



# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Immense is the wisdom  
of the Lord; mighty in  
power, He sees all things.  
-Sirach 15:18



## 2023 Confirmandi

Abril **Isabel** Aguilar  
Gabriel **Juan Pablo** Aguilar  
Anel **Helena** Alvarez  
Marino **Timothy** Ballarini  
Diego **Joan** Barragan  
Blake **Anthony** Benjaminson  
Dylan **Francis** Caccamo  
Brian **Juan Diego** Cahue  
Paola **Joseph** Campos-Anda  
Caroline **Catherine** Cannizzaro  
Reese **Margaret** Cassidy  
Will **Bernard** Condron  
Audrianna **Ruth** Corrado  
Grace **Veronica** Delk  
Jizelle **Anastasi** Diaz  
Santino **John** DiGuilio  
Olivia **Teresa** Dixon  
Samantha **Cecilia** Escobedo  
Nolan **Patrick** Fey  
Matthew **Patrick** Finnerty  
Nathan **Michael** Fitzgerald  
Riley **Hope** Flanagan  
Nora **Bernadette** Flood  
Camila **Catherine** Garcia  
Emiliano **Peter** Garcia  
Josue **Joseph** Garcia  
Santiago **James** Garcia  
Valentina **Cecilia** Garcia  
Madelyn **Mother Teresa** Gentile  
Anthony **Simon** Gonzalez  
Ethan **Gabriel** Gonzalez

Finley **Genevieve** Gorman  
Averie **Michael** Grigus  
Nora **Frances** Grill  
Alexa **Mary** Guzman  
Colleen **Joan** Havenar  
Alejandro **Toribo** Jimenez Jr.  
Owen **Sebastian** Kachmarik  
Natalie **Seraphina** Kapusta  
Erin **Hope** Kennedy  
Daniel **Peter** Koziol  
Emma **Clare** Koziol  
Brynn **Elizabeth** Krantz  
Eileen **Elizabeth** Kress  
Mario **Maria** Lagunas  
Cecilia **Anastasia** Lobos  
Tobey **Francis** Luberda  
Amelia **Louise** Ludden  
Amia **Theresa** Manzo  
Jose **Andrew** Martinez  
Connor **John** Mateja  
Collin **Patrick** McNeil  
Christopher **Alexander** Medina  
Antonio **Nicholas** Mendoza  
Mark **Michael** Mendoza  
David **Josue** Melero  
Danna **Jude** Meza-Alcala  
Beckett **James** Michel  
Leah **Katherine** Monahan  
Eve **Therese** Muscato  
Enrique **Francis** Nevarez  
Daniel **Daniel** Nino

Jonathon **Francis** Nix  
Diego **Joseph** Ojeda  
Mia **Angela** Olszowka  
Emily **Clare** Ortiz  
Melanie **Flora** Ortiz  
Patrick **Peter** Pedernana  
Fernando **Anthony** Peralta-Alvarado  
Violet **Lucia** Quinn  
Rodrigo **Francis** Quintero  
Dean **Miguel** Rahman  
Camila **Teresa** Rodriguez  
Jimena **Maria** Ruiz  
Eli **Genesius** Sadowski  
Ricardo **Anthony** Saldana  
Benjamin **Michael** Schneider  
Kailynn **Veronica** Solis  
Niraj **Nicholas** Tallarovic  
Matthew **Joseph** Trantina  
Carolyn **Anne** Tristano  
Grace **Rita** Tristano  
Jazlyn **Mary Magdalene** Trujillo  
Grace **Catherine** Twitty  
Emilee **Teresa** Tydus  
Avery **Clare** Tyrrell  
Olivia **Josephine** Van Wyck  
Alejandro **Alexander** Villavicencio  
Samantha **Thomas** Villarreal  
Aiden **John** Westerkamp  
Nathan **Andrew** Woods  
Jose **Joseph** Zavalla  
Soid **Martha** Negrete

# Mass Intentions for February 20 - February 26, 2023

| Day         | Time    | Presider     | Intentions   |
|-------------|---------|--------------|--|
| February 20 | 8:00am  | Fr. Gavancho | Ed Stec  |
| February 21 | 8:00am  | Fr. Novick   | Mary Anne Farrell, Rose Marie Hrzenjak   |
| February 22 | 8:00am  | Fr. Novick   | Reynold Aranas, BC and Rip Collins   |
| February 23 | 8:00am  | Fr. Gavancho | John Jacobs  |
| February 24 | 8:00am  | Fr. Elmer    | Giovanna Vieceli, Al Saporito  |
| February 25 | 5:00pm  | Fr. Romero   | Benjamin Patrick Hyink, George Herts, Joseph Kulikowski  |
| February 26 | 7:15am  | Fr. Romero   | Robert Callaghan, John Duda, Maggie Deiss, Elizabeth Pirman  |
|             | 8:45am  | Fr. Novick   | Anne Marie Nabor, Frank Wojcik   |
|             | 10:30am | Fr. Lodge    | Dan Buonamici, Edward Kwak, Kay O'Connell Family, Les Zaczek, Sammy Colonna, Judy Kiziar, Eugene Koziol, Theresa Podwika |
|             | 12:30pm | Fr. Hays     | 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.*

