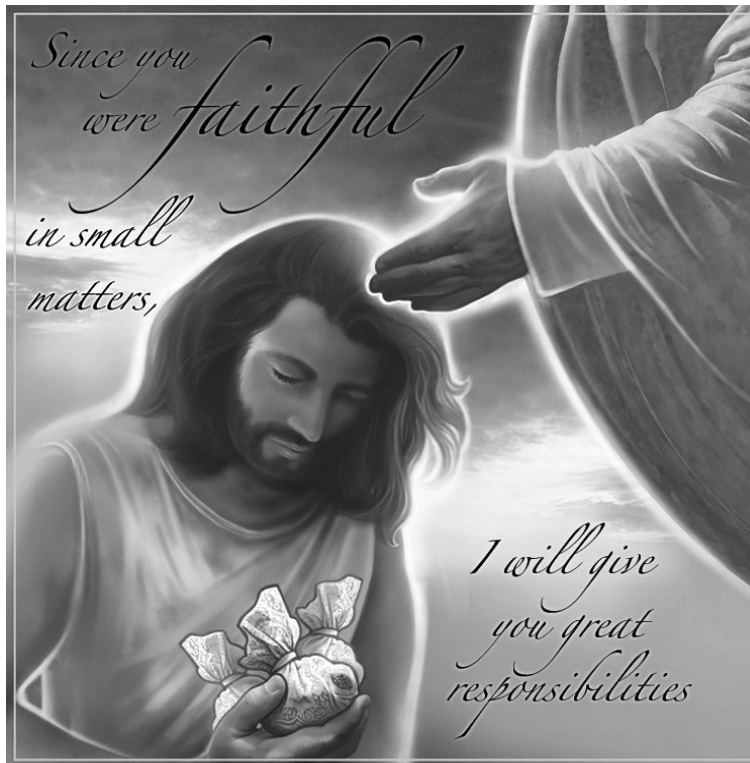


November 19, 2017
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA **ST. LUCY**

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. John J. Carolan, Pastor Emeritus
Ms. Gail Rohmann, Music Director
Sr. Marion Cypser, RSM, School Co-Principal &
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, School Co-Principal
SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager / Adm. Ass't.
Mrs. Fannie Cooper, School Secretary

CONTACTING THE PARISH

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-8:00 PM—Monday, & Thursdays
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Fridays: 8:30 AM—4:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM—4:30 PM; 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
Word Service with Communion, Thursday, 8:30am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Morning - 9:00am
Saturday Evening - 5:00pm
Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 10:30am

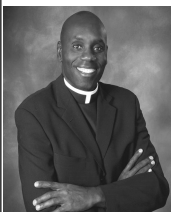
Sacrament of Reconciliation

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.

Thoughts From Our Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of Jesus' most significant parables regarding work is set in the context of investments (Matt. 25:14-30). In this Gospel, a rich man delegates the management of his wealth to his servants, much as investors in today's markets do. He gives five talents (a large unit of money) to the first servant, two talents to the second, and one talent to the third. Two of the servants earn 100 percent return by trading with the funds, but the third servant hides the money in the ground and earns nothing. The rich man returns, rewards the two who made money, but severely punishes the servant who did nothing. We do not know a lot of information about this man; however, we do know that he trusted his staff since he gave them all his possessions and left to an unknown land. I think that not many of us by human standards today would entrust their wealth to people and then go away. Our Gospel today tells us that that this man gave his staff different talents according to each one's ability.

In the New Testament, the term "talent" meant something very different than it does today. The talents Jesus spoke of in the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Mathew 18:21-35) and the Parable of the Talents (Mathew 25:14-30) referred to the largest unit of currency at the time. Thus, a talent represented a rather large sum of money. According to New Nave's Topical Bible, one who possessed five talents of gold or silver was a multimillionaire by today's standards. Some calculate the talent in the parables to be equivalent to 20 years of wages for the common worker. Other scholars estimate more conservatively, valuing the New Testament talent somewhere between \$1,000 to \$30,000 dollars today. We are told that the owner of the talents came back after a long time and was pleased with the two men who invested the talents he gave them. The two men were rewarded accordingly by him. The one who did not invest the talent received nothing.

