

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Christmas

A SAVIOR IS BORN



St. Cletus Parish Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Dec. 24

Please note: no 8:00 am Mass, no Confessions, no 5pm Mass

- 2:00 pm - Church
- 2:15 pm - Morrissey Hall
- 3:30 pm - Church
- 3:45 pm - Morrissey Hall
- 5:30 pm - Church
- 7:00 pm - Church - Spanish
- 10:00 pm - Sing Carols, 10:30 pm - Mass in Church

Christmas Day Dec. 25 (All Masses in Church)

- 7:00 am
- 8:00 am
- 9:30 am
- 11:00 am
- 12:30 pm Spanish

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Dec. 31 - 5:00 pm Vigil
Jan 1, 2017 - 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, & 12:30 pm Spanish

Archdiocesan Mass for Life

Jan 7, 2017 - 5:00 pm, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Principal Celebrant

WELCOME

So glad you could join us!

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Mass Intentions for the Week of December 26 - January 1, 2017

| Day | Time | Intentions |
|-----------|---|--|
| Monday | 8:00 a.m. | Stacey Baker, Albert Dybicz, John Grazulis, Dan Rosko, Larry Smolinski |
| Tuesday | 8:00 a.m. | Venda Teulacka |
| Wednesday | 8:00 a.m. | St. Cletus Priests Past and Present |
| Thursday | 8:00 a.m. | Frank Wojcik, Marylyn Loughlin, Domenica Frasca |
| Friday | 8:00 a.m. | Genevieve Janis, Benjamin Partick Hyink |
| Saturday | 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. | St. Cletus Parishioners Living and Deceased |
| Sunday | 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. | St. Cletus Parishioners Living and Deceased |



Marriage Banns

Melissa VanWormer
& Dan McCroy

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

Karen Frisbie

Mother of Sean Frisbie

Aurora Mangahas

Edgar Swarthout

Husband of Mary Grether

Sr. Marie Granger, OP

May they rest in peace. Amen.

RECTORY HOLIDAY HOURS

The St. Cletus Parish Rectory Staff would like to wish everyone a Happy and Blessed Christmas. The Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2nd.

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.

Please note: due to the early printing of the Jan. 1st Canticle submissions will be placed in the Jan. 8th Canticle.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Ernest Dufner, Frannie Grybis, Dr. Brigitta Sonnen Kalb, Theresa Cimaglia, Donald Price, Eileen Peters, Kathy Zydell, Adriana Pecheo, Enrique Pecho, Armando Pecheco, 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 Ulfig, 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 Ciszek, 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, 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 McMahan, 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.

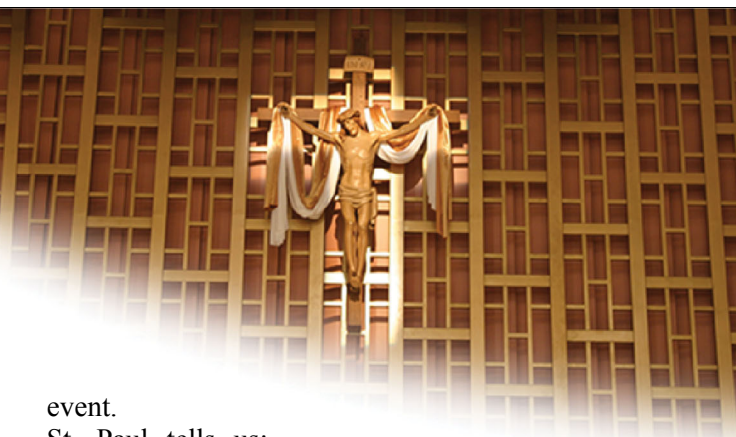
Notes from Fr. Bob...

CHRISTMAS EVE 2016

“A child has been born to us, a son given to us. Today a savior has been born to you,” the angels tell the shepherds. “And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” This is the oh so familiar message, which touches our hearts as we see little children gathered around the crib. Instinctively on this night we are drawn back to our own childhood memories, and of course it is the children’s feast, but not only the children’s feast. This is not a fairy tale which we love to hear again, but which has no bearing on our lives. This feast has everything to do with real life: the life you are living right now, whatever your age. No doubt that is why the Church includes the short reading from the letter to Titus in the liturgy. Once we have grasped the meaning of this feast we will have no ambition except to do good.

