



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

**MARCH 21, 2021
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. George Omwando, Pastor
Rev. John McGivern, Administrator
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: apomaredascsoffice@comcast.net

Web: www.stcatherinestlucy.org

Hours: 8:30 AM-4:30 PM—Monday through Friday

Saturday 9:00AM—4:30PM; Sunday 8:30 AM—12:00 PM

School - 27 Washington Blvd.; Oak Park, IL 60302

Telephone: 708-386-5286

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday, and Wednesday- 8:30am

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

NO Thursday Mass

At. St. Edmunds: Monday, Friday- 8:30am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm

Sunday Morning - 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Baptisms

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

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



From Rev. George O. Omwando, Pastor



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing this bulletin article to thank you for the many good things that have been in our community since I was appointed a pastor in 2012. St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy has been my home and still it as it occupies an indelible mark in my heart. Evident in many Scripture verses, the home has both a physical and spiritual meaning. We must build our homes upon solid structural and moral foundation to ensure its sustainability over time. Psalm 127:1 says: “Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain” You and I have built a strong home, a strong parish community. As I said at all Sunday masses, please be open with the Holy Spirit, and once you are open, God will send you the Grace that you need to support you spiritually and physically. As you are aware, the Renew my Church will officially start in the month of June. This in an important exercise that will assist all the communities of Oak Park in coming together and determine the future, vibrancy of the Catholic Church beyond the boundaries of Oak Park. Be very supportive of this process. I do have confidence in our administrator, Fr. John McGivern pastor of St. Edmund. Thank you for the blessing that I received last Sunday. It made me feel loved. I wish to thank everyone in July when I come back from my Sabbatical studies.

Finally, today is the fifth week of lent and Easter is fast approaching. I am hoping that everyone is preparing for the greatest and singular event that occurred in the history of humanity. That God so loved the world and sent his son to die for us. That Jesus, the Son of God took the punishment that was rightly for us, he stood on our behalf as in America we could say, he bailed us out. Preparing for this event means that we examine our faults and go to reconciliation if possible, and if the conditions allow you. Unfortunately, most people nowadays do not attempt to do that or get afraid of going to confession even pre-Covid-19. We sometimes, spend so much time preparing on how to look physically but we neglect to take care of our souls. Please make to use the sacraments that mediate God’s grace to us during this Lenten season.

In today’s first reading, prophet Jeremiah gives hope to the people of Israel that the day will come when God will reestablish or make a new covenant with them. Jeremiah spoke those words in Jerusalem during the most difficult time. The people, the kings and the priests were more interested in politics than in serving Yahweh their God. Instead of relying on God, who had helped them a lot, they were seeking earthly aid from a pagan neighbor. Even though, they had deserted God, God did not desert them. Our new Covenant was not mediated to us by any mere human being like Moses, but the Son of God in his human nature. His blood was shed for you and all men and women so that sins may be forgiven. This is the universal covenant for men and women. A covenant not made between God and one race or people but between God and all men and women of all races and nations. May God bless you all.

— 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.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue. Mar. 23**8:30 AM**

- † **Luke Podraza**
By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
- † **Mary Agnes Browne**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Wed. Mar. 24**8:30 AM**

- † **Stella Caro**
By: **Necitas Pineda**
- † **John Ludwig**
By: Jim Hargadon

Sat. Mar. 27**5:00 PM**

- † **Raymond Smith**
By: Evie Stockinger
- † **Joseph Scheidler**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Sun. Mar. 28**9:00 AM****FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH****9:00 AM**

- † **Beverly Sorrell**
By: Cynthia Weaver &
Donna Kanapes
- † **Bruce Jackson, Sr.**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Readings for the Week

- Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62];
Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
- Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
- Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56;
Jn 8:31-42
- Thursday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
- Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
- Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
- Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 (procession);
Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24;
Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1 — 15:47 [15:1-39]

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Lent; Third Scrutiny
- Tuesday: St. Turibius of Mogrovejo
- Thursday: The Annunciation of the Lord
- 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 — I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34) *or* *Ezekiel 37:12-14*.

Psalm — Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51) *or* *Psalm 130*.

Second Reading — Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9) *or* *Romans 8:8-11*.

Gospel — If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33) *or* *John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-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

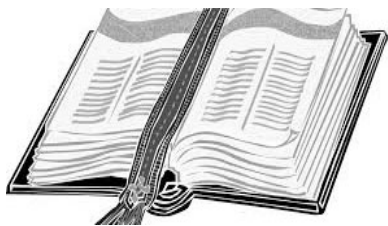


We recommend online giving as a safe, convenient, and easy way to make gifts – whether it's for your Sunday offering or a one-time gift such as for special collections. Once you sign up, you will be able to manage your giving preferences at any time, and you won't have to worry about writing a check 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 to help all of us.



**MARCH 28, 2021 —
PALM SUNDAY OF THE
PASSION OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4—7

Chapters 40-55 of the Book of Isaiah contain the message of a prophet who spoke to God’s people during their exile in Babylon. Several times the prophet speaks about a servant who will one day deliver God’s people. Because the Servant is portrayed as suffering, Christians have traditionally identified Jesus with him.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

In the years following Christ’s death and resurrection, Christians began to develop the prayers and hymns that would become part of their rituals. In today’s passage from the letter to the Philippians, Paul appears to be quoting an early Christian hymn celebrating the dying and rising of Christ.



