

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

**Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.**  
— Luke 1:42



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### CHRISTMAS EVE - MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

There will be no 8:00am Mass on Monday, December 24

|         |                   |                       |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2:00pm  | Church            | Chamber Ensemble      |
| 2:15pm  | PC-Fr. Clark Hall | Cantor/Piano          |
| 3:30pm  | Church            | Combined Youth Choirs |
| 3:45pm  | PC-Fr. Clark Hall | Cantor/Piano          |
| 5:30pm  | Church            | Chamber Ensemble      |
| 7:00pm  | Church (Spanish)  | Hispanic Choir        |
| 10:30pm | Church            | Chancel Choir         |

(10:00-10:30pm Christmas Carols prior to Mass)

### CHRISTMAS DAY - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

|         |                  |                               |
|---------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 7:00am  | Church           | Organ/Congregational Caroling |
| 8:00am  | Church           | Cantor/Piano                  |
| 9:30am  | Church           | Chancel Choir                 |
| 11:00am | Church           | Cantor/Piano                  |
| 12:30pm | Church (Spanish) | Hispanic Choir                |

### VIGIL OF SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 5:00pm | Vigil Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)            |
| 7:00pm | Vigil Mass in Spanish (Holy Day of Obligation) |

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

There will be no 8:00am Mass on Tuesday, January 1

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| 9:00am | Feast Day Mass (Holy Day of Obligation) |
|--------|---|



#### PLEASE NOTE:

There is no 8am Mass on Monday, December 24 and Tuesday, January 1st.



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## Mass Intentions for the Week of December 24 - 30, 2018

| Day       | Presider<br>(subject to change) | Time       | Intentions  |
|-----------|---------------------------------|------------|---|
| Monday    | Fr. Fisher                      | 2:00 p.m.  | St. Cletus Parishioners   |
|           | Fr. Clark                       | 2:15 p.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Baker                       | 3:30 p.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Clark                       | 3:45 p.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Baker                       | 5:30 p.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Gamboa                      | 7:00 p.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Clark                       | 10:30 p.m. |   |
| Tuesday   | Fr. Fisher                      | 7:00 a.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Fisher                      | 8:00 a.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Clark                       | 9:30 a.m.  |   |
|           | Fr. Baker                       | 11:00 a.m. |   |
|           | Fr. Gamboa                      | 12:30 p.m. |   |
| Wednesday | Fr. Fisher                      | 8:00 a.m.  | Virginia Rachford, Mary Ann Muller, Al Dybicz   |
| Thursday  | Fr. Baker                       | 8:00 a.m.  | Virginia C. Conforti  |
| Friday    | Fr. Clark                       | 8:00 a.m.  | Deceased St. Cletus Parishioners  |
| Saturday  | Fr. Fisher                      | 8:00 a.m.  | Frank Wojcik, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Marylyn Loughlin<br>Anthony & Mary Laco, Ken Kakareka, Susan McCarthy Star, Pat Stepanek,<br>Harry & Joan Brown |
|           | Fr. Fisher                      | 5:00 p.m.  |   |
| Sunday    | Fr. Fisher                      | 7:00 a.m.  | George Duda   |
|           | Fr. Clark                       | 8:00 a.m.  | Stacy Baker   |
|           | Fr. Baker                       | 9:30 a.m.  | Eugene Sorrentino, Patrick O'Connell  |
|           | Fr. Gamboa                      | 11:00 a.m. | Judy Freveletti, Gene Kennedy, Harriet Baczynski, Martin Gaitan   |
|           | Fr. Gamboa                      | 12:30 p.m. | St. Cletus Parishioners   |

### PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The St. Cletus Parish Offices will be closed for Christmas and New Years on the following dates:

- Tuesday, December 25
- Wednesday, December 26
- Monday, December 31
- Tuesday, January 1
- Wednesday, January 2



### 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.*

**December** - Gerda E. Dorso, Gene Gajos, Patricia Rodey, Dr. James Schuler, John Sheil, Dave Sipek, Michael Stoinski

**November** - Charles Fiipek, Virginia Gebka, Yesenia Guzman, Sharon Smilanich, Jean Weekley

**October** - Kimberly & Tony Fox, Susan Grace, John Duda, Laura Biesadecki, Frank Colonna, Lee Ascencio, Mary Benka, Paul DeRivera, Nikki Howell, Ada Medina, Leo Rivera, Bill Tortorello, Joan Clark, Rosario Martinez, Frank Niwa, Laura Terrazino, Rachael Schopp, Nicole Will Montemagni, Bonnie Boerste, Helen Brennan, Dr. Larry Bernstein

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

## Notes from Fr. Bob...

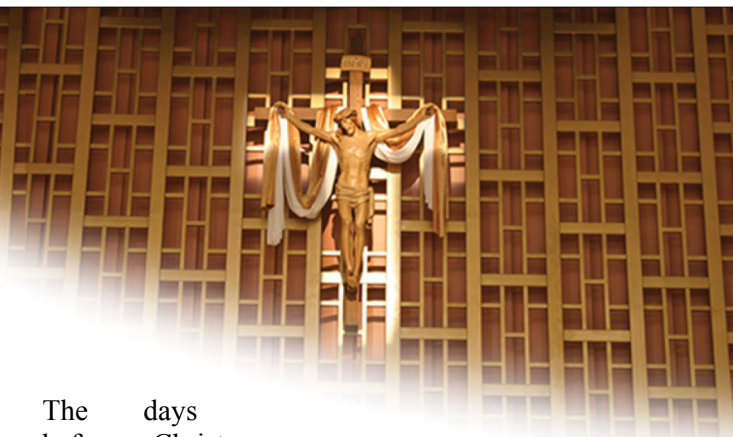
### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2018

It's rather different spirit that today's liturgy seems to suggest should be ours during the final run-down to Christmas. As the gospel unfolds its charming story of the meeting between the elderly woman and the teenager, Elizabeth and Mary, we cannot but be struck by several features.

First, there is the beautiful unselfishness of Mary. She, who must still have been coming to terms with the astounding news that she carried within her the long-awaited Messiah, could have been forgiven had she decided to stay at home and dwell upon her wonderful secret. After all, she could always visit her aged cousin Elizabeth later. There would be plenty of time after her own child and Elizabeth's had been born. Instead, she sets out at once "as quickly as she could" on a lengthy journey so that she can see Elizabeth, offer her congratulations and provide whatever help might be needed.

Secondly, there is the prayerfulness and faith that seem to permeate this whole event. On Mary's side, as she made her long journey into "the hill country" – it would probably have taken her the best part of a week – she must, like any young mother-to-be, have thought constantly of the child within her and, as she did so, she would have raised her mind and heart in prayer and praise. The very fact that she made the journey at all was itself an act of faith; she went because she believed what the angel had told her, both about herself and about her cousin. On Elizabeth's side, as soon as Mary arrives, she, Elizabeth, is "filled with the Holy Spirit" and under that inspiration pours out her soul in prayer: "Of all women you are the most blessed and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Already we hear the "Hail Mary" in embryo, that prayer which to this day is on the lips of so many people throughout the world). And Elizabeth goes on to praise the deep faith of her young cousin.

A third striking feature of the Visitation is its unmistakable spirit of joy. Elizabeth tells how her own child had "leapt for joy" in her womb at the presence of the unborn Lord, whose herald he was destined to be. Reading between the lines, it's clear that the joy of the unborn John was a joy shared by both mothers too. In fact, though this doesn't appear in today's gospel passage, Mary responded with the prayer we know as the Magnificat in which she proclaims that her spirit finds its joy in "God my savior".



The days before Christmas are busy days for us all. We wonder where all the time has gone since we first read one of those warnings about shopping early for Christmas. In fact the great day when we celebrate the Lord's birthday is now almost here, a mere 2 days away. Yet I believe that there is still time, if we so wish, to prepare a worthy celebration of Christmas. How? By striving, especially today and this week to follow Mary's example: first, by thinking not just of ourselves, but also of others, reaching out to them in loving and practical concern; second, by finding time, making time, if need be, to devote ourselves to a period even if it is only five minutes – of quiet prayer each day in a real spirit of faith; and, third, by entering into the joy which Christ's coming into the world brings with it.

If we strive to do these things, whatever our other festivities (including a Christmas drink) may be, we shall indeed have "a real good time", for ours will surely be the true spirit of Christmastime.

### CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

With Christmas just around the corner I would like to offer Christmas Blessings and Prayers to each member of St. Cletus Parish. Myself, along with Fr. Ken Baker, Fr. Lorenzo Gamboa, Fr. Harold Fisher, Deacon Stuart Heyes & Marlene, and the entire St. Cletus Parish Staff wish you good health and a prosperous New Year. May the love of Christ be present to you each day of your lives.

*Blessings and Christmas Prayers,*

*Fr. Bob*

**Fr. Bob Clark**  
**Pastor**

# Parish School



### ST. CLETUS SCHOOL DATES TO NOTE

December 28 ..... Queen of Hearts Raffle  
 December 24-January 4 ..... Christmas Break  
 March 30 ..... Spring Auction

### 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



### Pre-School Christmas Program

The Preschoolers delighted everyone with the joyful sounds of Christmas. A true blessing on our beautiful stage in the Parish Center.



### Annual School Christmas Program

The 1st through 4th grade shared their talents with the St. Cletus community as they told the story of "Carriers of the Light." Their beautiful voices reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you Sara Hodak Photography for the beautiful pictures.

Mark your calendars and join us Sunday, January 27th for our Catholic Schools Week

# Open House

Join us to talk with teachers and administrators, and discover why St. Cletus School is the right choice for your family!





# St. Cletus School

700 W. 55<sup>th</sup> Street  
La Grange, IL 60525

(708) 352-4820 phone  
(708) 352-0788 fax  
www.stcletusschool.com

**St. Cletus School** is a national Blue Ribbon school, recognized by the U. S. Department of Education in 2014. St. Cletus School is also a Red Ribbon school, recognized by the Nationwide Red Ribbon Certified Schools Program in 2018 for our efforts to keep our students safe, healthy, and drug-free. Its elementary program offers a strong educational curriculum guided by the Common Core State Standards in English, language arts, and math, the State of Illinois Learning Standards, and benchmarks established by the Archdiocese of Chicago. In addition to our 1<sup>st</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade program with an average classroom size of 21 students, St. Cletus offers 3- and 4-year-old half and full-day preschool, as well as half and full-day kindergarten classes. Our well-rounded academic program offers Spanish, art, music, physical education, library, and computer technology classes. Daily religion classes, service hours, and regular school Masses also help our students develop into mature, responsible young adults. Other opportunities available at St. Cletus School are Student Council, scouting (for boys and girls), athletic programs, band, choir, and before-and after-care programs. If your child is just beginning his/her education, or if you are considering a change, please call the school to make an appointment to visit or to register.

- ◆ Applications are now being accepted for new students for the 2019-20 school year.
- ◆ Catholic Schools Week Open House is Sunday, January 27, 2019. Interested families are welcome to attend our 9:30 a.m. family Mass at St. Cletus Church, followed by our Open House in the education building next door to Church from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Please join us to tour the school and meet our faculty, staff, and school families!

Feel free to call the school office Monday through Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at (708) 352-4820 if you have questions or would like to schedule an appointment to visit our school. St. Cletus School is a great place to be—stop by to learn more!

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Chinske  
Principal

Christy Schaefer  
Assistant Principal



FAITH FAMILY *FUTURE*



# Social Concerns Ministry



## ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY

Most needed at this time:

- Chili
- Baby cereal, formula, food
- Baking Items
- Cooking Oil
- Snacks (crackers, chips, cookies, etc.)

Donations can be dropped off before or after Masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex (at the back of church).

## FOOD PANTRY THANKS

Thank you again to Del's Moving & Storage. Parishioner Randy Balla helped us carefully transport gifts down to our sharing parish to distribute to 200 individuals. (www.delsmovers.com)

## FOOD PANTRY

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Food Pantry in 2018. You can be proud that our Food Pantry continues to meet the need for food support in our community, because of the St. Cletus parishioners' ongoing positive response to Jesus' call to help the less fortunate and to see Him in the faces of those we serve.

We made BIG changes in the pantry this year. Moving into the Rectory Basement, switching from monthly to weekly distribution. We changed from pre-packed bags to a client choice model where families get to pick the items they most want and need. We upgraded our registration process to an online system and thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the food depository, we were able to purchase commercial refrigerators and freezers to provide meat, milk and other fresh items. We are getting more food to more people more often...and more food they actually can use and prefer. It has been a great year of change!

And you all answered the call. Your concern and generosity was apparent every week with your food donations and monetary contributions...you are the foundation of this outreach! Lastly, our food pantry could not operate without the many hours of service provided by our volunteers. THANK YOU for your dedication in sorting and shelving groceries, carrying items up and down stairs, donating hours of service to the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which helps pay for food we order from them each month, and most especially for representing St. Cletus Parish as you serve our clients. As Jesus would say "Well-done, good and faithful servant!" With the continued support of donors and volunteers, in 2019 we will strive to keep our shelves stocked, to adequately serve those who come to us for help.

Thanks again!

## GIVING TREE

2018 ended on a hopeful note for the 373 families who were grateful recipients of Christmas gifts during our Advent Giving Tree Project. That hope and goodwill was shared by the myriad of parishioners and people in our community who participated in the project by taking and filling gift requests, food pantry items, and grocery gift card envelopes from the trees. By the volunteers who



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

served countless hours to help in the necessary preparation, organization, and distribution of the beautifully wrapped and carefully selected gifts. Those that offered financial assistance to make sure everyone who registered for the program was remembered. Many helped by spreading the word in our community about this project to ensure support even beyond that of our faithful parishioners; or by praying for the struggling families we serve, and for the stamina and health of our volunteers.



Thank you to all –organizations, groups, and individuals, who contributed in any way to the overwhelming success of this year’s Giving Tree Project. The workings of the Holy Spirit were most apparent in every step along the way! A special word of gratitude to several individuals who volunteered countless hours from start to finish on our Giving Tree Committee. There was no job—big or small—which they did not take on with good cheer!

This outreach program continues to give to all volunteers involved an inspiring perspective to the Advent and Christmas Season. We are filled with awe, humility, and gratitude as we act as ambassadors of this caring parish.

As this Christmas and New Year unfolds, may the same Spirit who guides us in this project continue to dwell among us all!

In peace,  
Kendall Grant

**RESPECT LIFE**

**Word of Life**

“To couples who cannot have children of their own, you are no less loved by God; your love for each other is complete and fruitful when it is open to others.”



Pope Saint John Paul II, February 13, 1982 Homily. © 1982 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. [www.goo.gl/jLDs4e](http://www.goo.gl/jLDs4e)

**Mass for Life**

Sunday, January 13, 2019 at 11 a.m.  
Holy Name Cathedral  
730 North Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL 60611

Join Cardinal Blase J. Cupich and priests from across the Archdiocese of Chicago for the Holy Sacrifice of the

Mass as we petition the Lord to transform our society from a culture of death into a culture of life. The Mass for Life will be a sending forth to join the official March for Life Chicago held at the Federal Plaza in Chicago, IL.

**March for Life**

March for Life Chicago  
Federal Plaza  
Sunday, January 13, 2019, 2:00-4:00pm.

For details on Pre-March events, see [www.marchforlife-chicago.org](http://www.marchforlife-chicago.org).

**National March for Life**

Washington, DC – The World’s Largest Pro-life Event  
Friday, January 18, 2019 at the National Mall. For details on related events, see <http://marchforlife.org/mfl-2019/rally-march-info>

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH**

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that seeks power and control over an intimate person. It can be physical, verbal or emotional, economic or sexual abuse. The U.S. Catholic Bishops say: “*We emphasize that no one is expected to stay in an abusive marriage.*” Please join us in praying for an end to this epidemic.

**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.

Please contact Kendall Grant at 708.215.5418 or [kgrant@stcletusparish.com](mailto:kgrant@stcletusparish.com) for more information.

**General Contact Information**

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



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH  
— ARCHDIOCESE of CHICAGO —  
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION  
[www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org](http://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**



P R E P A R E T H E  
W A Y

...with Love

**Advent Ribbon Tree  
Week 4 - Love**

**CLOSING ADVENT PRAYER**

O Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled  
As to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive, in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Help us to be people of hope, people of peace, people of joy and people of love.





## MEMORIES AND DREAMS

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure travelling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

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## TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

**Gospel** — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).

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## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
 Monday: Vigil of Christmas  
 Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
 Wednesday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa  
 Thursday: St. John  
 Friday: The Holy Innocents  
 Saturday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79  
 Tuesday: **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 [1-5, 9-14]  
 Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35  
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.

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

## O COME, LONG FORETOLD

O come, Desired of nations,  
 Whom priest and prophet long foretold  
 Will break the captive fetters,  
 Redeem the long-lost fold.  
 Dear Savior, haste; come, come to earth,  
 Dispel the night and show your face,  
 And bid us hail the dawn of grace.

—Simon J. Pellegrin (1663-1745), Tr. by Mary of St. Philip (1825-1904)

## St. Cletus School Spring Auction

St. Cletus Supporters:

We are excited to be organizing the 2019 Spring Auction, to take place on Saturday, March 30 at Capri Banquets on Joliet Road. This fundraising event fulfills a crucial financial role for the school. We invite you to make a contribution to this very important fundraising event and plan to join us!

The St. Cletus School Auction Committee is in the process of pulling together great auction items from community sponsors, but history has proven that most of our highest earning auction packages come from St. Cletus Parish families and friends like you. We hope you will consider helping us again this year through your very generous donations to this important school event.

Thank you again for your support of St. Cletus School and we hope to see you on March 30th!

**CARDINAL  
PROUD**



**2019 ST. CLETUS SPRING AUCTION**

## Youth Ministry

### FRESHMEN/SOPHOMORE RETREAT

Registration for this year's Freshmen/Sophomore Retreat is officially open!

**January 4th - 6th, 2019  
Dickson Valley Retreat Center  
Newark, IL**

High School Freshmen and Sophomores are invited to join St. Cletus, St. John of the Cross and St. Francis Xavier youth ministries for a fun weekend packed with outdoor activities, teambuilding, and growing in relationship with God.

The link to register can be found on our website, [youth.stcletusparish.com](http://youth.stcletusparish.com)

MaryClaire Zurowski, Youth Ministry Coordinator  
[mzurowski@stcletusparish.com](mailto:mzurowski@stcletusparish.com)

Follow us on Instagram! [@stcletus.youthministry](https://www.instagram.com/stcletus.youthministry)



## Other Ministry Notes

### ADVENT RIBBON TREE

To help us prepare for Christ's coming through joyful waiting and hopeful expectation, we have placed an Advent Ribbon Tree in the narthex with colorful ribbons focusing each week on one of the themes of Advent. We invite you to take a ribbon and place it on your tree or table. We include a prayer on page 8 and action suggestions as reminders to prepare for Jesus: with HOPE (week 1), with PEACE (week 2), with JOY (week 3), and with LOVE (week 4). Ribbons from past weeks are available in the parish center office.

### THE O ANTIPHONS

In the last week before Christmas, the Church assigns a special antiphon to each day. They come from the Liturgy of the Hours (ancient prayer of the monks), and they are sung/prayed before and after the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) during evening prayer. Each antiphon this week prays for the coming of Christ under a particular title and each addresses him with the word "O" a more formal and polite way of saying, "Hey". These antiphons can be heard in the familiar hymn, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

Dec. 22 – O King of All the Nations

Dec. 23 - O Emmanuel, King and Lawgiver

### THE JESSE TREE

The Jesse Tree is used to trace God's promise of the Savior and Christ's ancestry. Our Jesse Tree is near the ambo. Each day, simple paper ornaments will be added with a symbol on one side and Scripture passage on the other side. Please come up and take a look.

Dec. 22 – St. Joseph, the Carpenter, Stepfather

Dec. 23 – Mary and Joseph Travel to Bethlehem

Dec. 24 – Wise Men Follow the Star

Dec. 25 – Jesus' Birth

### CARDINAL PURSUIT TRIVIA NIGHT



Join us for Cardinal Pursuit on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> in Morrissey Hall. Doors open at 7:00. Event starts at 7:30. All are welcome. Participants are encouraged to form adult teams of 8-10 players to compete against other members of the

St. Cletus community. The cost is \$20 per person, payable at the door. Teams provide their own food and beverages.

### ST. CLETUS PARISH FALL FEST



Save the date for the 2019 Fall Fest September 5-8, 2019.

We're looking forward to another year of fun and community at this 4 day parish event.

### SUPPORT ST. CLETUS WITH AMAZON SMILE



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We hope you will choose St. Cletus Church. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

### ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES AT ST. CLETUS

Mark your calendars and play to join us for our annual fundraiser for the Fine Arts Series on Friday, February 8th in the St. Cletus Parish Center. This year Andrew and Tony are back with dueling pianos. You don't want to miss this fun night!

**CABARET**

**FRIDAY**  
**FEB. 8**  
**8:00 PM**  
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

**WHAT IS CABARET?**  
A BENEFIT FOR THE ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES  
WITH DUELING PIANOS IN THE PARISH CENTER  
FEATURING ANDREW BLENDERMAN & TONY KIDONAKIS

**TICKET INFORMATION:**  
\$40 IN ADVANCE, \$45 AT THE DOOR  
RSVP ONLINE AT  
[WWW.EDWARDFAS.COM](http://WWW.EDWARDFAS.COM)

### BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

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

## Community Bulletin Board

### JOYFUL AGAIN



**Widowed and feeling stuck?** Come and find ways to move toward inner peace and new hope in life. Joyful Again! Widowed Ministry Program presents a Retreat/workshop for men & women March 9-10. (Incl. overnight) at the Mt. Assisi Center in Lemont. Call: 708-354-7211, E-mail [joyfulagain7211@gmail.com](mailto:joyfulagain7211@gmail.com). Website: [www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org) (incls.video)

### CHICAGO CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE SCHOOL

Join us at nearby St. John of the Cross in Western Springs! **Accepting NEW students!** Classes meet Wednesdays, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm OR 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, **January 9 through March 13!** Please join us as we study the **Acts of the Apostles** and the **Letters of St. Paul!** For more information, contact Director Kevin Pease at [kpease@luc.edu](mailto:kpease@luc.edu) or 312-915-7485. Register before the first day of class at [www.luc.edu/ips/ccss](http://www.luc.edu/ips/ccss)

### PILLARS VOLUNTEERS

Pillars Community Health is offering two new volunteer trainings in the New Year.

1. Attend the 40-hour Domestic Violence Advocacy Training to learn how to assist with the 24-hour domestic violence hotline, provide crisis intervention to victims of domestic violence, provide presentations to our children's group, and/or assist with day-to-day tasks at our domestic violence shelter Constance Morris House. Training begins January 9 and Pillars Community Health in La Grange Park. Training is FREE with a 6-month volunteer commitment. For more info, contact Jacki at [jarobertson@pchcares.org](mailto:jarobertson@pchcares.org) or 708-995-3805, or register online at [www.PillarsCommunityHealth.org](http://www.PillarsCommunityHealth.org).

2. Attend the 40-hour Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention Training to learn how to work on our Sexual Assault Hotline (all calls can be answered from the comforts of home). Learn Training begins February 4 at Pillars Community Health in Hickory Hills. A \$50 materials fee will be assessed; volunteers commit to working two shifts per month on the hotline for 12 months. For more info, contact Anika at [aflorez@pchcares.org](mailto:aflorez@pchcares.org)

or 708-995-3877, or register online at [www.PillarsCommunityHealth.org](http://www.PillarsCommunityHealth.org).

### MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



Don't miss out on the upcoming enrichment for married couples and religious on **February 8-10, 2019** at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Elk Grove Village, IL. For information on applying, please go to [wwme-chicagoland.org](http://wwme-chicagoland.org).

### JANUARY NOVENA TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA

The St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel (7740 S. Western Ave. - Chicago, IL 60620) will be celebrating its **January St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass on January 3 at 7p.m.** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered starting at 6p.m. For more info contact Josh at (773) 925-6600 or [shrine@stritahs.com](mailto:shrine@stritahs.com).

### NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK JAN 6-13

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

Human Dignity and Solidarity—Immigration Ministry

## NATIONAL MIGRATION WEEK MASS

BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF WELCOME

Feast of the Epiphany | January 6, 2019 | 5:15 p.m.

