

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINTE LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH



APRIL 21, 2024 • Fourth Sunday of Easter

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH
38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK
WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday at 8:30 am
WEEKEND MASS: Sunday at 9:00 am

ST. GILES CHURCH
1045 COLUMBIAN AVENUE, OAK PARK
DAILY MASSES: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 am;
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8:30 am; Saturday at 8:00 am (Confessions following Mass)
WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 4:30 pm; Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Fr. Carl's Corner



Last weekend and this weekend, both parish sites celebrated Confirmation for our students who had been preparing to say their YES to living their faith as they grow as young adults. Today, let me say **congratulations** to all who made their Confirmation and assure you all of the prayers of the communities that care for you and promise their support.

These Confirmation services remind me that Jesus is the most important aspect of our faith. This reality seems to be suffering in today's world. Covid-19 prevented people from gathering for worship for more than a year. Unfortunately, we are still feeling the effects of folks getting back into the practice of attending weekly Mass. Church membership in the United States has fallen below 50% for the first time. In addition, "reports CNN," a cascade of the headlines in recent years has stained the churches' reputation, including sex abuse scandals in our Roman Catholic Church; the spread of White Christian nationalism in the Southern Baptist Convention; and the perception that the church oppresses marginalized groups. Jesus, however, is the most central aspect of our faith. If we are going to improve our standing in our communities and our nation, we all need to focus intensely on his ministry and his mission. I have read in another poll that a full 85% consider Jesus to be an "important spiritual figure." What should be clear to us all is the need to align ourselves with Jesus. This means being a church that acts like Jesus. I want to remind everyone that our work with the migrants, The Neighborhood Bridge with its focus on service to our Austin neighbors, the support of Housing Forward, and the work of our Faith and Fellowship Ministry out of St. Catherine-St. Lucy's former rectory to adults with emotional and mental challenges all show alignment with the mission of Jesus. Your prayers, volunteer efforts and financial support all help us continue the mission of Jesus who uses this image in today's gospel, "I am the Good Shepherd." *John 10:11*

It is good for us to keep in mind that as a church, and for each of our parishes and staff, we continue to grow in our unification efforts aligning with the Good Shepherd. We must begin with a focus on our personal relationship with Jesus, who is the Good Shepherd. Let us not forget at the heart of his message is a focus on relationships between people and Jesus, people and God, people and others. At the heart of our Christian faith is a web of relationships. Jesus knowing people, people knowing Jesus, Jesus knowing God, God knowing people and people knowing God. Everything that matters in the church is based on these deep-spirited relationships, which give rise to all the good that the church can do in our parish life and in the world. This is at the heart of the example of Jesus as Good Shepherd.

I ask all to think about this, prayer with it and let it guide our words and actions in how we relate to and treat each other.

More food for thought:

We all experience mood swings in life, it's part of human nature. Some days, everything goes right. Life is great. On other days, everything goes wrong. Everyone is cranky and impatient. Our faith goes through similar mood swings. It goes with the territory of being human.

Fr. Ed Salmon, in residence at St. Giles, spoke about this in a recent homily and shared this poem. I asked his permission to share it with you all. It speaks to how we can handle these "faith swings."

*"The road of life was bright, it stretched before my sight.
The Lord was at my side to be my friend and guide, and so I started out.
But then the sky turned dark, the road grew deep and stark.
Rocks and ruts cut my feet.
My legs grew sore and weak.
I could hardly travel on.
I turned and cried, My Lord! Why this pain?
Why this plight? Why these rocks and ruts?
Where's the road, where's the light? I cannot carry on.
The Lord turned and said: My child, where is your faith?
Where is your childlike trust?
My love is with you, I will be your strength, just trust and carry on."*

Have a blessed weekend ahead. With you a Christian. For you a priest.

