

St. Cletus Canticle

June 8, 2008

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



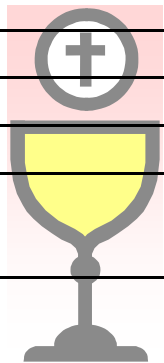
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



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 June 9 - June 15, 2008

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - People of St. Cletus
Tuesday	8:00am	Rev. Larry Craig
Wednesday	8:00am	John Hopp, Marcie Johnston, Violet Cosimano
Thursday	8:00am	Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family, Alex Kunsarvich
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Tom Kigin
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	People of St. Cletus Jozef Slowik, John Wagner Sr., Jonii Patterson, Donna Czerwinski, Ed Smythy
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Jerry Gleich, Howard Madsen, Marco & Emilia Rattin, Emilia Castellanos Dr. Thomas O'Shea, John Burns, Rose Mary Ptak, Helen Janecek, Harold Janecek Michael Arpaia, Walter Depa, Michael McTigue, Belefonte Pieri, Damaso Almendarez, Maria Guadalupe Ronald Durso, Elwyn Seifert, William Hoskins, Gene Marcheschi Intentions of ALL priests



AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF JUNE 14/15, 2008

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Swindall, V.	Wouk, D.	Micek, J.	Bolton, P.	Benkert, K.
LR	Pawlowicz, R.	Chlapecka, T.	Hagen, K.	Reisel, T.	Pisone, M.L.
B2	Swindall, V.	Wouk, D.	Micek, J.	Bolton, P.	Benkert, K.
B3	Zaremba, E.	Smith, D.	Saban, J.	Stumreiter, E.	Nash, S.
B4	Burke, R.	Smith, P.	Stopka, S.	Blecic, D.	Mangahas, A.
B5	Thuma, M.	Thornton, W.	Hagen, J.	Williams, A.	Gebka, M.L.
B6	Ford, M.B.	Thornton, M.	Hagen, C.	Nolan, J.	Nicosia, C.
C1	Boyer, K.		Severino, L.	Tosheff, C.	Herezog, T.
C2	Swindall, T.		Thuma, M.	Simonelic, Sr.	Benkert, J.
C3	Kensek, M.		Sipek, S.	Williams, AM.	Garske, E.
C4	Burke, J.		Hullinger, S.	Zupanic, R.	Maday, J.
C5	Chlapecka, R.		Hagen, J.	Meuwissen, J.	Brannigan, R.
C6	Bozec, B.		Hagen, E.	Nash, S.	Ficaro, J.
Altar Servers	M. Lombardo M. McAtee J. Riccione	A. Jacobs T. Gray M. Franklin	K. Flannery M. Flannery S. Flannery	M. Grodek M. Grodek B. McDonnell	N. Muldonado S. Keane B. Dombro

**ST. CLETUS PARISH
WELCOMES...**

Dillon Robert Roche,
son of David & Denise (Schillings) Roche

**to the Catholic Faith through the
Sacrament of Baptism.**

*Please pray for those
who have died and their families.*

Michelle Roberts,
daughter of Mike Roberts

Nancy Marie Zeman,
wife of James

*May God grant them eternal rest.
Amen.*

Wedding Banns
Katie Moss & Mike Brazee
Kathleen Murray & David Patterson

Earth has no sorrow
that Heaven
cannot heal.
-Thomas Moore

Notes from Father Bob...

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In bringing a message of love, Jesus offers a way out to a man who has become trapped. As a tax collector for a foreign power, Matthew has put himself beyond the pale, and is no longer welcome in a respectable religious society. The Pharisees, on the other hand, are a very religious group of men, who are concerned with preserving the purity of the Jewish people through the observance of traditions handed down in the Law. Jesus sees in Matthew a life in need of transformation. The Pharisees see in him only a sinner exiled from the community.

The Pharisees are concerned that Jesus' decision to associate with people like Matthew undermines their strategy. For many years they have been trying to show the way forward to a sinful generation. In setting an example of purity, they believe that they will eventually help others to follow the right path. For them, practicing the Law and holding to unalterable moral truths are the only sure way of leading people to conversion. To be invited to a Pharisee's table would be the ultimate proof that you were once again a loyal and proper member of religious society.

Yet Matthew has not taken his chance to follow the Pharisees. They have been there longer than Jesus, and have made clear that his behavior is not as it should be. Their lives offer an example of an orthodox religion that doesn't stoop to the corrupt values of the day. Yet Matthew has not responded to them. He chooses instead to answer the strange request of Jesus: "Follow me." By his swift response, Matthew suggests that he has been waiting for this sort of opportunity for a long time. He has heard the message of Jesus, and is open enough to move on from his present way of life into the fullness of life that Jesus promises. Jesus must have had something about him if he made certain types of folk react in this way. And all he asks is a trust in the loving kindness of our heavenly Father, and a willingness to share the good news with others. This first step on the road to freedom doesn't seem that complicated.

Yet the Pharisees don't seem to understand this faithful love that Jesus speaks of. He is interested in people, not religion. He tells the Pharisees to go and learn about the tender compassion of the heart that comes from God and is proclaimed ceaselessly in their scriptures. This is the sort of love that Matthew recognizes in Jesus. It is much deeper than a mere emotion, that might "fade like the morning dew", as the prophet Hosea puts it.

This same loving kindness is what can reach into our hearts and heal us. As we follow Jesus our lives are turned around. He will sit and eat with us. The table is open because, unlike the Pharisees, he trusts in our ability to change.

The traditions handed down to us are surely important for guiding us. But the Word of God reminds us that no amount of liturgy or knowledge of dogma can substitute for sharing the love and compassion of God amongst us. We gather for the Eucharist and thank God for sharing his loving kindness with each and every one of us.

Perhaps we could ask ourselves as a community, how do we share this gift of life with others? Does our community present a picture of the love of Christ or of the disapproval of the Pharisees? As we approach the Lord's Table, let's offer a prayer for absent friends who for one reason or another don't feel able to join us.

REMINDER!

Ministry Weekend will be held after all Masses on the weekend of June 21 and 22. Stop by one of the ministry tables and sign up to share your gifts and talents. We will, also, be celebrating Father Pat O'Neill's seven years of ministry within our parish on Sunday, June 22 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass followed by a reception in Morrissey Hall. We thank Father Pat for his dedicated service to our parish and wish him well at his new assignment at St. Alexander's Parish in Palos Heights.

*Let's Make Ordinary Time Extraordinary!
Father Bob*



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

Sunday, June 8, 2008

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Shavuot begins at sunset

No wrapping required

What do you give to someone who has everything? Gift-giving can be a hair-yanking episode when most folks we know don't want for anything. When it comes to God, maker of everything, the problem is compounded. Burnt offerings are out of fashion. Does God get bored with expressions of praise? Jesus recalls that Hosea said God wants love and understanding, just as we do. To this end the Jewish community will hold all-night Bible studies on Shavuot, remembering how Moses taught them the mind of God. We, too, grow closer to God by reading what's on the divine mind. Today's readings: Hosea 6:3-6; Romans 4:18-25; Matthew 9:9-13
 "For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings."

Monday, June 9

Feast of Ephrem, deacon, doctor

Verses versus heresy

Born into a city of influential Gnostic sects and an educated Jewish population, Ephrem the Syrian (306-373) apparently had little opportunity to promote the orthodoxy of the recently formed Nicene Creed in his homeland. But the gift that he had been given, which no one could deny, was a proficiency in verse. Ephrem schooled himself in the meters and hymn-forms popular around him and adopted them to promote the Nicene message. Saint Ephrem's hymns were so skillfully crafted that they gained renown not only in his own city but in many hymn traditions, subsequently spreading the church's doctrine. What earthly gifts have you been given that you can use to spread the gospel?

Today's readings: 1 Kings 17:1-6; Matthew 5:1-12

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

Tuesday, June 10 - Jump to it

Today's reading from 1 Kings offers a vivid example of the risk involved in trusting God when the evidence may be scant. How many of us, during a time of drought and famine, would have sufficient trust in God to offer a stranger our last morsel of food, solely based on the promise that if we did so, God would provide for our own needs? It takes a good amount of "salt," as today's gospel puts it, to take that kind of leap of faith. The woman in 1 Kings had the salt. How about us?