Holy Name Cathedral  
730 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611

For more information, contact Raymundo Valdez at [rvaldez@archchicago.org](mailto:rvaldez@archchicago.org) or 312.534.8503 or Crystal Serrano-Puebla at [cserrano-puebla@archchicago.org](mailto:cserrano-puebla@archchicago.org) or 312.534.8509 or visit: [catholicsandimmigrants.org](http://catholicsandimmigrants.org)

## 5th Annual Fall Fest - St. Cletus Parish Preferred Providers

**R.W.S. Landscaping & Lawncare**  
708-489-6333



*Thank you to all of our 2018 Fall Fest Sponsors!*

*Those at the \$2,500 level and above will be featured in the St. Cletus Canticle as Preferred Providers.*

## Week at a Glance

| DAY/DATE               | TIME             | LOCATION                 | EVENT  |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Sunday, December 23    | 7:00pm           | Morrissey Hall           | Spanish Novena and Posada                                    |
| Monday, December 24    | 8:00am           |                          | No 8am Mass - See front cover for Mass Schedule              |
| Tuesday, December 25   |                  |                          | St. Cletus Facilities Closed                                 |
| Wednesday, December 26 |                  |                          |  |
| Thursday, December 27  |                  |                          |  |
| Friday, December 28    |                  |                          |  |
| Saturday, December 29  |                  |                          |  |
| Sunday, December 30    | 1:00pm           | Parish Center Meeting Rm | Fresh/Soph Retreat Leader Meeting                            |
| Monday, December 31    | 5:00pm<br>7:00pm | Church<br>Church         | Vigil Mass<br>Vigil Mass in Spanish                          |
| Tuesday, January 1     | 9:00am           | Church                   | St. Cletus Facilities Closed - No 8am Mass<br>Feast Day Mass |

## Stewardship Report

### WEEKLY GIVING REPORT

Due to early printing deadlines, the December 16th Giving Report will appear in the December 30th Canticle.

### ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



*Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? It is SO EASY!* Visit the

St. Cletus Parish website at [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com) and click the “DONATE” BUTTON. Click Sunday donations. We accept checks (ACH), debit and credit cards. If you have questions call Mary Zwolinski 708.352.6209.

### DONATING FROM YOUR IRA IN 2018

Most Americans age 70 1/2 and older can transfer tax-free up to \$100,000 from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to one or more charities, such as St. Cletus Church. This could be a benefit for individuals who are required to take minimum distributions from their IRAs. Please contact your plan administrator to make the distribution. The distribution must be made directly to St. Cletus Church for it to be treated as a charitable gift. Please call Mary Zwolinski in the Parish Office for further information 708.352.6209.



### YEAR-END STATEMENT BY REQUEST ONLY


As tax time approaches, we ask everyone who would like a year-end statement of their Year 2018 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the office @ (708) 352-6209 with your request. You may also email [bkallal@stcletusparish.com](mailto: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

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

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

*Please note that the parish offices have moved to our new location in the parish center. All deliveries and inquiries should be made to the new office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.*

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

## 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. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, Deacon Couple**

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Fr. Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship** .... (708) 215-5422  
**Karen Ziemba, Music Ministry** ..... (708) 215-5423  
**MaryClaire Zurowski, 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

### HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF..... (708) 215-5440

**Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, Head of Hispanic Ministry**

### SCHOOL STAFF..... (708) 352-4820

**Tom Chinske, Principal**  
**Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal**  
**Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant**  
**Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant**

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

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

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

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

*Email addresses are first letter of first name, last name @stcletusparish.com*

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Bob Clark  
 Chairperson ..... Ron Skrip  
 Vice Chairperson ..... Patrick O'Toole  
 Secretary.....

### Members

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Eileen Dorchinecz | Colleen Mhley    |
| Bob Havelka       | Valerie Sosne    |
| Kevin Hogan       | Paula Struwing   |
| Shanta McGahey    | Patrick Townsend |
| Nicholas McKeehan | Bob Wasik        |

### Liaisons

FSA President.....Guadalupe McKeehan  
 Athletic Association President.....Brendan Foley

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor..... Fr. Bob Clark  
 Chairperson ..... Mary Ann Doornbos  
 Vice-Chairperson ..... Chuck Luna  
 Recording Secretary ..... Maggie Kensek  
 School Representative ..... Tom Chinske  
 Director of Parish Catechesis ..... Paulette Bolton  
 Staff Representative .....Debbie Lestarczyk

### Members

|               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Susan Hurley  | Jack Fisherkeller |
| Robbie O'Shea | 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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