So listen again to that message of the angels: “Today a savior has been born to you...and here is a sign for you.” That message was not just for the shepherds two thousand years ago, but for each one of us here this evening. A Savior has been born for us – but do we notice the signs all around us: the signs of people doing good? There are signs of God breaking into our world and being present in our lives, if only we have the eyes to see them. Let’s find some examples. The old parishioner facing a major, life-threatening operation who told his friends very simply: “I’m not frightened. If the Lord wants me, he’ll take me, if he doesn’t, fine.” Such deep faith and trust in God is a sign of the Savior’s birth, of God’s presence among us. The mother who has been abandoned and betrayed by her husband, but who sets aside her own sadness to ensure that her children’s lives are normal, happy and secure: a sign of the Savior’s presence. The grandmother with cancer, celebrating her last Christmas, determined to make sure it is one the family will enjoy and remember: a sign of the Savior’s birth. The man who after many years of hurt and anger with the Church, returns to the practice of his faith: a sign of God’s presence. The person who after years of resentment finally finds the courage to forgive: a sign of the Savior’s birth.

The sign given to the shepherds wasn’t something dramatic or extraordinary, but a very ordinary, very human sign: a new born baby. So ordinary, it would be easy to miss it. When we look for the signs of the Savior’s presence, we too need to look to the ordinary – to our own nearest and dearest, to the daily struggles and sacrifices of the people in our lives, to the everyday joys and blessings of life. The Incarnation is not simply a one off historical



event.

St. Paul tells us:

“God’s grace has been revealed.” The Savior continues to be born for us, and your life is full of the signs of his presence. Whenever there is love, courage, sacrifice, service, forgiveness, then he is truly present among us.

Christmas isn’t about hearing a lovely sentimental story just once a year to help us forget the cold, harsh reality of our daily lives. It’s about realizing that the deepest reality of our lives lies precisely in that story of the birth of a Savior. The sense of joy and hope we experience when we see a child placing the baby in the manger is in fact the truth of our life. Today a Savior has been born to you – in your life. He is Christ the Lord, and there are signs all around you of his presence, of his being laid in the manger of your life.

Take that image home with you of the young child placing the baby Jesus in the crib – and try to remember that that is the truth of your life. God is with you – not just at Christmas, but every day. If you have faith to see the signs of his presence in your life, then you too will join in the angel’s song of praise: “Glory to God and peace to his people on earth.”

CHRISTMAS WISHES

I would like to offer Christmas Blessings and Prayers to each member of St. Cletus Parish. Myself, along with Frs. Ken Baker, Lorenzo Gamboa, Harold Fisher O.M.I., Deacon Jesus & Silvia, Deacon Stuart Heyes & Marlene, and the entire St. Cletus Parish Staff wish you good health and a prosperous New Year.

May the love of Christ be present to you each day of your lives.

Christmas Blessings and Peace,

Fr. Bob

**Fr. Bob
Pastor**



Parish School



DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
|--|---------|
| School Resumes..... | Jan. 9 |
| Cardinal Pursuit Trivia Night | Jan. 20 |
| Catholic Schools Week Open House | Jan. 29 |

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 |
|--|--|



Christmas Tradition

Fourth grade starred in telling the story of Christmas through the character of Leon the Elf in the our parish school's annual Christmas program. The show wouldn't have been the success it was without the singing support of the first through third graders. Ending the show was the true message of Christmas that Jesus is the reason for our season. Let Jesus shine in your heart.



Get Schooled by Skates

The sixth graders attended the "Get Schooled by Skates" field trip hosted by the Chicago Wolves. Students were provided interactive workbooks to learn about how hockey relates to everyday classroom subjects including math, science, language arts, reading, and social studies. At the same time the students enjoyed watching an exciting hockey game against the Grand Rapids Griffins.

