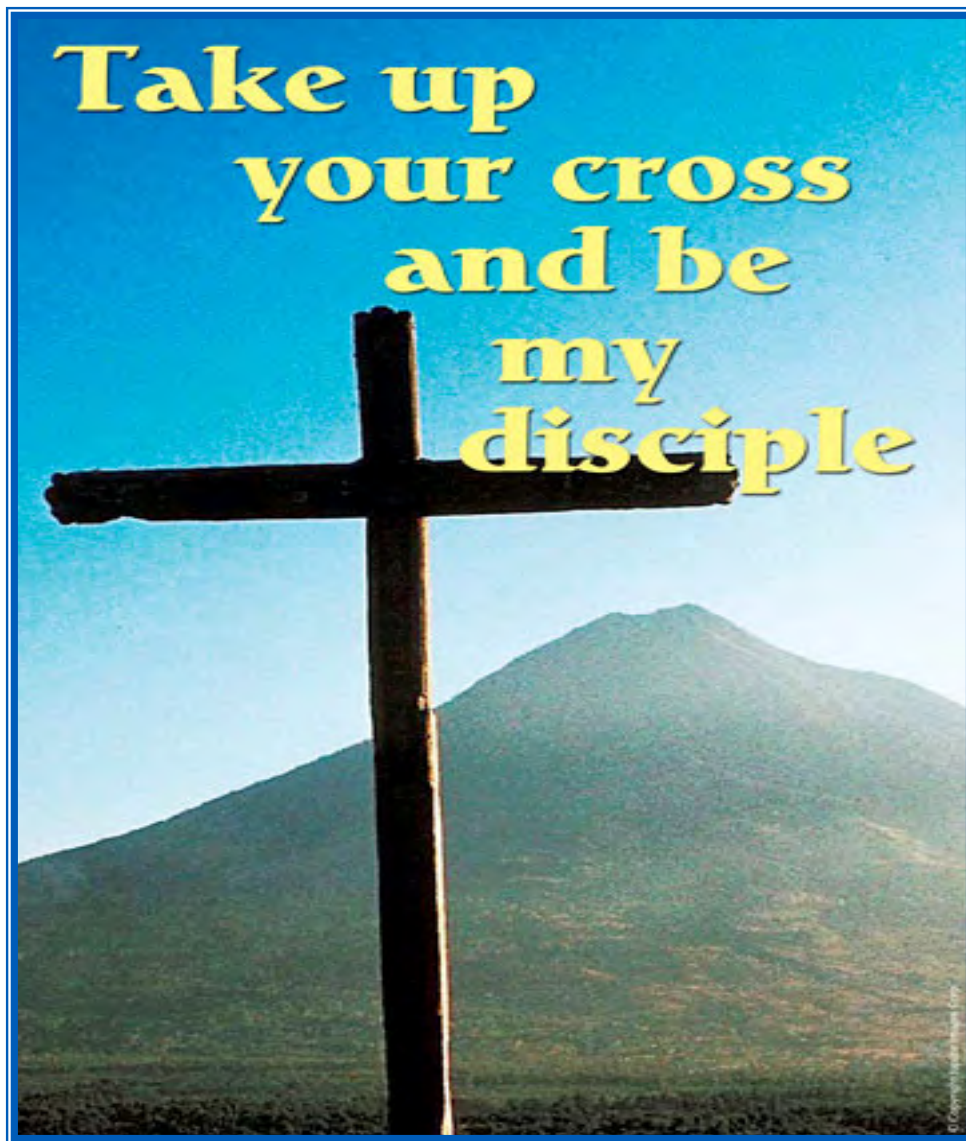


St. Cletus Canticle

September 9, 2007

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



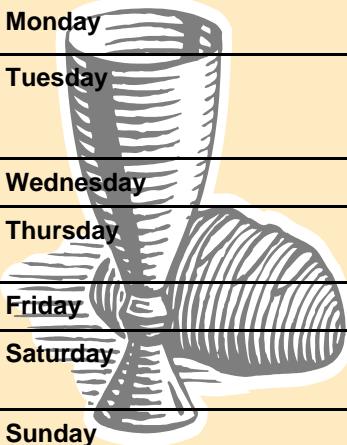
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



