

ST. CATHERINE



OF SIENA ST. LUCY

DECEMBER 5, 2021
SECOND 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: 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)



Thoughts From Rev. John W. McGivern, Administrator

Dear Parishioners,

The following is an update and a summary statement about the Renew My Church process of the Oak Park parishes. Written by a chosen member of the Writing Team, this document succinctly situates us in the process and details a timeline of events that are soon to happen. During this time, let us pray that the Holy Spirit guide us and all involved decision makers to a future that will benefit the entire local Catholic community.



RMC Update Draft Communication

Last Tuesday, November 16, the RMC, Renew My Church Grouping Discernment Team put the finishing touches on a feedback document to the Archdiocese, and with that completed, the first phase of the Renew My Church process.

Renew My Church is a comprehensive effort by the Archdiocese to revitalize the church in order to make disciples, strengthen and build communities, and inspire witness to faith in Jesus Christ. This first phase was devoted to determining which of six scenarios would result in the best use of buildings and ministries to carry out that mission. Perhaps you took the opportunity to attend some of the information and feedback sessions about the scenarios, or participated in the *Novena with a Twist* that was part of this process.

The Grouping Team used data, its own experience, your feedback, and Foundational Principles provided by the Archdiocese, to determine the best scenarios for Oak Park. The Team is making two recommendations to the Archdiocesan RMC Commission: a two parish scenario (with two different pairings of the parishes) and a one parish scenario. It is important to remember that the Team's role was to discern and recommend, not to

decide. That resides with the Cardinal.

Next steps are for the Writing Team members—a group that wrote up the work of the entire Team, consisting of one person from each of the parishes—to **present the feedback** to the Executive Committee of the Renew My Church Commission **on December 7**. The Executive Committee will then make a recommendation to the full Commission, which refers up to the Vicar and Presbyteral Council and finally to Cardinal Cupich. **He will announce his decision for the new structure for the churches in Oak Park on January 28.**

During its last meeting, the team members talked about the process, and expressed their gratitude for aspects of the work they had done together. “I’m grateful for the people I’ve met from the other parishes through this process”; “I’m grateful for the openness and lack of defensiveness”; “I’m grateful for the support of the smaller parishes by the Team”; “I’m grateful for the hope and excitement I feel about the future of our church in Oak Park”. These were just some of the team members’ comments. The overall sentiment was one of gratitude for the opportunity to participate on the Team and for the work it did together.

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Tue. December 7,

8:30 † **Luke Podraza**
By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
† **Isabel Roman**
By: Her niece

Wed. December 8

8:30 † **Annette Varga**
By: Sam Newberry
† **Luke Podraza**
By: Jim and Elaine Podraza
† **Gladys Vergara**
By: Her niece

Sat. December 11

5:00 † **Columbus Brewer**
By: Donna Kanapes
† **David and Louise Butler**
By: Grace Bishop

Sun. December 12

9:00 † **FOR THE PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH**
† **Michael Ballew**
By: Jim Hargadon
† **Colin Powell**
By: Donna Kanapes
† **Yeuk Ping Yee-Canama**
By: The Yee Family

Today's Readings

First Reading — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:1-6).

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.

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. Nicholas
Tuesday: St. Ambrose;
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Wednesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Thursday: St. Juan Diego
Friday: Our Lady of Loreto
Saturday: St. Damasus I

Our Parish Stewardship

St. Catherine-St. Lucy Church



November 21, 2021	\$ 1,844.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 2,088.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -3,376.00

November 28, 2021	\$ 2,510.00
On-Line GiveCentral	\$ 898.00
Weekly Budget	\$ 7,308.00
DEFICIT	\$ -4,798.00

Online donations can be made to St. Catherine-St. Lucy Parish at:
www.givecentral.org

Thanks for your continued financial support!

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13;
Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;
Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16,
18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;
Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

LITURGICAL MINISTERS—DEC. 2021

<u>Dec. 4-5</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Communion Min</u>
Sat	Frank Pond	Pat Koko
Sun	Christine Diaz	Elaine Podraza
<u>Dec. 11-12</u>		
Sat	Christine Wedekind	Lessie Dean
Sun	Joyce Wade	Fannie Cooper
<u>Dec. 18-19</u>		
Sat	Paul Knight	Pat Koko
Sun	Mary Jane Obrien	Mary Howard
<u>Dec. 25-26</u>		
Sat (9:00 AM)	TBA	TBA
Sun (9:00 AM)		

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



DECEMBER 12, 2021— THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18

The days of the prophet Zephaniah were bad times for Israel because of their idolatry and unfaithfulness to the law. Zephaniah preached impending judgement, a day of doom. But in the end, he tells them of a day when they will sing for joy, and the Lord will sign joyfully over them.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Of all the communities founded by Paul, he one of Philippi was his favorite. Toward the end of his letter to them, he advises how to live as they await Christ's return in glory.



