

ST. CLETUS CHURCH

Rectory

600 West 55th Street
LaGrange, Illinois 60525
www.stcletusparish.com

WEBSITE EDITION

Rev. Raymond Klees
Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill
Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Gallagher
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Patrick Marshall
Weekend Associate

Maria Arias
Director of Hispanic Ministry

Mary Beth Ford
Youth Director/Social Concerns

Jolene Hillgoth
School Principal

Patricia Kahl
Director of Religious Education

Bobbie Kallal
Business Manager

Kathie O'Neill
Art & Environment Coordinator

Carol Pogar
Liturgy Coordinator

Justin Sisul
Music Director

Christopher Wagner
*Director of Grounds/
Technical Support*

Dolores Wouk
Minister of Care Coordinator

PASTORAL OFFICES:
700 West 55th Street
LaGrange, Illinois 60525
352-6209

PARISH SCHOOL
352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/RCIA
352-2383

HISPANIC MINISTRY
352-4856

**YOUTH MINISTRY/
SOCIAL CONCERNS**
352-4641

LITURGY/MINISTRY OF CARE
352-4834

ART & ENVIRONMENT
352-4834

MUSIC DIRECTOR
352-4547

GROUND/TECHNICAL SUPPORT
352-8597



MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00 PM
Sundays: 7:00 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM,
11:00 AM, 6:00 PM (Spanish)
Evening before Holy Day: 7:00 PM
Holy Day: 6:30 AM, 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM
Weekdays: 8:00 AM

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office (352-6209).

WEDDINGS

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

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care office (352-4834).

CONFESSIONS

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month: 4:00 PM

Fr. Marshall's Musings

I'd like to thank you for your patience and support over the past couple of weeks as we've looked at the transitions that are happening at St. Cletus. Change is always difficult, but it usually produces growth and new life. I hope that is the case for our Parish during this time.

Thank you also for your patience and support for the Annual Archdiocesan Appeal. That was an awkward way of presenting it, but hopefully it will make us aware of the needs of the larger Church and the many ministries that are supported by the Archdiocese of Chicago. Be assured that your generosity will be put to good use as the Church becomes more transparent in its stewardship with the resources that you provide.

Thank you also for your care and concern of Fr. Klees. I again appeal to you for your prayers for him and also for letters of support and encouragement to him. Those letters can be directed to the rectory and I assure you that they will be given to Fr. Klees as soon as possible.

This Wednesday the Church begins the Holy Season of Lent. Lent is a time of conversion, a time for us to look into our hearts and examine how well we are living in the imitation of Christ. The purpose of Lenten discipline is to help us change our behaviors that lead us away from Christ. They prepare us to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. The Church invites us to embrace three disciplines in particular for the Lenten Season. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we are asked to draw closer to Christ and to be more aware of him in our daily lives so that our actions will reflect his teachings.

Prayer should take the form of increased attendance at Mass, especially during the weekdays and integrating prayer more into our daily lives. One of my favorite prayers is the Rosary which I say every day. A technique that I use in saying the Rosary, is to pray for a different individual on each bead. Other forms of prayer like spending some time reading from Sacred Scripture, reflection, meditation, private prayers or spontaneous prayers of the heart also generate our closeness to God. One of the things we often lack in our prayer is the ability to listen to God and to hear how He is speaking to us. That can only be done if we carve out silence in our lives and open our hearts to whatever God is calling us to. I invite you to think about ways that you can increase your prayer life individually and for us as a community. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to let me know.

The second discipline of Lent is fasting. We are asked to fast by the laws of the Church on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. That is to abstain from the eating of meat and to only have one main meal on those two days. We are also asked to abstain from the eating of meat on the Fridays during Lent. I think fasting also encompasses refraining from behaviors that are detrimental to us living a Christian life. This may include refraining from gossiping, from negativity, from harsh judgment, from criticizing others, from any other behavior we exhibit in a habitual way. Fasting strips away the excesses from us and helps us again focus more clearly on the person of Jesus Christ.

The third discipline of Lent is almsgiving. The Church has always had a preferential option to the poor. One of the things to be aware of especially during the Lenten Season is how we respond to the poor. When we encounter a poor person, do we treat them with respect and dignity; are we generous with them with our time, talent and treasures? The poor exist even in our local community and sometimes in our own families. Some of us are poor in our self image. Some of us suffer the poverty of addictions. Some of us suffer the poverty of prejudice. Whatever way we can be more generous, I would encourage you to do so during this Holy Season.

These disciplines, while exercised during the 40 days of Lent, should not be exclusively for Lent but rather they should be ways that we can continue to live the Christian life after Lent ends and the rest of the year continues. Lent is, in a sense, a training camp for us and doesn't make sense if we just give up things or do things for 40 days and then return to the same behaviors after Lent is over. Again, the whole purpose of Lent is conversion and conversion is a change of heart that leads us more to Christ and to imitate Christ in our daily lives.

