



ST. CATHERINE

OF SIENA ST. LUCY

**NOVEMBER 28, 2021
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



PASTORAL TEAM

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: 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:

Tuesday, and Wednesday- 8:30am - Main Church
NO Thursday Mass

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

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Evening - 5:00 pm

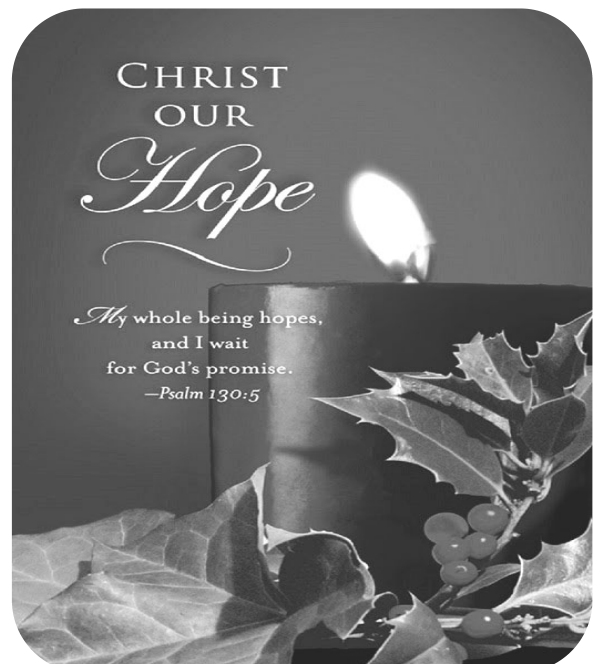
Sunday Morning - 9:00 am

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)



Thoughts From Rev. John W. McGivern, Administrator

Today marks the onset of Advent. The Church liturgical year now embarks on a new beginning. Beginnings (and endings) are never experienced, however, apart from what preceded them and what follows them. They are moments and opportunities, which give us a panoramic perspective of our lives, and as such, it is an opportunity for self-understanding and spiritual growth.

Last week, we celebrated the Solemnity of Christ the King. The full title of the solemnity is "Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe." It is the final Sunday in the Church liturgical year, and it is fitting that we celebrate our belief that already, in Jesus our King, we are heirs to his spiritual kingdom, which is all at once, our hope, our destination and the fulfillment of our lives. In celebrating this feast, we imagine the culmination of the Christian life, and in fact, acknowledge that even today, we partially share right now, in that fulfillment.

These scriptural themes we heard throughout the past month have been sobering. They strongly reminded us that the end is coming. Our November weather, with the cold having embraced us, and the leaves now falling to the ground has been the perfect visual complement to these end-time readings. On this First Sunday of Advent, we continue thematically with readings of the end-time, but we do so with an even greater measure of hope.

In today's Gospel reading, our Lord admonishes us to "Be aware that your hearts do not become drowsy...and that day catch you by surprise like a trap...Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man." Should we allow the Lord's words to penetrate our hearts and

minds, we would begin to understand that *that day* is now. In fact, that day is, if you will, an experience of every now.

What does that "awareness" and "vigilance" look like? Perhaps it looks like finally addressing an unresolved hurt, anger or resentment. Imagine how the gift of forgiveness can heal your or someone else's hurting heart. What a gift that would be! It is possible "awareness" and "vigilance" looks like confronting our lives honestly and realizing that we have been too self-absorbed, too self-pitying, or simply having a far-too-myopic worldview in general. Perhaps it simply looks like choosing gratitude for the blessings of our lives, as opposed to consternation about what we do not have. Maybe "awareness" and "vigilance" look simply like kindness and compassion. Whatever that inward observation might show us, it is only in finding the courage to look, that opens up for us the possibility of living with a renewed sense of hope, which is precisely what lies at the heart of the season and gift that is Advent.

The season of Advent also compels us to look forward—with the knowledge that the gift of the Lord Jesus, born in time and place and already given to us, and with us still, will one day return in his glory. Hence, graced with his perduring presence today, we actively prepare, with "awareness" and "vigilance" to "stand before the Son of Man."



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

Women's Ministry: Shelby Boblick

HUMAN CONCERNS COMMISSION

Peace & Justice Committee: Kevin Morgan

ADULT EDUCATION COMMISSION

Baptism Com.: Rev. John McGivern

St. Catherine/St. Lucy School:

School Board Chair: Natasha Lee

Fundraising Committee:

Pat Nelson, and Cynthia Weaver

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

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 Parish Office during the week

The 500 Club Certificates

This new season of the 500 Club has begun and continues through June 26, 2022!

Certificates numbered from 1 to 500 are sold for \$25 each. The numbers on all the certificates purchased are placed into a drawing every weekend until the season ends. The owner of the certificate whose number is drawn wins \$35. Three weekends, however, the prize is \$500 instead of \$35. IF all 500 certificates available for the season are eventually sold, there will be a fourth weekend with a prize of \$500 instead of \$35. The proceeds of the program are going toward the general operating expenses of the parish.

The certificates are great for yourself and make fun gifts for others. During the past season, several winners received their certificates as gifts, including two of the \$500 winners. Imagine the delight!

Applications and information about the 500 Club are available in the gathering area of the church and at the parish office. Applications and payment using a check or cash may be mailed to the parish or put into the collection basket at Mass. To make a purchase with a credit card, use Give Central at:

<https://www.givecentral.org/location/364/event/8132>.

We can't thank you enough for your continued support of the parish through this fun yet socially distanced program. Thank you for your enthusiastic participation, especially as we aren't able to resume some of our previous and helpful fundraising events at this time.

Peace, wellness, prayers, and gratitude!

~The Fundraising Committee

★ THE 500 CLUB WINNER ★
★ \$ 35.00—November 28, 2021 ★
★ JUDITH M. REED, # 499 ★



2021 Holiday Schedule St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish

Vigil of Christmas (Christmas Eve)
Friday, December 24, 2021
3:00 PM

Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25, 2021
9:00 AM

Feast of the Holy Family
Please note that there is NO 5pm mass
on Saturday, December 25.

Sunday, December 26, 2021
9:00 AM

Solemnity of Mary,
Mother of God

Saturday, January 1, 2022
Not a holy day of obligation this year.
No Mass is scheduled.

Feast of the Epiphany
Please note that there is NO 5pm mass
on Saturday, January 1, 2022.
People may attend 5:30pm mass at
St. Edmund Church.

Sunday, January 2, 2022
9:00 AM

Feast of the Baptism
of the Lord

Saturday, January 8, 2022
5:00 PM

Sunday, January 9, 2022
9:00 AM

Advent Prayer Services

Start Tomorrow at
St. Catherine of Siena – St. Lucy Church
*“Looking for Light in the
Darkness”*

Prayer Services open to everyone will be led by Shelby Boblick in the St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church on 4 Mondays during Advent

- November 29
- December 6
- December 13
- December 20

There will be prayer services at 1 pm and again at 7:30 pm on each of the 4 Mondays. Please enter through the doors on Austin Blvd.

“THE PEOPLE WHO WERE SITTING IN DARKNESS SAW A GREAT LIGHT, AND THOSE WHO WERE SITTING IN THE LAND AND SHADOW OF DEATH, UPON THEM A LIGHT DAWNED.”

—Matthew 4:16



**Advent
Reconciliation Service**
Monday, December 6th at 7pm—
**Ascension Parish - Individual
Confession and Absolution to be given**

There will be a sacramental service of Reconciliation on Monday, December 6 at 7pm at Ascension Church, for all 4 of the Oak Park parishes. In preparation for the celebration of Christmas, we encourage all parishioners to avail themselves of this wonderful opportunity to receive God's forgiveness and love.

There will be several priests gathered to hear confessions and to give individual absolution during this communal service of prayer.

Come to pray and reflect. Come to ask for God's guidance and forgiveness. Come and experience the rebirth of Christ in your life!


**Mass Intentions
for the Week**
Tue. November 30

8:30 † **Louise H. Butler**
By: Grace Bishop

† **Jim Marshall**
By: Bob Nix

† **Barbara Ann Wheel**
By: Marie and Bern Wheel

Wed. December 1

8:30 † **Annette Varga**
By: Sam Newberry

† **Jerry Rice**
By: The Yee Family

† **Sylvia Bogart**
By: Dorothy Brion

Sat. December 4

5:00 † **Luke Podraza**
By: Elaine and Jim Podraza

† **David Butler**
By: Grace Bishop

Sun. December 5

9:00 † **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**

† **John Quinn**
By: Donna Kanapes

† **Kathy Feulner**
By: Larry and Virginia Jopek

† **Paul J. Sheedy**
By: Tom and Pat Nelson

Stewardship Report

Due to the bulletin early deadline, for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday, our stewardship report for the weekends of November 21 and 28 will be shown later within the December 5 bulletin.

Today's Readings

First Reading — The days are coming when the Lord will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — May the Lord make you increase and abound in love that you may be blameless in holiness; conduct yourselves so as to please God (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — There will be signs and you will see the Son of Man coming with power and great glory. Be vigilant (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent;
Hanukkah begins

Tuesday: St. Andrew, Apostle

Wednesday: World AIDS Awareness Day

Friday: St. Francis Xavier

Friday: St. John Damascene; First Friday

Saturday: First Saturday



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. GiveCentral 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 and giving tab you will be able to find the link to *GiveCentral*

LITURGICAL MINISTERS—NOV. 2021

	Lector	Communion Minister
<u>Nov. 27-28</u>		
Sat	Paul Knight	Lessie Dean
Sun	Marcie Morgan	Kathy Mortell

1st & 2nd Readings for the upcoming Sunday are offered to help all of us.



**DECEMBER 5, 2021—
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

The setting for today's reading is the time when the Jews were captives in Babylon. The author writes of a bright future when they will return with joy to their homeland. In this passage, Jerusalem is pictured as a joyful mother, watching her children come home.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Of all the communities Paul founded, the one at Philippi was especially dear to him. Wherever he was, they sent him moral and financial support to help carry on his work. Now confined to a prison cell, Paul writes to them like a proud parent.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions 4:00—4:30 PM Church



Every Saturday from 4:00—4:30 PM St. Catherine of Siena —St. Lucy Parish is again offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation weekly before the Saturday evening mass.

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

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On the First Sunday of Advent, the first purple (or violet) candle is lit. This is called the "Prophecy Candle" and recalls the prophets, particularly Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Jesus Christ. It represents hope or expectation of the coming Messiah.



Praying for the

Sick In Our Parish

Coletta Ali, Danita Bowie, Jeanette Cannon, Juan Fernandez, Katherine Fisher, Bill Holmes, William Johnson Phillip Jones, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Hilda Luciano, Marilyn McFall Georgine Mullen, Irvin Quarles, Shelley Sandow, Joann Taylor, LaNedra Vaughn, & Howard Visteen.

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 parish office during office hours. Thanks

Communion & Anointing of the Sick

Our Communion Ministers are ready to go into personal visits again after COVID restrictions have lifted.

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.

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



School Scoop

- ..# Classes resume tomorrow, 11/29 after the Thanksgiving break.
- ..# Thank you to all our families who have so generously supported our many fundraisers this month. We appreciate you.
- ..# If you are considering Catholic high schools, please remember to register for the HSPT on the website of your first choice Catholic school. The test will be Saturday, **December 4th** at your first choice Catholic high school. Most Catholic schools' financial aid applications are also open. Please start those applications as well.

To All St. Catherine — St. Lucy families

Spend a few moments going down memory lane this Christmas season. Please send any pictures or video clips from past Christmas Eve children's celebrations to Jean's e-mail: Lunamama6@gmail.com. (The 6 is VERY IMPORTANT as someone else has a very similar email!). If you don't have any old pics or videos ... just send a picture or a short video with your beautiful face. We are hoping to make a SCSL video remembering all of the wonderful Christmas' Eves we've shared together. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** Thanks.

Questions...call or text Jean at 708-606-7243. Let's share the love!

2022 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 this offering your prayers at a Mass.

Our books are open for personal intentions for the remainder of this year and for the 2022 year.

Eastgate Café Giveback Wednesday, December 1

Tired of cooking and tired of turkey?

Take a break and eat in or order out at Eastgate Café on Wednesday, December 1st from 1 to 7pm. Save the Date and look for the menu options in the bulletin soon! Mention St Catherine-St Lucy when ordering and we will receive 20% of sales, minus alcohol and taxes. Eastgate Café, 102 Harrison St., Oak

Ten Thousand Villages Shopping Giveback

Do your Christmas shopping at Ten Thousand Villages from Sunday, **December 5 through Thursday, December 9** and you will be shopping with purpose, both to the fair trade artisans and our parish. We will receive 15% of sales when you mention St Catherine-St Lucy when you checkout. Shop in-store and on their website villagesoakpark.com with curbside pickup.



Faith & Fellowship

On this Thanksgiving Weekend...

...*Faith and Fellowship* is grateful for the love, support, generosity, and compassion of so many of our friends!

- ♥ staff and parishioners of St. Catherine-St. Lucy
- ♥ members of the PPC and the Renew My Church Committee
- ♥ Central Plaza and Columbus Manor personnel
- ♥ Diaconate Community, Archdiocese of Chicago
- ♥ students and faculty of Christ the King College Prep & St. Francis High School (Wheaton)
- ♥ Fr. George Omwando and Fr. John McGivern
- ♥ all the Catechists and Partners

You helped us survive and thrive through COVID and beyond – and for this we give thanks!



Christmas Flower Sale

The Christmas Flower Sale **is back this year** and we will have all your favorites and some surprises! They will be sold after the masses on **December 11-12**. They make wonderful gifts and there will be no supply chain issues so they will be ready to give!

Gift Cards Are Coming

Gift Card Orders for Christmas shopping can be turned in after Masses the weekends of **November 27/28 and December 04/05**.

Don't forget to order gift cards for your personal use. Please pay with cash or check. Remember there are shipping delays this year, so we are ordering earlier than we did last year. Orders placed by November 28, will be available December 11/12. Orders placed by December 5, will be available December 18/19. For any additional information, please contact Jeanne Visteen, 708-828-4272

The Three Comings of Advent

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know, His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*



Grateful

With incredible gratitude, we are pleased to announce that proceeds from **BAZAARS REIMAGINED 2021** are **\$7,960.00** as of November 16, 2021. We will let you know our final net results.

These past two years, our little green “Dollar Mascot” has accompanied photos and memories of Bazaars and Christmas Lunches from the past. COVID restrictions kept this treasured event from happening in person, but it lived on in our hearts. We hope our delightful mascot brought some fun and a smile to you, replacing the disappointment of not being together in Maguire Hall. Parishioners, Friends, and School Alumni have shown such continued loyalty and faithfulness to the fundraising efforts for our Parish. We are profoundly grateful. **THANK YOU!**

~*The Fundraising Committee*

The Giving Tree



As you shop this season, please remember the children whose wishes go unanswered by bringing a toy or children's book to put under the tree. They will be delivered to Catholic Charities on Austin Ave. for their toy showers in mid-December. *(The Tree will be up in Church by December 4-5 this year.)* Questions? Please call Linda at 708-386-6389.

—*The Peace & Justice Committee*

First Sunday of Advent

I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land.

—*Jeremiah 33:15*



Advent Night Prayer on Zoom
 Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22
 7:30-8pm
 Meeting ID: 882 6653 3234
 Passcode: 749644
 Join us!

Advent Spiritual Classics: Advent Meditations from Prison via Zoom

As we look towards Advent and Christmas and prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, **Ascension Catholic Church** invites you to join the Lifelong Learning & Adult Faith Formation Committee for a three-week series on the Advent meditations of Father Alfred Delp, a Jesuit priest who was imprisoned and executed by the Nazi regime.

Discussions will be held online over Zoom on Tuesdays, December 7, 14, and 21 at 7:30 pm. The discussions will include the 1944 readings of the Gospels for the weeks of Advent, selected passages from Father Delp's meditations written from prison, and time for sharing our reflections as we contemplate the mystery of the incarnation. The meditations are short and a pdf copy will be provided to participants who register. A book of Father Delp's meditations and homilies is also available for purchase.

Registration is required. To participate, just send an email to llaaffc@ascensionoakpark.com with Advent Meditations in the subject line. You'll receive a return email before the discussion with pdf copies of the Meditations and a link for the Zoom meetings. For more information and links to obtain the book, go to www.ascensionoakpark.com/apps/pages/athome.

Grief Support Group

Help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through difficult days ahead.

Contact Us Today:
 Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
 January 12 - April 6, 2022
St. Giles Parish, McDonough Hall
 1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park
 Contact Geri Tapling, 708-223-4912
griefshare@stgilesparish.org



Food for Thought

"These are My Brothers"

"Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me."
 (Mark 25:40)

The indigent are often victims of injustice and the inequality of throwaway societies, that hurry past the poor without really seeing them, abandoning them to their fate.

The Pope, on a day dedicated to the World's poor, offered mass at the Vatican for 2,000 indigents.

"A history of tribulation, violence and suffering, with terror of life at the margins."

By its focus on the poor, the Church is asking us not to turn aside or be afraid to take a closer look at the crucible borne by those most vulnerable, especially starving children.

Francis said unless our hope leads to concrete gestures of solidarity and concern for our common home, the poor will not get relief from living on the margins; Their expectations will not blossom.

11/28/21. *Tom Lynch, SCSL*

Source: NCR Report

What Is the Mass?

There is no simple answer to that question. There are many different images and terms to describe our most important prayer. The Mass is the celebration of the Eucharist, a Greek word that means **thanksgiving**. It is the Lord's Supper. It is the Breaking of the Bread. It is the memorial of the Lord's passion, death, and resurrection. It is the Holy Sacrifice, in which the sacrifice of Christ on the cross is perpetuated. It is the holy and divine liturgy, the sacred mysteries. It is the source and summit of our Christian lives, the new covenant, the work of the Holy Spirit, the paschal mystery. The many different words and images that we use when we speak of the Mass are not signs of confusion, but of wonder at what the Catechism of the Catholic Church (1328) calls the "inexhaustible richness" of the Eucharist. The Mass, our greatest prayer and our deepest mystery, is celebrated every day, many times a day, the world over. The Eucharist is both "*bread from heaven*" and "*daily bread*." The Mass is our everyday miracle.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co