A LETTER FROM OUR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

On this Christmas day as we celebrate the Birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, we also celebrate the many gifts that have come our way because of our Holy Father. Our parish school is grateful for the 431 students who walk through our doors each day to be challenged and grow in the academic world as well as the Catholic faith. We are blessed with the wonderful families of our school and caring faculty that make this a special place. We are humbled by the parishioners of St. Cletus Church that support our school, allowing us to continue with the mission of education.

As we reflect back on 2016 we are thankful for the many blessings that God has bestowed upon our parish school such as,

- Successful launch of the St. Cletus chapter of the National Junior Honor Society
- Expanded our 1-to-1 technology program which focuses on collaboration and project based learning
- Implemented a new STEM focused Science curriculum that uses hands on experiments so students learn from experience not just reading
- Welcomed 8 new teachers into our school community
- Kicked off our the first annual St. Cletus Choose Kindness 5K and fun run
- Started our Girls on the Run program which inspires girls to recognize their limitless potential and pursue their dreams
- Broke ground on new parish center which will allow us to better accommodate and expand the many great programs our school provides

God has blessed us! On this Christmas day and always, may we live the message of the Lord, share the Compassion of Jesus, and remember the peace of the season. May we share all these things with others around us today and always.

Merry Christmas,
Tom Chinske and Christy Schaefer

Religious Education

ST. CLETUS R.E. PROGRAM CELEBRATES A WONDERFUL 2016!



The Children, Catechists and Aides in the Religious Education program wish everyone a very blessed and Merry Christmas! This Advent and Christmas season the children participated in many service projects to reach out to our home-bound and ill parishioners who cannot join us at the table each Sunday, as well as Disabled Adults in our community, and the homeless in Chicago and the surrounding community. They love to impart the joy of this holy season by sharing their wonderful talents in making blankets, Christmas crafts, ornaments and treats, and creating cards with humor and love. Our youngest children in the RE program re-enacted the Christmas story at their annual Christmas Pageant to the delight of their families. Our Special Needs children experienced the Christmas Story in their classroom by working with buddies to re-tell the story with costumes and joy! Children have a way of truly embracing the joy of the season, and teaching us all how we should live each day! May God bless us all this holy season!



Social Concerns Ministry

Food Pantry

Most needed at this time:

- Canned/dry milk
- Tuna
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Coffee
- Hot chocolate

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

Thank You

On behalf of the households we serve, THANK YOU and may your Christmas be filled with joy and peace!



Special Thank you to Del's Moving and Storage!

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

THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Social Concerns Ministry we wish all of you a Blessed and Peace-filled New Year! 2016 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.

2016 by the numbers:

- 1500 individuals got Giving Tree Christmas presents
- Over 2,300 households were served through the food pantry (9,000 individuals)
- Thousands of rides given through ICP
- Over 25 Career Network speakers/workshops
- Hundreds of volunteers
- 654 handmade Mission Ladies items
- 50+ 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.

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.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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 to the right.

You are not alone.



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

Youth Ministry

A NOTE FROM ELIZABETH TOMASEK



This past year has been a fruitful year for high school ministry. Our ministry has grown in many ways: increased participation, more adult volunteers, and additional ministry opportunities and offerings. I am so grateful to the adults who give of themselves and their time to make ministry happen to the teens themselves who constantly inspire me to recognize God’s grace and mercy. In reflection on our year of ministry memories, it is clear that we have together strengthened our recognition of Christ in those we serve, and have come to a deeper appreciation for the connection God gives us to all humanity. Just as God gave us Christ himself, naming Him Emmanuel, meaning “God with us”, so we are called to encounter Christ in the events and people in our own lives. In so many ways, I have witnessed this within youth ministry.

In the past year, St. Cletus teens have served their local communities and communities afar in numerous ways. They have taken active roles in parish life. And they have sought out ways to retreat from the demands of daily life to ponder God’s role and presence. Some of our ministry’s highlights through the year include the following:

- Preparing sack lunches for BEDS Plus in March and in September
- Spirit Social to welcome 8th graders from St. Cletus school and parish to youth ministry
- Cooking and serving dinner for Ronald McDonald House residents in April and November
- Collaborating with St. John of the Cross for Spiritual Giftedness workshops held in June and August for teen leaders
- Weeklong service trip to Detroit, MI with Young Neighbors in Action
- Liturgy participation as lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, singers, and musicians
- September bonfire to kick-off a new year of ministry
- Kairos 24 for high school juniors and seniors to reflect deeply on the role God has in their lives
- Church League basketball for girls in the spring and boys in the fall/winter
- Encounter small groups that meet monthly to discuss with peers life issues and current events through the lens of faith

