



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

MAY 9, 2021
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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
Mr. Ludwig Weiss, School Operations Director
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 - Main Church

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. John W. McGivern, Administrator

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today's Gospel passage is from the evangelist John. It is from the fifteenth chapter and is part of what we call the "Last Discourse." Time had run out. Our Lord's death was imminent and he now imparted his message to his disciples with a sense of urgency and encouragement. Thus, we hear: "If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love."

How interesting that our Lord would have us posit love and obedience as something that is connected. Modern hearers are sometimes challenged by the language of obedience. For many, such language is confronting. We bristle at the notion that our self-determination might be threatened, and we can (erroneously) believe that such thinking is an impediment to our human freedom.

There are many threats to human freedom. There are those who live under the rule of oppression. Throughout the world still today, there are people who are deprived of the ability to worship freely.

Some of the most important twentieth century writing about human freedom came from the victims of the Nazi death camps. Read Elie Wiesel's *Night*, Etty Hillesum's *An Interrupted Life*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *The Cost of Discipleship* or his *Meditations on the Cross*, or Fr. Alfred Delp's *Prison Writings*. These amazing human beings had very divergent histories. Wiesel was a Romanian Jew. Hillesum lived a privileged life as a Dutch Jew. Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran minister. Delp was a Roman Catholic and Jesuit priest.

In all of the writings of these individuals, among the many things that one learns is that human freedom is a gift that no shackle, degradation, punishment or torture can thwart. Human freedom is ultimately about personal choice and obedience. In some of his prison writings Fr. Delp stated: "My offense is that I believed in Germany and her eventual emergence from this dark hour of error and distress, that I refused to accept that accumulation of arrogance, pride, and force that is the Nazi way of life, and that I did this as a Christian and a Jesuit." In other words, Fr. Delp's freedom would have been compromised only if he had chosen to accept "the Nazi way of life." Even as he was imprisoned and ultimately, hanged, his human freedom remained intact because he chose to remain obedient to his faith and to his Jesuit community.

Perhaps the reason that we, with our modern sensibilities struggle to appreciate how love and obedience conjoin to pave the way to freedom is because modern logic has now divorced the meaning of freedom from its existential roots. Freedom has become the ability to *have what I want when I want it*, and no longer a way of being that encompasses the totality of who we are.

The Gospel passage ends: "This I command you. Love one another."

Bonhoeffer explained his imprisonment as *The Cost of Discipleship*. Though he was a Nazi prisoner, his obedience to Christ had set him free. Though his life was at stake, he understood better than most that, his life was never at stake. His body may have been forced to acquiesce to a life not of his choosing; his obedience to Christ, however, even as a prisoner of war, allowed his human spirit to soar. Though his life is an example in the extreme, it beautifully illustrates the gift of life and human freedom when love and obedience commingle. By its very nature, it is a life revelatory of Christ himself, in whom we find our ultimate freedom. On a completely unrelated and still, very important subject, I wish to offer my most sincere Mother's Day greetings to all the mothers of the parish. Though it may have started out simply as a secular holiday, it is altogether especially fitting that we remember you and all of our dear mothers with great affection and love. There is nothing like a mother's love! Even after our mothers have been called home to God and we ourselves may be entering the final stages of our lives, the gift of a mother and her love remains a deep and abiding well from which we draw strength, hope, trust and the assurance that we are deeply loved. In so many ways, a mother's love is so very much like God's love for us. For that, all of us, or most of us, have reason to give thanks. Happy Mother's Day!

— *Fr. John McGivern*

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. John McGivern

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.: Rev. John McGivern

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 Com. Jim Podraza, Amanda Pomareda

Fundraising Committee:

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.

The women of Chicago's west side and the near-west suburbs are invited to gather this summer to reconnect.

Shelby Boblick will facilitate the meetings, and we'll use as a catalyst the title of book, **HEALING THE DIVIDE: Poems of Kindness & Connection**. We need to heal, rekindle kindness, and connect.

Shelby will supply the poem(s) for each session and not all will be drawn from that book. *No need to prepare in advance*. If you'd like to bring a poem, prayer or reflection, you are most welcome.

We'll meet in person *outside* on the covered porch of Shelby's River Forest condominium. The building has elevator access. 9 women can participate in each session (plus Shelby). Only fully vaccinated women are invited. Please e-mail a copy of your vaccination card or bring it with you. We'll be seated 6 feet apart. BYO beverages. Face masks are required to enter the building & unit but are optional once outside on the porch.

