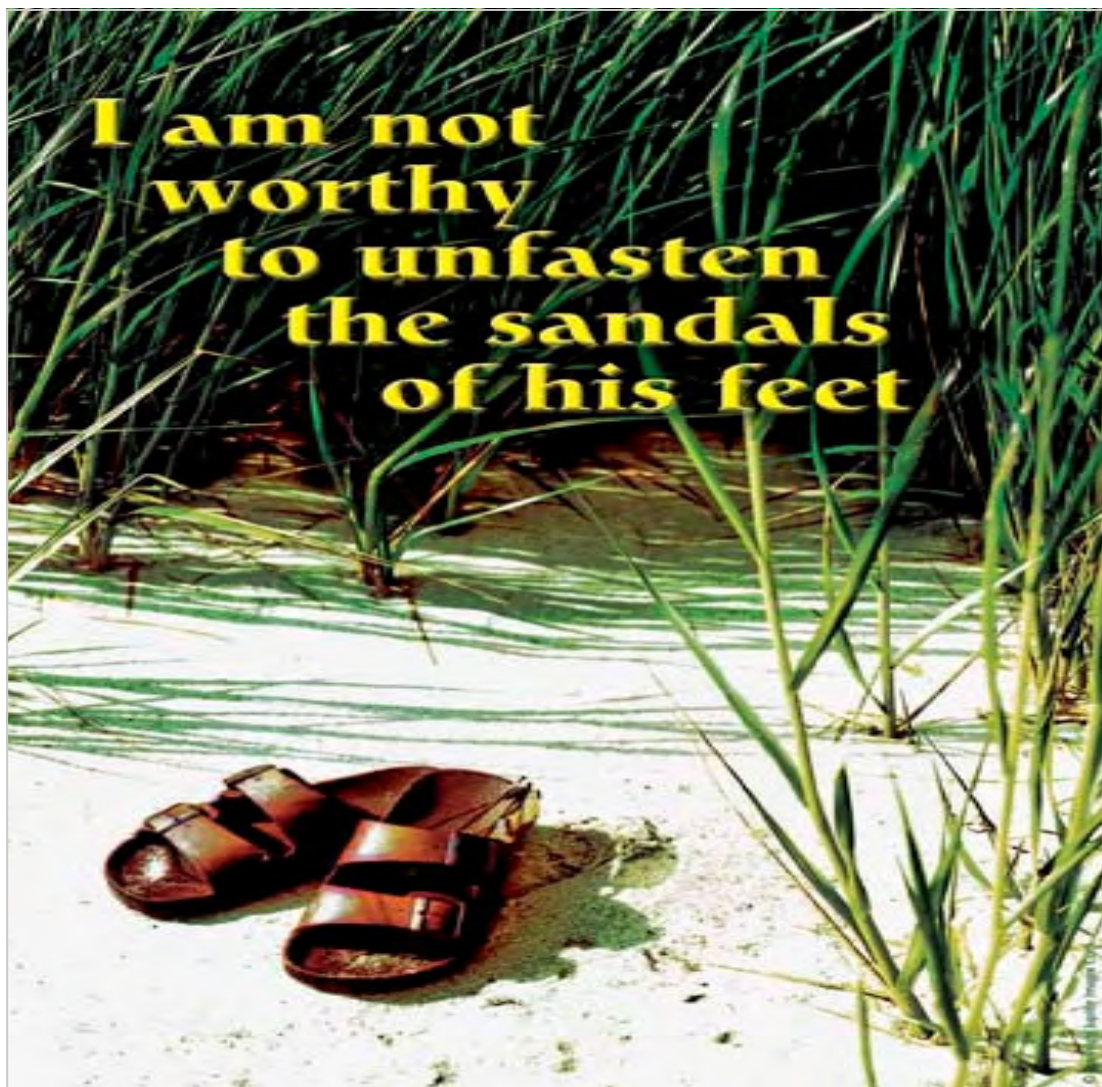


St. Cletus Canticle

June 24, 2007

Nativity of John the Baptist



600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708 352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



**All are welcome. Handicapped parking is located in front of church.
Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers/greeters.**

Mass Intentions for the Week of June 25 - July 1

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Louis Kadlec
Tuesday	8:00am	Joseph Megla, Patrick & Judy Gleason
Wednesday	8:00am	Catherine Meyers, James Cummings
Thursday	8:00am	Christine Cihak
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society, Betty Benson, Ted Dronski, Sr., Rae Frances Moscicke
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	People of St. Cletus James & Catherine Ellis, Ed Smithy
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Alfredo Dante, Howard Madsen Samuel J. Dallis, Loretta Bleau, Jerome "Harry" Gembara Raymond Tobolski, Angeline Ronzani, Camille Serpico John Pavlik, Ethel McNeil, Ray Janikas, Larry Pena



June 30—July 1

5:00pm - N. Smith, K. Sipek, B. Franklin
 7:00am - B. Lively, A. Dostal, J. Chervinko
 8:00am - K. Kages, E. Maldonado, R. Mitchell
 9:30am - G. Valdes, T. Lenz, A. Bartucci
 11:00am - R.E.

