

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

In you, Lord, I have found peace.  
-Psalm 131



## Born Into Eternal Life Buried from St. Cletus Parish

David A. Visk  
Robert Collins  
Don J. Massagli  
Renette Mezlo  
Anna F. Kostka  
Stanley Wagner  
Jerome Matuch Sr.  
John R. Becerril  
Carol Bianco  
Frank Niwa  
John. P Nisbet  
Joan McCarthy  
David J. Pilarczyk  
Lorraine M. Czachor  
Dolores Cabrera  
Richard Krakora  
Edward (Joe) Delaloye  
Mary Ann Vaitkus  
Doris Kunkel  
Salvador A. De La Cerda  
Nicolle Tomljenovic  
Nicholas Lodato  
Lisa Mary Miles  
Thomas F. Peck  
Derek Klein  
Madonna Curran  
Peter John Dixon  
Glenn Thomas McAtee

Richard "Dick" B. Daley  
Michael Maloy  
Carmen Garcia  
Maura Moran  
Patricia DiBenedetto  
Gerald F. Young Sr.



Rosemarie Mochel  
Frederick W. Grosskop  
Sandra J. Lajter  
Christine Zagorski  
Clifford Boivin  
Ethel A. Novak  
Sister Catherine Ahern OP

James "Jim" Tausch  
Karen Provan  
Joseph "Joe" Williams  
Marion Cesnauskas  
Louis Skorvanek  
Donald Massagli  
Patricia M. Rodey  
Lorraine Crnkovich  
Edward Ward  
Francis Callaghan  
Natalie S. Nicoletti  
Brendan M. Kivlehan  
Jo Ann Sourek  
Paulette Bolton  
Jesse Erasmo Hernandez  
Edward Francis Kelly  
Georgian Rehash  
Serafin A. Hernandez  
Kathleen Kasperski  
Joyce Field  
Barbara Barr  
Margaret Drabek  
Michael Fiolka  
Father Raymond Klees  
Father Charles Watkins  
Most Rev. John Manz  
Most Rev. Kevin Birmingham

# Mass Intentions for November 6 - November 12, 2023

Day	Time	Presider	Intentions
November 6	8:00am	Fr. Romero	St. Cletus Purgatorial Society, Robert Collins
November 7	8:00am	Fr. Novick	St. Cletus Parishioners
November 8	8:00am	Fr. Novick	Joseph Viecele, BC and Rip Collins
November 9	8:00am	Fr. Novick	Gertrude Moore, Brendon J. DeNova
November 10	8:00am	Fr. Kalas	Paul L. Budvitis, Joe and Kay Klemak, Louie Marasovic
November 11	5:00pm	Fr. Kalas	Lydia Danielewicz, James Chiostrri, Fred Grosskopf, Anita and Camilo Ferreira, Jack Kielczynski
November 12	7:15am	Monsignor Pat Pollard	Lillian and Joseph Selip, John and Frances Kennedy, Wolfgang Burckhardt
	8:45am	Monsignor Pat Pollard	Sylvia Pesut, Frank Wojcik, Dale Fisher, Denis Rahilly, Eugenie Hickey
	10:30am	Fr. Brendan Lupton	Sammy Colonna, Stacy Baker, John Baker, Joseph and Adele Stopka, Julio and Angiolelt Innocenti, Gustavo and Emilia Bozzano
	12:30pm	Fr. Brendan Lupton	Carlos y Sofia Rivera, Gerardo Torres, Miguel Ángel Díaz, Esperanza Diaz, Pedro Villanueva, Delfina Villanueva

**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 García, Carina Orona, Erin McMahon Leddon, Geraldine Osmolek**

**September -**

*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...**

**Adeline Van Vlierbergen**

**May she rest in peace....**

**ST. CLETUS PARISH WELCOMES...**

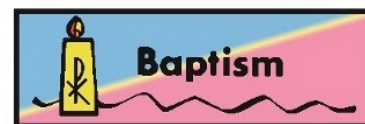
**Finley Alexander Smoth**

Daughter of Joseph Smith and Brittany Knickelbein

**Ellie Jade Madden**

Daughter of Blake Madden and Theresa Maston

**TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH THROUGH THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**



## Pastor's Note

*“Brothers and sisters:  
We were gentle among you, as a nursing mother cares for her children.  
With such affection for you,  
we were determined to share with you not only the gospel of God,  
but our very selves as well,  
so dearly beloved had you become to us.”  
1 Thessalonians 2:7b-8.*

Dear Friends,

St. Teresa of Calcutta has been part of my prayer for the past two weeks. Her story of faith, love for humanity, and leadership is remarkable. She allowed the Spirit of the Lord to work through her, finding her purpose of life in the Lord. She resolved to dedicate her entire life to loving the Lord by serving and loving others. Radiating peace, joy, and love, she cared for others *‘as a nursing mother cares for her children.’* She is a model for all of us as we care for our families, our faith, our community, and ourselves?