- Wednesday Sundaes to gather monthly in prayer and fellowship (and ice cream) to examine God’s workings in and through self and others
- Vicariate Awards Banquet to honor teens who commit themselves to parish vitality by sharing their gifts and talents

Thank you to all who support our ministry by your efforts and your prayers, and thank you to the teens who bring Christ’s light to all you encounter! May peace and joy be yours this Christmas season!



Vicariate Awards



KAIROS 24 Team



2016 Mission Trip

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

Hispanic Ministry

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Time to love, hope and joy, to reflect and meditate, as we prepare to celebrate at Christmas the Birth of our Lord and Savior!

Oh 2016, what a year! Indeed an eventful and unforgettable year! 2016 has been a historic year for us as individuals, as a family of faith, and our parish community, Saint Cletus.

Throughout the year, as a family, we have celebrated all the sacraments in our catholic faith. We have celebrated the baptism of our children, as well as many weddings of our young adults. We have celebrated many *Quinceañeras*. As a family, we have experienced many spiritual retreats and also formational retreats. As one community of faith, we have celebrated the most important liturgical events of catholic faith. In many of these events we have prayed together in both English and Spanish.

We have blessed many new homes and new businesses in our community. We have grieved, comforted, and supported each other when a member of our families has died. Sympathy and fondness has been demonstrated again and again, during this year as in years past.

Saludos Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas,

¡Esta es la Temporada más Bonita del Año!

¡Es tiempo para amar, de esperanza, de alegría, para reflexionar y meditar al prepararnos para celebrar en Navidad el Nacimiento de Nuestro Señor y Salvador!

¡Oh 2016, que año! ¡Sin duda ha sido un año lleno de emociones e inolvidable! Este año del 2016 que está por terminar ha sido un año histórico en la vida de todos nosotros como individuos, familia y comunidad de fe, la comunidad de San Cleto.

Como familia hemos celebrado a lo largo del año todos los sacramentos de nuestra fe. Hemos celebrado juntos desde bautismos de nuestros hijos hasta el sacramento del matrimonio de muchos de los miembros de nuestras familias. Hemos festejado quinceañeras, juntos hemos vivido retiros en casa, y juntos hemos celebrado la mayoría de las celebraciones más importantes de la vida litúrgica de nuestra fe católica en muchas de estas celebraciones hemos orado juntos en Inglés y en Español.

Hemos bendecido juntos nuevos hogares y negocios de nuestra comunidad; nos hemos consolado y apoyado cuando alguno de nuestros familiares o amigos ha sido llamado de este mundo. Las muestras de cariño y afecto han sido demostradas de igual forma en este año como en años anteriores.

Growing as a family, within a greater family (*our great Saint Cletus community*) has given us the strength and maturity necessary to confront and resolve all challenges and problems, socially and religiously speaking, challenges unique to our community of faith.

As one community we have daily seen how the construction of our new parish center has taken shape, and how each day it's getting closer to become a reality, a great achievement made only possible by working together under the leadership and guidance of our pastor Fr. Bob Clark and the pastoral, administrative and volunteer personnel of our great community.

As we prepare to begin a new year, let us first, with gratitude, say good bye to 2016 and begin 2017 with hearts full of confidence in the goodness of Our Lord, whose birthday we celebrate on December 25, Christmas Day.

May God continue blessing us and may we, as one community, remain together and continue working as one family for many years more.

On behalf of my lovely wife Silvia, I wish you:

Una Feliz Navidad y Un Próspero Año Nuevo,

Deacon Jesus and Silvia Casas



El crecimiento de nuestra familia de fe, dentro de una familia de fe más grande, nuestra gran comunidad de San Cleto, nos ha dado la madurez necesaria para enfrentar juntos desafíos y retos de comunidad y juntos hemos encontrado solución a nuestras necesidades, sociales y religiosas.