Fr. Carl

Spiritual Life & Worship

We Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Jessica Scanlon Bailey, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Marissa Becker, Kyle Becnel, Joe Bigliotti, Baby Sofia Rose Bond, John Botti, Danita Bowie, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Melissa Brumund, Pat Burke, Susan Cadero, Phil Calabrese, Jim Cimms, Ray Cimms, Theresa Claps, Patricia Crotty, Lucille Dalbis, Bill DeBiase, Judy DesLauriers, Andrea Dickson, Virginia Evans, Wanda Farmer, Mike Fenske, Carla Michelle Rodas Ferreira, Katherine Fisher, Mary Ellen Frank, Paul Frauenfelder, Earl Gallermo, Jack Gallo, Michael Gallo, Sr. Regina Gallo, Marcial Gomez, Baby Michael Haiduke, Jennifer Hanna, Deborah Harris, Maggie Astacio Hedges, Paul Hefner, Deacon John Henricks, Bill Holmes, Ben Houghton, Ginny Jones, Phillip Jones, Joe Karas, Patrick King, Marie Koko, Pat Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Carla Lally, Kimberly Lester, Gabriela Rodriguez Machado, Herbert Macias, Jim Madden, Virginia Madden, Deacon Lorry Madonia, Lynne Tallon Matassa, Patricia McDonald, Leolina Rodriguez Meira, Sebastian Mitchell, Willa Montgomery, Anne Muldihill, Sr. Louise Noesen, Matt O'Connell, Amelia Patterson, Bob Quane, Patricia Reardon, Tom Rezek, Lillian Ricci, Paul Schleitwiler, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Carole Sheehan, Maureen Sloan, Nick Sorrentino, Sr. Carol Spiegel, Nina Stanley, Eleanor Stone, Samantha Struett, Sarah Such, Joann Taylor, Maria Vaccaro, Shirley Venerable, Nancy Wesclitz, Nichol Williams, LaShonda Wilson, Brenda Zych.

(Names will be periodically removed from this listing in the bulletin and also from the list of recurring intersessions spoken at weekend Masses. Others have received a Prayer Shawl representing the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the parish office to include someone on this prayer list or to request inclusion in the weekend Mass intercessions, or to request a Prayer Shawl.)

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Angelina Petani and Patricia Tabet.

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, April 22

6:30 — The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, April 23

8:30 — Chester Hammer
Carlos Mazon

Wednesday, April 24

6:30 — Owen Petrzelka
The Deceased of the Shaker Family
8:30 — All Parishioners and Benefactors

Thursday, April 25

Saint Mark, Evangelist

8:30 — The Deceased of the Joyce Family

Friday, April 26

6:30 — Marion Haddad
Ruth Bourjaily
Frances Zamito
Darlene Marie Rush

Saturday, April 27

8:00 — Joseph J. Archibald, Jr.
Louis and Elizabeth Toth
*4:30 — Fr. Dan Smlanic
Rento Gatta
Thomas Geary
Richard Brennan

Sunday, April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 — Joseph Burns
Marilyn Hammer
Thomas Geary
10:00 — Family Mass Community in School Gym
10:30 — Eduardo Sanchez
Elizabeth and Joseph DeStefano
Edmund O'Brien

**This Mass will be live-streamed from the St. Giles website, stgilesparish.org.*

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, April 23

8:30 — All Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 — Jori Baker
Jeung Kuen Low
Nellie Baker

ST. EDMUND CHURCH

Sunday, April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter

5:00 — Oak Park Catholic Parishes Mass

St. Giles Church is looking for an additional livestream operator for our Masses in 2024. If you know someone who either has some video experience or is a college student interested in broadcasting and would be interested in streaming one or two Masses per month, please contact the Parish Office.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

World Day of Prayer for Vocations Sunday, April 21

We see in Jesus, the Good Shepherd, the heart of every calling. Everyone is called, and everyone has a vocation in the Church. Please pray for an increase in vocations in the Archdiocese of Chicago!

If you have questions regarding your vocation, please contact Fr. Tim Monahan at 847.531.0148 or tmonahan@archchicago.org.



Praying the Rosary on Zoom Fridays at 7:00 pm

Join Deacon Kevin and Marci Morgan on Zoom to pray the Rosary on Friday evenings.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/>
Meeting ID: 865 8895 7490
Passcode: 634955

Parish Life



This spring, our parish will again participate in The Baby Bottle Project benefiting The Women's Centers of Greater Chicagoland. This non-profit organization directly assists mothers and families experiencing crisis pregnancies and have saved over 40,000 babies and their mothers from abortion since

opening in 1984.

Please take a Baby Bottle home with you this weekend, fill it with your spare change, and return it on the weekend of May 11-12. The bottles can be found in the gathering space of both Church sites. If you are making a donation by check, please make it payable to: The Women's Center. You can also go directly to their website at: GoTWC.org or call 773-794-1313 to donate.

This is a simple, but crucial fundraising effort for The Women's Centers. Please note that the Baby Bottles cost almost \$1.00 per bottle and are recycled afterwards so please return upon completion of the project. *Thank you for helping defend life* and remember to keep all pro-life undertakings in your prayers.

Are you currently the chairperson of a parish Ministry?

Were you once a chairperson of a Ministry that has stopped meeting, and you'd like to get it going again?

Do you have an idea for a new ministry, but you don't know where to begin?

We need to get in touch with you!

The St. Catherine-St. Lucy-St. Giles PPC is currently in the process of updating our records to ensure that we have accurate contact information for all Ministry Chairs in our combined parish. Help us find ways to re-engage with members throughout our community and to create opportunities to attract those who will hopefully find a home among us. Please scan the QR code to give us your contact and ministry information. Thank you!



SAVE THE DATE!

OAK PARK YOUNG ADULTS
PRESENT

**THEOLOGY
ON
TAP**

**FRIDAY, MAY 3RD
7 PM**

Location TBA



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FR CARL MORELLO

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(21+)*

Saturday Night Groove!

An evening of live music featuring
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• The Island of Misfit Toys

TICKETS:

\$40 in advance, **\$50** at the door

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- Heavy Appetizers
- Raffle Baskets
- Signature Cocktail
- Split the Pot
- Silent Auction
- Wine, Beer & Spirits.

Scan this
QR Code to
Purchase Tickets



Date: Saturday April 27th, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM Doors Open, Show Starts at 7:30 PM

Location: McDonough Hall, 1101 Columbian Ave,
Oak Park, IL

SPONSOR

2nd floor, accessible by stairs only.

CCW of St. Catherine - St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish

Oak Park Catholic Community

MIGRANT MINISTRY UPDATE: GOOD THINGS HAPPENING, NUMBERS ARE UP



So many good things are happening! The wife and infant daughter of one of our leading migrant volunteers finally made it to Chicago after a harrowing trip up north that started in December. We are so happy for you, Saul and Maria! Another exciting development is the inclusion of asylum-seekers in our Migrant Ministry CROP Walk team, providing the opportunity for the migrants to raise money for the organization (CWS) that fed them as they emerged from the Darien Gap. Inspiring!



Similar to what occurred in 2023, the number of migrants arriving to Chicago slowed down for the first three months of this year but are now beginning to increase. We are certainly seeing that on our Migrant Ministry days at Centro San Edmundo. The first week of April, we saw 280 migrants; the second week the number increased to 320 and many of them were very recent arrivals, having just arrived three days earlier.

After having closed donations to deal with overstock, we are now fully open again **but only for the items listed below**. We are most in need of gym shoes and sandals for men, women, and children, summer T-shirts and shorts, towels, and toiletries. Thank you for your donation!

For more information on the Migrant Ministry, email immigrantministry@gmail.com

Financial donations to support the Migrant Ministry can be sent to the St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish Office at 1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park, IL 60302. Please mark your check for the "Migrant Ministry." Donations may also be made online through GiveCentral on the St. Giles website or by scanning the QR code at right.

Or donations can be sent to Ascension and St. Edmund Parish. Please note the Migrant Ministry on your check. Donations may also be made online through GiveCentral on the Ascension website.



	Women Small & Medium Sizes	Men Small & Medium Sizes	Children Toddler To Large Sizes	Infants Size 9-24 Months
Tops	Casual Tops, T-Shirts, Athletic Wear	Small/Medium* Short Sleeve, Athletic Wear*, Tank Top Undershirts*	Short Sleeve	Short Sleeve
Pants	Shorts, Jeans, Black Pants	Shorts, Jeans*, Athletic*	Shorts, Jeans, Athletic	Any
Leggings	Small*, Medium* & Large	N/A	Girls, All Sizes	N/A
Pajamas	Any	Any	Any	Any
Bras	Small*, Medium*, Large & Sport Bras*	N/A	Pre-teen	N/A
Underwear	New Only*	New Only, Boxer Briefs Requested*	New Only	New Only
Socks	New Only, Low Cut Preferred	New Only, Low Cut Preferred	New Only	New Only
Shoes	Athletic Shoes, Small Sizes Requested* Crocs & Sandals	Athletic Shoes, Small Sizes Requested* Construction Boots – Men's Size 8-10 Crocs & Sandals	Athletic Shoes, Small Sizes Requested* Crocs & Sandals	Any

Requested Linens & Personal Items

(Must be clean, and in good condition)

- Blankets - Small, *Medium & *Large
- Sheets - Twin, Full, Queen
- Towels - Washcloths, Hand, Bath
- Toiletries - *Deodorant, *Lotion, *Hair Conditioner
- Sleeping Bags
- Backpacks
- Roller Suitcases - In good condition

Amazon Wish List Donations

Go to amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM
Or use your phone's camera to access the site through this QR code:



Drop donations off on Mondays 9:00 am – 12:00 pm at 200 S. Oak Park Avenue

Please enter at the Pleasant Avenue door

Questions? Email: immigrantministry@gmail.com

Spirit and Light Collaborative

Spirit and Light?

Some people have wondered exactly what Spirit and Light is. It is a Catholic collaborative for living faith. But sometimes a simple phrase isn't completely clear. Therefore, various people have written down their understanding and experience of Spirit and Light. A different explanation will be shared weekly.

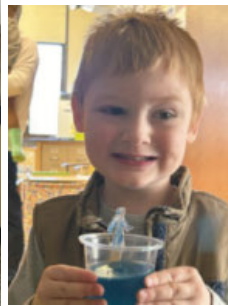
The following was written by **Connie Rakitan, Director of Faith & Fellowship.**

“The benefit of “Spirit and Light” is to be an organized, harmonized “clearing house” for the many programs of faith formation (religious education – cradle to grave) offered by our two Catholic parishes/five worshipping communities here in Oak Park and beyond. It connects these programs with each other and with other parish activities so that there will be coordination and collaboration among us all. These programs are the many gifts – Spirit and Light brings us into one body.”

PREP

What a wonderful year we had in PREP! Thank you to all of our families that participated in attending our program this year.

Some of our friends will be moving on to other programs, but please know you always have a home at PREP! Here are some pictures from our year!



Marguerite Porete and The Mirror of Simple Souls

Join us for the upcoming Spiritual Classics discussion on Marguerite Porete's classic writing, *The Mirror of Simple Souls*. We will meet on **Tuesday, May 7, at 7:30 pm in the Ascension Parish Center Dining Room**. Jeff Wood will lead the discussion. All Oak Park parishes are welcome.

The Mirror of Simple Souls is a dialogue among allegorical figures conversing about the nature of the spirit and the relation between the soul and God. Because human love is like divine love, Porete shows how the human soul can achieve a lasting union with God. Porete lived in a beguine community in the fourteenth century and the book became enormously popular throughout Europe at the time.

If you have any questions or would like more information about our monthly Spiritual Classics discussions, send an email to laffc@ascensionoakpark.com or check out the [Spiritual Classics webpage](#) on the Ascension and St. Edmund website. Reading the book is not required in order to join the discussions – feel free to just come and hear about Porete's medieval spirituality.

Parish Life



MISERICORDIA CANDY DAYS COLLECTION SUNDAY, APRIL 28



Lifelong parishioner Ian Elsen will be collecting donations for the Misericordia Candy Days after the St. Catherine-St. Lucy 9:00 am Mass and the St. Giles 10:30 am Mass.

The biggest fan of our choirs is hoping to raise funds to make a difference for more than 600 children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities.

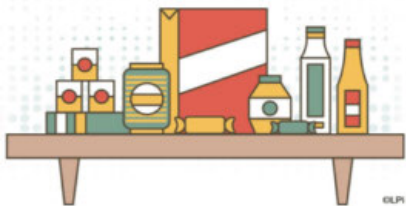
Thank you in advance for your support!

But wait! There's more!

Want to know **ALL** the latest parish news? Sign up for the **weekly parish e-news** via our broadcast email program, **flocknote**! To sign up, just scan the QR Code here, or go to this URL in your browser: <https://stgilesparish.flocknote.com/ENews>, and the information you need will be right in your inbox!



FOOD COLLECTION FOR THOSE IN NEED



The next **FOOD FIRST** collection at St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church will be on **Sunday, May 5**. Please bring your donations of canned or shelf-stable food and paper products with you to the 9:00 am Sunday Mass. Donations are brought to the altar during the Offertory.

St. Giles Church weekly collection continues. Please bring your donations of canned or shelf-stable food and paper products to the St. Giles shrine in the gathering space at the Church or to the covered bins located at the back door on the north side of the Parish Center.

Thank you for your generosity to these collections, and thank you to the stewards for their work in delivering these items to our local pantries.

Our Parish Weekly Stewardship For Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

	4/14/2024	
	Total	YTD
Weekly Budget	\$30,000.00	\$1,260,000.00
Envelopes	\$30,215.00	\$ 702,153.01
Loose	\$ 2,091.64	
Electronic*	\$ 8,311.50	\$ 483,844.67
Total Giving	\$40,618.14	\$1,185,997.68
4/9/24-4/15/24		
Overage/Shortfall	\$10,618.14	\$74,002.32

Thank you to all who continue to support St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish. Those wishing to make their donations online through GiveCentral can find the link and easy-to-follow instructions on the church websites:

www.stgilesparish.org OR
www.stcatherinestlucy.org

Contact Sharon at the Parish Center, 708-383-3430 Ext. 420, with any questions or for assistance. We could not be here without you!

We are grateful for your continued generosity to the parish. As of April 15, the deficit for Sunday Offertory is \$74,002. The Easter Collection is \$15,486 below our goal of \$80,000. The combined deficit for this fiscal year now stands at \$89,488. If you are able to increase your Sunday offering, please consider doing so. Fr. Carl and the Finance Committee will need to make recommendations on how to cover the gap in income.

Matthew Brophy
Operations Director

Mass Count Week of 4/14/24

4/13/24 4:30 pm	156
4/14/24 8:00 am	134
4/14/24 9:00 am	94
4/14/24 10:30 am	369
4/14/24 Family Mass	169
Total Mass Count	922

Faith & Fellowship



Save the Date! – BIG SHEBANG!!!

Monday, May 13 – 7:00 pm Mass
at St. Catherine-St. Lucy, followed by
dinner in Maguire Hall (parish gym).

Reservations for dinner a must –
faith_fellowship@hotmail.com or
708-383-9276!



ONE IN LOVE LGBTQ+ Ministry
meets the second Saturday of each
month.

We offer a friendly and safe place
for Ascension and St. Edmund
Parish, St. Catherine-St. Lucy and
St. Giles Parish, and the

St. Giles Family Mass Community LGBTQ+ individuals, their
families and friends to share through deep listening circles.

JOIN US SATURDAY, MAY 11
from 1:00 - 3:00 pm

St. Giles Parish Center, 1025 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park

If you have questions, please contact: Kathie Nash
kathienash1023@att.net.

Prayer Shawl Ministry News

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Catherine-
St. Lucy and St. Giles parish received eight
prayer shawls this past month to be distributed
to anyone seeking comfort. The ministry also
received a small donation, which will be used to
purchase more yarn.

The Oak Park Community of Catholic Churches has two
prayer shawl groups – encourage anyone you know who knits
or crochets to get involved. For more information on joining
our ministry, to receive a shawl/lap blanket or to donate,
contact **Margie Rudnik via the Parish Center at**
708-383-3430.

May you feel the warmth of God's love.
Margie Rudnik, for the Prayer Shawl Ministry



Food For Thought The Path To Fortitude

*"Fortitude is the moral virtue that ensures
firmness in difficulties and constancy in
the pursuit of the good. It strengthens
the resolve to resist temptations and
to overcome obstacles in the moral life.
The virtue of fortitude enables one to
conquer fear, even fear of death, and
to face trials and persecutions."
(Catholic Catechism)*

As the third virtue, fortitude is often
linked by scholastic authors to what
the ancients called the "irascible appetite."
Ancient thought did not imagine a man
without passions: he would be a stone.
The passions must be channeled,
purified with the water of baptism,
or with the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Let us think about this! Jesus is not
a diaphanous, ascetic God,
who does not know human emotions.
When faced with the death of his friend, Lazarus,
he breaks down in tears, and his impassioned
spirit is apparent in some
of his expressions, when he says:
*"I came to cast fire upon the earth,
and would that it were already kindled."
(Luke 12:49)*

Ancient philosophers and theologians
recognized both passive and active
developments in the virtue of fortitude.
In the first, we must defeat internal
enemies: anxiety, anguish, fear, and guilt,
that all stir our innermost selves, and can
paralyze us. Fortitude is a victory
against ourselves. Most fears do not come true,
as we invoke the Holy Spirit and
face everything with patient fortitude.

In active movement of the virtue,
we can try to predict things happening,
but reality consists of improbable
events, and in the turbulence, our boat
is tossed about. Fortitude then makes us
resilient sailors, and through it we attack
the challenges of evil. History tells us
of the horrors of wars, violence, slavery,
oppression of the poor—wounds that have
never healed and continue to bleed.

The virtue of fortitude makes us
cry out "No" to all of this evil.
We must say "Yes" to progress, to the path
that moves us forward, and for this we must fight.
We must embrace the fortitude of Jesus,
learning it from the witness of the saints.
(Pope Francis, Papal Audience, 4/10/24)

Tom Lynch. tgl7714@gmail.com 4/21/24

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- Multiple Sclerosis Diagnosis
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- English as primary language
- Live within 200 miles of Chicago



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RESEARCH COORDINATOR
Alison Wathen

Principal Investigator: Dr. Rob Mott,
Kinesiology and Nutrition
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