**All are welcome. Handicapped parking is located in front of church.
Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers/greeters.**

Mass Intentions for the Week of September 10 - September 16

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Robert Narsutis, Johnston Family, Beth Salvitti
Tuesday	8:00am 6:00pm	Michael O'Brien, Celeste Klees, John Hopp, Rev. Jeffrey Mladenik, Gertrude & Marshall Ditchie, Jennifer Hardick 9-11 Patriot's Day- In memory of those who lost their lives and their families
Wednesday	8:00am	Bruno Bransberger, Eva & Stanley Grabowski, Don Wouk, Nancy Bain
Thursday	8:00am	Tom Kigin, Linda Bagal, Joseph Kasperski, Raymond Waszak, Ursula Broniarczyk
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Joseph Megla, John McTigue, Nicholas Murphy
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Arthur Dalton Ed Smithy, Jozef Slowik, Margaret Mullane
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Mary Meisner Barbara Ann Cervenka Virginia Shepler, Charles Stegemann, Marvin & Ruth Walter John Pavlik, Sharon Taylor, Milio Campana, Deborah Mack, JoAnn Schumann



September 15-16

5:00pm - K. Kages, K. Cernetig, N. Lobraco
 7:00am - M. Bruce, B. Franklin, A. Heslin
 8:00am - S. Frisbie, A. Dostal, P. Kelley
 9:30am - A. McQuillan, K. Meade, C. Usher
 11:00am - N. Gacek, E. Ashe, A. Kopicki

Please pray for those who have died
and their families:

Wencil Andruliewicz
 husband of Anna
Hans Gunter Linsmaier
 brother of Dr. Elfreida Bednar



Auxiliary Minister Schedule

Saturday, September 15, 2007

5:00 PM LR Okkema, P
 SM Wouk, D C1 Okkema, A
 B2 Loch, L C2 Hockman, S
 B3 Ryva, J C3 Bozec, B
 B4 Delaloye, J C4 Wouk, D
 B5 Richards, M C5 Kensek, M
 B6 Zarembo, E C6 Ward, L

9:30 AM LR Schump, C

SM Micek, J C1 Doria, A
 B2 Severino, S C2 Dunkovich, A
 B3 Bolton, P C3 Severino, L
 B4 Burke, K C4 Micek, J
 B5 Benkert, J C5 Benkert, K
 B6 Hoskins, C C6 Tosheff, C

Sunday, September 16, 2007

7:00 AM LR Caruso, C
 SM Kalata, M
 B2 Kalata, M
 B3 Karch, J
 B4 Karch, T
 B5 Hagen, J
 B6 Hagen, C



11:00 AM LR Bolton, W

SM Samuelson, D C1 Garske, W
 B2 Provan, J C2 Provan, K
 B3 Nilles, C C3 Maday, J
 B4 Koch, B C4 Samuelson, D
 B5 Gebka, M L C5 Gleich, S
 B6 Meuwissen, J C6 Hagen, J

8:00 AM LR Kuchta, A

SM Wiley, J C1 Dalsin, P
 B2 Chaney, M C2 Hullinger, S
 B3 Pogar, C C3 Skupien, K
 B4 Curmutt, R C4 Wiley, J
 B5 Sipek, S C5 Welch, J
 B6 Ford, M B C6 Bliss, G



*We welcome these children into
God's family.*

Sean Joseph Carmody
 son of Kevin Carmody and Jia (Zhang)
Alex Mitchell Lonsway
 son of Mark Lonsway and Kristine (Rand)



Wedding Banns
Elizabeth Keifer and Mark Oliveria
Angela Schad and Ryan Revers

FR. BOB'S UTTERINGS

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

Once again we hear in Luke's gospel that it is not easy to be a true follower of Jesus Christ. We are told that we may have to turn our backs on family and friends and we will have to renounce all of our possessions. Today's two parables seem to tell us that there is no point in even starting to follow Jesus unless we are confident that we can measure up to all the demands that discipleship will make on us. Jesus reminds us that following him is not just a knee jerk reaction to his message but a long term commitment to stay the course. Not an easy thing for anyone to do or accomplish. So how do we accomplish our goal of true discipleship?

