

# ST. CLETUS CHURCH

## Rectory

**600 W. 55<sup>th</sup> Street  
LaGrange, IL 60525  
[www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com)  
[www.stcletusschool.com](http://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<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. 55<sup>th</sup> 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**

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 6:27-38

*Luke's gospel this week has Jesus challenging us to do some very difficult things. "To you who hear, I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." All of these things are much easier said than done. In our everyday lives we don't often find these responses to be our normal reaction to people who mistreat us. The challenge of Jesus is not an easy thing for us to hear. Retaliation is the natural instinct in dealing with an enemy or someone who wrongs us. But Jesus insists in the gospel that we not only love our enemies, but that we do good to them, bless them, and pray for them.*

*Jesus reminds us that the true promise here is that God will deal with us as we choose to deal with others. If we forgive, we will be forgiven. If we reach out with gifts to the poor and vulnerable, "giving to everyone who asks of you," the Father will pour an overflowing abundance of divine gifts into our laps.*

*The question for you and me this week is what can we do to make ourselves more open to Jesus' challenges in today's gospel? What feelings within ourselves do we need to ask God to help us remove to more fully open our hearts to this radical way of thinking? Does the gospel say we have a choice to do it differently? The answer is NO. Jesus says one's enemies must ALWAYS be seen as neighbors and be loved. I don't know about you, but I still need God's help and grace in these areas! May today's Eucharist bring us all one step closer to meeting these difficult challenges!*

### Lent 2007

*I don't know about you, but it is hard for me to believe that we are about to begin our Lenten journey already. It must be a sign that I am getting older because the days appear to fly by lately. Our emphasis this Lent will be "Embrace the Challenge of Conversion."*

*Luke's gospel today, even though difficult to hear and even more difficult to put into practice, is so appropriate in leading us into our Lenten goal to "Embrace the Challenge of Conversion." Lent is about this type of conversion in our lives.*

*Instead of fasting from some favorite food during Lent let us FAST from not loving our enemies, from judging others, from looking for something in return when we give to others, and from revenge in our thoughts and actions to those who wrong us. Let us use this Lent to seek CONVERSION of hearts and minds which will bring us closer to Jesus' call to "love our enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked." This indeed would be our ultimate response to our Lenten call to: "EMBRACE THE CHALLENGE OF CONVERSION."*

Peace,  
Fr. Bob



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

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2007

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; CARNIVAL SUNDAY  
The true spirit of celebration

When the Pharisees criticized Jesus for his eating and drinking, he responded that indeed there is a time for feasting just as there is a time for fasting. On Carnival Sunday we celebrate this spirit. *Carnival*, which derives from the Latin word for “farewell to meat,” encourages us to enjoy those earthly gifts, such as meat, from which we will soon abstain. While it is tempting to extend this pre-Lent invitation to feast into self-indulgence, the church calls us not to oppose our feasting and our fasting, but connect them. In feasting today, we know the delight of the sacrifice that we will live out with our own bodies. The enjoyment of our gifts is truly a preparation in love for Christ, to whom we dedicate our Lent.

TODAY’S READINGS: *1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38*

*“Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.”*

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19 PRESIDENTS’ DAY The spirit of authority

Good leadership takes great courage, the ability to face challenges that others may not be able to handle. In today’s gospel, when the disciples were unable to heal a boy with a particularly difficult problem, all the people turned to Jesus for help. He was able to help, and when asked how, he answered that certain challenges can only be met with prayer. As we observe Presidents’ Day, we are aware that people today continue to face great challenges in their daily lives and look to their leaders for courageous and wise assistance and guidance. It is the responsibility of each of us to engage in the process by which our leaders are elected and held accountable. Are they serving us well? Only we, the people, can answer that question.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Sirach 1:1-10; Mark 9:14-29*

*“All wisdom is from the Lord, and with him it remains forever.”*

## TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 MARDI GRAS Eat, drink, and get ready

It’s traditional to indulge oneself on this “Fat Tuesday” before the lean weeks of Lent to come. In a way, at least the idea of self-indulgence makes a kind of sense, because it points us to the fact that the Lenten season we begin tomorrow does the opposite: It helps us to get out of ourselves, to reach out to God and others. Today would be a good time to take a deep breath and reflect a bit about what Lent means, and in particular what it will mean to you this time around.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Sirach 2:1-11; Mark 9:30-37*

*“For the Lord is compassionate and merciful; he forgives sins and saves in time of distress.”*

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21 ASH WEDNESDAY Welcome to the journey

Of the two “big seasons” of the year, Advent and Lent, Advent has more the feel of getting ready for something: celebrating the birth of Christ. And while Lent has a little bit of a similar sensation—getting ready for Easter—in this season, how you get there is just as important as the destination itself. Lent is a process we enter into.

If this time has a theme, it’s conversion. Sure, you’re already religious. We’re not talking about converting to a religion. Rather, this season calls you to *reconvert* and recommit to your faith. The mark of ashes works as a sign—to yourself as much or even more than to others—of this recommitment. The “practices” of

Lent—fasting, prayer, almsgiving—are there to help you focus and become more prayerful and generous. Embrace this journey today.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18*

*“See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!”*

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 CHAIR OF PETER, APOSTLE Chair of the fisherman

In pre-Christian Rome, this day was celebrated as “Ancestors’ Day.” People remembered their departed loved ones, particularly their parents. Later, Christians in Rome began to celebrate this day in memory of Saint Peter, their “founding father” and first bishop. The Chair of Saint Peter is an ancient wooden chair believed to have belonged to the first bishop of Rome. Today’s feast honors the unity of the worldwide church and its teaching authority. This authority has given popes the ability to speak out for human rights and against injustice, which they have done with increasing frequency in the past century. Dip into the social teachings of recent popes, and you will find them surprisingly forthright and progressive on many issues.

TODAY’S READINGS: *1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19*

*“Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! My Father in heaven has revealed this to you.”*

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

FEAST OF POLYCARP, BISHOP, MARTYR  
A long and fruitful life

Polycarp died around the year 155 at the age of 87, so he was a very early Christian who came to adulthood while some of the original apostles were still alive. The apostle John appointed Polycarp bishop of the city of Smyrna (now Izmir in Turkey), where Polycarp faced many challenges during his long years in office. Christians were a persecuted minority, while most of the population still worshipped the Roman gods. During one persecution, Polycarp was captured and, even though very advanced in age, sentenced to be burned at the stake. But tradition has it that the flames would not burn him, so he was stabbed to death. His remains are entombed with honor in the church of St. Ambrose in Rome, and his long life of service to the early church is remembered each year on this day. The name *Polycarp* means *many fruits*. May all of our lives be as fruitful!

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15*

*“The wedding guests cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they?”*

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24 SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY The right response

William James said there are only three requirements to changing your life: 1. Start immediately. 2. Do it flamboyantly. 3. No exceptions. These commands appear extreme and unattainable and perhaps lack a certain humility. But, the Gospel of Luke tells us of one man, a tax collector named Levi, who spared no steps and asked no questions in his conversion. We are told only that upon Jesus’ command, the sinner said nothing but “got up, left everything, and followed him.” Where is the flamboyance? Well, upon leaving everything, Levi gathered a crowd of sinners and gave them a great banquet in the company of the Lord, so that they all might hear his Word. This Lent, recall the change of Levi.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32*

*“Jesus said to the tax collector Levi, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up, left everything, and followed 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

## (2) Religious Education Reminder

Classes will not be held on February 18/19 and February 25/26. Classes will resume on March 4/5.

Pat Kahl.

Director of Religious Education

### Fr. Pat's

### \$30,000 Super Raffle

### Ticket Sale This Weekend

### 11 Ways to Win with One Ticket!

### Grand Prize Drawings April 6, 2007

1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$20,000

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$5,000

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$3,000

Plus

10 Chances to win \$200 in weekly drawings started February 4, 2007

Only 600 tickets sold; each ticket is \$100

More information,

Contact Paul Goetz at

[paulgoetz@jp2newman.com](mailto:paulgoetz@jp2newman.com)

Proceeds support the UIC Newman Center!

## Thank You!

...to the parishioners of St. Cletus from all who benefit from our monthly Food Pantry. The struggle to pay bills and provide food and shelter for their family continues for many people in our community...and our monthly Food Pantry helps to ease some of their worries. Because of your continuing generosity we were able to serve 100 families this month.

We are now gearing up for our March food distribution. Remember our staples include rice and dry pinto beans; peanut butter & jelly; pasta & pasta sauce; soup and meals in a can; canned fruit & vegetables; tuna and macaroni & cheese; cereal, paper goods and any size diapers. We greatly appreciate all in-date non-perishables. Because this will be the food pantry closest to Easter, you might want to include some Easter candy in your donation. Just drop off your contributions in the back of church. Thanks again!

Mary Beth Ford  
Social Concerns

## It's Cookie Time!

Experience the refreshing taste of Thin Mints or the delicious mix of the peanut butter and chocolate Tagalongs! Yes, Girl Scout cookies will be for sale after all Masses next weekend in the church vestibule, so don't forget your wallets! Cookies are \$4 per box and funds raised will benefit the St. Cletus Girl Scouts. Cookie donations may also be made to the St. Cletus Food Pantry and are 100% percent tax deductible! Come meet some of the St. Cletus Girl Scouts – and enjoy a cookie or two!

Laurie Severino

## Please Pray for

...our sick in your prayers: Bobby Ashby, Zack Sperka, Marguerite May, 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 Krolecki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Scott May and Jackie Zaccari. Also pray for our parishioners who are homebound and unable to attend Mass.

## Stewardship

Stewardship shows us how to live as disciples of Jesus. We start by acknowledging all that we have is from God.



February 11, 2007

<b>Budgeted revenue:</b>	<b>\$29,061</b>
<b>Collection received:</b>	<b>25,931</b>
<b>Shortfall last week:</b>	<b>- 3,130</b>
<b>Revenue to budget</b>	
<b>Shortfall for this fiscal year:</b>	<b>- 89,315</b>
<b># Of envelopes mailed:</b>	<b>3,291</b>
<b># Of envelopes returned:</b>	<b>885</b>

Thank you for your continued support.

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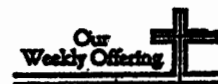
Laurie Severino

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## JOIN US IN OUR LENTEN PROJECT

This year the students in the school and religious education programs are collecting money for the Heifer Project as a change from our usual Lenten Operation Rice Bowl collection. The Heifer Project is an international project begun in 1944 that has helped more than seven million families in more than 125 countries improve their quality of life and move toward greater self-reliance.

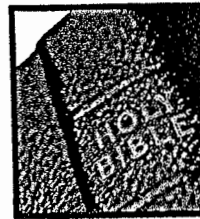
The program works like this. In the back of church, you will find a cardboard "Arc" to fold to make a bank much like the rice bowl bank. Next to the "Arc", help yourself to a calendar of activities to work on during Lent. These activities are designed to remind you of how many blessings you have in your life. If you do not wish to use the calendar, you may just place the "Arc" on your table as a "Sacrifice Offering Bank" for Lent. We ask that on Palm Sunday, or during Holy Week, you return your "Arc" to us. Our collective money will be counted and we will purchase animals for families around the world in need. Our goal is the Gift of an Arc, which costs \$5,000. It includes 2 trios of rabbits, 2 trios of guinea pigs, 2 flocks of geese, 2 flocks of chicks, 2 llamas.

More information about the Heifer Project will be in the Canticle every week. You may also go to our parish website ([www.stcletusparish.com/religious/](http://www.stcletusparish.com/religious/)) and click onto the Heifer Link.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

## L E N T E N



## Soup & Substance

*Join us for a simple meal and an evening of reflection to feed your soul and receive strength for your Lenten journey*

**Wednesday, February 28, 2007 - 7:00pm to 9:00pm**

**St. Cletus Parish - Morrissey Hall**

**(Enter at large doors)**

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

**Be a Table Hostess:**

We will provide a table, tablecloth, six to eight chairs, and coffee for each hostess.

Each hostess will provide the Lenten table decorations, place settings, and a simple Lenten meal (soup, salad, bread) for her five to seven guests.

**Be a Guest:**

If you are an individual and would like to be seated at a table of friendly women, several hostesses have room at their table and would love to have you as their guest. Please call and we will find a spot for you.

**Suggested Donation: \$20 per person**

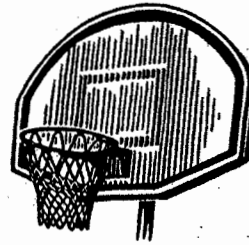
Make Checks Payable to: LC Pastoral Services

Reservations required by February 21, 2007

Contact Karen McDonnell by phone

(708) 482-9218 or via email [chichigby@aol.com](mailto:chichigby@aol.com)

## MARCH MADNESS IS COMING TO ST. CLETUS



All you basketball fans and St. Cletus fans get ready because March Madness is quickly approaching. On Saturday, March 24, 2007, the St. Cletus Athletic Association is having its annual Silent Auction and Dinner Dance, so save the date.

In a few weeks, you will be receiving your invitation for a night of madness.

In the meantime, if anyone would like to donate any items to the silent auction, please contact Tracy Flannery at (708) 352-1755. Also we are always looking for extra helpers, so if you want to be part of putting together a memorable night come to the next Athletic Association meeting or call Tracy Flannery.

Dig out your old college sweatshirts or basketball gear and get ready for a night of fun!

### Buying Gas or Groceries?

The School Manna Moms will once again be offering gift cards/certificates for purchase through the MANNA Program after all Masses next weekend, February 24/25, in the church vestibule. It is a convenient way to purchase gift certificates for several stores without the hassle of driving and waiting in lines. MANNA is an ongoing fundraising program offered weekly through the St. Cletus FSA. The FSA purchases these certificates at a discount, sells them at face value and the difference is the profit for St. Cletus School. Gift certificates for the following stores will be available: Speedway, Shell, Jewel, Dominicks, Kohls, AMC Theatres, Best Buy, Menards, Home Depot, Fannie May, Borders, Bath & Body Works, Blockbuster, Ledo's, Via Bella, Noodles, Chipolte, McDonalds, Home Run Inn, Starbucks, TJ Maxx and Toy's R-Us. Order forms will be available at the MANNA table on the days of purchase. Any questions? Please call Caryn Dombro at (630) 789-8560 or Lisa Heim at (708) 354-4257.

### We Are Our choices!

The Earth Charter is a declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable, and peaceful global society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Study the Earth Charter together on February 28 and March 7, 7:30 - 9:00pm, in the Courtyard Room of St. Francis Xavier Parish (124 N. Spring Avenue, La Grange) Rectory. Facilitator: Sr. Pat Bergen, CSJ. \$5 per session. To register call the rectory at (708) 352-0168.

### Mother-Daughter Tea

#### "God's Plan for Growing Up" Program for 9-12 year-old Girls

Sunday, March 4, 2007

3:00 - 5:00pm

Catholic Charities, St. Vincent Hall,

721 N. La Salle, Chicago

(free parking available)

An afternoon Tea will be served. This program explores God's special gift of human fertility and the beauty and wonder of growing up and becoming a woman.

Fee: \$30 per Mother/Daughter. Space is limited. Reservations are required, and must be received by February 23. Questions or to register, call Family Ministries, at (312) 751-8351. A registration form is also available online at [www.familyministries.org](http://www.familyministries.org).



## Mass Intentions for the Week of February 19 – February 25

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society – Stacy Baker, Marguerite Taylor, Brother Robert Fisher
Tuesday	8:00am	Bob Cowdrill, Eva & Stanley Grabowski
Ash Wednesday	6:30am 8:00am 9:00am 3:30pm 6:30pm 7:45pm	Dr. Martin Weik Joseph Kvikowski People of St. Cletus Prayer Service Purgatorial Society Spanish
Thursday	8:00am	Charles Daley
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Joseph Megla, Joseph J. Idzik, Lou Kadlec
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Michael & Barbara Maly People of St. Cletus
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Nick Lonero, Jr., Mario & Emilia Rattin Chester Stelmach Geraldine Okkema Bennie M. Carnevale, Sandy Fisher, Paul W. Bentley

### Readings for the Week

Monday:	Sir 1:10; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58-9b-14; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

### Altar Servers

#### February 21 - Ash Wednesday

6:30am - N. Dentamaro, N. Lobraco, C. Callahan
8:00am - J. Ward, B. Franklin, C. Usher
3:30pm - M. Garvey, K. Tosheff, C. Mosquera
6:30pm - A. Pusatera, J. Jaskierski, K. Kages

#### February 24/25

5:00pm - M. Garvey, K. Tosheff, C. Mosquera
7:00am - A. Pusatera, J. Jaskierski, K. Kages
8:00am - M. Bruce, A. McQuillan, E. Maldonado
9:30am - N. Dentamaro, N. Lobraco, C. Callahan
11:00am - J. Ward, B. Franklin, C. Usher

### Rest in Peace

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

...Helen Wadas, mother of Ronald Wadas  
...Mary Ellen Mason, mother of Mary Anne Mason  
...Gerard W. Meister, father of Nancy Vedra

### Auxiliary Minister Schedule

#### Saturday, February 24

##### 5:00pm

SM Judy Micek  
B2 Dave Beales  
B3 Alfreda Guide  
B4 James Ryva  
B5 Dan Micek  
B6 Kathy Boyer

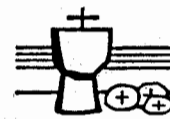
LR Ellie Augustine  
C1 Joe Delaloye  
C2 Nadine Beales  
C3 Susan Hockman  
C4 Judy Micek  
C5 Rich Chlapecka  
C6 Marge Richards

#### Sunday, February 25

##### 7:00am

SM Dolores Wouk  
B2 Dolores Wouk  
B3 Geri Hinton  
B4 Ann Fahey  
B4 Mary Ann Mezan  
B6 Carol Pogar

LR Mike McDonnell



##### 8:00am

SM Marcie Kalata  
B2 Pat Dalsin  
B3 Carol Biesadecki  
B4 Helen Borsilli  
B5 Maggie Kensek  
B6 William Thornton

LR Peter Okkema  
C1 Ann Okkema  
C2 Annalyse Dorio  
C3 Bob Biesadecki  
C4 Marcie Kalata  
C5 Catherine Warren  
C6 Madeline Thornton

##### 9:30am

SM Andy Opila  
B2 Jeannine Nolan  
B3 Karen Kelliher  
B4 Karen DalPorto  
B5 Marlene Chaney  
B6 Shirley Hullinger

LR Tom Reisel  
C1 Cathy Schump  
C2 Carole Caruso  
C3 Larry Kelliher  
C4 Andy Opila  
C5 Margo Opila  
C6 Laurie Severino

##### 11:00am

SM Jackie Wiley  
B2 Harry Fisher  
B3 Rita Brannigan  
B4 Paulette Bolton  
B5 Terri Herzog  
B6 Mary Lu Gebka

LR Mary O'Dowd  
C1 Celine Hoskins  
C2 Shirley Severino  
C3 Alice Dunkovich  
C4 Jackie Wiley  
C5 Ron Augustyn  
C6 Susan Keating-Gay