I am happy to share with you two moments where I noticed people caring for others with love. The first moment was the arrival of the playground to our parish school. The second moment was the celebration of The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed.

By the grace of God our Parish School now has a playground. It was donated to us by the Pleasant Dale Park District. We were asked to be responsible for the removal, transportation, and installation of it, which was \$14,500. Seeing our children enjoying it since the installation was completed continues to give me joy. Our prayers to have a playground for our children have been answered. Thank you for your prayers. In a special way, I would like to thank Brad Prischman and Emily Wasik for their fine leadership with the genesis and completion of this needed project. Both worked closely with Mr. Greg Porod, Principal, Jim Dion, Business Manager, Franco Foti, Operations Director, Pleasant Dale Park District, Innovation Landscaping, and Village of La Grange. They engaged this project with gentleness, kindness, and care. I was encouraged by their witness. Please hold them in prayer. We will have a special ribbon ceremony and a blessing of the playground on Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, immediately after the 10:30 AM Family Mass. Hope you can join us.

This year the celebration of The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed was special. The Spirit of the Lord inspired the hearts of the members of the Parish Pastoral Council, Art and Environment Committee, and the Hispanic Ministry to build a special altar in the Sanctuary of our church to honor and pray in a special way for our loved ones. Many were inspired and engaged by seeing the altar holding a photo of their loved ones. I was happy to see the cross-collaboration taking place among our leaders. Their generosity is contagious. Their dedication is inspiring. They are missionary disciples of Jesus. They show us the closeness of the Lord with their lives, faith, and contributions. Please join me in holding them in prayer.

May the Lord grant us his grace so that we might continue to grow in generosity and kindness towards each other.

Fr. Elmer Romero





## Note From Father Mike

### Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord

“And let perpetual light shine upon them.” This prayer is one that has been a part of the faith for many years. However, I am noticing more and more when I am praying at funeral homes or at the end of a cemetery committal service, less and less people are familiar with it. Or maybe, if they are aware of it, they still do not respond to it. I can only tend to believe one of two theories as to why people do not respond.

First, grieving loss is overwhelming for anyone. It’s easy for those close to the deceased to be caught in it so deeply that even simple prayers might be forgotten. However, the second reason was just a little more disturbing. In my early days of ministry, I noticed that there were fewer and fewer children (e.g. between 7-16 years old) in attendance at the wakes for aunts or uncles or grandparents because their own parents didn’t want the children to be “traumatized” by death. Not only is exposing children to death important, but the longer families wait to bring the kids, the harder it is for the children to understand. They won’t have a grasp on what it means to grieve. Here are just two examples from my own life.

The first wake I remember being at was for my maternal grandfather when I was only 9 years old. My parents may have taken my brother and I with them to other wakes before this one, but again, it’s the first one I remember attending. I don’t remember too many specifics, but I remember images of the atmosphere of the funeral home. Unfortunately, I was overwhelmed and the stress made me so nauseated, I got sick at the funeral home and missed the funeral the following day. Yet, personally, in my life today, the Holy Spirit has given me a gift to work closely with families at their times of loss. It doesn’t mean I don’t have my own times of grieving. My own soul is still reeling at times over the passing of Fr. Charles Watkins earlier this year, my best friend for 25 years. But the grieving is supposed to be a “gift” as difficult as that is to see especially when a loss is fresh in the heart. We are called to remember.

The other story was not about me but about my nephew who was maybe 5 or 6 years old when my father (his grandfather) died in 2009. He absorbs what he sees others doing. The image of him walking around the funeral home greeting others and thanking them for attending was an image I never want to forget. He remained present to the people for the whole wake and funeral the next day, not showing too much emotional grief, as he had done most of his crying at home. Today, he is a successful student teacher and certainly has great compassion for those hurting.

