

# ST. CLETUS CHURCH

## Rectory

600 West 55th Street  
LaGrange, Illinois 60525  
[www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)

**Rev. Robert Clark**

*Pastor*

**Rev. Patrick O'Neill**

*Associate Pastor*

**Rev. Charles Gallagher**

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. Patrick Marshall**

*Weekend Associate*

**Maria Arias**

*Director of Hispanic Ministry*

**Mary Beth Ford**

*Youth Director/Social Concerns*

**Jolene Hillgoth**

*School Principal*

**Patricia Kahl**

*Director of Religious Education*

**Bobbie Kallal**

*Business Manager*

**Carol Pogar**

*Liturgy Coordinator*

**Justin Sisul**

*Music Director*

**Christopher Wagner**

*Director of Grounds/*

*Technical Support*

**Dolores Wouk**

*Minister of Care Coordinator*

### PASTORAL OFFICES:

700 West 55th Street  
LaGrange, Illinois 60525  
352-6209

### PARISH SCHOOL

352-4820

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/RCIA

352-2383

### HISPANIC MINISTRY

352-4856

### YOUTH MINISTRY/ SOCIAL CONCERNS

352-4641

### LITURGY/MINISTRY OF CARE

352-4834

### ART & ENVIRONMENT

352-4834

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

352-4547

### GROUND/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

352-8597



### MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00 PM

Sundays: 7:00 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,  
11:00 AM, 6:00 PM (Spanish)

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00 PM

Holy Day: 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM

Weekdays: 8:00 AM

### BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office (352-6209).

### WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date.

### HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care office (352-4834).

### CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 PM

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## ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

October 13, 2006

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write this with a deep sense of gratitude to God for his care for me during my recent surgeries and with gratitude, as well, to all those who prayed for me in the last three months. So many people have written, and I am also aware of the prayers that have been offered for me in the parish churches of the Archdiocese. To all of you, my deepest thanks.

Many of you have undergone similar experiences in your health. Letters from those who have had operations for cancer have been filled with good advice and concern. In a crisis, we discover again that the Church exists in the relationships of faith and love shaped by our prayers for one another and in the sharing that wells up from the overflowing of Christ's gifts in our hearts. I hope I can keep focused on this truth as I continue to recover and as we work together to strengthen Christ's body, the Church, in the future.

God bless you and those you love.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Cardinal George".

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

## A Good Question Deserves a Good Answer

Jesus must have gotten terribly tired of all the questions he was asked. Consider, for example, some of the questions that have come up in St. Mark's gospel that we have been reading for the past several weeks: "Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" (2:18) "Why are your disciples doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" (2:24) "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (4:38) "Are we to buy two hundred days' wages worth of food and give it to this crowd to eat?" (6:37) "Why do your disciples not follow the traditions of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?" (7:5) "By what authority are you doing these things? Or who gave you this authority to do them?" (11:28)

How refreshing it must have been when one of the scribes asked Jesus the question in today's gospel (Mark 12:28-34): "Which is the first of all the commandments?"

Jesus probably smiled and chuckled to himself at the effusive response of the student-scribe. Usually it is the student who gets the grade from the teacher for a right answer. But here, it is the teacher, Jesus, who gets an A+ from his student when the scribe says, "Well said, teacher. You are right. . ."

Jesus knows that the real test of love, the authentic examination of love, comes not with the right words but with the right works. Not only did no one have the courage to ask Jesus any more questions, but there were really no more that needed to be asked. Jesus was clear and the disciples got the message.

For disciples, then and now, the greatest commandment not only sums up the life and teaching of Jesus, but also identifies the path from which we may hear Jesus say to each of us, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 2006

Monday: Phil 2:1-4; Lk 14:12-14  
 Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11; Lk 14:15-24  
 Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18; Lk 14:25-33  
 Thursday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1  
 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17;  
 Jn 2:13-22  
 Friday: Phil 3:17 — 4:1; Lk 16:1-8  
 Saturday: Phil 4:10-19; Lk 16:9-15  
 Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16; Ps 146; Heb 9:24-28;  
 Mk 12:38-44 [41-44]

*Encounter God through Reading Scripture!*



## Year II Confirmation Candidates Mass

Today at the 11:00am Mass, our Year II Confirmation Candidates will publicly commit themselves to continued preparation for celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation this coming Spring. This week we pray for them as they continue their formal journey towards a fuller life in the Holy Spirit. We pray for the strengthening of the relationship between the candidates and the Holy Spirit throughout their spiritual journey.

