Rev. Robert Clark

Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill

Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins

Associate Pastor

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

Justin Sisul

Music Director

Christopher Wagner

Information Technology

Dolores Wouk

Minister of Care Coordinator

PASTORAL OFFICES

700 W. 55th Street

La Grange, IL 60525 708-352-6209

PARISH SCHOOL

708-352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION / RCIA

708-352-4856

YOUTH MINISTRY /

SOCIAL CONCERNS

708-352-4641

LITURGY / MINISTRY OF CARE

708-352-4834

MUSIC DIRECTOR

708-352-4547

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

708-352-8597

ST. CLETUS CHURCH

Rectory 600 W. 55th Street LaGrange, IL 60525 www.stcletusparish.com www.stcletusschool.com

WEBSITE EDITION



MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00p

Sunday: 7:00a, 8:00a, 9:30a, 11:00a, 6:00p (Spanish)

Evening Before Holy Day: 7:00p

Holy Days

6:30a, 8:00a, 9:00a

Monday - Saturday

8:00a

BAPTISMS

 $1^{\rm st}$ & $3^{\rm rd}$ Sunday of the month at 1:00pm. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the rectory office at 708-352-6209.

WEDDINGS

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

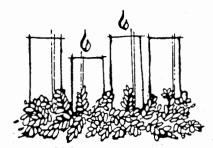
HOME / HOSPITAL VISITATION & COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care office at 708-352-4834

CONFESSIONS

Every Saturday 4:15 - 4:45 PM

Fr. Bob's Utterings



Second Sunday of Advent

We continue our journey on the path of Hope. Luke's gospel tells us from the prophet Isaiah: "The windings shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God." Our journey often finds us on a winding road with all the pressures of daily living. Let us look to God this week to strengthen us in fairness and justice toward one another each day to help straighten the path for us. May we take an honest look at our personal relationships with family, friends and the Lord and resolve, with God's help, to recommit ourselves this week to continual growth in the love of Christ, who is our true salvation.

Symbols of Advent Continue

Our Advent Journey of Hope continues with the addition of the lighting of the second candle on our Advent wreath this week. You will also notice the addition of the blue material on the altar which represents our road on the way to the Star of Hope. You will, also, notice that the grill work on the back wall of our church sanctuary has received a new coat of paint to brighten our way on the journey. The abundance of gifts that you have all brought and placed in our church vestibule, in response to our Advent giving trees, represents the total Charity of this wonderful faith community. We indeed are truly coming closer to the Star of Hope in Christ. How blest we are as a people of God.

Treasure

Please notice in this weeks Canticle that last week we exceeded our budget for only the second time since I arrived here as your new pastor. Thank you for your generous gift of treasure. Your contributions allow us to be able to continue to provide the services and meet the ministry needs of our parish. I ask you to be as generous as possible this Christmas with your donations. A gift of \$200 or more per family will insure that the parish will be able to continue to meet our ministry needs for the reminder of this year. Your generosity will be greatly blest by God.

Let us continue our Advent Journey of Hope and as John the Baptist tells us this week, "Let Us Prepare the Way of the Lord."

Advent Blessings and Much Love Always,



Stay Tuned

"Names make news" is a primary principle of journalism. It would be a dead newscast that could only report, "lots of exciting things are happening, folks, but we don't know to whom, where, or

when. We are still checking on the details, and we'll get back to you later. In the meantime, here's another word from our sponsor."

In today's Gospel, Luke shows himself to be a first-rate journalist when he fills his Good-News report with lots of names. He reels off a long list and they're an impressive bunch: an emperor, a procurator, no less than three tetrarchs, and two high priests. You can almost hear the news director cuing the drum roll and trumpet fanfare. When dropped, these names make a mighty sound. Aren't we impressed?! Most of us would respond, "well, no, not really."

When God was looking for a specific person at a specific time in a specific place to speak a specific word to, God skipped over all these high-muckety-mucks with their pretentious titles. Instead, God chose John, Humble John. Obedient John, Joyful John. (Remember how John leapt in his mother's womb the first time he and Jesus met?)