**February - Daniel Lacey, Matthew O'Connell, Roman Szabelski, Madonna Curran, Edward Rojack, Juana Martinez, Louie Soto, Leo Gonzalez, Tillie Gonzalez**

**January - Janusz Szczepanski, James Wallace, Bill Gozdecki, Peter Felice, Donna Kurcz, Bill Deleeshe**

**December - Marlene Heyes, Patricia Rodey**  
*Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.*



**21+ BINGO IS BEING RESCHEDULED.**

**We are planning for an April date. Keep an eye out for the new date coming soon!!**

**Hospitality Next Weekend  
February 25th & 26th**

**Sponsored By:**

SAINT CLETUS

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HOLY NAME SOCIETY

## Pastor's Note

*“Mother Mary is the perfect saint.  
No one is simpler and humbler.  
Her whole self, her whole hope, her whole heart,  
her whole will is in a single word: fiat,  
'let it be done to me according to Your Word' (see Luke 1:38),”  
Peter Kreeft.*

Dear Parishioners,

The Lord who is kind and rich in mercy is inviting us to enter the season of Lent with openness, faith, and willingness to be loved by Him. Lent in many ways is the season to get closer to the Lord and grow in friendship with Him. Lent is also the time to detach ourselves from things that perhaps are not helping us to experience and receive the love that He offers us daily. Lent is also an opportunity for us to pray together and grow in our knowledge and understanding of the faith that we share and celebrate.

As we prepare ourselves to enter the season of Lent, I am happy to share with you some news and information about upcoming opportunities that the Lord wants us to engage.



First, 93 of our children received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Saturday at a special Mass celebrated by Most. Rev. Robert Casey, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. He spent 45 minutes with our children before Mass in the Parish Center. He intentionally wanted to have a moment with our children. It was a joy to see him interacting with them. Then at Mass, he engaged not only our children but all of us with his spirit-filled presence, faith, and joy. Please help me by keeping in prayer all those who were Confirmed. Our desire and prayer are that each of them will remain in the practice of our faith and continue to grow in friendship with the Lord. This is something that they themselves expressed in the letter to

the Pastor that they wrote before Christmas. My special gratitude to Larry Manetti, Director of Faith Formation, and Hector Obregon, Associate Director of Faith. I would also like to thank our kind and generous catechists for helping our children know more about the faith and grow in their relationship with God. My special thanks to everyone else who contributed kindly towards the celebration which was beautiful.

Second, the Super Bowl party, our first, which we hosted last Sunday, was a success. The Parish Center was filled with people who wanted to have fun and strengthen fraternity and friendship. I saw families and friends having a great time with each other. They were talking, listening, and laughing. I am happy to say that we accomplished our intention which was to foster community and grow in friendship. I would wholeheartedly like to thank the members of our fine Parish Pastoral Council for giving us such an amazing Super Bowl Party. I was moved by their dedication and commitment. We are truly blessed by their ministry, witness, and leadership. Please hold them in prayer.



Third, Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023. Our parish is offering us six opportunities throughout the day to celebrate Ash Wednesday and prayerfully receive our ashes. One of the prayers that will be used as we receive our Ashes will be: “Repent and believe in the Gospel.” I believe this is a wonderful prayer and invitation for us to receive as we enter the season of Lent. Please feel free to share with your family, friends, and neighbors our Ash Wednesday schedule.

Fourth, this Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 11:00 AM, we will have a special Mass to confer the Sacrament of the Anointing on those who wish to receive. This is a special opportunity the Lord is giving us. He is inviting us to come together and receive His healing love as we pray together for each other and acknowledge Him as the source of our lives. I am looking forward to it with hope and joy. If you could please extend this invitation to some one that might be interested.

Fifth, following our last year's Lenten and Advent practices and being informed by what was shared at Hopes and Dreams (October 17, 2022), I am delighted to share with you that this Lenten season, we will have two Evenings of Reflection and Prayer in our Church. The first one will be on March 1<sup>st</sup> and the second on March 29, 2023. By the grace of God, speakers for each evening have already been confirmed. We will be also hosting a Lenten Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Please mark your calendar accordingly. My prayer is that we ask the Lord to give us the desire to welcome all opportunities He is offering us through our parish.

As we enter the season of Lent, may the Lord allow us to keep our eyes on Mary, who can be our special companion in our journey towards becoming closer to Jesus.

Fr. Elmer Romero

## Note From Father Mike

### “BE HOLY, FOR I, THE LORD, YOUR GOD, AM HOLY”

Goodness, gracious! Nothing like setting the bar as high as one can be. But, then again, Jesus backs up what we hear in the reading from Numbers by telling us just what holiness looks like. Some people think that just because Jesus is the Son of God that He could do nothing less than being holy. Still, even with that in mind, what else do we know about Jesus? He was tempted in every way, yet He never sinned. It couldn't have been easy for Jesus to just not lose it with people, especially those who were just ever so mean to him, or to those whom we hear wanted to kill him. Still, revenge is something we could only say that God would have the right to, even though He is all good, all the time.