I pray that the Holy Season of Lent is a time of spiritual renewal for each one of us. We begin the Season of Lent with our Annual Parish Mission. This year it's being preached by Fr. Bill Stenzel, former pastor of St. Francis Xavier in La Grange and presently pastor of St. Bede Venerable Church in Chicago. Fr. Stenzel will have some very insightful comments and I encourage your attendance at the Mission which will begin next Sunday. Please look in another part of the Canticle for more information on the Mission and the times and dates for it.

Again, I ask for your prayers for all priests at this difficult time in the Church's history. Be assured of my prayers for you especially during the Lenten season. If there is any way I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Fr. Patrick Marshall

Archdiocese of Chicago Annual Catholic Appeal

This weekend we will again conduct our in-pew pledge process at all Masses for the Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift, payable over five months. Sometimes it is difficult to envision how one pledge can help an organization the size of our Archdiocese, how it can make a real difference. But, it does, because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many will enable our Archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services.

As always, what you give should be given in gratitude for what God has given to us.

Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday, March 1, is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be distributed at all Liturgies. Our Mass schedule is 6:30am, 8:00am, 9:00am (school Mass) and 6:30pm. A Prayer Service will be held at 3:30pm.

Operation Rice Bowl

Through Operation Rice Bowl we can make a difference in the lives of our local poor and the poor throughout the world. Operation Rice Bowl boxes will be available beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing throughout this Lenten season.

Carol Pogar
Liturgist

Welcome Sunday Next Weekend

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers. Registration is available next weekend, March 4/5 after the 5:00pm Saturday Mass and the 7:00, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00am Sunday Masses. Please stop by the back of church, say hello, and become members.

Parish Lenten Mission Review

The Mission begins with our weekend Liturgies on March 4/5. Monday, March 6, the theme is "Reverence the Past". Tuesday, March 7, the theme is "Honor the Present" – the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available. Consult past Canticles or the Web for more details.

On Wednesday, March 8, at 7:00pm we will "Embrace the Possibilities of the Future". We will reflect on the ways and the opportunities we have to welcome a new pastor. We will celebrate Mass as we gather as a people of hope and faith. Remember, we are counting on you being there to journey with us as we move forward in a time of new beginning for our parish.

Come to the Mission!

Please bring a donation for our Food Pantry

That's right! Feed your soul by attending the Mission and help our food pantry recipients by donating one or more of the food items listed below. Please make sure that all your donations are in-date!

Dried pinto beans, rice, soups, meals in a can, tuna, macaroni and cheese, canned vegetables and canned fruit. Thank you again for your generosity.

Religious Education Class Reminder...

Classes for March 5/6 are canceled due to the Parish Lenten Mission. All parents are encouraged to attend our Mission. Classes resume March 12/13.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Leisure Loafers

Please join us for our meeting, March 2, 1:00pm, in Morrissey Hall. We have a nice lady coming to entertain us after a short meeting; refreshments will follow.

Kym Francovelgia is scheduled to be here. She had to reschedule last year due to her mother's surgery so, God willing, she will make it this year.

Come, bring a friend and you will be happy you did.

Mary White

Holy Name Meeting

The March 3 meeting of the Holy Name Society will feature guest speaker John Hausmann, who will show slides of post-hurricane Louisiana and comment on his observations and experiences helping find housing for refugees. Men parishioners are welcome at the meeting which begins at 8:00pm in Room 201 of the Education Building. Final plans for the Holy Name's March 26 Pancake Breakfast will be reviewed and all are welcome.

Jim Matthews and Dan Gibbons

Please Pray for

...our sick in your prayers: Ruth Calandriello, Jack Carter, Dorothy Salvato, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Michael Abalos, Connie Kosteck, Connor Farrell, Jonii Patterson, Catherine Meyers, Luigi Iacopetti, George Mrozek, Andy Rasch, Mary Jean Sternquist, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Rose Ptak, Robert Frost, Robert Salbego, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Louis Cesario, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Virginia Tenerelli, Agnes Olszowka, July Hofstetter, Michael Karpinski, Emil Chlapecka, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolicki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Bill Gilmer, Scott May, and Jackie Zaccari. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound and unable to attend Mass.

Athletic Association Dinner/Dance and Silent Auction

This year's St. Cletus Athletic Association Dinner Dance and Silent Auction is set for Saturday, March 4, at 7:00pm at St. Cletus School in Morrissey Hall.

The theme is the "Wild West". Everyone in the parish is invited. Please call Marty O'Shea at (708) 482-9204 for tickets (\$35). If you would like to make a donation, call me at (708) 352-1755.

