



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

MARCH 28, 2021

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. John McGivern, Administrator
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:

Tuesday, and Wednesday- 8:30am

(Please enter the Church by Washington Blvd. 2nd door to the West)

NO Thursday Mass

At. St. Edmunds: Monday, Friday- 8:30am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm

Sunday Morning - 9:00 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. John W. McGivern, Administrator



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Through all of our Scriptures, geography plays an important role. When we encounter a flood of water, the parting of a sea or a fisherman's story, for example, we know that we will learn something about deliverance, cleansing, healing, or nourishment. When we are brought to the desert setting, we are likely to hear a story about limits—both physical and spiritual, for the desert is a place of escape and retreat, and it is where lives are tested. The desert is the most common Lenten imagery. The need for repentance can be likened to an experience of desolation and isolation. The corollary to an increasing awareness of our own sinfulness is an awakening to the truth that the desert (-ion from God) is of our own making. It is the mountain experience, however, that fascinates me most. On the mountain, Yahweh gives us His commandments of love. On the mountain, the Father speaks to us. On the mountain, Jesus is transfigured, and the fullness of His glory is revealed. On the mountain, our Lord teaches us how to be blessed, that we, too, might be transfigured and share His glory. On the mountain, we encounter the Divine.

Nearly forty days ago, we embarked on a journey that would lead us to Easter Sunday. In seven days more, we will again hear "Alleluia" and rejoice in the good news that He is risen! Holy Week brings us to the final leg of our journey. The journey in the desert is almost over. Perhaps some of us feel a sort of Lenten fatigue. Who among us hasn't already been feeling the fatigue of the pandemic? Yet, Holy Week is now here, and we have 1 week to go until we arrive at the open tomb. We know that the oasis, (Easter), the place of beauty, joy and rest is now very close, but every Holy Week, on the horizon of this nearly finished Lenten journey, there awaits a mountain that our weary spirits must always encounter. To put it another way, Holy Week deepens the entire Lenten experience. It is the time that we are asked to focus intently and unflinchingly on the paschal mystery of our Lord. Though the desert experience is tiring, it has also prepared us to finish the journey. It is time to accompany our Lord on his climb to Calvary.

The Christian message is really quite simple: to share his love and life forevermore, we must first share his suffering and death. No detours are available. We have to climb the mountain. And once there, what do we see? From this vantage point, having finally journeyed back to the One we had desert-ed, finally willing to share *His* journey, *His* suffering and death, finally we are able to see as He sees. From Calvary's vista, we see the world and all of life in a dramatically new way. We see the meandering folly of our solitary travels. We see the selfless journey of love that Jesus trod. How incongruous it is that we can look to a lifeless body nailed to a tree and finally understand that we have reached the summit, our final destination. Seeing Jesus lifted up on the cross of death reveals to us that His greatest humiliation is his, *and our*, greatest triumph. His suffering and death has given meaning to every suffering and death.

Mountain climbing can be difficult. When you reach the summit, however, it is always worth the risk, for the view is always spectacular. Who could imagine that a death march up a mountain would be the final steps of a journey that leads to an eternal oasis of love? On the mountain, we encounter the Divine. On the mountain called Calvary, we see the human face of God, and it is beautiful!

This Holy Week let us together make the climb!

— Fr. John McGivern

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

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

Tue. Mar. 30

- 8:30** † **Luke Podraza**
By: Elaine and Jim Podraza
† **Mekhl James**
By Tom and Pat Nelson

Wed. Mar. 31

- 8:30** † **John R. Ludwick**
By: Jim Hargadon
† **Oluwatoyin Ruth Salau**
By: Donna Kanapes

Sat. April 3

- 5:00** † **John Esposito**
By: Evie Stockinger

Sun. April 4

- 9:00** **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
9:00 † **Paul Grimes**
By: Bill and Barbara Cragg
† **Marie Rose Vincent**
By: The Vincent Family

Readings for the Week

- Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mk 16:1-7
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord; Passover begins at sunset
Monday: Monday of Holy Week
Tuesday: Tuesday of Holy Week
Wednesday: Wednesday of Holy Week
Thursday: Holy Thursday; Paschal Triduum begins
Friday: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion; Fast and 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

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16).

