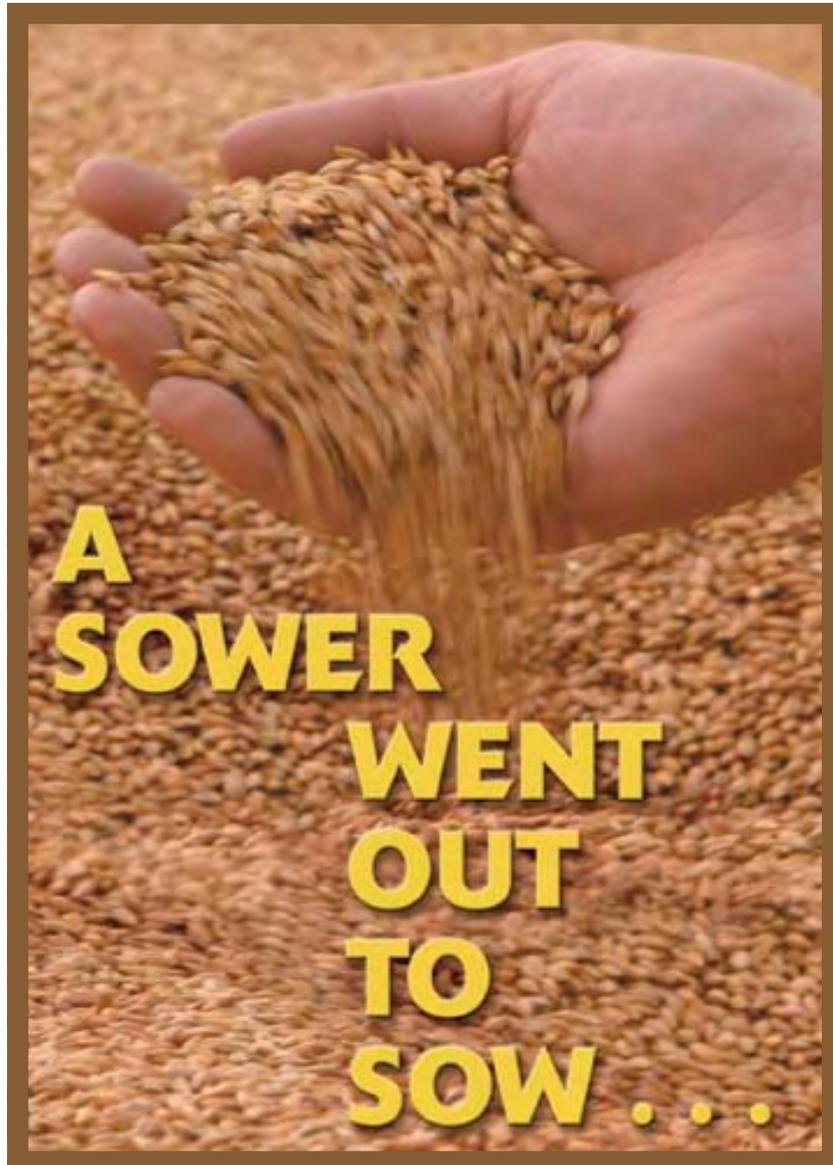


St. Cletus Canticle

July 13, 2008

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



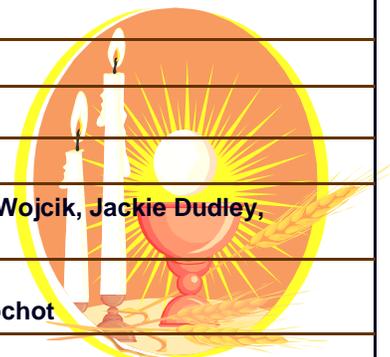
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



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 July 14 - July 20, 2008

Day	Time	
Monday	8:00am	Stefan Slobodnik, Mary Slobodnik
Tuesday	8:00am	People of St. Cletus
Wednesday	8:00am	Marcie Johnston
Thursday	8:00am	Souls in Purgatory
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Josephine & Anton Kuchta, Frank Wojcik, Jackie Dudley, Evelyn Prevenas
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Thomas O'Leary Margaret Herzog, Aubrey Olsen, Stella Kadlec, Alice Prochot
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Frank Wojcik, Jacqueline Dudley Parish Priest's Intentions Charles Keenan, Virginia Shepler Dan Rosko, Frank & Lottie Mendrala. Elwyn Seifert, Susan M. Knotek Hispanic Ministry



**AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE
WEEKEND OF JULY 19/20, 2008**

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Koch, B.	Wiley, J.	Hagen, C.	Bolton, P.	Samuelson, D.
LR	Chlapecka, R.	Bellisario, J.	Duffy, M.	Spizziri, S.	Pawlowicz, R.
B2	Koch, B.	Wiley, J.	Hagen, C.	Bolton, P.	Samuelson, D.
B3	Beales, N.	Gleich, S.	Waren, C.	Dillane, J.	Hoskins, C.
B4	Ward, L.	Meade, M.	Kensek, M.	Rotunno, P.	Provan, J.
B5	Thuma, M.	Karch, T.	Benkert, J.	Sipek, S.	Ficaro, J.
B6	Zaremba, E.	Karch, J.	Biesadecki, B	Simonelic, Sr. R.	Brannigan, R.
C1	Richards, M.		Meade, M.	Mulderink, K.	Herzog, T.
C2	Delaloye, J.		Hagen, E.	Maday, J.	Garske, E.
C3	Beales, D.		Kigin, B.	Blecic, D.	Schump, C.
C4	Bamberger, M		Welch, J.	Nash, S.	Provan, K.
C5	Ryva, J.		Benkert, K.	Williams, A.M.	Nicosia, C.
C6	Ford, M.B.		Biesadecki, C	Zupanic, R.	Wiley, J.
Altar Servers	Hurley, D. Temple, P. Temple, R.	Kelley, P. Keane, S. Cherny, D.	Kennedy, E. Muldonado, N. Johnson-Dahl, M.	Rhode, J. Contarino, A. Patterson, S.	Geraci, M. Stepuszek, B. Ward, J.



Wedding Banns

*Jessica Sokolowski
&
Brian Murphy
Regina Augustine
&
Junichi Sato*

**St. Cletus Parish
Welcomes...**

*Miguel Salazar,
son of Jose & Jennifer (Martinez) Salazar
Owen Ryan Stamer,
son of Ryan & Karly (Hansen) Stamer
to the Catholic Faith through the
Sacrament of Baptism*

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



*Leah Bond,
wife of Ralph Bond
Claire Murphy,
mother of Linda McCroy
Andrew Jaskierski,
husband of Sheila Jaskierski*

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The first well-formed word of a child is always a moment of great joy and will be keenly remembered by a parent. It is a breakthrough and the beginning of a new and deeper response to the communication and love of the parent. Before this day, the mother has loved the child through a smile, through words, through touch. It is as though she has been willing the child to speak the first word. The child has seen the gaze of the love in the faces of mother, father, family, and friends. She/he has learned to trust that gaze. She/he may have gurgled, chuckled and then smiled. Wants and needs were characterized by crying or screams. Now the response can occur through a word. It is the beginning of the great adventure of learning a vocabulary and being able to communicate. Initially the words of the child are garbled. They are not properly formed. It takes time for the mouth, tongue and muscles to work correctly so that a sound and word can be spoken. Sounds are learned and then words flow.

Anyone who has known the difficulty of learning a second language as an adult or struggled to speak a foreign language knows how frustrating it is to be reduced to being like a child when trying to speak a new language. Perhaps deepening prayer life is like learning a new language.

The prophet Isaiah likens the word of God to water, which pours down on the earth and changes it. Rain may fall as a fine drizzle which soaks the plants and the earth. Everything becomes saturated with water. It may come in a torrential downpour which drenches creation. Like heavy rain during a storm it may run off the soil and never be absorbed because it flows too rapidly. God's word may be like the drizzle, the downpour or the storm-rain. It saturates each person and changes them, even if they do not realize it.

Relationship with God can be likened to the relationship between the mother and the child. God gazes in love on the gift of creation and on each person, created in the image and likeness of God. Like a mother, God desires the word of a response in love. First, like a child, the response is inadequate and only partly understood. Even if words are inadequate, there is a desire to grow in love of God. The words then become a prayer; love for God becomes expressed in life and action

The parable of the seed is a reminder of God's plan for each person. God is faithful; the human response may be weak or distracted. We may be unfaithful, but God will work with this limitation. For each person, God has a plan and a vocation. Gazing at the child, parents wonder, "what will this child become?" How Mary and Joseph must have wondered about the future of Jesus. St. Paul promises that faithful discipleship will be rewarded. Although there may be suffering in life, the hope of the future can never be diminished. He likens the growth of the person in Christian faith to the groaning of creation as it burst into life. As the early Christian community experienced persecution, many must have been tempted to abandon their faith and enjoy the life of the Roman Empire. St. Paul calls for a growth in freedom and truth. He tells the Church that Christian living will lead to genuine freedom and glory as the children of God.

