



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

FEBRUARY 14, 2021
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Mrs. Sharon Leamy, Principal
Mr. Julius White, Praise Choir Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. Patricia Pomykalski, Business Manager
Mrs. Amanda Pomareda, Office Manager
Mrs. Fannie Cooper, School Secretary

CONTACTING THE PARISH & SCHOOL

Rectory: 38 N. Austin Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302

Telephone: 708-386-8077

Email: 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:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday - 8:30am

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

NO Thursday Mass

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Morning - 8:30 am

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm

Sunday Morning - 8:30 & 10:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM; or by appointment.

Baptisms

Baptism of infants and young children is celebrated on the 2nd and 3rd weekends of the month. Parents are asked to attend a Baptism preparation session/class prior to the ceremony.

Please call the rectory to register for the preparation and set a baptismal date. (cont'd in pg.2)



From Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This coming Wednesday, we will be celebrating Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption. Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they wear during the forty days of penance and sprinkled over them ashes made from palms from the previous year.

While the Ashes, symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His divine mercy is of utmost importance. During the season of Lent, the Church asks us to seek mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer, and penance. Lent. During this time, we focus on Christ's battle with sin and Satan that he waged to win for us our salvation. The 40 days of Lent do not include Sundays, because each Sunday is considered a "miniature Easter," a time of joy and celebration of Christ's resurrection. During Lent, though, even on Sundays, we will be talking about the battles that Christ fought for us on our behalf. Why 40 days? Right after Jesus was baptized, the Bible tells us that Jesus went out into the desert to fast and to be tempted by the Devil for 40 days. For Jesus, those 40 days were a time of introspection, a time when he battled the temptations of the Devil and emerged stronger than he had been before. For us, Lent is a time when we make that journey with Christ. We think about OUR temptations, our sins, and we repent. Take note of purple that we are going to use as next week. Purple is a color always associated with repentance in the Christian church. After these 40 days, we emerge stronger than we had been before. Lent therefore is a time to evaluate yourselves considering God's Word. It's a time to abandon the sins you have grown accustomed to committing in your life. It's a time to receive God's forgiveness and strength to lead a Christian life. It's a time to renew your desire to serve God, and to be the Christians that God has made you to be.

Finally, during this year, the priest will be sprinkling ashes on people's head without saying anything ...also during the station of the cross, there is going to be no movement of the congregation. Only the leader may move from station to station. We will have Stations of the Cross every Friday during the Lenten time at 7:00 pm. Please continue to pray for the success of this year's Catholic annual campaign. God bless you.

— Fr. George

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

WE THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY PARISH, SEEK TO DEEPEN OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD AND TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE IN WORD AND SACRAMENT. BY ACCEPTING ALL INTO OUR FAMILY WE SEEK UNITY IN CHRIST AND SEEK TO PROCLAIM HIS GOOD NEWS IN THE DISCIPLESHIP OF OUR LIVES.

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS:

Parish Pastoral Council

Madonna Sloan and Joyce Wade,

Co-Chairs

Liturgy Committee:

Chair: Phil Kroker

Vice-Chair: Joyce Wade

Secretary: Andrea Legatzky

Celebration Choir: TBA

Praise Choir: Julius White

Greeters & Ushers: Jim Lewis

Parish Finance Council

Juan Perez

Spiritual Life Commission

Faith & Fellowship:

Connie Rakitan

Ministers of the Eucharist &

Ministers of the Word:

Jeanne Visteen

Servers: Kathy Paoli

Ministers of Care: Rev. G. Omwando

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

(RCIA): Vacant

Women's Ministry: Shelby Boblick

Human Concerns Commission

Peace & Justice Committee:

Kevin Morgan

Adult Education Commission

Baptism Com.: Fr. G. Omwando

Bible Study: TBA

Religious Education of Children: TBA

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Parish Development & Services

Commission

Collection Counters: Vacant

Facilities Committee: Jim Podraza,

Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson / Cynthia Weaver

Weddings: Please contact Fr. George to set a wedding date. Allow at least 6 months in advance for preparation.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a sacramental process, celebrated in the midst of this Faith Community. This process assists adults, as well as children over the age of 7, in learning about the Catholic Faith.