Here we face the truth that we should never try to follow Jesus Christ by depending on our own resources. That would mean certain failure. If today's gospel is GOOD news, it is so because of what it does not say: there are divine resources for Christian discipleship available to every one of us which are adequate. What we could never achieve on our own, we CAN achieve with the strength that comes from God, not from self. Jesus gives us HIS resources. If we trust in the power for good that God alone can give us, we can grow in discipleship with true confidence.

Summer Projects

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our summer project campaign over the past three months. Your generosity and commitment to the needs of our parish is very commendable. We have collected over \$83,000 to date. Your generous response has allowed us to complete the needed repairs to the underground pipes in the school tunnels which included expensive asbestos abatement and removal. We have also purchased eight new replacement computers for our school; ordered the new playground equipment for our preschool and kindergarten which will be placed in the school courtyard; arranged for the painting of our parish flag pole; and are preparing for the installation of our new cry room in the church which should be done by mid-October. May God continue to bless your faithfulness to our parish family.

Note of Thanks from the Catholic Mission Office

I received the following note from the Catholic Mission Office the other day and wanted to share it with you. St. Cletus Parish has a true missionary spirit!

Dear Rev. Clark and the community of St. Cletus Parish,

Thank you all for your Mission Cooperation Program gift of \$6,723, which we received on 8/20/2007 for the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate (US Chicago Province). Your generosity will be multiplied and make great things happen in distant places.

I receive thank you notes from many of the missionaries. They often say "without the kind support of the Catholics of Chicago we would not be able to continue our work." So your contributions and sacrifices make the church present and active around the globe. You participate in the missionary privilege of sharing the Good News of Jesus.

On behalf of the missionaries and the people they serve, thank you.

*Sr. Maria Burke, SSpS
Director*

9/11 Patriots Day

Please join us on Tuesday, September 11, 2007 at 6:00 pm in church for a Mass of Remembrance. On the 6th anniversary of this terrible event let us pray for the thousands of patriots who lost their lives and the tens of thousands of families whose lives were changed forever by this great tragedy.

Blessings Always,

Fr. Bob



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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2007

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; GRANDPARENT'S DAY

Counting the cost

Today Jesus asks us, "which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost?" The answer, probably, is "most of us, at one time or another." It's time consuming and difficult to calculate costs—and how can they be accurately estimated anyway? We'll figure it out as we go along. This "pay as you go" kind of plan clearly isn't going to work for discipleship. Jesus wants us to know beforehand exactly what following him involves: "Every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

He doesn't want us giving up halfway. It will consume all of our concentration and energy and resources. Are you ready? You can't claim you weren't told.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Wisdom 9:13-18b; Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Luke 14:25-33*

"Which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost?"

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Laws and life

"There comes a time to put principle aside and do what's right." It's an oft-used but untraceable quotation, maybe because the original speaker is embarrassed at the mistake. But is it a misstatement? To a fellow Jew of his day, Jesus' claim that Sabbath laws must yield to life-giving work—even when work is forbidden—is the height of arrogance and blasphemy. Society admires those who "stick to their guns" on principle, but Jesus reminds us not to hold to the form without the substance. It is good to look again at the principles by which we abide to see if they have lost touch with the good that engendered them.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Colossians 1:24-2:3; Luke 6:6-11*

"I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?"

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Past and present

Psychology says we have to live out our pasts. Society says we have to accept the consequences of our decisions. The law says we have to pay for our crimes. And all these statements are true. But Christianity says we can always begin anew, at any time, as long as we truly want things to change. If we really seek conversion, God's grace rushes in and transforms our hearts and therefore our lives, whatever our past hurts or poor choices. Invite that healing power into your life today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 6:12-19*

"God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands."