God looks for each of us, as well, and John reminds us that before we can anchor the broadcast of the Good News, we need to prepare. The good news though, about the Good News, is that Christ is already present in our lives. Our challenge is to open ourselves to that presence in all that we do each day.

Blessing to the Lord before mailing Christmas cards

Writing or wrapping and sending Christmas cards and gifts can be small but significant ways that we recognize others as are sisters and brothers in Christ. Words then are not merely read or spoken. They are deeds enacted in love increased, knowledge shared, discernment embraced and righteousness integrated into the very fabric of our being and recognize the presence of Christ in all of us and a very practical example of what St. Paul was telling the Philippians in today's second reading.



Blest are you, Lord, our God and Father!
You have graced our lives
with friends and relatives near and far.
May these Christmas cards arrive
at their destinations
as signs of affection, as tokens of peace.
Send your Son to reign in glory among us.
He will lead your people to glad reunion
in your holy city,
where we will sing your praise
for ever and ever.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 10, 2006

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,

10ab; Lk 1:26-3 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Wednesday:Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6;

Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

Encounter God Through Reading Scripture!



Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2006

Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever.

-Baruch 5:1

Welcome St. Cletus Parishioners!

We are pleased to welcome these newly registered parishioners to our parish family: Kathleen Boylan, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Budvitis, Jean Cummings, Marilyn Cummings, Dorothy Flannery, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Jungels and Family, Dorothy Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Nicolaus Kuchta, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Mitchell and Family, Danielle Moles, Rita Reichardt, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Rekash and Family, Mr. & Mrs. George Rosicky and Family, Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Townsend and Family and Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Zec.

If you have been attending St. Cletus, but have not yet registered as a parishioner, please consider the commitment of parish membership.

Share in the Care

This weekend is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious appeal. Religious institutes must provide for their own retirement costs and last year 500+ institutes benefitted from grants out of this fund. Please take a moment to say thanks by giving generously. Envelopes are available in the pews today.

Giving Tree Reminder



Please remember to place your Giving Tree gifts under the tree this weekend with the tag securely attached to the package. The gifts will be organized for delivery today after the 11:00AM Mass. Thank you to all who are so generous.

-2-

Food Basket Reminder: Next Sunday, December 17, is the date to return the <u>food baskets to Morrissey Hall between 7:30am and 11:00am.</u> We ask that you securely attach the food basket tag to your package. Please arrange with a friend or family member to bring in your food basket, if you are going to be out of town. The teens in our Confirmation Program will be on hand to help carry the baskets from your car. Also, a suggestion: Laundry Baskets make excellent containers for the food. Thank you for your generosity!

Mary Beth Ford Social Concerns

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Mass Schedule

Please note: We will follow our regular Mass schedule for the weekend of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 23/24.

Christmas Eve Masses:	Accompaniment:
2:00pm	Chamber Ensemble
2:15pmMorrissey Hall	Vocalist/Piano
3:30pm	Children's Choir
3:45pmMorrissey Hall	Vocalist/Piano
5:30pm	Chamber Ensemble
7:30pmSpanish Mass	Spanish Choir
10:30pm	Chancel Choir
Christmas Day Masses:	Accompaniment:
7:00am	Traditional (Organ)
8:00am	Vocalist/Organ
9:30am	Contemporary Choir
11:00am	Chancel Choir
New Year's Eve: 5:00pm	

Leisure Loafers

Reminder: New Year's Eve at Noon! Reservations and money are needed by December 15.

New Year's Day: 8:00am and 9:30am

Please call Mary (708) 246-0340 or Alice, (708) 354-7054.

