



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

**MARCH 7, 2021
THIRD 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: 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,

This year, we don't have students that are preparing for RCIA i.e. the rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and that is celebrated on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sunday's of Lent. If we had the RCIA students, they could have gone through the Scrutiny procedure. Scrutinies are ancient rites and they may, at first, seem strange to us. But they are profoundly rooted in our human experience. We need to examine (scrutinize) how we are, the areas of our lives where we are tempted, or seriously sin - in what we do and what we fail to do. We really need healing and the strength that can come from the support of our sisters and brothers.

The Lenten season is a time for spiritual recollection in preparation for the celebration of the paschal mystery. Even though we don't, have RCIA candidates, I have taken the Gospel of year A to reflect on. In the Gospel today, when a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink? The Samaritan woman said to him, 'You are a Jew and I am a Samaritan woman. How can you ask me for a drink?' (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans). For a Jewish man to speak to a woman in public was a definite breach of social custom. Many Jewish men would not even speak to their wives in public! (Why?) The Jews considered the SAMARITAN immoral for she had already been married by five husbands and the one she was staying with was not her husband. In Jesus' day, there was bitter hostility between Jews and Samaritan. The reason for the hostility of the Jews to the Samaritans goes back a long way. When the Assyrians took Samaria captive, they deported large numbers of the inhabitants and replaced them by people from all over their empire (2 Kings 17:23-24). These people brought their own gods with them (2 Kings 17:29-31), but they added the worship of [the Lord] to their other practices (2 Kings 17:25, 28, 32-33, 41). In time their polytheism disappeared, and they worshiped [the Lord] alone, though their religion had its peculiarities. For example, they acknowledged as sacred Scripture only the Pentateuch (Genesis through Deuteronomy). They thus cut themselves off from the riches in the Psalms, the Prophets, and other books. Their religion was also marked by a pronounced bitterness toward the Jews. When the Jews returned from exile in Babylon the Samaritans offered to help them rebuild their temple, but the offer was refused (Ezra 4:2-3). This naturally engendered great bitterness. One might have expected that the Jews would have appreciated the fact that the Samaritans worshiped the same God as they did. But it did not work out this way. The Samaritans refused to worship at Jerusalem, preferring their own temple built on Mt. Gerizim c. 400 B.C. When this was burned by the Jews c. 128 B.C. relations between the two groups worsened. To call someone—especially a fellow-Jew—was a great insult. Jesus was called a Samaritan by the Jews (John 8:48).

In summary, the encounter of Jesus and the Samaritan woman is not a random meeting. It was planned by God and depicts Jesus' mercy and love for us. Desperate for a satisfying life and unending grace, the woman at the well is forever changed by Jesus' love for her. It's comforting that Jesus chooses to love the least lovable people, and He chooses to use the least likely characters. When we meet Jesus and are transformed by His love, it's not just something we keep to ourselves. We are forever changed. 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

Mon. Mar. 8		
8:30	†	Gladys Evans By: Ministry of Care
Tue. Mar. 9		
8:30	†	Health Ted Marzalek By: Faith & Fellowship
Wed. Mar. 10		
		Health Bern Well By: Ministry of Care
Fri. Mar. 12		
8:30	†	Luke Podraza By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
	†	William Cooper By: Fannie Cooper
Sat. Mar. 13		
8:30	†	Frank Dent By: Donna Kanapes
5:00	†	Mary Koko By: The Koko Family
Sun. Mar. 14		
8:30		FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30	†	Ernesto Pineda By: Necitas Pineda
10:30	†	Rev. John Flavin By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt. 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21 Alternate readings (Year A): 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41[1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Third Sunday of Lent; First Scrutiny
Monday:	St. John of God
Tuesday:	St. Frances of Rome
Friday:	Abstinence

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 law was given through Moses (Exodus 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]) or *Exodus 17:3-7*.

Psalm — Lord, you have the words of everlasting life (Psalm 19) or *Psalm 95*.

Second Reading — We proclaim Christ crucified; the foolishness of God is greater than human wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:22-25) or *Romans 5:1-2, 5-8*.

Gospel — Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up (John 2:13-25) or *John 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]*.

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.

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 14, 2021 —
4RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading: 2 Chronicles 36:
14-16, 19-23**

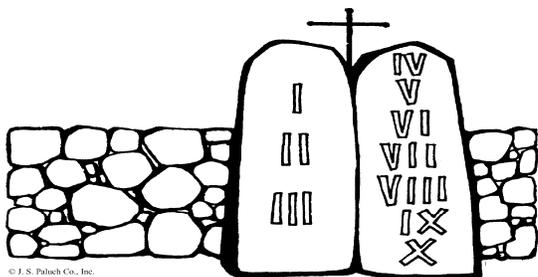
The second book of Chronicles is part of a series which traces Jewish history from its beginning down to the end of the exile in Babylon, five centuries before Christ. Today's reading is the conclusion of the book. It summarizes the reasons for the exile and tells how it ended after 70 years. Second Chronicles was placed last in the Jewish bible. When we hear the final words of this reading, we hear how the Jewish Scriptures conclude on a positive note

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:4-10

Ephesus is located on the western coast of what is today Turkey. The author of this letter to the Christians in Ephesus writes about the saving power of God that is available to both Jews and non-Jews. Today's passage remind us that salvation is God's gift alone. "Gift" is the root meaning of the word "grace."

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*



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**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.

