

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ADVENT AND BEYOND

Daily Mass - 8:00am

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm - Hispanic Liturgy

Confessions - 4:15 pm Saturdays (*Except Dec. 24*)

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Vigil Dec. 7 - 7:00 pm

Dec. 8 - 6:30, 8:00, & 9:00 am

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dec. 3 - Dec. 11 at 7:00 pm (*In Church except Dec. 9-Rm 201*)

Wednesday Evening Masses

6:30 pm on Nov. 30, Dec. 14, & Dec. 21

Holy Hour & Adoration

6:00-7:00 pm on Dec. 6, 7:00 - 8:00 pm - Hispanic Holy Hour

Taizé Prayer Service

7:00-8:00 pm on Dec. 9 - Silent Reflection, Music, Scripture

Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass - 7:00 pm on Dec. 12

4:00 am - Las Mananitas - Morning Greeting to Mary

Reconciliation Service

7:00 pm - Dec. 13 - Parish Sacramental Celebration

Christmas Eve Dec. 24 (*Please note Mass Locations*)

2:00 pm - Church 2:15 pm - Morrissey Hall

3:30 pm - Church 3:45 pm - MH

5:30 pm - Church 7:00 pm - Church - Spanish

10:00 pm - Carol Singing, 10:30 pm - Mass in Church

Christmas Day Dec. 25 (*All Masses in Church*)

7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am

WELCOME



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Mass Intentions for the Week of November 28 - December 4, 2016

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	George Duda, Tim & Ronald Wojtecki
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Frank Baggio, Marilyn Matesevac
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Chester & Anne Koziol
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Shirley Hullinger, Dolores Wouk
Friday	8:00 a.m.	John Battistoni, George Wilson
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	St. Cletus Priests, Past and Present Dcn. Walter & Frances Klimcke, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Stella & Felix Gembala, Bill DePasquale
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	George Duda, Dolores E. Kuchta, Josephine & Anton Kuchta, Susan H. Geraghty, Marco & Emilia Rattin Mary Ricciardone & Calandriello Family, Philip Dindia, Milo Okkema, Patricia Leonard, Mary Jane & Louis Manley, Nancy Drumm Suzanne Williams, Bernard J. Hennessy, Gene Kennedy, Justys Bradford St. Cletus Parishioners Deceased St. Cletus Parishioners

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THEIR FAMILIES...

Janet Peters

Mother of Eileen Vincent

May she rest in peace. Amen.

SECOND COLLECTION NOV. 26-27



The collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) provides funding for groups that make lasting change and uplift the poor in the United States. CCHD's grants improve education, support economic development, and create affordable housing in low-income neighborhoods. Help us continue to defend human dignity and build communities of solidarity. Please give to the CCHD Collection.



Marriage Banns

Mary Ellen Moore & Kevin Kenealy
Meghan Bescher & Ryan Tlusty

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Donald Price, Eileen Peters, Kathy Zydel, Adriana Pecho, Enrique Pecho, Armando Pecho, Fernando Cabral, Maria Cabral, Jennifer Ochino, Don Wettstein, Robert Arbuckle, Rob Semsey, Johnny Sipek, Lonnie Rott, Fran Kruse, Nick Lodato, Jack Simpson, Anne Bermier, Evelyn Ulfing, Ginny Skibbe, Kim Zwolinski, Lane Powell, Dcn. Jim Cozzo, Mirna Cozzo, Daniella DeRivera, Peter DeRivera, Damien Johnson, Lesley Hansen, Kristen Gozdecki, Steve Gozdecki, Lane Powell, Kelly Cook, Frank Cizek, Nino Scimone, Lee Ascencio, Jean Weekley, Laura Segel, Adrina Castillejo, Otto Stuckman, Patricia Pilleggi, Isaac Musser, Jean Takes, Robert William, Gene Wallace, John Eterno, Vivian Swibel, Jennifer Streit, Julianne Hausknecht, Cynthia Cozen, Eleanor Tolan, Carol Piccolo, Pat Harris, Eleanor Brousil, Allie DeRivera, Carmen Rodriguez, Tom Wolak, Christine Bell, Jenna Zimmerman, Rachel Lipman, Mauricio Aguilar, Patricia Krieger, Brian Cabral, Fernando Cabral, Enrique Pacheco, Steve Woynicki, Irina Fursman, Linda Mantey, Marshall Johnson, Diane Bridges, Catherine McCord, Nancy Gibson, Jean Weekly, Gerda E. Dorso, Judy Duque, Carolyn Sharpe, Joanne Stevens, Linda McMahon, Erin Lively, Ed Barnicle, Glen Peters, Emily Ann Dziedzic, LaVerne Gill, Sr., Joyce Arnold, Jackie Schickel, Loretta Johncola, Denise Rowalka, Sharon Mylan, Mary Jamrozik, Shellye Bolton, Emily Devine, and John Duda. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

Notes from Fr. Bob...

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Don't you remember, dear, what day it is today?" "Well, yes" replies husband rather cautiously. "It's, it's ... the 28th of November". "That's right" says wife. "And what's the 28th of November?" "Well, er, yes, oh yes, of course, it's our wedding anniversary, isn't it?" That kind of conversation, I suspect, takes place in many a household! But even a forgetful husband knows there's something special about anniversaries.

True, they come round year after year, and yet, ideally at any rate, they are never quite the same. Each time I celebrate my own priestly anniversary my great hope is that I will understand a little better what it means to be a priest and be filled with a corresponding gratitude for the gift I have received. I'm sure that on their wedding anniversary many a couple enjoy a similar kind of experience.

