

PARISH STAFF

REV. ROBERT CLARK

Pastor

REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES WATKINS

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES GALLAGHER

Pastor Emeritus

REV. MR. JESÚS & SILVIA CASAS

Deacon Couple

PASTORAL STAFF

Paulette Bolton

Worship

(708) 215-5422

Deacon Jesús Casas

Hispanic Ministry

(708) 215-5440

Amy Cranny

Youth Ministry

(708) 215-5419

Mary Beth Ford

Social Concerns

(708) 215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk

Business Manager

(708) 215-5405

Justin Sisul

Music

(708) 215-5423

Christopher Wagner

Technology

(708) 215-5420

Dolores Wouk

Ministry of Care

(708) 215-5407

SCHOOL STAFF

Jolene Hillgoth

School Principal

Kathy Lifka

Assistant Principal

Denise Parlier

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lee Krieger

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/Office Assistant

Nora Gardner

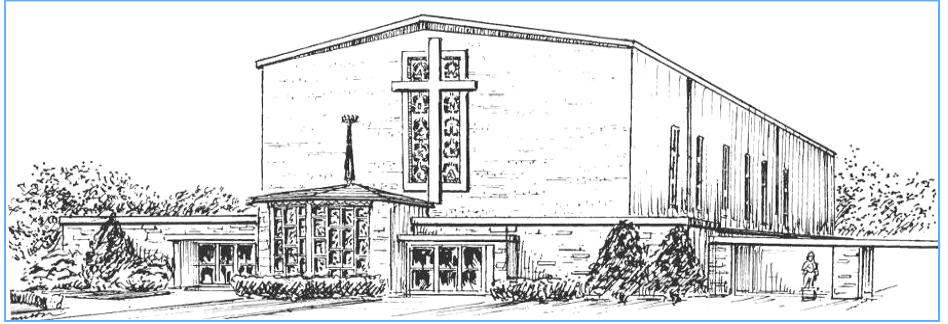
Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Bobbie Kallal

Human Resources

Mary Zwolinski

Parish Accounting



St. Cletus Canticle

600 W. 55th Street - La Grange, IL

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

January 10, 2010

The Baptism of the Lord



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 11 - January 17, 2010

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society - Walter Johnston, Bessie Hlavac, John Hopp
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	James Vonesh, Monica Chauske, Maureen Fahey
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Roy J. Lane, Sr.
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Eva & Stanley Grabowski
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society - Walter Kelly, Nan Rettig, Monica Chauske, Maureen Fahey
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Parishioners of St. Cletus Ruth Ann Taylor, Walter Johnston
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Melvin Leo, Anne, Mel, Jim & Joe Callahan Family, Eileen Kurland, Mario & Nancy Maturo Agnes Popelka Arlene Skryd Anita Palmer, Edward Flannery Souls in Purgatory



Please pray for those who have died and their families:



Bonnie Mueller,
sister of Barbara Lesnig

Elmer Alan Lyon,
husband of Mary

**May the Lord grant them eternal rest.
Amen.**



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Harry Fisher, Jean Weekley, John Burke, Gen Andorf, Rich Andorf, Dolores Duda, Betty Jo Boden, Sherry Sumner, Patricia Swain, Rene Quiñones, Patricia Krieger, Bernice Hyatt, Norma Evans, Therese Wess, Scott May, Denise Kuchta, Anna Cizek, Roberta Zeman, James Prucha, Emma Fontana, Mark Ronchetti, Kathryn Super-Wilson, Larry Rincon, Joseph Fajdich, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Sister Arlene Gibson, Marilyn Matesevac, and Ruth Calandriello. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound and unable to attend Mass. Please know we pray daily for the sick and dying.



A Warm Welcome to Our Newly Registered Parishioners

Please welcome Mr. & Mrs. Michael Berezewski, and Mr. & Mrs. Steve Renick & Family to our parish family. If you attend St. Cletus but have not yet registered, please consider the commitment of parish membership.



H1N1 VACCINATION

H1N1 vaccine ations will be given in Morrissey Hall on Sunday, January 17, from 7:30 A.M. 'til Noon. Medicare patients will be accepted free of charge - all other are \$15.

Clare Slowik
Parish Nurse

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Baptism of the Lord;
National Vocation Awareness Week
Wednesday: St. Hilary
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...