I can recall many times in my childhood and teenage years when I had classmates who were simply mean just because I was small and they COULD be. I recall my freshman year in high school and there was a bully who would take my lunch money. Eventually, around mid-year (naïve as I was that what he was doing was criminal), I must have spoken up about it at home and my parents went to the dean of students who found the young man, brought him to me to apologize for his actions, and then expelled him from school. Still, it didn't stop others from treating me like I was lower than them and not just because of my small physical frame. I never learned to stand up for myself, I guess. The sad thing is that so much of that stuff clings to one's soul and festers. Nowadays, I have had to learn to control my emotions and frequently turn the other cheek like Jesus tells us in the gospel this weekend.

And there are still many times I want to argue with God

about my anger issues. For so many years, I buried them. Letting go of that anger and frustration is not an easy task, and I know there are plenty of healthier ways of letting go. Turning the other cheek over time has come to be somewhat easier, but by no means am I perfect in doing that either.

I love how God tells us through Moses that we should not incur sin because of someone else's actions. “Take no revenge and do not hold grudges...” Ow, man! If there is one thing that I've done over the years, that would be it. Grudges are toxic to your soul. Satan has a field day when he notices you struggling with a grudge. He eats at your very core. HOWEVER, we still know that if we turn TO Jesus in those times of struggle, He will overpower Satan. And if we can remain focused on Jesus, then He will even head those grudges off at the pass. But it takes focus and discipline. Focus is not my strong suit. I have to pray every morning to not lose my focus throughout the day.

Lent is coming later this week. February 22<sup>nd</sup> is Ash Wednesday. It's also the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. It's a day that we ought to ask God to bless the pope in a special way, but also ask for St. Peter's prayers for ourselves, for he admitted to Jesus from the time he was called “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Yet, Jesus calls him despite Peter's admission. Maybe we can take the time this Lent to keep St. Peter as our guide to persevering in our quest to overcome anything that leads us to sin. Maybe we can think about some of the people who have hurt us over our lives, whether in small ways or big ways, and ask God for the grace to forgive as HE forgives.

*See you Wednesday. Fr. Mike*

## Sunday Notes

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading:** “Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against any of your people. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.” (Lv 19:18)

**Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

**Second Reading:** All belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God. (1 Cor 3:22-23)

**Gospel:** “You have heard that it was said, You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” (Mt 5:43-44)

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48

**Monday:** Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29

**Tuesday:** Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37

**Wednesday:** Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday:** Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

**Friday:** Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

**Saturday:** Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

**Next Sunday:** Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Monday:** Presidents' Day

**Tuesday:** St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

**Wednesday:** Ash Wednesday

**Thursday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

**Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent

# Ash Wednesday Services



## ASH Wednesday SCHEDULE



*“Create in me a clean heart, oh God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”*

- 6:30 a.m.** Word service with ashes
- 8:00 a.m.** Mass with ashes
- 9:30 a.m.** School Mass with ashes (open to everybody)
- 12:15 p.m.** Word service with ashes
- 3:30 p.m.** Word service with ashes
- 5:00 p.m.** Word service with ashes
- 7:00 p.m.** Bilingual Mass with ashes

**Contact Us**

 708-352-6209

 600 W 55th St. La Grange, IL 60525

 [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)

# Letters To The Pastor From Our Confirmandi

## Highlights FROM LETTERS WRITTEN TO THE Pastor



- Following Jesus is important. It means you trust and love him. Love for all people is important.
- I want to grow as a child of God.
- I believe I will grow closer to the father.
- I have learned to love and forgive everyone.
- I want to grow closer to God.
- Once I get confirmed, I will start contributing to the church more.
- I will always have Jesus in my life.
- I am very excited to be confirmed. I want to strengthen my relationship with God. I can't wait to strengthen my faith and trust in God.
- I am growing closer to God.
- I will continue to pray and go to church often.
- I feel I've grown in my faith. I loved every moment of preparation for confirmation.
- I believe that I will take the things that I learned with me to high school and beyond.
- I believe that the masses have helped me find him.
- I also want to grow my relationship with God.
- I have grown closer to God. I am so excited to get confirmed.
- I pray to God for strength
- I trust God, and he is my strength in life. I hope that my confirmation brings me closer to the church and Jesus.
- I will go to church on Sunday and pray more.
- I want to become closer to my church, faith, and God.
- I will be a more active member in my church by altar serving and singing more during liturgy. I have been reading the bible to get closer to God. Prioritize him in my life.
- I want confirmation to get closer to God.
- That God will always be by my side and that he will always listen to what I want to say.
- I can be enriched with the gift of the Holy Spirit and to become closer to the church.
- I always have God on my side and pass faith onto others.
- I hope that God can carry me to be confirmed.
- I will still go to church every Sunday.
- I will connect my life with God and be a faithful person.
- I would like to be more involved in my faith.
- I would like to follow in my religion without distraction.
- I want to receive confirmation to become closer to the Lord.
- I should stay focused on God and live my life putting God first.
- I can be a light to others.
- I want to become closer to God.
- It will enrich my strength with the Holy Spirit. I will be more active in my church.
- We will now and always love God.
- Spread kindness. Practicing the work of God each and every day.