November is a month of remembering. Grieving is never going to be easy, but faith and trust in Jesus’ love (especially in the Eucharist, for me) does help to heal. It’s not time, but God WHO heals.

Fr. Mike

## Sunday Notes

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12

**Monday:** Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14

**Tuesday:** Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:15-24

**Wednesday:** Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-3

**Thursday:** Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-2

**Friday:** Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 16:1-

**Saturday:** Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-1

**Next Sunday:** Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Daylight Saving Time Ends, National Vocation Awareness Week

**Tuesday:** Election Day

**Thursday:** The Dedication of Lateran Basilica

**Friday:** St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

**Saturday:** St. Martin of Tours, Bishop; Veteran’s Day



## Parish Pastoral Council Update

Please join us on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> for an afternoon of prayer and reflection. Starting at 3:00 in the Parish Center there will be a bi-lingual discussion on the This is Our Body book that was distributed back in September. At 4:00, Adoration and Benediction will be offered in church along with reconciliation and then 5:00 mass following directly. After mass, we invite everyone back to the Parish Center for food and fellowship. You are welcome to join us for any or all parts of this event.

Mark your calendars, tentative dates have been set for the 2024 Welcome Reception/Ministry Fair. More information will follow as the dates get closer, but make sure to come by and spend some time with your fellow parishioners and see what's new with the ministries.

- Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024                      After the 7:15 and 8:45 masses
- Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024                      After the 5:00 mass
- Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024                      After the 12:30 mass
- Family Mass September 2024                      After the 10:30 mass

St. Cletus Football Watch Party is BACK! Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024— doors open at 3:00! More information will be forthcoming, but tickets will go on sale beginning the weekend of January 6/7, 2024. We will once again provide pizza, wings, dessert and have beer and wine available for purchase. Single tickets will be \$10 and include pizza, wings and dessert. Tables of 6 can be purchased for \$40 per table with the opportunity to reserve /pick your table for only an additional \$10. More details on squares, kid's events, etc. as we get closer, so watch this space!

Last weekend the Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey Information was published in the bulletin and made available to parishioners via the website. Please take some time to review the information and if there are any questions, feel free to send a note to the Parish Pastoral Council email address at [ppc@stcletusparish.com](mailto:ppc@stcletusparish.com).

The Hispanic Ministry and PPC invite all parishioners to celebrate the upcoming Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. More information will be available starting next week on events leading up to the Feast Day and Bilingual Mass @ 7pm on 12/12. Immediately following mass there will be entertainment and tamales in the Parish Center provided by the Hispanic Ministry for all St. Cletus community. All are welcome to come celebrate Mary! If you have never experienced this blessed and beautiful celebration, consider spending part of your Advent worshipping in a whole new way.

## Charcuterie Board Workshop This Wednesday!



### Ladies!

**Join the CCW for a Special Charcuterie Board Workshop  
Wednesday, Nov. 8th at 7pm**

**It's a night for some girl time, wine & delicious charcuterie.**

**Come learn tips and tricks on how to create and style your very own charcuterie board! Join us and impress your guest this Holiday season.**

ST. CLETUS COUNCIL OF  
CATHOLIC WOMEN

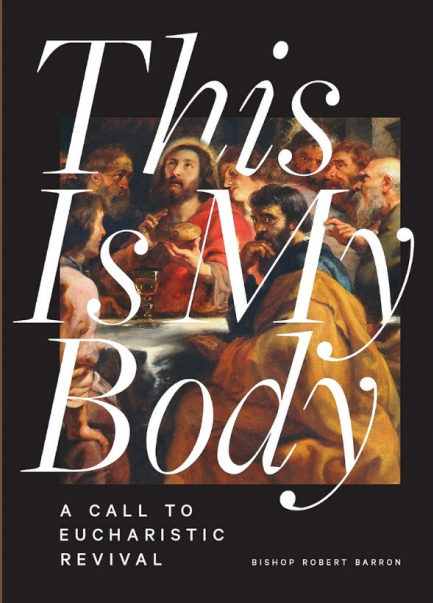
# Please Join Us November 18th

Dear Parishioners,


On November 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have **“An Afternoon of Reflection and Prayer.”** During this afternoon, we will have an opportunity to learn and share about the book **“This Is My Body”** by Bishop Robert Barron, followed by Eucharistic Adoration, an occasion for the sacrament of Reconciliation, Mass, and a time for fellowship. You may come to any or all of these segments.