The life of faith is never static; it is dynamic. God desires to deepen the relationship with each person but this requires a response in faith. People become tired with routine. This routine can be changed by trying to listen more fully to God's word. The scriptures remind us that God's plan is always unfolding in the midst of life.

At times, we are called to make difficult choices and to be faithful to the commandments and God's will. Such decisions can cause pain and suffering in the short run but ultimately will give a sense of doing right and living truthfully. Nourished by the word of God, the Christian is strengthened to respond in truth and freedom. God promises to sustain and nurture this growth in love.

*Extraordinary Blessings,
Father Bob*



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

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2008

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sowing the parables

More than parables themselves, the reason for Christ's use of them perplexed his disciples. Jesus had a message so beautiful and so important for his audience that it frustrated them to see it clouded in dense analogies. But Christ reminds them that because so many have become hardened, not everyone can receive beauty in a direct way. It is interesting that in Jesus' first parable in Matthew's gospel, Christ uses the imagery of a sower. Though the sower witnesses immediate direct results from the seeds sown on shallow soil, the seed that takes its time to germinate and develop roots ultimately bears fruit. So, too, when we do not understand words immediately, but patiently let them sit in us as baffling seeds, our understanding of Christ's message becomes deeper and richer.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23*

"And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.'"

MONDAY, JULY 14

INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY; FEAST OF BLESSED KATERI TEKAKWITHA, VIRGIN-Finding a life worth living

Doing anything this week? How about heading for Sydney, Australia, where thousands of young people from all over the world are gathering with Pope Benedict to celebrate International World Youth Day? It is the largest event ever held in Australia. All these kids are offering their precious summer vacation for one thing: to celebrate their faith. Blessed Kateri is a great model for them. She offered her young life in service to those in need, despite her own poverty. She practiced love of her people's enemies in a climate of mistrust and animosity. What a needful lesson for a new generation of Catholics to learn. Her prayers and ours will help them to find the life that is truly worth living.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34-11:1*

"Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

TUESDAY, JULY 15

FEAST OF BONAVENTURE, BISHOP, DOCTOR - Words read out loud

"Every creature," wrote Saint Bonaventure, "because it speaks God, is a divine word." This great 13th-century Franciscan scholar and leader thought God's love overflowed in creation, particularly in people. We usually think of the "Word of God" as Jesus or scripture. But it's also us: We, too, are signs of God's love—we "speak God." Both in who we are and in what we do, we communicate God in the world. How can you speak God today?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24*

"If you do not stand firm in faith, you shall not stand at all."

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY CONTINUES; OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

When in drought, look to the cloud

On a mountaintop the prophet Elijah had a wonderful vision during a terrible drought. His vision was simple: a cloud full of rain. For most of us, the rainbow upstages the cloud as a pledge of God's faithfulness, yet the cloud of Carmel was quite as much a sign of hope. Mary of Nazareth is called Our Lady of Mt. Carmel because theologians saw her as the one who ended the spiritual drought of human history. The monks of Carmel were dedicated to her for that reason. Our Lady of

Mount Carmel, watch over our young people and give them hope.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27*

"All things have been handed over to me by my Father."

THURSDAY, JULY 17

INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY CONTINUES

The strong arms of Jesus

Young people face many challenges, from the extremes of poverty and abusive families, to a lack of self-esteem and self-awareness, to the cultural pressure to overvalue material wealth and physical pleasure. Although they aren't easily sheltered from these toxic influences, they do have defenses—namely their own faith and inner strength. As adults, our challenge is to make certain our children know these tools are readily available so that they are able to respond to their burdens in healthy ways. The first thing they should know is that there is someone they can turn to for comfort and rest.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Matthew 11:28-30*

