

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be
has not yet been revealed.
- 1 JOHN 3:2A



JESUS SAID
TO HIS PARENTS,
“WHY WERE YOU
LOOKING FOR ME?
DID YOU
NOT KNOW
THAT I MUST BE
IN MY FATHER’S
HOUSE?”

LUKE 2:49

THE HOLY
FAMILY
of
JESUS,
MARY AND
JOSEPH

DECEMBER 26, 2021

WELCOME

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Mass Intentions for December 27 - January 2, 2021

Day	Time	Presider (subject to change)	Intentions
December 27	8:00am	Fr. Romero	BC Collins
December 28	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Benigo Banez
December 29	8:00am	Fr. Costello	Frank Wojcik
December 30	8:00am	Fr. Baker	Harriet Baczynski
December 31	8:00am 5:00pm	Fr. Costello Fr. Kalas	St. Cletus Parishioners
January 1	9:00am 5:00pm	Fr. Costello Fr. Baker	St. Cletus Parishioners
January 2	7:15am 8:45am 10:30am 12:30pm	Fr. Baker Fr. Costello Fr. Costello Fr. Hays	Benedict Dybas, Jack Weier, Kathy Boucher, Richard Gomez Eugene Sorrentino, Rosalie Kruse, Fr. Jimmy Flynn Ann Marie Nabor St. Cletus Parishioners

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

We always welcome names for the sick. Please note that requests must only be made by the individual or an immediate family member. Names will remain in this prayer list for 3 months.

December - Gerda E. Dorso, Steve Hubona, Edward Kwak, Nora McKeehan

November - Joseph Busta, John Duda, Sandra Eckrich, Howard Eggert, Marlene Heyes, Joan Klemak, Marian Mozdzen, Patricia Rodey, Jean Tomazin

October - Catherine Cosgrove, Mary Depasquale, Laurie Stewart, Laura Terrazino, Ed Kuchta, Frank Niwa, Joanna Polanski, Gladys Vaci, Tom Valenti, Patrick Wingert

Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED

**MASKS ARE
REQUIRED FOR
ENTRY TO
THIS FACILITY**



Masks are required indoors for all clergy, staff, volunteers and parishioners inside archdiocesan facilities in Suburban Cook County and in the City of Chicago, including Masses, liturgies and all activities/events within our parishes.

PARISH OFFICE UPDATE

The St. Cletus Parish Office has new office hours:
Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm

Please note that the St. Cletus Parish Office will be closed on Friday 12/31 and Monday 01/03.

UPCOMING MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

Feast of the Holy Family

7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

Not a Holy Day of Obligation

5:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

(There will be no 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, Jan. 1)

9:00 a.m. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

5:00 p.m. The Epiphany of the Lord

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

The Epiphany of the Lord

7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,

12:30 p.m. (Spanish)



Pastor's Note

Dear Parishioners,
Merry Christmas!

It is truly a blessing to be able to celebrate, once again, the birth of our Lord!

On behalf of our Parish Staff, I would like to give you a heartfelt thanks for the special love you have for your parish. It is thanks to your ongoing support and generosity that we are delighted to share with you and all those who come to our parish the love of God.

On a personal level, I am deeply grateful for your kind and sincere welcome to your parish as your new pastor. It is thanks to your prayers, support, and encouragements that I feel daily inspired and animated to share my life with you. In my mind and heart all I want to do is the will of God and journey towards Him with you. Please continue to keep me in your prayers.

With regards to Renew My Church, I have some good news to share with you. We already started the initial process. Last month, I attended a two-day meeting led by the Archdiocese which was informative and helpful. As a result of it, we formed a Parish Committee that will assist me to engage the Renew My Church process. The Archdiocese has asked us to attend five meetings starting in January 2022. We look forward to attending those meetings with hope. We will keep you informed.

I am pleased to announce to you that our parish will remain opened. We will not be closing, merging, or combining with any parish. We will continue to be St. Cletus Parish! This is the fruit of your fine leadership, excellent stewardship, and for the special love you have shown for St. Cletus over the years. Congratulations!

Below I share with you a message from the members of our St. Cletus Parish Renew My Church Committee.

“Over the past couple years considerable changes have taken place in the Archdiocese of Chicago’s efforts to “Renew My Church”. Closures and consolidations have been in the news and undoubtably caused angst and concern within the Archdiocese. Happily, St Cletus Parish will not fall victim to that kind of fate. We are a vibrant and engaged parish family! For us, renewal promises to be a joy-filled faith-inspiring experience.

Our parish is currently in the initial stages of our “Renew My Church” (RMC) process.