Ministry to the Sick, Hospitalized and Shut—Ins

Please notify the Parish Office so that we can visit and minister to your confined loved-ones.

Funerals:

Please call the Rectory to set-up arrangements with the Christian Burial Mass.

Newcomers

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

**Lenten Penance Service
Wednesday, February 24
at 7:00 PM in Church**

This will be a community Prayer Service, there will be NO individual confessions

“An important part of our healing is the “penance” the priest imposes in reparation for our sins and be prepared this season”.

**President’s Day
Mass at 8:30 am**

A reminder that tomorrow, February 15th the Rectory will be closed due to the President’s Day Holiday. We will re-open on Tuesday, February 16th.



February 17, 2021

Ashes will be distributed at:

8:30am - Ashes given during Mass

12Noon - Ashes given during a Liturgy of the Word Service

7:00pm - Ashes given during Mass

Compassion & Generosity

Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse.

—George Washington

It is Time to Start Preparing for CRS Rice Bowl!

February 17— April 4, 2021

Lent is quickly approaching and all are invited to participate in CRS Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten program to pray, fast, learn and give.

To get information on how you can participate, please visit archchicago.org/crs-rice-bowl. Contact Dr. Angela L. Swain at angelaswain@archchicago.org with any questions.

Here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy the Rice Bowl boxes will be available starting on Wednesday, Feb. 17.

**FAITH & FELLOWSHIP
Last Week Was Great!**



The year has been challenging for us, but last week we saw something different in our phone meetings – we could feel the presence of God! We spoke with Juan, one of our Partners at Central Plaza. Even though it was by phone, it felt like it was face-to-face. We were able to feel the human warmth of each other by Juan’s words: he was happy to “meet” Erlison after knowing him only by letter, and to “greet” each Catechist by name. He even remembered in detail Don’s California vacation in October, from a letter Don had sent him back then. We were also able to talk to Jeff, who spoke about looking forward to the Superbowl, was in a great mood, and wanted to hear all the news about his friends in Columbus Manor. Even though we are working remotely, we can feel the presence of each other, and of God!

500 Club Certificates

TOMORROW the \$500 Drawing will take place in the Rectory. All 2020-21 season certificates purchased through February 12th will be included in this drawing for \$500 instead of \$25.

Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in every weekly drawing from now through October 17th, 2021. The prize each week is \$25 except for three weeks when the prize is \$500.

We have now sold 420 of our 500 certificates! If we sell all 500 certificates as we did last season, there’ll be a 4th drawing for \$500. Certificates may be for you, but they also make great gifts.

This is a fun way to support the parish Pass the word. Thank you!!!

~ The Fundraising Committee

500 CLUB WINNER

The \$500.00 winner will be announced next weekend in the bulletin of February 21st

Save the Date

Tuesday, February 16
Eastgate Café Give Back

Wednesday, February 17
*Ash Wednesday -
Lent Begins*

Monday, March 15
Annual Parish Raffle



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. Feb. 15		
8:30 HEALTH		Gladys Evans By: Ministry of Care
Tue. Feb. 16		
8:30	†	Clay Willis Rodgers By: Fannie Cooper
Wed. Feb. 17		
8:30	†	John Thompson By: Tom Nelson
Fri. Feb. 19		
8:30	†	Tony Mc Dade By: Donna Kanapes
	†	Luke Podraza By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
Sat. Feb. 20		
8:30	†	Tak Kanazawa By: Era Yee
5:00	†	Guy Colletti By: Evie Stockinger
Sun. Feb. 21		
8:30		FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH
8:30	†	Elie Pierre-Pierre By: The Vincent Family
10:30	†	Thomas Sheehan By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day; Valentine's Day
Monday:	Presidents' Day
Tuesday:	Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday:	Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving
Friday:	Abstinence

2020 Statement of Contributions

For tax purposes you can **request** now a list of your 2020 Statement of Contributions. Please call or e-mail Amanda at 708-386-8077, via e-mail at: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net. Thank you.

