



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

JANUARY 9, 2022
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. John McGivern, Administrator
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mr. Julius White, Praise Choir Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mr. Ludwig Weiss, School Operations Director
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:

Tuesday, and Wednesday- 8:30am - Main Church

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)



Thoughts From Rev. John W. McGivern, Administrator

Dear Friends,

With today's celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, we bring to a close the Season of Christmas. In the short span of roughly 2 weeks, we have considered his virgin birth in a manger (a feeding trough) for a bed. We have pondered his universal appeal as both shepherds and wise men from afar came to bow before him. We have recalled that Herod forced the Holy Family to flee to Egypt, that even at his birth, others sought to kill him. Finally, we were asked to fathom that the wood of the cradle and the wood of the cross were somehow inextricably linked.

Now the season is complete as the public ministry of our Lord Jesus begins after he is baptized in the Jordan River by John. Today, we heard the words of Peter being proclaimed in the Acts of the Apostles. He stated: "I begin to see how true it is that God shows no partiality. Rather, the individual from any nation who fears God and acts uprightly is acceptable to God... This is... 'the good news of peace' proclaimed through Jesus Christ who is Lord of all..." The Gospel reading which follows depicts the baptism of Jesus. The Lord's baptism, in so much as he was God's perfect gift to us, is an event of incredible humility. We learn time and again in the Gospels, that it is precisely in Jesus' humility that his divinity is most clearly revealed.

Recall how we encountered him over the past 2 weeks: as an infant, without a home, lying in a feeding trough for a stable of animals. Nonetheless, shepherds sought him and kings from far away journeyed to him. Now recall that from those humble beginnings, his life led to death on a cross—a criminal's death. From such an utterly humiliating death, the chasm between heaven

and earth was forever filled. In other words, from the beginning to the end of his earthly existence, Jesus demonstrated his divinity to us in all the ways that mattered most: how he loved, how he forgave, how he welcomed the sinner, how he accepted the lowly, how he conferred the gift of peace. These are not activities of a privileged king. No, all these things that demonstrated his divinity to us most clearly of all, are all the things that you and I have access to today.

Reflecting, then, upon the baptism of Jesus, are we not likewise humbled to see the author of life submerged in complete supplication to the will of his Father? When we attempt to make sense out of this unfathomable truth, are we, too, not brought to our knees? In learning of our Lord's own humility and selfless desire to do the Father's will, do we not desire to do the same?

The Baptism of Jesus inaugurated his public ministry. It subsequently led to his suffering and death. If you and I allowed ourselves to experience something of the impact of his baptism as it is retold to us in our Sacred Scriptures, perhaps we, like Jesus, would also come to know and experience the greatest truth of all—that we are also God's sons and daughters and that already we are so fully and freely given his wonderful love. Should this sublime truth permeate our hearts and minds, imagine how differently we would live and act and even carry ourselves. In such a world, the God who shows no partiality would find a home among all people, and all people, in response, would humble themselves, thereby truly reflecting the beauty, the dignity and the divinity that we see in Jesus.

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 Visteon

Servers: Kathy Paoli

Ministers of Care: Rev. John McGivern

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

Kevin Morgan

Women's Ministry: Shelby Boblick

HUMAN CONCERNS COMMISSION

Peace & Justice Committee: Kevin Morgan

ADULT EDUCATION COMMISSION

Baptism Com.: Rev. John McGivern

Religious Education of Children: Janet Bennick's

St. Edmunds Rel. Ed. Coordinator

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

PARISH DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES COMMISSION

Facilities Com. Jim Podraza, Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson / Cynthia Weaver

Weddings: Please contact Fr. John McGivern 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.

The 500 Club Certificates

This new season of the 500 Club has begun and continues through June 26, 2022!

Certificates numbered from 1 to 500 are sold for \$25 each. **The numbers on all the certificates purchased are placed into a drawing every weekend until the season ends.**

The owner of the certificate whose number is drawn wins \$35. Three weekends, however, the prize is \$500 instead of \$35. **IF** all 500 certificates available for the season are eventually sold, there will be a fourth weekend with a prize of \$500 instead of \$35. The proceeds of the program are going toward the general operating expenses of the parish.

The certificates are great for yourself and make fun gifts for others. During the past season, several winners received their certificates as gifts, including two of the \$500 winners. Imagine the delight!

Applications and information about the 500 Club are available in the gathering area of the church and at the parish office. Applications and payment using a check or cash may be mailed to the parish or put into the collection basket at Mass. To make a purchase with a credit card, use Give Central at:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/364/event/8132>.

We can't thank you enough for your continued support of the parish through this fun yet socially distanced program. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation, especially as we aren't able to resume some of our previous and helpful fundraising events at this time.

Peace, wellness, prayers, and gratitude!

~The Fundraising Committee

 * **THE 500 CLUB WINNER** *
 * **\$ 35.00—January 9, 2022** *
 * **CHERYL JACKSON, # 364** *



Save the date

AAHC mass on **Sunday, February 6th at 10AM**
(please note the change in time).
More details to follow.