A St. Cletus Parish RMC Committee has been formed with the guidance of our Pastor, Father Elmer Romero. Members of the committee include: Barb Campbell, Kendall Grant, Steven Dziak, Lilia Dziak, Leonard Bertin, Camille Koch, Helen McComiskey, Gregory Porod, and Colleen Hagen. With prayer and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, their passion and commitment are sure to serve us well as we move toward becoming a renewed parish family.

Throughout scripture God’s inspired word repeatedly recounts renewal as a living theme within the history of God’s chosen people. That truth is evident today in our participation in the sacraments, especially Baptism, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Matrimony, and the Eucharist.

An initial meeting with Rick Moreno, from the Archdiocese, took place in late November. During that meeting, an overview of Cardinal Cupich’s vision for the renewal of the Archdiocese was presented. Additional meetings have been scheduled to form an in-depth understanding and next-steps in the RMC process and its implementation here at St. Cletus Parish.

Our RMC Committee will also meet independently multiple times to develop tailored plans for us. The first such meeting took place on Friday, December 10th. At the gracious invitation of Father Elmer, the committee met at the parish rectory to share their passion, insights, and enthusiasm in prayer and “breaking bread” together.

Discussion through the evening included expressions of hopes that as a parish we continue to grow, not only in numbers but in the depth of our faith, shared love, joy, and an increased sense of community that includes all members of the parish. You can look forward to updates and invitations to new and exciting parish community activities and programs in the near future.

The RMC Committee members wish to extend their hopes for a joyous Christmas to all as we celebrate the awaited birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!”

Once again, Merry Christmas!

Fr. Elmer Romero
Pastor



ST. CLETUS PARISH RENEW MY CHURCH COMMITTEE
Not pictured: Greg Porod and Barb Campbell

Letter from Fr. Ken Baker

My dear friends,

We have all heard the expression, “All good things must come to an end.” And so it is that I wanted you to know that I will be leaving St. Cletus next month.

This decision has not been an easy one, as I have been in my assignment here longer than any of my previous assignments. I'm in my 10th year... an unusual happenstance for an associate pastor. I know this seems sudden, but you all know that my last several years have included health issues for the closest members of my family, in particular, my sister; and then a year ago, after being her caregiver throughout the pandemic, the loss of my beloved mother. And so, after much prayer, and consultation with the Archdiocese, now is the best time for me to make a change in assignments.

I've done my best to help in the transition of welcoming Father Elmer and Father Dan, and making a move now will allow me a bit of time to discern with the Archdiocese, my next assignment. Because that has not been finalized, I cannot tell you where or what that will be just yet. What I can tell you is that I have not been asked to leave, that I am not being removed, that I am not in a relationship, that I am not leaving here in an ambulance, that I am not going off to build a theater, and I am not headed to Broadway... though if you are on my mailing list or would like to be, you might get invited to hear me sing some place! But, my dear friends, it is time for me to move. And so over these next few weeks, we will begin to say our goodbyes.

To that end, we'll have a farewell celebration that will begin with the 5pm mass here in church, followed by a formal reception in the Parish Center immediately following, on Saturday, January 15th. Then on Sunday, January 16th, in the Parish Center, I'll also have the chance to say goodbye to you following each of the Sunday masses.

Farewells are never easy... and knowing me, I am bound to be emotional. And so let us promise to pray for one another, and like so many other moments we've shared over these years, let us make our way through this moment... together.

Thank you, and know that I love you very much.

Peace,

Fr. Ken

St. Cletus School

Greg Porod, Principal
 (708) 352-4820 | gporod@stcletusparish.com

Christy Schaefer, Asst. Principal
 (708) 352-4820 | cschaefer@stcletusparish.com

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Thank you to all of the students who made the Our Lady of Guadalupe service so beautiful! Our choir sounded fabulous, our readers did a wonderful job, and our 6th graders did such an amazing job re-enacting the apparitions of Our Lady to Juan Diego. A special thank you to Mr. Ochoa for all of the hard work he put in to preparing our 6th graders for their skit.



SANTA DRIVE THRU & TOY DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Santa Drive Thru and a big thank you to all of our volunteers who made this event possible! We loved seeing all the kids faces light up as they made their way through the line! Thank you also to everyone who donated a toy for our toy drive!



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

INVEST IN KIDS TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Request your Letter ID in 3 easy steps

If you are a first-time donor, here is what you need to know about the first step of the donation process. If you have not activated an account with the Illinois Department of Revenue, you need to request a **Letter ID**.