Como comunidad hemos visto como la construcción del nuevo centro parroquial ha tomado forma y cada día se acerca más a ser una realidad, un logro que ha sido posible trabajando juntos bajo la dirección y guía de nuestro párroco el Padre Bob Clark y de todo el personal pastoral, administrativo y de voluntarios de nuestra comunidad.

Al prepararnos para recibir el nuevo año, primero, llenos de gratitud, digamos adiós al 2016 y comencemos el 2017 con corazones llenos de confianza en la bondad de Nuestro Señor, cuyo Cumpleaños celebraremos el 25 de Diciembre, en la Navidad.

Que Dios nos siga bendiciendo a todos y que juntos continuemos trabajando como una sola familia por muchos años más.

En nombre mío y del de mi adorable esposa les deseo:

Una Feliz Navidad y Un Próspero Año Nuevo,

Diácono Jesús y Silvia Casas

Living our Faith, Building our Future

ST. CLETUS LIVING OUR FAITH, BUILDING OUR FUTURE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The new parish center is starting to come together. To the right are the architect renderings of the new building. Below are some photos of how far we have come!

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
- Stage area for school, parish, and Fine Arts productions

Please join us for a Q&A Session in January for an update on our progress (date TBD).

We look forward to welcoming everyone Summer 2017 upon completion of our new building and thank you for your continued support.



Groundbreaking June 25, 2016



Fall Fest 2016 aerial view



The walls going up in October



A view from the front in November



A closer look at the stage



A view of the entrance to the new building



Inside the meeting rooms



Fr. Bob and Debbie Lestarczyk are standing in what will be the main hallway/lobby



Work continues despite the snow and cold weather.

Other Ministry Notes

A NOTE FROM DEACON STUART AND MARLEEN HEYES



A Joyous Christmas and Healthy New Year

Wishing all St Cletus parishioners Seasons Greetings and our best Wishes for 2017.

In particular we'd like to thank the **Pastoral Care Ministers - the Ministry of Care and Compassionate Care Ministry**, who number over 70 volunteers, without whom we could not offer our services to the many home bound, nursing home residents, those in rehab facilities, patients at LaGrange Hospital and the recently bereaved families.

It is a truly blessed ministry to be a part of and coordinate - I am indebted to you all for always being ready to help when the need (and the Deacon) calls.

Also a great big Thank You from Marlene on behalf of the Kolbe House, Cook County Jail Ministry for the stamp contributions to enable many of the detainees to send home a Christmas card to their loved ones. Total stamps contributed totaled over \$800!!

That's over 1700 first class stamps.

Marlene & I consider it great privilege to be a part of the St. Cletus Community.

Bless you all as together we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Merry Christmas to all (and to all a good night - said in a British accent of course!)

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL AUCTION



Saturday

April 1st 2017

Capri Banquets,
Countryside

Watch Final Four games on a HUGE 9x11 screen!

Raffles, DJ, Live and Silent Auction, great food & drinks!

More info coming soon.

auction.stcletusschool.com

A NOTE FROM LARRY LALONDE



Dear Music Ministers,

I want to wish each of you a very Blessed Christmas! I am so humbled and honored to direct such a wonderful group of people. You are so giving of your time and talents, you are warm and caring, and you really love to sing! I am grateful to God and hope that the new year is full of promise, love, and peace to all.

I also want to reach out to you the good people of St. Cletus. You are generous and cheerful and I really love working here among you. Please feel welcome to join the music ministry in this New year of 2017.

God Bless!



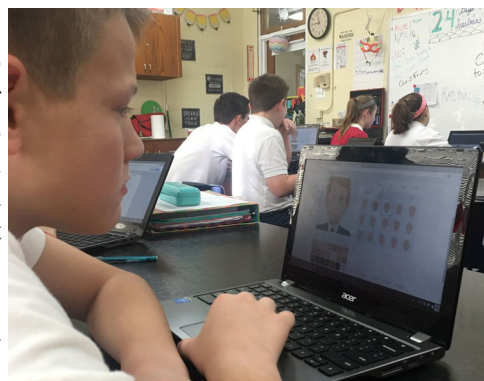
A NOTE FROM CHRIS WAGNER

Technology Usage On The Rise!



