



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

**FEBRUARY 21, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**



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

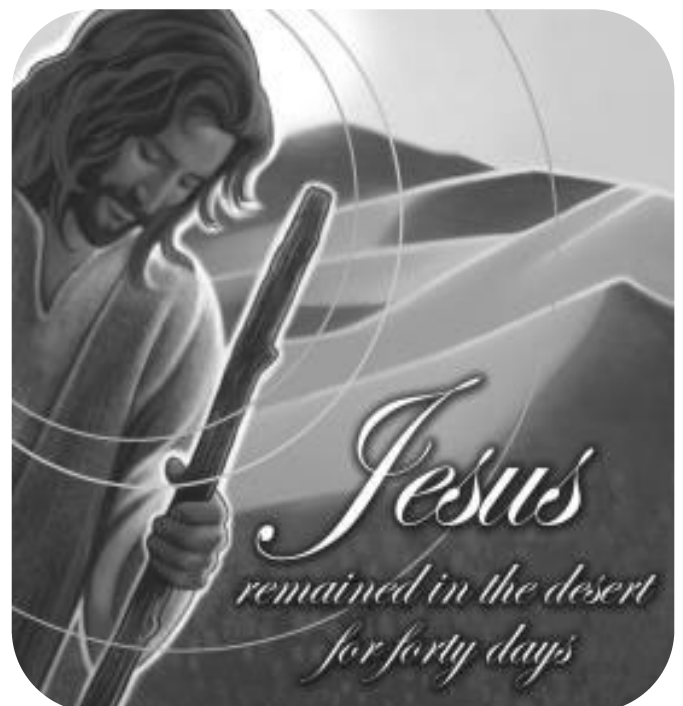
Sacrament of Reconciliation

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,

In this week's Gospel, we see Jesus tempted in the desert after spending forty days and nights. In the bible, a desert is a place of temptation, it is a place of failure, and it is a place of abode of evil spirits. Deserts are known for their extreme temperatures. At day time, the temperatures are very high and at night they drop drastically. There are also cold deserts and temperatures there are extremely low. In the bible, the number forty signifies a time of change. In this week's Gospel, we see Jesus in the desert, but we also see Him overcome temptation. This gives us hope. And it reminds us that we are called to a mission, to go out and build God's kingdom in the here and now- How can we help our world?-our country, our community, our family, or even our own heart-to be more reflective of the peace that God desires for each and every one of us.

Lent bears particular relationship to the 40 days Christ spent fasting in the desert before entering into his public ministry (Mt 4:1-11). Catholics imitate Christ by spending 40 days in spiritual discipline before the celebration of Christ's triumph over sin and death. Lent is marked with Fasting because Christ expected his disciples to fast (Mt 9:14-15) and issued instructions for how they should do so (Mt 6:16-18). Catholics follow this pattern by holding a partial fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Abstinence from certain foods is also a biblical discipline. In Daniel 10:2-3 we read, "In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks." Catholics use a practice similar to Daniel's when, as a way of commemorating Christ's Crucifixion on a Friday, they abstain from eating meat on that day of the week during Lent. The only kind of flesh they eat on Friday is fish, which is a symbol of Christ. During this lent, ask yourself this question: How can I, in my prayer, in our actions, bring God's kingdom to earth? I want you also to know that fasting is required of adult Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. The required days of fasting are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Abstinence, which is refraining from the consumption of meat, is obliged for Catholics 14 and older.

Catholics are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday. Universal Church law requires abstinence on all Fridays of the year, but in the United States, Catholics may perform another penance if they choose. Some exceptions apply in particular circumstances. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops indicates the following exceptions on its website: "Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant or nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting."

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.



**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”.

Beauty in Forgiveness
Humanity is never so beautiful as when praying for forgiveness, or else forgiving another.
 —Jean P. F. Richter

500 Club Certificates

Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in the weekly drawings through October 17th, 2021. The prize each week is \$25 except for the three weekends 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 will be a 4th drawing for \$500. Certificates may be for you, but they also make great gifts. We have had one \$500 winner and a number of \$25 winners whose certificates came to them as a gift. How nice was that! If you need a purchase form, they are available in the back of church and at the rectory office.

You can also call Elaine Podraza for a form at 708-524-1461 or you can use Give Central on the parish website, www.stcatherinestlucy.org. The 500 Club is a fun way to support the parish and it is open to everyone over 18, not just members of our parish community. Please pass the word. Thank you!

~ The Fundraising Committee

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

St. Catherine—St. Lucy

Palm Sunday—March 28
 5:00 PM ~ Saturday
 8:30 AM ~ Sunday
 10:30AM ~ Palms Procession

Holy Thursday—April 1
 7:30 PM ~ Mass of the Lord's Supper
 Adoration until Midnight

Good Friday— April 2
 12 Noon ~ Vigil at the Cross
 7:30 PM ~ Liturgy of The Passion of The Lord

Holy Saturday— April 3
 1:00 PM ~ Blessing of Easter Baskets
 7:30 PM ~ The Great Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday —April 4
 8:30 & 10:30 AM

Save the Date

Friday, February 19
*Stations of the Cross
begin in Church*

Monday, March 15
Annual Parish Raffle

Next Weekend Second Collection is for **Aid for Central & Eastern Europe**

Next week, our second collection supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Your donation today helps restore the Church and build the future in more than 20 countries still struggling to recover from Communist rule. Funds from this collection support reconstruction, education, formation. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/cce., and poverty outreach. Please be generous.

