SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINT LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



JANUARY 29, 2023 • Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH
38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK
DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK: Wednesday at 8:30 am
WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 5:00 pm (Confession prior to Mass, 4:00 to 4:30 pm); and Sunday at 9:00 am

ST. GILES CHURCH 1045 COLUMBIAN AVENUE, OAK PARK DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 am; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 am; Saturday at 8:00 am (Confession following Mass, 8:30 to 9:00 am) WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 4:30 pm and Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Fr. Carl's Corner



Last Sunday evening, the unified Oak Park parishes shared in a Sunday evening 5:00 pm Mass at the St. Edmund Church site. The Mass is open to all, especially those who have been expressing interest for this weekend Mass time. Many have said they like the reverent, quiet way of ending what can be busy weekends, especially for families, and beginning their week on a spiritual note that brings a sense of peace and guidance for the week ahead. Through the efforts of our parishes' Music and Liturgy Directors and the support of a group of young adults, this Mass time opportunity is now part of our regular schedule. The third Sunday of each month will have a special focus on young adults, planning and participating in the Mass.

I want to remind everyone that in January 2022 in an update for the Oak Park Churches, this information was shared. After the Grouping Discernment Team met, it was suggested and agreed to by the Archdiocese that all the parish communities, regardless of the specific parish structures decided, would continue to work together as a united Oak Park Catholic Community.

We now have our two new parish structures in place, and we have been moving forward in some important and meaningful ways for the future of the Church here that serves Oak Park and our members beyond.

Getting the Sunday evening Mass on the schedule in one central location is part of that process. Using the space at St. Catherine-St. Lucy's Rectory for the temporary shelter is another as members of the entire Oak Park Catholic community have been and continue to be involved. And if you have been reading the bulletins across the parishes, you are aware of a new initiative coming together to unify our Religious Education programs for all our children.

All of these are important initiatives as we move into the next phase of Renew My Church, BUILDING A NEW REALITY. I, and our staffs, will keep everyone informed by sharing information and details as we make this journey together.

The Christmas message is an important one to keep in mind and heart, Emmanuel, GOD IS WITH US!!

Today's scriptures remind us that the entire life journey of a Christian can be one guided by the Beatitudes. As we hear these holy words, may we remember to be merciful peacemakers along the way. Empathy, we are reminded, teaches us to show mercy, to make peace, to work for justice and to be humble. The Kingdom of Heaven awaits those who are empathetic. This is not something we practice randomly. It begins in our homes, at school, in our staff meetings and in all interactions on our journey as we work together trying to understand and *build a new reality* among us. Our experience of church has been changing as we have gone from four faith communities into two new parishes. Let's not forget that at the heart of who we are is Jesus who calls us around the Table and then sends us forth to live as his disciples. That practice must begin with how we look at, feel about and treat each other.

Perhaps a good question for us all to reflect on is where in this process am I being called to strengthen this virtue of empathy?

Have a great week ahead, stay safe and be well!

With you a Christian. For you a priest.

Fr. Carl

Call for Additional Volunteers at the Emergency Shelter

In addition to the need for volunteers to bring meals and work the overnight or morning shift at the emergency shelter run by Housing Forward in the St. Catherine – St. Lucy rectory, we also need volunteers who are proficient in Spanish to visit the shelter from 7 – 9:30 pm any night to help the staff communicate with some of the guests. We also need 2 – 3 people willing to drive 3 - 4 guests from the shelter at 6:30 am to Housing Forward's offices in Maywood, just 4.5 miles from the shelter. If you can help in either of these capacities, please contact Dan Doody at dan@doody.com. Thank you.

Spiritual Life & Worship

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 30 6:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, January 31

Saint John Bosco, Priest 8:30 — † Dr. Robert Hammer † A Special Intention

Wednesday, February 1

6:30 — † Tom Hedges

† Margaret Harmon 8:30 — † All Parishioners and Benefactors

Thursday, February 2

The Presentation of the Lord

8:30 — † Sr. Helen McAllister

Friday, February 3

6:30 — † Paul Bourjaily

Saturday, February 4

8:00 — † Gladys Gallagher Frances Hammer

† Lina Royal

*4:30 — † All Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, February 5

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

† Rosemary Whiston 8:00 —

† Danny Thomas

Owen Petrzelka 10:30 — † Walter Lamacki

Helen Kempa

Theophile Kempa

*This Mass will be live-streamed from the St. Giles website, stgilesparish.org.