BAPTISM OF THE LORD 2010

One of the most excruciating rites of passage in school life is the choosing of the team. I mean the choosing that takes place in the school yard during break periods, the selection done by our peers. The two generally accepted best players (or strongest characters) agree to pick sides. Then it is a matter of: "I'll have him" or "We'll have her" until everyone belongs to one team or the other. This simple logic is in itself humiliating for those not chosen till last, but the humiliation is increased by the bargaining and discussion that accompanies the ritual. Attempts are usually made by friends of weaker players to get them on to their side. When such loyalty is successful, the gratitude and joy of the recipient is unbounded. Where such attempts are dismissed out of hand, the anguish of the rejected player is doubled, as not even the ties of friendship can cover such exposure and scorn. Some pretend to be above such matters, indifferent as to whether they are chosen or not, idly kicking pebbles while yet desperately hoping to be noticed and bursting with joy when their seeming nonchalance is rewarded. It is the unfortunate fate of the least well endowed that they are usually also the most vociferous of applicants and so draw even more attention to their failure. They wear their hearts on their sleeves, and their subsequent suffering is as evident as it is inevitable.

Each evangelist treats John the Baptist in a subtly different way. For Luke he is the one who raises expectations of the Messiah through his baptism of repentance. John is quite clear as to the limitations of his powers. His baptism is but a cleansing one of water. The one who is to follow him will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. It sounds as though he expects someone who will be even more judgmental than himself. The Spirit would then mean the gift for those who respond whereas the fire would be the judgment on those who resist. In Christian thinking the theme of fire is also linked with the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles at Pentecost in the form of tongues of flame. If the waters of baptism cleanse, the baptism by fire evokes an even more challenging image of purifying flame and inspiration. Luke then sets the baptism of Jesus himself against a background of personal prayer and divine revelation. Throughout his gospel, before any momentous decision or course of action, Jesus will be found at prayer. At the beginning of the public life of Jesus we are witnessing a new creation, the new and universal covenant between God and his creation that will be taken forward into the ages to come by the Church founded on the apostles. This moment is sealed by God's own declaration. Jesus is the Son, the Beloved, the one on whom God's favor rests.

Through our baptism we accept the same challenge that Jesus accepted. We take on the responsibility of bringing the good news of the kingdom to all we meet. However, there is the same recognition that we do not do this by our own powers. We become part of the unfolding of the covenant that is still and always will be under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

The voice that addressed Jesus as his beloved addresses us in the same terms. We do not have to worry about whether we are going to make the team or not. Through our baptism we are all swept up into the cosmic pageant that is the breaking in of God's kingdom. How we discover and how we play out our individual roles in this pageant comes both from decisions taken by the community and from our own inspiration and skills. If we take Jesus as our model, then our main aim will be to let all this happen under the umbrella of prayer. Our human patterns of behavior, even when creating teams, can tend to isolate and undervalue. God's way of behaving is to enfold us in his full embrace. The statement that his favor rests on us, his beloved, is to make it clear to us that we work and flourish under his loving power, his grace, and that the cement of this activity is our prayerful relationship with him. Without him we are nothing, with him we move mountains.

*Blessings of the Baptism of the Lord,
Father Bob*

The Baptism of the Lord

We are people of hope

Today's Gospel story of the Baptism of the Lord seems so fitting now that we have entered the second half of the Catholics Come Home evangelization initiative. During the time of John the Baptist people were waiting in great anticipation for the coming of the Christ. They continued to live in hope that God would save them just as he had promised Abraham and all the generations that came afterward. It was their faith in God and their hope for the future that kept them watchful for the messiah.

Today we have the joy of knowing Jesus, the Christ through our baptism and in our practice of faith. No longer do we wait for salvation for we have tasted it in the Eucharist and felt it in the water and oil of our Baptism. Jesus called us to go out and spread the Good News. That is the reason for the Catholics Come Home evangelization effort. Today we have an opportunity to talk to others about our faith by simply asking, "Have you seen those commercials on TV?" Just by getting people to talk about Catholics Come Home you may be planting the seeds of faith that could blossom in the future.

The first line of today's Gospel may ring true in your hearts today, "The people were filled with expectation." At the halfway point in the Catholics Come Home advertisement schedule some parishes have seen and heard of those who have been moved to return to the Church and others wait expectantly. It is helpful to remember that God is present in all things and we may never really know how our efforts and this invitation back to the Church has touched the lives of those who have drifted. It is through prayer that we can stay grounded in our faith and it is prayer that nurtures the seeds of hope within us.