Who is this man who gave the talents? This Man is Jesus Christ, Who died and went back to heaven, and someday he will come back again. Today, my brothers and sisters, I challenge you to discover your gift/s and share them with others -- and do not be like the man who never invested his talent. God does not endow people with identical or necessarily equal gifts. If you do as well as you can with the gifts given to you by God, you will hear His voice: "Well done." Not only the gifts, but also the people have equal worth. At the same time, the parable ends with the talent taken from the third servant being given to the one with ten talents. Equal worth does not necessarily mean equal compensation. Some positions require more skill or ability and thus are compensated accordingly. The two servants who did well are rewarded in different amounts. But they are both praised identically. The implication of the parable is that we are to use whatever talents we've been given to the best of our ability for God's glory, and when we have done that, we are on an equal playing field with other faithful, trustworthy servants of God.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make our Christmas Bazaar successful, especially the planning and organization by the Fundraising Committee. They indeed spent countless time of their own and talents God has given them to make our Christmas Bazaar more inviting and enjoyable. May God bless you.

Rev. George O. Omwando

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

Parish Finance Council

John McGuire

Spiritual Life Commission

Faith & Fellowship:

Connie Rakitan

Liturgy Committee:

Cantors: Gail Rohmann

Celebration Choir: Gail Rohmann

Praise Choir: Julius White

Greeters & Ushers: Jim Lewis

Ministers of the Eucharist:

Jeanne Visteen

Ministers of the Word:

Jeanne Visteen

Servers: Kathy Paoli

Ministers of Care: Shelby Boblick

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

(RCIA): Fr. George O. Omwando

Women's Ministry: Shelby Boblick

Human Concerns Commission

Peace & Justice Committee:

Mary and Martin Senica

Transportation Committee:

Tom Farwell

Education Commission

Baptism Com.: Fr. G. Omwando

Bible Study: Russ McCaughey

Religious Education of Children:

Christine Wedekind

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Parish Development & Services Commission

Collection Counters: Carol Kallok

Facilities Committee: Kevin Kell,

Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson / Cynthia Weaver

(cont'd from pg. 1)

Weddings - Please contact a parish priest to set a wedding date. Allow at least 6 months 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. Through its witness, worship, service, and teaching our Faith Community offers the invitation and support necessary for initiation into the Catholic Church.

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.

Newcomers

Please fill out a registration form after Mass, or come by the Rectory Office during the week.

Mass Intentions for the Week

- Mon. November 20**
 8:30 † **Robert Godwin, Sr.**
 By: Tom and Pat Nelson
- Tue. November 21**
 † **Dianne Dakis**
 By: Sue and Thom Schouten
- Wed. November 22**
 8:30 **Andrew Grayson Fam. (Health)**
 By: Dave Grayson
- Thurs. November 23 - Thanksgiving Day**
 8:30 ONLY
- Fri. November 24**
 8:30 **Rev. John Carolan (Health)**
 By: Dave Grayson
- Sat. November 25**
 9:00 † **Ted Shanks**
 By: Carol and Tom Franks
- 5:00 † **Lido Paoli**
 By: Donna Kanapes
- Sun. November 26**
 8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
 8:30 † **Dianne Dakis**
 By: Betty Wiky
 10:30 † **Corazon Gaetos**
 By: Cynthia Borah

Our Parish Stewardship **St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church**



November 12, 2017	\$ 4,466.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 1,068.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -1,774.00

Online donations can be made to St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish at www.givecentral.org

Thanks for your continued financial support!

Today's Readings

First Reading — The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised (Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31).

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, you are children of the light (1 Thessalonians 5:1-6).

Gospel — To all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance (Matthew 25:14-30 [14-15, 19-21]).

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.

Readings for the Week

- Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
- Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
- Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
- Thursday: Sir 50:22-24; Ps 145:2-11; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Lk 17:11-19
- Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lk 19:45-48
- Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
- Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Tuesday: Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Wednesday: St. Cecilia
- Thursday: St. Clement I, St. Columban; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro; Thanksgiving Day
- Friday: St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions
- Saturday: St. Catherine of Alexandria; Blessed Virgin Mary

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

NOVEMBER 26, 2017

<u>5:00 PM</u>	<u>8:30 AM</u>	<u>10:30 AM</u>
<u>Altar Servers</u>		
Steve Legatzke Michael Giometti	Miles Jackson	Grace McGuire Michelle Agbefe
<u>Ministers of the Word</u>		
Susan Kumler Frank Pond	Renee Smith-Quinn Wrenetha Julion	Bro. J. Kilikevici Christine Diaz
<u>Ministers of the Eucharist</u>		
Dan Brown Carol Brown Brenda Fojtik Pat Koko	Elaine Podraza Bill Cragg Walter Washington Kathy Mortell Ginny Jones Marge Massarello	Diane Cameron Bern Wheel Terry Sullivan Kim McGuire Marie Wheel Scarlett Evans

1st & 2nd Readings for the Upcoming Sunday are offered. Their sole purpose is to help us all of us "receive" and "hear" the word of God.