- Being loyal to God and always believing in him. I commit to going to church every Sunday and daily prayer.
- I will become a more active participant in my church. I value my relationship with God.
- I am very excited for confirmation!
- Seeing Christ in everything.
- God knows what he is doing and that you can trust him.
- I want to be closer to God and learn more about him.
- I have tried to strengthen my relationship with God through prayer and other ways.
- Confirmation is that it will strengthen my relationship with God, it will also help me be a better person in life.
- I want to receive confirmation to be closer to God and to become closer to my faith. St. Cletus has been such a great place to learn these lessons.
- Confirmation to me helps me become closer to God.
- I will be more active participant in the community and church.
- I will continue to spread the word of God and abide by his rules.
- I wish to receive my confirmation to strength my relationship with God. I can begin my personal journey with God
- I want to receive confirmation to be closer to God.
- I want to receive confirmation to be closer to God and the church.
- I will be very well prepared to complete confirmation. Try my best to forgive myself.
- Continue to grow spiritually, learned how to become a better person and help my community. I am committing to living my life in Jesus's hands, in prayer, and to believe in the lord each and every day of my life.
- I am ready to receive Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in my life and to be more spiritual through prayer.
- I want to receive my confirmation because I want to continue to get closer to God, bring me closer to God.
- I feel that the stronger commitment I have with God the better I feel and this is a reflection of who I am and what I believe.
- God gives me strength to help me through my tough times.
- He helps me find a way to get through the tough times.
- I feel that I have connected more with God during my confirmation journey. I am so glad to have gone through

# Faith Formation

## CONFIRMATION

On Saturday, February 11, 93 of our young people received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Casey was the celebrant and gave a truly meaningful and inspiring homily, especially aimed at our young people. The weather was perfect, the Church looked beautiful and in all it was a truly beautiful ceremony one that I am sure was influenced by the Holy Spirit. I would like to thank our Catechists for their work in preparing our Confirmandi and to their parents, who supported their children in this journey to bring them closer to Jesus. To their sponsors, your job is just beginning, you have the responsibility of walking with them as our young people continue to grow in their spiritual lives. I would also like to give a special thank you to our Gushers, who helped make everything flow on Saturday and to Kris and Clara Santin, for decorating the Church. *God Bless, Lawrence Manetti*



# Join Us February 25th

## Mass of Hope and Healing

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be administered to all who would like to receive it. Anointing of the Sick is for anyone whose health is impaired by sickness or old age. Please join us for this mass and enjoy the comfort and healing that comes from receiving the sacrament.

**February 25th at 11am**



Following mass we will be serving a simple Lenten lunch of soup and bread in the gym. If you would like to stay on for lunch, please sign up via our Signup Genius at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4BA4A923ABFC1-join>, or call the Parish Office. We look forward to seeing you!

## WISE

W.I.S.E. 

WEAR SMILES, IGNITE SOULS, SERVE & ENCOURAGE

IS A PROGRAM THAT SEEKS TO ENHANCE AND FOSTER YOUTH LEADERSHIP FOR STUDENTS FROM SOPHOMORE THROUGH COLLEGE, IS COMING SOON!

Keep an eye in the upcoming bulletins, church screen and social media for further description of the program.

 *Have Questions?*

Contact Héctor Obregon-Luna @ [hobregon@stcletusparish.com](mailto:hobregon@stcletusparish.com)



ST. CLETUS PARISH

 [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)

 @stcletusparish





# School News

## A VISIT FROM TOMMY HAWK!

Our spring auction preparations are in full swing for our CARDINALPALOOZA and we have some very fun incentives planned along the way for our students! On Monday Tommy Hawk of the Chicago Blackhawks surprised them with a VERY fun-filled assembly!! You can see from the photos, Tommy did not disappoint!



**COME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR FEBRUARY DINING 4 DOLLARS NIGHT THIS TUESDAY!**

## Aurelio's Dining 4 Dollars

St. Cletus will receive 20% of the proceeds



**February 21st  
11:30am-9pm**

**No flyer needed but must MENTION St. Cletus when ordering.**

*Dine-in, carry-out, or delivery*  
11 Calendar Court LaGrange

## VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

This sure was a jam-packed week for our students! We had so much fun and made so many great memories together at our Valentine's Day parties!



# Super Bowl Party

## MVPS!!!

On behalf of your Parish Pastoral Council, I would like to thank everyone who came out to the first, but certainly not last St. Cletus Super Bowl Party! We had just over 200 people enjoying food, fun, fellowship and one heck of a football game!

There are many things that we loved about the event and will make sure that we do again next year. And of course, there are things that we know need some tweaking, and we will work to make those changes for an even better experience next year.

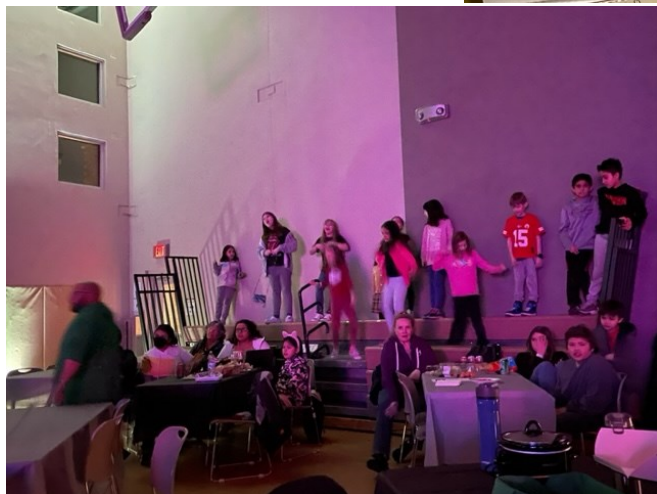
A special thanks to Kris Santin and his wife Clara for their hours of planning to make sure no detail was overlooked, and everything ran flawlessly. We appreciate you!