The Baptism of the Lord Prayer

*Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had
been baptized in the
River Jordan
and as the Holy Spirit
descended upon him,
solemnly declared him
your beloved Son,
grant that your children
by adoption,
reborn of water and
the Holy Spirit,
may always be well
pleasing to you.*

*Through our Lord Jesus
Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with
you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen*

The Baptism of the Lord

*He saved us through the bath of
rebirth and renewal by the Holy
Spirit.*

— Titus 3:5

Grateful

Thanks so much for the donations of new toys and children's books. They were taken to Catholic Charities at 5645 W. Corcoran Place.

So much love reached out from you and brought happiness to many children. Thank you again. Happy New Year!

Today's Readings

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *or* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11.

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29) *or* Psalm 104.

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38) *or* Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7.

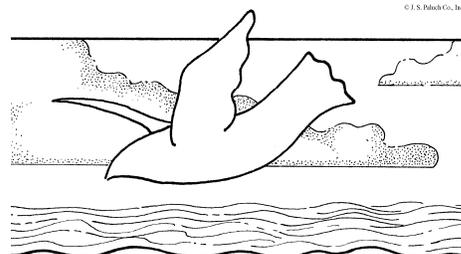
Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Luke 3:15-16, 21-22).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Christmas Memorial Flower envelopes are available at the doors of the church.

Please consider remembering a loved one with a donation by filling out the envelope and dropping it in the collection basket or sending it to the rectory.



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Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue. January 11

8:30 † **Barney Kessell**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Wed. January 12

8:30 † **Luke Podraza**
By: Elaine and Jim Podraza

Sat. January 15

5:00 † **Marlene Moravec**
By: Donna Kanapex

Sun. January 16

9:00 † **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
Luke Podraza
By: Elaine and Jim Podraza

† **Robert J. Wheel**
By: Bern and Marie Wheel



Readings for the Week

- Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13-17
- Sunday: Is 62:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
- Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time
- Thursday: St. Hilary
- Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Our Parish Stewardship



St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church

December 12, 2021	\$ 2,709.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 2,483.00
Weekly Budget	\$ <u>7,308.00</u>
DEFICIT	\$ -2,116.00
December 19, 2021	\$ 1,905.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 888.00
Weekly Budget	\$ <u>7,308.00</u>
DEFICIT	\$ -4,515.00

Christmas	\$ 10,405.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 710.00

December 26, 2021	\$ 1,578.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 4,388.00
Weekly Budget	\$ <u>7,308.00</u>
DEFICIT	\$ -1,342.00
January 2, 2022	\$ 1,099.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 2,318.00
Weekly Budget	\$ <u>7,308.00</u>
DEFICIT	\$ -3,891.00

Online donations can be made to St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish at: www.givecentral.org
Thanks for your continued financial support!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS—JAN. 2022

	LECTOR	Communion Minister
Jan. 15-16 Sat Sun	Frank Pond Kevin Morgan	Lessie Dean Fannie Cooper
Jan. 22-23 Sat Sun	Christine Wedekind Marcie Morgan	Pat Koko Bill Cragg
Jan. 29-30 Sat Sun	Paul Knight Pat Nelson	Lessie Dean Kathy Mortell

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



**JANUARY, 16 2022—
2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

The last part of the book of Isaiah contains the words of a prophet who lived after the Jews returned from exile in Babylon six centuries before Christ. Upon their return, they found their temple destroyed and city of Jerusalem leveled. Still, the prophet sees a wonderful future for them because God loves them so much. Note the beautiful image he uses to describe that love.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

Today, and for the next few weeks, our second reading will be from Paul's letter to the Corinthians. Corinth was a busy cosmopolitan seaport located in the central part of modern-day Greece. Here, Paul addresses problems his converts are experiencing as they live in a Christian life in this non-Christian environment.



Sacrament of Reconciliation
Confessions 4:00—4:30 PM Church

Every Saturday from 4:00—4:30 PM St. Catherine of Siena —St. Lucy Parish is again offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation weekly before the Saturday evening mass.

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 Baptisms of the Lord

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, or Theophany, is the feast day commemorating the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The Baptism of the Lord is notable because it marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Danita Bowie, Jeanette Cannon, Juan Fernandez, Katherine Fisher, Bill Holmes, Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Marilyn McFall, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Andy Pomykalski, Shelley Sandow, Joann Taylor, LaNedra Vaughn, Howard Visteen, and Fred Williams

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 parish office during office hours. Thanks

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



School Scoop

Classes will resume tomorrow, **Monday, January 10, 2022.**

We hope everyone had a beautiful Christmas and rang in a very happy New Year.

Communion & Anointing of the Sick

Our Communion Ministers are ready to go into personal visits again after COVID restrictions have lifted.

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.

2022 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 this offering your prayers at a Mass.

Our books are open for personal intentions for the 2022 year.



Grief Support Group

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through difficult days ahead.