Today's readings: 1 Kings 17:7-16; Matthew 5:13-16

"The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth."

Wednesday, June 11

Feast of Barnabas, apostle - Help is on the way

Saint Barnabas earned his name—which means "son of encouragement"—because of his work for the early Christian community, taking the recent convert Saint Paul under his wing, representing the original apostles at Antioch, and with Paul going on missions to the Gentiles. Barnabas was willing to do his part, whether leading or supporting others. How can you be a daughter or son of encouragement today?

Today's readings: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Matthew 5:17-19

"Barnabas . . . was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith."

Thursday, June 12

A show of strength

According to the folks at forgiveness.com, 94 percent of Americans surveyed in a nationwide Gallup poll said it was important to forgive. But in the same survey only 48 percent said they usually tried to forgive others. What's holding us back? The benefits (better physical and mental health) are well-documented, yet somehow we see forgiveness as a sign of weakness—a victory for those who have offended or abused us. In fact, the opposite is true: Forgiveness is a sign of strength. It is how you show your enemies you are not defeated. As Oscar Wilde wisely advised: Always forgive your enemies—nothing annoys them so much! Forgiveness is possible—and for Jesus, it is more important than showing up to church with cash in hand.

Today's readings: 1 Kings 18:41-46; Matthew 5:20-26

"First be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."

Friday, June 13

Hearing a who

The prophet Elijah had a lot on his plate. Defending the one true God, battling kings and even other prophets, and going through quite a bit of hardship on the process. And when he went to talk with God on God's own mountain, conditions were not calm. The wind blew strong enough to split rocks. Then an earthquake rolled the ground. Oh, and there was fire, too—did we mention that? But God was not "in" the wind, the quake, or the fire. Rather God was in a "tiny whispering sound." That was what awed Elijah and led him to cover his face. Sometimes the voice of God isn't found in spectacular special effects but in the smallest, quietest way. Can you hear it?

Today's readings: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16; Matthew 5:27-32

"After the fire was a sound of sheer silence."

Saturday, June 14

Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Promises, promises

Jesus can be devastatingly clear, maddeningly simple. In our culture, supporting one's word with an oath generally happens only in a courtroom and in bad gangster movies in which hoodlums regularly swear on their "mother's grave." Jesus envisions a spirit so clear and guileless that oaths are unnecessary, and not even the notion of equivocation is entertained. Mary is a model of one who when she said Yes, meant Yes. As a mother she likely taught Jesus the same simple honesty. Following through on what we've promised to God in baptism reflects not only good character but a heart open to the scrutiny of anyone, even the clear light of the Holy Spirit.

Today's readings: 1 Kings 19:19-21; Matthew 5:33-37

"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop

Post Office Box 1979
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

Dear Friends in Christ,

On the weekend of **June 7-8, 2008**, we will begin the first special collection for the **Retired Priests of the Archdiocese**.

We all know how much our ministry in the parishes depends upon the generosity of retired priests and, over the past ten years, I have been edified by the willingness of our retired priests to respond to the call to serve as temporary administrators of parishes, sometimes parishes undergoing great stress and suffering. Please join me in offering our retired priests words of appreciation and gratitude for their many years of priestly ministry.

Over those same years, I have worked with the Priests' Retirement and Mutual Aid Association (PRMAA) to take care of all our retired priests. The costs for healthcare, prescription drug coverage, and nursing home care continue to rise annually. We have not raised the pension for our retired priests in seven years. This special collection will help us continue our care for our retired priests.

You may be aware that the December collection for Retired Religious is designated to provide only for Religious Orders. Archdiocesan priests do not receive any funds from this collection.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of our retired priests for the ministry they do in the parishes of the Archdiocese. Our retired priests make possible an adequate schedule of Masses and sacraments for the faithful. Our retired priests who administer parishes have given new life to many communities. Please accept my thanks and my prayers.

I am thankful to all of you for helping inaugurate this special collection for the retired priests of the Archdiocese. Your generosity and your prayers are a great affirmation of the work of our retired priests. You are in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

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

Youth Ministry News...

