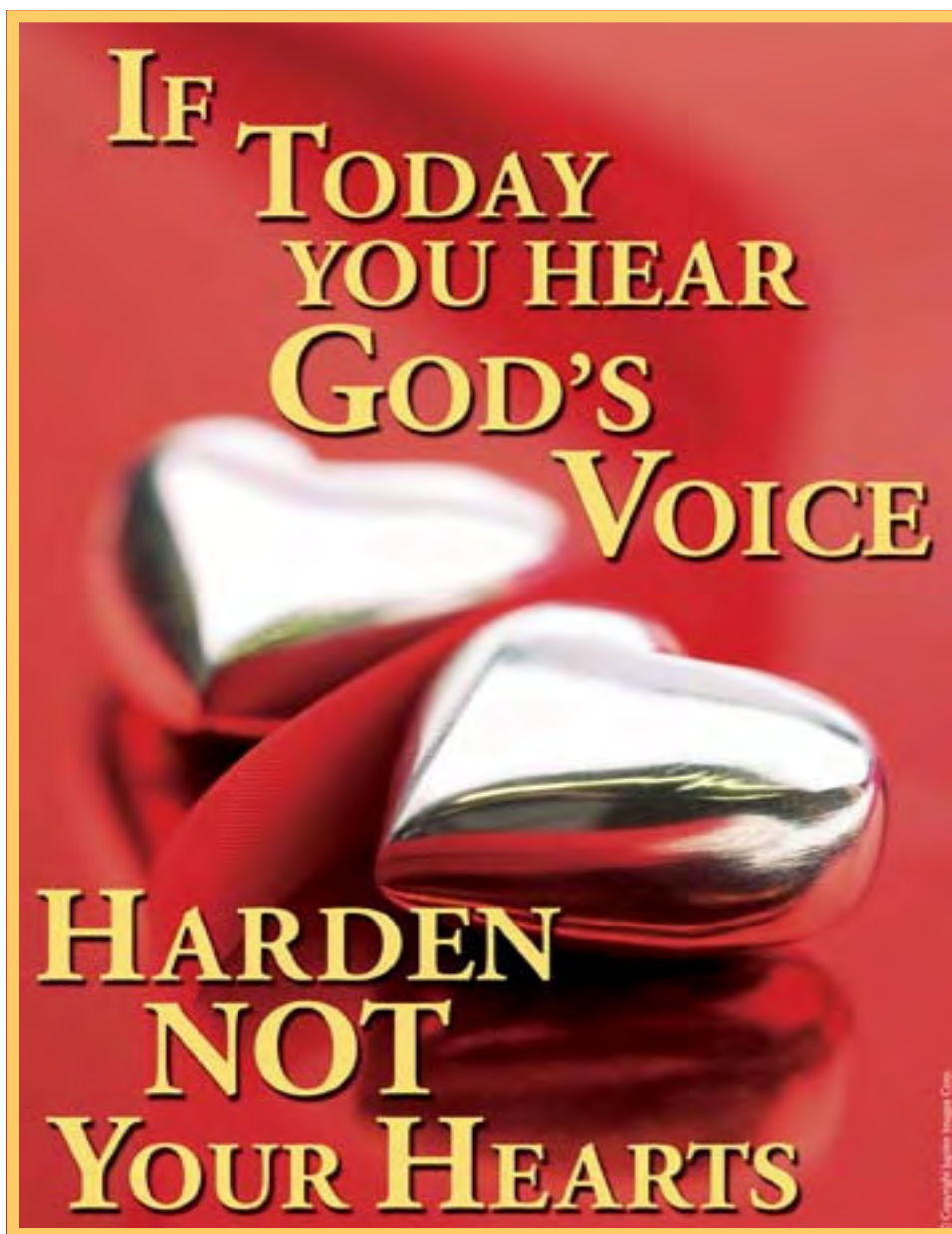


St. Cletus Canticle

February 1, 2009

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



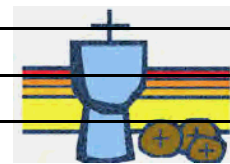
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



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 February 2, 2009 - February 8, 2009