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

FRIDAY, JULY 18

FEAST OF CAMILLUS DE LELLIS, PRIEST - Worth gambling on

It takes a pretty extraordinary life to end up as the patron saint of both gamblers and nurses. That is the kind of life Saint Camillus (1515-1614) lived. In the midst of the church's celebration of International World Youth Day in Sydney, he serves as a great role model for neglected youth who fall on hard times. Camillus' mother died when he was young, and his father was a journeyman soldier. Left to his own (de)devices, Camillus grew into a rebellious and aggressive youth with a serious gambling problem. After a stint in the army and a leg injury, the desperate Camillus, unemployed and penniless, went to the Capuchins Franciscans. They helped him turn his life around, and he devoted himself to caring for the ill and wounded. Later he founded his own congregation dedicated to the same cause. Reach out to a troubled youth today—you may be helping form a future saint!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matthew 12:1-8*

"Thus says the Lord: I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears."

SATURDAY, JULY 19

INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY CONTINUES—Burning love

Today is the second to last day of International World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia, where 225,000 young people from around the world have spent the past week learning and praying, listening to music, viewing films and performances of all kinds, participating in workshops and inspiring one another. Beginning at 5:30 this morning, they are making a "pilgrimage walk" around the city, which will be followed by an evening prayer vigil with the pope and a "sleep-out" under the stars.

Today let's pray for young people all over the world, that the Holy Spirit might set their hearts on fire with love and the desire to serve the Lord.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21*

"Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased."

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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

Greetings! - ¡Saludos!

Dear Parishioners of St. Cletus,

Although Fr Bob introduced me last week at all the Masses, I would like to tell you a bit more about myself.

First of all, I am a "Newyorican." For those of you who do not know what that is, it's a person born in New York of parents from Puerto Rico. However, I am not a true "Newyorican" since, after age three, I was taken to Puerto Rico and raised there.

I grew up surrounded by a nurturing, deeply religious, and hardworking family. They instilled in me the drive to work and study hard. So, after finishing college there, I decided to return to the United States to work in the field of electronics.

During the years that followed, I began to grow closer to the faith my parents passed on to me. I got heavily involved in the church and felt the call to ministry.

Nine years later, I finally realized that God wanted me to give more from what I had received. I joined Mundelein seminary in 1997 and thanks to a grant from the Miller Company, I was sent to Belgium to study philosophy.

Upon finishing there, I returned to the United States to complete my Masters in Divinity. I was ordained in 2003 with fourteen others, including Fr. Charles Watkins, and was assigned to Santa María del Popolo Parish in Mundelein.

My years at SMDP showed me the beauty of the faith of the Catholic people, and also opened my eyes to the universality of the Catholic Church. Worshiping together with people of different races and languages, joined by the one language we all understand: Love, made me realize that each community that gathers in the name of Christ Jesus, is a taste of what is to come—Heaven!

It can be said then, that the continuous goal of each one of us, as Catholic Christians, should be to help those around us taste a little piece of Heaven here on earth.

As I begin with you this new period in my life, I would like to let you know that I am committed to do the part the Lord has called me to do as a priest—to help you taste the fruits of what is to come here on earth and beyond. Therefore, I ask for your prayers that I may do this task well.

May God bless our journey together, and continue to guide and enrich us along the way, that one day we may rejoice as one Holy People, in the presence of God the Father, for ever and ever.

Queridos Parroquianos de San Cleto,

Aunque P. Bob me presentó la semana pasada, en todas las misas, quisiera compartir un poco mas con ustedes acerca de mi persona.

Primero que nada, aunque soy nacido en Nueva York, fui criado en Puerto Rico desde la edad de tres años.

Crecí rodeado de una familia amorosa, con un profundo sentido de espiritualidad, y creyentes en el trabajo duro. Ellos depositaron en mi el deseo de trabajar con esmero para obtener una buena educación y un buen trabajo. Así, que después de terminar una carrera en electrónica en PR, decidí venir a EU a trabajar en ese campo.

Durante los próximos años, continué creciendo no solo en mi trabajo, sino que también en la fe que mis padres me enseñaron. Me envolví mucho en la iglesia y, con el tiempo, sentí el llamado a servir.

Finalmente, después de nueve años me di cuenta que Dios me estaba llamando a dar aún mas de lo que había recibido. Así, que en el año 1997, entré al seminario en Mundelein. Gracias a una beca de la Compañía Miller, fui enviado a Bélgica a estudiar filosofía.

Después de terminar allí mis estudios, regresé a los EU para terminar mi preparación teológica. Fui ordenado al sacerdocio en el año 2003 junto a otros 14 candidatos, incluyendo al P.

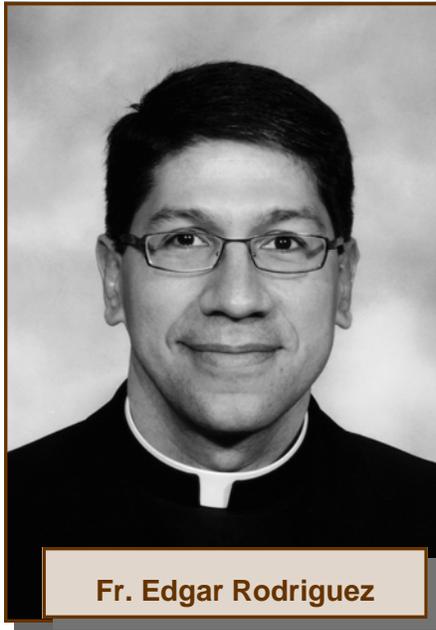
Charles Watkins de esta parroquia. Mi primera asignación fue Santa María del Popolo en Mundelein.

Mis años en SMDP me mostraron la belleza de la fe de nuestra gente católica, y me abrieron los ojos a la universalidad de la Iglesia Católica. Adorando a Dios junto a personas de diferentes razas y lenguajes, unidos por un lenguaje que todos entendemos: el Amor, me hizo comprender que toda comunidad que se une en el nombre de Cristo Jesús, se convierte en un adelanto de lo que nos espera—¡una probadita de la Gloria del Cielo!

Sabemos que Dios esta trabajando siempre a través de su Espíritu, para que comencemos a experimentar aquí los frutos del Reino que ha de venir, pero Él no hace esto solo. Cada uno de nosotros tiene una labor que realizar.

Al comenzar este nuevo periodo en compañía de todos ustedes, quisiera asegurarles que estoy comprometido a hacer la parte que me toca. Por lo tanto, les pido sus oraciones para que yo pueda realizar mi labor bien.

Estoy realmente contento de comenzar esta nueva etapa de mi sacerdocio con ustedes aquí en San Cleto. Que Dios bendiga nuestro camino juntos, y continúe guiándonos y enriqueciéndonos para que algún día podamos regocijarnos como un pueblo santo y unido, en la presencia de nuestro Padre Celestial, y vivir con Él por los siglos de los siglos.



Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

Fr. Edgar

P. Edgar



Fr. Watkins confers with the Color Guard.



The band warms up before Mass.



The Color Guard from the local American Legion Post led the four priests into the Church.



Fr. Patrick Boyle, Jesuit, guest presider at the 4th of July Mass.



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St. Cletus Celebrates the 4th of July 2008



Our Pastor, Fr. Bob Clark, greets a veteran after Mass.



Some Veterans wore their old Uniforms and Decorations.

Joe Delaloye, Sergeant of Arms of the Color Guard, greets Fr. Patrick Boyle, a retired U.S. Army chaplain and guest presider at the 4th of July Veteran's Mass.



Rummage Sale

The July 26th St. Cletus Parish Rummage Sale is just two weeks away! There's still time to clean out your closets, basements, attics, etc. for items to donate. The insert in today's Canticle contains the information for the items we will be accepting and drop off/pick up times, etc.

We are also accepting donations of TIME. Please consider volunteering. Thanks for all you do to make us proud to belong to St. Cletus Parish.

STEWARDSHIP

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit."

(Matthew 13:22)

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend.....	\$ 27,308
A Year Ago	26,355

Note: Last weekend began the new fiscal year for the Parish. For the 2008/09 fiscal year Sunday collections have been budgeted at \$28,325 per week.

2008 St. Cletus Vacation Bible School Memories



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, 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.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark
Pastor
Rev. Edgar Rodriguez
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
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Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns
(708) 215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk
Director of Facilities & Grounds
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Derek Sawicki
Supervisor of Maintenance
(708) 215-5406
Justin Sisul
Director of Music
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Christopher Wagner
Director of Technology
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Dolores Wouk
Director of Ministry of Care
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Kathy Lifka
Assistant Principal
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Bulletin Editor
Nora Gardner
Rectory Receptionist
Bobbie Kallal
Administrative Assistant
Michele O'Brien
Director of Financial Operations
(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. Edgar Rodriguez • 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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.