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Wednesday, February 1 8:30 — † Donna Kanapes

by the Parish Community

Saturday, Februáry 4

5:00 — † Evelyn Cademartrie by Tom Cademartrie † Vicente Yee-Canama by The Yee Family

Sunday, Februarý 5

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00 — † Celia L. Hegwood by Tom and Pat Nelson

† Mary Kay Cademartrie by Tom Cademartrie

† Donna Konecki (26th Anniversary of Death) by J. and Kristà Konecki and Family

Ye Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Jane Baker, Jori Baker, Phyllis Baker, Joe Bigliotti, Danita Bowie, Herbert Breidenbach, Phil Calabrese, Tiffany Church, Patrick Cibula, Ray Cimms, Patricia Crotty, Lucille Dalbis, Andrea Dickson, Donald Pettis Edmond, Wanda Farmer, Mike Fenske, Katherine Fisher, Tom and Carol Frank, Mary Ellen Frank, Jim Gallagher, Earl Gallermo, Michael Gallo, Grace Gryzlo Goodmanson, Maggie Astacio Hedges, Deacon John Henricks, Bill Holmes, Frank Huss, Phillip Jones, Patrick King, Marie Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Kimberly Lester, Jim and Linda Lewis, Jake Lofgren, Gabriela Machado, Jim Madden, Virginia Madden, Lorry Madonia, Mary Mamolella, Patricia McDonald, Sr. Louise Noesen, Matt O'Connell, Amelia Patterson, Carv Phillips, Bob Quane, Patricia Reardon, Dennis Rusin, Maureen Sansone, Mary and Paul Schleitwiler, Baby Harrison Schenone, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Phyllis Skwerski, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Nina Stanley, Sarah Such, Joann Taylor, Julie Troost, LaNedra Vaughn, Shirley Venerable, Meg Welch, Nancy Wesclitz, Catherine Williams.

(Names will be periodically removed from this listing in the bulletin and also from the list of recurring intersessions spoken at weekend Masses. Others have received a Prayer Shawl representing the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the parish office to include someone on this prayer list or to request inclusion in the weekend Mass intercessions, or to request a Prayer Shawl.)

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Mario Casas, father of Eliana Mitropoulos, Donna Kanapes, and Pascual Francisco.



Second Collection This Weekend for Little Sisters of the Poor

This weekend, January 28-29, the Little Sisters of the Poor will visit St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish to share their vocation of

hospitality to the elderly. St. Mary's Home in Chicago is one of

167 Homes for the elderly poor operated by the Little Sisters in 31 countries around the world.

Acute and considerable continues to be their need for financial support. Virtually all of the current Residents of St. Mary's Home qualify for Medicaid, and a few receive meager pensions. But these modest funds cover, at best, about half of the annual expenses. The Little Sisters have ministered to thousands of elders in Chicago for 145 years. Your support will enable them to continue their mission of caring for the neediest seniors of every race and religion in a spirit of reverence and of humble service. God bless you!

www.littlesistersofthepoorchicago.org





AKWAABA! WELCOME!

The people of St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles invite you to attend the annual celebration of AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE!!



Calling together all peoples of our community

February 5, 2023

10:00 am MASS



St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church 38 N. Austin Boulevard Oak Park, Illinois

Pot Lunch Brunch in Maguire Hall Call 708.383.3430 for more information

Spiritual Life and Worship

<u>African-American Heritage</u> Celebration

On Sunday, February 5, there will be a 10:00 am Mass at St. Catherine-St. Lucy for our annual celebration of African-American Heritage – a gathering of community embracing the Black Experience in history and holiness. (This will be instead of the usual 9:00 am Mass – NO 9:00 am Mass at the SCSL worship site on Sunday, February 5 only). This year's event will be even more special than usual, since it will be honored by St. Catherine-St. Lucy and St. Giles as one parish of "Akwaaba." Come to the Mass, stay for the Pot Luck!!

POT LUCK BRUNCH -- parishioners are encouraged to bring a favorite dish to Maguire Hall (the gym) before the liturgy. Appetizer, salad, entree, side, dessert -- whatever you like! We could also use some volunteers with serving and clean up at the brunch. If interested, or if you have any brunch questions, email Ginny Jones at v.m.jones@hotmail.com.

Praying the Rosary on Zoom Fridays at 7:00 pm

Join Deacon Kevin and Marci Morgan on Zoom to pray the Rosary on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm.



https://us02web.zoom.us/ Meeting ID: 865 8895 7490 Passcode: 634955

January 29 is the final live stream of Mass from St Catherine-St Lucy Church, and we'd like to take a minute to thank the people who have supported this ministry:

- Sue Schouten who kept us in legal compliance every week by checking every song and response to insure it was covered by our copyright contract.
- Noussirath Moustapha, Kevin Morgan and Madonna Sloan who set up the computer and ran the live stream every week.
- Rachel Faulman who emailed the link out every week after filling Amanda's role so our parishioners could easily tune in.

Thank you for your time and energies in this effort.

The gift of a warm welcome

When Margaret Murphy and her family moved to Oak Park seven years ago, it wasn't easy making the adjustments required in returning to the Chicago area after 10 years in Indianapolis. But soon, with children in St. Giles School, she felt welcome in the parish. She even was invited to become a member of the parish council. A few years ago, when the council

received feedback that some people did not experience the church as welcoming, Margaret joined in the brainstorming of solutions. She took on the challenge to create a Greeter Ministry, with the goal of making sure that everyone who arrived at the Saturday and Sunday liturgies would feel welcome.

Margaret considers her role as a greeter as one of the most satisfying experiences of community life. She appreciates that people may find it hard getting to church—with travel, family commitments, the busyness of life. "We want a friendly face at the door. Sometimes a warm welcome helps in the transition as they cross the threshold, becoming ready to receive Christ," she said. "Sometimes we may be the only person someone talks to in a day."

Margaret is inspired by seeing the face of Christ in each person as they enter. "I hope that I can be a face of Christ for them, as well—the welcoming presence of Christ." This way of thinking has carried over into other parts of her life. "It helps me find the love in everyday interactions. I can see that even the smallest act of giving and receiving can mean a lot to someone."

Today some 40 parishioners participate as greeters at the St. Giles Church, signing up as their schedules permit. Ten or twelve are



greeters on a regular basis, while others may greet now and then. One of the weekly greeters is Julie Denise. She and her husband moved to Oak Park in 2009 and their daughter was born in 2012. Six years ago, when their little girl started attending the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, the family returned to their Catholic roots at St. Giles. "I found that this church strengthened my relationship with the Holy Trinity," she said.

Serving as a greeter is a privilege in Julie's eyes. "I love serving in any capacity in all aspects of life," she said. "And this is so <u>easy</u>." She recalled some amazing experiences of "God-filled moments." Once, Julie welcomed an older woman who entered the church seeming puzzled. She was looking for a funeral but had arrived 90 minutes early. To help the woman pass the time, Julie invited her to her home, and introduced her to her husband and daughter. They enjoyed this unexpected experience of companionship. Another time she struck up a short conversation with a man who was waiting for his wife to arrive. In just a few minutes they exchanged a sense of deep connection with Jesus. "Those moments come. You just have to dedicate time to give love and be joyful," she said. "This is the easiest job. It's not like work. It is incredibly rewarding. Just smile and say hello." She added: "No training required."

There are dedicated and thriving usher ministries that also provide a welcoming presence at every Mass at our St. Catherine – St. Lucy and St. Giles churches. In future articles in this series, we will share more about the ushers, some of whom have been loyally serving for decades in this important role.

If you are interested in becoming a greeter, contact Margaret Murphy at margaretmurphy4@gmail.com, or phone or text her at 317-450-7482.

Lifelong Formation

Religious Education Reflections

In January, the 7th and 8th grade students have talked about prayer and experienced Taizé Prayer: a



distinctive style of meditative prayer developed by an ecumenical community of monks in rural France. This reflective prayer combines music and scripture.

candles and silence in hopes of deepening a person's connection to God.

These are some of the comments from the students regarding what they learned.

That there are different ways to pray and different types of prayer.

The meaning of prayer and how it can change you. That God will always love us and watch over us That prayer is a love song to God.

Praying isn't just talking, it's listening.

That the Holy Spirit is with you when you pray.

The students also learned about Vices and Virtues. They talked not only about what each one means but also what are some specific behaviors that might lead them to make good decisions in their lives.

Sacrament Prep: First Communion and Reconciliation

The children preparing for First Communion learned all about God's love this month as they prepared to celebrate their First Reconciliation. Fr. Carl reminded the children that the sacrament of Reconciliation shines a light on God's love. We will have another celebration of First Reconciliation for the rest of the children on February 4 at 11:45 am in the church. Please contact



Alex (alexryan@stgilesparish.org) if you have not received preparation materials.

Confirmation

Confirmation preparation has resumed! The teens are exploring what it means to live our faith, through witness and service. They have designed an outreach project – a church scavenger hunt for the entire community - and are planning other acts of service. Please keep all the teens in your prayers – and keep an eye out for information about the Scavenger Hunt! Please contact Alex (alexryan@stgilesparish.org) with any questions.