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



**Praying for the
Sick In Our Parish**

Colletta Ali, Gigi Bridges, Gianna Calderon, Jeanette Cannon, Betty Graf, Dave Grayson, Kathy Feulner, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, William Johnson, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Vince Saunders, Chuck Scott, Katie Shoevlin, Tom Sterr, 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.

**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.

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

- ..#6th Grade will return to school tomorrow, Monday, March 22.
- ..#Easter Break begins on Good Friday, April 2, & extends through the following week. Students return to school on Monday, April 12. If you plan on traveling during that time, please stay up-to-date on travel guidelines for Chicago.
- ..#We hope that you heard our exciting news about Maguire Hall. We have been blessed with an incredible group of amazing donors and project team members: Tom & Pat Nelson; Rick Malnati; Kent Barnett; Tom Lizzo; Jim Jankowski; Chris Wollmuth; Bill Requist; Dan Doody; and Mike Doody. Construction started last Tuesday, March 16.

**FAITH & FELLOWSHIP
A Word from St. Francis**

No – not St. Francis of Assisi but St. Francis High School in Wheaton. One of their faculty attended a Zoom Faith Sharing with some Columbus Manor residents – here are his reflections:

I can’t thank you enough for the invitation to your prayer service with the Partners at Columbus Manor, it simply made my week! Yes! Please continue to send me the zoom link in the weeks to come. I want to tell you Don (Leader Catechist) what a gracious and considerate video jockey you are. You really do have a gift for working with the Partners. You are patient, relaxed, upbeat and always smiling. The content of the prayer service was just enough. I’m looking forward to ‘seeing’ you all again and can’t wait until that day comes when we can meet again for real...



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.

Lenten Regulations

(from Now 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.

Love and Death

*Unhappy is death
without the love of the Savior;
unhappy is love
without the death of the Savior.*

—St. Francis de Sales

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.



Signs of Lent

Foot Washing: A Tradition of Service and Love

Feet, my brothers and sisters, bare the stress and hardships of a life time of walking and living. We are inviting each of you to the Foot Washing fonts throughout the church on Holy Thursday evening as we humble ourselves in this act of service and love to one another.

On the evening he was betrayed, Jesus "poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him... When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. **'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them.... 'Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet'** (John 13:5, 12, 14).

Jesus Christ humbled Himself when He came down to this earth as a man, but He further humbled Himself when He took on the duties of a foot-washing servant. Foot washing takes humility from both: the one who washes, and the one who is washed.

No one will mind your varicose veins, bunions, or bent toes just bring a humble heart of service and love. In the words of the **Servant Song** by Richard Gillard....

"Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?"

Pray that I might have the grace to, let you be my servant too."

Regarding Mass Opportunities amid Current Changes

Now that Fr. John McGivern, Pastor of St. Edmund Parish in Oak Park has assumed the added responsibility of serving as Administrator at St. Catherine/St. Lucy Parish, there are changes to the weekday schedule. The schedule again, is as follows:

8:30 AM—Monday at St. Edmund Church

8:30 AM—Tuesday at St. Catherine/St. Lucy Church

8:30 AM—Wednesday at St. Catherine/St. Lucy Church

8:30 AM—Friday at St. Edmund Church

At St. Edmund's located on 188 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, Il., the church is open at 8:15 am and everyone may enter and exit through the Murphy Hall corridor doors. Registration and sanitizing will in the north transept of the church and you will be escorted to your assigned pew.

At St. Catherine/St. Lucy (SCSL), the doors open at 8:00 am with entrance and exit on Austin Blvd., and a handicapped ramp on the south side of the church. There is a parking lot south of the SCSL rectory on the Oak Park side of Austin Blvd., as well as a parking lot east of the church on the Chicago side of Austin Blvd., across the church. Registration and sanitizing take place just inside at the Austin Blvd., entrance to the church. Everyone is asked to sit in pews labeled with the assigned numbers.

Everyone is always welcome to join us for worship. For those who are "regular" daily mass-goers at SCSL, even with the COVID regulations. Be as welcoming as you can to any new faces that may begin to join us from St. Edmund's Parish on Tuesday and Wednesdays, just as they will be welcoming us on Mondays and Fridays.

Food for Thought

A Peaceful Heart Brings Perfect Joy

Francis spent his life like his Divine Master, discovering the secret to an inner peace:

We will not be consumed by our own anger, if we don't react.

He held his friars to the highest standards of the gospel, teaching them that if they strove for the ideal, they were unlikely to break basic commandments.

Lent is the perfect time to look at Francis' life. Peaceful, gentle, humble—his life's an example of how a gentle attitude goes a long way towards living Jesus' message.

Francis would say to think before we speak or act, to avoid misunderstanding, and real heartache.

Love and wisdom always chase ignorance and fear, and patience chases anger.

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. (Psalm 51:12-13)



The New Covenant

Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant will be established. Contrasting the new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mt. Sinai, Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart.

Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant whose obedience has made him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey him.

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