- Step 1**
 Log on to mytax.illinois.gov to REQUEST LETTER ID
- If you already have an account, enter your username and password to verify.
 - If you do **not** have an account, scroll down to the "Individuals" box on the left.
- Step 2**
 Click on "Request a Letter ID."
- Step 3**
 Enter your Social Security Number and one of the following:
- IL-PIN
 - Most recent adjusted gross income
 - IL driver's license number
 - IL state identification number

Click "Submit" and enter; confirm your email address; then click "OK" to submit and receive your confirmation.

You will receive your Letter ID in the mail at the address on your last year's tax return within 7-10 business days. Call 312.534.2617 or email investinkids@archchicago.org with questions.

Get Ready to Donate on Dec. 1!

Illinois Letter ID Drive

You can support Catholic education by donating to the Invest in Kids Tax Credit Scholarship Program! If you are a new donor, who would love to take advantage of a tax credit but don't know where to start, we can help you get started and take advantage of the 2-for-1 Matching Gift Program.

By following the step-by-step instructions below, you can initiate your donation by first applying for your Illinois Letter ID. Obtaining a Letter ID is the first step. Once your request is received by the state, it takes about a week to receive your Letter ID via the USPS.

Be ready on Dec. 1 to take advantage of the 2-for-1 matching opportunity! Your support will help provide access to a high quality, faith-based education for thousands of Illinois students.

Step-by-step instructions on how to obtain your Letter ID can be found by going to schools.archchicago.org/donating-to-a-tax-credit-scholarship and selecting "Begin the Process."

"YOUR GENEROSITY HAS PUT MY ENTIRE FAMILY AND I AT EASE KNOWING THAT MY SON IS GETTING THE BEST EDUCATION POSSIBLE."

—Parent, St. John Berchmans School

Ready to get your Letter ID?
 Visit mytax.illinois.gov today to start!

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Credit Scholarship Hotline at 312.534.2617 or tcs@archchicago.org. You can also visit archchicago.org/tcs for more information.

Once you've received your Letter ID, wait until Dec. 1 to make your donation when the 2-for-1 Matching Program begins. Please view bit.ly/DonationSteps2021 to find detailed instructions on how to continue with your donation after Dec. 1. As a reminder, under the Invest in Kids Act, corporate donors are not permitted to select a specific school to support tax credit scholarship donations.

Social Concerns Ministry



**ST. CLETUS
FOOD PANTRY
THURSDAYS 6-8PM
CHURCH PARKING LOT**

FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST:

Thank you so much for your generous donations! We are blessed to have many, many holiday food drives going on right now to support the pantry. Please consider holding food donations until the new year.

Follow us on Facebook:
@StCletusFoodPantry

Now on Instagram:
@St.CletusFoodPantry

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

FOOD PANTRY UPDATES

There will be no Food Pantry distribution on Thursday, December 30.

On behalf of the Social Concerns Ministry, we wish all of you a Blessed and Peace-filled New Year! 2021 was another unique year. It gave us many opportunities to give hope to many of the people who are struggling in our midst, by providing food, shelter, transportation, and other basic necessities for their families. The generosity of our parishioners, neighbors and friends abounds, which we witnessed, especially during this Holiday Season.

In 2021:

- 3,756 households were served through the food pantry.
- 1,141 individuals received presents through the Giving Tree program
- Thousands of rides given through ICP
- Over 20 Career Network speakers/workshops
- Hundreds of volunteers
- Almost 1,000 handmade Mission Ladies items
- 40+ families received financial assistance through St. Vincent DePaul or Social Concerns with heat, rent, electric, fuel, etc.

Dozens of families assisted through Domestic Violence Outreach and the Respect Life Ministry

Volunteers from all areas of this ministry – Social Concerns Commission, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Interfaith Community Partners, Food Pantry, Interfaith Career Network, Respect Life, Mission Ladies, Lenten Almsgiving, Advent Giving Tree, Domestic Violence Outreach, and other special efforts-join you in our goal of responding to human needs with justice and love, in Christ's name.

On a personal note, I continue to be so inspired by this community. 2020 was obviously unprecedented but things weren't exactly "back to normal" in 2021. You have never stopped giving and supporting the pantry with everything we need. Your food and monetary donations, sharing our social media posts, directing neighbors and friends to us, you have done it all to keep us going! **YOU HAVE FUELED US!** Thank you.

Our volunteers...I cannot say enough about our volunteers. Many of you know, I was away this summer on maternity leave. In a hard year, our volunteers and my colleagues stepped it up even more to cover in my absence. On Thursday nights, Maureen Soldat and Susan Hockman kept distribution going smoothly, welcoming in volunteers, registering clients, distributing needed items, without missing a beat. They were supported by a steady stream of regular volunteers to help offer consistency during the summer. I owe a debt of gratitude to our "behind the scenes" volunteers who sort, organize, and prepare all of the food donations. Most especially, Pauline Szabelski who, with the help of a team of dedicated volunteers, keeps this train running! It's a physically demanding and seemingly never ending task as donations arrive multiple times each day. There are so many more individual volunteers and groups to thank. I was grateful to spend much needed time with family, and our new little one, this summer thanks to such incredibly dedicated volunteers here at St. Cletus. Thank you, I am so grateful!

In the New Year, we ask you to pray along with us:

Lord God, grant us a vision of your world as your love would have it:

a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor;

a world where the riches of creation are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;

a world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect;

a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.

Give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ministerio de Justicia Social

ACTUALIZACIÓN DE LA DESPENSA DE ALIMENTOS

No habrá distribución de despensa de comida el Jueves, 30 de Diciembre.

En nombre del ministerio de Interés Social, les deseamos a todos un nuevo año lleno de Paz y Bendiciones! 2021 fue otro año único. Nos dio muchas oportunidades de dar esperanza a mucha gente, que está luchando entre nosotros, proporcionando comida, albergue, transportación y otras necesidades básicas para sus familias. La generosidad de nuestros feligreses y abundantes vecinos, de lo cual fuimos testigos, especialmente durante esta temporada festiva.

En el 2021:

- 3,756 hogares fueron servidos a través de la despensa de la comida
- 1,141 individuos recibieron regalos a través del Árbol Navideño
- Miles de transportación dados a través de ICP
- Más de 20 red de talleres de trabajo
- Cientos de voluntarios
- Casi 1000 artículos hecho a mano por el grupo de Ladies Misión
- Más de 40 familias recibieron asistencia financiera a través de St. Vincent DePaul y Inters Social, con renta, calor, Luz y combustible, etc.
- Decenas de familias asistidas a través del Alcance de Violencia Doméstica y el ministerio Respete La Vida.

Voluntarios de todos estos ministerios---- Social Concerns Commission, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Interfaith Community Partners, Food Pantry, Interfaith Career Network, Respect Life, Mission Ladies, Lenten Almsgiving, Advent Giving Tree, Domestic Violence Outreach, Y otro esfuerzo especiales que se unieron a nosotros para responder a las necesidades humanas, con justicia y amor.

En una nota personal, continuo estando inspirada por esta comunidad. 2020 fue obviamente sin precedente, pero las cosas no fueron exactamente "regresar a lo normal" en el 2021. Nunca dejaron de dar y apoyar a la despensa de comida con todo lo que necesitamos. Su comida y donaciones de dinero, compartiendo en nuestra publicación en redes sociales, dirigiendo amigos y vecinos a nosotros, ustedes lo han hecho todo para que sigamos adelante! USTEDES NOS HAN IMPULSADO! Gracias

A nuestros voluntarios.... Yo no puedo decir lo suficiente de nuestros voluntarios,, Muchos de ustedes sabrán que este verano estuve ausente por maternidad, en un año difícil, nuestros voluntarios y mis colegas se intensificó aun mas para cubrir mi ausencia. Los Jueves en la noche Maureen Soldat y Susan Hockman mantuvieron la distribución sin problemas, dando la bienvenida a voluntarios, registrando clientes, distribuyendo artículos necesarios sin perder el ritmo. Fueron apoyadas por un grupo constante de voluntarios que se ofrecieron para tener consistencia este verano. Tengo una deuda de gratitud a voluntarios "detrás de la escena" que separaron, organizaron, y prepararon todas las donaciones de comida. Muy especialmente, Pauline Szabelski, que ayudo con un equipo de voluntarios dedicados para mantener el tren corriendo! Un trabajo muy duro físicamente, cuando parece nunca terminar, pues llegan múltiples donaciones cada día. Hay tantas personas individuales y grupos que agradecer. Yo estoy muy agradecida por el tiempo tan necesitado que compartí con mi familia, y nuestros pequeños este verano, muchas gracias a tan increíbles y dedicados voluntarios aquí en San Cleto. Gracias, estoy muy agradecida!

Este Año Nuevo, le pedimos ore con nosotros:

Dios Mío, danos la visión de tu mundo, como tu amor nos lo indique:

En un mundo que el débil es protegido, y nadie se quede con hambre o pobreza:

En un mundo donde las riquezas son compartidas, y todos pueden disfrutar:

En un mundo donde las diferentes razas y culturas viven en armonía y respeto mutuo:

En un mundo donde la paz se construye con justicia, y esa justicia está guiada por amor:

Danos la inspiración y coraje para construirla por Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Amen.



DEPÓSITO DE COMIDA DE LA PARROQUIA DE SAN CLETO JUEVES 6-8PM

Lista de deseos para la despensa de comida:

Muchas gracias por sus generosas donaciones! Teneos la bendición de tener muchas, muchas campañas de recolección de alimentos, que se están haciendo ahora mismo para apoyar la despensa de comida. Por favor considere guardar las donaciones de comida hasta el próximo año.

Siganos en Facebook:
@StCletusFoodPantry

Siganos en Instagram:
@St.CletusFoodPantry

Si tiene preguntas o quiere ser voluntario en nuestro ministerio de Justicia Social contacte a Kendall Grant (708)215-5418 kgrant@stcletusparish.com

Religious Education & Youth Ministry

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY!

It's here! It's finally here! Christmas is finally here! I just love Christmas, don't you? What do you like best about Christmas? Is it the Christmas tree with its blinking lights? Maybe it's the beautiful music or the delicious Christmas goodies. Perhaps it's Christmas dinner with roast beef or turkey and dressing and all the trimmings. For some it might be all the parties and special visits with family and friends. For many people the best thing about Christmas is the presents – those they give and those they receive. Hmm...but I have left something out, haven't I? Oh yes! It's someone's birthday isn't it? Yes, it is Jesus' birthday! Sometimes we get so caught up in all the decorations, lights, parties and presents that we miss the real Christmas.

That reminds me of a story I heard about a little boy who had always wanted to go to the circus. One day he was walking down the street when he saw a poster in a store window. The poster said that a circus was coming to town and that a ticket to the circus cost five dollars. The boy ran home and asked his parents if they would give him five dollars to go to the circus on Saturday.

His parents told him that if he would work hard and get all of his chores done that week, they would give him the five dollars to go to the circus. All week long the young boy cheerfully did all of his chores, and when Saturday morning came, his parents gave him the needed five dollars.

The boy headed into town with his money, filled with excitement to see all of the wild animals, trapeze artists, and all of the things that come with a circus. Since he arrived in town so early, he was in the front row when the circus parade started down the main street of town. The boy was thrilled when the wild animals and other circus acts paraded by.

At the end of the parade came the clowns and following the clowns was the ringmaster. When the ringmaster passed by where he was standing, the boy ran out into the street, took his folded five dollar bill from his pocket, and handed it to the ringmaster.

"Thanks mister!" said the boy. "That was a great circus!" Then he turned around and walked home. He never knew what he had missed. He thought he had been to the circus, but he had only been to the parade.

If we are not careful, we can be like that little boy. We can get so caught up in the celebrations, the decorations, and the gifts that we miss the real Christmas – the birthday of our Savior, Jesus Christ. May we all take a moment today to reflect on the real meaning of Christmas, and celebrate the birth of Jesus in our hearts and in our world today.



This Advent season our children and teens in our Religious Education and Youth Ministry programs have been busy preparing for the birth of our Savior into the world and serving others in our community. We are proud of them and their efforts to help others in our community. Please enjoy a few photos of some of our gatherings where they performed acts of service.

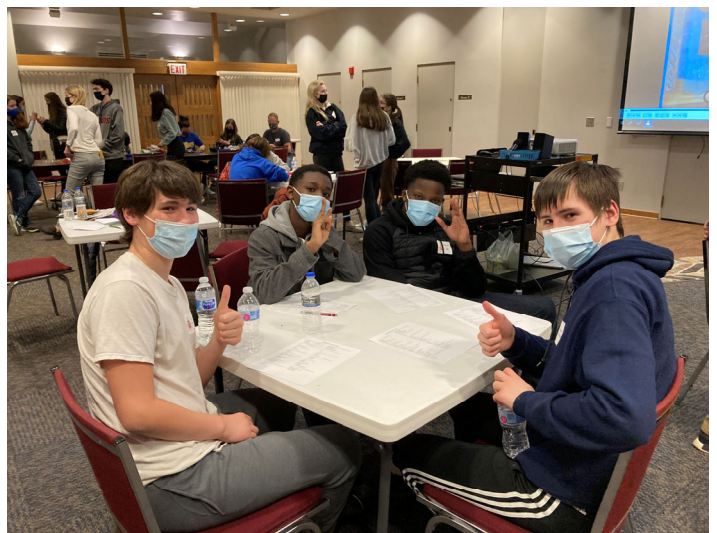
SOME PHOTOS FROM THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ADVENT EVENT



MAKING BLANKETS FOR CHILDREN WHO WILL BE BAPTIZED AT ST. CLETUS



YOUTH MINISTRY SERVICE PROJECT PHOTOS



Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry
bcampbell@stcletusparish.com | (708) 352-2383 | re.stcletusparish.com

Sunday Notes

JESUS SAID TO HIS PARENTS,
 "WHY WERE YOU
 LOOKING FOR ME?
 DID YOU NOT KNOW
 THAT I MUST BE IN
 MY FATHER'S HOUSE?"

LUKE 2:49

THE HOLY
 FAMILY
 OF JESUS,
 MARY AND
 JOSEPH
 DECEMBER 26, 2021



FAMILY LIFE

Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, the “en-flesh-ment” of God as a human person. In Jesus, God is bodily present in the human story. Today we honor the Holy Family, helping us to see that God is active in daily family life. God is near at hand, amidst the tensions, joys, and uncertainties of family life. As our Gospel passage describes, even with family miscommunications and with limited understanding of Jesus’ mission, the Holy Family persevered in their life together. Like many family conflicts, there was no immediate or clear resolution of the issues raised by Jesus and by Mary. God’s intentions for the family, and for Jesus, were still unfolding. They continued to stay connected with each other and with God. Within the turbulence of family life, they trusted God to actively sustain and guide them into an uncertain future. We are invited to follow their example.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Hannah gives her son Samuel back to the LORD, leaving him in the temple at Shiloh: “As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD” (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) *or* *Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*.

Psalm — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) *or* *Psalm 128*.

Second Reading — We are children of God when we believe in the name of God’s Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us (1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24) *or* *Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]*.

Gospel — Joseph and Mary find the lost Jesus in the temple in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking questions (Luke 2:41-52).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a,2-8
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
 Saturday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
 Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
 Monday: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
 Tuesday: The Holy Innocents
 Wednesday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket
 Thursday: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
 Friday: Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I; New Year’s Eve
 Saturday: The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; First Friday; New Year’s Day; First Saturday

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I imitate the Holy Family this week?

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THE NAME FOR GOD

Mother is the name for God on the lips and in the hearts of little children.

—William Makepeace Thackeray

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

Jesús dijo a sus padres:
¿“POR QUÉ ME
ANDABAN BUSCANDO?
¿NO SABÍAN QUE DEBO
OCUPARME EN LAS COSAS
DE MI PADRE?”

LUCAS 2:49

LA
SAGRADA
FAMILIA
de
JESÚS,
MARÍA
Y JOSÉ
26 de diciembre
de 2021



VIDA FAMILIAR

La Navidad celebra la Encarnación, la “en-carna-ción” de Dios como una persona humana. En Jesús, Dios está presente físicamente en la historia humana. Hoy honramos a la Sagrada Familia, que nos ayuda a ver que Dios está activo en la vida familiar cotidiana. Dios está cerca, en medio de las tensiones, alegrías y las incertidumbres de la vida familiar. Como lo describe nuestro pasaje del Evangelio, incluso con la falta de comunicación y con una limitada comprensión de la misión de Jesús, la Sagrada Familia perseveró en su vida en común. Como en muchos conflictos familiares, no hubo una resolución inmediata o clara en los asuntos presentados por Jesús y María. Las intenciones de Dios hacia la familia y hacia Jesús, seguían desarrollándose. Ellos eran una familia unida y también lo eran con Dios. Dentro de la turbulencia de la vida familiar, confiaron en que Dios los sostenía vivamente y guiaba a un futuro incierto. Estamos invitados a seguir su ejemplo.

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LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura—Ana entregó su hijo Samuel al Señor, dejándolo en el templo de Siló: “Toda su vida, él está cedido a Yavé” (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) o *Eclesiástico 3:2-6, 12-14*.

Salmo — Dichosos los que temen al Señor y siguen sus caminos (Salmo 84 [83]) o *Salmo 128(127)*.

Segunda lectura—Somos hijos de Dios cuando creemos en el nombre de su Hijo, Jesucristo, y nos amamos mutuamente como él nos ordenó (1 Juan 3:1-2, 21-24) o *Colosenses 3:12-21 [12-17]*.

Evangelio—José y María encuentran a Jesús perdido en el templo en medio de los maestros, escuchando y haciendo preguntas (Lucas 2:41-52).

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EL NOMBRE DE DIOS

Madre es el nombre de Dios en los labios y corazones de los niños pequeños.

—William Makepeace Thackeray

HABLA BIEN

Habla bien de la gente y nunca tendrás que susurrar.

—Anónimo

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12;
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Martes: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7b-8;
Mt 2:13-18

Miércoles: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Sal 96 (95):1-3, 5b-6; Lc 2:22-35

Jueves: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Sal 96 (95):7-10; Lc 2:36-40

Viernes: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Sal 96 (95):1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Sábado: Nm 6:22-27; Sal 67 (66):2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gál 4:4-7; Lc 2:16-21

Domingo: Is 60:1-6; Sal 72 (71):1-2, 7-8, 10-13;
Ef 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

LOS SANTOS Y OTRAS CELEBRACIONES

Domingo: La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

Lunes: San Juan, Apóstol y Evangelista

Martes: Los Santos Inocentes

Miércoles: Quinto día de la Octava de Navidad;
Santo Tomás Becket

Jueves: Sexto día de la Octava de Navidad

Viernes: Séptimo día de la Octava de Navidad;
San Silvestre I; Víspera del Año Nuevo

Sábado: Octava de Navidad; Año Nuevo;
Santa María, Madre de Dios;
Jornada Mundial de Oración por la Paz;
Primer sábado

ORACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

Señor Dios, que te dignaste dejarnos el más perfecto ejemplo en la Sagrada Familia de tu Hijo, concédenos benignamente que, imitando sus virtudes domésticas y los lazos de caridad que la unió, podamos gozar de la eterna recompensa en la alegría de tu casa.

Por nuestro Señor Jesucristo, tu Hijo, que vive y reina contigo en la unidad del Espíritu Santo y es Dios por los siglos de los siglos.

Pregunta de reflexión:

¿Cómo puedo imitar a la Sagrada Familia esta semana?

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Ministry & Community News

THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Please register/find out about more about programs at The Well Spirituality Center online: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048. All programs are currently on ZOOM.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATION

Thursday, Jan 6, 7—8 PM Facilitators: Kathy Sherman CSJ, Well Staff

On this feast of the Epiphany we celebrate the manifestation of God's presence and profound love among us. In gratitude for who you are we will be offering this program of music and expressions of thanksgiving as a gift to you. Please join us for this free gathering.

REVISITING AND EXTENDING *BRIDGING THE DIVIDES, TENDING THE GAP* CONFERENCE

**Five Tuesdays, Jan 11—Feb 8, 12:30—2 PM
Facilitators: Pat Bergen CSJ, Leslie Ritter-Jenkins**

Do the divisions in this country cause your heart to ache, your blood pressure to rise, or leave you feeling helpless? Did you attend our *Bridging the Divides, Tending the Gaps* Conference and want to enter more deeply into the content of our presenters? Did you miss the event, but are drawn to experience some part of it? All are welcome to join! \$15/session.

FLOURISHING: JOURNEYING INTO WHOLENESS WITH POETS IN THEIR WISDOM YEARS

**One-day Retreat, Saturday, Jan 15, 8AM—2 PM
Facilitator: Mark S. Burrows**

This retreat draws on poems that invite us to live into a healthier wholeness and cultivate the deep longings of our hearts. Together we will explore the wisdom found in the later poems of Mary Oliver, Stanley Kunitz, Denise Levertov, William Stafford, and W. S. Merwin, among others. \$60.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? It is SO EASY!

Visit the St. Cletus Parish website at stcletusparish.com and click the "DONATE" BUTTON (pictured to the right). Click Sunday donations. We accept checks (ACH), debit and credit cards.

If you have questions or need help, contact Jim Dion at jdion@stcletusparish.com or 708.352.6209.

PARISH LAUNCHES MOBILE APP



We are excited to announce the release of a new mobile app for Android and iOS. The app is a new and effective way for the parish to communicate with you and for you to stay connected. We've included prayer resources including Liturgy of the Hours, Daily Mass Readings, the Order of the Mass, Sunday Reading Reflections, the Bible, the Catechism, a digital rosary and on and on. It is also packed with educational resources, parish events, mass schedules, and photo capture tools. Best of all, we can alert you of extra special happenings and cancellations via the app's push notifications system. Search for St. Cletus Parish in your app store or find direct links on the home page of our website at <https://stcletusparish.com>. Questions or feedback? Email us at itservices@stcletusparish.com.

SUPPORT SC WITH AMAZON SMILE



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We hope you will choose St. Cletus Church. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

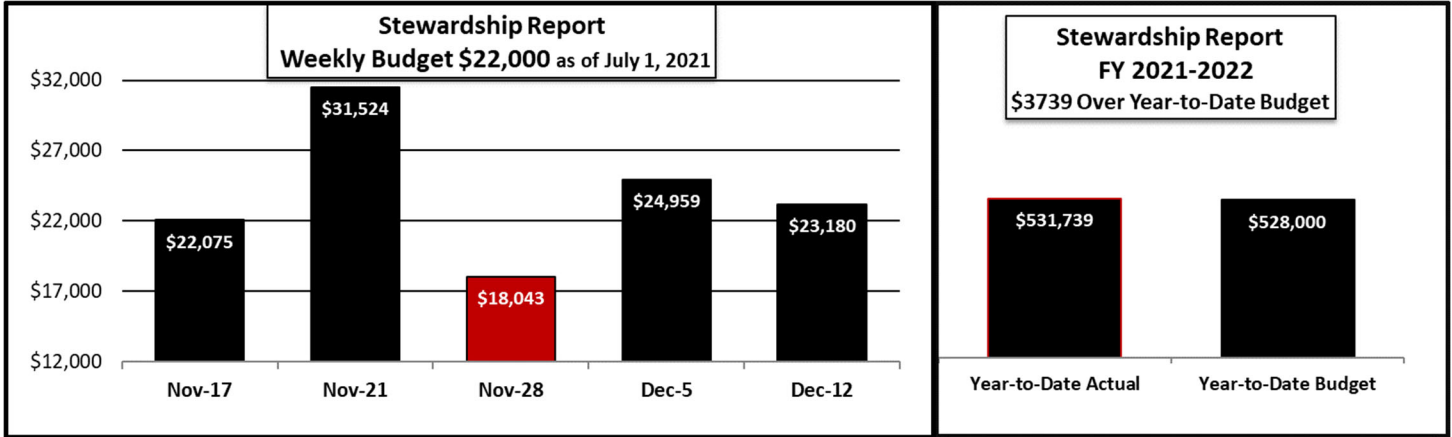
BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be emailed to canticle@stcletusparish.com as text with pictures attached separately. All articles are due 5p.m. Friday a full week (9 days) before Sunday's publication. Please note that there are early submission deadlines during the holidays.

Stewardship Report

WEEKLY GIVING REPORT

Due to early printing of the Canticle, the December 19, 2021 Giving Report will be published in the January 2 Canticle.



PLANNED GIVING REQUEST FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. - Romans 14: 7-8

As the New Year begins, consider one of the greatest acts of stewardship an individual can make by establishing an estate plan. A well-coordinated estate plan typically includes: (1) financial power of attorney, (2) will, (3) beneficiary designations, (4) charitable beneficiary designations and (5) health care documents, such as a living will and a health care power of attorney.


Please consult an attorney and financial advisor when creating your estate plan. For more information, please contact Jim Dion at jdion@stcletusparish.com or 708.352.6209. For a free step-by-step guide to reviewing your estate plan, please contact Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org

Week at a Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, December 26	7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) Masses in Church		
Monday, December 27	8:00am	Church	Mass
Tuesday, December 28	8:00am	Church	Mass
Wednesday, December 29	8:00am	Church	Mass
Thursday, December 30	8:00am 7:30pm	Church School Music Room	Mass Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 31	8:00am 5:00pm	Church Church	Mass Mass
Saturday, January 1	9:00am 5:00pm	Church Church	Mass (No 8:00am Mass) Mass
Sunday, January 2	7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish) Masses in Church		

St. Cletus Parish Information

CONTACT US

Parish Center.....(708) 352-6209
 School(708) 352-4820
 www.stcletusparish.com.....  stcletuschurch

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Please note that all deliveries and inquiries should be made to the parish center office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.

Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday and SundayClosed

MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)
 Weekdays..... Mon. thru Fri. 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

BAPTISMS

Parents must be registered parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at (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.

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at (708) 352-6209.

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office (708) 352-6209

STAFF

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Elmer Romero, Pastor
Rev. Kenneth Baker, Associate Pastor
Rev. Dan Costello, Associate Pastor
Rev. Robert Clark, Pastor Emeritus

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship (708) 215-5422
Karen Ziemba, Music Ministry (708) 215-5423
Kendall Grant, Social Concerns (708) 215-5418
Christopher Wagner, Technology (708) 215-5420

HISPANIC MINISTRY (708) 352-6209

SCHOOL STAFF..... (708) 352-4820

Gregory Porod, Principal
Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal
Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant
Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant
Kate Townsend, Receptionist/Office Assistant

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education
Griselda Rahman, Coordinator of Religious Education
Paulette Bolton, Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship

PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

Jim Dion, Business Manager
Olga Montalvo, Parish Administrative Assistant
Silvia Castellanos, Parish Secretary
Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

PastorFr. Elmer Romero
 Chairperson Bob Wasik

MEMBERS

Bob Malham
 Kevin Hogan
 Mike Napleton

LIAISONS

FSA President Rhonda Aumann
 Athletic Association..... Tina Pryor

PARISH MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement

St. Cletus is a dynamic Catholic community dedicated to spreading the Good news of Jesus Christ through worship, education, and service.

Vision Statement

We welcome all. We encourage all parishioners to live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in their daily lives, by sharing their talents and faith with our parish and community.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Cletus Church #9238
600 W. 55th Street
La Grange, IL 60525

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/
Olga Montalvo

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