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Genevieve Ziemba
Tuesday	8:00am	Michael Maly, Karen Gorak
Wednesday	8:00am	Dorothy O'Neill, Kay Selingo
Thursday	8:00am	Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family, Nan Rettig
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Frank Wojcik, Nan Rettig
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Jack & Josie Kiley - Special Intention Stella & Felix Gembala, Mary & Stanley Michniak, Helen & Bruno Blachowicz, Stefan & Paulina Slobodnik
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 12:30pm 6:00pm	People of St. Cletus Dolores Slowiak Virginia Wilson, Rose Mary Ptak Timothy Benrus, Sophie Egielski Sacrament of Anointing Hispanic Priests' Intentions



AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 7/ 8, 2009

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Bolton, P.	Zmuda, R.	Samuelson, D	Benkert, J.	Bolton, P.
LR	Bolton, W. Gallagher, J.	Bellisario, J.	Dalsin, P. Kuchta, A.	McMahon, H. McGann, B.	Student Student
B2	Bolton, P.	Zmuda, R.	Samuelson, D.	Benkert, J.	Bolton, P.
B3	Burke, J.	Zmuda, L.	Biesadecki, C..	McGann, K.	Okkema, A.
B4	Beales, N.	Ciraulo, S.	Hagen, C.	McCaffray, P.	Kelliher, K.
B5	Sheridan, E.	Hinton, G.	Stopka, S.	Dillane, J.	Garske, E.
B6	Heyes, M.	Wouk, D.	Kwak, T.	Zupancic, R.	Provan, K.
C1	Nicosia, C.		Borsilli, H.	Thuma, M.	Micek, J.
C2	Delaloye, J.		Welch, J.	Nash, S.	Nilles, C.
C3	Burke, R.		Biesadecki, B.	Chaney, M.	Gleich, S.
C4	Beales, D.		Severino, L.	Nolan, J.	Kelliher, L.
C5	Loch, L.		Ward, L.	Williams, A.	Hoskins, C.
C6	Heyes, S.		Kigin, B.	Koch, B.	Provan, J.
Altar Servers	Lange, K. Ashe, E. Donatelli, L.		Dombro, G. Kopicki, A. Vokurka, S.	Riccione, J. Findley, T. Lively, B.	Luxem, C. McLaughlin C. Zebus, K.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The St. Cletus Parish family will celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing during a special 12:30pm Mass Sunday, February 8, 2009. We encourage parishioners to bring their family, friends and neighbors who might be in need of the healing graces of this sacrament. A reception will follow in the foyer of the church.



Please Pray for Our Recently Deceased and Their Families

† *Joseph J. Romanowski,*
Husband of Clara

May God Grant Him Eternal Rest. Amen.

ATTENTION! Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Some schedules erroneously skipped every other week in the printing. If you received an incomplete schedule - please pick up a corrected version in the Minister's Room. Sorry for the confusion.

Paulette Bolton - Director of Liturgy



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament Monday, February 2, and every first Monday of the month. Adoration begins immediately after the 8:00am Mass followed by Benediction at 6:45pm.

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Moses announces to the people that God is going to raise up a prophet from among them, and they must listen to his words. The prophet will speak only what the Lord commands, and in this way will be an instrument of life and health. John the Baptist announces his coming; Jesus is anointed by the Spirit to speak to the people. When they hear him, they are hearing God, and hearing the truth.

It was immediately obvious to the people in the synagogue at Capernaum that Jesus was different from the Scribes. They were used to religious teachers explaining the scriptures; they were used to being told about the Law; they were used to being harangued about how to live. But with Jesus, they realized they were in the presence of someone different. They could not describe exactly what that difference was. But he spoke with authority. There was integrity about his words that led them to believe he was genuine. And as if their surmising was not enough, Jesus demonstrated dramatically his power.

The unclean spirit had no problem recognizing Jesus; like the congregation in the synagogue, it heard his words and recognized his authority. It fled, and the man was set free. No wonder the word spread throughout the countryside. Here indeed was something entirely different. The power of God's word, spoken directly, was plain for all to see. We know that not all who heard Jesus were convinced by his words; the human heart sometimes hears only what it wants to hear. Jesus never shouts or demands to be heard. He lets those who have ears hear.