Mary White

Please Pray for

mour sick in your prayers: Mike Patzelt, Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Anthony Regalado, Marilyn Matesevac, Joanne Mate, Adrianne Welenc, Hunter Peters, Mario Aguilar, Cacilia Ziegler, Jackie Dudley, Ruth Calandriello, Dorothy Salvato, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Connie Kostecki, Jonii Patterson, Catherine Meyers, Luigi Iacopetti, Mary Jean Sternquist, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Rose Ptak, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Louis Cesario, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Virginia Tenerelli, Agnes Olszowka, Judy Hofstetter, Michael Karpinski, Emil Chlapecka, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolicki, Mary



As we continue our journey of faith during Advent, we look to Mary who embraced her call to offer herself as a sign of hope for all people. This year St. Cletus Hispanic Ministry will once again celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, who is the Patroness of Mexico and has world devotion as the Patroness of the Americas.

Our special celebration honoring Our Lady begins this Sunday, December 10, at 6:00pm with a procession starting at the Lenzi apartments and arriving at St. Cletus Church for Mass. On December 11, starting at 7:30pm, an all night Veneration will take place in the church concluding with the traditional "Mañanitas" or morning song at 4:00am. On December 12 at 7:00pm a solemn Mass with Mariachi will be held.

Following the Liturgy, all are invited to partake in a Fiesta with Mariachi and tamales held in Morrissey Hall.

Manna Cash and Carry Dates

Manna is available <u>next</u> weekend, December 16/17, after all the Masses. Support our school by stopping by our Manna table. Get some great ideas for Christmas stocking stuffers! Look for the Manna Moms! Included in this Canticle is the schedule for Manna and order form.

Rite of Welcome

Last Sunday, St. Cletus Parish officially welcomed Bill Cerwin, JoAnn Greiner, Holly Grimm, Courtney Hartnett, and Denise Kuchta into the R.C.I.A. process and our parish. These five adults have decided to continue their faith journey on the road to being received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please remember these five candidates in your prayers. They will be regular attendees at the 9:30am Mass. Your words of encouragement and smiles of welcome are always appreciated.

Pat Kahl

Compassionate Care

"For the Lord and his people will have compassion" Isaiah 49:13.

Compassionate Care, a new outreach ministry, is the parish connection to families who have lost a loved one. If you have experienced the death of a loved one, you personally know how devastating the loss can be for an individual and a family. Comfort and compassion are the best gifts we can offer members of our parish family during a very trying time. Volunteers are needed to participate on a rotating basis in the following capacities:

- 1) Be the initial contact person to help families plan the funeral liturgy if assistance is needed.
- 2) Conduct a brief evening prayer service at the funeral home during the wake.
- 3) Make sympathy cards (cards will be provided).
- 4) Mail cards and other bereavement literature on a set schedule.
- 5) Make follow-up phone calls to the bereaved families.

If you are so inclined to give of your time and talents to this very special ministry sign up at the back of church today or call Eugenia Callison at (708) 482-4974.

Father Charles

Holy Name News

A Papal Flag has been donated to the parish by the Holy Name Society. HNS voted to purchase the flag to honor Fr. Charles Gallagher, Pastor Emeritus, longtime chaplain for the group. A plaque listing Fr. Gallagher's service will soon be added to the flag's stand.

A new American flag, flown only once over the U.S. Capitol, has been donated to the parish for use in the church or the school. The donor received the Capitol flag from one of her former students, a Congressman from Iowa, upon her retirement after 35 years of teaching in a nearby public high school.

Jim Matthews

Stewardship

"Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others, the special gifts he has received from God." (1 Peter 4:10)

December 3 Weekly Offering	
Budgeted revenue:	\$29,061
Collection Received:	29,732
Surplus last week:	671
Revenue to budget	
Shortfall for this fiscal year:	- 67,169
# of envelopes mailed:	3,187
# of envelopes returned:	897
Thouls you for your continued an	mmant Dlage

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

Dear St. Cletus Parishioners,

On behalf of LifeSource-Chicagoland's Blood Center and area patients in need of blood and blood products, *Thank You* for all of the blood donations at your St. Cletus Church drive! Also, a big "thank you" to Clare Slowik who organized the blood drive. A total of 59 people presented to donate. This resulted in 44 pints of blood collected! Since one blood donation can save up to 3 individuals, the units collected at this drive will potentially save 132 lives!

