

St. Cletus Canticle

April 5, 2009

Palm Sunday




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 April 6 - April 12, 2009

Date	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Marcie Johnston
Tuesday	8:00am	Joseph & Kay Klemak
Wednesday	8:00am	Catherine Padgen, Rudy Kegl, Josephine & Anton Kuchta, Andrew L. Jaskierski, Pauline Jadro
Thursday	7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper (followed by Silent Adoration until 11:00pm)
Friday	3:00pm 7:00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion Celebration of the Lord's Passion (enacted by Confirmation Candidates)
Saturday	7:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
EASTER SUNDAY 	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 12:15pm 6:00pm	<p><i>HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!</i></p> <p>PARISH PRIESTS' INTENTIONS</p>

**AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE
WEEKEND OF APRIL 11/12, 2009**

	7:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	12:15 PM
SM	Bolton, P.	Zmuda, L.	Koch, B.	Bolton, P.	Bolton, P.	Hagen, C.
LR	Augustine, E. Loch, L.	Chlapecka, T	Szabelski, R Duffy, M.	Reisel, T. McMahon, H.	Oboikovitz, L. Bolton, W.	Reisel, T. Hagen, K.
B2	Bolton, P.	Zmuda, L.	Koch, B.	Bolton, P.	Bolton, P.	Hagen, C.
B3	DalPorto, K.	Zmuda, R.	Curotto, L.	Nash, S.	Pavlik, L.	Hagen, J.
B4	Blecic, D.	Mezan, M. A.	Martinez, J.	Thuma, M.	Hoskins, C.	Delaloye, J.
B5	Zaremba, E.	Hinton, G.	Welch, J.	Williams, A.	Mangahas, A.	Nilles, C.
B6	Koch, B.	Smith, D.	Biesadecki, C.	Malcak, L.	Benkert, J.	
C1	Ficaro, J.		Saban, J.	Nolan, J.	Augustyn, R.	Rotunno, P.
C2	Hullinger, S.		Dunkovich, A	Zupancic, R.	Brannigan, R.	Hagen, J.
C3	Gebka, M.L.		Severino, L.	McCaffray, P.	Gebka, M.L.	Hagen, E.
C4	McCaffray, P		Kwak, T.	Meuwissen, J.	Condon, M.K.	Hullinger, S.
C5	Curnutt, R.		Ciraulo, S.	Blecic, D.	Garske, E.	
C6	Wiley, J.			Biesadecki, B.	Schump, C.	Nash, S.
Altar Servers		Callahan, K. Geraci, M. Rhode, J.	Valek, B. Contarino, A. Finucane, M.	Lange, K. Pikul, K. Pristo, J.	Griffin, H. Clarke, T. Anfield, A.	Heim, J. Stanczyk, S. Bendyk, D.

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

+ *Melvin Carr,*
husband of Lorraine

May he rest in peace.
Amen



Wedding Banns

Cally Dorosz and Martin Will

Please note: ADORATION will conclude at 3:00pm with Benediction.

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB

PALM SUNDAY 2009

It is not easy to understand all that is happening in today's Gospel, even with the benefit of hindsight and the experience of the Church. How much harder it must have been for the disciples, who found themselves in the very middle of the proceedings. They lurch from the intimacy and trust of the Last Supper to the pain and loneliness in the garden, then on to the confusion and fear of the trial. The fear leads to panic, so they flee, and finally they hear the news that their master is dead.

These are the same men who saw the many miracles worked by Jesus, who realized that he made a difference wherever he went. But on Good Friday they didn't understand what was going on and were afraid for their lives. Nonetheless, for all their lack of faith, courage and fidelity, this was not the end of their relationship with Jesus. Soon after the crucifixion, they realized the full significance of what had happened that day on Calvary, and their lives were changed forever.

In Mark's gospel, Jesus' identity is fully affirmed, not by one of his close disciples, but by one of his executioners. The centurion states, when Jesus dies, that "in truth, this man is a Son of God". Here is a soldier who was not around Jesus during the glory days, witnessing miracles and conversions. But in the death of Jesus he finds something extraordinary, something out of this world. There was obviously something in the way Jesus died which moved the hearts of people who otherwise wouldn't have cared about him. For the centurion the penny drops at the very end. But it is still not too late. There is still an opportunity to follow Jesus. Death has not brought an end to this story; the best is yet to come.

When, in our quieter moments, we sit confused, wondering about Jesus and our faith in him, it is all too easy to think, "If only I had been around 2009 years ago and had known Jesus in the flesh. If only I had been one of his disciples and had seen him cure and preach. If only...then my faith in Jesus would be stronger and my relationship with him would be more real." But the reality is that we just don't know how we would have reacted, had we been around all those years ago. We might well have fled, we might well have sided with the authorities, we might well have shouted: "Crucify him! Crucify him!" The fact that we were not with Jesus during his earthly ministry does not prevent us from coming to know and follow him now.

For many people it is during their days of suffering that they come to realize who this man Jesus is. In our darkness and pain, we can relate to the pain and passion of Jesus and begin to have some appreciation of what he has done for us. By dying Jesus opened the way to the Father and to heaven – for us now, for the people who have gone before us and for those yet to come. His earthly life was limited to a specific period of history, but through his death and resurrection he is now outside time and accessible to us all. We can know Jesus today, because he is the same now as he was 2009 years ago.

As we make the journey with Jesus through this week, let us be sure to take time to deepen our appreciation of what he has done for us. Then, like the centurion, we will be able to proclaim that Jesus is truly the Son of God. It is never too late to meet him.

Holy Week 2009

We are about to begin the most holy week of the year. The next few days signify the core of our belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to participate in these grace filled days. Our Easter Triduum begins with the celebration of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday as we remember Jesus' gift of the Eucharist and our call to service; Good Friday reminds us of Jesus' ultimate gift of love through his suffering and death on the cross; Holy Saturday we experience the light of Christ and the renewing waters of Baptism as we celebrate Jesus' glory through his resurrection. Let us join together as one faith community in celebrating God's love for us in Jesus Christ during these most holy days.

*Holy Week Blessings,
Father Bob*



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

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2009

PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Have that empty feeling?

When we think of heroes we usually think of those who save people through their use of power or force, those who establish empires, those who dominate the competition—think Superman, Alexander the Great, Michael Jordan. But Jesus broke the mold when it comes to heroes. He shows us another way to live a heroic life: emptying ourselves in service to others—think Mother Teresa, Saint Francis of Assisi, Archbishop Oscar Romero. The Easter story teaches us that when we pour ourselves out for the sake of others, our resulting “emptiness” allows us to rise to the very heavens.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 50:40-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39*

“He emptied himself Because of this, God greatly exalted him.”

MONDAY, APRIL 6 = MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

Try a little tenderness

Images of Jesus and Mary abound, but one in particular speaks volumes about the compassion and affection that characterized their relationship: Our Lady of Tenderness. The iconic image shows the child Jesus nestled in his mother's embrace, his cheek touching hers. It not only warms the heart but calls us to be women and men of tenderness. The church models that when we anoint one another with oil or ashes, when we clasp hands or embrace at the sign of peace. Tenderness is a way of being that allows us to let others know that they matter, that they are loved, however inwardly bruised or broken they may be. In what way might you be called to tender love of another?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11*

“A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.”

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - Come! Live in the light!

Jesus makes it clear to Peter and the rest of his disciples that they will follow him. Following Jesus, the light of the world, is the call of all Christians. What does it mean to follow the Lord? The prophet Micah puts it simply: To act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God (6:8). Unsure you're equal to the task? Take small steps each day toward the light by acknowledging a mistake, forgiving an offense, or letting go of an argument. Soon light will shine from you.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38*

“I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - We've met the enemy

So how have you done so far this Lent? How many times did you bail out of your Lenten give-ups? How often were you willing to just let it go for the sake of something you *really* liked, or because the situation called for it, or because it just sort of happened? Human nature being what it is, it doesn't take much for us to throw our good intentions under the bus, kind of like Judas tossed Jesus to the wolves. Thirty pieces of silver wasn't a bad payday. But it changed the life of Judas forever. Lent is supposed to be a time when we allow God to change our lives for the good. How are we doing?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25*

“What will you give me if I betray him to you?”

THURSDAY, APRIL 9

HOLY THURSDAY - Guess who's coming to dinner

Tonight, Christians worldwide commemorate Jesus' Last Supper, which was a celebration of the Jewish Passover Seder meal that Jews celebrated last evening. Christian adaptations of the Seder meal are growing in popularity as a way to connect with our Jewish roots. Key elements of the Seder include lamb (*pesach*), unleavened bread (*matzoh*), bitter herbs (*moror*), green herbs dipped in salt water, and *haroseth*, a mixture of chopped apples, nuts, cinnamon, and wine that represents the mortar that Jews used to construct palaces during their Egyptian servitude. Wine is dipped into a common bowl for the four cups of blessing, representing “four different words for redemption, spoken by God to Moses.”

“Christian” Seders held on Holy Thursday also commemorate the Word spoken by God for redemption of the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-15*

“This day shall be a memorial feast for you, which all your generations shall celebrate.”

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION - Life out of death

One of the reasons Jesus was able to die such an inwardly peaceful death is that he understood fully and deeply that he was the Son of God. He lived in keeping with that knowledge and accomplished all that he had come here to do. Thus Jesus was able to die gracefully, without regret, and even forgive those who had crucified him. We are all going to die some day. But rare is the person who, like Jesus, remembers this fact and draws inspiration from it each day. Today and throughout the Easter season we might practice the habit of asking, “What do I want to be true at the end of my life?” and live accordingly.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42*

“When Jesus had received the wine, he said, ‘It is finished.’ Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

HOLY SATURDAY - In service of the light


During the dramatic service of light at the beginning of the Easter Vigil, the priest lights the paschal candle with these words: “May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.” What is the darkness in your heart and mind? Now is the time to let go of the hurt, resentment, and anger you feel. Now is the time to allow the light of Christ to shine through you. Jesus suffered, died, and rose again so that you, personally, would experience freedom from all of the burdens you carry—so that you, personally, would know that salvation is yours. Now is the time to unchain your heart and mind.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 1:1-2:2; Genesis 22:1-18; Exodus 14:15-15:1; Isaiah 54:5-14; Isaiah 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Mark 16:1-7*

“We know that our old self was crucified with him . . . that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.”

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Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, O.F.M., Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy, and Sister Julie Vieira, I.H.M.



Year of St. Paul:
Journey of
Transformation

*Serve
one another
through
Love*

Lent 2009 Worship Opportunities

Monday, April 6th
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament immediately following 8:00 a.m. Mass. Adoration will conclude at 3:00 p.m. with Benediction.

Thursday, April 9th
Holy Thursday
2 p.m. School Prayer Service
7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Silent Adoration until 11 p.m.
7 p.m. Mass (in Spanish) in Morrissey Hall

Friday, April 10th
Good Friday
8:30 a.m. Living Stations of The Cross, Via Crucis, in the parking lot
12 p.m. "Last Words"/Las Siete Palabras a bilingual reflection on the Last Words of Jesus in Morrissey Hall

Friday, April 10th
Good Friday (Continued)
3 p.m. Adoration of the Cross/Adoración de la Cruz (in Spanish) in Morrissey Hall
3 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion
7 p.m. Celebration of the Lord's Passion enacted by Confirmation Candidates

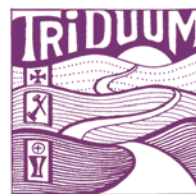
Saturday, April 11th
Holy Saturday
12 p.m. Blessing of Food Baskets in Morrissey Hall
7 p.m. Easter Vigil
7 p.m. Easter Vigil (in Spanish) in Morrissey Hall

Sunday, April 12th
Easter Sunday
Mass Schedule: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. - (Spanish)

PALM SUNDAY - THE PASSION

The story of the anointing of Jesus is one of the few stories to appear in all four Gospels. As people begin to grumble about the cost and waste of the perfume, Jesus responds: "You always have the poor with you and any time you want to you can do something good for them."

As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in **prayer** that we are one human family, regardless of our differences. Answering the call to love our neighbors will promote a culture of respect and lead to peace in our own community, and in communities around the world. May our **fasting** keep us mindful we are our brothers' and sisters' keepers. May our **almsgiving** assist those in need here in the United States. 75% of your gifts to Operation Rice Bowl support Catholic Relief Services' programs around the world. The remaining 25% of your contributions stay in dioceses in the U.S. to assist local hunger and poverty alleviation programs.



The Sacred Triduum refers to the three days before Easter. They include Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On Holy Thursday we commemorate the Last Supper and Christ's Passion and approaching crucifixion. Good Friday is a solemn time in which we remember the suffering death on the cross of Jesus Christ. On Holy Saturday we observe the Easter Vigil and anticipate Christ's triumphant resurrection from the dead. The Sacred Triduum is the apex of our liturgical year, and its glorious fulfillment. Let us observe these days as a special time of prayer and meditation.

**CONFESSIONS WILL NOT BE HEARD
DURING HOLY WEEK**

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

FOOD PANTRY

As we begin Holy Week, we are ever mindful of following the way of Jesus as we live our day to day lives. His life, suffering, death and resurrection give us the greatest example of the triumph of compassion and love in overcoming our earthly struggles. At this most sacred time, a special word of deep appreciation to all who continue to support the work of our community food pantry. Your generosity increases as does the needs of the “working” poor in our area. Many of them now find themselves now unemployed or with hours cut. That’s something most of us can relate to...but the poorest in our midst are always hit the hardest. Now, some Pantry news of interest:

- At our April 2nd food distribution we were able to offer an Easter gift of a \$10 food certificate to many of our families. The moneys donated to us from last Fall’s La Grange/Western Springs CROP Walk subsidized this gift.
- The St. Cletus Food Pantry placed their first order with the Chicago Food Depository this month... which makes our dollars go further when we need to purchase supplemental staples to accommodate our needs.
- A special thanks to our neighbor, Continental Motors, whose employees gathered together special items for four of our client families.
- St. John of the Cross Parish hosted a meeting of many of the local food panties and food agencies. We were able to share our ideas and suggestions with each other, in an effort to best serve the needs of our community.
- Please look for the flyer in today’s Canticle, which details the “Spring Cleaning” Eagle Project which our parish scout, Tim Findley, is organizing to benefit our food pantry families.

Thanks again, and may your families be spiritually energized as we follow Christ’s path to Calvary and the joy of Easter!

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

INTERFAITH CAREER AND NETWORKING GROUP

St. Cletus, St. John of the Cross and St. Francis Xavier Parishes have formed The Interfaith Career and Networking Group, a fellowship of men and women with a common desire to become employed or seek career advancement through a Christian forum. There are no dues or fees for membership.

The Interfaith Career and Networking Group is dedicated to providing the following services to all in need:

Christian Fellowship and Support
Job Networking Opportunities
Career Skills Presentations
Resume Preparation and Critique
Interviewing Preparation and Techniques

Our purpose is to prepare and enable individuals to successfully complete their job search by finding meaningful employment in a timely manner.

We service the faith communities in and around Western Springs and La Grange, Illinois. Mark your calendars for our next two events & look for further details in next week’s Canticle:

- “Keeping the Faith during Career Transition”, Thursday, April 16, 7 PM, at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, Western Springs.
- Resume Review, Saturday, April 18, St. Cletus Education Building, La Grange.

Email us at info@interfaithcareernetwork.org

Visit us at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/interfaithcareernetwork/>

**GOOD NEWS
for TOUGH TIMES**
Friday April 10
12:00PM
 An Ecumenical Good Friday service
 sponsored by the La Grange Ministerium



Hosted by
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
 20 North Ashland Avenue
 La Grange, IL 60525
 708.352.2740

Parking available on neighborhood streets and in public lots

This *Ecumenical Good Friday Service* is sponsored by the **La Grange Ministerium** and will be hosted by the First Baptist Church in La Grange. St. Cletus Parish is a member of this organization; and our Choir and I will participate. Our parish *Food Pantry* will also benefit from a portion of the free-will offering taken at the event. There will be prayer, music, and Scripture with reflections based on the *Seven Last Words of Christ*. Please make every effort to support this important community event. Join us at 12 Noon on Good Friday as we worship the Lord in His Passion.

Easter Blessings,
Fr. Charles



IT'S TODAY IN MORRISSEY HALL!

The annual Holy Name Pancake Breakfast is this Sunday, April 5, from approximately 7:00am until 12:30pm, in Morrissey Hall in the Education Building. Join us for a breakfast of pancakes, sausage, coffee, milk and juice. Cost: Adults/\$5 and Children/\$2. Tickets are available at the door. Hope to see you there!

Jim Matthews



ST. CLETUS BOOK CLUB

1st Book- "*Marley and Me*" by John Grogan
 1st Meeting - **Wednesday, April 22**, at 7:00pm
 Religious Education Office (flag pole entrance)

All are welcome!

Sponsored by the Parish Life Commission.
 Questions? Email Christy at
Christymaldonado50@yahoo.com.

STEWARDSHIP

"If anyone should say to you 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" -Mark 11:3

"Why are you doing this?" This is a question that could be asked of anyone who gives time, talent or treasure to the Church. An answer is found in the Gospel of Mark, "The Master has need of it..." We are all called to give because Our Lord has need of it.

Weekly Giving Summary

Sunday Collection, March 29..... \$ 28,081
 Last Year\$ 26,882

Total Collection:

Year-to-Date..... \$1,030,498
 Previous Year-to-Date..... \$1,074,137

Needed for Budget thru 3/29/09..... \$1,104,675

of households contributed in March 2009 - 1,291

of registered households - 2,454

Note: The last Sunday of the month includes ACH debits; 61 households contributed \$6,762 during March 2009.

ON HOLY THURSDAY...the offertory collection will once again be shared with Taller de José. This ministry is unique because the staff both connects and accompanies men, women and children who are in need to agencies who can help them to improve their lives. You can accompany Taller de José in this important ministry, by your contribution. If you would like to make a direct contribution, you may send it to Taller de José, 3047 W. Cermak, Chicago, IL 60632. Please feel free to contact Sr. Kathy Brazda, CSJ for more information at (773) 542-1019 or srkathy@tallerdejose.org.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

On Good Friday, our parish will take up the annual collection for the Holy Land. We ask you to be generous. Your financial contribution will support the works of the Catholic Community in the Middle East and to protect the Holy Places and Christian shrines.

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

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Rectory Receptionist
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Michele O'Brien
Director of Financial Operations
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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: Xavier Polanski

Vice - Chairperson: Rita Mayer
Corresponding Secretary: Lori Ashe

Worship Ministry:

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: Silvia Casas
Ignacio Saavedra

Social Concerns: 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 (708- 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 (708-215-5407).

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