If you missed this party, don't worry, there are many more opportunities coming up to join your fellow parishioners in some fun! Keep watching the bulletin for more details, but below are just a few dates to get on your calendar ASAP!

- March 10<sup>th</sup>      **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Father's Club Fish Fry**
- March 15<sup>th</sup>      **CCW's Meeting- Crazy Bingo**
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>        **Holy Name Society- Annual Pancake Breakfast**
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>        **CCW Annual Bake Sale**
- June 10<sup>th</sup>       **PPC 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pig Roast**
- September 7th-10th **Fall Fest**

*Helen McComiskey*

*Chairperson, Parish Pastoral Council*



# Father's Club Fish Fry



*2nd Annual*  
**St. Cletus  
 Lenten Fish Fry**  
 Sponsored by St. Cletus Father's Club

## Friday March 10th, 2023

Seatings at: 4:30PM, 5:30PM, 6:30PM, and 7:30PM

### Parish Center 600 W. 55th Street, La Grange, IL

#### Adult Menu

Fried fish, fries, cole slaw, salad, dessert and beverage

**\$15.00 in advance/ \$20 at the door**

#### Kids Menu

Fried fish or chicken tenders, fries, mac-n-cheese, Cole slaw, salad, dessert and beverage.

**\$10.00 in advance/ \$10 at the door**

All donations will go towards support of St. Cletus School and St. Cletus Parish

#### *How to Pay for your tickets*

We accept cash/check and the following options

**Venmo** Julio-Quintero-11

**Zelle** #630-880-2415

**Applepay** #630-880-2415

Checks can be made out to: St. Cletus School

**BRING CASH FOR BEER/WINE,  
SPLIT THE POT, AND MORE**

To help us accommodate everyone please adhere to the following:

Arrive as close to your reservation time as possible

Conclude your meal within an hour to make your table available for the next seating

Tickets (\$5 per drink) will be offered for beer & wine.

Split-the-Pot (cash only) to benefit the Parish and School will be offered

**Tickets on sale after each weekend Mass starting February 25th. Cash, Checks, and ePay available.**

# Hispanic Ministry

| FECHA-DATE   | HORA-TIME  | EVENTO-EVENT  | LUGAR-PLACE              |
|--|--|---|--------------------------|
| 21 de febrero, 2023  | 7:00 p.m.  | <b>Adoración al Santísimo</b><br>Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament | <b>Iglesia</b><br>Church |
| 19 de febrero, 2023  | 12:30 p.m.   | <b>Misa en Español</b><br>Spanish Mass                              | <b>Iglesia</b><br>Church |
| <b>Segundo Sábado de cada mes</b><br>Second Saturday of each month | <b>8:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.</b><br>8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. | <b>Adoración Nocturna</b><br>Night Adoration                        | <b>Iglesia</b><br>Church |
| <b>Sábados</b>   | <b>8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.</b>                           | <b>Confesiones</b>  | <b>Iglesia</b>           |

## ADORACIÓN NOCTURNA

Cada segundo sábado del mes el Ministerio Hispano lleva a cabo la Adoración Nocturna, comenzando con una Misa a las 8:00 p.m. seguido de la Adoración al Santísimo hasta las 5:00 a.m. Todos están invitados a participar.

## NOCTURNAL ADORATION

Every second Saturday of the month the Hispanic Ministry conducts Nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with a Mass at 8:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 5:00 am. Everyone is invited to participate.

## DEVOCIÓN GUADALUPANA

El Ministerio Hispano lleva a cabo la Devoción Guadalupeana rezando el rosario todos los días 12 de cada mes a las 7:00 pm en la iglesia. Todos están invitados a participar.

## GUADALUPE DEVOTION

The Hispanic Ministry holds the Guadalupe Devotion by praying the rosary every 12th day of each month at 7:00 pm in the church. Everyone is invited to participate.

@stcletusparish.com.

## RETIRO CUARESMA

El sábado 18 de marzo, 2023 de 9:00 am a 2:30 pm. Se llevar a cabo un retiro cuaresmal aquí en la Parroquia de San Cleto. El tema será Caminando con Jesús. Los invitados a participar en este retiro en donde estaremos reflexionando sobre nuestro caminar con Jesús. Las formas de registración se encuentran a la entrada de la Iglesia. Para más información se pueden comunicar con Juanita Avila a la oficina del Ministerio Hispano o con Diacono Ramon Cazales. 708-215-5441

## LENTEN RETREAT

On Saturday March 18, 2023, from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. A Lenten retreat will take place here at St. Cletus Parish. The theme will be Walking with Jesus. We invite you to participate in this retreat where we will be reflecting on our walk with Jesus. Registration forms are located at the entrance of the Church. For more information you can contact Juanita Avila at the Hispanic Ministry office or Deacon Ramón Cazales. 708-215-5441

## USHER, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY MINISTERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for all Ushers, Greeters and Hospitality Ministers in the Hispanic Ministry this Friday, February 24, 2023, at 7:00pm in the Gallagher room. We will be reflecting on the scriptures and documents of the Church. We will have guidance on attitude, sense, and skill for the many detailed tasks of ushers, greeters, and hospitality ministers. We will be meeting once every three months. The dates will be determined at this meeting. Please mark it on your calendar.