The school's incoming 6th graders received their own laptop (Chromebook) following last year's pilot program. 6th and 7th grade students each have their own device they can take home. Next year's plan includes grades 6th-8th becoming completely 1:1 (including take home) while 5th grade students will have their own device during the day. Seven staff members recently became Google Certified Educators.

Infrastructure to support our growth continues with more wifi density and multiple internet lines for all staff, student, parishioner, and guest usage.



ARCHDIOCESAN MASS FOR LIFE - 1/7

Save the date for the Annual Archdiocesan Mass for Life which will again be held at Saint Cletus Church.

**Saturday, Jan. 7th
5:00 p.m.**

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich,
Principal Celebrant
All Are Welcome.
Reception to follow Mass.



WORD OF LIFE



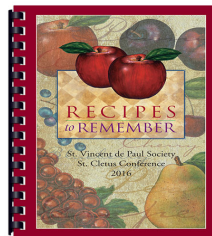
“What came to be through him was life,
and this life was the light of the human race;
the light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.”

— John 1:3-4, NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

ST. CLETUS PARISH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY COOKBOOK

The St. Cletus St. Vincent de Paul Society Cookbook is now available. You can purchase them in the Parish Rectory during normal business hours.

The cookbook is \$15. Checks should be made payable to SVDP. All proceeds go to the charitable works of our SVDP conference, helping individuals and families right here in our neighborhood. Proceeds from your purchase of a cookbook literally puts food on tables, keeps the heat and electric running and keeps roofs over heads. Thank you!!



This cookbook contains almost 500 recipes from parishioners, families and friends. The cookbook includes: appetizers, soups and dips, salads, main dishes, vegetables and sides, deserts, cakes, cookies and brownies, breads and rolls and more!

The St. Cletus St. Vincent de Paul Society Cookbook is a great stocking stuffer, or beautiful gift for the cooks in your life! And that could just be you! Questions? Call Jerry at 630-849-5857.

**CHRISTMAS 2016 LETTER FROM
CARDINAL BLASE CUPICH**

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Dear Sisters and Brothers, Peace be with you and with all people of good will in this holy season. After observing the Jubilee Year of Mercy and as we begin a journey of renewal in the Archdiocese of Chicago, we have come to know fresh hope in our hearts. We do not find the source of our hope in our own strength. With the Blessed Virgin Mary we recognize that our hope comes from God. As her son took flesh within her womb, she proclaimed, “God has remembered his promise of mercy.” The birth of her son Jesus is also the birth of our true and lasting hope. In this moment, we find ourselves challenged in so many ways. Together, we face the plague of war, violence, and a lack of respect for life and for the dignity of all people. On a personal level, we all struggle in different ways, whether with family issues or work or illness or in trying to do the right thing. Still, we hope, because “God has visited his people.” Pray with me that our celebration of the birth of Jesus may truly renew our hope in God, the only hope that can sustain us on the journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Cardinal Blase J. Cupich Archbishop of Chicago

2016-17 St. Cletus Parish Preferred Providers

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| Friends of the Capital Campaign | R.W.S. Landscaping & Lawncare 708-489-6333 | MAZUR MAZUR-SON CONSTRUCTION | J. WILSON PAINTING, INC. John Wilson Western Springs, IL (708) 246-5604 | ALPHABET ALPHABET 815-725-2323 | FCI Construction, Inc. GENERAL CONTRACTORS |
| FNBC BANK & TRUST | newman architecture | Hallowell & James Funeral Home | RIGHT FIT 8001 - FISHERS - WILLOWBROOK 1045 S. La Grange Rd. LaGrange 7101 S. Adams St #7, Willowbrook | Jeffrey R. Tobolski Cook County Board Commissioner 16th District | usbank |
| James HOUSE OF PANCAKES 102 S. PROSPECT AVE. CLARENDON HILLS | HORIZON WEALTH MANAGEMENT, LLC | ADOLF FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES | JH Web MARKETING | Anella Family | Watra Watra Church Goods www.watra.com |
| LITTLE CREPERIE | Homer Professional Land Clearing | Dr. Battistoni + Beam Ltd. Practice specializing in orthodontics | UNIQUE PLUMBING | Fr. Bob, Debbie, Bobbie, Mary & Elizabeth | |



St. Cletus School

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE

St. Cletus builds a strong foundation for life-long learning and recognizes the diverse talents and individual learning styles of our students. We offer certified programs from pre-school through eighth grade. Our focus on academics, religious education, and spiritual development balanced with extracurricular activities supports our mission to develop well-rounded students.

