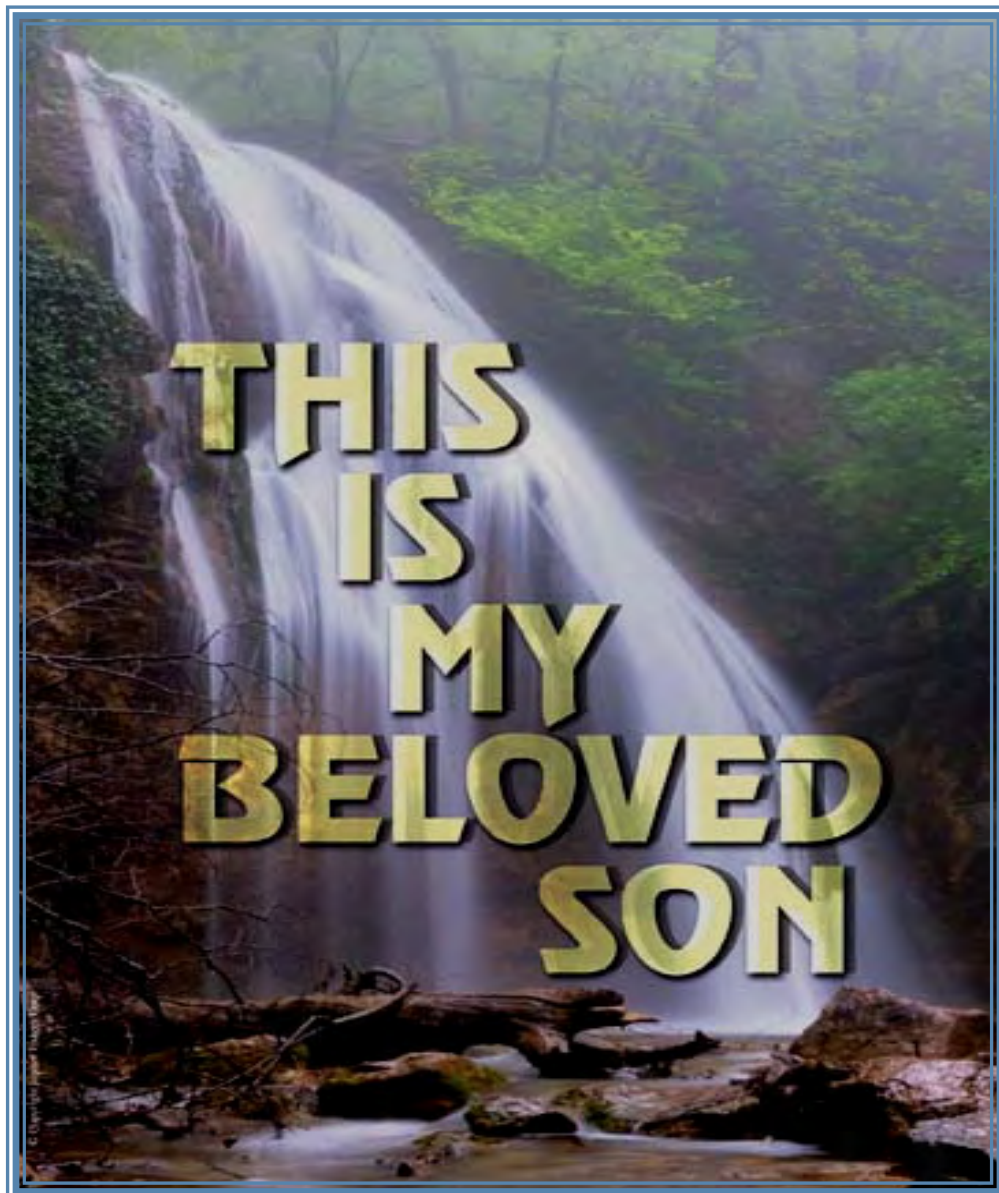


St. Cletus Canticle

January 11, 2009

The Baptism of the Lord



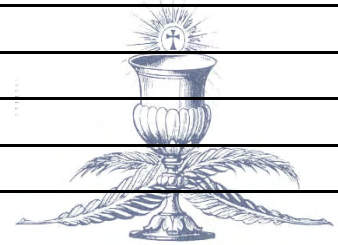
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com




