

**Do not work for food that perishes
but for the food that endures
for eternal life.**

— JOHN 6:27A

AUGUST 1, 2021 | EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The bread of God
is that which comes down
from heaven and
gives life to the world.*

~ John 6:33



WELCOME

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Mass Intentions for August 2 - 8, 2021

Day	Time	Presider (subject to change)	Intentions
August 2	8:00am	Fr. Baker	BC Collins, Frank Mamolella, Samuel Colonna, All Souls in Purgatory
August 3	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Joseph Vieceli, Frank Wojcik
August 4	8:00am	Fr. Costello	James Carollo, Mark Hanson, Frankie Kotan
August 5	8:00am	Fr. Baker	Elaine Rys
August 6	8:00am	Fr. Costello	Non Rettig
August 7	5:00pm	Fr. Costello	Joyce Marie Sweeney, Joan Oremus
August 8	7:15am	Fr. Costello	Stacy Baker, Richard Gomez, George Duda
	8:45am	Fr. Romero	Kate M. Crain, George Kuchta, Maryann Zborek
	10:30am	Fr. Costello	Thomas and Ann Connelly, Joseph Maier
	12:30pm	Fr. Romero	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.

July - Joseph Busta, John Duda, Sandra Eckrich, Howard Eggert, Joan Klemak, Marian Mozdzen, Patricia Rodey

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

May - Virginia Klecka, Montana Jennings, Ginny Skibbe, Mary Ann Vokurka, Marilyn Kornau, Maria Matayka, Kevin Peck, Patricia Rodey, Patrick Wingert

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

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

Irene Faron

Perla Yaneth Jimenez
Daughter of Sanjuana Rangel

Eleanor Mlot

May they rest in peace. Amen.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically?

Visit stcletusparish.com and click the "DONATE" BUTTON. Then click Sunday donations. If you have questions, call Mary Zwolinski at 708-352-6209.

A Note from Fr. Elmer

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to share some blessings with you.

First, since our parish is blessed with three priests, we are happy to be available to you for confession every Saturday. As of Saturday, August 7th, 2021, we will be offering Confessions every Saturday from 8:30 AM to 9:15 AM. There is no need to sign up ahead of time. I would like to acknowledge and thank some members of our parish who brought to my attention the need to have more opportunities to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. Please share this news with your family, neighbors, friends, and coworkers.

Second, this past Tuesday morning (July 20th), after the 8:00 AM Mass, we enjoyed some convivial time together with coffee, juice, and treats in the Parish Center. About 25 parishioners and our three priests gathered informally for about 45 minutes and we all had a good time just visiting at the tables in the Gallagher Room. I would like to do this again on the third Tuesday each month after the 8:00 AM Mass. Please know that you are welcome to join us.

Third, another blessing that I want you to be aware of is that on August 31st, 2021, at 8:00 AM we will be celebrating a Mass of the Holy Spirit as we begin our new school academic year. Parents and parishioners are all invited to join us in praying for our school children, faculty, and staff for a successful new year.

I pray that our good and gracious Lord may continue to share His blessings with us!

*Fr. Elmer Romero
Pastor*

Holy Name Society

JOIN THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY FOR A JOLIET SLAMMERS BASEBALL GAME

The Holy Name Society is sponsoring its 12th annual Joliet Slammers Baseball Outing on Sunday, August 15th at 1:05 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 each. Tickets will be sold in the narthex next weekend (August 7/8) and the following weekend (August 14/15) after the 7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

Information on directions (and free parking) to the game in downtown Joliet can be found online at www.jolietslammers.com.

Everyone is invited. Families welcome. We hope you'll join us!



**Sunday, August 15
1:05 p.m.
Tickets \$10**

Social Concerns Ministry



ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY THURSDAYS 6-8PM

Most needed at this time:

- Jelly
- Toothpaste
- Facial Tissue (Kleenex)
- Pasta sauce
- canned tomatoes
- flavored rice/noodles
- 2 lb dry pinto beans
- Diapers (size 3-6)
- Baby Wipes
- School Supplies

Please look for the FOOD PANTRY DONATION bin near the Rectory door, it will be checked daily.



Follow us on Facebook:
@StCletusFoodPantry

Now on Instagram:
@St.CletusFoodPantry

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

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

We need your help! We are partnering with local Scout, Chris Rekstad, as he prepares for his Eagle Scout Award. He will be helping us coordinate our School Supply Drive and Distribution this year. We are SO happy to have his help!

Please see the needed items in the graphic to the right. They can be dropped off in the 'Food Pantry' Donation bin outside the Rectory at any time.