- Faith Based Education from Preschool through Eighth Grade
- Nationally Recognized for Academic Excellence
- Technology Integrated into Classrooms and Curriculum
- Athletic and Extra-Curricular Activities
- Half-day and Full-day options for Kindergarten and Preschool
- Extended Care
- Caring Community



★ ★ 2014 ★ ★
BLUE RIBBON
RECIPIENT

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
Open House
 Sunday, January 29th
 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Find out why SC is the right choice for your family. Call 708-352-4820 or stop by the school office to setup a tour!

Community Bulletin Board

CATHOLIC H.S. ENTRANCE EXAMS



Chicagoland area Catholic High Schools will offer their entrance exams on the morning of Saturday, January 11, 2017. Please visit their websites or call the school for more information or to register.

JOYFUL AGAIN



Being widowed is a special loss, and this program is designed especially to help the widowed find hope & joy again.

There will be a retreat/workshop Jan. 21 & 22, 2017, at Our Lady of the Angels House of Prayer (located in Lemont on Alvernia Manor's campus).

Joyful Again Widowed Ministry - Phone 708-354-7211
 website: www.joyfulagain.org or email us at joyfulagain7211@gmail.com.

ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES - CABARET

Friday, Feb. 3rd
 8pm, Doors open at 7:30pm

Cabaret! Piano Bar Night in Morrissey Hall to benefit the Fine Arts Series. Admission is \$40 in advance, \$45 at the door, which includes entertainment, beer, wine and appetizers. More info at www.edwardfas.com



YOUTH RALLY AND MASS 2017



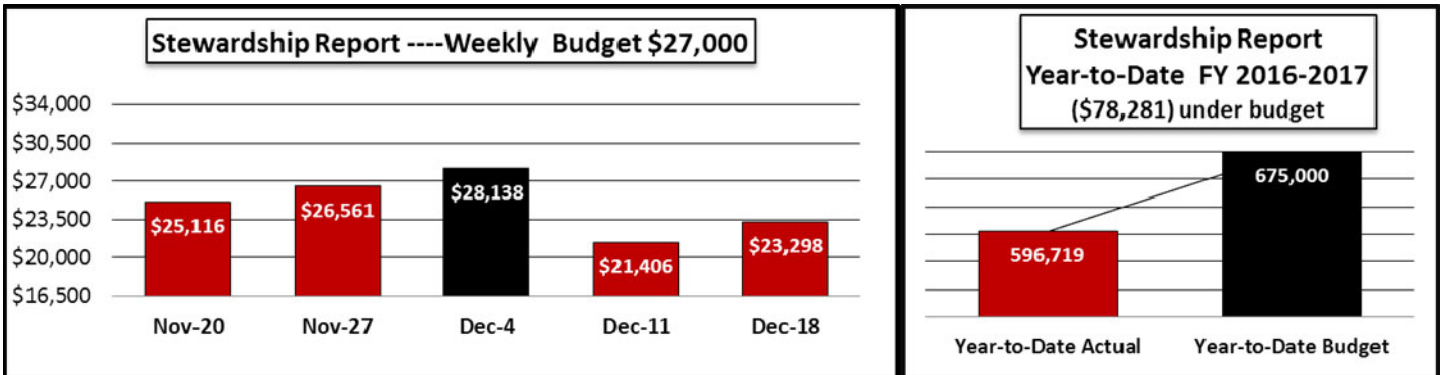
Join us for the 2017 Youth Rally and Mass prior to the March for Life Chicago on Sunday, January 15, 2017 at Saint Ignatius College Prep (1076 West Roosevelt Road Chicago, IL.) Doors open at 8:30 a.m. After Mass we will then encourage all to join the bigger rally and march at the Federal Plaza in Chicago, IL (less than a 2 mile walk). More info: www.respectlfechicago.org