NOVEMBER 26, 2017– OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

Ezekiel preached to Jewish exiles at Babylon in the sixth century before Christ. They were a disappointed people and they blamed poor leadership for getting them into this mess. In this passage, Ezekiel uses a popular biblical image of God, that of a shepherd who cares for the sheep.

Second Reading: Corinthians 15:20 -26,28

In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul addresses problems his converts in the community were experiencing. Some members had questioned the bodily resurrection of Jesus and their own resurrection as well. This passage is Paul's response.

Update Personal Info

We are asking you to please update us with your cell phone number and e-mail address. Many people have cancelled their landlines and have not given us their new number. Please contact Amanda at 708-386-8077 or apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net



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



Bible Study - Tuesdays 9:30 AM

Please consider in joining us every Tuesday at 9:30 AM only for Bible Study in the Rectory. If you are trying to find answers to your daily life questions, or are willing to have an hour of peace and knowledge about our religion, please come. It is totally free.

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.

Remember a Loved One

We have the 2018 Mass book available. Mass intentions are only \$10.00. Please come to the Rectory to request your Masses. Remember your loved ones or any other special occasion.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Gregory Ballew, Ernestine Bishop, Rev. John Carolan, Brittany Crayton, Michael Cypser, Lillian Czaplicki, Anita Evenson, Lorri Fisk, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Kate Kroker, Ron Page, Albert Parker, Irma Pomareda, Charles Powell, Jr., Ann Protz, Carlton Shanks, Kate Shoevlin, Sue Vanek, and Diane Ward

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.

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



School News

- # We ask for your prayers for Mrs. Sharon Bryant, our 3rd grade teacher, and her husband. Mrs. Bryant's mother-in-law passed away last weekend.
- # We also ask for your prayers for the Gilliard family. Brent is an 8th grader at our school; his two sisters graduated from St. Catherine-St. Lucy. Their mother, Mrs. Gilliard, passed away unexpectedly last week.
- # This is a short week for us. School will be in session only on Monday and Tuesday.
- # On Tuesday, we will celebrate our Thanksgiving liturgy at 10:15am in church. All are welcome to join us.
- # Parent-Teacher conferences are also scheduled for Tuesday, from 3-7pm. The teachers are off on Wednesday, for a much needed rest after the long day on Tuesday.
- # Our Varsity Flag Football team is competing for the championship. We'll keep you posted on their results. Go Wildcats!
- # To our parish family, we wish you a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. You are truly a special blessing for our school. Thank you.

Pray For Our Deceased

†

Birda Bryant
May she rest in peace!

Mother-in-Law of Sharon Bryant, School Assistant-Principal. We lift her up with our prayers while we hold her family in a prayerful embrace.

May the angels lead her into Paradise

Success Stories

Religion Education

I can speak from my personal experience as the Coordinator of Religious Education at St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church.

In late August, I attended a retreat for Catechists that Vicariate VI sponsored and was overwhelmed at the number of individuals who attended and participated in the prayfulness of the day and the singing.

Late last month I attended the 7th anniversary choir concert of the Chicago Black Catholic Choir at Holy Angels Church and again was overwhelmed by the number of individuals who attended and the music and prayfulness of the whole evening.

On Thursday, Nov. 9 we had a wonderful speaker here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy and she talked about *"Tell the Story, Spread the Word."*

If there is a success story in this, it is that it reaffirmed my faith that Religious Education is very important in our children's lives and in our lives as adults, parents, teacher, catechists or whatever purpose we serve in instructing our children in the traditions of our Catholic faith, and sharing our faith. *"Tell the Story, Spread the Word."*

I thank God that I have the opportunity to meet the children and their parents on the Wednesday nights that we have Religious Education and hope that as we continue to meet we will share our faith and instruct the children in the rich traditions of our Catholic faith. *"Tell the Story, Spread the Word."*

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Wedekind



Advent Candles

Advent Candles will be for sale next weekend of November 25-26 after all masses. They are available for \$5/ set of candles and \$5 for a wreath frame.

Religious ED News



There will be RE class on Wednesday November 29.