All this helps to explain why the Church's 'liturgical year' is so important. It is a twelve-month's cycle of anniversaries, memorials of the events by which God has won our salvation and opened for us the way to heaven. But God never repeats himself: just as each day is a new day, so each season of the liturgical year is a new season. Though we may have celebrated it many times before, we are invited to plumb its depths anew, to discover aspects we hadn't perhaps noticed before.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the season which starts off a new liturgical year. It's the time when we prepare to celebrate the astonishing truth that God became one of us. Our first reading reminded us that Jerusalem was dear to the Jews because it was, they believed, God's own dwelling place. But never did God draw so near to us as when Jesus took our human nature and was born in Bethlehem. The idea of Advent is not that we should try and revive the emotional 'Christmas' feelings of childhood days but rather that we should grow in appreciation of the startling truth of the Incarnation, God's Son coming to dwell in our midst.

However, the readings we have heard make it clear that we are meant to have in mind not only the first coming of the Lord Jesus but also his second coming at the end of time. And, as Jesus makes clear in the gospel, since we cannot know the day or the hour of his coming, the only sensible thing is to be in a permanent state of readiness. With a touch of humor, he points out that no man in his right mind would fail to make suitable preparations, if he knew that a burglar was due to arrive at his house! How

much more then should we prepare, we who know with certainty that the Lord himself is one day to be our visitor.

Advent, then, highlights the truth that here and now we exist in an in-between stage – looking back to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and forward to his coming at the end of time – and so, not surprisingly, it urges us to make the most of present opportunities. Paul promises that 'it will be daylight soon', his way of describing the second coming of Jesus; so now, he says, we must 'stay awake' (no slipping back into the night of sin); we must live like soldiers, always ready for the only contest which really matters, that one on which our eternal future depends. "Let your armor" he says "be the Lord Jesus Christ", we've to "put him on" in the sense of enveloping ourselves in his teaching, allowing his standards and his sentiments to direct our lives. It's not so much a question of undertaking a new way of life as of renewing our ordinary way of life so that more and more it will reflect a genuine love of God and of our fellow men and women. Paul, you remember, was able to say: 'I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me' (Galatians 2:20). If, in our own small way, we are to celebrate the anniversary of the greatest event in human history, the Incarnation; and at the same time making the ideal preparation for the greatest event in our own personal history, that meeting with the Lord when he comes again

Advent Blessings,

Fr. Bob

Fr. Bob
Pastor



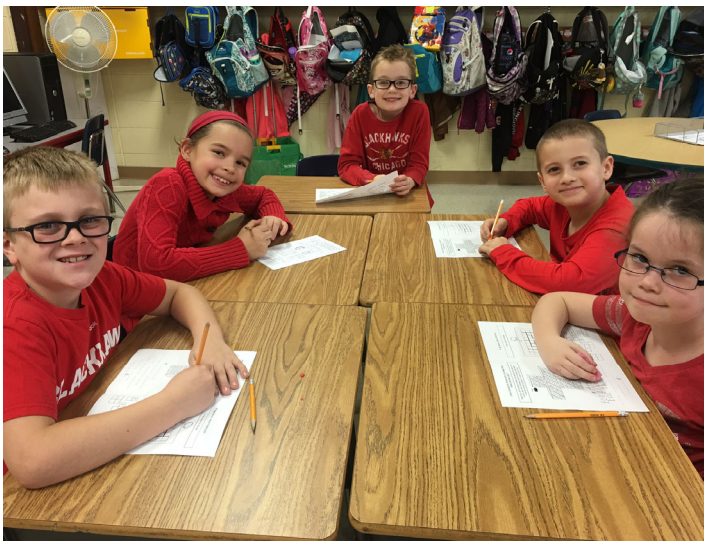
Parish School

DATES TO REMEMBER

FSA Meeting	Nov. 30
Father's Club Meeting.....	Nov. 30
FSA Vendor Fair	Dec. 10

FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

Tom Chinske, Principal (708) 352-4820 tchinske@stcletusparish.com	Christy Schaefer, Asst. Principal (708) 352-4820 cschaefer@stcletusparish.com
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Celebrating Cardinal Blase Cupich

The students of St. Cletus showed their cardinal pride on Friday by wearing red in support of Archbishop Blase J. Cupich being elevated to cardinal. We pray that he is blessed with wisdom and grace as he assists the pope and shapes the direction of the Catholic church in our community. It's a great day to be a Cardinal!



Trip to Feed My Starving Children

Our third-graders recently visited Feed My Starving children to hand-pack meals that have been formulated for malnourished children. The organization then ships the meals to distribution partners around the world. It was a fun way to do a small part to helping children around the world. Thank you to Feed My Starving Children for providing such a great and fulfilling opportunity for our students.

2016-17 St. Cletus Parish Preferred Providers

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of the
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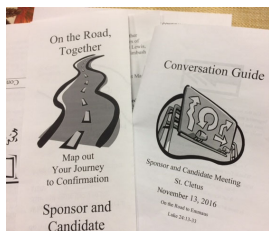
usbank

**Fr. Bob, Debbie,
Bobbie, Mary
& Elizabeth**

Religious Education

We have had a busy November in Religious Education!

8TH GRADE SPONSOR MEETING



On November 13th, our 8th Grade students preparing for Confirmation participated with their Sponsors in a fun morning. They began the day together at the 9:30 Mass, followed by a meeting in Morrissey Hall where they used a conversation guide to share stories, faith experiences, and create a plan for their joint journey to Confirmation! May God bless all of our sponsors as they support and encourage a life of faith for our Confirmandi!