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 January 12 - January 18, 2009

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Alexander Majercik
Tuesday	8:00am	Alexander Majercik
Wednesday	8:00am	Alexander Majercik, Eva & Stanley Grabowski
Thursday	8:00am	Alexander Majercik, Walter Kelly, Jerome Gierut
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Alexander Majercik
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Alexander Majercik Anne Piccolo (Special Intention) - Rudy Kegl
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Frank Wojcik, Linda Felice Frank Baggio Loretta Polentini, Alexander Majercik Timothy Benrus Hispanic Priests' Intentions



AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 17/18, 2009					
	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Heyes, S.	Wiley, J.	Micek, J.	Benkert, K.	Bolton, P.
LR	Loch, L. Oboikovitz, L.	Ciraulo, S.	Hagen, J. Hagen, K.	Wehrmeister, R Duffy, M.	O'Dowd, M. Bolton, W.
B2	Heyes, S.	Wiley, J.	Micek, J.	Benkert, K.	Bolton, P.
B3	Thornton, M.	Zmuda, J.	Curnutt, R.	Meuwissen, J.	Garske, E.
B4	Reichl, M.	Zmuda, R.	Hullinger, S.	Rotunno, P.	Condon, M.K.
B5	Delaloye, J.	Ward, L.	Karch, T.	Nolan, J.	Mulderink, K.
B6	Sheridan, E.	Kalata, M.	Stopka, S.	Zupancic, R.	Augstyn, R.
C1	Ford, M.B.		Curotto, L.	Dillane, J.	Herzog, T.
C2	Heyes, M.		Hagen, C.	Benkert, J.	Mangahas, A.
C3	Thornton, W.		Bliss, G.	Horak, V.	Hoskins, C.
C4	Bozec, B.		Gleich, S.	McGann, K.	Gebka, M.L.
C5	Lenz, R.		Karch, J.	Stumreiter, E.	Pristo, B.
C6	Zaremba, E.		Warren, C.	Keating-Gay S.	Chaney, M.
Altar Servers	Kennedy, E. Dombro, B. DalPorto, T.		Rhoads, S. Hubona, S. Vokurka, S.	Goethals, A. Kern, J. Rhode, J.	Paprocki, N. Paprocki, N. Griffin, H.

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



Jacqueline Helen Rygie



Jeffrey P. Golom,
Son of Lillian "Sunni" Golom



Irene Megla

May God grant them eternal rest. Amen.

Spirit of Love

Holy Spirit, who came upon Christ Jesus when he was baptized in the waters of the Jordan, we pray to you: Baptize us in the fire of your love so that the Father may say to each of us: "You are my beloved Son, on whom my favor rests."

-Lucien Deiss

Thank you so much for serving our parish as an Altar Server, Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Communion or usher. Your skills and training are so valuable and we count on you and look for you at Mass.

Paulette Bolton
Director of Liturgy

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord; National Vocation Awareness Week
- Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins
- Tuesday: St. Hilary
- Saturday: St. Anthony

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop

Post Office Box 109098
Chicago, Illinois 60690-9098

January 11, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Church in Latin America, while diverse in culture, is grounded in a deep faith that we all share as children of God. This lived faith invites all believers in this part of the world to action – to be disciples of Christ, sent by His Spirit as missionaries and leaders in their communities and beyond.

For the past 45 years, the faithful of the United States have supported the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** as a visible sign of their compassion and solidarity with the faithful of Latin America and the Caribbean. Proceeds from this annual collection assist in the formation of seminarians, lay ministers, catechists and youth ministers in more than 200 dioceses throughout our southern hemisphere.