**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.

*I, the LORD, am your God . . .
You shall not have other gods
besides me.*

— Exodus 20:2a, 3

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



School Scoop

..#The Village of Oak Park has been extremely helpful in arranging vaccines for our staff. As the process rolls out, we will open our classrooms for in-person learning. The roll-out will be staggered; parents will be contacted grade-by-grade.

..#On Monday, March 8th seventh graders back to school in-person.

..#Parent-Teacher Conferences are set for Thursday, March 11th. Conferences will again be virtual; watch for communication from your child's teacher.

Pray For Our Deceased



Jan-Ann Turner Detmer
May she rest in peace!

Please pray for the eternal rest of Jan-Ann Detmer's soul who passed away last Thursday, Feb. 25th. Jan-Ann was the mother of Dave/Jean Detmer, faith-filled, and wonderful parishioners of SCSL. We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace her son, Dave, and her extended family with a powerful promise of beauty even in our darkest moments.



**May the angels lead
her into Paradise**

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

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.



Lenten Regulations

(from Now to the Paschal Triduum)

Fasting and Abstaining From Meat

One of our Lenten Practices uniting us with Catholics around the world! Fridays during Lent are days of abstaining from meat. Good Friday is a day of abstaining from meat and fasting.

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: apomaredascsoffice@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.

Signs of Lent

The Gloria

The Gloria is a song of exaltation and joy. The Alleluia is the highest praise. Where as Lent and Advent, sometimes called the little lent, are penitential seasons. Alleluia is not said at mass during lent, whether with the psalms, the gospel acclamation or in hymns.

Have you taken your CRS Rice Bowl? There is still time

Take a box, fill it up with your unused change and bring it back by April 4, 2021. Rice Bowl boxes are available at both Church doors.

A Story of Hope From El Salvador, Central America

Some young people in Ahuachapán in eastern El Salvador think that being a farmer is a thing of the past. Their families have farmed for generations, but climate change and soil erosion have caused harvests—and therefore, their incomes—to shrink considerably.

Edwin Carlos, a 17-year-old eager to support his parents and



two little brothers, did not see farming in his future. However, after a teacher told him about how new techniques and technology were changing the way farming was being done to help restore the environment, he changed his mind. Edwin Carlos decided to join a group of 220 students who are learning skills like the importance of distancing when plowing and how burning harvest residue can harm the land and air. Sadly, El Salvador has lost 75% of its rich land because of the large number of trees that have been cut down. "He who knows has an obligation to act," says Edwin Carlos, who now knows how to use water properly so that it is not wasted, and organic manure and other resources to provide nutrients to the soil to produce more and healthier crops.

Total Allegiance

In previous weeks we have seen how the theme of covenant—as a preparation for the baptismal covenant celebrated at Easter—occupies an important place in our cycle of Lenten readings. The notion of covenant as a relationship between two parties carries with it an expectation of mutual accountability and fidelity to the terms of the covenant. When God forged the covenant with the Jewish people on Mt. Sinai, it was a pledge of God’s protection, and it would forever permit them familiar access as the Chosen People. For their part, the Jewish people were to observe the dictates of the law, summarized most succinctly here in the form of the Ten Commandments. To be in a covenantal relationship with the Lord God requires an exclusive relationship, just as discipleship with Jesus—ritualized in baptism—demands a total allegiance to him and none other.

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Save the Date

Friday, March 12
*Deadline for purchasing
Spring Raffle tickets*

Saturday, March 13
*New date for Spring Raffle
Drawing - (See Spring
Raffle UPDATE article on
page 3 of this bulletin)*

Heaven

*Heaven is at present out of sight,
but in due time, as snow melts and
discovers what it lay upon, so will
this visible creation fade away
before those greater splendors
which are behind it.*

—John Henry Newman

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP The Cupboard – No Longer Bare!

Once again, the great people of our parish community have heard the need, and met it! Thanks to Shelby Boblick, Jan Kieckhefer, J Martin Konecki (Ava and Aaron, too), John and Pat Long, Elaine and Jim Podraza, and Madonna Sloan we have an abundance of refreshments for our goody-bag drop-offs and our Zoom agapes. Our Partners appreciate snacks, and even more they feel the loving care of the people of God. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Food for Thought

Prayer and Forgiveness

“Settle with your opponents quickly.” (Matt 5:25)

*Jesus’ message was his Kingdom is at hand.
It’s influence was powerful, yet showed paradox:
Pewasive and decisive, yet signs to weak and poor,
feeling heart-felt change: God’s presence in and for them.
Prayer was entry’s lifeline into Jesus realm.
It was a gift, but was accessible to all,
including sinners, outcasts, wounded and oppressed.
Entry’s experience provides the joy and peace
of living a relationship with our Creator.*

*Jesus cautioned his disciples: unchecked anger
that’s left unresolved can block them from the Kingdom.
He said that to lack empathy
and forgiveness*

*Negates the effectiveness of our prayers.
Love of God and love of neighbor are the sam
To share God’s life, we must become like hi m.
We. must forgive before we pray, asking for grace.
Forgiveness becomes our first prayer.*



2021 Annual Catholic Appeal UPDATE

Parish Goal:	\$20,008.00
Amount Pledged:	\$23,640.00
Amount Paid:	\$19,585.00
Remaining Balance:	\$ 4,055.00

*“Come, follow me...and bring
hope to the world”*

Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line

If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you would like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at 312-948-6951 anytime Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Health care workers in particular are encouraged to reach out. Spanish speaking counselors are available.