## REUNIÓN DE MINISTROS DE UJIERES, SALUDADORES Y HOSPITALIDAD

Habrà una reunión para todos los Ujieres, Saludadores y ministros de Hospitalidad en el Ministerio Hispano este viernes 24 de febrero de 2023 a las 7:00 pm en el salón Gallagher. Estaremos reflexionando sobre las escrituras y documentos de la Iglesia. Tendremos orientación sobre la actitud, el sentido y la habilidad para las muchas tareas detalladas de ujieres, saludadores y ministros de hospitalidad. Nos reuniremos una vez cada tres meses. Las fechas se determinarán en esta reunión. Favor de márcalo en su calendario.

# Social Concerns Ministry



## ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY THURSDAYS 6-8PM

### Wish List:

- \$10 gift cards to Walmart or Jewel
- Beverages (tea, coffee, juice, hot chocolate mix)
- Toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Diapers size 4, 5, 6
- Household cleaners
- Laundry Detergent
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Shave cream
- Razors

### Follow us on

Facebook:  
@StCletusFoodPantry

Instagram:  
@St.CletusFoodPantry

### BIGGEST NEED

We are currently seeking donations of \$10 gift cards to Jewel or Walmart. Donations can be dropped in the weekly collection basket or at the Parish Center (please do not put gift cards in the donations bins). Or you can make an online donation to the food pantry. Please write (gift cards) in the memo/notes.

Each year, during the month of Easter, we distribute \$10 gift cards to Jewel/Walmart to each household. Last year, we had a huge response to donations and each household was able to receive \$20!

### WELCOME PACK UPDATE

As of this week, ALL of the families staying at the nearby shelter have moved into apartments! Thank you!

When we initially offered to do "a few" Welcome Packs, we had no idea we would be asked to do all of them. We are so grateful for the support of our community and the collaboration of other community groups: D105, St. Francis Xavier, St. John of the Cross, Nazareth Academy, and the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

A few notes of thanks from the families:

**"We want to thank you on behalf of our family, for helping us make a difference. Your support encourages us to remain committed to reach our goal. Again, thank you so much for your generosity & support."**

**"I send many blessing to all of you for your help, collaboration & cooperation, etc. I am very grateful to all...to all the people who helped us. May God continue to help your lives & bless you always."**

**"Grateful to the Countryside community. For welcoming us & caring for us in the way you have. For helping us reintegrate into this society. Health & blessings to you."**

**"I want to thank you & thank all the people who took their time to donate the different things they sent us. 'Gratitude is the heart's memory.'"**

**"With all my heartfelt greetings & respect, I address all the institutions that gave us their valuable help & support for me, my family, and on behalf of all the immigrants who had the blessing of receiving their solidarity. I wish you good health & thousand blessings."**

**"Well, I'm not very good at writing but I'm going to try. I want to thank you for everything. Since our family arrived here in Countryside I have only received blessings after blessings, we are so impressed, because truly, in no country have they really offered us help like this. And we feel very happy because we went through a lot."**



### LENTEN ALMSGIVING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



As we prepare for Lent, we partner with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) to reach out and serve others through the Rice Bowl program. Please help distribute Rice Bowls after Masses **February 25-26**. All ages are welcome. Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-rice#/> to view slots and sign up.

### LENT IS COMING!

Join our faith community-and nearly 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States-in a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl after Masses next weekend. During the 40 days of Lent, we will reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the world, and we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more.

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

# Social Concerns Ministry

## INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

### Mid-Career Job Search Techniques for Success

Are you over the age of 50? Many mid-career job seekers have concern of age bias when in search of new opportunities. There are ways to enter the competition with more confidence when you overcome some of these natural concerns. Panelists Eileen Paliakas and Jim Fix are two mid-career professionals who have recently landed great jobs. They will share their experiences including the obvious suggestions, the less obvious and what may potentially waste your time. Please join us on Thursday, February 16 from 7-9 pm. We look forward to seeing you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road, Western Springs. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost to attend. Visit us at [www.interfaithcareernetwork.com](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.com) for additional resources.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

If you are experiencing problems, especially abuse, in your relationship, talk to a professional counselor. Find profes-

sional assistance by calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233. Chat with a service provider and find the domestic violence services nearest you. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.



## WORD OF LIFE

“We often assume parenthood happens easily after ‘I do,’ but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple.” *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility” [respect-life.org/navigating-infertility](http://respect-life.org/navigating-infertility)*



# Join Us

*Join us*

as we Celebrate Karen Ziemba!



Karen has been part of our Music Ministry for almost 15 years!

Let's celebrate together on Sunday, 2/19 after 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Center.

RSVPs appreciated.  
[www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)

## Ministry News

### DISCUSSION.

For those who like to look ahead....

April 11 **In the Woods** by Tana French

June 13 **The Dream Daughter** by Diane Chamberlain

As always, all are welcome.