On behalf of those who, while lacking financial resources, are blessed in faith and love for Our Lord Jesus Christ, please accept my gratitude for your generous support of this collection. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago**ST. CLETUS SCHOOL NEWS UPDATE**

St. Cletus School offers a full-day preschool as well as 3 and 4 year-old half-day preschool, a half-day or a full-day kindergarten option and an average class size of 23 students in grades 1-8. Our well-rounded educational program offers Spanish, art, music, physical education, library, and computers as part of the student's schedule. Daily religion classes, service hours, and school Masses provide further opportunities for students to enhance the school experience. Junior Great Books, Student Council, boy and girl scouts, athletic programs, band, choir, and before and after care programs are available.

If your child is beginning his/her education, or if you are considering a change, please call the school to make an appointment to visit or to register. Limited openings are available in all grades.

Please call the school office at (708) 352-4820 between the hours of 7:00AM and 3:15PM if you have questions or would like to make an appointment to visit our school. Come "*Discover St. Cletus*"!

Jolene Hillgoth
Principal



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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2009

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD; VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

Water or fire?

"It was a baptism by fire," we say, shaking our heads at the memory of a difficult new experience. By comparison baptism by water seems gentle—such a benign action that we feel comfortable administering it to tiny babies. But we adults know there's nothing "harmless" about baptism: Death to sin and life for God is still its implication. Baptism is a heroic declaration of our intentions, as well as an act of faith in God's power to save us. During this week dedicated to Vocations Awareness, pray for the Spirit's "baptism by fire" to confirm in you the vocation already begun.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or 55:1-11; Acts 10:34-38 or 1 John 5:1-9; Mark 1:7-11*

"John proclaimed, 'I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'"

MONDAY, JANUARY 12

An unsigned letter from an inspired author

This month the liturgy uses extensively the Letter to the Hebrews, which has been called "the most elegant and sophisticated, and perhaps the most enigmatic, text of first-century Christianity." In early centuries it was usually attributed to Saint Paul, but the language and theology are very unlike Paul's letters. The truth is, no one knows for certain who authored it. After discussing the possibilities, Origen (185-254), the first great biblical scholar, remarked: "But who wrote the epistle, in truth, God knows." Regardless of authorship, Hebrews is famous for its image of the "high priesthood" of Christ. Perhaps during Vocations Awareness Week you can encourage someone considering priesthood or religious life to take a deeper look at it.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20*

"Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.'"

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13

Amazing!

What does *authority* mean to you? Is it being able to tell someone what to do? Is it the power that comes with responsibility? Is it deferring to people in high places? Maybe it's less about doing or not doing what others want and more about how you live. The authority Jesus had came from the fact that his words and actions were of one piece. That people heard the ring of truth in what he said. And for these reasons he attracted attention, and people were amazed with him. So do you want to have authority? Don't worry about throwing your weight around or lording it over others. Rather, walk your talk and talk your walk, know of what you speak, live with integrity. And people will be amazed.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28*

"They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority.'"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14

Love knows no bounds

Most images of gods throughout the ancient world were symbols of power and strength—assurances of what the gods were capable of doing for you (or to you!). Consider the contrast in the image of the crucified Jesus, which signifies not what he can do for us, but what he actually *did* for us. It doesn't express authority over us, but the willingness to enter into our suffering with us so that we know love is ever present. Just as Jesus is with us in our darkest moments, be

with others in theirs by showing compassion, care, love, and support.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39*

"Because Jesus himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

Seize the day

No matter how bad things get—whether it's money troubles, worries about family, health issues, your job—there *is* something you can depend on: Today is a new day. Whatever happens, however you feel about yourself, you always have the chance to begin again, to see there's nothing you can do about the past except to learn from it and let it go. Then tell yourself you can begin again right now and find more positive ways to do things. The Christian message reinforces this reality. God's offer of new life is always available. Take it today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45*

"Exhort one another every day, as long as it is called 'today.'"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

It takes a community

It has been said that it is impossible to be Christian alone. Ours is a relational faith, and in order to be who we are and who we are called to be, we need a community. We find Jesus in and through one another's stories, by supporting one another through good times and bad, and by being present during sacramental moments. It's our belief that even if only one baby is being baptized or one class of second-graders is receiving the Eucharist for the first time, the words, gestures, and intentions of the sacrament benefit the entire church. Jesus did not write a book; he formed a community. When we are active participants, our faith comes alive in and through one another.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12*