Today's Readings

First Reading — The leper will dwell apart, making an abode outside the camp (Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46).

Psalms — I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation (Psalm 32).

Second Reading — Do everything for the glory of God; be imitators of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:31 — 11:1).

Gospel — The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean (Mark 1:40-45).

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. Their sole purpose is to help all of us.



FEBRUARY 21, 2021 — 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Today's reading from the book of Genesis takes place after the story of Noah and the great flood. Israelite people of long ago saw the rainbow symbolizes the solemn promise that God makes to Noah.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

This reading reminds us that just as Noah was saved through the ark, we are saved through baptism. Early Christians believed that those who died before the coming of Jesus awaited redemption in a shadowy existence described here as a prison. When we say in the Apostles' Creed that Jesus "descended into hell," we are saying that Jesus went to announce to those waiting in that "prison" that they had been saved.

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.

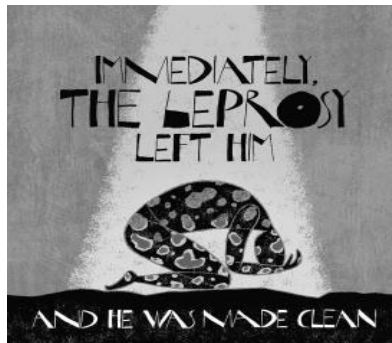
Our book is open for personal intentions for the remainder of this year and for the 2021 year.



Praying for the Sick In Our Parish

Colletta Ali, Gigi Bridges, Gianna Calderon, Jeanette Cannon, Kathy Feulner, Betty Graf, Dave Grayson, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, William Johnson, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen, Kroker, Cache Lane, Deborah Llorence, Jimmy Llorence, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Tom Sterr, Lawrence Tabichi, Sam Vaccaro, Sr. Teresita Weind, and Paul Winterhalter.

The name of your close relative will remain on this list for four weeks. After that you will have to call us again to reinstate it into the list. If you wish to include a name of a sick member of your family here, please call Amanda at the rectory during office hours. Thank you.



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

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



School Scoop

..#Re-registration for next year has begun. Paperwork/links/information is available. All students who register by February 28 will receive a special gift!

..#Lent starts on Wednesday, February 17. We are planning on taking the students in the building to the church for ashes at 8:30 Mass

..#Archdiocese of Chicago to Celebrate its 43rd Annual African American Heritage Prayer Service Virtually due to COVID-19. The Archdiocese of Chicago will celebrate the 43rd Annual African American Heritage Prayer Services virtually throughout this month of February. For our school this prayer service will video on *Friday, February 19th at 10 a.m.* Due to the pandemic, Catholic schools around the archdiocese will gather online to pray and celebrate African American heritage, culture, community and contributions to the Church. The theme for this year's prayer services is **We Are Called: Umoja for Black Lives, Justice, and Peace.** A link for the prayer service can be found on the archdiocese's YouTube channel [<https://www.youtube.com/user/CatholicChicago>].

Pray For Our Deceased



Nilda Villanueva
May she rest in peace!

We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace her daughter, Vivian Tyler with a powerful promise of beauty even in our darkest moments.

May the angels lead her
into Paradise

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

Archdiocese of Chicago

PLEASE MAKE YOUR GIFT TO THE 2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Come, follow me... and bring hope to the world

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme, "*Come, follow me ... and bring hope to the world,*" was selected because as disciples of Jesus, we follow the Master who both gives us hope and sends us to bring his hope to our world that needs it so much.

Each pledge makes a difference! All parishes communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response. To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at church or make a gift online at annualcatholicappeal.com



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.



Jesus' Way

Today's readings present a contrast between "Jesus' way" and the "old way." An example of the old way is the law given to Moses and Aaron about leprosy: the leper was unclean and cast out of the community. Jesus' way is the opposite: the leper is reached out to, touched, and finally cured.

