

ST. CLETUS CHURCH

Rectory

**600 W. 55th Street
LaGrange, IL 60525
www.stcletusparish.com
www.stcletusschool.com**

WEBSITE EDITION



MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00p

Sunday: 7:00a, 8:00a, 9:30a, 11:00a, 6:00p (Spanish)

Evening Before Holy Day: 7:00p

Holy Days
6:30a, 8:00a, 9:00a

Monday - Saturday
8:00a

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the rectory office at 708-352-6209.

WEDDINGS

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

HOME / HOSPITAL VISITATION & COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care office at 708-352-4834

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday 4:15 – 4:45 PM

Rev. Robert Clark
Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill
Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins
Associate Pastor

Maria Arias
Director of Hispanic Ministry

Paulette Bolton
Director of Liturgy

Mary Beth Ford
Youth Director / Social Concerns

Jolene Hillgoth
School Principal

Patricia Kahl
Director of Religious Education

Bobbie Kallal
Business Manager

Debbie Lestarczyk
Facilities & Grounds

Justin Sisul
Music Director

Christopher Wagner
Information Technology

Dolores Wouk
Minister of Care Coordinator

PASTORAL OFFICES

700 W. 55th Street
La Grange, IL 60525
708-352-6209

PARISH SCHOOL

708-352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / RCIA

708-352-4856

YOUTH MINISTRY / SOCIAL CONCERNS

708-352-4641

LITURGY / MINISTRY OF CARE

708-352-4834

MUSIC DIRECTOR

708-352-4547

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

708-352-8597

FR. BOB'S UTTERINGS

6TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26

While praying and researching this week's scriptures, I came across a reflection from "Living the Word - Scripture Reflections and Commentaries for Sundays and Holy Days" by Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis, published by World Library Publications 2006. I found it to be very insightful and worth sharing.

"Where we put down our roots matters. Greatly. We don't do it often, put down roots, that is. It takes time and energy, and to put down roots and move on is no easy thing. So we settle in and make serious commitments infrequently, maybe only a few times in our lives."

"A passage often attributed to the German poet Goethe notes how a commitment sets into motion an entire series of events. 'Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffectiveness. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation) there is one elementary truth, the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events ensues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance which no man could have dreamed would have come his way.

Whatever you can do,

Or dream you can, begin it.

Boldness has genius,

Power and magic in it."

"The poet and prophet Jeremiah made the same point in different words. He spoke of it in terms of trust, which is one way we commit ourselves. Trust in human flesh, he says, and it's like putting down roots in a lava waste. Trust in the Lord and it's like putting down roots beside an ever-flowing stream of fresh water. Then one bears fruit even during a drought."

"Where one puts down one's roots matters. Whom we draw life from makes a difference. Commitments matter, so that in the end they are means by which we are made into the divine image and likeness—or also unmade, should we become the instruments of some other force."

"Spend a few minutes in quiet prayer. Ask God to show you one (or more) ways that you may be called to respond to this week's scriptures—

- *In your relationship with God*
- *With family and friends*
- *At work, school, or church*
- *In the broader community"*

*Love,
Fr. Bob*



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2007
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; WORLD DAY
OF THE SICK

Consecrate this suffering

Illness and suffering can make us question the meaning of our existence. Pope John Paul suffered from declining health when he instituted the World Day of the Sick in 1992, to coincide with the annual feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. He envisioned it as a “special occasion for growth, with an attitude of *listening, reflection, and effective commitment* in the face of the great mystery of pain and illness.” In light of the resurrection, illness no longer appears as an exclusively negative event but is an encounter with God, an opportunity “to release love, in order to give birth to works of love.”

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jeremiah 17:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26*

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.”

