

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE - DEC. 24TH

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. 25TH (ALL MASSES IN CHURCH)

- 7:00 AM 11:00 AM
- 8:00 AM 12:30 PM SPANISH
- 9:30 AM



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Wednesday Evening Mass

Dec. 21 - 6:30 pm

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



Mass Intentions for the Week of December 19 - December 25, 2016

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Thomas Flannery, Robert V. Sharpe, Richard Rimkus
Tuesday	Fr. Fisher	8:00 a.m.	Donald Solat, Brother Robert Fisher, OSA
Wednesday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Helen Borsilli, Janet Peters
Thursday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention - Laura Brooks, Special Intention - Monica Herman, Jr.
Friday	Fr. Fisher	8:00 a.m.	Angela Cumbo, Stacey Baker, Albert Harwood & Family, Emily Pezdek, Kadlec Family, Edward Stec, Sr.
Saturday	Fr. Baker Fr. Clark Fr. Gamboa Fr. Clark Fr. Baker Fr. Gamboa All Priests	2:00 p.m. 2:15 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 10:30 p.m.	St. Cletus Parishioners Living and Deceased
Sunday	Fr. Fisher Fr. Gamboa Fr. Clark Fr. Baker Fr. Fisher	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...

Frances Sophie Williams

May she rest in peace. Amen.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend there will be a second collection to benefit the St. Cletus Living our Faith, Building our Future Capital Campaign. Thank you for your continued generous support.

RECTORY HOLIDAY HOURS

The St. Cletus Parish Rectory 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 REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Frannie Grybis, Dr. Brigitta Sonnen Kalb, Theresa Cimaglia, Donald Price, Eileen Peters, Kathy Zydel, 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 Ulfing, Ginny Skibbe, Kim Zwolinski, Lane Powell, Dcn. Jim Cozzo, Mirna Cozzo, Daniella DeRivera, Peter DeRivera, Damien Johnson, Lesley Hansen, Kristen Gozdecki, Steve Gozdecki, Lane Powell, Kelly Cook, Frank Cizek, Nino Scimone, Lee Ascencio, Jean Weekley, Laura Segel, Adrina Castillejo, Otto Stuckman, Patricia Pilleggi, Isaac Musser, Jean Takes, Robert William, Gene Wallace, John Eterno, Vivian Swibel, Jennifer Streit, Julianne Hausknecht, Cynthia Cozen, Eleanor Tolan, Carol Piccolo, Pat Harris, Eleanor Brousil, Allie DeRivera, Carmen Rodriguez, 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...

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Our faith, which comes to us with fragrant incense, flickering candles, consecration and communion, it now comes to us in the human forms and in the animal shapes of the Christmas crib. If God was mysterious before, coming down on the altar in sacramental sign and raised host, now it is marvelous to see with our own eyes, that he was very, very human also. He loved animals and was surrounded by them. He loved children and came to them like this, a helpless babe, but cozy and warm. This unseen, unknowable God, dwelling in unapproachable light, is here and now with us in flesh and blood. He is part of this world's pageant and part of our parish life. He is part of life, with you and with me. That phrase "God is with us" makes sense now. God is here and I have found him.

Like us, Jesus has a Mom and Dad who love him very much. They watch over him and take care of him, so that, like us, he can grow up safe and sound and surrounded by love. He has a home in a village called Nazareth. His Dad is a carpenter. He grows up and goes to school like all boys and girls do. This is a wonderful kind of God, one who wants to be exactly like we are. This kind of God we can talk to, because we can "see" him and get to know him. From watching his life and how he lives it, from studying his behavior, we can really get to know what kind of person this Jesus is. Risen from the dead and now living forever, this Lord is also flesh and is our brother and friend. For that is why he came...quite simply, to be one of us.