Because attendance is so limited, you must e-mail or call Shelby to *request* any individual session(s) or the entire series. Shelby will follow-up by e-mail or phone to notify who is registered to attend which sessions. Every effort will be made to include everyone interested in at least 1 session, if not more.

We'll focus on different subjects each week. To accommodate a variety of schedules, we'll offer *duplicate* sessions each Monday: one at 1 p.m. and another at 7:30 p.m. Please request whichever time suits you and your life. No need to request the same time for each session.

..# Monday, May 10: "Calling All Grand Mothers" by Alice Walker

..# Monday, May 24: "Think of Yourself" by Jan Phillips

..# Monday, June 7: "Shoulders" by Naomi Shihab Nye

..# Monday, June 21: "Change Sings" by Amanda Gorman

..# Monday, July 26: "Small Kindnesses" by Danusha Lameris

Monday, Aug. 9: "Summer Kitchen" by Donald Hall & "To Be of Use" by Marge Piercy

When Shelby confirms your registration, she will provide you the address, parking instructions, and electronic building access information.

Please join us! Questions or requests to participate, please ...e-mail shelbyboblick@outlook.com or call Shelby Boblick @ 630-240-2765.

500 Club Certificates

Our weekly drawings for the 2020-2021 season of the 500 Club through October 17th. Certificates are \$25 each and will be included in each weekly drawing. The prize each week is \$25 except for the three weekends when the prize is \$500. We have now sold 422 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!!!

★★★
 ★ **500 CLUB WINNER** ★
 ★ \$ 25.00 ★
 ★ May 9, 2021 ★
 ★ **JAMES & ELAINE PODRAZA** ★
 ★ # 327 ★
 ★★★



Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue. May 11**8:30**

- † **Luke Podraza**
By Elaine & Jim Podraza
- † **Josephine Hargadon**
By Jim Hargadon
- † **Annette Varga**
By Sam Newberry

Wed. May 12**8:30**

- † **Daniel Prude**
By Donna Kanapes

Sat. May 15**5:00**

- † **Josephine Hargadon**
By Jim Hargadon
- † **Lilly May Williams**
By Evie Stockinger
- † **Patricia (Collins) Macheel**
By Christine Weiekind

Sun. May 16**9:00****FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH****9:00**

- † **Virginia Cassin**
By Tom & Pat Nelson
- † **Paula Vincent**
By The Vincent Family

Today's Readings

First Reading — The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

Psalm — The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading — God is love (1 John 4:7-10) *or* 1 John 4:11-16.

Gospel — No one has greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15:9-17) *or* John 17:11b-19

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.

Saints and Special Observances

- Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day
- Monday: St. Damien de Veuster; St. John De Avila
- Wednesday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras;
Eid al Fitr (Islamic observance) begins at sunset
- Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord
(unless transferred to Sunday);
otherwise Our Lady of Fatima
- Friday: St. Matthias
- Saturday: St. Isidore; Armed Forces Day

Readings for the Week

- Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;
Jn 15:26 — 16:4a
- Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
- Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14;
Jn 16:12-15
- Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23
or
Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20
(for Ascension); otherwise Acts 18:1-8;
Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20
- Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17
- Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10;
Jn 16:23b-28
- Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; Ps 103:1-2,
11-12, 19-20; 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11b-19;
or,
for Ascension, Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9;
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13];
Mk 16:15-20

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.



**MAY 16, 2021 —
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Today's passage takes us back to the beginning verses of the Acts of the Apostles and sets forth the themes that Luke is going to develop throughout this, the longest book of the New Testament. His major theme is the rule of the Holy Spirit, who enables the apostles to be effective witnesses to Jesus. The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times in the Acts of the Apostles.

Second Reading: Ephesians: 4: 1-13

Today's passage from Ephesians was chosen because of its reference to Jesus' ascent to heaven, which is contrasted with his descent to the dead. Early Christians believed that those who died before the coming of Jesus awaited redemption in a shadowy existence described here as the lower regions of the earth. It is our Christian tradition that immediately after his death, Jesus went to these people to announce that they had been saved,



*Happy
Mother's
Day*



**Praying for the
Sick In Our Parish**

Colletta Ali, Gianna Calderon, Jeanette Cannon, Edde Ellis, Larry Evans, Juan Hernandez, Betty Graf, Dave Grayson, Theresa Hancock, Bill Holmes, William Johnson, Phillip Jones, Donna Kanapes, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen, Kroker, Coralia Morgan, Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Elias Rojas, Chuck Scott, Katie Shovelin, Tom Sterr, Sister 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

- During the week of May 10, students in Grades 3-8 will take their **I-Ready diagnostic tests**. I-Ready is serving as the students' standardized tests this year. The tests will be administered to all children, both at home and at school. Times for the week will be communicated by each teacher
- We had such a great response to our new logo that we are re-opening our **Spirit Wear Shop** next week. Watch your emails for information; get your order in as soon as you can!
- Don't miss out on the chance to get your very own, free **ROAR pack**. The kit comes with a sign for your yard, door, or window; postcards to send to interested families; and a bag of gourmet popcorn for your efforts. Call the office or email icourier@catherinelucy.org to order.

Calendar Dates

- 5/14 – 8th Grade virtual stock Market field trip
- 5/21 – Last day for Stars; 8th Grade Honors Assembly at 1 pm

SUMMER PROGRAM

Although June seems a long way off, we are already making plans for our summer program. Do not miss it!

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 John McGivern*
Administrator

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

Mass Times

To attend one of the open Masses at St. Catherine—St. Lucy you must pre-register through our *SignUp-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: apomaredascsloffice@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.

Catholic Charities Collection on Mother's Day

Eva is doing all she can to raise her grandchild alone on a limited income. She called Catholic Charities when she couldn't afford to fix her plumbing. We made the home repair, and invited her to our caregiver support group. She was one of the 398,078 seniors we helped last year.

Please give to Catholic Charities on Mother's Day to help seniors live in comfort. Learn more at www.catholiccharities.net.

"People have a dignity that is priceless and worth far more than things." - Pope Francis



New Weekday & Weekend MASS Schedule at St. Catherine—St. Lucy

These are our updated Mass schedules

- « # **Tuesday and Wednesday - 8:30 AM, here at St. Catherine-St. Lucy.**
- « # **Monday and Fridays- 8:30 AM** will be celebrated at St. Edmund's Parish, 188 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park, Il. entrance/exit on the northwest side off the parking lot area. You are encouraged to attend these.
- « # There will be **NO 8:30 AM** Mass on Thursday and Saturday at either location.
- « # **Weekend Schedule: Saturday 5:00 PM and Sunday 9:00 AM, both masses at SCSL.**

PLEASE NOTE: for the TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY weekday 8:30 morning Mass at SCSL, ONLY the Austin Blvd. door will be open for entrance and exit; worshippers sign in and sanitize hands just inside the Austin Blvd. door. Please sit in a pew #1, and leave your kneeler down following Mass, so it is obvious where to sanitize.

May — Month of Mary



Food for Thought

Spreading God's Love

"Who am I to judge?" Words spoken by Pope Francis, when questioned about LGBTQ Catholics.

"Get up. I myself also am a man." Words spoken by Peter as his friend Cornelius knelt before him.

Two Popes far apart, together in humility.

Francis was expressing an openness towards all.

Peter said God shows no partiality:

Whoever fears him and acts upright is acceptable.

They were spreading God's love.

Love is the only measuring stick for being part of Jesus' disciple community. Assurance

Is the key: "You did not choose me; it was I who chose you."

John says we're called to be Christians at God's initiative.

Peter knew the only point in his being chosen

was to spread the gospel of love he had received.

And so the essence of being followers of Christ

is to know we're chosen, then, without distinction,

Choose to spread God's love.

Sources: NCR, M. McGlone;

Acts 10:34; 1

John 4:7-10;

John 15:9&12.

Creation, A Symphony of Joy

"All of creation is a symphony of joy!" - Hildegard of Bingen

Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality presents A GALA CONCERT, Sunday, May 23, 2021, 3 to 5 PM Using quality recording and Zoom technology. Featuring "The Hildegard Singers". Enjoy this Zoom concert in the safety of your own home, patio or backyard.

Celebrating creation, our common home and presenting the music of Hildegard of Bingen, 11th century Abbess, mystic & composer who sings of "the greening power of life."

Your donation in any amount is appreciated and supports the work of *Shem Center for Interfaith Spirituality* promoting world peace through understanding, respect and friendship among all faith traditions and spiritual paths.

FOR CHILDREN,

a guest appearance by Kermit the Frog, singing, "It's Not Easy Being Green."

Please register using this link:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYsce2srzstG9Cu-CUSIHTbxs_hUWCV2vBVZ](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/91723456789)