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, December 25 | | | Please see the front of the Canticle for Mass times | |
| Monday, December 26 | | | All Facilities Closed after 8am Mass | |
| Tuesday, December 27 | | | | |
| Wednesday, December 28 | | | | |
| Thursday, December 29 | | | | |
| Friday, December 30 | | | | |
| Saturday, December 31 | 5:00pm | Narthex | Welcome Committee | |
| Sunday, January 1 | All Masses | Narthex | Welcome Committee | |
| Monday, January 2 | | | All Facilities Closed after 8am Mass | |

Stewardship Report

WEEKLY GIVING REPORT



YEAR-END STATEMENT BY REQUEST ONLY

As tax time approaches, we ask everyone who would like a year-end statement of their Year 2016 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the rectory @ (708) 352-6209 with your request. You may also email bkallal@stcletusparish.com and submit your request electronically.


Rather than mail statements to everyone in the parish, it seems more prudent and conservative to only mail them to those who need them for tax returns. Of course, your statement is available anytime a need for it may arise. Thank you.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Envelope # _____

St. Cletus Parish Information

CONTACT US

Rectory(708) 352-6209
 Español(708) 215-5440
 School(708) 352-4820
 www.stcletusparish.com  stcletuschurch

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

MASSES

Saturday Evening 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,
 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
 Weekdays Mon. thru Sat. 8:00 a.m.
 Evening before Holy Day 7:00 p.m.
 Holy Day 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:00 a.m. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office.

WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date. Contact Bobbie Kallal (708) 352-6209.

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office (708) 215-5407

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Holy Hour first Tuesday of the month 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Hispanic Adoration continues 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

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.

STAFF

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark, *Pastor*
 Rev. Kenneth Baker, *Associate Pastor*
 Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, *Associate Pastor*
 Rev. Ron Anglim, *Weekend Associate*
 Rev. Mr. Jesús & Silvia Casas, *Deacon Couple*
 Rev. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, *Deacon Couple*

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Ken Baker/Paulette Bolton, *Worship..* (708) 215-5422
 Larry LaLonde, *Music Ministry* (708) 215-5423
 Deacon Jesús Casas, *Hispanic Ministry*..... (708) 215-5440
 Elizabeth Tomasek, *Youth Ministry*..... (708) 215-5419
 Kendall Grant, *Social Concerns* (708) 215-5418
 Deacon Stuart Heyes, *Pastoral Care* (708) 215-5407
 Debbie Lestarczyk, *Business Manager*..... (708) 215-5405
 Christopher Wagner, *Technology* (708) 215-5420

SCHOOL STAFF

Tom Chinske, *Principal* (708) 352-4820
 Christy Schaefer, *Assistant Principal*
 Mary Lee Krieger, *Administrative Assistant*
 Jeannie Scalzitti, *Receptionist/Office Assistant*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Barb Campbell, *Director of Religious Education*
 Paulette Bolton, *Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship*

RECTORY STAFF

Bobbie Kallal, *Human Resources/Records*
 Mary Zwolinski, *Parish Accounting*
 Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, *Bulletin Editor*

PARISH/SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Tim O'Brien (708) 215-5432

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Eileen Dorchinecz
 Vice Chairperson John Rossmiller
 Secretary Jodie Pulciani

Members

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Scott Aulinskis | Valerie Sosne |
| Bob Havelka | Ron Skrip |
| Chris McLean | Patrick Townsend |
| Doug Rausch | Matt Wangard |

Liaisons

FSA President Nikki Gorman
 Athletic Association President Brendan Foley

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Jack Fisherkeller
 Vice-Chairperson Chuck Luna
 Recording Secretary Robbie O'Shea
 School Representative Tom Chinske
 Director of Parish Catechesis Paulette Bolton
 Staff Representative Debbie Lestarczyk
 Hispanic Ministry Silvia Casas

Members

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Mary Ann Doornbos | Colleen Hagen |
| Susan Hurley | Maggie Kensek |
| Helen McMahon | Henry Morlock |

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/
Debbie Lestarczyk (Bus Mgr)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS