

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



**Thanks Be To God For The Blessings
We are Given.**



WELCOME

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33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Well done, my good and faithful servant.” – Mt 25:21

Mass Intentions for November 20 - November 26, 2023

Day	Time	Presider	Intentions
November 20	8:00am	Fr. Kalas	Joe and Kay Klemak
November 21	8:00am	Fr. Romero	St. Cletus Parishioners
November 22	8:00am	Fr. Novick	Joe and Kay Klemak, BC and Rip Collins
November 23	9:00am Thanksgiving Day Mass	Fr. Romero and Fr. Novick	Gale Wroblewski, Kadlec Family, Karen Proven, John and Dolores Slowiak, Bob and Nancy Ward, Natalie Nicoletti
November 24	8:00am	Fr. Kalas	Louie Marasovic, Frank Wojcik, Stec Anniversary
November 25	5:00pm	Fr. Belauskas	Delphine Marciszewski, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Irene Erdmann, Fred Grosskopf, Catholic Council of Women
November 26	7:15am	Fr. Belauskas	John and Frances Kennedy, Reverend Charles Watkins, Dorettea Mucha, Marguerite Keating, Gerda Elisabeth Dorso
	8:45am	Fr. Clark	Phyllis Prevenas, Kelly Sorrentino, Jonathon Weidhuner, Sobus Family(Special Inetntion)
	10:30am	Fr. Lodge	Frank Kandor, Stacy Baker, John Baker, Pamela Bronk, Janeth Broucek
	12:30pm	Fr. Novick and Deacon Cazales	Deacon Mario Avila

**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.

- November -*
- October -* Debbie Garcia, Carina Orona, Erin McMahon Leddon, Geraldine Osmolek
- September -*



Pastor's Note

*"For all of you are children of the light
and children of the day.*

1 Thessalonian 5:5

Dear Friends,

The Lord through his Living Word reminds us today that we all are children of the light and of the day. He wants us to know, believe, and always remember this truth. Then, he invites us to consider living and sharing this light with others. I find this invitation to be fascinating and life giving.

It seems to me that our desire to be light for others continues to grow at our parish. More are choosing to share their lights with others. This is clearly seen at every event or activity that is hosted at our parish. We are also noticing that new and young members of our parish community are stepping up, joyfully providing leadership, and choosing to be light for us all. They are choosing to share themselves with us. The ripple effect of their contribution is contagious; it is being noticed and generating more light. This is truly amazing to see in our midst for which we give thanks to the Lord.

Since 2021, we have continued to notice a slow but steady growth in Mass attendance at our parish. More are making the decision to come back to pray with us and attend Mass in person. As they return, they are finding our parish to be a welcoming, warm, and friendly community. They feel at home. They like being able to clearly hear everything that is being said, sung, and prayed at Mass. They like the friendly environment that is being fostered and nourished. They appreciate how Mass is celebrated, which is with care, prayerfulness, and love. As a result, our October Mass Attendance has been growing since 2021. See a detailed report of it in page 5 of our bulletin. I am humbled and encouraged by this report for which I offer you my heartfelt gratitude.

Also, I am happy to share with you that we ended the previous Fiscal Year (July 1st, 2022-June 30th, 2023) in the black. I encourage you to take a look at the financial report we are publishing in our bulletin this week. This report was created by Jim Dion, Business Manager, Franco Foti, Operations Director, and in collaboration with the Parish Finance Council. I feel blessed to have their support, guidance, and contribution. They love to share their lights with me. They want to see our parish growing and proclaiming Jesus Christ as we all do. If you need more information or clarification of the report, please reach out directly to Jim, Franco, or any member of the Parish Finance Council. We will continue to strive keeping you informed and exercise good stewardship. This report was already submitted and approved by the Archdiocese of Chicago. Together, we will continue to make our parish a light for all. I offer you my sincere gratitude for your continued prayers, trust, kindness, and financial support.

On Thursday, we will celebrate Thanksgiving. We will get together with family and friends to remember and celebrate the first Thanksgiving that was celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. As a faith community, we will get together around the altar on Thursday, November 23rd, 2023, at 9:00 AM to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving. Inspired by Jesus' prayer, *"so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you"* (John 17:21) our 9:00AM Mass will be celebrated in English and Spanish. I am grateful to those who (staff and volunteers) are already working together to have everything prepared and ready for this special liturgy. Please come, and together, let us give thanks to God who is good to us. Join me in extending this invitation to your family, friends, and neighbors.

May our desire to be light to others be blessed by the Lord.

Fr. Elmer Romero

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Join us Thanksgiving at 9am

All parishioners, family, and friends are welcome to gather with us for mass and celebrate all we have to be thankful for.



Note From Father Mike

A WEEK TO GIVE THANKS

This is always a fun time of the year. The bulletin deadlines are early because of the holidays. In other words, it's still about two weeks from Thanksgiving, and yet we just turned the clocks back an hour last night. Sometimes these are the hard articles to write. Not this time.

I wanted to share a holy moment with you I experienced this past week on the evening of November 2nd. That was the special Mass when we commemorate the souls of the faithful departed (All Souls Day). Each year, parishes tend to invite those families who have lost loved ones to come back to celebrate and remember all who were buried from our church between November 1st and October 31st the following year. Not all families send representatives, but some do.

This year, a young lady who graduated from our school a couple of years ago and her male friend were killed in a car accident out of state. We at St. Cletus hosted both of the families for their funeral – at the same time. It doesn't happen often, but when it does, it's all the more difficult.

I don't know why things happen, but they tend to happen for a reason. The evening Mass we hosted was attended by the young man's mother. And while we were performing a candle lighting ritual when the names of the deceased are read, relatives or friends are invited to come forward and light a candle. When the young man's name was read, his mother came forward and she came to me for a hug before lighting the candle. We didn't chat. She just hugged me. My guess is that it was a simple gesture of thanks for what our parish did for her in her time of sorrow.

It wasn't something that made much sense to me as it happened, but in the darkest times of our lives, we need a little light – not a candle, but Christ.

Never take a holy moment for granted. God is at work.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Fr. Mike



Sunday Notes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

Thursday: St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day

Friday: St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Saturday: St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Next Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



Financial Report

St. Cletus October Attendance Count Comparison

	Oct-2021	Oct-2022	Oct-2023	Increase / Decrease
Week 1	970	1216	1269	
Week 2	952	1192	1263	
Week 3	993	1252	1306	
Week 4	965	1243	1477	
Week 5		1265		
Average	970	1226	1329	103

Message from the Parish Finance Council

Dear Fellow St. Cletus Parishioners,

The Finance Council is a consultative body whose purpose is to advise the pastor and assist him with his financial responsibilities. The Council members are committed to understanding the state of the Parish's finances so that we can work with Fr. Elmer Romero and the Parish staff to understand the Parish's needs and help form long-range plans to ensure that the Parish can meet its responsibilities.

We encourage you to take a look at the Balance Sheets, Statement of Revenue and Expenses, and Summary of the Parish Financial Report for the last fiscal year. We would also like to highlight some ongoing matters:

Sound System. The original goal was \$110,000 and through your generosity, nearly \$124,000 was raised through voluntary donations. The first video stream was launched on November 15, 2022, and the final components of the sound system were installed this past Spring. Due to your generosity, we now have a much-improved sound and video streaming system to enhance our liturgies.

Disney Rental Revenue. Thanks to Jim Dion, our Business Manager, Greg Porod, our school Principal, and Christy Schaefer, our Assistant School Principal, an additional income of \$44,000 (\$8000 in FY21/22, and an additional \$36,000 in FY22/23) was secured through renting St. Cletus space to Disney Plus for the filming of the TV series "Saturdays." The show was unfortunately not renewed for a second season.

Fall Fest. Fall Fest 2023 was a success. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers and staff, led by Sara and John Hodak, the Fall Fest made a final profit of \$56,227.88, which was split equally between the church and the school.

"To Teach Who Christ Is" Obligation. As we reported last year, a substantial debt was owed by the Parish to the Archdiocese of Chicago. We learned this debt was an Archdiocesan fundraising campaign initiated in 2013 by Cardinal George entitled "To Teach Who Christ Is" (TTWCI), and was described on the Archdiocese website:

The primary goal of the campaign was ensuring parishes in the Archdiocese are strong and vibrant communities of faith. Every parish in the Archdiocese participated in the campaign. Parishes retained 60 percent of all funds they raised for local needs and shared the remaining 40 percent with other parishes and ministries throughout the Archdiocese.

This past year the Parish made two payments totaling \$50,000 reducing our obligation from \$625,109.74 to \$575,109.74.

We ask for your continued support and prayers.

Thank you,

The St. Cletus Parish Finance Council

Jonathan Andrews Doug Morrissey Tom Reisel Michael Burns Patty Morrissey Adriana Varela

Renee Callaghan Bob Persa John Vincent and Jim Gorman

Please use this email finance@stcletusparish.com or call the rectory 708-352-6209 with any questions

Financial Report

70870 - St. Cletus

Profit and Loss

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Income	Church, REP		Combined	Previous Year FY 2021-22	Year over Year Difference
	Food Pantry FY 2022-23	School FY 2022-23	Church and School FY 2022-23		
3000 Sunday and Holy Day Collections	1,219,142.65		1,219,142.65	1,172,145.86	46,996.79
3020 Christmas Collection	167,243.02		167,243.02	172,142.17	(4,899.15)
3030 Easter Collection	85,048.54		85,048.54	100,041.26	(14,992.72)
3040 Other Collections	6,742.00		6,742.00	5,042.16	1,699.84
3100 Tuition	68,454.50	1,572,256.07	1,640,710.57	1,655,119.28	(14,408.71)
3110 Fees	825.00	168,422.59	169,247.59	198,311.30	(29,063.71)
3350 Lease / Rental Income (Disney) (1)	18,000.00	18,000.00	36,000.00	8,000.00	28,000.00
3400 Outside Funding Sources		159,051.26	159,051.26	34,783.04	124,268.22
3450 Fund Raising Net Income	10,248.98	175,491.58	185,740.56	146,682.90	39,057.66
3500 Interest & Investment Income	1,878.43	5,483.02	7,361.45	911.89	6,449.56
3600 Auxiliary Groups	17,555.67	22,295.40	39,851.07	24,151.15	15,699.92
3700 Miscellaneous Income (2)	329,100.19	13,593.32	342,693.51	332,177.58	10,515.93
Total Income	\$ 1,924,238.98	\$ 2,134,593.24	\$ 4,058,832.22	\$ 3,849,508.59	209,323.63
Gross Profit	\$ 1,924,238.98	\$ 2,134,593.24	\$ 4,058,832.22	\$ 3,849,508.59	209,323.63
Expenses					
4010 Salaries	683,786.05	1,297,666.37	1,981,452.42	1,849,618.05	131,834.37
4030 Health Insurance-Employer Paid	80,335.30	256,281.29	336,616.59	298,480.00	38,136.59
4040 Employer FICA	39,455.00	94,204.95	133,659.95	126,477.19	7,182.76
4050 Fringe Benefits	41,088.27	80,714.73	121,803.00	68,356.00	53,447.00
4060 Prof. Growth/Minist./Other	9,972.63	1,680.00	11,652.63	11,225.31	427.32
4100 Books & Supplies,Non-Liturgical	37,557.98	50,619.75	88,177.73	74,553.69	13,624.04
4150 Administrative Expenses	76,670.26	26,139.50	102,809.76	89,611.44	13,198.32
4200 Transportation	1,621.38		1,621.38	2,925.98	(1,304.60)
4250 Food Service & Meals	48,924.56	4,282.12	53,206.68	58,015.67	(4,808.99)
4400 Telephone	8,614.46	7,023.70	15,638.16	20,990.12	(5,351.96)
4410 Heating Fuel	29,854.03	33,522.06	63,376.09	63,309.64	66.45
4420 Electricity	26,752.06	21,691.38	48,443.44	58,562.95	(10,119.51)
4430 Other Utilities (3)	12,790.20	28,628.41	41,418.61	34,933.27	6,485.34
4450 Maintenance & Building Repairs	49,527.60	45,525.45	95,053.05	126,883.13	(31,830.08)
4600 Interest Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.07	(70.07)
4650 Altar & Liturgical Supplies	60,481.11		60,481.11	33,606.93	26,874.18
4700 Furnishings & Equipment	20,877.90	29,865.46	50,743.36	63,640.80	(12,897.44)
4750 Archdiocesan Assessment	150,684.00		150,684.00	170,475.00	(19,791.00)
4760 PRMAA Assessment	52,740.00		52,740.00	59,666.28	(6,926.28)
4770 OCS Assessment		15,958.00	15,958.00	15,613.38	344.62
4780 Property/Casualty Insurance	52,244.64	78,366.96	130,611.60	131,662.06	(1,050.46)
4790 Auto Insur-Priest Owned Vehicle	2,986.00		2,986.00	2,690.00	296.00
4800 Miscellaneous	127,801.73	26,986.91	154,788.64	95,610.99	59,177.65
Total Expenses	\$ 1,614,765.16	\$ 2,099,157.04	\$ 3,713,922.20	\$ 3,456,977.95	\$ 256,944.25
Net Operating Income	\$ 309,473.82	\$ 35,436.20	\$ 344,910.02	\$ 392,530.64	(\$47,620.62)

Financial Report

Other Income

5010 Sharing Collections Oth Parish			0.00	60.00	(60.00)
5030 Arch Required Collections	51,446.27		51,446.27	25,840.12	25,606.15
5050 Estates, Bequests & Memorials	27,932.98		27,932.98	13,285.00	14,647.98
5060 Other Extraordinary Income (4)	35,981.90		35,981.90	403,667.80	(367,685.90)
5110 Fund Collections			0.00	650.37	(650.37)
5120 Capital Collections	5,069.00		5,069.00	133,394.90	(128,325.90)
Total Other Income	\$ 120,430.15	\$ 0.00	\$ 120,430.15	\$ 576,898.19	(\$456,468.04)
Other Expenses					
6030 Pymt Arch Required Collections	51,446.27		51,446.27	25,864.12	25,582.15
6060 Other Extraordinary Expenses (5)	3,414.60		3,414.60	675,000.00	(671,585.40)
6100 Capital Purchase or Construct	373.80		373.80	398.85	(25.05)
6110 Capital Improvements (6)	170,981.83	4,008.25	174,990.08	87,922.71	87,067.37
Total Other Expenses	\$ 226,216.50	\$ 4,008.25	\$ 230,224.75	\$ 789,185.68	(\$558,960.93)
Net Other Income	(\$105,786.35)	(\$4,008.25)	(\$109,794.60)	(\$212,287.49)	\$ 102,492.89
Net Income	\$ 203,687.47	\$ 31,427.95	\$ 235,115.42	\$ 180,243.15	\$ 54,872.27

(1) - FY22/23 Disney rental income = \$36,000, split 50% Church, 50% School.

(2) - Stole fees = \$47,670 / Food Pantry = \$206,824 Vigil candles = \$25,156 / Donations = \$31,040 / Other = \$32,004

(3) - Water/Sewer, Garbage, Cable, Internet

(4) - FY21/22 includes loan forgiveness of the SBA PPP loan to the school during Covid.

(5) - The "To Teach Who Christ Is" obligation was put on the books in FY21/22 per Archdiocesan direction. This had a one time effect of making FY21/22 "Net Other Income" negative. In FY22/23, the remaining TTWCI obligation is reflected on the books as a liability in the Balance Sheet statement.

(6) - Parking Lot and Drainage = \$57,361 / Sound System = \$80,605 / School Security = \$5,020 / Rectory Renovations = \$19,725 / Sacristy Closet Renovation = \$4,212 / Church Sanctuary Lighting = \$5,635 / Other = \$2,432

Balance Sheet June 30, 2023 and 2022

	<u>June 30, 2023</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>
Assets		
Parish Checking / Payroll Bank Accounts / Petty Cash	\$ 1,229,512	\$ 1,072,273
Parish Savings Accounts at Archdiocesan Bank	11,912	10,632
Parish "To Teach Who Christ Is" Account at Archdiocesan Bank	-	-
Parish Organizations-Auxiliary Group Accounts / Food Pantry	538,798	456,462
Prepaid Deposit/Prepaid Expenses	2,482	2,480
Restricted School Endowment investments (1)	515,213	510,380
Unrestricted Parish investments at market value	394,364	393,271
Restricted Building Fund at Arch Bank (Sound System) (1)	13,097	74,258
Restricted Parish Center Building Campaign Fund Accounts (1)	13,351	12,536
Total Assets	\$ 2,718,730	\$ 2,532,292
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 3,142	\$ 4,942
Other Payroll Withholdings	-	1,252
Tuition deposits	42,889	38,806
Archdiocesan Obligations (TTWCI) (2)	575,110	625,110
Parish and School PPP Loan Proceeds	-	-
Other Current Liabilities	292	-
Total Liabilities	\$ 621,432	\$ 670,110
Total Net Assets	\$2,097,298	\$1,862,183
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 2,718,730	\$ 2,532,292

(1) - Restricted funds are not available for general parish operations.

(2) - Obligation to the Archdiocese Related to the To Teach Who Christ Is campaign. See the Message from the Parish Finance Council about this obligation.

Financial Report Summary

Summary of the Parish Financial Report Year Ended June 30, 2023

- Collections. Sunday, Holy Day, and Christmas and Easter collections totaled \$1,471,434.21. While post-COVID Mass attendance is down by about 18% compared to pre-COVID attendance, our weekly collections are only down about 15% from pre-COVID levels. This of course is not just an issue with our Parish, this is an issue with all parishes. Thank you for your continued generosity.
- "To Teach Who Christ Is" Debt. The Parish reduced this debt by \$50,000, leaving a balance of \$575,109.74. This debt is explained in more detail in the Message from the Finance Council.
- School Funding. In previous years, the Parish has provided financial support to the school. This past fiscal year, however, the school was financially self-sufficient. Due to the profit from the Disney rental income, as well as fantastic fundraising efforts by students, parents, and supporters, the school had a net operating income of \$35,436.20.
- Net Operating Income. The Parish finished the June 30, 2023, fiscal year with a net operating income of \$309,473.82 (including Food Pantry net income of \$62,816.91).
- Investment Losses. The Parish's investment accounts had a net unrealized gain of \$1,093. The school's investment account had a net unrealized gain of \$4,833.21. Because investment gains and losses are not part of the Parish's/School's normal operations, they are not considered in determining the parish's/school's operating income but rather considered Other Revenue.
- Parish Data:

Registered families: 1,209*
 Baptisms: 101
 Marriages: 11
 Funerals: 69

School Enrollment: 315 Pre-K- 8th grade
 Religious Education: 410
 First Communions: 144
 Confirmations: 80

**Last year's report showed a higher number. During the fiscal year being reported, we inactivated families that, for a reasonable period, did not attend our services or make any contributions.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we present to you the Annual Report, which reflects our finances, I can't help but think about your generosity. Being good stewards is part of our vocation as people of faith. Stewardship asks us to recognize the greatness of God who created us with a Father's love.

We firmly believe that God is the Creator of all. God gives His gifts of life to His creatures. He gives the human person the duty to return thanks and praise to Him. "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." "It is right and just." This is the daily song of the Church in the Preface of every Mass.

God has called us to be a part of a community of believers. God reveals himself to us through the fellowship of believers. The Staff at St. Cletus is committed to continue working hard as part of this community of believers. As we continue with the mission of evangelization in this part of the world, we strive to be good stewards of the gifts you share.

As we continue together in this journey, I give thanks to the Lord who has called each one of us to be part of this wonderful community.

Many blessings,

Deacon Franco

Operations Director

Social Concerns Ministry



**ST. CLETUS
FOOD PANTRY
THURSDAYS
4-8PM**

Wish List:

- Canned meats
- Past Sauce
- Coffee, tea, cocoa
- Dish Detergent
- Bathroom Cleaners
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Razors and shave creaming
- Deodorant

Follow us on Facebook:
[@StCletusFoodPantry](#)

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

Giving Tree

Giving Tree Tags are NOW AVAILABLE! Gift cards will be for sale in the Narthex this weekend. There are many ways to get tags this year:

Church Narthex: Trees will be available before and after Masses in the Church Narthex. Trees are labeled by category so you can easily find what type of tag you are looking for.

Online Form: We have a simple form you can complete to request tags and then we will email you information for tags based on what you requested. All contact free. Visit: stcletus-parish.com/givingtree

Email/Phone: Or you can email kgrant@stcletusparish.com or leave a message at 708.215.5418 and we can get back to you with tag information.



Giving Tree Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer slots are now available for our Giving Tree collection and distribution weekends. View slots, availability, age requirements, FAQs, and more at: www.stcletusparish.com/givingtree For further details, you can also contact: Kendall Grant, (708)215-5418, kgrant@stcletusparish.com

WORD OF LIFE



“In addition to enshrining pro-life laws and policies, the transformation of our culture also requires continual conversion of our own hearts, so that we can recognize in every person the face of Christ and place their needs before our own.”
Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge, Chair of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities
“Living Radical Solidarity”

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

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



School News

SPIRIT ASSEMBLY

What a great time we had last week celebrating our sports and club activities! The festivities recognized our fall sports, clubs, and helped us kick off our winter sports season! The assembly concluded with two fantastic performances from both our 8th grade girls and 8th grade boys!



Honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO ST. JUAN DIEGO

"Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."

Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Novena of Our Lady of Guadalupe will take place from December 3rd. to December 11th. 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in church. Please make plans to join us at this novena to Our Blessed Mother Maria de Guadalupe. After the rosary we will share hospitality (sweet bread and champurrado). Everyone is invited.

If there are any families who would like to pray the rosary, and host the hospitality that evening, there are lists at the church where they can sign up. For more information, please contact Juanita Avila, Director of Hispanic Ministry. 708-215-5441.

Novena Guadalupana

La Novena de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe se llevará a cabo del 3 al 11 de diciembre de 2023 a las 7:00 p.m. en la iglesia. Favor de hacer planes para acompañarnos a rezar esta novena a Nuestra Santísima Madre María de Guadalupe. Después del rosario compartiremos pan dulce y champurrado. Todos están invitados.

Si hay algunas familias a las que les gustaría rezar el rosario y ser anfitriones de la hospitalidad de esa noche, en la iglesia se encuentran unas listas en donde se pueden anotar. Para más información, favor de comunicarse con Juanita Avila, directora del Ministerio Hispano. 708-215-5441.



Welcome!

THE RITE OF ACCEPTANCE AND THE RITE OF WELCOMING THE BAPTIZED THIS WEEK-END!

We are so excited to have a catechumen and a candidate this year. These are adults who wish to be fully received into the church. Catechumens need to be baptized and receive their other sacraments of initiation and the word “candidate” is used to refer to people who have been baptized, but still need their remaining sacraments of initiation.

Both our candidate, Rob Placher, and our catechumen, Kristina Browne-Medina, have been worshipping at St. Cletus for a while, and will be participating in these first rites this Sunday, November 19, at our 10:30 mass. You will be seeing them and finding out more about them as they continue their journey to the sacraments. Please welcome and congratulate them!

Ministry and Community News

BOOK DISCUSSION

For those who like to look ahead

December 12th: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt



February 13th: The Celebrants by Steven Rawley

As always, all are welcome.

NAZARETH ACADEMY ENTRANCE EXAM



Saturday, December 2, 8 a.m.

Nazareth Academy invites 8th graders to Test at Nazareth Academy on December 2, 2023. Preference for admission and scholarships will be granted to students who test with Nazareth on that day. The exam begins at 8 a.m. and concludes at approximately 11:15 a.m. **Pre-Registration is Required.** More information and Registration can be found at nazarethacademy.com.

Parents are invited to an optional Parent Gathering Q & A session from 8:30-9:30 a.m. that morning. Pre-registration at nazarethacademy.com is required to attend.

Nazareth Academy is located at 1209 W. Ogden in La Grange Park. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Kristen Stojetz at 708-397-8505.

ENCOUNTERING JESUS WITH



NPH USA.

Juan Manuel

Juan joined the NPH El Salvador family when he was almost 13 years old. Born with a cleft palate and having lost his legs in a house fire as a toddler, Juan had many struggles to overcome in addition to dealing with the trauma of losing his biological family at such a young age.

Juan will attend and share his beautiful story at the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Immediately after Mass, he will treat us to a mini concert and offer time for questions.



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023

St. Cletus Parish | 600 W. 55th St. La Grange, IL 60525

Community News



November 24, 2023, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Inviting young men in the Archdiocese of Chicago, ages 13–20.

Parents and priests are also invited to this annual event hosted at Mundelein Seminary.

Come and learn more about the priesthood and your vocation.

November 24, 2023 University of St. Mary of the Lake
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. 1000 East Maple Avenue
Mundelein, IL 60060

Please register at [this link](#) by November 23.
For further information contact Katie Hazen at khazen@archchicago.org.



CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR ADULTS

Come experience the Bible like never before! Our new program follows the liturgical calendar, beginning at the start of Advent-year round! We will explore together the richness and depth of every Sunday’s readings so that we may better participate in the Mass and meet Jesus in the Eucharist! This weekly series is for you if:

- You want to know, understand, and love Jesus MORE
- You want to deepen your understanding of how much Jesus loves YOU!
- You want to better participate in Sunday Mass by engaging in thorough examination of the readings for the day!
- You want to make life-long friends in and through faith-based fellowship year-round!

We meet online via zoom, every week all year! Begins November 28th. Tuesday mornings 10am-12pm and Thursday evenings 6:30pm-8:30pm

\$15 for any weekly session, \$50 for all sessions in a month, \$500 for every session all year long!

Scan Here
To Register



Christmas Mass Times

2023 Christmas

Sunday December 24th

- | | | |
|---------|---------------|---------|
| 3:00pm | Church | English |
| 3:15pm | Parish Center | English |
| 5pm | Church | English |
| 7:30pm | Church | Spanish |
| 10:30pm | Church | English |

Monday December 25th

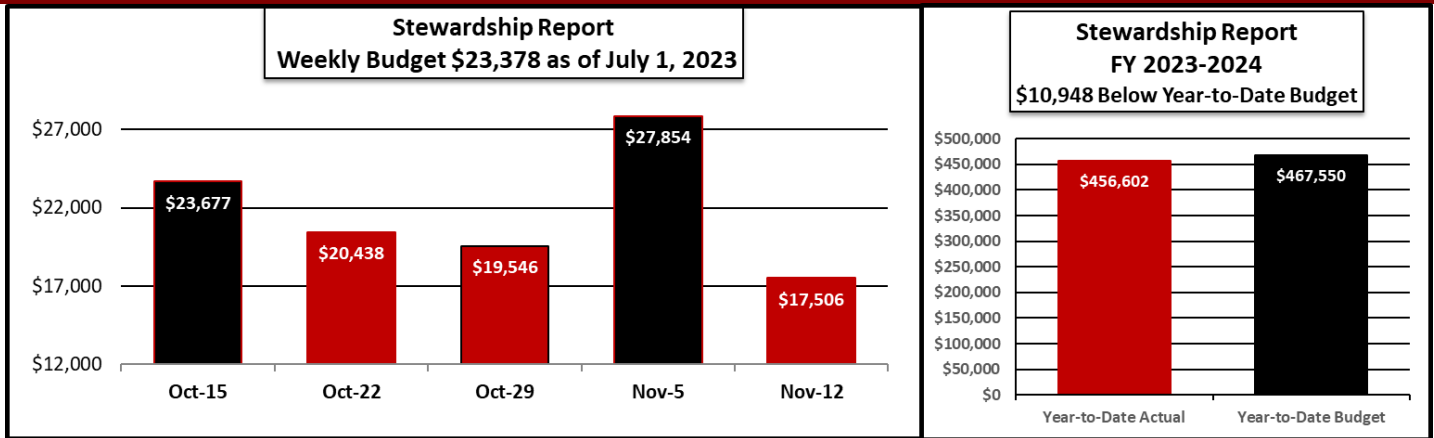
- | | | |
|---------|--------|---------|
| 7:15am | Church | English |
| 10:00am | Church | English |
| 12:30pm | Church | Spanish |



Week At A Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, November 19			
Monday, November 20			
Tuesday, November 21	9:30am 7-8pm	Church Church	School Thanksgiving Prayer Service Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Spanish
Wednesday, November 22	1-1:45pm 8-10pm	Church Parish Center	Living Rosary School Fathers Basketball
Thursday, November 23	9:00am	Church	Thanksgiving Day Mass
Friday, November 24			
Saturday, November 25	6pm-12am	Parish Center and Church	Nocturnal Adoration Celebration
Sunday, November 26	10:30am	Church	Family Mass

Stewardship Report



Preferred Partners



Thank you!



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 SundayClosed

MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.
Sunday7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
..... 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)
Weekdays..... 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*
Deacon Franco Foti, *Operations Director*
Rev. Michael Novick, *Associate Pastor*
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

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*
Sara Hodak, *Marketing/Development*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

Lawrence Manetti, *Director of Faith Formation for Children*

Hector Obregon-Luna, *Director of Evangelization and Renewal*

Clara Santin, *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*

PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

Jim Dion, *Business Manager*
Olga Montalvo, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Silvia Castellanos, *Parish Secretary*
Sara Hodak, *Bulletin Editor and Director of Social Media*
Doug Morrisey, *Parish Finance Council Chairperson*,
Email: finance@stcletusparish.com
Helen McComiskey, *Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*
Email: ppc@stcletusparish.com

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

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

LIAISONS

FSA PresidentJoleen Kirchens
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.