This truth, that God has become a human being, forms the opening statement of Paul's letter to the Romans, read out to us today. My message to you, says Paul, is that the Son of God took on our human nature, becoming a son of David's race. His name is Jesus, and being God's Son, he was raised from the dead, so that everyone would know that he is the Lord. The Lord is now with you, and with all who call on his name. What Paul tells the Romans in his letter, he now tells us today. We are God's beloved, here in this place, and we are called to be saints.

The Christmas crib warms the heart of every person who looks on it. How could it not? For there, in that tender scene, in the form of a helpless child, we see the tenderness of God. That same child will be helpless once again, when his life is snatched from him on a cross, and once more we will look upon the helplessness of God.

What message is this that God is trying to give us? Why this helplessness, why this vulnerability to the pain of the

world?

The answer lies

in a most forgotten

word...the word is "INNOCENCE".

Innocence is a total inability to hurt others, and so as such, it is the greatest ability of all. Looking upon the crib, many of us have recognized the face of God in a helpless child. This is the sign that has been given to us, Mary's child. In that child we see, not only the loveliness of God, but also the beauty of every human being.

May the joy and "Innocence" of the Christmas Crib in our Church and homes bring us the realization of how loved we are by this God of LOVE? The prayers and thoughts of all the priests and deacon of the parish, along with your parish staff, wish each of you a blessed, innocent, and holy Christmas. May peace reign in our hearts and homes throughout this holy season and forever.

Blessings Always,



Fr. Bob
Pastor



Parish School



DATES TO REMEMBER

Christmas Break Begins Dec. 23
 School Resumes..... Jan. 9
 Cardinal Pursuit Trivia Night Jan. 20


FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

Tom Chinske, Principal **Christy Schaefer, Asst. Principal**
 (708) 352-4820 (708) 352-4820
 tchinske@stcletusparish.com cschaefer@stcletusparish.com



Learning through Service

Our preschool students are pictured here wrapping gifts they have donated for their service project. All students at St. Cletus School participate in service projects throughout the year. By making faith a part of everyday life, children come to know and love God. They will in turn desire to serve God through their prayers and acts of kindness toward others.

Gift Cards for Education

Shop With Scrip, formerly known as MANNA, buys gift cards from vendors who sell them to us at a percent discount. We then sell them at face value.

Half of the proceeds helps our school, the rest you can apply to tuition at St. Cletus School or St. Cletus Religious Ed.

For more Information or to order online visit <http://shopscrip.stcletusschool.com>

Cash & Carry 12/17-18

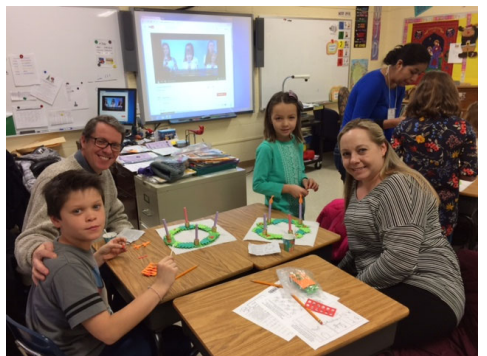
Dr. Terry Nelson Johnson and Staley da Bear Present "Bear Down on Bullies"

Staley Da Bear visited St. Cletus School for a special anti-bullying show. "Bear Down on Bullies" is an informative, hands-on, anti-bullying show created by Staley Da Bear, the team's official mascot, to educate today's youth about the importance of respect, how to deal with and prevent bullying. Staley and his emcee will jump start your child's desire to get along with each other and live in a more friendly and welcoming environment by combining education, comedy, and super cool prizes into this high energy show!

Religious Education

MAKING TIME FOR FAMILY IN ADVENT

Our third grade families had the opportunity to spend a class together to celebrate the season of Advent! They experienced this holy season by learning Advent songs with Karen Ziembra, Director of the Children's Choirs, participating in an Advent Wreath Prayer service with Deacon Stuart and Deacon Jesus, and making Advent Wreaths to use at home over these four weeks. It was a fun family time for all of our third grade families!