We are asking everyone to reserve a spot for this event by November 12<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Please call the Parish Office or visit our website where you can sign up online. You may also reserve by text message to 737-708-6526. Get ready to experience a soul-stirring event filled with spirituality. Please read the announcement below for details.

Blessings,  
Deacon Franco






**AN AFTERNOON OF**  
*Reflection & Prayer*





**SATURDAY,  
NOVEMBER 18, 2023**

**COME TO ANY OR ALL**

IN THE PARISH CENTER	IN THE CHURCH	IN THE PARISH CENTER
<p><b>3:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>Presentation and sharing opportunity</b> about the book in <b>English</b> and <b>Spanish</b></p> 	<p><b>4:00 P.M.</b></p> <p><b>Adoration &amp; Benediction.</b> A time for prayer and <b>reconciliation.</b></p> <p><b>5:00 P.M.</b> <b>Vigil Mass</b></p> 	<p><b>6:00 P.M.</b></p> <p>A time for <b>fellowship, gathering</b> and <b>Food.</b></p> 

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

 **(708) 352 - 6209**       **www.stcletusparish.com**



# Save The Date

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

## Boys Basketball Church League!

# Join Our 2023 Boys Basketball Church League!

## Scan Here To Learn More





# School News

## DAY OF THE DEAD ALTAR

For the 5th year in a row our school is adorned with a beautiful ofrenda in honor of the Day of the Dead. It is such a beautiful way to remember our loved ones each and every year.



## 8TH GRADE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Last week was our 8th grade girls final home volleyball game! So proud of these cardinals! Thank you to everyone that came and cheered them on last week and all season!



## PBIS ASSEMBLY

Our PBIS program is still going strong this year! Last week we had a very fun Halloween themed assembly where we danced, laughed, and had a blast!!



## BULLS GAME

Recently, several of our cardinals had quite the night! Everyone had a great time enjoying a Chicago Bulls preseason game! What fun!





# Playground

## **BLESSINGS CONTINUE TO SHINE UPON US!**

St. Cletus campus is proud to announce our newest edition: Alumni Park, in memory of Sr. Madonna Mulqueen O.S.F (Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi). Sr. Madonna began our preschool program in 1989 along with her aide, Mrs. Lorraine Stanko. The program flourished under their guidance. Sr. Madonna created the program using her degree in learning disabilities in early childhood, which helped her assist ALL students to find success. The play-based program has led to our preschool programs' growth!

St. Cletus was gifted this gently used industrial play set from the Pleasant Dale Park District. However, the parish did have to cover proper removal, transportation, reinstallation, and specialty mulch. Innovation Landscaping removed the set from Pleasant Dale Park, delivered it, and re-installed it for St. Cletus at a reasonable cost. Thank you to Raphael and his team for the generous donation of the elevated surround.

Costs covered amounted to \$14,500. As of October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, \$2,150 has been collected in donations, leaving a balance of \$12,350. We are asking for more donations to help cover the rest. Special thanks to Brad Prischman and Emily Wasik for coordinating with the Park District, Village of LaGrange, and Innovation Landscaping. Also, the St. Cletus staff for overseeing this project.

Please join us in the courtyard on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024, immediately after our 10:30 AM Family Mass for a ribbon ceremony.

Thank you to Fr. Elmer Romero and Greg Porod for saying yes to this project!!

**Emily Wasik**



## Playground



God works in mysterious ways in our lives. For years, St. Cletus Parish School had hoped and prayed for a playground in our courtyard for our children to enjoy. This spiritual dream became a reality when a St. Cletus parent and daughter, while enjoying a summer day at a nearby playground, literally saw a "sign." The sign read that a new playground would be coming soon on this site. Through a collaborative effort between the school and parish a playground became a reality on the campus of St. Cletus Parish School this past September. The playground that a nearby park was replacing was removed, transferred, and installed at St. Cletus Parish School.

Students have been enjoying the playground over the last month going down the slides, climbing a small rock wall, sliding down a pole, and climbing stairs which leads to a small covered hut. The playground is surrounded by beautiful trees which provides additional sunlight for our children while they are playing during the summer. Fortunately, even on a cool fall or spring day the students are still able to utilize the playground because of the close proximity to the school whereby students are able to enjoy each other's company while enjoying a recess break. The smiles that students are expressing brings great joy to all of us. We are very proud to show off our new playground as it now has become another great addition to our campus. This was truly the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of our parishioners and school parents. Thank you for our playground referred to as Alumni Park in memory of Sr. Madonna and Mrs. Stanko.