Contact Us Today:
Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
January 12 - April 6, 2022
St. Giles Parish, McDonough Hall
1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park

Year-End Giving

As you begin your end-of-year tax planning, look into the advantages of the charitable tax deduction for gifts made before December 31 and consider the variety of gift options available to you. Your gift to our parish can make a great difference to us and help you as well. If you have appreciated securities, you may realize a tax benefit by donating them or other assets with capital gains to St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish. If you are 70½ or older and have a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your retirement plan, you may be able to benefit from a qualified charitable distribution. The IRS requires individuals to begin taking annual minimum distributions from their traditional IRAs at age 70½. Ordinarily you would be required to pay income tax on these withdrawals. The IRA charitable rollover law, however, allows the RMD to be used as a direct distribution to a charity without being taxed. To take advantage of this tax break, you must be 70½ or older and complete the transaction by December 31. In addition, qualifying distributions to charity are limited to \$100,000 per person for each tax year. As always, work closely with your IRA custodian and tax and legal advisors to determine how any particular strategy will affect your overall tax situation.

Please contact our Business Manager, Patricia Pomykalski at the Rectory | Parish Office at 708-386-8077 before the end of the *first* week of January is fine too to advise the parish of your gift so that it will qualify as a donation in 2021.)



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.

GiveCentral 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 and giving tab you will be able to find the link to **GiveCentral**



FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

Thursday Afternoons, Anyone?

Would you like a “two-for”? Would you like to help Faith & Fellowship at the same time as you help yourself? We extend this invitation to you for both! Each Thursday afternoon, a small group comes together to “accompany” one another (to use one of Pope Francis’s favorite words) and to deepen their faith. You could -be a part of this powerful Christian experience.

Join with us, 1:00-3:30 PM each Thursday, and discover that supporting others and enriching yourself are really one and the same thing. -Check it out! – Connie Rakitan, faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or 708/383-9276.

Parish Calendars

The new Parish 2022 Calendars have finally arrived! They are available in the gathering area after all Masses.

Hurtful Sin

Sin is not hurtful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.

—Benjamin Franklin

Help the Homeless

The Haymarket office at O’Hare Airport is in desperate need of winter clothing articles for the homeless population who come to the Haymarket office at O’Hare Airport. We have a SCSL parishioner that works there as an Outreach Worker and is willing to be taking your clothing articles to them.

Socks (the less ankle binding the better), Gloves, hats, scarves, jogging pants, preferably new. Used: Shoes boots, and coats in good condition will be accepted.

There will be a bin designated for this purpose in the back of the church. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



Baptismal Death and Resurrection

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, we also honor our own baptism as our initiation into the Christian life and community. In the Gospel, the baptism of Jesus, with his immersion and then emergence from the water, points to his later submission to God at his death, and his emergence from the grave at his resurrection. This pattern of death and resurrection is our path too, as followers of Jesus. Throughout life, often in small ways, we learn to surrender our limited and self-centered agendas. This surrender often feels like death. The sacrament of Baptism ritually enacts this pattern to remind us of Jesus’ death and resurrection, so that we too might embrace the deaths and resurrections of our own lives. As Jesus emerged from the water, he encountered his Father and the Holy Spirit. Like Jesus, we can know we are God’s beloved, empowered by the Spirit.

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Accompanying & mentoring training program

January 12, 2022
from 7:00pm to 9:00 pm
St. Leonard School Hall,
3322 Clarence Ave, Berwyn

The interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants newest program, *Harbor Hospitality* is a community based housing and case management program designed specifically for people seeking asylum. Their trauma-informed care model is a globally replacement to immigration detention. Please come and learn about how can you participate and volunteer on this collaborative project.

For more information please contact Julie O'Reilly-Castillo 708-484-0015
jcastillo@stleonard.org



Catholic Charities Legal Assistance Department

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.

Food for Thought

“A Light for the Nations”

“Jesus had been baptized, and was praying... the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, like a dove. A voice came from heaven: ‘You are my beloved son; With you I am well-pleased.’ “ (Luke 3: 21-22)

After his baptism, and reception of the Holy Spirit, Jesus left for Nazareth to fulfill Isaiah’s prophecy:

A light would appear there; people in darkness see a great light, and so it begins.

The Bible presents God’s power as a light sustaining all things. “Let there be light,” the first words God speaks over non-existent light.

Light as the essence of creation, is intelligible to the human mind.

Sin separates us from the source of light, casting a shadow over our understanding of reality and creation.

Cut off from God, we’re disoriented—blind to identity.

We live in darkness.

Jesus as the Incarnate restores the light that makes everything intelligible and meaningful—we were blind but now we see.

Wherever he goes, people see creation restored to their right relationships.

Christmastime is meant to open our eyes to the light of life. We must unwrap the greatest gifts: what shepherds and Magi saw, meant for us;

What Mary pondered holding Jesus; how Joseph protected him.

The Light of their lives.

We share that ministry of light: justice and kindness, peace and love.

When we encounter Jesus in the sacraments, in prayer, in our faith community, he restores our nature to its divine sources.

May he be well-pleased.

1/9/22 Tom Lynch, SCSL

Sources: NCR, P. Marrin; Luke 3:21-22; Isaiah 42: 6-7.

Temper and Pride

Temper is what gets most of us into trouble. Pride is what keeps us there.

—Anonymous