Confirmation Program: Registration packets for the 2008-09 school year have been sent out. If you have an incoming freshman and have not received a packet, please call the youth ministry office at (708) 215-5419. The packets can also be picked up at the Religious Education Office or can be downloaded from the website at www.stcletusparish.com. Thank you!

High School Teen Softball/Volleyball: We will be playing 16" co-ed softball and volleyball on the field behind St. Cletus church. We meet on Sunday evenings throughout the summer from 6:00 – 7:30pm. Bring a water bottle and your high school friends. (Note: We will not be playing on Father's Day, June 15). Hope to see you there!

Great America: Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 13! We will once again be going to Great America with the teens from St. John of the Cross in Western Springs. The day will begin with 9:00am Mass at St. John's and we will leave from their parking lot immediately following mass. The cost is \$38 for your ticket and bus transportation. We will return to St. John's at approximately 11:15pm. This trip is open to all high school teens in the parish and their friends. You can download the permission slips/info from our website at www.stcletusparish.com and click on the youth ministry icon. We've always had a great time so come out and join us!

Amy Cranny
Youth Director



Dear St. Cletus Parishioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve all of you as Student Council President. This year has been a very productive year. We have accomplished many things thanks to all of the members of the Student Council. I would like to also thank the school too for their support. We have done many different things for our school, our parish, and our community.

In school, we raised funds through dress down days such as Mis-match Day, March Madness and Pajama Day. We brought back movie night and we hope to continue it next year. We also sponsored Young Reader's Day. Parents, teachers, firefighters and police officers volunteered their time to read to us. We held a no homework day where students brought in a dollar to have no homework for that night.

We used some of the funds collected to help Kelly Malecki, a parishioner, who has been ill. We collected canned goods as payment for one of the dress down days and donated them to the St. Cletus Food Pantry. Each year we have a health fair sponsored by Mrs. Moore, our school nurse. She brings in various health and safety professionals to help educate the students. Student Council used funds collected to help support the health fair. At the end of each school year the Student Council uses the money raised to buy a gift for the school. This year we will purchase new outdoor equipment for our peaceable playground program to be used in the coming year.

For the community, we made donations to many charities. Some of those included: phone cards for service men and women, the American Cancer society, and Pillars, an organization that helps families facing challenges and crises in our community. Student Council also coordinates the collection of aluminum cans which are recycled and help to fund our food pantry.

I would like to take this time to thank our out-going officers, Marty Garvey, Kathleen Lawler, and Natalie Gacek for all of their hard work. They showed strong leadership and support. Thank you to the moderators, Mrs. Kensek, Mrs. Kennedy, and Mrs. Bialis for all of their time; we couldn't have accomplished all we did without you! Thank you also to Mrs. Hillgoth and Mrs. Liftka who showed us great leadership. The Student Council class representatives helped us have a great year. Congratulations and good luck to the incoming officers Kathleen Lawler, President, Meghan Murphy, Vice President, Natalie Gacek, Secretary, and Sabrina Pusatera, Treasurer. Once again, the student council did a great job this year!

Finally, always remember it's "A Great Day To Be A Cardinal"!

Michael Thomas,
Student Council President

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND!

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Retirement of Archdiocesan Priests. Please refer to page 5 for more information. Thank you.



RUMMAGE SALE

There is an old adage,

“One man’s trash, is another man’s treasure.”

We need your treasures! The St. Cletus Social Concern’s Ministry will sponsor a rummage sale on Saturday, July 26, 2008. We will accept the following household items; furniture, dishes, electrics (clean and in working condition), baby swings, high chairs, walkers, etc., and exercise equipment. **We will NOT accept any clothing, bed linens, towels, blankets, etc.** The proceeds will be used to help fund the newly forming St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Cletus Parish. So please find a corner to “save” any of the above mentioned treasures until drop-off time. Look for further details in future Canticles or contact the Social Concerns Office at (708) 215-5418 or socialconcerns@stcletusparish.com. Thank you!



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Larry Gambini, Matt Wulff, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Bernie Kelly, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Mary Jane Taylor, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Mike Patzelt, Rita D’Onofrio, Marilyn Matesevac, Hunter Peters, Cacilia Ziegler, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O’Rourke, Debbie Broz and Scott May. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass. Please know we pray daily for our sick.