We know that words, as well as harming, can heal. The well-chosen word can comfort, bring forgiveness, show love, and set free. The inspired word can teach and spur to goodness. Responding to bad news, words can bring good news, Gospel news. So talking can be therapeutic. But as Christians we believe more. We believe that when we talk in the spirit of Christ, obedient to God, we can work miracles. Just as Jesus spoke with authority, people of faith can speak with authority too. Not like the Scribes who seemed to use their positions as teachers to rule and control; but like Our Lord, who used words to encourage and inspire.

If we meet unclean spirits, in the darkness in our souls or the souls of others, we need not be afraid. Christ is Lord of all, even of places that seem dark and impenetrable to us. His word of authority can overcome all. And his word can be our word too. When it is one of integrity and truth; when it is spoken humbly and in love, then it has the authority of Christ. It is a healing word, a word wounded people in a hurting world so desperately need.

FOCA (FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT) A THREAT TO LIFE ITSELF

WHAT DOES FOCA SAY? *FOCA provides that "it is the policy of the United States that every woman has the fundamental right to choose to bear a child, to terminate a pregnancy prior to fetal viability, or to terminate a pregnancy after fetal viability when necessary to protect the life or health of the woman."*

Further, FOCA would specifically invalidate any "statue, ordinance, regulation, administrative order, decision, policy, practice, or other action" of any federal, state, or local government or governmental official (or any person acting under government authority) that would "deny or interfere with a woman's right to choose" abortion, or that would "discriminate against the exercise of the right...in the regulation or provision of benefits, facilities, services, or information."

Clearly, its reach is very broad. This single piece of legislation would apply to any federal or state law "enacted, adopted, or implemented before, on, or after the date of its enactment."

Continued page 4

WHAT IS THE LEGAL IMPACT OF FOCA? *FOCA creates a new and dangerously radical “RIGHT.” It establishes the right to abortion as a “fundamental right,” elevating it to the same status as the right to vote and the right to free speech (which, unlike the abortion license, are specially mentioned in the U.S. Constitution). Critically, in Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court did not define abortion as a “fundamental right.” And with the exception of one justice’s attempt in 1983 to distort the Court’s abortion jurisprudence by framing the abortion license as a “fundamental right,” the Court has not subsequently defined abortion as a “fundamental right.” Thus, FOCA goes beyond any Supreme Court decision in enshrining unlimited abortion-on-demand into American law.*

FOCA would also subject laws regulating or even touching on abortion to judicial review using a “strict scrutiny” framework of analysis. This is the highest standard American courts can apply and is typically reserved for laws impacting such fundamental rights as the right to free speech and the right to vote. Prior to the Supreme Court’s 1992 decision in Planned Parenthood v. Casey (which substituted the “undue burden” standard for the more stringent “strict scrutiny” analysis), abortion-related laws (such as parental involvement for minors and minimum health and safety standards for abortion clinics) were almost uniformly struck down under “strict scrutiny” analysis. If enacted, FOCA would retroactively be applied to all federal and state abortion-related laws and would result in their invalidation. If enacted, FOCA would retroactively be applied to all federal and state abortion-related laws and would result in their invalidation.

WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL IMPACT OF FOCA? *In elevating abortion to a fundamental right, FOCA poses an undeniable and irreparable danger to common-sense laws supported by a majority of Americans. Among the more than 550 federal and state laws that FOCA would nullify are:*

- *Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003*
- *Hyde Amendment (restricting taxpayer funding of abortions)*
- *Restrictions on abortions performed at military hospitals*
- *Restrictions on insurance coverage for abortion for federal employees*
- *Informed consent laws*
- *Waiting periods*
- *Parental consent and notification laws*
- *Health and safety regulations for abortion clinics*
- *Requirements that licensed physicians perform abortions*
- *“Delayed enforcement” laws (banning abortion when Roe v. Wade is overturned and/or the authority to restrict abortion is returned to the states)*
- *Bans on abortion after viability. FOCA’s apparent attempt to limit post-viability abortions is illusory. Under FOCA, post-viability abortions are expressly permitted to protect the women’s “health.” Within the context of abortion, “health” has been interpreted so broadly that FOCA would not actually proscribe any abortion before or after viability.*
- *Limits on public funding for elective abortions (thus, making American taxpayers fund a procedure that many find morally objectionable)*
- *Limits on the use of public facilities (such as public hospitals and medical schools at state universities) for abortions*
- *State and federal legal protections for individual healthcare providers who decline to participate in abortions*
- *Legal protections for Catholic and other religiously-affiliated hospitals who, while providing care to millions of poor and uninsured Americans, refuse to allow abortions within their facilities*

Continued page 5

Notably, pro-abortion groups do not deny FOCA's draconian impact. For example, Planned Parenthood has explained, "FOCA will supersede anti-choice laws that restrict the right to choose, including laws that prohibit the public funding of abortions for poor women or counseling and referrals for abortions. Additionally, FOCA will prohibit onerous restrictions on a woman's right to choose, such as mandated delays and targeted and medically unnecessary regulations."