First Reading — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel — The account of Christ's passion according to Mark (Mark 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]).

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.



**APRIL 4,, 2021 —
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37-43

The Apostle Peter was originally skeptical about preaching the Gospel to non-Jews. But one day, the Holy Spirit summoned him to preach to a Gentile — the pagan army officer Cornelius and his household. Today’s passage is a portion of Peter’s sermon, which summarizes the life and ministry of Jesus.

Second Reading: Col. 3:1-4

The letter to the Colossians depicts Christ as the only mediator between God and the world. A previous passage of the letter presented baptism as the way we are united with Christ. The author will today remind us of the heights to which Christ has raised us, and then call upon us to live up to this.

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: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net



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, James Marshall, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez Elias Rojas, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Katie Shoefflin, Tom Sterr, 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.

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



School Scoop

..#Grades 5 & 8 – are coming back on April 12; Grades 1 & 4 – April 19; Grade 3 – April 26; Grade 2 – May 3. Detailed emails will be sent out to families in each grade about the return.

..#Easter Break begins on Friday, April 2 and continues through the following week. Students return to school on Monday, April 12. There are **travel restrictions** and quarantine guidelines in place; please stay informed: <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid-19/home/emergency-travel-order.html> theil 2.

..#If you have not yet **registered for next school year**, you will be getting a call soon from Mrs. Cooper. Let her know of any problems you may be having or anything we can do for you.

..#We are putting together details for our **summer program** and will have the information ready before Easter break.

..#**Construction** has officially started **on Maguire Hall!** Expected completion date is June 1.



Counseling Support Line

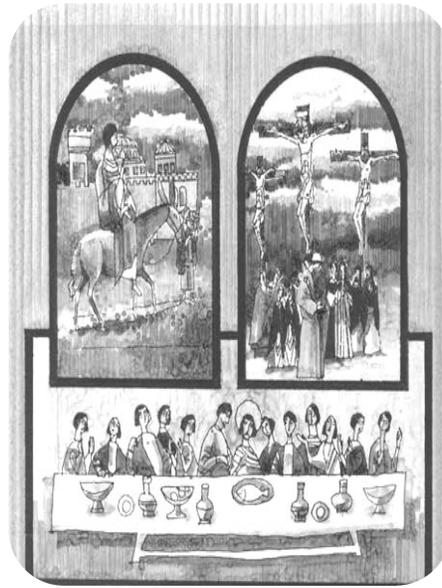
If the pandemic has you feeling anxious or depressed and you'd like to talk with a counselor, please call the Catholic Charities Counseling Support Line at (312) 948-6951 anytime M-F from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Health care workers in particular are encouraged to reach out. Spanish speaking counselors are available. If you leave a message after hours, a counselor will call you back.

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



Paschal Triduum

After Palm Sunday we enter Holy week that is most definitely a very scared time of the year, for it is now that we will commemorate and remember the last weeks' of Jesus' life on earth.

On Holy Thursday, we reenact the Lord's last Supper, which He shared with His Apostles on the night He was betrayed and arrested. This is one of the most beautiful liturgies of the entire liturgical year.

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

Palm Sunday

Today the priest wears red to symbolize God's love and martyrdom and the Christ's suffering and shedding of blood during his Passion and Death. Red is worn again on Good Friday. Red also symbolizes the Fire of the Holy Spirit which is why the priest wears this color in Pentecost again.

Feast of Faith

Liturgies of Holy Week

Holy Week is the culmination of the liturgical year. During these holy days, the liturgy will lead us, with Jesus, to the depths and to the heights.