All who generously volunteered to donate their time and blood at this drive should know that their efforts will help to save cancer patients, critically ill newborns, severely burned patients, accident victims and many more who have illnesses requiring blood products.

Thank you!
Dennis Panozzo
LifeSource

Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist made ready the way of the Lord. Who will make ready today? Are you being called to consider priesthood or religious life to make the Lord's way ready? For more information, contact Sr. Peter Mary Hettling, CSJ, in the Archdiocesan Vocation Office at (312) 751-5245 or phettling@archchicago.org.

Stop Human Trafficking

The Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity, a ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph, is offering a presentation on human trafficking...modern-day

right here in our own neighborhoods. Human Trafficking: A challenge in our own Neighborhood and how you can help fight it. The presentation is on Saturday, January 13 from 9:30am - noon at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse and Ministry Center, 1515 W. Ogden Avenue in La Grange Park. This is a free event. The presenters are Jean Okroi, IBVM, and attorney Bernadine Karge, OP. For more information, call (708) 354-9200, ext. 8926.

The Work of St. Cletus Parish - A Quiet Gift

The work of our parishes doesn't usually make the front pages. Few would describe it as earth shattering. It is quiet work. It touches one soul at a time. At St. Cletus Parish, imperfect people grow closer to God every day. Community is formed here whether through daily celebration of the Eucharist or dinner delivered to the home of a grieving family; God's love is quietly made manifest here. We have a good thing going here, a very good thing. Let's pass it forward.

If family circumstances allow, a gift to St. Cletus Parish through your estate plan would come to much good. Our parish would be a worthy beneficiary of your generosity. The gift of faith is one of the most wonderful gifts there is. Your bequest or other planned gift to St. Cletus Parish will help pass on our beautiful faith to a new generation of believers. We thank you for considering this generous option and wish you and your family a blessed Advent and Christmas.

A Special Invitation!

Pope John Paul II said, "I place much of my hope for the future in Marriage Encounter.: The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a fantastic gift of the Catholic Church. The next weekend is January 26-28. For more information, call Jim and Kris at 1-800-442-3554 or contact our website at www.wwmechicagogary.org.

To say that the beginning of human life cannot be determined scientifically is utterly ridiculous.

Dr. Richard V. Jaynes, Testimony before Senate Judiciary

MANNA NEWS

THE HOLIDAYS ARE APPROACHING QUICKLY.
PLEASE TRY TO USE MANNA AS MUCH AS
POSSIBLE. THERE HAVE BEEN SOME NEW
VENDORS ADDED SO PLEASE CHECK OVER OUR
FORM. MORE CHANGES TO COME.

REMEMBER, GOING TO DISNEY – USE MANNA. PAYING YOUR KOHL'S BILL – USE MANNA. PAYING YOUR JC PENNEY BILL – USE MANNA.

QUESTIONS - FEEL FREE TO CONTACT EITHER MYSELF: CARYN DOMBRO 630-789-8560 OR LISA HEIM 708-354-4257

UPCOMING CASH/CARRY DATES ARE:

FRIDAY	DEC. 1	$\dots 2:15-3:00$
SUNDAY	DEC. 3	AFTER ALL MASSES
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 6	6:00 - 7:00(MKTDAY)
FRIDAY	DEC. 15	2:15 – 3:00
SATURDAY	DEC. 16	AFTER 5:00 MASS
SUNDAY	DEC. 17	AFTER ALL MASSES
FRIDAY	DEC 22	2:15 - 3:00

CASH/CARRY VENDORS ARE:

AMC THEATRES (LOWES)
BATH & BODY
BEST BUY
BLOCKBUSTER
BORDERS/WALDEN BOOKS
HOME DEPOT
KOHLS
MENARDS
TJ MAX

TOYS-R-US

HOME RUN INPIZZA
LEDO'S PIZZA
Mc DONALDS
STARBUCKS
VIA BELLA
DOMINICKS/SAFEWAY
JEWEL/OSCO
FANNIE MAY
SHELL GAS
SPEEDWAY GAS