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

### VISIO DIVINA

Join us for Visio Divina during this Lent, when we will be reflecting on the readings of each Sunday in Lent, using art that reflects those readings. We will be using the Arts and Faith series from Loyola Press. We will read and pray with the relevant reading and the art, and end with an Ignatian reflection. These sessions will be held on Thursdays at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. (please sign up for one of these) in the Gallagher

Room. There is no charge. If this is interesting to you, please sign up by contacting our pastoral associate, Tina Norton



arts & faith  
Lent

### 2023 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

#### Walking on the road with Jesus

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments. The new Annual Catholic Appeal theme, “Walking on the road with Jesus,” is an important

theme as we prayerfully consider our support for the Appeal but also important for embracing the life that the Lord wants us to live. Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response. To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at church or make a gift online at [annualcatholicappeal.com](http://annualcatholicappeal.com).



## Parish Wide Survey Goes Live This Wednesday!

St. Cletus parishioners, at the request of our Pastor and the Archdiocese of Chicago, are asked to participate in a 10-15 minute parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute. Please don't let the title deter your interest. This information will be invaluable to Fr. Elmer and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be.

The survey, which will go live on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ash Wednesday, will ask you to reflect on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

The on-line link to the survey, which is available in 17 languages, is being sent out via parish email this Wednesday. All family members, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up, are asked to individually participate. If you currently do not receive email correspondence from St. Cletus, and would like to be included, please go to: [stcletusparish.com/addme](http://stcletusparish.com/addme). Paper copies either in English or Spanish will be also be available beginning on Ash Wednesday. Simply ask one of the greeter/ushers and they will supply you a copy. Weekdays, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., copies will be available in the Parish Center. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact Karen Ziemba, 708-215-5466 or by email: [DMIsurvey@stcletusparish.com](mailto:DMIsurvey@stcletusparish.com).

To submit your completed paper return, a clearly marked box will be in the Narthex or simply drop it off any weekday at the Parish Center office. Deadline for completing and/or returning all surveys is Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you for helping with this important project!



# Community News

## VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

We beg you good and holy priests. In every age you call men to follow you as servants and shepherds of your people. Open their hearts to your call and give them the courage to follow you. Be their rock of refuge and their lights as they discern.

Help us to support them on their journey, and to love them as your disciples.

We thank you for all that you are and all that you do. In your name we pray.



Amen.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO |  Vocation Office  
750 North Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL

## INTERFAITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

LaGrange Park Antique Mall  
800 E. 31st St. (708) 354-1700

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Thursday, February 23

**COCKTAIL PARTY  
FUNDRAISER**

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Tickets \$20 each with proceeds benefitting ICP. Includes wine and appetizers. Use QR code above or go to <http://bidpal.net/cocktailparty>

Bring in a gift card for Amazon or any gas station (\$10 minimum) to receive a coupon for 10% off your next visit to LaGrange Park Antique Mall. Good for any item up to \$100

5% off all sales February 20-23 with event ticket purchase

Costume jewelry repairs will be available, up to 3 per attendee, with a donation to ICP.

Dixie Belle Paint will be offering a furniture refinishing demonstration.

## 'MAN FOR ALL SEASONS' FILM DISCUSSION SET FOR MARCH 24

God, conscience, religious schism, kings, friends, enemies ... they are all the ingredients for a great faith-filled movie!

Join the Institute for Pastoral Leadership for "Friends and Foes," a screening and discussion of the classic film "A Man for All Seasons," Friday, March 24, 6:30 to 9 p.m. on the University of St. Mary of the Lake campus.

Based on author Robert Bolt's stage play, the film tackles the relationship between St. Thomas More and King Henry VIII and the choices More wrestles with to be faithful to God amid religious and political controversy. Leading the discussion and answering questions will be Paul Hilliard, Ph.D., history department chair for the university.

The screening is part of the Institute's Continuing Education series.

The evening is \$16 and includes plenty of popcorn.

Register at <https://amanforallseasons.eventbrite.com>

Learn more about the Institute by visiting our website: <https://usml.edu/ipl/ipl/>

or our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/IPLUSML>

## THE WELL PROGRAM

The Well Spirituality Center 1515 Ogden Ave, LaGrange Park to register/find out more: [www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org) or call 708-482-5048

### At Home Lenten Retreat

Wednesday, Feb 22, 7pm through Wednesday, Mar 8, 7pm (CT)

Spiritual Directors: Pat Bergen, CSJ, Maria Hill, CSJ, Bridget Sperduto, and Sue Torgersen, CSJ

This retreat begins with our Ash Wednesday Prayer Service and a reflection by Bridget Sperduto. Each participant will spend 1/2 hour per day in prayer and meet with a retreat director five times for 1/2 hour during the 15-day retreat. The retreat ends with a group gathering on Zoom. Cost: \$15

### Living as Ambassadors for Christ:

### Lenten Retreat for Catechists

3 Archdiocesan Credits Available

Saturday, Feb 25 • 9 - 11:45am (CT)