Center for Lifelong Learning and Faith Formation Survey

A Catholic center for lifelong learning and faith formation for Oak Park and the surrounding communities is being created. This is being done to call people, regardless of age, into a life of discipleship through Jesus the Christ to meet people where they are in their faith journey, and to share resources for the benefit of all.

While not yet fully formed, this center will be a welcoming presence with a mission to share Christian faith within the Catholic context for all people. In order to be attentive to your needs from your spiritual community, we need to hear from you! What are your thoughts and ideas for this initiative?

The purpose for this survey is to listen to needs and ideas to create a fresh approach for lifelong learning and being a person of faith in the Catholic community at any age.

We are grateful for your participation.

To complete the survey, scan the QR code here, or enter the URL in your browser:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YGBS68M



Parish Life





SEEKING SITE CAPTAINS, VOLUNTEERS, & MEAL PROVIDERS FOR OUR **EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER**

Faith & Fellowship



Any Green Thumbs Out There?

Faith and Fellowship could use some small-to-medium house plants for our meeting room and payer circle. Can anyone donate some and help us maintain them? Since we are in a windowless basement and since none of us has much talent for horticulture – we would love it if some of our parishioners could step in and help us beautify the atmosphere by bringing a bit of God's nature into our room. To figure out how we can make this happen, email Connie Rakitan at faith fellowship@hotmail.com or call 708-383-9276.

The Senior Corner



Let us take time and pray for a wonderful 2023. May it be filled with blessings of health, happiness and peace for you and your family!!

February is fast approaching and it's time for the Seniors to once again gather together for good conversation, sharing stories and fellowship. Mark your calendars for our first meeting of the New Year which will be Tuesday, February 21. That's great because it is Mardi Gras Tuesday and we will celebrate with a pot luck luncheon. More specific details will be forth coming.

St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy Church 38 N. Austin Boulevard in Oak Park



VOLUNTEERS ARE A KEY PART OF OPERATING OUR EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER FOR INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS.

The opportunities for this shelter are:

> Site Captain

Site captains recruit and manage a team of volunteers from their congregation to fill volunteer needs and/or meals for a night of shelter operation.

> Evening Shelter Host (6:30 pm-10:00 pm)

Volunteers help get set-up for the evening, greet the shelter guests as they arrive help them to set up their sleeping area, host dinner, and interact with clients until lights out.

- > Overnight Attendant (10:00 pm-5:00 am) Volunteers support staff in ensuring a safe experience for the shelter guests.
- > Breakfast Host (5:00 am-7:00 am) Volunteers serve a light breakfast, help shelter guests exit and assist with light clean-up.
- > Meal Provider

Volunteers donate and deliver a hot dinner meal, and/or a continental breakfast and/or a sack to-go lunches for 15 people.

To sign up, please scan the QR code to access the interactive calendar. Additional job descriptions and volunteer requirements can be found on the calendar.

For additional information, contact Cherrell Jackson at cjackson@housingforward.org



Wednesday Night Bible Study resumes on February 15!

7:00 pm in the St. Giles Parish Center Living Room, at 1025 Columbian Avenue, and over Zoom

All are welcome - It is **NOT** necessary or required you attend each week... Come when you can!!

We will be continuing our series of diving into the Gospels using The Chosen - Season Three as a tool to help explore more deeply the reality of Jesus as God and man. We'll be sending out study guides,



including bible verses/chapters that will be referenced in the episode that we will be watching each week as well as questions to ponder and discuss together.

Contact Maria Samatas at msamatas@me.com for more information!

St. Giles School

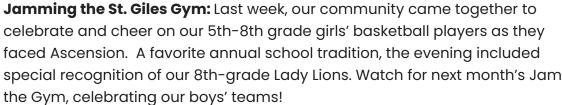


Highlights From Our Halls ... and Beyond

A look at the life of a Lion: January 2023

Little Lions "Roar" for Winter: Our PreK3 students have been learning about the winter season, making snowman crafts and wintry scenes, tissue paper snowflakes, and even staging an indoor "snowball" fight.

Preschool Soccer League Kicks Off: One of the highlights of a PreK-8th grade school experience is the opportunity to make cross-grade connections. In our annual PreK soccer league, our smaller soccer stars are "coached" by volunteer middle schoolers. It's a special way for the older Lions to mentor the younger ones!

















The Letter is a dynamic new feature-length film by Laudato Si' Movement in partnership with Off the Fence Productions. It was released in October 2022 in collaboration with the Vatican. It brings Pope Francis' vision of integral ecology to life.

The film follows individuals from around the world as they are invited to meet with Pope Francis to discuss how

climate change is impacting their lives and the steps they are taking to tackle it. Their journey is transformative.