Principal Gregory N. Porod, M. Ed. Supt. End.

## Hispanic Ministry

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



### ADORACIÓN NOCTURNA

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

### NOCTURNAL ADORATION

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

### DEVOCIÓN GUADALUPANA

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

### GUADALUPE DEVOTION

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

### BOLETOS DE RIFA



El Ministerio Hispano y el Comité Guadalupeño estará llevando a cabo una rifa para recaudar fondos para la fiesta de Nuestra Sra. de Guadalupe. La donación por boleto es de \$5.00. El 20% recaudado de los boletos será el premio mayor, el sorteo será el día 12 de diciembre, 2023 durante la fiesta de la convivencia Guadalupeña. No es necesario estar presente para ganar. Para más información pueden comunicarse con Juanita Avila, directora del Ministerio Hispano al 708-215-5441.

### RAFFLE TICKETS

The Hispanic Ministry and the Guadalupeño Committee will be holding a raffle to raise funds for Our Lady of Guadalupe festivities. The donation per ticket is \$5.00. The 20% collected from the tickets will be the grand prize, the drawing will be held on December 12, 2023 during the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Need not be present to win. For more information you can contact Juanita Avila, Director of Hispanic Ministry at 708-215-5441



# Social Concerns Ministry



## ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY

THURSDAYS  
4-8PM

Wish List:

- Coffee
- Tea
- Juice
- Canned Fruit
- Boxed Potatoes
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Chili

Follow us on

Facebook:

@StCletusFoodPantry

Instagram:

@St.CletusFoodPantry

### FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Our St. Cletus School Student Council hosted a food drive for Red Ribbon Week! Students collected red items to donate to the pantry. We also received a donation of Taffy Apples from St Cletus School families! Love our school! It's a GREAT day to be a Cardinal!



### Thanksgiving Turkey Bucks Volunteer & Donations Needed



Our BIGGEST NEED at this time is help providing enough Thanksgiving meals for all those we are currently serving. Here is how you can help!

- Volunteer at the Countryside Jewel to raise funds for Thanksgiving dinners that go directly to our families. This is a very flexible opportunity, great for ALL AGES! Sign up for a date and you pick the time that works for you! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-turkey>

[go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-turkey](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-turkey)

- Make a donation at the Countryside Jewel to Turkey Bucks so we get the meals we need. ANY amount is helpful!
- Or you can make a donation to the food pantry. Please write "Thanksgiving" in the memo/notes and we will use those funds to purchase Thanksgiving meals.
- Is your business, family or group of friends interested in sponsoring a dinner? Let us know and we can partner together!

### Calling All Bakers!

Help us include homemade cookies with every Thanksgiving dinner we provide. Please share 2-3 dozen of your favorite *nut free* holiday cookies. Please drop your cookies at the St. Cletus Parish Center on Wednesday, November 16 or Thursday, November 17 between 9:00 -5:00. Any questions, please contact Holly Lavorato at [hollylavorato@gmail.com](mailto:hollylavorato@gmail.com) or 847-867-0985. Thank you for sharing your homemade treats with our St. Cletus Food Pantry community!



## ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY NEEDS COOKIES!

MAKE 2-3 DOZEN OF YOUR FAVORITE NUT-FREE COOKIES FOR OUR THANKSGIVING FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

**DROP OFF AT:**  
**ST. CLETUS PARISH CENTER**  
**NOVEMBER 15 & 16**  
**BETWEEN 9:00-5:00**

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:  
HOLLY  
847.867.0985  
HOLLYLAVORATO@GMAIL.COM

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

## Social Concerns Ministry

### Giving Tree Update

Our annual Advent Giving Tree Project--a St. Cletus tradition—begins next weekend, November 11-12! Our trees will be filled with names of individuals in need from our community. We also ask you to remember your special person(s) in your family's prayers throughout this holy season. Last year our parish made Christmas brighter for over 1,800 people!

Trees will be available every weekend starting November 11-December 9 (or until all the tags are taken). We also make tags available over the phone or by filling out an online form as we have in previous years.

### SHOP WITH SCRIP/RAISE RIGHT

For your convenience during the weekends of November 11-12 and 18-19 we will have the St. Cletus School Raise Right (previously named Shop with Scrip) available in the Narthex. This is a gift card purchasing program via the school that allows the school to get a percentage of the proceeds as a fundraiser. It does not cost you anything extra to participate. We accept cash, check or credit card. These will be for the Grocery Gift Card white envelopes.

We invite you to stop in the narthex next weekend to take a tag or two from one of the Giving Trees. We are thankful for your past generosity in purchasing many gifts for the individual(s) you choose. Thank you! Your generosity will provide hope and make a difference in someone's life. God bless you on your Advent Journey!

### Giving Tree Volunteer Opportunities

• **Gift Card Sales:** Adult volunteers are also needed to help sell grocery gift cards on November 12-13 and 19-20. Volunteers must be comfortable using a tablet and credit card swipe (will be trained and have a staff member with you). Sign up is available here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-giving2>

**Giving Tree Collection Weekend 12/8-12/10:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CACAC2EA2FC1-giving6#/>

**Giving Tree Distribution Weekend 12/16 & 12/17:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E094CACAC2EA2FC1-giving7#/>

For further details, you can also contact: Kendall Grant, (708)215-5418, [kgrant@stcletusparish.com](mailto:kgrant@stcletusparish.com)



## Mass Intentions Online

Dear Parishioners,

We have partnered with *Mass Intentions Online* to allow us to accept Mass Intentions electronically. This new system will allow anyone accessing our website or app to request a Mass Intention and leave a donation, all done online.

Our Parish Office will continue accepting Mass intentions over the phone and in our office. This new software allows us to be more efficient with a streamlined process. We are very happy for this great addition to our parish.

When requesting an intention online, please visit our website [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com), and select Mass Intentions Online. You may also use our app available for iOS and Android systems.

For any questions, please contact us via e-mail at [411@stcletusparish.com](mailto:411@stcletusparish.com) or by phone at 708-352-6209. Thank you for supporting St. Cletus Parish.

Blessings,

Deacon Franco Foti

Operations Director



# Kids Corner



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Matthew 23:1-12 • 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Upcoming Evening of Prayer and Reflection

## AN EVENING OF — *Prayer & Reflection*

### THE SEASON OF ADVENT: A NEW BEGINNING *Jesus* WITH



Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year and is often the least understood of the liturgical seasons. Why do we celebrate every year the coming of Jesus when He has already come? How do we embrace this season so that we might grow as Christian disciples? This presentation will attempt to answer these questions as we pursue the Gospel path together.

**OUR GUEST SPEAKER:  
REV. BRENDAN LUPTON**

**PRESIDENT OF THE PONTIFICAL FACULTY OF THEOLOGY; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DOGMATIC THEOLOGY AND CHURCH HISTORY**

Fr. Brendan Lupton is a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago and was ordained in 2005. A patristic theologian, he earned his degree at Catholic University in 2013 and has served on the Mundelein Faculty for 10 years. He is the author of *St. Paul as an Exemplar of Holiness and Pastoral Leadership in the Writings of Pope Gregory the Great* published by Edwin Mellen Press.

B.A., Catholic University of America; M.Div., S.T.B., S.T.L., University of St. Mary of the Lake; S.T.D., Catholic University of America; Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2005; Former Associate Pastor, St. John of the Cross, Western Springs, IL; Author of the Book: *Paul and Gregory the Great: St. Paul as an Exemplar of Holiness and Pastoral Leadership in the Writings of Pope Gregory the Great*; Member of the North American Patristic Society and Academy of Catholic Theology.

**SAVE THE  
DATE**

**SAINT CLETUS PARISH**  
600 W 55th St. La Grange, IL 60525

 (708)352-6209  [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)



**Wednesday,  
December 06, 2023  
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

## Ministry News

### BOOK DISCUSSION

For those who like to look ahead

December 12<sup>th</sup>: Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt



February 13<sup>th</sup>: The Celebrants by Steven Rawley

As always, all are welcome.

### PURGATORIAL SOCIETY (A CREDO MINISTRY)



St. Faustina

"One evening one of the deceased sisters, who had already visited me a few times, appeared to me. The first time I had seen her, she had been in great suffering, and then gradually these sufferings had diminished, this time she was radiant with happiness, and she told me she was already in heaven... And further as a sign that she only now was in heaven, God would bless our house. Then she came closer to me, embraced me sincerely and said, "I must go now." I understood how closely the three stages of a soul's life are bound together; that is to say, life on earth, in purgatory and in heaven [the Communion of Saints]" ~St. Faustina (*Diary*, 594) Tassone, Susan, *Day by Day for the Holy Souls in Purgatory: 365 Reflections*, Our Sunday Visitor 2014

The St. Cletus Purgatorial Society currently has 49 prayer warriors praying for 443 holy souls. **Enroll your deceased loved ones AT NO COST**, become a member of the purgatorial society and join us in prayer for the holy souls! May purgatory be emptied!!! May no soul be forgotten!!!

Information pamphlet and enrollment forms can be found in the narthex or visit: <https://steletusparish.com/purgatorialsociety/>

**Special intentions for December anniversaries will be remembered at Mass on Monday, December 4th, 8am.**

### RCIA

The RCIA process, for those adults interested in becoming Catholic, will begin in mid-September, and we would love to have you in our Catholic family! It's a chance to deepen your relationship with Jesus and find a community of like-minded people to journey with on your way to the sacraments. If you think you'd like to become Catholic, or you know someone that might like to become Catholic, we would love for you to join us! The process starts September 19. If you would like more information, please contact our pastoral associate, Tina Norton.

## Cash Bingo!



JOIN US NOVEMBER 17TH!

7-9PM

**CASH BINGO!**

21+ EVENT | BYOB

St. Cletus Parish Center  
700 West 55th Street La Grange, IL 60525

SPONSORED BY OUR FSA

# Community News

## VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

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

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

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

Amen.



## THE WELL PROGRAM

We invite you to consider upcoming programs at The Well Spirituality Center 1515 Ogden Ave, LaGrange Park 708-482-5048 Visit our website to see our entire lineup of fall programs and retreats, and to register: [csjthewell.org/offerings/](http://csjthewell.org/offerings/) All programs are hybrid unless otherwise noted.

Breaking Open Advent Scripture Series **Wednesdays: Nov 29; Dec 6, 13, 20 • 1 - 2:15pm (CT)**

**Facilitator: Pat Bergen, CSJ** Advent is a season of hope, a season of welcoming newness, noticing what is coming to light. Join us as we break open the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday in light of Christ, The Light of the World, who has been coming into the world since the first blaze of light. The Mystery of Christmas is being revealed and is more profound than most of us imagine. Series cost: \$80

Forgive Everyone Everything **Tuesday, Dec 5 • 7pm (CT)** *Co-sponsored with the Siena Center of Dominican University*

**Facilitator: Greg Boyle, SJ**

Join us for an evening of stories of radical kinship, healing, and forgiveness shared with Fr. Boyle's incredible capacity for courage and kindness and incredible ability to recognize God in all people and things. Gregory Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang-intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world, and author of the 2010 New York Times-bestseller *Tattoos on the Heart*. In-Person only, at Dominican University, Lund Auditorium. Cost: \$10

## INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK



### Getting A Federal Job

Are you finding that securing a federal job is more difficult than you imagined? Reviewing federal job announcements, responding to occupational

questionnaires and using USAJOBS are far from intuitive. To open a door, you need the right key. The path into the federal government is unique for everyone. Our speaker, Nancy Segal is a recognized leader in federal human resources training and job search. She worked in Federal HR for decades and is still an HR trainer. She is a regular contributor to FEDweek and is the author of "Complete Guide" books for Writing a Federal Resume, Interviewing for a Federal Job and Federal Career Transitions. Mark your calendar now for this very informative evening.

This is a remote Zoom event. You can click on this link on Thursday, November 16, at 7 pm, or access the link from our calendar at our ICN website at the end of this message. Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82531743477?pwd=1FcHujbZentCXyQKcb6Spv11hp1J3h.1>

Visit [www.interfaithcareernetwork.com](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.com) for additional resources

## CALLING ALL ST. CLETUS LA GRANGE RESIDENTS

The Village of L Grange has been awarded a grant by the RTA to update its Comprehensive Plan and has been seeking comment and input from its residents. More information on this endeavor can be found at [lagrangeforward.org](http://lagrangeforward.org) The Village wants to learn what you value, love and/or hope to improve in La Grange. Feedback from residents can have an impact on the content and direction of the new La Grange Comprehensive Plan, which will serve as a guide for trustees and Village staff for the future.

