we are charged with the responsibility of showing Christ's love to the world, especially to those in need. Fasting can help us realize the suffering that so many people in our world experience every day, and it should lead us to greater efforts to alleviate that suffering. Abstaining from meat traditionally links us to the poor, who could seldom afford meat for their meals. It can do the same today if we remember the purpose of abstinence and embrace it as a spiritual link to those whose diets are sparse and simple. That should be the goal we set for ourselves—a sparse and simple meal. Avoiding meat while eating lobster misses the whole point! Finally, almsgiving should be obvious at this point the third traditional pillar which is linked to our baptismal commitment.

Almsgiving shows a sign of our care for those in need and an expression of our gratitude for entire material things that God has given to us. Also Works of charity and the promotion of justice are integral elements of the Christian way of life we began when we were baptized. Lent is the time in the church year when Jesus descends into the valley of the shadow of death. You're going to hear about how he was rejected. How he was weak. How he suffered and died for the sins of the world. These next five Sunday Gospels, we are going to walk with Jesus, into that valley, and see those difficult moments. This mountain-top experience we hear about today prepares us for the valley ahead.

Lent also prepares us for something else – our own personal valleys. As we see Jesus glorified here today, it prepares us when we go through our own difficult moments. May God bless you this day and beyond, as you stand with Peter, James and John on the mountain and see Jesus reveal his glory – may your faith be strengthened, for the days ahead, as you prepare for all the different peaks and valleys in your life.

— 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

Mon. Mar. 1		
8:30 HEALTH		Kathy Feulner By: SCSL Gospel Choir
	†	Luke Podraza By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
Tue. Mar. 2		
8:30 HEALTH		Donna Kanapes By: The Fundraising Committee
Wed. Mar. 3		
	†	Ian Holmes By: Tom Nelson
Fri. Mar. 5		
8:30	†	Dominique Fells By: Donna Kanapes
Sat. Mar. 6		
8:30	†	Irena Baleisis By: Era Yee
5:00	†	Lorraine H. Butler By: Grace Bishop
Sun. Mar. 7		
8:30		FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30	†	Luke Podraza By: Fannie Cooper
10:30	†	Lucienne Jean-Baptiste By: The Vincent Family

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14-16; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-4, 9-12; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19:8-11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25 Alternate readings (Year A): Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Lent; Penitential Rite for Candidates for Full Communion
Wednesday:	St. Katharine Drexel
Thursday:	St. Casimir
Friday:	First Friday; World Day of Prayer; Abstinence
Saturday:	First Saturday

2020 Statement of Contributions

For tax purposes you can **request** now a list of your 2020 Statement of Contributions. Please call or e-mail Amanda at 708-386-8077, via e-mail at: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net. Thank you.

Today's Readings

First Reading — The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith (Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18).

Psalm — I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living (Psalm 116).

Second Reading — If God is for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31b-34).

Gospel — Jesus was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white (Mark 9:2-10).

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.

Parish Events

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

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.



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*

1st & 2nd Readings for the upcoming Sunday are offered to help all of us.



**MARCH 7, 2021 —
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

First Reading: Exodus 20: 1-17

A covenant is a solemn agreement between two parties in which each promises something. The book of Exodus recounts how the Jews escaped from slavery in Egypt and made a covenant with God on Mount Sinai. The heart of that covenant is this: God promises to accept the Israelites as his people. On their part, they must promise to keep God's commandments.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul wrote to his Corinthian converts about the difficulty in preaching about a crucified savior. *To Jewish people who looked for a powerful Messiah performing spectacular signs, it seemed unacceptable that the Messiah would suffer and die. To Gentiles, it seemed entirely absurd that someone who died such a humiliating death could be the savior of the world.*

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.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Colletta Ali, Gigi Bridges, Gianna Calderon, Jeanette Cannon, Betty Graf, Dave Grayson, Kathy Feulner, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, William Johnson, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen, Kroker, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Katie Shoevlin, Tom Sterr, Lawrence Tabichi, Sam Vaccaro, Sr. Teresita Weind, and Paul Winterhalter.

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.

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*

27 W. Washington Blvd.
Oak Park, IL 60302
708-386-5286



School Scoop

- ..#Re-registration for next year is taking place. Paperwork/links/information is available. All students who register by February 28 will receive a special gift!
- ..#Parent-Teacher Conferences are set for Thursday, March 11. Conferences will again be virtual; watch for communication from your child's teacher.
- ..#Graduation pictures for our 8th grade students are Monday, March 1. Pick up your child's cap/gown from the office to wear in the picture.
- ..#Grades 1-6 should get their dancing shoes ready! Beginning Friday, March 5, and extending for 5 weeks, students in these grades will participate in a virtual dance class.