Lenten Regulations

(from Ash Wednesday, to the Paschal Triduum)

Fasting and Abstaining From Meat

One of our Lenten Practices uniting us with Catholics around the world! Fridays during Lent are days of abstaining from meat. Good Friday is a day of abstaining from meat and fasting.

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

The special Paschal fast, as well as abstinence, are prescribed for Good Friday and encouraged for Holy Saturday.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★ **500 CLUB WINNER** ★

★ **\$ 500.00** ★

★ February 15, 2021 ★

★ **CONGRATULATIONS to:** ★

★ **MARY KELLY,** ★

★ **# 478** ★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

★ **500 CLUB WINNER** ★

★ **\$ 25.00** ★

★ February 21, 2021 ★

★ **SUSAN AND TONY VESTAL,** ★

★ **# 60** ★

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon. Feb. 22

8:30 † **Lionel Thymes, Sr.**
By: Grace Bishop

Tue. Feb. 23

8:30 † **Vicente Yee-Canama**
By: The Yee Family

Wed. Feb. 24

† **Andrew Marshall**
By: Tom Nelson

Fri. Feb. 26

8:30 † **Ahmaud Arbery**
By: Donna Kanapes

Sat. Feb. 27

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

5:00 † **Rev. John Scott**
By: Brenda Fojtik

Sun. Feb. 28

8:30 **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**

8:30 † **Michael Ballew**
By: Cynthia Weaver

10:30 † **Kathryn Smith-Bowers**
By: Jim Bowers & Cynthia Weaver

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:
43-48

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10,
15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election;
Rite of Calling the Candidates to
Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending

Monday: Washington's Birthday;
Julian Calendar Lent begins

Tuesday: St. Polycarp

Thursday: Purim (Jewish observance) begins at sunset

Friday: Abstinence

Saturday: St. Gregory of Narek

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 — I will set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel — Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him (Mark 1:12-15)

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 28, 2021 — 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Genesis 22 1-2,9, 10-13, 15-18

Events in today's reading took place approximately 1800 years before Christ. In that pagan culture, child sacrifice was common. That's why Abraham believed God wanted him to sacrifice his only son Isaac. Later generation constantly looked back to this event as an example of Abraham's great faith.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34

Today's reading is part of a hymn that celebrates God's love and which concludes the eighth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans. In our first reading, we heard how God spared Abraham's only son; in this passage we will hear how, out of love for us, God did *not* spare his only son.

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, 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, Coralía Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Katie Shoefflin, 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 is taking place. Paperwork/links/information is available. All students who register by February 28 will receive a special gift!

..#We are working with a vendor to offer a virtual dance class to Grades 1-6. The class will teach dances from different cultures over a five-week period. More information will be out soon.

..#The second trimester ends on Friday, February 26. Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for March 11.

FAITH & FELLOWSHIP Your Input Needed

As Faith & Fellowship plans for the future, we would like our neighboring parishes have a good idea of what Faith and Fellowship is all about, and especially its value for the parish community. Many of you have been an active help in our mission, in many different ways, and can see the benefit to St. Catherine-St. Lucy. Can you help us convey this importance by completing the following sentence and sending it to Faith and Fellowship – faith_fellowship@hotmail.com Thank you – for everything!!!

St. Catherine-St. Lucy benefits from Faith & Fellowship because:

Pray For Our Deceased



Lucille Short

May she rest in peace!

We lift her up with our prayers while we embrace her daughter, Karen Short 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

Stations of the Cross At St. Catherine-St. Lucy



The Stations of the Cross is held every Friday at 7:00 PM in Church through Lent. Won't you please pick up your little 30 minute cross and come and pray with us, as we honor Jesus Christ and thank Him for accepting a painful death on His Cross for us.



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

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

Signs of Lent

We've Emptied the Holy Water Fonts

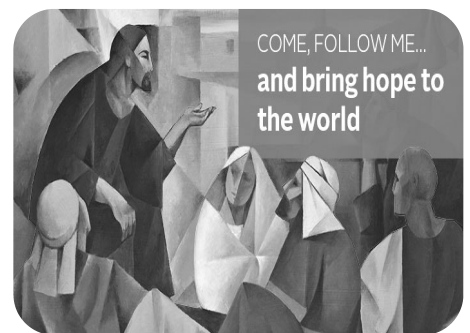
The holy water fonts are dry as a reminder of the barrenness of the desert where Jesus spent 40 days, and our own empty hearts when we sin.

Imagine our joy when we celebrate the refreshing life of resurrection when on Easter the blessed water will remind us of the renewing waters of our Baptism!

Please take home a CRS Rice Bowl!

All are invited to participate in **CRS Rice Bowl**, Catholic Relief Services Lenten program to pray, fast, learn and give. So take a box, fill it up with your unused change and bring it back by April 4, 2021.

Here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy the Rice Bowl boxes are available at both Church doors.



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-2rqDsrHNSB1NiT0nzkekXHW5Is-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

The Time of Fulfillment

Always ancient, always new, Lent calls us to a deeper meaning:

To listen anew to Jesus' invitation to bring Gospel change to the times in which we live.

During Lent we bring to mind the suffering that Jesus underwent, because of God's love for us, mercy for us, and desire for us to all repent and believe.

Mark's gospel tells of Jesus' solitary forty desert days, from which he emerged with strength beyond the power of Satan. God's humanity covenant remains in force and ever tilts in our favor with certainty, as sure as rainbow follows storm, and as baptism clearly binds us to our eternal salvation.

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel."

2/21/21. TGL

Sources: NCR, M. McGlone;
Mark 1:12-15; Gen 9:8-15.



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.