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

MOST HOLY NAME OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A fresh start

By happy collision, we honor Mary on the feast of the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah. (For our Jewish friends, it's now the year 5768.) Jewish New Year isn't a time for noisemakers and party hats, but kicks off 10 days of repentance for last year's failings. These Days of Awe, as they're called, are a solemn call to get one's life back in order. Mary of Nazareth, grounded in the faith of her ancestors, stood in a long line of Israelite women from Sarah through Elizabeth who heard the calls to

repentance and awaited the God "whose mercy is from generation to generation." Every day we have the chance to start again.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 6:20-26*
"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

FEAST OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP, DOCTOR

Measure for measure

Many of John Chrysostom's (349-407) famed sermons focused on the obligation of the rich to care for the poor. So famed for his eloquence that he was given the honorific title *Chrysostom*, meaning *golden mouthed*, he was not shy about using explicit language and images to get his point across. Here is what he preached to the wealthy of Constantinople in an effort to shake them from their complacency: "Do you pay such honor to your excrements as to receive them into a silver chamber-pot when another man made in the image of God is perishing in the cold?" Words for all of us to ponder the next time we remodel a bathroom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 6:27-38*

"... for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The cross is a door

Last year the Mexican movie *Pan's Labyrinth* received critical acclaim. It involves an unhappy girl whose mother has married a handsome general who is, by all accounts, a monster. The girl's only hope seems to be in following the directions of an ugly creature, Pan, who may direct her through this labyrinthine fate. At one point Pan goads the young girl, "You still have tasks to complete." She laments, "But they've locked the door and I can't get out." The creature hands her a piece of chalk. "Draw your own door," he suggests. In the film it is the door that leads to death. It is also the only passage to life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17*

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

OUR LADY OF SORROWS

Her station keeping

On this special feast, the church recommends chanting the words we know more familiarly as the *Stabat Mater*: "At the cross her station keeping / Stood the mourning mother weeping / Close to Jesus to the last." Well known by the 14th century, the *Stabat Mater* was probably written by Pope Innocent III in the 12th century and popularized by the Franciscans. Its pathos has made it beloved by Catholics and Protestants alike. It is a powerful reminder that in the realm of sorrow, we have an advocate who knows our grief very well. Our Mother stands ready to share our losses.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Timothy 1:15-17; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35*

"This child is a sign that will be opposed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

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www.TakeFiveForFaith.com. Licensed for noncommercial use. All rights reserved. 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, and Patrice J. Tuohy

Social Concerns

Food Pantry News

Are you experiencing an overabundance of fresh vegetables from your summer garden? If it's that time when you are looking to "share the wealth" with your friends and neighbors, the St. Cletus Food pantry will accept donations of fresh produce from **4:45-5:45 PM on Thursday, Sept. 13** in the Church vestibule. This is the evening of our monthly Food Pantry, which distributes groceries to our needy, from 6:30-8:00 PM.

It is important to remember that we can accept such donations **only** on September 13 from 4:45-5:45PM. We have no way to store and/or distribute perishable food except at this time. If you have any questions, please contact me at (708) 215-5418 or mford@stcletusparish.com. Thank you for your generosity.

Also, if you forgot to bring in your non-perishable donations to Mass this weekend, we can still use them for our September Food Pantry, if you drop them off Monday through Wednesday this week. Thanks again!

Can you help?

There is a parishioner who is in need of a ride to the Saturday evening 5:00 Mass each week. If you can help her out, please contact me at (708) 215-5418 or mford@stcletusparish.com. Thank you.

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

R.C.I.A.

On Wednesday, September 26, at 7:00pm, our first RCIA meeting of the year will be held. If you are interested and have not yet registered, please call me at (708) 352-2383. The first three weeks are called, "The Period of Inquiry." So bring your questions and come hear for yourself what the process and the program are all about. We would love to welcome you!

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Earn Valuable Money for St. Cletus School by Shopping at Dominick's

In addition to the 10% Back to Schools program, Dominick's is now providing us with another fantastic fundraising opportunity called eScrip.

EScrip is an easy-to-use, year-round program with no date restrictions or slips to track. Dominick's contributes up to 4% of your purchases to St. Cletus every time you shop and present your Fresh Values card. All you need to do is register your Fresh Values card with the program. Remember, your family members may also register their cards as well.