"Then some people came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

FEAST OF ANTHONY, ABBOT

Word as sword

We may smile at Greta Garbo's famous line, "I vahtnt to be alone," and few of us would take aloneness to the extent of Saint Anthony of the Desert who spent much of his 105 years in solitude. While we might feel an occasional tug toward solitude in an age when we are almost always being recorded by a security camera, when phones in our pockets buzz, clatter, sing, or vibrate for our attention, to be truly alone, in silence, can be daunting. At some level we know that silence confronts us with the reality of who we are before God. Stories of Anthony say he was besieged by all kinds of temptations in the desert night. Opening up at such depth is indeed terrifying, yet the Letter to the Hebrews says that the penetrating glance of Jesus singles us out not for punishment but as one who "gets" being human and who can sympathize with our weakness.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17*

"The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword."

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



SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

Although ‘the weather outside was frightful’, the warmth and caring seen at St. Cletus Parish during this year’s Giving Tree Project was so delightful! The pictures below tell an awe-inspiring story of the generosity of the St. Cletus parishioners and friends from our community, even in these tough economic times. We delivered Christmas Gifts for 200 people to our sharing parish, St. Agatha’s on December 14, and on December 21 we distributed gifts and food baskets to more than 325 needy families in our community. Even more importantly, we answered Christ’s call to see His face in those we serve, offering hope, comfort and the knowledge that through other’s generosity God helps to provide for our needs. Thank you to all... organizations, groups and individuals...who contributed in any way to the success of our gift and food basket distribution. The amount of time, talent and treasure that you invested in this outreach was St. Cletus Parish at its finest!!! We have received many, many expressions of appreciation from those we served, and I will be sharing some of them with you in the weeks ahead. May the same Spirit who guided us all during this Advent Outreach continue to dwell among us during a Blessed New Year!!!



FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Food Pantry in 2008. It was a challenging year with the increased number of working poor who came to us for help. I know that almost everyone was affected negatively by the economic downturn, rising prices and the increasing rate of unemployment. Yet your concern and generosity are apparent every month with your food donations and monetary contributions. We are grateful, too, for the donations from so many community schools and organizations, as well as the ongoing contributions from two of our neighbors, the First United Methodist Church of Western Springs, and the Highlands Presbyterian Church. Also, our food pantry could not operate without the many hours of service provided by our volunteers. **THANK YOU** for your dedication in sorting and shelving groceries, making bags and representing St. Cletus Parish as you serve our clients. With the continued support of donors and volunteers, we will strive to use all the means we can to keep our shelves stocked, to adequately serve those who come to us for help.

Mary Beth Ford
 Director of Social Concerns

Welcome St. Cletus Parishioners!

We are pleased to welcome these newly registered parishioners to our parish family: Matthew Benkert, Rachael Benkert, Nancy Drougas, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kobe and Family, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas McNeil, Cathy Moreno, Mr. & Mrs. Matthew O'Connell, Mr. & Mrs. Matt Ramirez and Family, Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Ryan and Family, Sandra Tadin and Therese F. Wess.

If you attend St. Cletus but have not yet registered, please consider the commitment of parish membership.



ST. CLETUS FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Please join us on Sunday, January 18, from 7:00 - 9:30pm, in Room 201 in the Education Building (please use the flag pole entrance). Bring your favorite games and enjoy an evening of fun with family and friends. Snacks will be provided by the Parish Life Commission. Any questions, email Lori Ashe at loriashe@aol.com.

STEWARDSHIP

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FIRST RECONCILIATION

On Tuesday evening, January 13, 125 of our parish religious education and school children, will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Please keep these nervous children and their proud parents in your prayers during this week. It is always a beautiful feeling to experience the forgiveness and peace of the Lord.