MANNA ORDER FORM							ORDER FORMS AVAILABLE ON WWW.	ST.CLE	TUS.COM			-	
RETAIL STORES IN COLUMN AND A	%	S	0	uaniliy		void	RETAL STORES GODIO	196	Ġ	G	uantity		Total **
1-800-Flowers	8%	\$15	X	=		\$	The Children's Place	12%	\$25	X	=	: \$	
Ace Hardware	4%	\$25	X	=	Τ	\$	TJMaxx/Marshalls	7%	\$10	X		\$	
Amazon.com	4%	\$25	X	=	Τ	\$	TJMaxx/Marshalls	7%	\$25	X		\$	
American Eagle Outfitters	8%	\$25	X	=	T	\$	Toys-R-Us/Kids-R-Us/Babies-R-Us	1.5%	\$20	X		\$	
Barnes & Noble	9%	\$10	X	=	T		Walgreens	2%	\$20	X	-	\$	
Barnes & Noble	9%	\$25	X	=	Τ	\$	Walgreens	2%		X		\$	
Bath & Body	13%	\$10	X	=			RESTAURANTS	%	. 5	Q	uantity		Total
Bed, Bath & Beyond	7%	\$25	X	=			Applebee's	8%		X	=	\$	
Best Buy	2%	\$25	X	=	•		Arby's	10%	\$10	Х	=	- \$	
Best Buy	2%	\$100	X	=		\$	Auntie Anne's	8%	\$10	X	-	\$	
Blockbuster Video Gift Card	7%	\$10	X	=			Baja Fresh Mexican Grill	7%	\$25	X	:	- \$	
Borders/Walden Books	8%	\$10	X	=		\$	Baskin Robbins	9%		X		- \$	
Build-A-Bear	8%	\$25	X	=	T	\$	Bennigan's	13%	\$25	X		= \$	
Carson Pirie Scott/Younkers	8%	\$25	X	=			Boston Market	12%	\$10	X	-	- \$	
Circuit City	3%	\$50	X	=			Buca di Beppo	8%	\$25	X		= \$	
Circuit City	3%	\$100	X	=			Burger King	4%	\$10	Х		= \$	
Crate & Barrel	8%	\$25	X	=			Cheesecake Factory	5%	\$25	X		- \$;
CVS Pharmacy	2%	\$25	X	=		\$	Chili's/Corner Bakery Café	11%	\$20	Х		= \$	
Dicks Sporting Goods	8%		X	=	٠.		Chipotle	10%		х		= \$	
Disney Stores/Resorts	7%	\$25	X	=	-		Chuck E. Cheese	8%	\$10	X		= \$	
Disney Stores/Resorts	7%	\$100	X				Dominos Pizza	5%	\$5	Х	,	= \$	
Disney Stores/Resorts	7%	\$1,000	X	- =	-	\$	Great Harvest Bread Co	8%		X	1.	= \$	
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Footlocker Stores	9%	\$25	X		_	\$	Lettuce Entertain You Rest.	12%	\$25	Х	1:	= \$	
GNC	8%	\$25	X	=	-	\$	Long John Silvers	9%		X	_	<u> </u>	
Gymboree Store	13%		X		-		Max & Erma's	13%	\$20	X	_	= \$	
Home Depot/Expo Design Center	3%	\$25	X	=			McDonalds	10%	\$5	X		= \$	
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JC Penney	5%		X		-	\$	Outback Steakhouse	4%		X		- S	
JoAnn Fabrics	6%	\$20	X	=	-		Panera Bread	9%	\$10	x		= \$	
K-B Toys	9%	\$10	X	= =			Pizza Hut	9%	\$10	x		= \$	
K-Mart	2%	\$25	Ŕ				Quiznos Sub	8%		X		= \$	
Kohis	4%	\$25	Ŕ		_	\$	Starbucks	7%	\$10	X		= \$	
Kohls	4%	\$100	Ŕ	=	-	\$	Starbucks	7%	\$25	x		- \$	
Lands End	9%	\$25	X				TGI Friday's	8%		X		- Š	
Limited (Excludes Limited Too)	9%	\$25	X	=	-		Via Bella	15%	\$25	X		= \$	
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L.L. Bean	15%	\$25	X	_			Dominicks/Safeway	3%	3333413			= \$	
Lord & Taylor	4%	\$25	-		t	T	Dominicks/Safeway	3%				= \$	
Lowe's Home Improvement	4%	\$25	χ̈́	=		\$	Jewel/Osco	4%		X		= \$	
Lowe's Home Improvement	4%	\$100		=		\$	Jewel/Osco	4%		X		= \$	
Macv's	9%	\$25				\$	GAS STATIONS	196					Total
Martinellis	5%	\$10		=		\$	BP Gas	2%		X		= \$	
MC Sports	8%	\$25			-		Marathon Gas	3%				= \$	
Mrs. Field's Cookies	10%	\$5	Ŷ				Marathon Gas	3%				= \$	
Menards	3%					\$	Mobil/Exxon	1.5%				- \$	
Menards	3%	\$100			-	\$	Shell Gas	1.5%	\$25			= \$	
Office Depot	4%	\$25				\$	Shell Gas	1.5%	\$100			= \$	
Office Max	5%	\$25				\$	Speedway Gas	4%				= \$	
Old Navy/Gap/Banana Republic	9%	\$25				\$	Speedway Gas	4%				= š	
Omaha Steak	9%	\$25	ŵ				HOTELS	0)2.5	\$				Total
Payless Shoes	13%	\$20	x			\$	Hyatt Hotels	9%				= \$	
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Pep Boys Pier One	9%	\$25	÷				Marriott Hotels	12%				= \$	
Pottery Barn/Williams Sonoma	8%	\$25 \$25		=		\$	MISCELLANEOUS	%					
			숤			\$	AT&T Prepaid Card (100+ minutes)	20%				= \$	
Pottery Barn/Williams Sonoma	8%	\$100		=				7%				= \$	
Radio Shack	4%	\$25 \$10	Â			\$	Napster (15 song download)	10%				= \$	
				L			SvcMaster/ChemLawn/MerryMaids						
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory	11%					•	ARIC Theotree /formarks serve	70/	} en⊏				,
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Sears/Great Indoors	4%	\$25				\$	AMC Theatres (formerly Loews)	7%				= \$ 	
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Sears/Great Indoors Sharper Image	4% 16%	\$25 \$50	Х	=	I	\$	AMC Theatres (Single Admission)	16%	\$8.75	Х		= \$	
Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Sears/Great Indoors	4%	\$25	X	=		\$		16% 15%	\$8.75 \$1.00	X		= \$ = \$	

NAME	Make c	checks payable to St. Cletus F.S.A.
PHONE #		
ACCOUNT #	*PLEASE NOTE: PERCENTAGES SUBJECT	
(Your account number is the first letter of your first nam	e, the first letter of your last name & the last 5 digits o	f your phone number)
STUDENT'S NAME	ROOM #	CHECK IF RELIGIOUS ED STUDENT
	AND THE PROPERTY OF PERIODIC EN CHINCHT.	GUNDAY TUONDAY



I nvest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2006
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT; INTERNATIONAL HUMAN
RIGHTS DAY
Preparing the way

International Human Rights Day gets its name

from the publication in 1948 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which in 30 articles states the basic rights of all people. Yet today it's not hard to see that not all enjoy these rights. The coming of Jesus the Savior restored to people their full personhood—basic rights included. This Advent Sunday presents a great opportunity to pledge yourself to doing something, however small, to filling in the gaps between the human rights all people deserve and the ones beyond their reach.

Today's readings: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6

"Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11
FEAST OF DAMASUS 1, POPE
Don't get too comfortable

When Saint Damasus rose to the position of pope in the fourth century, the church faithful were in the midst of coming to terms with their legalization into the Roman state and the subsequent decline of their persecution. It was within this context that Damasus led the church to a veneration for the local martyrs of their past. Enjoying now a state of legal comfort, Damasus believed that honoring local martyrs and seeking their intercession and protection would instill in Catholics an appreciation for their distinctive spiritual identity. Today in America, Catholics enjoy a freedom and comfort in their faith as few ever have, yet across the globe faithful people continue to be martyred. Look to the figure of these martyrs today as a reminder of faith.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 "And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12
FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
IVIVA GUADALUPE!

Mexican Catholics have long revered the Virgin of Guadalupe as a symbol of God's compassionate presence among the people. She is also an important symbol of Mexican nationalism. In 1810, when Father Miguel Hidalgo initiated the movement that led to Mexican independence, he is reported to have shouted, "Death to bad government, long live the Virgin of Guadalupe!" Guadalupe was proclaimed "Patroness of the Americas"—including the United States—by Pope Pius XII in 1946. She continues to serve as an apt symbol of loving care for all God's people. Perhaps you can attend a celebration of her feast day today, or find your own personal way to commemorate the feast.

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17; Luke 1:39-47
"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 FEAST OF LUCY, VIRGIN, MARTYR Follow the light

Saint Lucy is one of those early saints about whom we know little, though we have some wonderful legendary stories about her that have to do with her name, which means "light." We remember her because she lived—and died—in a time when Christians, to remain faithful, regularly paid the price of their lives. Today we also cross over the midpoint of the Advent season, when we prepare for the coming of the One who is the way, the truth, and the light. Celebrate this saint of light and clear sight by keeping your inner eye open for the Light of the World.

Today's readings: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 "Lift up your eyes on high and see."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 FEAST OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS, DOCTOR Darkest before the dawn

John of the Cross knew something about suffering violence for the sake of his beliefs. Sadly, in his case, members of his own religious order were responsible. On the night of December 3, 1577, allegedly because of his support for reform of the Carmelite order in his native Spain, John was taken prisoner by a faction of the order that resisted the call to reform. He endured a harsh regime that included public lashing before the community at least weekly and severe isolation. Nevertheless, during his imprisonment he managed to compose a great part of his most famous poem, the "Spiritual Canticle." Draw on John's experience to reflect on how you might be able to use your own suffering, great or small, to create something of meaning and beauty.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15
"From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 ADVENT WEEKDAY Decoding the critics

Some folks never have a good word for anybody. This was true in the time of Jesus, when people criticized John the Baptist for fasting, and then spoke badly of Jesus for feasting! (They called Jesus a glutton and a drunkard. Maybe the multiplication of the loaves and the miracle at Cana were too much for them.) When Jesus performed healing miracles, some thought he acted by the power of the devil. When he refused a miraculous rescue to save himself from the cross, they said God had abandoned him. Don't listen to the critics—follow the Spirit's prompting.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19
"John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, He has a demon."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 ADVENT WEEKDAY; LAS POSADAS BEGIN ROOM at the inn

Today many people in Mexico and in the Mexican American community begin the celebration of Las Posadas. For nine days they reenact the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of lodging, posada. Each evening, groups of mostly children process from home to home, asking for shelter but are refused entrance. Finally those at the third home let the shelter seekers in, and prayer, singing, and a party for the children follow. Both a pilgrimage and a celebration, Las Posadas remind us of the difficult pilgrimage of faith, but also of the hospitality, feasting, and celebration that go with welcoming the presence of Jesus into our lives.

Today's readings: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 "I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him."

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Scripture quotes come from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy



December 11	- December	17
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Day	Time	Intention	
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - John Hopp, Michael Maly, Marjorie Burke, Elizabeth Weller, Celeste Klees	
Tuesday	8:00am	Angela Clifford, Joseph Megla, Esther DelReal, Stanley Litkie	
Wednesday	8:00am	Thomas Kigin, Lucille Magee, John Ruzas, Elizabeth Black, Lucille Ostrowski, Roger Barloga	
Thursday	8:00am	Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family, Michael Maly, Joanne Burke, Teresa McDonald, Marshall Mlot	
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society, Johnston Family, Al Cooke, Willard Sargeant	
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Sam & Maria Scopelliti, Mary McMahon Mary & Stanley Michniak, Helen & Bruno Blachowicz	
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	People of St. Cletus Mary Pogar, Mary McMahon Tim Jones, Josephine Sorrentino, Geraldine Rincon, Virginia Sheple Jacob Rueth, Emil Guidice Joseph White, Donald Oswald, Thomas Przyborowski	

Altar Servers December 16/17

5:00pm - C. McCollom, A. Condotti, K. Caplice

7:00am - C. Maden, K. Kelliher, H. Heim

8:00am - K. Baro, M. Micek, S. Lenz

9:30am - J. Babirak, A. Kison, P. Oboikovitz

11:00am - D. Delaurentis, M. King, E. Mrazek



This Past Week We Welcomed... Danielle Marie Carson, Lauren Alice Doppke, Keira Brooke Petrusha and Isabel Grace Wirtz. to Our Parish Family.

Auxiliary Minister Schedule

	muitary	_	TUITUUTCI
Sa	turday, Decen	ıbe	er 16, 2006
5:	00 PM	LR	Pfeiffer, Irv-
SM	Burke, Jack	CI	Sipek, Sarah-
82	Bamberger, MaryA	C2	Bozec, Betty
B3	Pogar, Carol	€3	Skupien, Kathy
B4	Burke, Ruth	(4	Burke, Jack
B 5	Caruso, Carole-	C 5	Kensek, Maggie-
B6	Richards, Marge-	63	Kessler, Trudi-
Su	nday, Decemb	er	17, 2006
7:	00 AM	LR	Loch, Len-
SM	Zmuda, Ron		
B2	Zmuda, Ron		
B3	Zmuda, Louise		
B4	Sullivan, Patrick-		
B5	Beales, Dave		
B6	Beales, Nadine		Ш
8:	00 AM	LR	Staelgraeve, Mark
SM	Stamm, Richard	C 1	Kuchta, Ann-
B2	Karch, Jahn	C2	Karch, Terri
B3	McCartney, Sandra	-C3	Borsilli, Helen-

Opila, Andy	C 1	Burke, Kevin
Zupancic, Robert-	C2	Williams, Alice-
Horak, Veronica-	(3	Nicosia, Christine
Opila, Margo	(4	Opila, Andy
Stumreiter, Earl-	C 5	Nolan, Jeannine-
Dillane, Jennifer-	6	Tosheff, Christine
:00 AM	LR	O'Dowd, Mary-
Bolton, Paulette-	C	Drago, Irene-
Mangahas, Aurora	-C2	Dunkovich, Alice-
Chaney, Marlene-	C3	Keating-Gay, Sus
Samuelson, Debra	- (4	Bolton, Paulette-
Haggerty, Frank-	C 5	Augustyn, Ron-
Smith, David	C6	Smith, Paul
	_	
	Zupancic, Robert- Horak, Veronica- Opila, Margo Stumreiter, Earl- Dillane, Jennifer- '200 AM Bolton, Paulette- Mangahas, Aurora Choney, Marlene- Samuelson, Debra Haggerty, Frank-	Zupancic, Robert- C2 Horak, Veronica- C3 Opila, Margo C4 Stumreiter, Earl- C5 Dillane, Jennifer- C6 ZOO AM LR Bolton, Paulette- C1 Mangahas, Aurora- C2 Choney, Marlene- C3 Samuelson, Debra- C4 Haggerty, Frank- C5

LR McMahon, Helen-

Rest in Peace

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

- ...Edward Jaxon, father of Pamela Freberg
- ...Timothy O'Connell
- ...Jacob Rueth

Winter Reminder

B4 Stamm, Barbara C4 Stamm, Richard

C5 Curotto, Louis-

C6 Hogue, Kay-

B5 Kigin, Billie-

B6 Welch, Jerry-

With inclement weather here, please remember to use caution in our parking lot and walkways on the parish grounds.