WHAT DOES FOCA MEAN FOR THE RIGHT TO LIFE? *Clearly FOCA will not make abortion safe or rare – on the contrary, it will actively promote abortion and do nothing to ensure its safety – so, abortion advocates' unrelenting campaign to enact FOCA is a "wake-up call" to all Americans. If implemented, FOCA would invalidate common-sense, protective laws that the majority of Americans support. It will provide a significant threat to human life. Our bishops have authorized moving forward with a massive postcard campaign to urge Congress to retain laws against federal funding and promotion of abortion, and to oppose any bill that includes provisions contained in the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) or any similar measure.*

(Notes taken from Denise M. Burke (AUL Vice-President of Legal Affairs))

Today we as parishioners have an opportunity to sign and send postcards to our U.S. Representative and our two Senators. The message on the cards urges our federal elected officials to retain existing laws against government funding and promotion of abortion, and to oppose radical pro-abortion initiatives, such as FOCA. Please take a minute and sign the postcards; together we can send an important message to our nation's Capitol to uphold the sanctity of human life. Please complete the cards before leaving church today. There is no minimum age requirement to sign the postcards.

Please feel free to add a short personal note on each postcard to increase the effectiveness of your message. Thank you for making your voice heard on this important matter and your support of all life from conception to natural death.

*Life in Christ Jesus,
Father Bob*

2009 ARCHDIOCESAN ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL BEGINS

"...DO ALL FOR THE GLORY OF GOD." (1 COR. 10:31)

Many of our parishioners either have or soon will receive a mailing from Cardinal George. He will ask that you make a pledge to the 2009 *Annual Catholic Appeal*.

The Appeal not only funds the operations of the Archdiocese, it funds services that are of great help to the ministries here in our parish.

This year, the theme of the Appeal is, "Do all for the glory of God". Clearly, everything that we do to live out our faith gives glory to God. Our contributions to our parish and our Archdiocese multiply the glory that we give to our God by enabling ministries and services that touch thousands of lives.

Also, when our parish reaches its goal of \$109,677 100% of the additional funds received will be returned to us for use in our parish.

Please prayerfully consider a pledge to the 2009 Annual Catholic Appeal.

"That each of us will give generously to support the work of our Archdiocese through the Annual Catholic Appeal. We pray to the Lord..."

SOCIAL CONCERNS UPDATE

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Our Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is up and running with twenty volunteer members. The aim of the SVDP is to bring social justice and the friendship of true charity to all those in need. Some of the work we have been involved in recently includes:

- Working with the Countryside Jewel store to distribute 48 precooked holiday meals to registered Food Pantry client families. Meals were purchased using “Turkey or Holiday Bucks” donations collected by the Jewel cashiers.
- Giving financial assistance to 6 families who came to us in urgent need of rent, medical prescriptions, food, or transportation expenses.

The majority of the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society centers around home visits. When we receive a referral for someone in need of assistance, two of our members pay a home visit to them, listening to their present needs, and determining with them what might best help them over this rough spell. We visit not as Social Workers, but as brothers and sisters, as neighbors, as friends, as representatives of Christ’s love. After the home visit, together with other members of our group, we decide if we should offer financial assistance. If so, a check is made payable to the agency or company to whom payment is owed. We also work closely with our Food Pantry to provide groceries or food vouchers as needed. For more information about our SVDP, please watch the Canticle or visit the parish website stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns/svdp.asp.

**FOOD PANTRY**

When you go grocery shopping this week, please don’t forget to pick up an item or two for the Food Pantry. All in-date non-perishables are greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off in the designated food bins in the Church vestibule when you come to church on the weekend, or daily from 7:45 AM-4:00 PM. At this time our most needed items are rice, dry pinto beans, boxed side dishes, jelly, diapers and paper products. Thank you for your continuing support!

Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS...

THE RITE OF ELECTION/ENROLLMENT OF NAMES for our Year II Confirmation Candidates will take place at the 11:00 AM Mass next weekend, February 8. The purpose of this celebration is twofold: (1) The community tells the candidates that the church appreciates their participation in the preparation for Confirmation and wishes to express its continuing openness to, gratitude for, and support of the candidates; and (2) the candidates sign their names on a scroll as a sign of their appreciation for the community’s support and as a pledge to enter in a more deeply personal way into the immediate preparation for the sacrament. Please keep our teen candidates in your daily prayers.

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD: We will be meeting Sunday in Room 201 in the Education Building from 1:15 – 2:30pm. See you there!

Amy Cranny
Youth Director

**ATTENTION! LEISURE LOAFERS**

Thursday, February 5, is the date to remember. Please plan on attending our meeting as we will be entertained with good music by Michael Finn. His performance will follow our 1:00pm meeting in Morrissey Hall. Refreshments will be served after the meeting. Do come join us.

Alice Katzmarek

**HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEETING**


Our next meeting will be held on Friday, February 6, 8:00pm in Room 201 in the Education Building. Our main topic of discussion will be our annual pancake breakfast to be held on Sunday, April 5. More details to follow! We need all the help we can get so please plan on attending. Refreshments to follow. Hope to see you there!

Dan Gibbons



Renewal of Marriage Vows on Valentine's Day

On Saturday, February 14, at the regular 5:00pm Mass, all married couples in attendance will be invited to renew their wedding vows during the liturgy. This special ceremony will take place during Mass, lit by candles and accompanied by a string trio. We look forward to sharing this spiritual moment with all who join us on Valentine's Day.



Happy Groundhog Day!

February 2, 2009

**Spring is just around the corner
...six more weeks of winter.**



Please remember our sick in your prayers: George Tomek, Bob Reichl, Bernice Hyatt, Therese Wess, Marguerite May, Scott May, Patti Boland, Rose Delaloye, Dr. Karen Chermel, Denise Kuchta, Jerry Pietras, Anna Ciszek, 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.

Reflecting the state of the economy, collections are running behind last year and roughly \$50,000 below budget. If you are able to help with this shortfall, please consider doing so. The generosity of all is very much appreciated! Thank you for your ongoing support.

STEWARDSHIP

"Brothers and sisters: I should like you to be free of anxieties." - 1 Corinthians 7:32

How many anxieties do we bring upon ourselves by constantly worrying about attaining ever more material possessions? Yet, God tells us that only the hand that is open to give can also be open to receive His peace and joy. A heart or a hand clenched in anxiety and greed can never receive anything.

Weekly Giving Summary

Sunday Collection, January 25 \$ 30,817
 Last Year \$ 27,356

Total Collection:

Year-to-Date..... \$798,199
 Previous Year-to-Date..... \$828,048

Needed for Budget thru 1/25/09..... \$849,750

of households contributed in January..... 1,224
 # of registered households.....3,034

Note: The last Sunday of the month includes ACH debits; 66 households contributed \$6,942 during January 2009.

ST. CLETUS PARISH BUDGET

The process of preparing the St. Cletus Parish budget for the next fiscal year (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010) has begun. This process takes six to eight weeks. A detailed budget is prepared for each ministry using current year projections and past performances. Individual budgets are reviewed with the Director of the Ministry. Adjustments are made as necessary; the budgets are then reviewed with Father Bob. These budgets are brought together to become the Total Parish Budget. The School Budget is reviewed and approved by the entire School Board. All individual budgets including the School Budget and the Total Parish Budget will then be reviewed and approved by the Parish Finance Committee in early March. The Total Parish Budget will be forwarded to the Archdiocese at the conclusion of this process.

Michele O'Brien
 Director of Finances

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
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(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
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Debbie Lestarczyk
Director of Facilities & Grounds
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Derek Sawicki
Supervisor of Maintenance
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Justin Sisul
Director of Music
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Christopher Wagner
Director of Technology
(708) 215-5420
Dolores Wouk
Director of Ministry of Care
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SCHOOL STAFF

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Kathy Lifka
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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