UPCOMING RE EVENTS:

November 27 & 28 – NO CLASSES due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

December 4 & 5 – Family Advent Day for students in Grade 3 and their parents during class time.



Social Concerns Ministry

Food Pantry

Most needed at this time:

- Cooking oil*
- Cookies*
- Pancake mix/syrup*
- Pasta & sauce
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Baking mix*

**Items for Christmas*

Donations can be dropped off before or after masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex.

****Please note, due to the Christmas trees in the Narthex, the bin has been moved to the "Brides Room" on the West side of the Narthex.****

FOOD PANTRY THANK YOU

Thank you to Jewel-OSCO Countryside for donating Thanksgiving meals to many of our food pantry clients. We're so grateful for this generous partnership, especially to all of you that participated by donating to the "Turkey Bucks" program, and for the volunteers who helped distribute meals to families in need.

There will be no regular distribution in December because of the Giving Tree and Christmas food baskets. Donations are still needed and will continue to be collected though!

VETERANS FOOD PANTRY

The Greater Chicago Food Depository in partnership with Hines VA Hospital & AmeriCorps, is providing food for those who served. **Every Thursday from 11am-1pm at Hines VA Hospital** (Auditorium, Building 9-Building 1, Section D, past the Canteen). Please bring veteran ID with you. For more information please contact 708.202.8387 x21024 or hinesvafoodpantry@gmail.com.

GIVING TREE

This Advent, our Giving Tree outreach provides many opportunities for you and your family to respond to those in need, to ensure they receive their share of the richness of God's gifts given to us.



♥ **PURPLE TAGS** (gifts): Choose the gifts you wish to purchase, keeping in mind that the items listed on the tag are part of a "wish list." You need not purchase every item on the list. **Gifts are to be returned before/after Masses the weekend of December 10-11.**

♥ **RED TAGS** (food baskets): Tags include a suggested list for the contents of a Christmas season food basket for the families using our food pantry and others struggling in our community. **Food baskets are needed on Sunday, December 18th from 7:30-11:00am in Morrissey Hall.**

Thank you for your continuing generosity to the less fortunate in our community.

THE GIVING TREE COMMITTEE

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the parish website: stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns. For further details you can also contact Kendall Grant.

Giving Tree Volunteer Opportunities...Please contact Kendall to sign up

- **Saturday, December 10- Sunday, December 11** (church): collecting and organizing Giving Tree gifts before and after all the weekend Masses.
- **Sunday, December 11 2:00-6:30pm**: Sorting gifts in church, loading truck for delivery to St. Agatha's and storing local community gifts in Room 201. 7th & 8th graders can come *with an adult as a partner*.
- **Sunday, December 18** (Morrissey Hall):
6:30am-1:00pm Giving Tree accepting and organizing food baskets and gifts.
1:00pm-7:00pm Distribution of food baskets, gifts, and clean up.

****7th & 8th graders must come with an adult, or if in a group, 1 adult to every 5 students.****

****Please Note-it is not necessary to work an entire morning/afternoon shift, but at least 2 hour shifts please.****

*If you have questions or would like to volunteer with the Social Concerns Ministry contact Kendall Grant
 (708)215-5418
kgrant@stcletusparish.com*

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

*****Due to construction our meeting space and entrance will be changed. Please contact Kendall or the Rectory for more details if you plan on attending*****

This article is the final installment of 3 parts. To view the whole article see www.catholicnewsagency.com

Domestic Abuse: The Epidemic No One is Talking About in Parishes

Catholic News Agency: Matt Hadro

...Fr. Chuck participated in the symposium on domestic abuse at Catholic University this past summer. Since then he's seen the fruits of the conference, spreading awareness of the problem.

"A significant number went home with the plans of doing something in their diocese or their respective organizations," he said of conference participants.

The Archdiocese of Washington just held a workshop for priests to learn how to deal with incidents of domestic abuse and 31 priests attended, he said. Two representatives of Catholic Charities in Vermont are starting a workshop for priests there, and the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City held a workshop attended by several priests and a meeting for priests with Fr. Chuck.

"It's hard to get the priests to come to any kind of event like this," Fr. Chuck acknowledged.

Unfortunately, it's been negative incidents that have driven the conversation about domestic abuse, he said. For instance, when surveillance videos surfaced of former NFL running back Ray Rice punching his fiancée, and then dragging her off an elevator while she was unconscious, the "subsequent outrage" after that and other incidents like it "helps create more awareness about the problem."

Then "people feel a little bit more comfortable and required to speak out about this and do something about it," Fr. Chuck explained. "The publicity about negative events or harmful events is quite helpful in raising awareness."

"We're really behind on this," he said of the Church's efforts to combat the problem, while noting at the same time that "we're making progress." There will be a Domestic Violence Awareness and Outreach Mass on Saturday Oct. 29 at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, celebrated by Cardinal-designate Blase Cupich.

"Many times violence in the streets begins at home," Cardinal-designate Cupich stated on the issue. "Adults and children are traumatized and alienated from the love and support they need by the violence they witness. We must respond to this tragedy."



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH
—ARCHDIOCESE of CHICAGO—
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION

ARE YOU IN AN
UNHEALTHY
RELATIONSHIP
OR ARE YOU
AFRAID IN YOUR
OWN HOME?

CALL THE
24-HOUR PHONE
FOR HELP:
708.485.5254

In an emergency, dial 911, call the National Domestic Violence 24-Hour Hotline at 800-799-7233 or the local 24 hour hotline for Pillars, found in the purple box above. You are not alone.

INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

Understanding the Hidden Job Market

There is a major reason why you cannot find the job you are looking for, why you are not being called for interviews and why you are not getting the job offer - it's called the hidden job market. Many people have heard of the hidden job market, but very few understand how it works - until now. If you are in a job search, Interfaith Career Network invites you to join us on Thursday, December 1 from 7-9 pm. You'll learn what the hidden job market is and why it exists, how it works and why it does. Plus, proven strategies for breaking into the hidden job market and getting hired. Our speaker, Tom Nosal, is a career and management coach and the President of Scaling Up, Inc. We hope to see you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center. This meeting is open to everyone and there is no cost to attend.

Interfaith Career Network (ICN) offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information, please visit our website at www.interfaithcareernetwork.org

AARP TAX-AIDE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2017 FILING SEASON

Looking for a rewarding opportunity to make a difference in your community? The AARP Tax-Aide Program is now seeking volunteers for the upcoming 2017 filing season. It's not necessary for you to be an AARP member nor have a tax or accounting background to volunteer. However, some knowledge of your own personal tax matters is very helpful. All returns are prepared on computers, thus volunteers should be somewhat computer literate. Training classes will be held in January 2017. To volunteer, visit www.aarpfoundation.org/ volunteer or contact parishioner John Wagner at 708-352-0170.



Advent – A Season of Love – A Season of Joy



This time of year is such a busy time, we are almost anxious to see it end. The shopping, the concerts, the parties, the traffic, the lines of people, the decorating and gift-wrapping

consume our lives for weeks as we prepare for Christmas. Everything is done, or is it? We are exhausted, stressed, impatient, frustrated, financially drained and generally disconnected from the “reason for the season”. Have we missed opportunities to be loving, joyful, forgiving, sharing and peace-making? Have the only gifts we pursued been purchased at Macy’s or Target or have they been discovered in shared moments of tenderness and forgiveness, in generosity and gratitude for one another? Have we made time to remember and rejoice in all of the gifts that Jesus brings to us through his life, death and resurrection?

Advent begins the liturgical year for the Church. The beginnings of things usually need some advance preparation. Advent prepares us through joyful waiting and hopeful expectation for Christ’s coming – not as a baby but as the resurrected Christ. Part of waiting for the Lord’s coming includes being ready. We wait with hope for the second coming of Christ and we wait with joy for the celebration of Christmas

The Gospel tells us to “Stay Awake”. Our faith is not an hour on Sunday – a switch we turn on and off. Our lives must reflect the Gospel. The best way to be ready for God’s coming is to live the message of the Gospel every moment. Let us reflect and rediscover Advent as the season of God’s love made visible in Jesus and may we make visible our love for him and one another.

Some Advent practices:

- The Advent Wreath - 4 candles, 3 purple & 1 pink marking the 4 weeks of Advent around an evergreen wreath symbolizing the continuous love of God and that even in the darkest days of the year, there is life
- The Jesse Tree, traces the ancestry of Jesus, from Adam and Eve to John the Baptist, it symbolizes the story of God’s love for the human family
- Candles in the window, a sign that all are welcome, and that Christ is the light of the world
- Blessing the tree and the Crib in your home
- Family activity – adopt a family for Christmas select gifts together

- Experience a service activity together
- Make ornaments
- Read story of the real 12 Days of Christmas
- The legend of the Candy Cane
- Observe St. Nicholas Day - put a shoe out the night before the feast
- Pray each night
- Celebrate the Sunday Eucharist

ADVENT FEAST DAYS

Nov. 30 - St. Andrew - Apostle, the first of the twelve to meet Jesus. Tradition says that he may have preached in parts of Asia and Turkey before being crucified on an X-shaped cross.

Dec. 3 - St. Francis Xavier - Jesuit Missionary and Martyr

Dec. 4 - St. Barbara - Daughter of a pagan family who became a Christian and was martyred for her faith

Dec. 6 - St. Nicholas - Bishop known for charitable generosity to the poor

Dec. 7 - St. Ambrose - Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Dec. 8 - Immaculate Conception – Mary, Mother of God, born without sin Patroness of the United States Holy Day of Obligation

Dec. 9 - St. Juan Diego - Devout native Mexican farmer who received revelations from the Blessed Mother to have a Church built in her honor

Dec. 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe – Patroness of the Americas, celebrates Mary’s special care and motherly presence for all peoples of the Americas

Dec. 13 - St. Lucy - Young girl martyr known for giving goods to the poor during persecutions of Christians

Dec. 14 - St. John of the Cross - Carmelite priest, mystic, & Doctor of the Church

known for his writings and diligence in reforming Carmelite Order to its original spirit of simplicity and prayer, suffered persecution from his brother priests

Dec. 25 - Christmas - Feast of the Nativity - “the Word became flesh”

Dec. 26 - St. Stephen - First Martyr. He was stoned to death, witnessed by Saul of Tarsus who became the great St. Paul after his own remarkable conversion

Dec. 27 - St. John, Evangelist - The beloved disciple who wrote the 4th Gospel, 3 epistles and the Book of Revelation

Dec. 28 - Holy Innocents - Refers to execution ordered by Herod of all male children in Bethlehem, hoping that Jesus would be among them

Dec. 29 - St. Thomas Becket - Bishop and martyr. Appointed as Lord Chancellor of England but resigned when King Henry II tried to take control of the Church. Henry had Thomas killed on his way to prayers for his opposition.

Dec. 30 - Holy Family - Celebrates the love and unity of the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

November 2016
Jubilee of Mercy

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

As the Jubilee of Mercy concludes, I invite you to reflect on opportunities to continue accompanying the poor in our midst, including through the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). For over forty-five years, CCHD has been a living example of our Church's social teaching, offering a 'hand-up' to empower the poor to help themselves improve their lives and the livelihood of their families and others. This year, CCHD is funding twenty-eight organizations that are addressing the roots causes of poverty with seniors, youth, immigrants, people with disabilities and workers in Cook and Lake Counties.

This year a collaborative effort by several CCHD grantees helped pass the Illinois Domestic Workers' Bill of Rights (HB 1288). This law grants domestic workers – caretakers, housekeepers, those who clean and do household maintenance – the same legal protections as other workers. This victory directly lifts up the poor.

Please make a special effort during this Thanksgiving season to give generously to the CCHD Collection the weekend of November 26-27. Your contribution will enable the poor to achieve greater dignity and all of us to work together to build God's kingdom of justice.

To learn more about CCHD in the Archdiocese of Chicago, parish resources, and the groups it funds, please visit www.ChicagoPeaceAndJustice.org/CCHD.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Blase J. Cupich".

Most Reverend Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago

Other Ministry Notes

KOLBE HOUSE JAIL MINISTRY



THE DEACON'S WIFE IS COLLECTING STAMPS AGAIN!

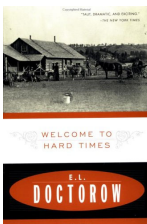
Once again I'm collecting stamps for the Kolbe House Catholic Jail Ministry. These are to be used for the Christmas Card mailings from Detainees to their families. As many of you know I serve as a Catholic Minister for the Kolbe House Jail Ministry at Cook County. In an effort to keep the detainees connected to their families, Kolbe House is again asking for postage stamps to be used for the detainees Christmas greetings to their families. This annual effort this year is looking to collect 7,000 first class stamps.

If you would like to donate stamps in any denomination (1 cent up to first class postage) please put them in an envelope and drop them off at the rectory marked "Kolbe House Stamps - c/o Marlene". Thank You on behalf of the detainees at Cook and Lake county jails and the staff and ministers of Kolbe House.

-God Bless You all - Marlene

BOOK CLUB - DEC. 13

The St. Cletus Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday evening, December 13th, at 7:00 PM. We are meeting in Room 102 in the school. The book to be discussed is "Welcome To Hard Times" by E. L. Doctorow. All interested participants are most welcome.



ST. CLETUS "MIDNIGHT MASS" CHOIR

Our Midnight Mass Choir is now beginning to prepare for the 10:30 p.m. "Midnight Mass". This is a glorious liturgy with a carol service beginning at 10:00 p.m.

If you are interested in singing with the choir, contact Larry Lalonde at llalonde@stcletusparish.com

WORD OF LIFE



"A model of care has been developed specifically for families whose infant is likely to die before or after birth. Often called 'perinatal hospice,' ...[it] provides precious moments together—whether the baby is inside or outside the womb—which can be cherished forever."

- "Supporting Families Who Receive a Prenatal Diagnosis" (www.goo.gl/JqdQJT), USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE



Saturday, December 10th, 6 – 10 p.m.

Come out for a fun evening of shopping and socializing with your friends at the St. Cletus Vendor Fair in Morrissey Hall. Admission is \$5 per person (includes a raffle ticket or a glass of wine and appetizers). 6 - 7 p.m. all ages are welcome / 7 - 10 p.m. absolutely no-one under the age of 21 is allowed.

Here is a sample of some of our vendors: 10th Avenue Tea / 31 Gifts / Ivy's Artesian Glass / Bebebells Quality Bags / BMH Creations / Camp 20 Stone Jewelry / Ceramics / Courtney Renee Interiors / Divalicious Cookies & Sweets / doTerra Oils / Flat Bottom Pretzels / Kaketopia / Lip Sense / Luxe Home Interiors / Magnolia & Vine / Olivaceto LLC / Origami Owl / Pampered Chef / Perfectly Posh / Pink Zebra / Preciosa Jewelry / Premier Design Jewelry / QT Apparel & StyleDots / Michelle's Quiltings / Scentsy / Simple Pleasures Bedding / St. Cletus – St. Vincent DePaul Cookbooks / Thrive by Le-Vel / Tutus and Bows / Uniquely Pawfect / Urban Ensembles / Wristocks

WELCOME WEEKEND 12/3-4

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers. Registration is available next weekend, December 3-4, after the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and the 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. Please stop by the back of church, say hello, and become members of St. Cletus Parish.

HOLY HOUR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH

Tuesday, Dec. 6th there will be a Holy Hour from 6-7 p.m. and Hispanic Adoration 7-8 p.m. Holy Hours are held the first Tuesday of each month.

BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSION

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be sent to canticle@stcletusparish.com. Please send as text with pictures separate. All articles are due no later than 5 p.m. Friday a full week (nine days) before Sunday's publication.

St. Cletus Parish 2015-16 Stewardship Report

Dear Parishioners,

We are blessed! Construction is well underway since the groundbreaking in June 2016, of our new Parish Center. It is because of your generosity and support we will be able to provide a new space to serve our parish community. Thank you for supporting the ministries of St. Cletus Parish. At the end of June 2016, over \$3,000,000 has been donated through your pledge payments and contributions, Fall Fest profits and investments. I would like to express my gratitude and thank you again for your extraordinary effort and in advance of your continued commitment to finish this project.



Our new Parish Center consists of:

- A large gathering area for parish meetings and fellowship
- A gym providing for a safe and competitive area for athletics
- Additional meeting rooms that would be handicap accessible
- And a stage area for school, parish, and Fine Arts productions

Thank you for your continued faithful and Faith-filled commitment to our parish project.