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

GIVING TREE

Food baskets are due this weekend! On Sunday we will be distributing the food baskets, along with Christmas gifts, to our local recipients. Please remember, each tag represents a real family. When you took a tag from the tree, you made a commitment to that person, and to returning your item(s) on time.



FOOD BASKETS RED TAGS (food baskets): Bring your **Food Baskets** to **Morrissey Hall on Sunday, December 18th from 7:30 AM-11:00 AM. Please pull up on STONE AVE. and a volunteer will help unload your donation.** We ask that you securely attach the food basket tag to your package. If your food is in more than one container, if possible please mark the containers 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc. This will be a big help in our organization process.

A HUGE thank you to our volunteers last weekend! We had about 100 different volunteers move and organize (literally) thousands of gifts donated by generous St. Cletus families! Thank you for your donations!



This year we also had a special donation of a moving truck from **Del's Moving & Storage**. Parishioner Randy Balla and his son-in-law helped us carefully transport gifts down to our sharing parish St. Agatha's to distribute to 200 individuals. Thank you!!! (www.delsmovers.com)

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

THE GIVING TREE COMMITTEE

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

Giving Tree Volunteer Opportunities...

TODAY, December 18 (Morrissey Hall):

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

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

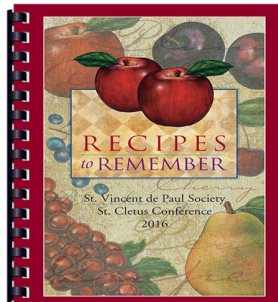
6:30am-1:00pm Giving Tree accepting and organizing food baskets and gifts.

1:00pm-7:00pm Distribution of food baskets, gifts, and clean up.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The St. Cletus St. Vincent de Paul Society Cookbook is now available. You can purchase them this weekend after all the Masses!

- December 17-18 before/after Masses
- Weekdays in the Rectory



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!!

The cookbook is \$15 and 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.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The holidays are an especially difficult time for victims of domestic violence. Please consider attending our monthly support group or sharing this information with a friend or family member in need. Thanks!

Monthly Domestic Violence Support Group

If you or someone close to you is experiencing domestic violence this group may be very helpful.

The objective of the group is to provide all a chance to talk about domestic violence and share questions, concerns and experiences with others who are facing - or who have faced - similar situations in confidence.



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

Please contact Kendall Grant at (708) 215-5418 or email kgrant@stcletusparish.com or for more information.

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

HOMELESS PERSONS MEMORIAL

Monday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.
Old St. Pat's Church
700 W Adams St., Chicago

On the longest night of the year, please join us as we again remember our homeless brothers and sisters who have died in the last year. The memorial will be held on December 19th, 2016, at Old St. Patrick's Church. Music again will be provided by Harmony, Hope, and Healing, which puts on this service along with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Old St. Pat's, New Moms, Cornerstone Community Outreach, and the Night Ministry.



WHY: An analysis by the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless showed that 125,848 Chicagoans are homeless. The Illinois Department of Human Services reports more than 38,000 people lived in state-funded shelters in 2014. Nationally, over the course of a year, 2.5 million to 3.5 million people experience homelessness.

ORGANIZED BY: This event is affiliated with National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, one of more than 150 events across the U.S. organized by the National Coalition for the Homeless. This Chicago service was first organized in 2010 by CCH, Ignition Spirituality Project, and Old St. Pat's Church. Homeless attendees are offered a dinner prior to the service.

INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

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

Advent - A Season of Love, A Season of Joy



SUMMONED BY GOD

As Christmas draws near, Advent's scriptures lure us into a world of dreams, signs, wonders, and the miracle of the virgin birth. Too often we allow the great stories of our faith, the ones that are most familiar, simply to wash over us. Today's Gospel account of the events leading up to the birth of the Lord reads like a present-day soap opera. Yet Joseph's courage, even in the midst of what must have been an incredibly confusing time, provides a model for us. Each week, we are summoned by God to embrace the way of goodness and truth through the proclamation of God's holy word. Like Joseph, we are called to do as the Lord commands us. As we stand at the threshold of Christmas, let us have the courage to be open to whatever it is that the Lord will require of us as we celebrate the miracle of Bethlehem.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice
 Thursday: St. John of Kanty
 Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
 Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Tuesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
 Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
 Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
 Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
 Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27 29;
 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, the first Christmas carols are heard in the home, but usually not yet in church. What is a "carol" anyway? Originally, a carol was any kind of communal song sung at a festival such as a harvest. By the thirteenth century or so, carols were associated with household celebrations. "Carol" comes from the Old French *carula*, meaning a circular dance. Carols weren't for church, since the language of liturgy was Latin and the carols were in the common language. Their characteristic sound comes from medieval chord patterns, and they often have strong refrains for everyone to sing. Even in the churches of the Reformation, carols didn't make it into church services until the 1870s or so, since there was a preference for psalms. Anglicans resisted popular carols; most of our beloved carols came via the Methodists, an offshoot of the Church of England. The Catholic Church generally didn't admit carols to liturgy either, but we didn't make laws against them.

We are told that the beloved carol "Silent Night" comes from Catholic Austria and a harried parish music director. Joseph Mohr, the priest of St. Nicholas in Oberndorf, had written the words in 1816, but offered them to his music director, Franz Gruber, when the church's organ broke. Mohr asked him to write a melody that could be played on guitar as a prelude to Mass. Gruber finished the tune just hours before midnight Mass in 1818. The people were shocked to hear a guitar in church, but were charmed by the sweet lullaby. The church was swept away by a flood in the 1990s and the village later relocated, but the townspeople have set up the "Silent Night Memorial Chapel" at the site. Today the carol is in print in some three hundred languages. How wonderful that the pipe organ broke on that night!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN

It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas.

—Charles Dickens

Second Collection this Weekend

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

The new parish center is starting to come together. We were blessed with great weather which has allowed us the outside of the building to be nearly complete and work on the inside to begin. It is wonderful to see this project become a reality!

This week (*pictured to the right*) a heating unit for the building was installed. Portable heaters inside the building are keeping the work moving along inside throughout this cold weather.

There will be a second collection this weekend for the St. Cletus Living our Faith, Building our Future Capital Campaign. Thank you for your continued generous donations.



Installation of the heating unit.



A look at the stage from afar.



This area will be the parish offices.



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.

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	ALTAIR AND ASSOCIATES 815-725-2323	FCI Construction, Inc. GENERAL CONTRACTORS
FNBC BANK & TRUST	newman architecture	Hallowell & James Funeral Home	RIGHT FIT 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 & CREATION SERVICES	JH Web MARKETING	Annella 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	

Youth Ministry

FRETUS 2017: ROAD TO EMMAUS



What is Fretus?

Fretus is the Freshmen / Sophomore Winter Retreat. This is a combined effort between St. Francis Xavier and St. Cletus Parishes. This retreat is an opportunity for freshmen and sophomore teens to examine their faith, reflect on where they are, learn a few things, and have an outrageous amount of fun! The retreat will be January 13-15, 2017. We are blessed to have this retreat led by wonderful, Spirit-filled junior and senior high school teens, who are eager to be companions on the journey. For more information, including registration, go to the Youth Ministry page on the parish website. This retreat will fill up quickly. If cost is an obstacle to participation in this opportunity, scholarships are available. The registration deadline is December 18th.

MISSION TRIP 2017



young neighbors *in action* ▶▶

Are you being called to « bring good news to the poor » ??? Our Mission Trip this summer is organized by Young Neighbors in Action and will take place July 16th-22nd. We will serve the community of South Bend, IN.

The exact details of our work are still being worked out, but possibilities include serving at one of many

organizations set up to minister to the homeless and centers for at-risk children. Registration details are available on the website. If you are interested, please contact Elizabeth. Space is limited and does fill up quickly! This is open to high school students who will have completed 9th grade and above.

We are also looking for adult chaperones who are willing to join us. Without you, this opportunity cannot be offered. Contact Elizabeth for details to see if this is something meant for you!

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE THANK-YOU

I received a letter from the Ronald McDonald House Director thanking our group from St. Cletus Youth Ministry for the dinner we provided in November. Thank you again to all who came and prepared a meal for the families in residence at the house!



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

Other Ministry Notes

OPLATKI AVAILABLE

Oplatki is available at the St. Cletus Parish Rectory office during regular business hours. A donation of \$2 is requested.

Traditionally at midnight the head of the household takes the white oplatki and shares it with family and friends and then the pink oplatki with the animals on his farm or at his home. This custom brings us back to that Holy Night when even animals were able to speak, and to remind us that we are all God's creatures.



KOLBE HOUSE JAIL MINISTRY



THE DEACON'S WIFE IS COLLECTING STAMPS AGAIN!

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

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

-God Bless You all - Marlene

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.



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AND MINISTERS OF CARE

This weekend Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Ministers of Care will be mandated for a three year period.

A mandate is an order or commission given by the Archdiocese to individuals who have completed a course of training to serve or continue serving a particular parish as a Minister of Communion. It implies a commitment on the part of the ministers to serving the parish. The pastor reviews those ministers' service who have already been mandated and authorizes their re-mandating (if already in service) or commissions new ministers to be mandated. This occurs every three years. This takes place throughout the Archdiocese on one of the Sundays of Advent marking the beginning of the new liturgical year.

A blessing will be offered for these ministers at each of the weekend Masses.

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Paulette Bolton. Please contact Fr. Ken or Paulette if you have any questions. (708)215-5422.

WORD OF LIFE

"A child is loved because he is one's child: not because he is beautiful, or because he is like this or like that... Not because he thinks as I do, or embodies my dreams. A child is a child: a life generated by us but intended for him, for his good, for the good of the family, of society, of mankind as a whole."

— Pope Francis, General Audience, February 11, 2015.
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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

Community Bulletin Board

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Cletus School is currently looking for help with their aftercare program. This is a part time position, 3-5:45pm M- F, subject to school being in session.

THANKS A MILLION!

Women's Care Center of La Grange would like to thank all St. Cletus parishioners who donated to our recent baby bottle collection at the parish. The total amount collected to date is \$8,050. We are so pleased with your response and are very blessed by your generosity! You have made it possible for us to continue our life-saving and life-affirming work helping women and babies in our area.

We are deeply grateful to Fr. Robert Clark, pastor, and to Wayne and Marianne Hamilton, pro-life coordinators, for all their support and leadership in this event. We also want to give a big THANK YOU to the Girl Scouts who once again passed out the bottles after all the Masses.

Because of your sacrifices large and small, Women's Care Center of La Grange will be able to help save babies' lives through compassionate counseling, free ultrasounds, medical referrals and material assistance given to their moms and dads in crisis. As we approach the Christmas season, we and the babies give thanks for all of you and count you as one of our greatest blessings.

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.

THE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE: HUMAN INVENTION OR DIVINE INTERVENTION?

Dominican Sisters Rosary Hill Home invites you to this 4 week Monday Night Catholic Bible Study THE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE beginning January 2, 2017 and continuing every Monday night through January 23rd at 7 p.m. at Rosary Hill Home, 9000 W. 81st St., Justice, IL.

THE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE is a DVD presentation of the origins of the Old and New Testaments by Dr. Brant Pitre. Particular focus is given to the history of how the canon, the official list of books in the Bible, came to be, and the central role the Catholic Church played in the formation of the canon. Dr. Pitre also explores the reliability and authorship of the Gospels, and whether or not we can have confidence that the canon of Scripture is reliable. This fascinating series will answer questions such as:

- Why are those books in the Bible?
- Why are there seven less books in Protestant Bibles than in Catholic Bibles?
- How do we know that the Gospels are reliable?
- What are the Dead Sea Scrolls and the "Lost Gospels"?
- What about "Sola Scriptura" and belief in the "Bible Alone"?

Whether you're a beginner or a lifelong student of the Bible, you're sure to gain new and exciting insights from this informative series. So, if you're interested in learning about the hottest selling book in the history of mankind, then this Bible study on the Bible is for you!

To register contact Rosary Hill Home 708-458-3040 on or before December 26, 2016.

ST. RENE GOUPIL BINGO/RAFFLE

New Year Super Bingo/Raffle Sunday Jan. 8, 2017. Doors open 12:30pm, Games begin 1:30pm. admission \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. For more info 773-229-8523. 6340 S. New England Ave.

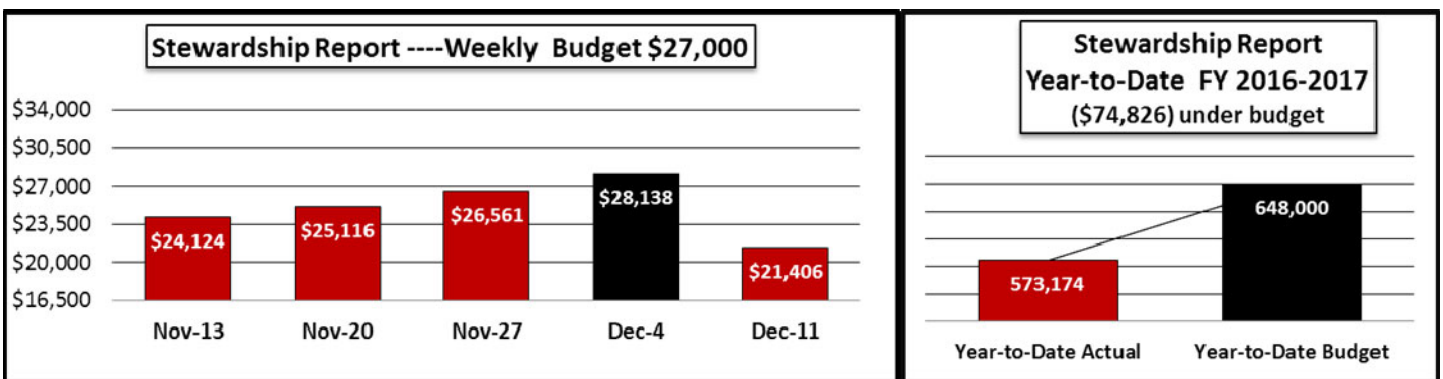
SPIRITO! SINGER AUDITIONS

Spirito! announces auditions for the 2017 Spring session for the Men of Spirito!, a choral group composed of men 18 years of age or older who embrace Spirito!'s mission of fostering a love of chorale music through service and performance. The Spring Session runs from mid-January through May. We rehearse on Tuesday nights 7-9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Elmhurst. Contact us: 630-581-5440 or spirito@spiritosingers.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 18	All Masses 7:30-11:30am 7:00pm	Narthex MH Church	SVDP Cookbook Sale & Shop w/ Scrip Cash & Carry Return Food Baskets for Giving Tree Christmas Novena	
Monday, December 19	4:00pm 7:00pm	S Music Rm Church	Junior Choir Rehearsal Christmas Novena	
Tuesday, December 20	5:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm	MH Rectory S Rm 201	Los Posadas RCIA Christmas Novena	
Wednesday, December 21	6:30pm 7:00pm 7:00pm	Church Church MH	Advent Evening Mass Christmas Novena Band Concert	
Thursday, December 22	7:00pm 7:30pm	Church S Music Rm	Christmas Novena Chancel Choir Rehearsal	
Friday, December 23	8:00am 7:00pm	RB Church	Facilities Closed after 8am Mass Christmas Novena	
Saturday, December 24			No 8am Mass or Confessions Please see the front of the Canticle for Mass times	
Sunday, December 25			Please see the front of the Canticle for Mass times	

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 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*
 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