Nor ought we think of the "old way" as restricted to the days of Moses and Aaron, or even to the "old" testament. The difference between the old way and Jesus' way arises in our own lives. We still choose, every day, to live in our old way or in Jesus' way.

Jesus dared to touch a leper, disregarding the old way. The leper then was changed forever. He felt a calling. He couldn't keep himself from proclaiming that he had been touched by Jesus (even though Jesus told him not to!). Once Jesus touches us, we are called to proclaim his way.

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The Treasured Aramaic Words of Jesus

A Lenten Contemplation on the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic, the native language of Jesus

Saturday, February 27, 2021, 10:00am to 1:00pm, CST.

A Zoom Lenten retreat, With Aramaic scholar and author, Neil Douglas-Klotz & Brother Joseph Kilikevice, OP, Director of the Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality, Oak Park

Registration before February 20, 2021 is required. Given this time of financial difficulty, your donation in any amount expressing your gratitude is much appreciated. PayPal or checks in US funds are accepted. Use the Zoom access address below.

REGISTRATION on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMpf-2rqDsrHNSB1NiT0nzkeXHW5Is-JOK>

DONATION BY PAYPAL:

After registering, go to the PayPal home page and select "Send Money, Pay Online. . ." Then, "Send a Request" at the top of the page using the Shem Center e-mail address, shemcenter1993@gmail.com, enter the amount of your donation. It will go directly into the Shem Center PayPal account.

DONATION BY CHECK:

Make the check payable to *Shem Center* and mail to: Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality, 708 N. Harvey Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302

Food for Thought

Messenger Becomes Message

*In the theology embraced in Jesus' time,
the law rewarded good and punished evil.
If poor or disabled, your bell would never chime;
And if a leper, even no reprieve.*

*A leper showed faith, asking Jesus to him cleanse.
So Jesus healed him, and showed him his respect.
He denounced exclusivity—no more leper's pens;
He became an evangelist, to great effect.*

*He drew strength and courage, knowing he had God's love;
Mark states his message sprung from Christ's compassion.
God's done wondrous things for him, brought by heaven's dove.
"Christ wants no one marginalized" gave him traction.*

*Our sinfulness makes us unclean and imperfect.
So we too call out to the Lord to make us clean,
so that our way with salvation's will intersect.
Let us as messengers be as the message seen.*

2/14/21. TGL

Sources: NCR, M. McGlone; Mark 1:40-45.

Coordinator of Music – *part time*

St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy
Oak Park, IL 60302

Pastor: Fr. George Omwando

gomwando@archchicago.org

708.386.8077

We are looking to hire a Coordinator of Music who would be responsible for facilitating the musical worship life of the parish community by coordinating the activities delineated below:

- #Select and prepare sacred music for all church liturgies including Sunday and Holy Day Masses, civil holidays, and special liturgies.
- #Arrange for musical coverage for weekend Masses (accompanist and cantor).
- #Prepare cantors for Sunday Mass.
- #Work on sacramental celebrations in conjunction with school and religious education staff.
- #Meet with grieving families and offer guidance with regard to music selections for funerals.
- #Meet with engaged couples to provide guidance in selection of sacred music for their wedding liturgies.
- #Prepare worship aids for Weekend Masses, Triduum, Christmas, etc.
- #Assist in liturgy planning.
- #Demonstrate ability to play both piano and organ.
- #Demonstrate the ability to play instrument and sing at the same time when necessary.

There is also an interest in discussing potential candidate's knowledge of technology as related to video streaming and YouTube.

For additional information, please contact Fr. George via email above. Please note that this position is **open immediately upon qualification** and it carries no benefits. Typically, at this time, the position covers 8-10 hours per week. There is no choir involvement during this time of COVID restrictions. Previous experience in participation and leading parish music ministry is mandatory. Please send a resume and reference(s) from previous assignment(s) to the pastor.