As you continue to read the Stewardship Report on the next pages, you will find the balance sheets and statements of revenue and expenses for this past year. You should be proud of all you have been able to accomplish to spread the Good News of the Gospel within this vibrant faith community.

I would like to thank all the members of our parish finance committee for their dedication and commitment to the sound financial health of our parish. The current members of this important advisory committee are: Marie Usher (Chairperson), Don McMahon, Dave Sipek, Patrick Townsend, Lauren Geist and John Adolf.

If you have any questions, email our finance committee, finance@stcletusparish.com or call the rectory (708) 352-6209.

With Sincere Thanks and Gratitude,

Fr. Bob Clark
Pastor

Fr. Ken Baker
Associate Pastor

Fr. Lorenzo Gamboa
Associate Pastor



Stewardship of Treasure

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Assets		
Parish Checking/Payroll Accounts	\$ 227,688	\$ 365,232
Parish Savings Accounts	49,248	27,741
School Building Fund Savings Account (3)	242,946	279,240
Auxiliary Group Bank Accounts	166,846	144,195
Prepaid Deposit/Prepaid Expenses	39,913	21,559
Restricted School Endowment investment at market value (1) (2)	670,890	701,696
Unrestricted Parish investments at market value (4)	541,920	554,463
Parish investments Pledged to Building Campaign Fund (5)	500,000	500,000
Restricted Building Campaign Fund Accounts (1) (6)	<u>2,123,708</u>	<u>1,810,045</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,563,158</u>	<u>\$ 4,404,171</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 229,842	\$ 229,765
Tuition deposits	<u>71,926</u>	<u>74,676</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 301,769</u>	<u>\$ 304,440</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>\$4,261,389</u>	<u>\$4,099,731</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,563,158</u>	<u>\$ 4,404,171</u>

(1) - Restricted funds are not available for general parish operations.

(2) - 2016 change in balance from 2015 column includes (\$30,806) unrealized loss in endowment investment.

(3) - 2016 change in balance from 2015 column includes (\$36,294) distributions for school building repairs.

(4) - 2016 change in balance from 2015 column includes (\$12,543) of unrealized loss in parish investments.

(5) - The Parish pledged \$500,000 from parish investments to the Building Campaign Fund in 2013.

(6) - 2016 column includes \$1,405,810 invested in Certificates of Deposit, \$694,552 in Savings at the Archdiocesan bank and \$23,346 in savings at our local bank and is restricted for the new Parish Center expenses only.

(7) - The school incurred (\$91,035) capital expenses for roof repairs, 2nd floor new windows and a/c units, classroom and hallway ceilings abatement and replacement.

St. Cletus Parish
Statement of Revenue and Expense
Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2016 and 2015

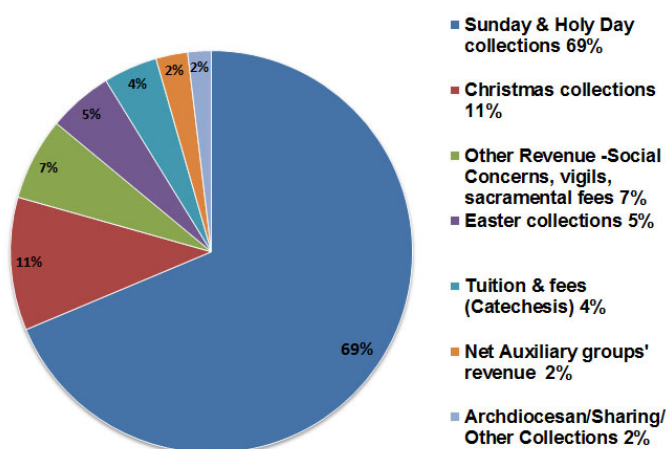
	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
<u>Church Revenue</u>		
Sunday & Holy Day collections	\$ 1,357,893	\$ 1,371,533
Christmas collections	211,603	203,981
Easter collections	102,549	101,625
Tuition & fees (Catechesis and youth)	85,992	96,627
Estate/Bequest/Memorial Donations	-	96,753
Net Auxiliary groups' revenue (expense)	50,574	35,472
Archdiocesan/Sharing/Other Collections	37,382	39,178
Other Revenue - i.e. Social Concerns, Fine Arts, vigils, sacramental	<u>131,284</u>	<u>174,601</u>
Total Church Revenue	<u>1,977,277</u>	<u>2,119,770</u>
<u>Church Expenses</u>		
Salaries & benefits	901,371	865,656
Books/supplies/liturgical	97,809	100,977
Administrative/office/professional services/technology	77,670	65,699
Utilities	49,540	53,101
Building Maintenance repairs & supplies	94,655	83,915
Archdiocesan assessments/insurance	284,178	295,398
Capital Improvements- Stained glass windows	-	25,450
Archdiocesan/Sharing/Other Collections	37,382	39,178
Other Expenses- i.e. Fine Arts, hospitality, ministry formation, outreach	<u>210,090</u>	<u>223,833</u>
Total Church Expenses	<u>1,752,695</u>	<u>1,753,207</u>
Church Net Surplus	<u>\$ 224,582</u>	<u>\$ 366,563</u>
<u>School Revenue</u>		
Tuition & fees	\$ 2,168,151	\$ 1,979,705
Fundraising events, Annual Fund, Fall Fest, Spring Auction, etc.	<u>212,860</u>	<u>202,235</u>
Total School Revenue	<u>2,381,011</u>	<u>2,181,940</u>
<u>School Expenses</u>		
Salaries & benefits	2,041,667	1,919,593
Books / instructional / technology / admin	201,223	178,830
Maintenance & repairs	133,012	120,540
Utilities	72,520	64,196
Insurance / assessment	70,372	70,228
Other Expenses- i.e. fees, meetings, marketing	<u>48,429</u>	<u>46,176</u>
Total School Expense	<u>2,567,223</u>	<u>2,399,563</u>
Parish Support to School	<u>(186,212)</u>	<u>(217,623)</u>
PARISH OPERATING (SURPLUS)	\$ 38,370	\$ 148,940
<u>Other Revenue and Other Expenses</u>		
Building Fund Campaign Revenue Collections	535,005	493,140
Building Fund Expense (Contractor, architect, payment processing, mailing)	(279,909)	(8,031)
School Endowment Donation	-	805,554
School Building Capital Improvements (7)	(91,035)	(276,925)
Interest Income	2,577	2,804
Unrealized loss from school endowment investment	(30,806)	14,475
Unrealized loss from parish investment	<u>(12,543)</u>	<u>12,309</u>
NET PARISH SURPLUS	<u>\$ 161,659</u>	<u>\$ 1,192,265</u>