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

The final sign

Many of us have wished for divine guidance when important decisions loomed. Signs from God were sought throughout biblical times, too: High priests often used the Urim and Thummim, a kind of holy dice, to discern God's will. Gideon spread his fleece before the Lord in Judges 6. The sun stood still (Joshua 10), and shadows went backwards (Isaiah 38). In Matthew, a star once guided kings. But there came a time when Jesus clearly pronounced the era of signs to be over. The sign of the cross became the last sign from God to guide the lost.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13*

“Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given.”

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

High water

The story of The Flood is pretty terrifying when you look at it. Humanity had gone so bad that God actually regretted creating it. And the means of destruction were pretty impressive, too. The waters God unleashed were a lot more than a bad rainstorm. God opened the floodgates that held back the waters above the firmament of the sky. The deluge was on, and God was not going to turn off the faucet until the earth was covered.

But even in God's regret for creating human beings, there sounded a note of mercy. God found favor in Noah and through him and his family preserved humanity and all the creatures of the earth. It was almost as if God could not entirely forget the love out of which creation came to be in the first place. God remembered God's love for us. Let's never forget our love for God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21*

“Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation.”

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY

See thee more clearly, love thee more dearly

Did you remember to get a Valentine's Day present for that “special someone” in your life? Gift giving can be a real burden, especially when we're not very good at shopping or picking out the right thing. But sacramental people like us recognize the need to display “outward signs” of inward realities, visible things that express what is invisible and hidden within us. That card or bouquet of flowers or box of candy—even that horrendous necktie—is just a token that helps our beloved to see the love in our hearts a little more clearly.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Mark 8:22-26*

“Jesus laid hands on his eyes again, and the man's sight was restored and he saw everything clearly.”

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Call your identity into question

Answering the question—Who is Jesus?—also answers the question of our own identity. If we say Jesus is the messiah, then we are also identifying ourselves as believers. Belief carries with it duty. Our allegiance is to Jesus above all else. We have family, community, country to which we may feel bound, but as believers we accept that nothing can separate us from the love of God. We are committed to follow Jesus' way above all else. It may seem a tall order to follow the path of love, but it actually makes knowing what to do in any situation that much easier. Remember who you are today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 9:1-13; Mark 8:27-33*

“On the way, Jesus asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that I am?’”

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Death-defying feats

It's an odd factoid that a few lucky figures in our faith tradition do not have to die—unlike every other creature of God. In Hebrew scripture, Enoch “walked with God and was seen no more” while Elijah flew off into eternity in a fiery chariot. In the Gospel of John a rumor circulated that the Beloved Disciple “would not die.” And there's the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was assumed bodily into heaven. Catholicism has a particular variation on this theme in “the incorruptibles,” those saints whose bodies fail to decay in the normal time frame (there's even a lengthy book about these folks by the same name).

What are we to make of such things? The issue is not so much immortality as it is closeness to God. We begin our entry into eternal life with the things we do and the choices we make here and now. Do we live always with an expectation of “Thy kingdom come” or “Thy kingdom later”?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 11:1-9; Mark 8:34-9:1*

“For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.”

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

FEAST OF THE SEVEN FOUNDERS OF THE ORDER OF SERVITES, RELIGIOUS The best of times, the worst of times

Poverty is an evil, but prosperity often brings its own form of suffering, especially when it is not guided by higher values. This was the case in 13th-century Florence, the wealthiest city of its age. Trade was booming, wealthy families fought for power, and gospel values were pushed to the side in the rush to cash in. Sounds a bit like our own day and age, doesn't it? Back then, seven men of noble birth, dismayed at the course of events, banded together and made a radical change in lifestyle. They built a shelter in a wild and isolated spot on a mountainside outside Florence and lived together in prayer, simplicity, service, and dedication to Mary. They soon attracted followers, and the Order of the Servites, with houses for both men and women, was born. For every age's ills, there is a remedy. What is called for today? How can you respond?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 11:1-7; Mark 9:2-13*

“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!”

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Scripture quotes come from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy

"Meet Our R.C.I.A. Candidates"



Hi, my name is Courtney Hartnett. I am wed to the love of my life and best friend Kevin. I say "wed" because we have not actually been married in the Church yet due to his schedule with the military. We look forward to exchanging our marriage vows, at St. Cletus in the near future.

My husband is currently serving a year-long deployment in Iraq with the U.S. Army. This is his second tour, the first to Afghanistan, and once he returns he will be done with his service. I hope that you will all pray for his safe return!

I am also a proud mommy of a one-year-old son, also named Kevin. He is truly a blessing and I thank God for him every day. Being a mother has proven to be the most rewarding, and challenging, experience of my life and I wouldn't trade it for the world!

I have recently returned to work as a staff accountant for a local construction company and am also in the process of completing my MBA. I also enjoy golfing and laughing with my family and friends.

I initially decided to go through the R.C.I.A. program primarily because my husband is Catholic (I was baptized Catholic and raised Lutheran) and we agreed to raise our children in the Catholic Church. Thus, it was important to me that I be part of the Church as well and understand the different aspects of Catholicism. Now that I have begun the journey, I am glad that I made the decision and as I learn more about the Church I am finding that it is also right for me on a personal. I look forward to my future here at St. Cletus and thank you all for the warm welcome I have received!

Weekly Children's Bulletins Now Available

Please encourage the children to pick up a bulletin with fun-filled activities based on the scriptures each week. This will encourage the children to grow in the knowledge of the scriptures while having fun completing the activities.

Fr. Bob

Welcome New Parishioners!

We are pleased to welcome these newly registered parishioners to our parish family: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Carolan and Family, Mr. & Mrs. John Clifford and Family, Lois Nugent, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Pinta, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Rogan and Family, Mary Viszneki and Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Wolf.

If you have been attending St. Cletus, but have not yet registered as a parishioner, please consider the commitment of parish membership.

Please Pray for

...our sick in your prayers: Bobby Ashby, Dick Radom, Robert Orrico, Zack Sperka, Marguerite May, 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, Mary Jean Sternquist, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Rose Ptak, 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 Krolecki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Scott May and Jackie Zaccari. Also pray for our parishioners who are homebound and unable to attend Mass.

Adult Confirmation

Any adult Catholics (ages 18 and older) who have been baptized and received First Communion but have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to join an adult Confirmation class. The classes will begin on Tuesday, February 20 and consist of eight sessions. Class time will be from 7:00pm-9:15pm and take place at St. Frances of Rome, located at 1428 S. 59th, Cicero. The celebration of Confirmation will take place on Tuesday, April 24, at St. John of the Cross located at 5005 S. Wolf Rd., Western Springs. If you or someone you know has not been confirmed and is interested in this class, or for more information, please contact your parish rectory or call Juan Carlos Farias at the Office for Catechesis at (312) 243-3700, ext. 209 or e-mail at jfarias@archchicago.org.

(1) Internet Safety

Parents & students are encouraged to view and discuss the presentation given to Religious Education on February 2/3 concerning internet safety. Tips on how to be safe as well as links to helpful sites can be downloaded from the Religious Education tab on the parish website.

(2) Learn the Gospel as You Play

Download Gospel Champions from our website which reinforces the Gospel readings. It's a whole new way to learn the teachings of the Gospel designed for grades K-8 in an action/adventure video game. Your game can be updated each month based on the most recent readings. Log on to our website at www.stcletusparish.com for more information.

Chris Wagner
Director of Technology

Stewardship

"Be generous sharing what you have" (1Tim 6:18)
We are all stewards-managers of the many gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our challenge as Christians is to make good use of those gifts. "Happiness lies more in giving than in receiving" (Acts 20:35).



February 4, 2007

Budgeted revenue:	29,061
Collection received:	27,126
Shortfall last week:	- 1,935
Revenue to budget	
Shortfall for this fiscal year:	- 86,185
# Of envelopes mailed:	3,291
# Of envelopes returned:	895

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.

Fr Pat's**\$30,000 Super Raffle**

We will be selling tickets at St. Cletus Parish the Weekend of February 17th and 18th!

11 WAYS TO WIN WITH ONE TICKET!!!

Grand Prize Drawings April 6, 2007

1st Prize \$20,000

2nd Prize \$5,000

3rd Prize \$3,000

PLUS

10 Chances to win \$200 in weekly drawings started February 4, 2007

Only 600 tickets sold; each ticket is \$100.

Contact Paul Goetz at paulgoetz@jp2newman.com for information!

Proceeds support the UIC Newman Center

20th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

The Robert E. Coulter, Jr., Post No. 1941, will hold their 20th Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, February 16, from 4:00pm 'til 8:00pm at the Post Home, 900 S. La Grange Rd., La Grange.

The price for Adults is \$6 and Children (ages 4-10) \$3, Children under four are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

What is a Nun Run?

A Nun Run is a 24+ hour experience during which single young women ages 18-35 are invited to visit 3-4 different Sisters' houses (convents) to share life with us. You will have an opportunity to pray with us, eat with us, hear our stories and laugh with us. So, fasten your seat belts and plan to join us for a whirlwind weekend that will give you an inside look into Religious Life for women as a Sister! Transportation will be provided and there is no fee for the weekend. The next Nun Run is scheduled for March 23-24, 2007. Call Sr. Carolyn or e-mail her at SCarolynJ@aol.com to receive a flyer and to register.

These weekends are sponsored by the Chicago Archdiocesan Vocation Association.



February 12 - February 18

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Abe Katzmarek, Felicia Pontecorvo
Tuesday	8:00am	Joseph Megla, Theresa McDonald, Al Cooke, Maxwell Family
Wednesday	8:00am	Celeste Klees, Edward Condon, Brother Robert Fisher, Sophie Klein, Angelo Giovannetti
Thursday	8:00am	Frank Michalowski, Johnston Family
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Clare J. Idzik, Erik Geyer
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Anne Grundman Mary & Stanley Michniak, Helen & Bruno Blachowicz, Vivian Brosamer
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Daniel Lennoco James Ballenger, Laurence Giovannetti Virginia Shepler, Art Krupa Juan Ibanez, Glen & Robin Peters – 25 th Wedding Anniversary

Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 4:1-5, 25; Mk 8:11-13
 Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mk 8:22-26
 Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Mk 8:22-26
 Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Mk 8:34— 9:1
 Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Mk 8:9:2-13
 Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Mk 9:2-13
 Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23;
 Ps 103; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

Altar Servers



February 17/18

5:00pm - R. Bogolin, T. Christopher, J. Flach
 7:00am - T. Callahan, B. Kelley, D. Clarke
 8:00am - Q. Collins, J. Cripe, M. Gray
 9:30am - N. Gallivan, J. Doyle, A. Smith
 11:00am - J. Newman, A. Driscoll, B. Okkema

Rest in Peace

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

...Helen Gianacakos, mother of Tina Dulski
 ...Helen Svadbik

Ash Wednesday for Women

Mark your calendars! Ashes. Fasting. Penance. Prayer. The Cross. Lent 2007 is about to begin. Sr. Jane Schlosser, RSM and Mary Burd invite you to begin the journey to Easter in this Ash Wednesday reflective day. Join us at the Carmelite Spiritual Center (8433 Bailey Rd., Darien) on Wednesday, February 21, from 9:30am to 1:30pm. Celebration of the Eucharist and distribution of ashes are part of the day. Cost: \$40/person includes lunch. Pre-registration is required. Call (630) 969-4141 to register.

Review of the Rules of the Road

...is being offered by Lyons Township Officials and Secretary of State, Jesse White, at the Lyons Township Hall, 6404 Joliet Rd., Countryside.

This presentation is free and will be held on Tuesday, February 20, from 10:00am 'til Noon.

For sign-up call: Mary Jo Noonan, Clerk, (708) 482-8300, ext. 211/221, join us for coffee and.