It begins with a harsh juxtaposition, as we carry palms in remembrance of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and then listen to the Passion according to Matthew, as the King is handed over for crucifixion. Then, on Holy Thursday, we remember the night Jesus was handed over—the night he gave himself for us and to us, to live in our midst forever in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. On Good Friday, we touch with our hands the mystery of the Lord's cross, the instrument of torture that has become the tree of life. Then, at the great Easter Vigil, the lighting of the paschal candle speaks to us of the triumph of light over darkness, of life over death. The resurrection of the Lord becomes a living reality in our midst as the catechumens for whom the Church has prayed throughout Lent are plunged into the mystery of Christ's death and share in the glory of his resurrection. These are indeed holy days, the culmination of the Church's liturgy, and an invitation to participate in the very life of Christ. Come, let us worship.



Food for Thought

A Perfect Expression of Faith

The suffering that Jesus underwent in Passion Week, was made worse by complicit involvement of so many, who for his martyrdom would shout. Three times he told his disciples he would suffer and die, but they stubbornly avoided facing reality. During the week one sold him out; Others left him to go hide, with Peter denying him thrice. But one woman showed an extravagant gesture of love, And stayed with him—her faith was stout.

She stepped forward on the fourth day and anointed Jesus, and Mark left her anonymous, so she could represent the similarly called others.

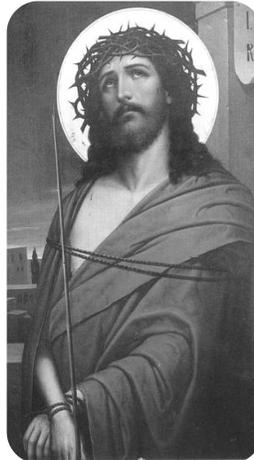
The anointing woman had likely seen Jesus as her pauper King, entering the city to loud “Hosannas!” sung by his sisters and brothers. She had expressed her belief he was God’s appointed one, and was the first to stay with Jesus among the women, joined by Mary and loving mothers.

Her anointing was a symbolic statement he was Christ; She waited to anoint him ‘til his fate was obvious. She was preparing him for death. She had expressed her faith in a gesture of love.

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on the Cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him, and bestowed on him the name which is above every name. (Phil 2:8-9.)

TGL. 3/28/21

Source: NCR, M. McGlone.

**Exploring the Diaconate — Spring 2021**

The Institute for Diaconal Studies (IDS) invites all men who feel the gentle nudge of the Holy Spirit to attend an Exploring the Diaconate session. It is a time to pray, discuss, and learn more about the discernment process and the formation program that aspirants and candidates pursue. Please join us, with your wives, if married, as we explore the potential of a vocation, engage in dialogue and pray in search of the next step. All are welcome to attend any of the sessions. They take place on **Thursday Evenings**: April 8, 15, 22, 29 7:30-8:30PM via Zoom RSVP REQUIRED. Contact Sr. Caroline Onuoha, DMMM 847- 837-4563 or conuoha@usml.edu

For more information contact Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu or 847.837.4564 or visit us at www.usml.edu.

Application Deadline for the 2021–2022 Aspirancy Path is June 1, 2021.

COVID-19—Rental Assistance (suburban Cook County)

The Cook County Emergency Rental Assistance program pays up to 12 months of missed rent and utilities payments and up to 3 months of future rent payments. Payments will be made directly to your landlord and utility company. Applications opened in early March.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, applicants must:

- ...# Live in suburban Cook County and rent their home (Landlords may apply on behalf of eligible tenants)
- ...# Lack access to other support (e.g., don't live in public housing or receive rental assistance from other programs during the same time period)
- ...# Have proof of financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic

What counts as a COVID-19 related financial hardship?

Financial hardships related to COVID-19 include:

- ...# Losing your income
- ...# Working fewer hours
- ...# Being furloughed
- ...# Quitting your job because you are at high risk for COVID-19 and need to self-isolate
- ...# Losing work to stay home to care for a child

What documents are needed?

- ...# Photo ID
- ...# Social Security Card (not required for renters)
- ...# Verification of income for 2020
- ...# Documentation of COVID-19 financial hardship
- ...# Latest utility bill

Visit the Cook County website for more details:

<https://www.cookcountyil.gov/service/covid-19-recovery-rental-assistance-program>

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. — Philipians 2:8