Please note, all items should be new and unopened.

Thank you!

St. Cletus Food Pantry

School Supply Drive

Items Needed:

- Washable Markers
- 24 pack Crayons
- Spiral Notebooks
- Pens
- #2 Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Glue
- Kid Scissors

All items should be new & unopened

Items can be dropped in the 'Food Pantry Donation' bin outside the Rectory

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

I live in your neighborhood.

"I am a woman with three children. I have an MBA, a good job, and I live in a nice Chicago suburb. However, I have had several visits to the Emergency Room this past year. I try to go to different ERs so they won't recognize me coming in. I have to pay out of pocket since my insurance doesn't cover all these out-of-network visits. I don't come in right away. I wait until the bleeding has stopped, until I am calmer, until I can think up a plausible story to go with my cuts and bruises. I think that my husband is jealous of my education and earning ability. He never finished college. He earns less than I do. Still, I do not withhold money. We put everything into a joint account. I love him and I don't hold it over him. But it seems like every month when we pay bills, he starts feeling like he's one down. He starts belittling me first, I guess to make himself feel better, and soon he gets physical. He has never hurt me too bad. I've had a few stitches, but no broken bones like some women. He always feels so sad when it's all over. I know he doesn't want to hurt me. Something just happens....."

MYTH: Victims provoke their partners' violence.

FACT: Whatever problems exist in a relationship, the use of violence is never justifiable or acceptable. There is NO EXCUSE for domestic violence.

You are not alone!

In an emergency, dial 911 or call the National Domestic Violence 24-Hour Hotline at 800-799-7233.

Carrol A. M. Smith, PhD, RN, faculty of UIC. The Many Faces of Interpersonal Violence. The Family Violence Prevention Fund, Chapter 1, What is Domestic Violence?



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH
—ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO—
AWARNESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION
www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org

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

CALL THE 24-HOUR PHONE FOR HELP:
708.485.5254

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

SAVE THE DATE FOR ICP's FALL BENEFIT

Friday, October 1, 2021 at 6pm at Carriage Greens Country Club. Plans are in the works to be back in person for our fall benefit this year, so please save the date for this fun evening in support of older adults! More details coming soon...

GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY VOLUNTEERING

If you haven't been able to grab one of our food pantry volunteer slots, considering volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Let them know you are from St. Cletus Food Pantry and you will earn \$15 for our pantry each time you volunteer! Check out their link for volunteer eligibility information and sign up www.chicagosfoodbank.org/volunteer

WORD OF LIFE



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel is a sequel to last week's account of Jesus feeding a large crowd with five barley loaves and a few fish. Here, Jesus is challenging the crowd to see in the bread they have eaten a sign of God's generosity in providing for all the blessings in their lives, as well as the blessing of life itself. The first reading, from Exodus, recounts how the escaped Hebrew slaves were fed in the wilderness, first with quail, then with manna. The psalm is a later reflection on the manna as the bread from heaven and a blessing from God. The selection from the letter to the Ephesians sketches the image of putting away the "old self" and putting on the new, emphasizing that a person's life in Christ needs to differ from their previous life, just as the life of a free person differs from that of a slave.

SIGNS AND WONDERS?

Today's Gospel continues into a second day the narrative that had begun the day before when, after crossing the lake to look for Jesus, a large crowd are fed with five barley loaves and two fish. The following day (today's reading), after more lake crossings, the people who had been miraculously fed are again searching for Jesus. However, they do so (as Jesus puts it) "not because you saw signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled" (John 6:6).

In John's Gospel, the word "sign" has a distinct meaning. At the wedding at Cana, after telling how Jesus turned water into wine, the Evangelist notes "Jesus did this as the

beginning of his signs" that "revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him" (John 2:11). For John, signs are not just wonders to behold; they are about the revelation of God and a response of faith in Jesus.

OR MAYBE THE SIGN IS THE WONDER

When the crowd first arrives, Jesus notes that they had not appreciated the sign that he had already given; they are still focused on their physical hunger. When they ask for a sign, "that we may see and believe in you" (John 6:30), they refer to their ancestors who ate manna in the wilderness. Can Jesus top that? Can he give them more bread that will relieve them of their daily worries about going hungry?

Jesus reminds the crowd that it was not Moses who gave the "bread from heaven," but his Father. Further, the Father can give them the true bread from heaven that comes down and gives life to the world. There is a parallel in the Greek between working for food that perishes and doing the works of God, which is believing in Jesus as the one God has sent. This is the sign that the people missed the day before, the sign that Jesus is pointing out to them.

Like the Evangelist, the Church uses the word "sign" for its sacraments. Like the crowd, we are called to see similar "signs" of God's generosity in all the blessings of our lives.

Religious Education

WHAT IS IT??

In today's first reading and the Gospel, we hear about manna that was provided to the Israelites in the desert. Do you and your children know that "manna" means? The word "manna" actually means "what is it?" ***What is it?!?!*** Manna was so strange to the Israelites that they named it "what is it?"

So really, what is it? When the Israelites fled Egypt they wandered in the desert for forty years. Forty years! That's a really long time! And all forty years they had very little to eat. Deserts are usually very empty, so you wouldn't be able to pick berries or dig up potatoes. And when you are constantly traveling, you can't exactly grow a garden or raise chickens. The Israelites got so hungry they began to complain and got very angry. They thought they were all going to starve! They went to Moses to beg for food, so Moses asked God to feed them. And God did. The next morning manna fell from heaven, and when the Israelites woke up, they were surrounded by little white fluffy mounds. Since they had never seen anything like it before they called it manna, or "what is it?".

Manna was a bread sent from heaven to keep the Israelites alive, but the manna didn't last. Even if they ate all they could they would still be hungry the following day. And if they tried to store some up for later it went bad and turned into worms. But manna isn't the only bread God sent from heaven. Jesus is our bread sent from heaven. Jesus tells us that he is the Bread of Life. Just like the manna was sent to keep the Israelites alive, Jesus was sent to keep us alive. And unlike the manna, Jesus doesn't run out or go bad. Jesus was sent from heaven to save us and keep us alive for all time.

In the our Gospel reading today Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Once we have Jesus we are full. We have all we need. We don't need to keep searching for something else to save us. Jesus is it. He is all we need, and with Jesus we will live forever. When we receive the Eucharist, and invite Jesus into our lives, we receive the best gift that God has to offer us. As we receive that gift, we can then share those gifts with others, just as Jesus did.

REGISTER FOR RE TODAY!

Please make the time to register your child for our upcoming Religious Education academic year! We are excited to offer a hybrid of at-home lessons and in-person activities for all grade levels! Our program is very flexible and user-friendly!

Please see our website (www.stcletusparish.com/re) for more information on our program and to access the registration forms.

Please register ASAP to ensure we have the books and materials your child will need to start the program on time!

Any questions can be directed to Barb Campbell at bcampbell@stcletusparish.com

We look forward to seeing your child again this year!



"Let the Children Come to Me"
Matthew 19:13-15



Sunday Notes

AUGUST 1, 2021 | EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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THE BREAD OF LIFE

Today's Gospel has the crowd asking Jesus three questions. First, "When did you get here," to which Jesus responds by rebuking them for their failure to grasp his miracle as a "sign," an occasion to put faith in him. Their second question about accomplishing the "works of God" has Jesus respond that faith is the "work" that God wishes. Many scholars believe this is John's answer to the faith-works dichotomy emerging in the early Christian community. Faith is the work of God in the believer, John would have us understand. The third question asked by the crowd is a request for a "sign" that would allow them to put faith in Jesus, as the manna in the desert allowed the Israelites to put faith in the Lord God. Jesus answers by revealing himself as the "bread of life" that "comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The people of Israel receive bread from heaven in response to their grumbling (Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15).

Psalm — The Lord gave them bread from heaven (Psalm 78).

Second Reading — Put on the new self that has been created in God's way (Ephesians 4:17, 20-24).

Gospel — I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger (John 6:24-35).

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

GOVERNING OUR PASSIONS

Whoever governs their passions is master of the world. We must either command them, or be commanded by them. It is better to be the hammer than the anvil.

—St. Dominic

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Monday: | Nm 11:4b-15; Ps 81:12-17; Mt 14:13-21 |
| Tuesday: | Nm 12:1-13; Ps 51:3-7, 12-13;
Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 |
| Wednesday: | Nm 13:1-2, 25 — 14:1, 26-29a, 34-35;
Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-23; Mt 15:21-28 |
| Thursday: | Nm 20:1-13; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Mt 16:13-23 |
| Friday: | Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9;
2 Pt 1:16-19; Mk 9:2-10 |
| Saturday: | Dt 6:4-13; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Mt 17:14-20 |
| Sunday: | 1 Kgs 19:4-8; Ps 34:2-9; Eph 4:30 — 5:2;
Jn 6:41-51 |

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Sunday: | Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Monday: | St. Eusebius of Vercelli;
St. Peter Julian Eymard |
| Wednesday: | St. John Vianney |
| Thursday: | Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major |
| Friday: | The Transfiguration of the Lord;
Hiroshima Memorial Day; First Friday |
| Saturday: | St. Sixtus II and Companions;
St. Cajetan; First Saturday |