WE ARE CALLED...

TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE.

Anyone interested in becoming a Lector – training will be offered on Tuesday, January 12 or Thursday, January 14 in church from 7:00-8:00 P.M.

Anyone interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Communion – training will be offered on Wednesday, January 13, from 7:00-8:00 P.M. in church. Your availability and preferences are always considered in scheduling.

**PLEASE STOP BY THE CATHOLICS
COME HOME WELCOME TABLE
IN THE CHURCH VESTIBULE.**

Paulette Bolton
Liturgy

MANIFESTING THE SPIRIT

The Christmas season closes this Sunday with the Baptism of the Lord. This feast is a sister to last week's feast of the Epiphany. Each of them celebrates an "epiphany," or a manifestation of the Spirit of God in Jesus—first in his birth, and now at his baptism.

The divine Spirit is manifested in all of the scriptures for this feast. Psalm 104 highlights the Spirit of God creating and renewing the earth, while the reading from Isaiah describes God restoring Israel. In Luke's account of the baptism of the Lord the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus. And the letter from Titus reminds us that the Holy Spirit was "richly poured out" on us also, through the "bath of rebirth" (Titus 3:5, 6).

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SOCIAL CONCERNS THANK YOU!

What a hopeful and heartwarming sight it was on the weekend of December 12/13 to see our Madonna Della Strada Shrine piled high with brightly wrapped gifts, with more gifts and shiny new bikes occupying every available space in the Church Vestibule! And what an awe-inspiring story it told of the generosity of the St. Cletus parishioners and friends from our community, even in these tough economic times. After the 11:00 Mass the Church was bustling with cheerful activity as adult and teen volunteers began sorting the Giving Tree gifts by family number. Later that afternoon we delivered gifts to 200 people in our sister parish in the city, St. Agatha's. Fast forward to December 20 in Morrissey Hall, when food baskets and black bags of gifts filled every possible space, with a host of volunteers working diligently to make sure we had accounted for the gifts and food baskets for each family number. Later that afternoon we distributed them to more than 350 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. Each year the greatest Christmas gift we receive is the privilege of organizing this effort on your behalf and experiencing this tangible sign of God in our midst. The amount of time, talent and treasure that you invested in this outreach is St. Cletus Parish at its finest!!! Look for some of the many, many expressions of appreciation from those we served, which will be shared 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!!!

Mary Beth Ford and Maureen Soldat
Social Concerns Ministry

IN A JOB SEARCH

Laugh and Learn with Conor Cuneen, January 21 at 7:00 P.M. - SJC Parish Center

Interfaith Career Network invites you to an entertaining program to get 2010 off to a great start. Conor Cuneen, an acclaimed Irish author, International Business Speaker and an accomplished motivational speaker will keep you laughing, learning and thinking about new ways to get your job search in high gear. His unique presentation on SHEIFGAB the World – Eight Building Blocks to Successful Job Transition has been called the “most motivational and realistic presentation” on this difficult period in people's lives. Conor has a deep passion for those in transition, and has a great learning method that all can benefit from. He'll share his career insights along with his Irish wit and humor in a fun session that will entertain and enlighten you. Conor is co-host of Job Talk on Chicago radio and has helped thousands in their transition process. Hope you can join us on Thursday, January 21, at 7:00 P.M., at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 S. Wolf Rd, Western Springs.



The St. Cletus Annual Mission will begin on February 7, 2010 with Fr. Dennis Koopman, OFM as the Mission Preacher. Fr. Dennis will lead us through a time of reflection, healing and prayer as we all prepare for the beginning of Lent.


St. Cletus School

 700 W. 55th St.
 LaGrange, IL 60525

 (708) 352-4820 phone
 (708) 352-0788 fax
 www.stcletusschool.com

REGISTRATION

St. Cletus School offers a full-day preschool as well as 3 and 4 year-old half-day preschool, a half-day or 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.

Please call the school office at (708) 352-4820 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. until Noon if you have questions or would like to make an appointment to visit our school. Come "*Discover St. Cletus*"!

Jolene Hillgoth
 Principal

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE

We are thankful for...

...the prayers and support that all St. Cletus parishioners provide to our school.

We appreciate your continued generosity in supporting our fundraisers: Oktoberfest, the Annual Fund, the Silent Auction and our Golf Outing.

Thank you for all you do for St. Cletus School. The St. Cletus Parish family is an important part of St. Cletus School's motto: *Faith, Family, Future.*

—The St. Cletus School Board and
 Principal Jolene Hillgoth

Tim O'Brien	Cathy Hinckley	Mike Pusatera
Luke Sheridan	Dawn Mitchell	Ed Burke
Jeanne Kelly	Bridget Garvey	Jim Krecek
Liz Valdes		Marty Mulcrone

SAVE THE DATE!



**ST. CLETUS PARISH POT LUCK
 SATURDAY
 FEBRUARY 6, 2010**

**6:00 - 9:00 P.M.
 MORRISSEY HALL**

**BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH TO
 MORRISSEY HALL
 AFTER 4:30 P.M.**

**DINNER WILL BEGIN
 AFTER THE 5:00 P.M. MASS**

**For more information, contact Lori Ashe at
 (708) 484-2851 or loriashe@aol.com**

Youth Ministry News...



The Women's Center

Ski Trip...It's time to hit the slopes!! The office of the Archdiocese of Chicago is coordinating an all night ski event. All high school teens are welcome to go to Chestnut Mountain in Galena, IL on Feb 5/6. The cost is \$86 for ski's or snowboard, lessons, lift ticket, transportation, bonfire with seating and music with a DJ. Permission slips and fees to the St. Cletus Youth Ministry office are due by January 10! No exceptions!! Forms can be retrieved online at www.stcletusparish.com/youth.



"Our teens had a great time playing Laser Tag over Christmas break!"

Mission Trip...The Teen Advisory Board has decided to plan a mission trip experience once again! We will be going with YouthWorks to St. Louis, MO during the week of June 27–July 2, 2010. If you're in high school and are interested in participating in this trip, please contact me at youth@stcletusparish.com or (708) 215-5419 for more information. There are a limited number of spots available and registration forms will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Thank you!

Amy Cranny
Youth Ministry

January 22 marks the 37th anniversary of the legalization of abortion which has resulted in the death of nearly 52 million innocent, unborn babies in this country, one every 30 seconds. Legalization of abortion was promoted as supposedly a rare procedure. We can only estimate how many women have undergone tremendous suffering because of their abortions.

The Women's Center is a pregnancy resource center which has saved approximately 33,000 babies and their mothers from the pain of abortion in our 25 years of service. We offer them a choice other than abortion and provide counseling, material assistance, friendship and prayer support.

Volunteers are needed Monday through Saturday to organize and sort clothing donations, to answer calls in our counseling offices. For more information call (773) 794-1313.



St Cletus Presents
The Bible Timeline:
The Story of Salvation

REMINDER...

What: Information Session for "The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation"

When: Monday, January 11, 2010; 6:30 pm

Where: St. Cletus School, Room 98 (Kindergarten Room)
Enter School at Flagpole entrance

Reminder: You are under no obligation to enroll in the class if you attend the information session. But if you choose to enroll, a \$50 fee will need to be paid for the study kit. Study kits will be available for pickup the weekend of January 16/17 in the Rectory.

For details of the class, see December 27 or January 3 Canticle. Back issues of the Canticle are available on the parish website: www.stcletusparish.com.

This class is a unique opportunity to study 14 books of the Bible and the key people, places, and events of salvation history. Please come and find out more!

Internet Safety



Keep Your Kids Safe

Today's families face new parenting challenges in the field of technology. Making basic decisions about the family's computer and Internet usage can be difficult for parents whose kids are often more Internet-savvy than they are.

Join us January 21, @ 6:30 P.M. in St. Cletus Church
for a special presentation by

**Sarah Migas, Internet Safety Specialist of the
High Tech Crimes Bureau, Office of the Illinois Attorney General**

The following will be discussed:

Social networking sites
Chat rooms
Instant messaging
Blogging
Peer-to-peer networks
Cell phone use
Online child sex exploitation
Cyberbullying
Sexting

Come learn how to protect your child against Internet dangers.

*Please, adults **only** for the evening session. 5th -8th grade will attend age appropriate sessions during school.*

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Total Active Registered Families 2,523

Collection Statistics

Amount Collected

# of envelopes used - this week	707		
% of registered families	28%	\$24,892	Envelope Users
		<u>2,027</u>	Loose Checks/Cash
January 3, 2010 Budgeted Collection = \$26,750		\$26,919	

Weekly (Under) Over Budget (\$169)

This Fiscal Year @ 1/03/10

Actual Sunday Collections	\$717,824
Budgeted Sunday Collections	<u>722,250</u>
(Under) Over than Budgeted	\$(4,426)

Our collections continue to increase because of your efforts to contribute just a few more dollars. We appreciate your donations. No matter the amount, you do make a difference. Thank you for supporting Your church, St. Cletus.

Fr. Bob Clark

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Day/Date	Start Time	Location/ Rm. #	Event
Monday, Jan. 11	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m.	S-98 S-207 RB MH	Bible Study Meeting Pastoral Care Meeting School Board Meeting Men's BB
Tuesday, Jan. 12	3:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Comp. Lab C MH S-213 S-200	Technology 1st Reconciliation 1st Reconciliation FSA Meeting Parish Life
Wednesday, Jan.13	9:00 a.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	RB S-213 S-200	Mission Ladies RCIA Baptism Preparation
Thursday, Jan. 14	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	CV S-Music S-Music S-Music S-Music Comp. Lab S-200 MH	Food Pantry Children's Choir Youth Choir Contemporary Choir Chancel Choir Technology AA Meeting YM Basketball
Friday, Jan. 15	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S-Music S-207	Hispanic Ministry Choir Hispanic Ministry Bible Class
Saturday, Jan. 16	5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	CV CV	Roe vs. Wade Catholics Come Home
Sunday, Jan. 17	7:30 a.m.-12 noon 8:00 a.m.-12 noon 9:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m.-12 noon 12: noon-1:30 p.m.	MH CV S-200 CV Comp. Lab	H1N1 Vaccinations Roe vs. Wade RCIA Catholics Come Home Technology
C CV MH	Church Church Vestibule Morrissey Hall	S RB	School Rectory Basement

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Cletus Catholic Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago is a Christian community of believers and followers of Christ Jesus. We call and welcome all to join our family of faith as we seek to live the Gospel values in our daily lives, community and world. We are committed to providing spiritual nourishment through the worship of God, celebration of the sacraments, Christian education and use of our time, talent and treasure in serving others with compassion and love.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
11:00am, 12:30pm (Spanish)

Weekdays: Mon., thru Sat., 8:00am

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00pm

Holy Day: 6:30am, 8:00am

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30am. 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).

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Adoration begins following the 8:00am Mass and continues during the day until 6:15pm the first Monday of the Month.

The *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* is prayed at 6:15pm followed by Benediction.

Hispanic Adoration continues from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.

CONFESSIONS

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

Aging Care Connections, La Grange will offer six-week fitness programs for those with early to mid-dementia and their caregivers. The classes begin Friday, January 15, 2010, meeting time is from 10:00-10:45 A.M. To register call (708) 354-1323, ext. 28 or contact Ruth Folkening.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

<i>Co-Chairpersons:</i>	Anne Babirak, Tom Finucane
<i>Vice - Chairperson:</i>	Rita Mayer
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Xavier Polanski
<i>Corresponding Secretary:</i>	Lori Ashe
<i>Worship Ministry:</i>	Elizabeth Goellner-McLean Justin Sisul
<i>Finance Liaison:</i>	Brian Kapusta
<i>Parish at Large:</i>	Joe Bamberger
<i>Youth Ministry:</i>	Rita F. Mayer Dawn Dion
<i>Education Ministry:</i>	Anne Babirak, (School) George Pach (Rel. Ed.)
<i>Pastoral Care Ministry:</i>	Stuart Heyes Xavier Polanski
<i>Development Ministry:</i>	Ed Burke Tom Finucane
<i>Staff Representative:</i>	Jolene Hillgoth
<i>Hispanic Ministry:</i>	Silvia Casas Ignacio Saavedra
<i>Social Concerns:</i>	Dick Ford Jim Ryva
<i>Technology Representative:</i>	Julie Lenz
<i>Parish Life:</i>	Lori Ashe Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

“LETTING OUR SOULS CATCH UP!”

Using the techniques of mindful awareness.

The Well is offering an overnight retreat for men and women on Friday, January 22, from 7:00-9:00 P.M., Saturday, January 23, from 9:00 A.M.—3:30 P.M. at 1515 W. Ogden Avenue, La Grange Park. An overnight beauty, wonder and miracles is in store with facilitator Chris Hopkins, spiritual director and associate pastoral direct for The Center in Palos Park. The cost is \$125 with overnight and \$75 for commuters. Registration is available online at www.csjthewell or call (708) 482-5048.

YOUR BEST

Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you.

—Anonymous