### Facilitator: Pat Bergen, CSJ

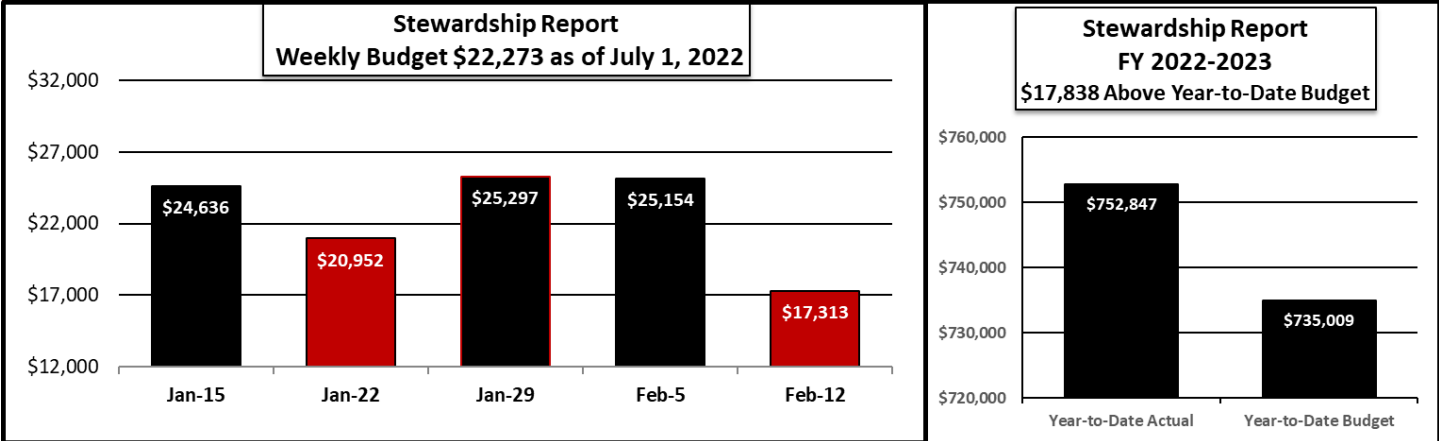
Join in reflecting on Ash Wednesday's call to be "Ambassadors for Christ" (2 Cor. 5: 20) in light of Pope Francis' letter Laudato Si', together with its Action Platform. Discover yourself as part of the global movement of people of all faiths listening and responding to the cries of Earth and her people. On Zoom. Cost: \$20



# Week At A Glance

| DAY/DATE               | TIME                             | LOCATION                                       | EVENT  |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, February 19    | 11:30am-1pm<br>6:30pm            | Clark Hall<br>Gallagher Room                   | Celebration for Karen Ziemba<br>Fall Fest Meeting  |
| Monday, February 20    |                                  |  | No School  |
| Tuesday, February 21   | 11:30am-9pm<br>8:15-9:45pm       | Aurelio's<br>Parish Center                     | Dining 4 Dollars Night<br>Church League Basketball Practice Grades 10 & 11                   |
| Wednesday, February 22 | 9am-12pm                         | Gallagher Room                                 | Ash Wednesday<br>Mission Ladies  |
| Thursday, February 23  | 6-8pm<br>7-8:30pm<br>8:15-9:45pm | Food Pantry<br>Gallagher Room<br>Parish Center | Food Pantry Distribution<br>Visio Divina<br>Church League Basketball Practice Grades 10 & 11 |
| Friday, February 24    | 2-2:45pm                         | Church   | Living Stations  |
| Saturday, February 25  | 11am                             | Church   | Healing Mass   |
| Sunday, February 26    | 7am-2pm                          | Gallagher Room                                 | Hospitality  |

# Stewardship Report



## YEAR-END STATEMENT BY REQUEST ONLY

As tax time approaches, we ask everyone who would like a year-end statement of their Year 2022 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the office @ (708) 352-6209 with your request. You may also email [jdion@stcletusparish.com](mailto:jdion@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

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.*

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

## MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday .....7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,  
..... 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)  
Weekdays..... Monday thru Friday 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. Michael Novick, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Kevin Hays, Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgy**  
**Rev. John Lodge, Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgy**  
**Mr. Ramón Cazales, Deacon**  
**Rev. Robert Clark, Pastor Emeritus**

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Tina Norton, Pastoral Associate** (708) 215-5412  
**Ryan Rump, Music Ministry** (708) 215-5423  
**Kendall Grant, Social Concerns** (708) 215-5418  
**Christopher Wagner, Technology** (708) 215-5420

### HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF (708) 215-5441

**Juanita Avila, Head of Hispanic Ministry**

### SCHOOL STAFF (708) 352-4820

**Gregory Porod, Principal**  
**Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal**  
**Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant**  
**Kate Townsend, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant**  
**Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant**  
**Sara Hodak, Marketing/Development**

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

**Lawrence Manetti, Director of Faith Formation for Children**  
**Hector Obregon-Luna, Associate Director of Faith Formation**

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

**Jim Dion, Business Manager**  
**Olga Montalvo, Parish Administrative Assistant**  
**Silvia Castellanos, Parish Secretary**  
**Sara Hodak, Bulletin Editor**  
**Doug Morrissey, Parish Finance Council Chairperson,**  
Email: [finance@stcletusparish.com](mailto:finance@stcletusparish.com)  
**Helen McComiskey, Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson**  
Email: [ppc@stcletusparish.com](mailto:ppc@stcletusparish.com)

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Elmer Romero  
Chairperson..... Bob Wasik

### MEMBERS

Kevin Hogan                      Bob Malham                      Stephen Mersman  
Mike Napleton                      Griselda Quintero                      Julio Quintero  
Jennifer Senyard

### 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.