To sign up:

- Have your Dominick's Fresh Values card number ready
- Visit www.escrip.com
- Click on the link to sign up as a new member
- Locate St. Cletus School (Group ID # 500014509) and register your card number

If you have any questions regarding this program or are having trouble registering your Fresh Values card, please contact me at (708) 482-0511. Thanks for your support.

Holly Kallal

St. Cletus FSA

Please Note: A table will be set up in the foyer of church this weekend, September 8-9, if you have any questions or would like help registering your Fresh Values card.

Reminder: General Mills box tops can be dropped off in the Minister's Room in church.

Cash & Carry MANNA this Weekend

This weekend, September 8 and 9, you can purchase MANNA gift cards after all Masses in the church vestibule. MANNA is an ongoing fundraising program through the St. Cletus FSA, which purchases gift cards at a discount, sells them at face, value and the proceeds then go to the school. Order forms will be available at the MANNA table the day of purchase. Any questions, please call Caryn Dombro (630) 789-8560 or Lisa Heim (708) 354-4257.

Those Who Sing, Pray Twice - Why Not Join the Choirs?

The St. Cletus Parish Choirs resume their regular rehearsal schedules this week, and we are always looking for eager new faces to join us! There are four opportunities to become involved in the parish music ministry--all of them no experience necessary!

The Chancel Choir is the choir that regularly sings at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. This group rehearses weekly on Thursday evenings from 7:30-9:15 p.m. This choir sings on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and other special liturgical events. The Chancel Choir is our traditional "adult choir," and consists of over 35 members ranging in age from "post-collegiate" to "quite experienced!"

The Contemporary Choir typically leads the congregation in song at the 5:00 p.m. liturgy on Saturday. This group consists of high school aged singers as well as adults, and tends toward the slightly more "praise and worship" style of music when possible. Guitars, flutes, and other instruments (as well as piano) regularly accompany the Contemporary Choir. Rehearsals are 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays (before the 5:00pm Mass).

The parish Children's Choirs are open to students in grades 3-8 who are currently enrolled in our parish school or religious education programs. The Junior Choir (grades 3-5) rehearses from 5:00-5:45 p.m. on Thursday afternoons, while the Senior Choir (grades 6-8) rehearses on Wednesdays from 4:00-4:45 p.m. Students in 5th grade may attend either practice based on availability. This choir sings approximately once each month at a parish liturgy, including holidays such as Christmas Eve and Easter.

The Choir of the Good Shepherd is the choir that provides music primarily at our funeral liturgies. Open to anyone, this choir meets for rehearsal approximately 45 minutes prior to a funeral Mass, and occasionally will meet for a longer rehearsal to learn new and upcoming music. This is a very special group of singers who serve a specific and important role in our parish music ministry.

While each choir has specific rehearsals, the choir member with perfect attendance is rare indeed. If you have time to give, a heart to sing, and a desire to connect with like-minded people, I invite you to join one of our parish choirs. In eight years I have yet to see someone who gave choir a try and walked away disappointed.

Please feel free to contact me - (708) 352-4547 or jsisul@stcletusparish.com - with any questions, or to confirm your desire to join one of our choirs! You can also simply show up at rehearsal, and we'll be glad to have you! I look forward to answering any questions and meeting potential new members who are ready to praise God with their voices...and get extra credit for "praying twice!"

Justin Sisul
Director of Music

Stewardship

Thought for the Week

We are called...

By virtue of our baptism, we are called to be God's disciples and are invited to do Christ's work on earth. As disciples, we are granted all of the tools necessary to bring the light, hope and love of God to others.

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend.....	\$ 27,678
A Year Ago.....	30,908
This Fiscal Year-to-date (thru 9/02/07)	\$260,450
Last Fiscal Year (thru 9/03/06)	247,001

As always, we sincerely thank all who generously give of their treasure as well as those who give of their time and talent, to support the work our parish does in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Stewards of the Church

Stewards of God's gifts are not passive beneficiaries, but collaborators with God. We are obliged to be stewards of the Church, collaborators and cooperators in continuing the redemptive work of Jesus—the Church's essential mission. The mission, proclaiming and teaching, serving and sanctifying, is our task. It is the personal responsibility of each of us.

All members of the Church have their roles to play in carrying out its mission:

- Parents, who nurture their children in the light of faith;
- Parishioners, who work in concrete ways to make their parishes true communities of faith and vibrant sources of service to the larger community;
- All Catholics who give generous support—time, money, prayers, and personal service according to their circumstances—to parish and diocesan programs and to the universal Church.

Youth Ministry News...

Youth Advisory Commissions Board

Reminder to those on the youth advisory commissions board, we will be meeting this evening, Sunday, (September 9) in Room 201. Teens will meet first at 6:30pm, and the adult members will join us at 7:00pm. See you there!

Year I Confirmation Parent's Meeting

Reminder to all parents of Year I candidates that we will have a **Parent's Only** meeting on **Thursday, September 13**, in Room 201 of St. Cletus School, at 7:00pm. You will be receiving information packets and will have the opportunity to meet your teen's advisor(s). I am looking forward to meeting you!

Amy Cranny

Director of Youth Ministry

Golden Wedding Anniversary!

Congratulations to our parishioners celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary at Holy Name Cathedral today!

- Gertrude & Richard Czerniak*
- Edwardine & Jerome Wisner*
- Mary & Joseph Salvitti*
- Louise & Anthony Mock*
- Geraldine & Albert Hinton*



Please pray for our sick: Ryan Cosgrove, Scott McClain, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Mary Jane Taylor, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Mike Patzelt, Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Anthony Regalado, Marilyn Matesevac, Joanne Mate, Adrienne Welenc, Hunter Peters, Mario Aguilar, Cacia Ziegler, Jackie Dudley, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Connie Kostecki, Jonii Patterson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Emil Chlapecka, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, and Scott May.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00PM

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

Monday: 8:00AM

Tuesday: 8:00AM

Wednesday: 8:00AM

Thursday: 8:00AM

Friday: 8:00AM

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00PM

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

Weekdays: Monday thru Saturday: 8:00AM

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 (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 (215-5407).

CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday of the month 4:15-4:45 PM.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

1st Monday of the Month immediately following the 8:00am Mass with Benediction at 6:45PM.

Adoracion Nocturna continues until 8:00 PM with song and prayer.

Rectory Office Hours

Monday thru Friday: 9:00AM-5:00PM
Saturday: 9:00AM-5:00PM
Sunday: 8:00AM-1:00PM

Bulletin Articles

The deadline for Canticle article submission is 5:00pm Friday, **one full week** prior to Sunday's publication. Articles may be submitted electronically to canticle@stcletusparish.com.

PARISH STAFF**Rev. Robert Clark***Pastor***Rev. Patrick O'Neill***Associate Pastor***Rev. Charles Watkins***Associate Pastor***Rev. Charles Gallagher***Pastor Emeritus***RECTORY STAFF****Bobbie Kallal***Director of Pastoral Services & Operations***Michele O'Brien***Director of Financial Operations***Patricia Drobny***Bulletin Editor***Nora Gardner***Rectory Receptionist*

352-6209

PASTORAL STAFF**Maria Arias***Director of Hispanic Ministry*

352-4856

Paulette Bolton*Director of Worship*

352-4834

Amy Cranny*Director of Youth Ministry*

215-5419

Mary Beth Ford*Director of Social Concerns*

215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk*Director of Facilities & Grounds*

215-5405

Derek Sawicki*Maintenance Director*

215-5406

Justin Sisul*Director of Music*

352-4547

Christopher Wagner*Director of Technology*

215-5420

Dolores Wouk*Director of Ministry of Care*

215-5407

SCHOOL STAFF**Jolene Hillgoth***School Principal***Kathy Lifka***Assistant Principal***Denise Parlier***Administrative Assistant*

352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF**Patricia Kahl***Director of Religious Education***Mary Lee Krieger***Administrative Assistant*

352-2383