FEAST OF FAITH

The Preface: Thanksgiving

The preface of the Mass has been called "a poem, the cry of joy and recognition, the song of the world discovering its salvation . . . the certitude of faith making hope spring forth" (Philippe Béguerie, quoted in *The Mass*, Lucien Deiss, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN, 1992, p. 70). The preface takes up the last words of the dialogue, and expresses briefly and simply why we are grateful, why it is right and just to give thanks and praise to God. On feast days, the preface sings of the specific mystery or saint we celebrate; in Ordinary Time, the Sunday and weekday prefices express our gratitude for God's gift of the Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption and newness of life. The prefices offer a succinct account of what God has done for us in Christ; they express the mystery of faith, always relating it to us, to our lives. "By his birth we are reborn," we hear in Preface IV for Sundays in Ordinary Time. "By his suffering we are freed from sin. By his rising from the dead we rise to everlasting life." Yes, we have cause to give God thanks and praise.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

A SECRET

The secret of happiness is to count your blessings while others are adding up their troubles.

—Anonymous

Archdiocese of Chicago

PLANNED GIVING

Q: Who Needs an Estate Plan?

A: Everyone.

Your estate includes everything you own, regardless of size. If you want your assets to be given to the people and charities you care deeply about after your passing, then it's important for you to establish a formal estate plan. Not only will it give you peace of mind, but your loved ones will also appreciate not having to make tough, stressful decisions during an already difficult time.

There are five key elements to an effective estate plan:

- (1) Financial power of attorney
- (2) Will
- (3) Beneficiary designations
- (4) Charitable beneficiary designations
- (5) Health care documents, such as a living will and a health care power of attorney.

Please consult an attorney and financial advisor when creating your estate plan. For more information, please contact Mary Zwolinski at 708-352-6209.

To request the free guide, "Tips for Creating an Effective Estate Plan," please contact Krystina M. Campbell, Planned Giving Officer, Archdiocese of Chicago at 312.534.5404 or kcampbell@archchicago.org.

ALPHA COURSES

Our next courses begin Wednesday, September 22, and Thursday, September 23. Alpha is an excellent series for anyone who's curious about their faith, has questions about Christianity, or is simply looking for *more* but doesn't know where to start.

Registration for our Fall Alpha courses is now open! Choose between:

- Online: Wednesday mornings, 10 – 11 am, beginning Sept. 22nd
- Online: Thursday evenings, 7:30 – 8:30 pm, beginning Sept. 23rd
- In-Person: Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, beginning Sept. 22 at St. Clement in Lincoln Park

Visit <https://faithhubchicago.org/alpha> for all the info for these series, including a video describing the experience.

GROUNDED IN FAITH

Grounded in Faith is a series of conversations that explore the foundational elements and core concepts of discipleship. It's perfect for anyone looking to go deeper in the Christian faith. It is a great course to take after Alpha but can be taken at any point!

Grounded in Faith runs over 10 weeks. Each week is centered around a short video and a discussion at the end where you can share your thoughts and ask questions. No question is too basic or too big. We will dive into topics like: building a personal relationship with Jesus, letting Him take you from good to great, dealing with mistakes and regret, cultivating a deeper relationship with God through prayer and more. No judgment. No preaching. No pressure.

Our next session starts Wednesday, Sept. 22nd and ends Dec. 8th (we will skip the weekend of Thanksgiving). The course runs on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:15pm CST. More information and sign ups can be found online at <https://faithhubchicago.org/grounded-in-faith>

PRAYER MEETINGS

Looking to pray more with others after Grounded in Faith? We invite you to join the weekly virtual prayer meetings (reflection on the word of God and prayer) on Wednesdays at 7:30 AM. Sign up at shorturl.at/vxHJ4 to receive the Zoom link each week

BIBLE IN ONE YEAR

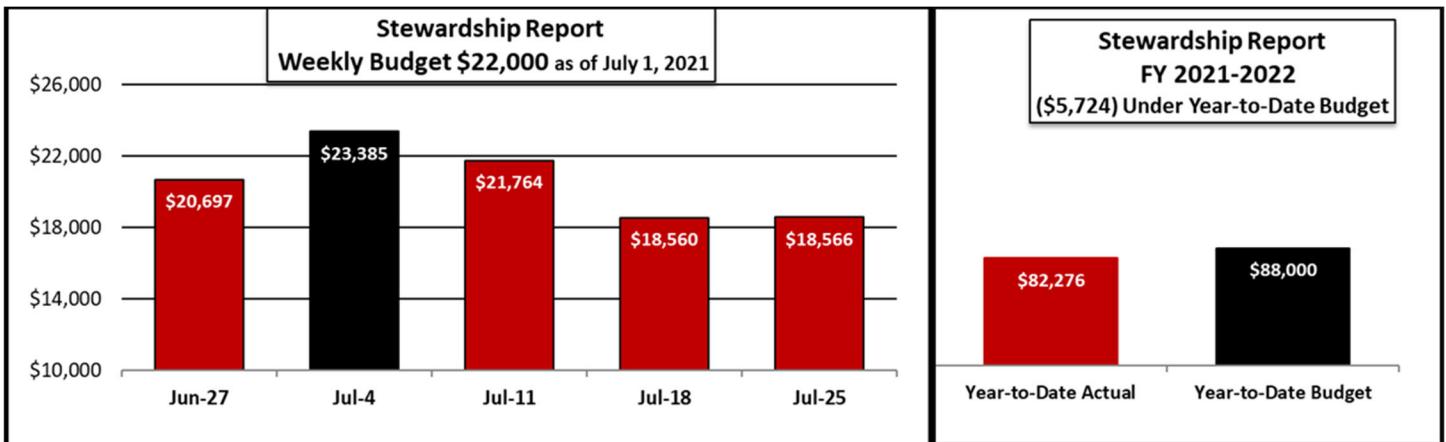
Have you ever wanted to dive into Scripture but not known where to start? *Bible in One Year* could be the guide you've been waiting for. The program follows a schedule of short daily readings and reflections to get you through the Bible in a tight 365 days. To supplement the daily individual readings, the Faith Hub's *BiOY* Reflection Group gathers once a month to reflect, talk, pray, and encourage one another. You can jump in where the schedule is now or begin at Day 1! Totally up to you! More information at <https://faithhubchicago.org/bibleinoneyear>

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS



The Archdiocese of Chicago Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year are invited to participate. Please note, this Mass is planned as a live event with participants attending on site. With the uncertainty of the how the COVID-19 virus will be this Fall, this Mass may need to be moved to an online liturgy due to ongoing mitigation efforts associated with the pandemic. More details on the Mass, including location and relevant COVID-19 precautions, will be available in early summer 2021 at <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding>. Please contact familyministries@archchicago.org with any questions.

Stewardship Report



Ministry News

BOOK DISCUSSION



For the next book discussion, we are reading The Light Between Oceans by M L Stedman. We will meet on August 10, 2021 at 7 PM in the Fr. Gallagher Room of the Parish Center.

For those who like to look ahead, on October 12 we will discuss On The Brink of Everything by Parker Palmer.

As always, all are welcome. Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

NEW MINISTER OF CARE TRAINING

Ministry of Care to the Sick is a pastoral ministry to those who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or who are confined to the home. Ministers of Care are trained and formed for pastoral visits with time to listen, pray and share the Eucharist.

Attendance at all six sessions fulfills the Archdiocesan requirement for Ministry of Care certification and is led by experienced lay ministers serving in Vicariate IV.

**Wednesday Evenings 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Aug 4 - Sept 8**

[https://www.stjohnofthecross.org/
new-minister-of-care-training/](https://www.stjohnofthecross.org/new-minister-of-care-training/)

Registration includes handouts, light snacks, Certificate of Completion, and Communion to the Sick guide.

Date/Site/Topic:

1. Aug 4 (Zoom) Intro to the Theology of Pastoral Ministry to the Sick
2. Aug 11 (@ SJC) Pastoral and Practical Aspects of Ministry of Care
3. Aug 18 (@ SJC) Pastoral Listening Skills
4. Aug 25 (@ SJC) Theology of Aging and Theology of Grieving, Death and Dying
5. Sept 1 (@ SJC) Importance of Prayer
6. Sept 8 (Zoom) Eucharistic Ministry: Theological, Pastoral and Practical Aspects

This training utilizes videos produced by Sr. Jane Schlosser, RSM at the Carmelite Spirituality Center in Darien, IL. Videos and training in English only.

For Additional Information:

St. John of the Cross Parish
5005 Wolf Rd . Western Springs, IL 60558
708-246-4404 (x137)

FALL FEST WILL RETURN IN 2022



We are excited to announce that the St. Cletus Parish Fall Fest and carnival will return September 8-11, 2022. We will not host a carnival this year, but we do still plan to run the Grand Raffle again this Fall.

BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be emailed to canticle@stcletusparish.com as text with pictures attached separately. All articles are due 5:00 p.m. Friday a full week (9 days) before Sunday's publication.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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