Mary Beth Ford  
Youth Director

## “Favorites for All Seasons”

You can purchase our parish cookbook this weekend, November 4/5, after every Mass in the vestibule of church. Sample some of the delicious recipes available from the cookbook. This would be a great gift for the holidays, house warming, or for any occasion. Limited quantity available!

## St. Cletus Book Fair

The Book Fair will take place in Morrissey Hall on Wednesday, November 8, from 8:30am-4:00pm, and Thursday, November 9, from 8:15am-8:00pm. This is the only opportunity to build the St. Cletus Library, so please consider donating a book, purchasing a book for your family's enjoyment or as a holiday gift, and promote reading. Anderson's Book Shop is this year's provider of books - STOP BY AND EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES.

## Food Pantry Update

There are a few days left for you to donate groceries for the Thursday, November 9, food distribution. We still need some of our staples, especially dry pinto beans and rice, jelly, canned fruits & vegetables, meals in a can, soup, pasta and pasta sauce, tuna. You can bring your contributions to the Minister's Room in church from 8:00am to 4:00pm on weekdays. Thank you for your faithfulness in responding to the needs of our Food Pantry.

Mary Beth Ford  
Social Concerns

## Eucharistic Adoration

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament November 6, and every first Monday of the month. Adoration begins immediately after the 8:00am Mass and continues in the church until Solemn Benediction and Evening Prayer at 6:45pm.

Please give of your time in stewardship and adoration of the Lord.

## (1) Flu & Pneumonia Shots

Flu and Pneumonia shots will be given at St. Cletus in Morrissey Hall from 8:00am until 12:00Noon on November 12, 2006. Medicare patients will be accepted - all others are \$28. Young children and older adults are most susceptible to the Flu but all are urged to be vaccinated.



Blood donors of all types are needed every day – for critically ill patients, accident victims, people needing surgery and those suffering chronic diseases such as cancer and leukemia. More than 1,000 donors are needed on a daily basis just to meet the needs of patients in the Lifesource service area. Each unit of blood can be separated into the following components - red blood cells, plasma and platelets - so a single unit of blood may help save the lives of up to three patients.

Mark the date on your calendar now Blood Drive at St. Cletus in Morrissey Hall, November 26. More details will be posted in the Canticle in the next few weeks.

Clare Slowik

## Jr. Girl Scout Outreach Project

Our St. Cletus School Jr. High Girl Scout Troops are collecting new or gently used adult-size clothing and coats to distribute to those in need at their annual St. Vincent de Paul Outreach Center service project. Girl Scouts will be on hand after every Mass on November 11 & 12, to collect parish donations. Questions? Contact Wendy Gable @ (708) 415-3977.

## A Weekly Thought from Matthew Kelly

When you are experiencing trials or troubles in your life, remember everything in life no matter how bad comes to an end.

**An Unforgettable Evening with Matthew Kelly  
9 LESSONS FOR ENDURING HAPPINESS**

You are invited to join us as we welcome **Matthew Kelly** to St. Cletus Church on November 16, at 7:00pm.

**Matthew Kelly** is a *New York Times* best-selling author and is widely recognized today as one of the best speakers in the world. With his keen sense of humor and heart-warming charm, Kelly has been effortlessly elevating and energizing audiences in more than 50 countries for more than a decade. Kelly's presentation at St. Cletus Church will be based on his latest book, **Perfectly Yourself: 9 Lessons for Enduring Happiness**. This presentation is about moving beyond past conditioning and other peoples' expectations of who we are or who we should be to discover that we are **PERFECTLY IMPERFECT...**and that's okay!

*"Only then do we come to the stunning realization that: Anything or anyone that does not bring you alive is too small for you."*

Do not miss this opportunity to hear one of the most captivating and sought-after voices of our time!

For more information, call 708.352.6209.

**All Ages Are Welcome and Encouraged  
To Attend!**

**To Honor Mary, Our Mother**

Our Lady is the truest, purest example of a human loving and honoring God. Entwined with Christ's earthly existence, her life is a profound tribute to living out God's will. Let us join with her in praying the entire rosary after the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, November 12, in church. Hosted by the St. Cletus Living Rosary, all are invited to join in this timeless prayer.