First grade students and parents get ready for your Church Tour on Monday, January 12, 6:30pm. The tour group assembles in Morrissey Hall for Sunday class or your Monday classroom at 6:30pm. See you then.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Parents remember that No Religious Education Classes are scheduled for January 18/19 because of the celebration of Martin Luther King Day and on January 25/26 due to Catholic Schools Week Festivities. Classes resume in February.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Baptism of the Lord

"Thus says the lord: Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased." - Isaiah 42:1

At our own Baptism, each of us became a servant of the Lord. God has chosen us and equipped us to do special work for Him. Everything that we accomplish in this life is a direct result of all that God has given to us. The question is: Are we accomplishing the things God put us here to do? Are we acting as God's servant or are we only serving our own needs? Is God pleased with the way we are fulfilling His special plan for us?

Weekly Giving Summary

Sunday Collection, January 4.....	\$ 28,904
Last Year	\$ 28,167
Total Collection:	
Year-to-Date.....	\$722,764
Previous Year-to-Date.....	\$751,568
Needed for Budget thru 1/04/09.....	\$764,775

INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2009

All are invited to attend a very interesting panel discussion on the topic: "What do Employers Look for in Their Candidate Interviews?" The panel discussion will take place on Thursday, January 15, at 7:00pm in the St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 S. Wolf Rd., Western Springs. Panelists will include representatives from: Blue Cross & Blue Shield; Castle Metals; Barsema, Tuzik & Hurley, Certified Public Accountants; and one additional local employer. The panel will discuss what they like to see from candidates they interview, and will field questions from the audience as well. Please invite your friends and join us for an interactive discussion on a topic all job seekers can benefit from. Networking opportunities will follow the panel discussion. Kick start your job search by attending, and make some great new networking connections within our community.

Parish Life Ministry

The St. Cletus Parish Life Commission is a ministry committed to planning social programs and activities that will provide opportunities for the Parish Community to meet and interact, and to share our Christian Faith.

We are excited to announce the formation of the Parish Life Commission. Thank you to those who have volunteered their time and talent as commission members. At this point in time, we need parishioner input. Please complete the following survey and place it in the Parish Life Suggestion Box located in the vestibule of the church. We look forward to hearing from you.

Lori Ashe

Parish Life Commission Chairperson



Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISH LIFE VOLUNTEER? YES _____ NO _____

Please list any social programs and activities that interest you:



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Patti Boland, Rose Delaloye, Dr. Karen Chermel, Denise Kuchta, Jerry Pietras, Anna Cizek, Blasé Cinquegrani, Trudy Pacanowski, Roberta Zeman, James Prucha, Pauline Cuttill, Emma Fontana, Mark Ronchetti, Adrienne Welenc, Kathryn Super-Wilson, John Burke, Larry Rincon, Joseph Fajdich, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, 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, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Marie Krolecki. 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.



WELCOME ALL ST. CLETUS WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBERS TO A MASS OF CELEBRATION

WHEN: JANUARY 18, 2009, AT 11:00AM

WHERE: FIRST 10 PEWS IN FRONT OF THE PULPIT WILL BE RESERVED

QUESTIONS? CONTACT PATTI BOLAND: (708) 482-7768

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark
Pastor
Rev. Edgar Rodriguez
Associate Pastor
Rev. Charles Watkins
Associate Pastor
Rev. Charles Gallagher
Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Mr. Jesús and Silvia Casas
Deacon Couple

PASTORAL STAFF

Paulette Bolton
Director of Worship
(708) 352-4834
Deacon Jesús Casas
Director of Hispanic Ministry
(708) 215-5440
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) 215-5423
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
Mary Zwolinski
Receptionist/Office Assistant
(708) 352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Patricia Kahl
Director of Religious Education
Holly Kallal
Administrative Assistant
(708) 352-2383

RECTORY STAFF

Patricia Drobny
Bulletin Editor
Nora Gardner
Rectory Receptionist
Bobbie Kallal
Administrative Assistant
Michele O'Brien
Director of Financial Operations
(708) 352-6209

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)

Pastoral Care Ministry:
C. Rodger Brown, Xavier Polanski

Development Ministry: Maggie Nelson, Tom Finucane

Staff Representative: Jolene Hillgoth

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).

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

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

CONFESSIONS

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

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.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm