

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

1st & 3rd 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

Rev. Robert Clark
Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill
Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins
Associate Pastor

Maria Arias
Director of Hispanic Ministry

Paulette Bolton
Director of Liturgy

Mary Beth Ford
Youth Director / Social Concerns

Jolene Hillgoth
School Principal

Patricia Kahl
Director of Religious Education

Bobbie Kallal
Business Manager

Debbie Lestarczyk
Facilities & Grounds

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

Fr. Bob's Utterings

Epiphany of the Lord

Daniel Durken, O.S.B. writes: "This celebration of Epiphany is literally bursting with brilliance and littered with light. In today's prayers and readings there are almost two dozen references to such light-words as resplendent, shines, shining radiance, wonderful light, light shining in the darkness, light from light and, of course, the shining star, that 'star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,' which is the highlight of today's gospel."

The Babe of Bethlehem whom the magi came to do homage is identified in our Profession of Faith as 'Light from Light.' Jesus accepts this identification when he says, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' Here is the therapy, remedy of our spiritual quest.

Jesus dares to challenge us to be light ourselves. In his Sermon on the Mount he tells us, 'You are the light of the world...Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father' (Matt 5:14-16). What a challenge this is, to be not just the light of our home, not the light of our neighborhood, not the light of our city or our state or our nation, but the light of the WORLD! Our light is unlimited.

"This celebration of Epiphany is our therapy of spiritual light that allows us not to curse the darkness but to bless and be grateful for the privilege and the responsibility of being the light of the world."

A Little Christmas Thank You

On this Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord or Little Christmas I would like to take a moment to thank all those who made our celebration of Christ's birth such a spiritual experience for each of us this year. Those who served on the Advent Planning Committee and designed and implemented our parish theme; those who helped with decorations and the beautiful environment; those who provided such moving and spiritually uplifting music; those who ministered to us through proclamation of the word, distribution of the Eucharist, service at the altar, sacristans, ushers, maintenance, and presiders. I would like to also thank Fr. Pat for his help and hard work as our acting temporary Liturgy Coordinator. His dedication to our prayer experience was invaluable.

*Merry Little Christmas,
Fr. Bob*



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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2007

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Walk by this light

Imagine the magi seeing the star that led them to the infant Jesus. These were people used to looking at the stars and diving meaning and guidance from them, but this star was different. Unusually bright, don't you think? Something must be going on. And so they followed the star to worship the newborn King.

The guidance, the "signs" God gives us are like this star. Clear, but still ordinary enough that we have to notice and go after them to find out what they mean. God's leading of us burns like a bright light in the clear evening sky, steady, mysterious, and beckoning us to follow.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12*

"We have observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This call's for you

Here's a crossroads if ever there was one. Today the Christmas season officially ends—time to take down the last of the tinsel and throw out the fruitcake. Today is also the start of Vocation Awareness Week, coinciding with the Baptism of the Lord. It's no accident that we focus on our vocation on the feast when Jesus publicly claimed his. Who are we, in light of our own baptism? "The call," as we know, is not just for priests and religious, not just to married life or a profession. Ultimately, the call is always to holiness. Are we listening?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 or 40:1-5, 9-11; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22*

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Be of one mind

It's worthy to note that the "unclean spirits" in the gospel stories speak in the plural: "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?" Why is that? The "possessed" person is one who has lost his center, whose soul is divided, split and without grounding or foundation in "the Holy One of God." He is dominated now by one voice, now by another; driven by one desire, then another. No wonder he speaks in the plural.

Today, we might take a moment to ask ourselves, *Where (or who) is my center? From where do my thoughts and actions flow?* Then make any necessary adjustments.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28*

"The man with the unclean spirit cried out, 'I know who you are, the Holy One of God!'"

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

All in a day's work

Today's gospel is part of a larger scripture passage that recounts a day in Jesus' life—a day filled with preaching, teaching, and healing a great number of people. Early the next morning, Jesus goes out to a place by himself, to be restored by prayer. He then moves on to another town, even though "everyone is looking for" him in the previous one. As we observe Vocation Awareness Week, each of us can take some cues from Jesus' behavior.

A healthy vocation is balanced and restored by prayer and time alone, and a healthy vocation requires vigilance to avoid the temptations presented by fame and adulation. Followers of Christ do the work "for which they have come" and then let go of the results and move on. It's all in a day's ministry.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39*

"Everyone is searching for you."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Have a little faith

Each of us is called to a unique role in the service of God's kingdom. Our daily work, our relationships, our commitments make up our vocation. Sometimes it's difficult to see the good, glory, and honor in what we do each day, whether it is changing a dirty diaper, listening to the woes of a friend, serving a client, or sharing a meal in community. That is where faith comes in. Like the leper in today's gospel, we must simply believe that God is going to make sense of the jumble of our daily lives and help us to feel whole and worthy of being called a disciple. When in doubt about your vocation, have a little faith that all shall be well.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45*

"The leper knelt and said to Jesus, 'If you choose, you can make me clean.'"

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

Walk the walk

What did the people whom Jesus cured do with the rest of their lives? Where did they go? Of them we might paraphrase Shakespeare to say, "He walked his hour upon the stage and then was heard no more." But consider the paralytic man mentioned in the gospel. Surely his life was changed forever by his encounter with Jesus—and likely in ways that went far beyond his restored ability to walk. His sins had also been forgiven, and this is what freed him from the paralysis that plagued him. Aren't we all a bit like the paralytic man? The experience of divine forgiveness can free each of us from paralyzing guilt and empower us to spread the news of our encounter with the healing Christ. This is the essence of vocation, and each of us has one. So pick up your mat and get moving!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12*

"And he stood up, and immediately took up the mat, and went out before all of them."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 FEAST OF HILARY OF POITIERS

God is

The simplicity of God can shock a troubled mind. As a young man living in the midst of great philosophers, Hilary of Poitiers searched incessantly for the answers as to what kind of divinity could justify his life. He entertained long discussions about whether God was one or many, internal or external, indifferent or active. By chance, Hilary tells us, he once happened upon a passage from the Hebrew Bible: "I am who I am." This clarity of what he called "incomprehensible knowledge" brought Hilary to the Christian faith. Though he went on to form many arguments on the Trinitarian nature of God, Hilary never lost the simple idea of God-as-being. Today let "I am who I am" sustain you.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17*

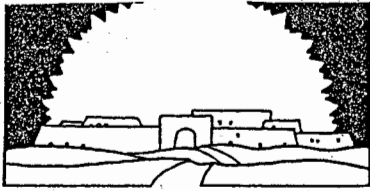
"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses."

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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



**The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2007**

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!

Your light has come,
the glory of the LORD shines upon you.

— Isaiah 60:1

(1) Giving Tree Project

Once again the Christmas Season is coming to a close...and once again the parishioners of St. Cletus have provided much more than Christmas gifts and holiday meals to those families who benefitted from our Giving Tree Project. As a caring parish community we have offered hope, comfort and the knowledge that through other's generosity, God helps provide for our needs. Thank you to all...organizations, groups and individuals...who contributed in any way to the success of our gift and food basket distribution. This effort was St. Cletus Parish at its finest!! May the same Spirit who guided us all during this Advent Outreach continue to dwell among us during a Blessed New Year!

(2) Food Pantry

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Food Pantry in 2006. Your concern and generosity was apparent every month with all your contributions. It's been a challenging year as we see more working poor in our community who need our services. We look forward to your continued support to keep our shelves stocked so that we may adequately serve those who come to us for help.

Just a reminder – the Food Pantry distributes groceries in the rear of church on the second Thursday of every month from 6:30-8:00pm.

Mary Beth Ford
Social Concerns

Wanted!

Young Adults for Confirmation Retreat

We are looking for some young adults (ages 21+) to join this year's retreat team for our overnight Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, February 24 and

Sunday, February 25 at Lake Lawn Lodge. This is a great opportunity to share your faith and life experiences with our teens who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring, and to nourish your own spirituality. Some of you have participated in this retreat yourself as a teen, you know the important role our young adults play in a meaningful and enjoyable retreat experience. Please contact me at once if you are interested, know someone who might be interested, and for more details. Phone: (708) 352-4641; or email: youth@stcletupparish.com. Thanks, and I am hoping to hear from you soon.

Mary Beth Ford
Youth Director

Stewardship

A good steward is a manager or caretaker of the many gifts bestowed upon us by God. These gifts are given to us generously and wisely, we in turn must use them to build the kingdom of God. God desires that we freely choose to use our gifts this way and that our motives be love, thankfulness and justice.



December 24

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Budgeted revenue: | \$29,061 |
| Collection Received: | 19,898 |
| Shortfall last week: | - 9,163 |
| Revenue to budget | |
| Shortfall for this fiscal year: | - 77,739 |

That We May Have Priests

Next Weekend (January 13/14) - a collection for the Seminary System for the Archdiocese of Chicago will be taken. Your support enables us to provide seminarians with the education and spiritual formation necessary to face the challenges of priesthood in the new millennium. Please be generous! Thank you.

You're Invited!

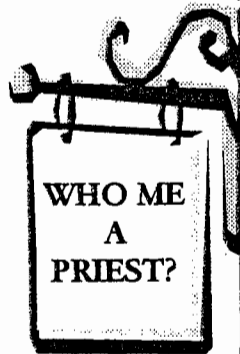
Please join the Elizabeth Ministry of St. Isaac Jogues Church for the 4th annual Holy Innocents Memorial Mass from 3:00-4:00pm on Sunday, January 21, in the St. Isaac Jogues Church Parish Center, 421 S. Clay St., Hinsdale. A reception immediately follows.

Questions? Please call, Jannine Sullivan at (630)

If you have ever thought about the priesthood and would like to take a closer look, consider joining us at Mundelein Seminary for a Ministry Weekend.

Ministry Weekends are a time away for reflection and conversation which can be helpful in discovering your life direction and vocation. College-age and older men are invited to join us January 12-14, 2007.

For more information contact Fr. Joe Noonan at (847) 970-4845 or jnoonan@usml.edu. For more details, see our website at www.chicagopriest.org.



Due to recent changes in the tax laws, beginning with contributions made in 2007, parishioners (those who itemize their tax returns) will no longer be able to deduct contributions to the parish unless they maintain a bank record or written contribution statement from the parish. If you wish to ensure deductibility of your contributions to the parish, please use a check, direct deposit from your bank account, or your parish envelopes. The parish will track contributions made using parish envelopes. Canceled checks and other bank records are also sufficient documentation. The parish cannot track cash contributions not in parish envelopes.

Please Pray for

...our sick in your prayers: Mike Patzelt, Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Anthony Regalado, Marilyn Matesevac, Joanne Mate, Adrienne 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 O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Scott May, and Jackie Zaccari.

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

The Enneagram

...a tool for Transformation presented by Alice Fryling and Jessie Vicha at Mayslake Ministries in Westmont on January 20, from 8:00am to 4:00pm. This ancient tool helps us bring into focus the connection between our personality type, our prayer and our spirituality. Cost is \$65 and includes lunch. Please call 630.323.1260 to sign up. Space is very limited: this event is open to men and women.

Nazareth Academy Pom & Dance Clinic

All K-8 grades, meet Nazareth Dancers who will teach Pom movements, jumps, leaps and dance sequence! **Saturday, January 27, 8:00am - Noon.** Clinic held in Nazareth Academy gymnasium, La Grange Park. A \$30 fee includes T-shirt and more. Registration deadline, Monday, January 21. Please contact Stephanie Kolodziej @ (708) 562-7909 for registration.

Fenwick High School


Fenwick will be hosting the 8th Grade Entrance Exam on Saturday, January 13, 2007, from 8:00am-12:00noon. Doors open at 8:00am! There is no pre-registration necessary to take the exam and there is a \$25 testing fee. No calculators are allowed during the exam. For more information, please contact the Admissions Office at (708) 386-0127, x123.



Jesus' Star

Lord Jesus: your star led the wise men to the manger and they paid homage to you in your mother's arms.


We pray to you: Light each person's star - his/her reason for hope and for love - so that it rises in the heavens of his/her hearts and leads him/her to you.



Mass Intentions for the week

January 8 – January 14

| Day | Time | Intention |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Monday | 8:00am | Purgatorial Society - Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Haraburda, Anthony Martini |
| Tuesday | 8:00am | Peter Sakowicz, Florence Curtis |
| Wednesday | 8:00am | Vida Scott |
| Thursday | 8:00am | Celeste Klees, John Hopp, Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family, Walter Depa |
| Friday | 8:00am | Purgatorial Society - Theresa McDonald, Edward Evans |
| Saturday | 8:00am 5:00pm | People of St. Cletus Purgatorial Society |
| Sunday | 7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am | People of St. Cletus John Gil Geraldine Okkema, Virginia Shepler Paul Bentley |

Altar Servers 
January 13/14

- 5:00pm - T. Callahan, B. Kelley, D. Clarke
- 7:00am - Q. Collins, J. Cripe, M. Gray
- 8:00am - N. Gallivan, J. Doyle, A. Smith
- 9:30am - J. Newman, A. Driscoll, B. Okkema
- 11:00am - R. Bogolin, T. Christopher, J. Flach

Rest in Peace

Please pray for those who have died and their families:
 ...Nannette DeNapoli
 ...Mary Macjolek, aunt of Michael Walsh

Possibilities

Faith makes all things possible – it does not make them easy.

-Anonymous

Auxiliary Minister Schedule

Saturday, January 13, 2007

- 5:00 PM**
- LR Pawlowicz, Rita-
 - SM Wouk, Dolores- C1 Sheridan, Erin-
 - B2 Burke, Jack C2 Burke, Ruth
 - B3 Ryva, James- C3 Hockman, Susan-
 - B4 Delaloye, Joe- C4 Wouk, Dolores-
 - B5 Bazec, Betty C5 Bamberger, Mary
 - B6 Zaremba, Elizabeth C6 Loch, Len-

Sunday, January 14, 2007

- 7:00 AM**
- LR Bellisario, Janet-
 - SM Karch, John
 - B2 Karch, John
 - B3 Karch, Terri
 - B4 Fahey, Ann-
 - B5 Nault, Helen-
 - B6 Meade, Maggie-



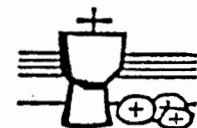
- 8:00 AM**
- LR Rapacki, Sandy
 - SM Stamm, Richard C1 Borsilli, Helen-
 - B2 Hagen, Jim C2 Hagen, Colleen
 - B3 Kuchta, Ann- C3 Welch, Jerry-
 - B4 Stamm, Barbara C4 Stamm, Richard
 - B5 Ford, Mary Beth- C5 Anfield, Therese-
 - B6 Ghera, Alicja- C6 Bliss, Georgia-

9:30 AM

- LR Dalsin, Pat-
- SM Opila, Andy C1 Dillane, Jennifer-
- B2 Keating-Gay, Susa C2 Choney, Marlene-
- B3 Micek, Dan C3 Micek, Judy
- B4 Opila, Margo C4 Opila, Andy
- B5 Burke, Kevin- C5 Hullinger, Shirley
- B6 Kelliher, Karen C6 Kelliher, Larry

11:00 AM

- LR Pisone, Mary Lou
- SM Dunkovich, Alice- C1 Mangahas, Auror
- B2 Schump, Cathy- C2 Gebka, Mary Lu-
- B3 Maday, Josephine- C3 Ficaro, Jennie-
- B4 Nash, Sheila- C4 Dunkovich, Alice-
- B5 Heyes, Stuart C5 Heyes, Marlene
- B6 Augustyn, Ron C6 Drago, Irene-



The collection amount for December 31 is not available due to the early printing of the Canticle this week.