St. Cletus hosts nine Living Rosaries. Every day, fifteen prayer partners join together to say a complete Rosary. Each person focuses on one of the fifteen mysteries, praying their particular decade on a daily basis at their convenience. By the end of the day, an entire rosary has been said. They pray for personal intentions, for the intentions of those joined in praying the rosary with them and for the intentions of our parish family. Come and join us on November 12 to honor God through Our Lady. For more information, stop by after the 11:00am Mass or call me at (708) 579-3987.

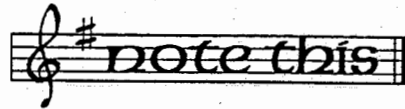
Mary Lu Gebka

**Thank You!**

...to the 5 parishioners that called and offered to serve as parish sponsors to our RCIA candidates. You are certainly serving your parish in welcoming our new candidates and introducing them to the wonderful people that make up St. Cletus Parish. Thank you for your response to Fr. Bob's plea.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education



On Saturday, December 2, St. Cletus will host a professional music program titled "Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity." Our choirs will join top professional jazz musicians and dancers from the greater Chicagoland area for an unforgettable telling of the story of the Nativity. The performance will be held in church and will begin at 2:30pm and last about an hour. Mark your calendars for this special afternoon – truly a fantastic way to start the holiday season!

Justin Sisul

Music Director

**Advent Giving Tree**



Christmas decorations are already being displayed in stores and advertisements for gift giving will soon be a common sight. As the season of Thanksgiving and the holidays approach, we Christians are looking for ways to keep the true meaning of the season alive in our families. One way is to take part in our annual Giving Tree Project, which will begin on the weekend of November 18/19. Please watch upcoming Canticles for details.

Mary Beth Ford  
Social Concerns

**Cub Scout Wreath Sale**




The Cub Scouts are going to be selling Christmas wreaths in front of the church on November 18/19. The wreaths come in sizes from 24 inches to 60 inches in diameter. There will also be some other decorations available for purchase. The wreaths come from the north woods and are made of all natural materials. The scouts would be happy to carry your wreath to your car. All of the proceeds from the sale go to pay the expenses of the Cub Scout Pack here at St. Cletus School.

## Stewardship

Stewardship is the product of our gratitude. With grateful hearts we thank God who provides for us our past, our today and our tomorrow, and we show our gratitude by giving of ourselves generously.

**October 29**

<b>Budgeted revenue:</b>		<b>\$29,061</b>
<b>Collection Received:</b>		<b>28,515</b>
<b>Shortfall last week:</b>	-	<b>546</b>
<b>Revenue to budget</b>		
<b>Shortfall for this fiscal year:</b>	-	<b>56,612</b>
<b># of envelopes mailed:</b>		<b>3,187</b>
<b># of envelopes returned:</b>		<b>895</b>

**Thank you for your continued support.**

### Please Note:

Many parishioners have elected to have their weekly Sunday offering contribution debited out of their checking account once or twice a month. If you would like more information, contact Bobbie at the rectory office, (708) 352-6209.

## Please Pray for

...our sick in your prayers: Mike Patzelt, Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Anthony Regalado, Marilyn Matesevac, Joanne Mate, Adrienne Welenc, Hunter Peters, Mario Aguilar, Cacilia Ziegler, Jackie Dudley, Ruth Calandriello, Dorothy Salvato, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Connie Kostecki, Jonii Patterson, Catherine Meyers, Luigi Iacopetti, Andy Rasch, Mary Jean Sternquist, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Rose Ptak, Robert Frost, Robert Salbego, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Louis Cesario, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Virginia Tenerelli, Agnes Olszowka, Judy Hofstetter, Michael Karpinski, Emil Chlapecka, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolicki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Scott May, and Jackie Zaccari. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound and unable to attend Mass.

## Archdiocese Book

For those who have expressed an interest in the new book on the history of the Archdiocese, entitled *The Archdiocese of Chicago: A Journey of Faith*, it is available through the LTP website at [www.ltp.org](http://www.ltp.org). Search for keyword and enter the title of the book for order information. The book is also available at the Cathedral bookstore downtown. LTP's toll free number is (800) 933-1800 if you should choose to order by phone.