Join us on Tuesday, February 7, from 7:00 - 9:00 pm in St. Edmund's Murphy Hall, 188 S. Oak Park Avenue, for a free screening of "The Letter." Refreshments will be served; please contact Laura Kelley at mogiakelley@gmail.com if you'd like more information or to volunteer with the event. The film is appropriate for those ages 16 and up.

Registration is requested; go to **tinyurl.com/af55jehp** or scan this QR code.



ST. GILES SCHOOL

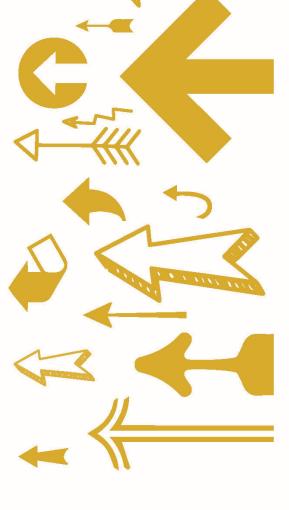
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SUN., JAN. 29TH 11:30AM - 1:00PM

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Parish Life



My Name is Pauli Murray

Film Screening:
Monday, February 6, 2023, 7:00 pm
Discussion: Tuesday, February 7, 2023, 7:00 pm
Facilitators: Maudette Carr and Shelby Boblick

In-person, Handicapped Accessible

McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus
1101 Columbian Avenue, 2nd Floor, Oak Park

Did you know that Pauli Murray was one of the most instrumental voices of the civil rights movement? Or is this the first time you are hearing her name? Many U.S. historians now claim that you cannot teach U.S. history without teaching the contributions of Pauli Murray. A legal trailblazer with pioneering contributions as a poet, activist, lawyer, and priest, you will not want to miss watching the documentary film My Name is Pauli Murray and participating in our film discussion!

This documentary film will be shown in the small conference room in McDonough Hall at 7:00 pm on Monday, February 6! In the spirit of Black History Month, Shelby Boblick and Maudette Carr will facilitate a discussion of the film on Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm in McDonough Hall. Come to either or both sessions!

Our conversation will touch on many of the "firsts" that Pauli Murray experienced and embodied in the fields of education and law, and socially through discrimination of race, gender, and sex. Through participants' collective wisdom and deep listening, we may perceive a deeper understanding of Pauli Murray's life. The life of Pauli Murray may be a story about bringing a new creation into being; we are destined to love, and we are going to love something into being.

Join us!

Shelby Boblick has a background in spirituality and loves the outdoors. After 30+ years of corporate real estate law practice and being trained as a pastoral associate, Shelby chairs the Board of The Well, is a long-term parishioner of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church, and facilitates a variety of spirituality conversations.

Maudette Carr is a social worker with 22+ years of experience in hospice and palliative care and is a presenter on end-of-life care. Having become a Sinsinawa Dominican Associate, Maudette has a second calling to follow in the Dominican charism. She is certified as a Circle Keeper in facilitating monthly anti-racism conversations. As long-time parishioner of St. Giles Church, Maudette serves the parish in many roles. Faith is important to Maudette.

Food For Thought

The Passage to New Life

"Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth, who have observed his law; seek justice, seek humility...". (Zephaniah 2:3)

From the start of Jesus' ministry, his presence changes everything. Dramatic cures and exorcisms, he showed the crowd a miracle wellspring: A man possessed, a paralyzed man, a diseased leper's life refashion; Jesus revealed as the embodiment of God's grace, mercy and compassion, in an already troubled world.

His message is that Satan's power has been shattered, and spirits unclean acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God, with power to restore creation's sheen to where it was before sin distorted human behavior and sicknesses brought, and even death into the world.

People throng for a glimpse as Jesus taught, and try to touch him; a small boat saved him.

Jesus' mission is to enlist people to participate in conversion, with his miracles giving a glimpse of God's glory; without coercion, willingly consent and obey.

Jesus' mission must embrace concision, In transformation reaching history.

As the Christ crucified and risen, he will belong to every generation.

He'll touch every person who comes to him, with his Church's body mystical.

He will be present in the Eucharist for all our communities theistical:

Active in the ministry of the Church;

Alive for all in country and city;
who loves and serves others; longs for peace;

And works for justice and equity.

We live this mysterious process now.

Jesus is with us in the boat of the Church as we make passage from death to new life.

By imitating Jesus, we will share his power of healing and chasing strife, calming and guiding others to God.

Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com. 1/29/23

Sources: NCR, P. Marrin, 1/19/23 Mark 3:7-12



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