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: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net

Pray For Our Deceased



Paul Grimes
May he rest in peace!

We lift him up with our prayers while we embrace his wife, Polly, his children Meghan and Ben and his extended family with a powerful promise of beauty even in our darkest moments.

Paul was a dynamic and loving member of SCSL Parish. Even after moving out of Oak Park, he continued to help at annual events including the Spaghetti Dinner. Paul always felt at home when there!

May the angels lead him into Paradise

Pray For Our Deceased



Gladys Evans
May she rest in peace!

We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace her sister-in-law, Marilyn with a powerful promise of beauty even in our darkest moments.

Gladys was a faith-filled parishioner, who was a kind and giving person, always ready and willing to volunteer and assist in many of the SCSL Parish events.

May the angels lead her 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

Stations of the Cross At St. Catherine-St. Lucy



The Stations of the Cross is held every Friday at 7:00 PM in Church through Lent. Won't you please pick up your little 30 minute cross and come and pray with us, as we honor Jesus Christ and thank Him for accepting a painful death on His Cross for us.



Mass Times

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.

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.

Catholic Charities

Legal Assistance Available

Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department has attorneys and volunteer attorneys available to provide advice in numerous areas of law. Services include in-depth advice and possible direct representation on 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.

Signs of Lent

Purple Color

The color Purple is associated with mourning and so anticipates the pain and suffering of the crucifixion, and is associated with royalty, and celebrates Christ's Resurrection and sovereignty.

Have you taken your CRS Rice Bowl?

All are invited to participate in CRS Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services Lenten program to pray, fast, learn and give. So take a box, fill it up with your unused change and bring it back by April 4, 2021.

Here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy the Rice Bowl boxes are available at both Church doors.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP Welcome, Inclusion, Belonging

"An Evening with Faith and Fellowship"

Faith and 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 Wednesday, March 3 – 7:30 pm. We will share reflections on the spiritual foundations of this ministry, 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, or for more Information, please contact Connie Rakitan at 708-383-9276 or: faith_fellowship@hotmail.com



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



February 9, 2021

Dear Fathers McGivern, Morello, Omwando, and Pillai,

First, please know of our prayers for you and your parishioners as we continue in the early days of the new calendar year.

We write to you to share our appreciation for gathering your leaders in January, as well as a timeline update regarding the Renew My Church discernment process for your parishes.

Please plan for your grouping to formally begin in early June 2021. The specific timeline will be developed between you and RMC staff, however, you can expect to conclude the structural discernment meetings no later than December 2021. A formal decision would then be made no later than January 2022.

The RMC team will assign a facilitator in the coming weeks. The facilitator will work with you on the specific schedule for your grouping for June through the Fall.

Between now and June, please continue to share the RMC vision and encourage people to get to know more about each of the four parishes in the Oak Park Catholic community.

We have great hope for your grouping, and you remain in our prayers. Please keep us in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John Manz
Episcopal Vicar, Vicariate IV

Rev. Jason Malave
Cardinal's Liaison for Renew My Church

Food for Thought

Listen to Him

*On the mountain of Transfiguration,
the disciples all perceived that Jesus
was God's ultimate messenger.*

*The God who created out of love,
was the God who wanted only love.
Not understanding, they listened.*

*From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
"This is my beloved son, listen to him." (Matt 17:5)*

*Listen to him when he says what he must face;
Listen when he says you must take up your cross;
And when he says he will rise from the dead.
Listen to him—be transfigured.*

*The disciples now became apostles,
communicating God's message of love.
The more they travelled and told the story,
the more they knew that it was true.
Our lives have been transfigured by the One
raised in glory at God's right hand.*



2/28/21. TGL

Sources: NCR, M. McGlone; Mark 9:2-10.

History of Salvation

The first reading today continues the "history of salvation" narrative that we hear throughout Lent this year. Today's story was among the best-loved in the Jewish tradition (surely Joseph told the story to young Jesus as he formed him in the ways of their faith); the early fathers of the Church were very fond of it as a means of explaining the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The overall tone of the first reading, psalm, and second reading seems a little incongruous with the dazzling Gospel, until we remember that the Transfiguration was placed as the Gospel for this Sunday precisely to remind us of the glory that awaits those who live faithfully and obediently to the will of God.

In the life of Jesus, it is a preview of the glory of his resurrection; for us it is a glimpse of the destiny of those who continue, as we heard in last week's Gospel, to repent and believe in the Good News.

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