Fr. Charles Watkins

## CAC (Catholic Alumni Club of Chicago)

Are you a single Catholic looking to meet others for social and spiritual events. The Catholic Alumni Club of Chicago is looking for you. Our age range is 21-60 but most are within the 30-55 age range.

There are multiple events run each month around the suburbs. For more information, please call our hotline @ (708) 450-8280 or email: [singlecatholics2aol.com](mailto:singlecatholics2aol.com), website: <http://www.caci.org/chicago.html>.

## Fenwick High School...

The Blackfriars Guild presents "The Shaughraun" (The Vagabond") an Irish comedy melodrama with Irish dancing, set in County Sligo in the late 1800's.

Presentations are: Friday, November 10 at 8:00pm – Saturday, November 11 at 8:00pm and Sunday, November 12 at 7:00pm. Cost: \$6.50/students & seniors and \$8.50/Adults.

Fenwick HS Auditorium is located at 505 W. Washington Blvd., Oak Park, IL.

## High School Open House

Nazareth Academy, 1209 West Ogden Avenue in La Grange Park, invites all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents to their Open House on Sunday, November 12 from 1:00 - 4:00pm. For further information, please call Kristen Stojetz or Cissy Thunander, (708) 387-8505 or 387-8536.

## Breathing Emotionally

One of the things that made Henri Nouwen such a loved writer was his disarming honesty. He hid little about himself.

And one of the things that he was able to give voice to was his constant struggle to be affirmed, to be made to feel special, to be touched, to be singled out for admiration, to feel tangible proofs of love. Over and over again, in his diaries, he shares his yearning for this. The wording varies, but the pleading is always along these lines.

Today the small rejections of my life are too much for me - a sarcastic smile, a flippant remark, a brisk denial, a bitter silence, a failure to be noticed, a coldness from a colleague, and indifference from someone I love, a nagging tiredness, the lack of a soul mate, a loneliness that I can't explain. I feel empty, alone, afraid, restless, unsure of myself, and I look around for invitations, letters, phone calls, gifts, for someone to catch my eye in sympathy, for some warm gesture that can heal my emptiness. And right now I don't particularly want God, faith, church, or even a big and gracious heart. I want simply to be held, embraced, loved by someone special, made to feel unique, kissed by a soul mate. I'm empty, a half-person. I need someone to make me whole.

What Nouwen articulates in this is not a particular neurosis, immaturity, narcissism, or a lack of intimacy. That may be true too, of him (or any of us) on a given day, but what he expresses here is the universal human struggle for emotional and spiritual maturity. And that struggle isn't easy.

We aren't born simple, mature, whole, saints. That's life's journey. We're born complex, lonely, greedy, restless, with powerful, selfish instincts that remain with us even when we are mature. What Nouwen gives expression to is the aching and pressures we feel inside of us because of those instincts.

And it's not just a question of finding intimacy and meaning in our lives (a spouse, a family, close friends, someone to socialize with, meaningful work). Having these can help, but nothing ultimately takes our loneliness away or fully re-programs our instincts and so the day inevitably arrives when the pain that Nouwen expresses here begins to gnaw away inside us. To feel this kind of need for tangible affirmation is not a sign that there's something wrong in our lives but simply a sign that we're emotionally healthy and not calloused, warped, or depressed. In the end, it's healthy to feel our need for the touch of another in a way that's

so visceral that it drives us to our knees.

And that isn't just emotionally painful, it's also spiritually confusing. When we take this tension to prayer and ask God to take it away, more often than not it will seem that our prayer isn't heard. The tension will remain and sometimes even intensify. Why?

Not because God hasn't heard our prayer, but because we are being weaned, just as surely as a baby from its mother's breast. What's happening is this: Our natural instincts give us one way of breathing emotionally. What naturally gives us energy, emotional oxygen, is the good feelings we derive from tangible love, emotional affirmation, loving touch, and physical pleasure. It's not that these are wrong, it's just we won't ever become mature if our motivation for living with and serving others is contingent upon always having to feel these. We'll never grow mature if unconsciously we keep saying: I will love you and stay with you, as long as there's something in it for me.

Maturity, emotional and spiritual, demands that ultimately we choose love, choose service, choose prayer, and choose God, not on the basis of a feeling but on the basis of value, truth, and goodness. We are mature when love is a decision that's not based upon an emotional pay off for us but on the intrinsic goodness that's inside the other.