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.



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On the Second Sunday of Advent

The Gospel reading recalls the preaching of John the Baptist, who came to "*prepare the way of the Lord*"; the other readings have associated themes.



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, Marilyn McFall Georgine Mullen, Raul Perez, Andy Pomykalski, Shelley Sandow, Joann Taylor, LaNedra Vaughn, Howard Visteen, and Fred Williams

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

- ..# On Monday, Nov. 22 - 4th graders worked hard & had fun making simple machines! Thanks @seesparkshop for a great afternoon!
- ..# The Boys' Basketball season starts in December. Lets give them our support!
- ..# It is critical that families contact Candice with any tuition issues or questions - 773-469-3553 finances@catherinelucy.org.



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.

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

A Busy Mother

Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children.

—St. John Vianney



Shopping Benefit ten thousand villages.

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.

Volunteers ARE Needed

As has been our tradition, all in the parish are invited to help in the preparation of our beautiful church for Christmas!

Perhaps you can help out on one or all (!) of the following dates:

- ..# "Decorating the church" (trees, wreaths, crèche) Sun. Dec. 19 immediately after 9 AM mass
- ..# "Placement of Christmas Flowers in the church" Thursday Dec. 23rd between 10:00 am and 12 noon.



Faith & Fellowship Leaning and Lifting

Recently, the Monday Night Faith & Fellowship Prayer Circle began with a picture of climber helping another scale the side of the mountain. "Sometimes we all need a lift, don't we?" the leader suggested. As the group began to talk about times of feeling down and out, and who helped lift them up, there was a range of recollections: a mother, a friend, a stranger, a Central Plaza resident, a group at the gym. All people who believe in us, and stretch out a hand when we need it. Just like God – "He has lifted up the lowly, ever mindful of his mercy." - (Luke 1:52). Then we sang "Lean on Me" and believed it!

Gift Cards

Gift Card Orders for Christmas Shopping can be turned in at all Masses this weekend. 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

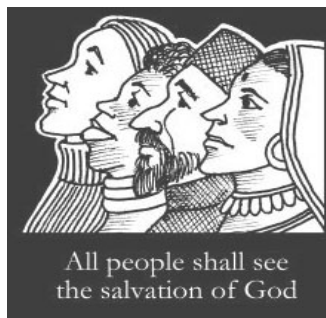


The Giving Tree

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 starting this weekend this year.*) Questions? Please call Linda at 708-386-6389.

Prayer of the Week Second Sunday of Advent

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen



Christmas Flower Sale NEXT WEEKEND



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!

Help the Homeless

The Haymarket office at O'Hare Airport is in desperate need of winter clothing articles for the homeless population who come to the Haymarket office at O'Hare Airport. We have a SCSL parishioner that works there as an Outreach Worker and is willing to be taking your clothing articles to them.

Socks (the less ankle binding the better), Gloves, hats, scarves, jogging pants, preferably new. Used: Shoes boots, and coats in good condition will be accepted.

There will be a bin designated for this purpose in the back of the church.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



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



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 llauffc@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 The Last Prophet

*"The voice of one crying in the desert:
Prepare Ye the way of the Lord, make straight
in the wilderness the paths of our God...
the glory of the Lord shall be revealed."
(Isaiah, 40:3,5)*

When John baptized Jesus, that finished his work here on earth. He by God was chosen to announce Christ's coming; that baptism marked the start of Jesus' ministry. John was the last Prophet, and some say the best. When he spoke of the fruits of repentance, he meant social justice. Though John and Jesus shared a common ministry, their approaches were different.

Luke would tell us now we need to read his words in the light of the world's health, wealth and poverty, racism, division, social activism, religious devotion and lack of faith, as the environment to which we must apply the gospel. Thus could we decipher God's fingerprints and the echo of his voice, which was happening around us.

John's role was to prepare for God and the people to encounter one another through conversion and baptism to forgive sins. Luke called John's approach radical: "Metanoia," beyond the mind, beyond self-concepts, beyond our own story and our faith, and way beyond "repentance." It is a new vision of life. John wanted people to know God was about to do something great. Let us accompany one another on the adventure.

12/5/21. Tom Lynch, SCSL

Sources: NCR, M. McGlone; "Who's Who in the Bible," Reader's Digest; "Lives of the Saints, Benziger Bros.

Next Weekend our 2nd Collection is



From Catholic schools and hospitals—to parishes, retreat centers, and works of mercy—elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have prayerfully served our Church and world. Most ministered for little pay now, without enough retirement savings, many religious communities are struggling to care for aging members. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide nursing care, medicine, and other necessities. Please be generous.