Tracy Flannery


Put the Nuns in Charge!

Reminder: Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the classroom! "Sister is back with a vengeance" – Chicago Reader – "Sharp, funny, and richly humane" – Chicago Tribune. ... "Put the Nuns in Charge" is coming to St. Cletus School, 700 W. 55th St., on Saturday, March 11 at 7:30. Doors will open at 6:30pm, with open seating. Food & Drink is available. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. To purchase tickets contact, Mary Jane Walsh (708) 579-5586 or Christine Tosheff at (630) 662-0991.

Our Sharing Parishes

The parishes of Blessed Sacrament, Presentation and Our Lady of Lourdes have been integrated into St. Agatha's Parish. In order for this Catholic Community to succeed, they need our help and prayers. Please continue to be generous with our Sharing Parishes the first Sunday of the month.

February 19

Budgeted revenue:		\$28,000
Collection Received:		26,673
Shortfall last week:		- 1,327
Revenue to budget		
Shortfall for this fiscal year:		- 268
# of envelopes mailed:		3,181
# of envelopes returned:		958

Thank you for your continued support. Please remember to use your offertory envelopes.

Please remember, using your envelope allows you to place your gift in the collection basket in a consistent manner. It also allows the parish the latitude to budget effectively. Supplementary offering envelopes are available in the pews each week.

Please note: Many parishioners have elected to have their weekly Sunday offering contribution debited out of their checking account once or twice a month. If you would like more information, contact Bobbie at (708) 352-6209, at the rectory office.

Love's Baptismal Robe

D.H. Lawrence once wrote a poem on love he called, *History*. It reads like this:

The listless beauty of the hour
When snow first fell on the apple trees
And the wood-ash gathered in the fire
And we faced our first miseries.

Then the sweeping sunshine of noon
When the mountains like chariot cars
Were ranked to blue battle-and you, and I
Counted our scars.

And then in a strange, grey-hour
We lay mouth to mouth, with your face
Under mine like a star on the lake
And I covered the earth, and all space

The silent, drifting hours
Of morn after morn
And night drifting up to night
Yet no pathway worn

Your life, and mine, my love
Passing on and on, the hate
Fusing closer and closer with love
Til at length they mate.

At the beginning of every love, romantic or not, the dream for that love is connected to an ideal of purity, mutuality, and respect. Every real love begins with the idea that this time we'll get it right, this time we won't make the mistakes we've made all those other times, this time love will work its magic. And in the early stages of love, that ideal is spontaneously respected.

In the stage of attraction, flirtation, infatuation, and the rooting of love in the poetic imagination love generally enrobes itself, figuratively, in whiteness, in purity, in all that's best inside of us. Its put on a baptismal robe because it senses that here, finally, it will be initiated into life.

There is nothing as potentially life-giving and redeeming as falling in love. It re-colors the world completely. As the great novelist, Iris Murdoch once said: *"The world can change in fifteen seconds, when you fall in love."*

But as the world, as we know, can also turn indifferent, dark, and angry in fifteen seconds, or fifteen years. We don't all die like Romeo and Juliet, still in the grip of that bliss-producing, soul-searching, divine fever we call "falling in love", where death for love seems not too high a price to pay.

Time, familiarity, differences, congenital restlessness, old immaturities, wounded pride, a wandering eye, and simple human selfishness soon enough begin to dispel the magic. Where we once

couldn't get enough of each other, swallowed our own hurts, and pride for the other, and would willing, like Romeo and Juliet, have died for each other, we now begin to count our scars, let the days drift, and no longer search for the path towards the other's door. Hate begins to fuse with love, resentment with delight, and we reclaim our singleness.

What D.H. Lawrence so brilliantly describes in this poem is how gradually and imperceptibly love can lose its purity, its divine fever, and its divine intent, even in its most intimate expressions.

And what he is referring to is not that inevitable, and ultimately healthy, transformation where love, simply by its own innate structure pressures towards maturity and pushes us beyond romantic infatuation and illusion. All love eventually programs its own dark night of the soul and this is healthy. Nor is he referring to the valuable insight that hate is not the opposite of love.

What he is referring to is the disease that creeps into a relationship when, for whatever reason, familiarity begins to breed contempt and disrespect and the ideal that was part of the dream that originally triggered that love is violated. Milan Kundera once said that when the idea of love was founded on dies, then the love dies too. He's right.

Real love is always founded on the ideal of purity (of intention), mutuality, and respect. In our heart of hearts we do want what's right, what's best; we don't want to stain what we love. And this implies things far beyond sex.

When we first say the words, "I love you." and mean them our hearts are connecting us to an ideal, a dream, a divine form, and a purity that draws energy from all that's best inside us. But once we begin to compromise that ideal with any kind of disrespect whatsoever, then we begin the slide down that slippery slope that Lawrence describes here and no expression of intimacy, the sexual bed included, will the redeem the initial dream for that love. Our love will then begin imperceptibly to sleep with hate, until we can no longer tell the difference. Our relationship will contain as much resentment as it does delight and we will soon find ourselves strangers to each other.

When we are baptized a white dress is put on us to symbolize purity and words are spoken over us to remind us that this white garment is the outward sign of our inner dignity and that we are meant to bring that dignity unstained into eternal life.

What's symbolized by our baptismal robes must be the poetic dream for every love. The challenge is always to bring the dignity of that love home, unstained.

Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website www.ronrolheiser.com.

Masses Intentions for the Week of – February 27 through March 5

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society – Angela Clifford, Robert Cutler, Francis Cirrincione
Tuesday	8:00am	Robert Narsutis, Willard Sargeant, Francis Cirrincione
Ash Wednesday	6:30am 8:00am 9:00am 3:30pm 6:30pm 7:45pm	Prayer Service Hispanic Mass
Thursday	8:00am	Linda Felice, Raymond Clifford, Marcie Johnston, Ronnie Sacks, Stella Kadlec, Stanley & Stella Waszak,
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society – Ronald J. Drobny, Sr., Samuel Miramontes, Nan Rettig, Karen Gorak, Delores Denkhoff
Saturday	5:00pm	People of St. Cletus
Sunday	7,8,9:30,11am	People of St. Cletus

Altar Servers 

March 1 - Ash Wednesday

- 6:30 a.m. - B. Funk, W. Lawler
- 8:00 a.m. - D. Delaurentis, N. Dentamaro
- 9:00 a.m. - School
- 3:30 p.m. - E. Pavlik, K. Pach, J. Kubiszyn
- 6:30 p.m. - D. Anfield, J. Zak, A. Fisher

March 4/5

- 5:00 p.m. - R. Mitchell, Z. Quick, K. Meade
- 7:00 a.m. - G. Valdes, T. Lenz, N. Magats
- 8:00 a.m. - J. Kern, K. Cernetig, A. Heslin
- 9:30 a.m. - A. Bartucci, A. Balch, K. Sipek
- 11:00 a.m. - N. Smith, M. Thomas,
M. Johnson-Dahl

Auxiliary Minister Schedule

Saturday, March 04, 2006

- 5:00 PM LR Schump, Cathy-
SM Swindall, Toni C1 Chlapecka, Rick-
B2 Guide, Alfreda- C2 Boyer, Kathy-
B3 Burke, Ruth C3 Burke, Jack
B4 Swindall, Vic C4 Swindall, Toni
B5 Curnutt, Rose- C5 Ryva, James-
B6 Ford, Mary Beth- C6 Ward, Laura-

9:30 AM

- LR Okkema, Peter
SM Hullinger, Shirley- C1 Okkema, Ann
B2 Benkert, John C2 Benkert, Kim
B3 Burke, Kevin- C3 Dalsin, Pat-
B4 Koch, Barbara- C4 Hullinger, Shirley
B5 Kelliher, Karen C5 Kelliher, Larry
B6 Kunkel, JoAnn- C6 Tosheff, Christine

Sunday, March 05, 2006

- 7:00 AM LR Bellisario, Janet-
SM Wouk, Dolores-
B2 Wouk, Dolores-
B3 Nault, Helen
B4 Nault, William
B5 Mezan, Mory Ann-
B6 Fahey, Ann-



11:00 AM

- LR Hagen, Emily
SM Samuelson, Debra C1 Garske, Elizabeth
B2 Hagen, Colleen C2 Kigin, Billie-
B3 Hoskins, Celine C3 Hoskins, William
B4 Mulderink, Ken- C4 Samuelson, Debra
B5 Provan, Karen C5 Provan, Jim
B6 Herzog, Terri- C6 Augustyn, Ron-

8:00 AM


- LR Rapacki, Sandy-
SM McCartney, Sandra- C1 Curotto, Louis-
B2 Karch, Terri C2 Karch, John
B3 Stamm, Richard C3 Stamm, Barbara
B4 Kuchta, Ann- C4 McCartney, Sandr
B5 Welch, Jerry- C5 Saban, Jackie-
B6 Parlier, Denise C6 Parlier, Jon

Baptism

This Past Week We Welcomed... Katherine Suzanne Prystalski and Samantha Noell Stevens to Our Parish Family.

Rest in Peace

Please remember in your prayers these parishioners or loved ones of parishioners who recently died: ...Faith, Hope and Thomas Pawlikowski, infant children of Thomas and Tina We extend our condolences to all families who have lost a loved one during this past week.

Wedding Banns 

Elizabeth Ortenzo and Royal Hartwig
Bridget Polacek and Patrick Goggin