A reminder that on Sunday, December 3rd, the 10:30 mass will be a family mass and that the **St. Nick's Pancake Breakfast** is also this date following 8:30 and 10:30 masses.

Registration is always open. If you have a child/children who you would like to register, contact the Rectory, leave your name and number and someone will call you. It is never too late.

Little Blue Books For the Seasons of Advent and Christmas

These popular books will be available beginning next weekend, November 25-26—you'll be ready to begin the readings the first Sunday of Advent: December 2-3! As usual, we are asking a voluntary donation of \$1 per *Little Blue Book*.

Sharing our Gifts

Autumn is the season for harvesting and sharing the fruits of our labors. This week's scriptures use images of the harvest, family life, pregnancy, and investment to describe the abundant harvest in the reign of God. We discover that sharing the gifts we have been given brings eternal rewards for everyone.

In the Gospel parable a master entrusts his possessions to three servants before going on a journey. Each is given some talents. What they do with those talents determines what the master will do with them when he returns. How about us? What are we doing with our talents? How will our Master treat us when he returns?

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Gratitude

Once again, the 'miracle' of the annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon took place on Friday and Saturday, November 10th and 11th. The true 'miracle' isn't the event itself, but the caring involvement of the amazing Parishioners, Staff, School Families, Alumni, Donors, and Friends who make it happen, and continue to build this Community of Faith. The planning, execution, attendance, follow-up and togetherness are the result of so many dedicated people who make this happy, treasured event happen year after year. Thank you to all - job well done!

Christmas Flower Sale!



Christmas flowers and plants will arrive the weekend of **December 9 and 10!** Put Poinsettias, Cyclamen, Christmas

Cactus, Green Plants and beautiful baskets on your gift list. Flowers will be sold after all the masses.



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.

We understand that most transactions today are done electronically. We want to provide you with that same convenient option at church. You can go directly to our website: www.stcatherinestlucy.org to be able to find the link to *GiveCentral*

**Buy Your Gift Cards At
St. Catherine-St. Lucy**
This Christmas
(or cards for your personal use)
In the Church Gathering Area
DEC.

grocery- restaurant - retail - specialty...
....Choose from over 200 cards!

Volunteer!

Are you a good listener? Are you looking to serve your community with purpose? Become a Heartland Hospice Volunteer! Our Volunteers are the heart of our hospice team. We depend on our hospice volunteers to help us provide the extra care our patients and their families need. Volunteers have a tremendous impact on the lives of the patients that they serve. Volunteers offer support, companionship and compassionate help to our patients.

As a hospice volunteer, you will be oriented to the hospice program so you can understand our caring philosophy and goals. We do have a screening process which includes an application, background check and in-person training. Although our office is in Westmont, we have patients in your community that could use a friend like you. We work with your schedule, so contact us, and let's make a difference together! Call 630-323-0316 and ask for the Volunteer Coordinator or email us (Jennifer.hurd@hcr-manorcare.com).

WHILE WAITING

an Advent day of retreat

Saturday, December 2, 2017 10:00AM to 3:00PM

With Br. Joseph Kilikevics, OP

The clamor and busyness of the holiday season easily seizes our spirits leaving us feeling stressed and overwhelmed. Our time of Advent waiting can be made more gentle by joining with others who wait and pray with us. Indeed the whole world is waiting for the Good News of peace and justice the coming Messiah brings.

This prayerful time of waiting will accompany the simple task of baking a loaf of honey whole wheat bread. Previous bread baking experience is not necessary. All ingredients will be provided. While waiting for dough to rise to be transformed into a delicious loaf in the oven to be shared with loved ones. The words of Jesus recorded in ancient Aramaic texts of the Scriptures will be explored with chant and prayerful movement.

“Create through us the Bread of Life. We ask only what is needed to feed the next hungry person we meet.” (A translation of the familiar.” Give us this day our daily bread.” from Aramaic texts of the Bible.

To register call, Br. Joseph at 708-848-1095

St. Thomas the Apostol Catholic Church Presents:

Advent, Lessons, and Carols - December 1st 2017 at 7:30PM

Featuring Guests Artists: Jeanne Cotter & John Angotti

Prepare the way of the Lord, bring your family and friends and savor this seasonal offering of Advent Scriptures and seasonal music in a prayerful candlelit setting. St. Thomas the Apostol Parish is at 1500 Brookdale Rd., Naperville, IL. 630-355-8980