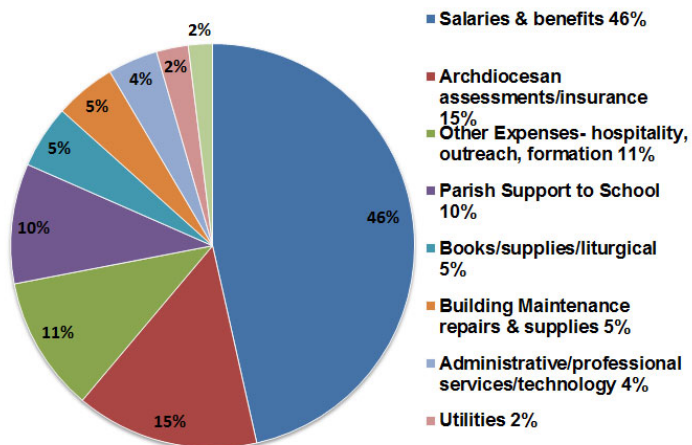
Stewardship of Treasure

Sources and Uses of Parish Operating Funds

Sources of Parish Operating Funds Fiscal Year 2016
\$1,977,277

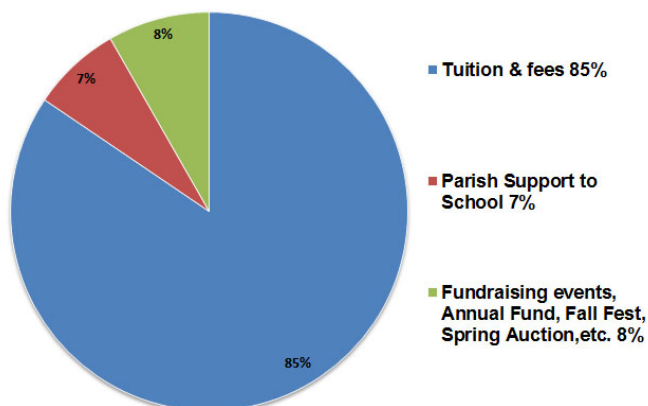


Uses of Parish Operating Funds Fiscal Year 2016
\$1,752,695

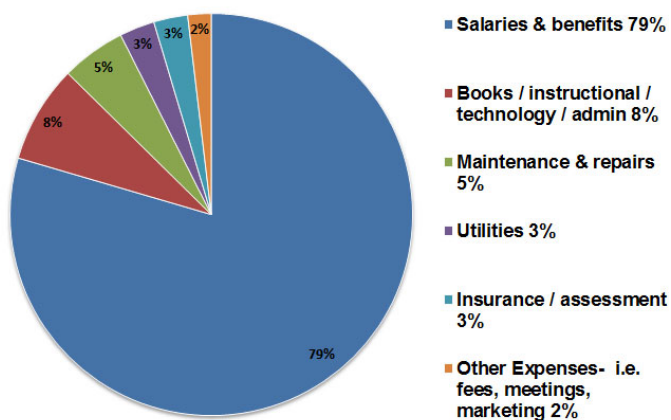


Sources and Uses of School Operating Funds

Sources of School Operating Funds Fiscal Year 2016
\$2,381,011



Uses of School Operating Funds Fiscal Year 2016
\$2,567,223





Stewardship of Treasure

Summary of the Parish Financial Report

- The parish finished the June 30, 2016 fiscal year with an operating income (the shaded line of the Statement of Revenue and Expense) of \$38,370.
- The parish's Sunday, Christmas and Easter collections for the year ended June 30, 2016 decreased by a total of \$5,094 from the prior year ended June 30, 2015.
- Combined parish and school salaries and benefits increased by \$157,789 in 2016 due to increased premiums health insurance premiums and contracted salary increases.
- Ordinary maintenance and repairs for the church, school and rectory decreased by \$27,975 in 2016.
- Increased parish and school family participation contributed toward \$212,860 of school fundraising revenue in 2016.
- The Fall Fest/Carnival was a huge success netting a profit of over \$82,000, allocated approximately \$50,000 for the school and the \$30,000 for the new Parish Center building campaign.
- The required parish support to the school in 2016 was \$186,212 a decrease from 2015 of \$31,411.
- Building Campaign Fund revenue received during 2016 was \$535,005 and expenses of \$279,909. Because building fund activity is not part of the parish's normal operations, it is not considered in determining the parish's operating income, but rather considered Other Revenue.
- During the year ended June 30, 2016, the parish's investment accounts had net unrealized loss of \$(12,543). Because investment gains and losses are not part of the parish's normal operations, they are not considered in determining the parish's operating income but rather considered Other Revenue.
- In 2015 an \$805,540 donation was received representing a bequest that a generous parishioner left to the school endowment. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 the donation funded school building capital improvements amounting to \$91,035, which included major projects such as roof repairs, new sidewalks, 2nd floor windows, a/c units, and abatement and replacement of classroom and hallway ceilings.

Thank you for your support of St. Cletus Parish.

Marie Usher, St. Cletus Parish Finance Committee, Chairperson

Please use this email finance@stcletusparish.com or call the rectory 708-352-6209 with any questions.

Youth Ministry

We ought to thank God always for you, as is fitting, because your faith flourishes ever more, and the love of every one of you for one another grows ever greater.

- 2 Thessalonians 1:3

During this time of year, we are called in a very concrete way to look around us and count our blessings. I feel very blessed to be a part of the parish community at St. Cletus as the Coordinator of Youth Ministry. I am humbled by the generosity of adult volunteers and by the gracious acceptance of the high school teens. It is truly a blessing to witness the spiritual growth within the ministry as teens explore their faith and discern how God is working in their lives. THANK YOU!

ENCOUNTER SMALL GROUPS

Our Encounter groups met this past Sunday afternoon to take a closer look at what it means to be a saint. We discussed the canonized saints whose stories we are familiar as well as the saints we witness in our own lives, and then we took a deeper look at what it means for God to call us individually to model for others His love as saints ourselves. In December we will gather with our small groups to serve together at the St. Cletus Giving Tree. Contact Elizabeth for details.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE DINNER

Thank you so much to all who served dinner at the Ronald McDonald House last weekend! We had a wonderful group of teens, as well as a couple of parents, who spent their Sunday afternoons and evenings preparing a delicious meal for the residents and then graciously served it to them. THANK YOU!

MISSION TRIP 2017

The location and dates for the summer mission trip are still being finalized. But it is never too early to begin discerning if this might be a calling for you! We will need high school teens who have completed their freshmen year and above (including recent grads of 2017) to join us for this week-long service trip. Registration details will be available soon! Stay tuned. We are also looking for adult chaperones who are willing to join us. Without you, this opportunity cannot be offered. Contact Elizabeth for details to see if this is something meant for you!

Contact Elizabeth Tomasek at etomasek@stcletusparish.com
(708) 215-5419 www.stcletusparish.com/youth

Community Bulletin Board

FENWICK OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 4. Program begins at 1 p.m. For more information or to schedule a shadow day, contact ckaszuba@fenwickfriars.com or 708-386-0127 ext. 109.

NAZARETH OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, December 1, 2016, between 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. with the presentation starting at 7 p.m. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Kristen Stojetz at 708.387.8505 or kstojetz@nazarethacademy.com.

ADOLF FUNERAL HOME

You are cordially invited to our Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Service. Family and friends are most welcome. We will be offering two services this year.
Saturday, December 3, 2016 - 2:00p.m.
Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Ltd.
7000 S. Madison Street, Willowbrook
Saturday, December 10, 2016 - 2:00 p.m.
Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Ltd.
2921 S. Harlem Avenue, Berwyn
For reservations please call 630-325-2300.

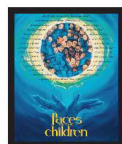
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MINISTRY OF THE ARTS

This sponsored ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph announces their annual Lobby Sale of books, cards, music, sculptures and art prints from their catalog and gift shop - many thoughtful gifts for remembering others. You are invited to stop in the Center to browse and visit.



Nov 21 - Dec 10
Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm
Sat 9am - 3pm




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Week at a Glance

C...Church S...School (Education Building) Narthex...Church Vestibule RB...Rectory Basement MH...Morrissey Hall

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, November 27	All Masses 2:00pm 4:00pm	Narthex MH S Music Room	Giving Tree Tags Scouts Tree Trimming Teen Choir Rehearsal
Monday, November 28	8:30pm	S Music Room MH	Junior Choir Rehearsal Men's Basketball
Tuesday, November 29	6:30pm 8:00pm 9:00pm	Rectory S Rm 207 MH	RCIA Men's Prayer Group Boy's Church League Basketball
Wednesday, November 30	6:30pm 7:00pm	Church S Rm 98 MH	Wednesday Evening Advent Mass CREDO Boy's Church League Basketball
Thursday, December 1	5:00pm 6:30 & 8pm	S Music Rm Church	Children's Choir Rehearsal LT Fanfares and Carols Concert
Friday, December 2	8:00pm		Holy Name Society Meeting
Saturday, December 3	5:00pm	Narthex	SVDP Cookbook Sale
Sunday, December 4	All Masses 11:00am 4:00pm	Narthex Church Church	SVDP Cookbook Sale Family Mass Fine Arts Series DIY Christmas Carol Concert



DO IT YOURSELF

Christmas

CAROL CONCERT

Sunday, Dec. 4th 4:00 p.m.

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Admission is Free.

More information about the Ed Ward Fine Arts Series can be found at www.edwardfas.com.



St. Cletus Parish Family Masses

Join Us As We Celebrate...
Family Mass

Mark your calendars:
December 4, 2016 11:00 a.m. Mass
December 11, 2016 11:00 a.m. Mass

Colleen Hagen	Susan Hurley
Maggie Kensek	Helen McMahon
Henry Morlock	

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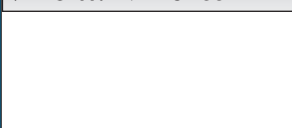
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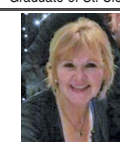
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