STEWARDSHIP

“Let us know, let us strive to know the Lord; as certain as the dawn is his coming.” Hosea 6:3

Just as in the Parable of the Talents, our God is the owner of everything. He is the master who has entrusted many gifts to us. Someday He will return and ask, “What did you do with the gifts I gave to you?” Will He be pleased with our report? Will we hear His invitation to lasting joy. “Well done, my good and faithful servant...Come, share your master’s joy.” Matthew 25:21

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend.....	\$ 30,917
A Year Ago.....	29,301
Sunday Collections thru 06/01/08.....	\$1,332,409
Sunday Collections thru 06/03/07.....	1,243,530

Use Your Talent

God has given each part of his creation a talent according to their ability. We are the ones who have decided that to be talented means that we excel in one of several high-paying careers.

God’s idea of talents is based on their usefulness to others, not on the number of talents. Each of us will be held accountable for using the talent we have been given and whether we have used it in God’s Kingdom.

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**MANNA CASH AND CARRY
THIS WEEKEND**

MANNA will be available after all Masses *this weekend, June 7/8, in the church vestibule. Please consider using MANNA for your Father’s Day gifts!*

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday:** Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Shavuot ("Weeks"), the Jewish festival of the giving of the law, begins at sunset
- Monday:** St. Ephrem
- Wednesday:** St. Barnabas
- Friday:** St. Anthony of Padua
- Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary; Flag Day

PARISH STAFF**Rev. Robert Clark***Pastor***Rev. Patrick O'Neill***Associate Pastor***Rev. Charles Watkins***Associate Pastor***Rev. Charles Gallagher***Pastor Emeritus***PASTORAL STAFF****Maria Arias***Director of Hispanic Ministry*

(708) 352-4856

Paulette Bolton*Director of Worship*

(708) 352-4834

Amy Cranny*Director of Youth Ministry*

(708) 215-5419

Mary Beth Ford*Director of Social Concerns*

(708) 215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk*Director of Facilities & Grounds*

(708) 215-5405

Derek Sawicki*Supervisor of Maintenance*

(708) 215-5406

Justin Sisul*Director of Music*

(708) 352-4547

Christopher Wagner*Director of Technology*

(708) 215-5420

Dolores Wouk*Director of Ministry of Care*

(708) 215-5407

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

(708) 352-4820

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

(708) 352-2383

RECTORY STAFF**Bobbie Kallal***Director of Pastoral Services***Michele O'Brien***Director of Financial Operations***Patricia Drobny***Bulletin Editor***Nora Gardner***Rectory Receptionist*

(708) 352-6209

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**Monday thru Saturday:****9:00am-5:00pm****Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm****PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Pastor - Rev. Robert Clark • Associate Pastor - Rev. Patrick O'Neill • Associate Pastor - Rev. Charles Watkins

Co-Chairpersons: Anne Babirak, Tom Finucane
Recording Secretary: Sue Schiller*Vice - Chairperson:* Rita Mayer*Corresponding Secretary:* Lori Ashe*Worship Ministry:* Sue Schiller, Jackie Wiley*Finance Liaison:* Brian Kapusta*Parish Representative:* Joe Bamberger, Lori Ashe*Youth Ministry:* Barb Mitchell, Rita Mayer*Education Ministry:* Anne Babirak, (School)
Sharon Gleich (Religious Education)*Staff Representative:* Jolene Hillgoth*Development Ministry:* Maggie Nelson, Tom Finucane*Ministry of Care/Compassionate Care Ministry:*
C. Rodger Brown, Xavier Polanski*Hispanic Ministry:* Tim McCormick, Marynez Llanes,
Ignacio Saavedra*Social Concerns Ministry:* Maureen Soldat,
Jim Ryva*Technology Representative:* Julie Lenz**MASSES****Saturday Evening: 5:00pm****Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
11:00am, 6:00pm (Spanish)****Weekdays: Mon., thru Sat., 8:00am****Evening before Holy Day: 7:00pm****Holy Day: 6:30am, 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 4:15-4:45pm.****EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
AND BENEDICTION****1st Monday of the Month immediately
following the 8:00am Mass with
Benediction at 6:45pm.****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.