But to come to this, we have to learn a new way of breathing emotionally. The excruciating pain we feel sometimes when precisely we want nothing more in the world than a physical and emotional touch that we can't have is, in essence, a weaning, the pain of the child who has to cry herself to sleep because her mother will no longer nurse her, but is forcing her instead to learn a new way of taking substance. Our prayers don't seem to be heard because God, like a good mother, knows that giving a certain emotional breast back to the child only delays the inevitable. Maturity lies in learning how to breathe emotionally in a new way.

The mystics called this "a dark night of the soul". And we are in one of these dark nights every time we feel the kind of aloneness that drives us to our knees pleading in mercy for the kind of tangible touch that, for a moment at least, would let us feel whole again.

*Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com).*



**Mass Intentions for the Week of  
November 6 - November 12**

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Angela Clifford, Jozef Slowik, Anna Dekan, Kenneth Lesnig, Helene & Daniel Mrozinsky
Tuesday	8:00am	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Haraburda, Marcie Johnston, Velma Gartland, Gloria Farrell, Marco & Emilia Rattin
Wednesday	8:00am	John Ruzas, Louis Schoenberger, Joseph George Kutta, Helen Walker, William Magee
Thursday	8:00am	Maria Garcia, Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello, Helen Michod, James Dault
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Bruno Bransberger, Dr. W. James Syms, John Hopp, Stefan Slobodnik
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Jennifer Hardiek, Mary McMahon Sam & Maria Scopelliti, Mary & Stanley Michniak, Helen & Bruno Blachowicz
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Marco & Emilia Rattin Mary Pogar, Kay O'Malley Virginia Shepler, Bill McCollom Anna Halvax

**Altar Servers** 

**November 11/12**

- 5:00pm - C. Madden, K. Kelliher, H. Heim
- 7:00am - K. Baro, M. Micek, S. Lenz
- 8:00am - J. Babirak, A. Kison, P. Oboikovitz
- 9:30am - D. DeLaurentis, M. King, E. Mrazek
- 11:00am - C. McCollom, A. Condotti, K. Caplice

**Rest in Peace**

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

- ...Marie Radous
- ...Andrew Raasch

**Baptism**

This Past Week We Welcomed... Quinn Vreeland Scott and George Edward Shepley to Our Parish Family.

**Auxiliary Minister Schedule**

**Saturday, November 11, 2006**

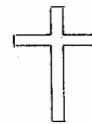
- 5:00 PM** LR Chlapecka, Rick-  
SM Kalata, Marcie- C1 Guide, Alfreda-  
B2 Delaloye, Joe- C2 Boyer, Kathy-  
B3 Thornton, Madeline C3 Thornton, William  
B4 Ryva, James- C4 Kalata, Marcie-  
B5 Sipek, Sarah- C5 Sheridan, Erin-  
B6 Loch, Len- C6 Bartucci, Carol-

**9:30 AM**

- LR Staelgraeve, Mark  
SM Benkert, Kim C1 Doria, Annalyse-  
B2 Burke, Kevin- C2 Reichl, Mickie-  
B3 Nolan, Jeannine- C3 Maday, Josephine  
B4 Benkert, John C4 Benkert, Kim  
B5 Opila, Andy C5 Opila, Margo  
B6 Dalsin, Pat- C6 Fisher, Harry

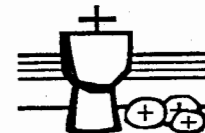
**Sunday, November 12, 2006**

- 7:00 AM** LR McDonnell, Michae  
SM Zmuda, Louise  
B2 Zmuda, Louise  
B3 Zmuda, Ron  
B4 Swindall, Vic  
B5 Swindall, Toni  
B6 Ninton, Geri-



**8:00 AM**

- LR Okkema, Peter  
SM Wouk, Dolores- C1 Sullivan, Patrick-  
B2 Biesadecki, Bob C2 Biesadecki, Carol  
B3 Okkema, Ann C3 Kuchta, Ann-  
B4 Kigin, Billie- C4 Wouk, Dolores-  
B5 Parlier, Denise C5 Parlier, Jon  
B6 Pogar, Carol C6 Skupien, Kathy



**Thought for the Day**

The stronger your belief in goodness, the better your chances of discovering it.