Topics to be covered in the new plan will include:

- Land use, housing, and zoning
- Community character and placemaking
- Multi-modal transportation
- Environment and sustainability
- Economic development
- Community facilities, programs, and services

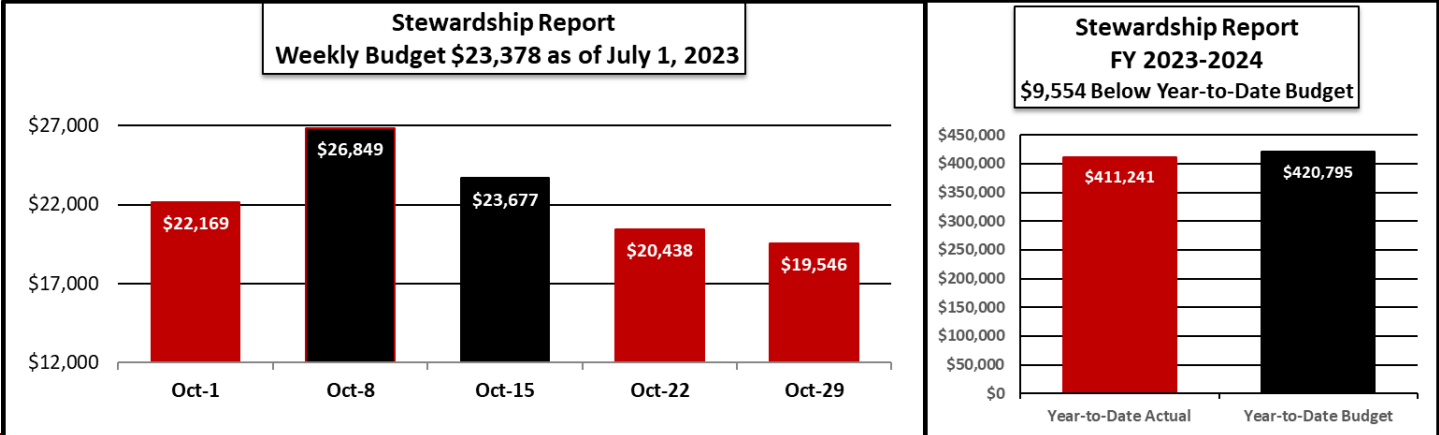
The Housing Committee of the La Grange Area League of Women Voters will share its research on the Status of Housing in La Grange on **Thursday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fr. Gallagher Room in the Parish Center**. We hope that you will put this informational meeting on your calendar and join us to learn about the current housing challenges in La Grange, the steps other communities have taken to address these challenges, and how similar initiatives could be instituted in La Grange.



# Week At A Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, November 5	8:45am	Church and Parish Center	Year 2 Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor Mass and reception
Monday, November 6	6:15-9pm	Gallagher Room	<b>CREDO</b> Chosen Discussion Group
Tuesday, November 7	8am 7-8pm	Church Church	Mass with school children Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Spanish
Wednesday, November 8	9-12pm 1-1:45pm 8-10pm	Gallagher Room Church Parish Center	Mission Ladies Living Rosary School Fathers Basketball
Thursday, November 9	4-8pm	Food Pantry	Food Pantry Distribution
Friday, November 10	7-9pm	Morrissey Hall	No School Holy Name Society Meeting
Saturday, November 11	8pm-12am	Church	Veteran's Day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday, November 12	12am-5am 7-8pm	Church Church	Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary-Spanish

# Stewardship Report



# Preferred Partners

Thank you!

  
**MJWORKS.COM**

  
**FCI Construction, Inc.**  
GENERAL CONTRACTORS

  
**UNIQUE PLUMBING**  
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**ADOLF**  
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES


  
**Hallowell & James**  
Funeral Home

  
**La Grange**  
Breakfast Cafe

  
**Argo Roofing**

## St. Cletus Parish Information

### CONTACT US

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

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

*Please note that all deliveries and inquiries should be made to the parish center office.*

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

### MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday ..... 7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,  
 ..... 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)  
 Weekdays..... Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.

### CONFESSIONS

Saturdays ..... 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

### BAPTISMS

Parents must be registered parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at (708) 352-6209.

### WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date.

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at (708) 352-6209.

### HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office .... (708) 352-6209

### STAFF

#### PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Elmer Romero, Pastor**  
**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 Morrissey, Parish Finance Council Chairperson,**  
 Email: [finance@stcletusparish.com](mailto:finance@stcletusparish.com)  
**Helen McComiskey, Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson**  
 Email: [ppc@stcletusparish.com](mailto:ppc@stcletusparish.com)

### ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

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

#### LIAISONS

FSA President ..... Joleen 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.