Auxiliary Minister Schedule

Saturday, June 30

5:00 PM	LR
SM Bolton, Paulette	C1 Kensek, Maggie
B2 Burke, Ruth	C2 Burke, Jack
B3 Ryva, James	C3 Bamberger, Mary Ann
B4 Guide, Alfreda	C4 Bolton, Paulette
B5 Boyer, Kathy	C5 Richards, Marge
B6 Beales, Nadine	C6 Beales, Dave

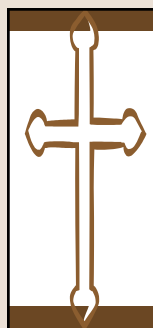
Sunday, July 1

7:00 AM	LR
SM Swindall, Toni	
B2 Swindall, Toni	
B3 Swindall, Vic	
B4 Loch, Len	
B5 Fahey, Ann	
B6 Mezan, Mary Ann	

LR McDonnell, Mike

8:00 AM	LR
SM McCartney, Sandra	C1 Goethals, Kyle C2 Dalsin, Pat
B2 Parlier, Jon	C2 Parlier, Denise
B3 Hogue, Kay	C3 Warren, Catherine
B4 Dillane, Jennifer	C4 McCartney, Sandy
B5 Biesadecki, Carol	C5 Biesadecki, Bob
B6 Kuchta, Ann	C6 Stopka, Sharon

9:30 AM	LR
SM Pfeiffer, Irv	
SM Opila, Margo	C1 Nicossia, Christine
B2 Micek, Judy	C2 Micek, Dan
B3 Stumreiter, Earl	C3 Horak, Veronica
B4 Opila, Andy	C4 Opila, Margo
B5 Bartucci, Carol	C5 Zupanic, Robert
B6 Thuma, Mary	C6 Gleich, Sharon
11:00 AM	LR
SM McCaffray, Paul	C1 Spizzirri, Susan C2 Chaney, Marlene
B2 Haggerty, Frank	C2 Hagen, Julie
B3 Brannigan, Rita	C3 Schump, Cathy
B4 Gebka, Mary Lu	C4 McCaffray, Paul
B5 Provan, Jim	C5 Provan, Karen
B6 Ficaro, Jennie	C6 Hagen, Emily



Please pray for those who have died and their families:

† *Lorraine Olszewski*,
mother of Bob Olszewski

† *Dennis Joseph Delaney*
father of Mary Delaney

Welcome to Our Parish Family...

Mikayla Katherine Mills
daughter of William & Nicole

Madison Lynn Kraus
daughter of Eric & Stephanie

Sophia Rose Imielski
daughter of David & Jennifer

Wedding Banns

Christine Kwak and Glenn Pacek
 Megan Moran and Jack Hynes
 Mary Patricia Murphy and Matt Ramirez
 Paula Baner and Michael Osterhout



FR. BOB'S UTTERINGS

Nativity of St. John the Baptist June 24, 2007

The feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist is celebrated on a Sunday in the church calendar only every six to seven years. The last time it appeared on a Sunday was in 2001.

Several months ago, George Weigel, biographer of Pope John Paul II, wrote a newspaper column in which he recalled an interview that the French journalist Andre Frossard conducted with John Paul II. When Frossard asked the pope what is the most important word in the New Testament, John Paul II immediately responded, "Truth." Weigel then wrote, "The truth sets us free in the deepest meaning of human liberation. And from that spiritual liberation, much good can come."

We might have expected that John Paul II would respond "Jesus" to the journalist's question. That was certainly presumed. In fact, Jesus described himself as "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). But the pope's response was not strange. Jesus tells us the deepest truths about God, self, others.

Biblical prophets and their modern successors proclaim that same truth. John the Baptist told his contemporaries the truth. Some were grateful for his message and others resented him deeply, eventually murdering him.

People can seek truth apart from God, but ultimately the truth must lead us to God.

Summer Projects

Thank you all so much for the wonderful response to the summer projects requests. You will notice additional envelopes in the pews if you have lost or misplaced yours. Envelopes for July and August will be mailed directly to your homes. May God continue to bless each of you for your commitment and generosity.

You will notice that a large dumpster has been placed at the rear entrance of the school. One of the recommendations made by the visiting team when our school went through the School Improvement Plan (SIP) this last year was that we reduce some of the clutter in our classrooms. The dumpster is present to help us accomplish this task. The school is also replacing, in each classroom, one wall of deteriorated 55 year old blackboards with new dry mark boards. The old blackboards are unusable and will go into the dumpster. We have also been cleaning out many years of clutter in the old choir loft and have removed the old moldy carpet which has gone into the dumpster. The floor of the choir loft has been painted with new epoxy paint so it can easily be taken care of and kept clean. This area will continue to be used for storage of church supplies.

New Shrine—Madonna della Strada

I am pleased to announce that we have received over \$18,000 in donations toward our new church shrine. I have heard that the new statue is about to be shipped from Italy and hopefully we will have the shrine ready to be dedicated and blessed sometime in August. Thank you to everyone who has donated to this wonderful new prayerful area of our church. If you would still like to donate to this cause please feel free to contact the rectory for further information. Our goal is \$20,000.

Blessings Always,

Fr. Bob



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

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2007 SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST — One great guy

There are only three births that are honored in the Christian calendar with their own feast days: the births of Jesus, Mary, and John the Baptist. What do the three have in common? They are the holy ones of our tradition who were “filled with the Spirit” even before their births. The angel Gabriel announced that many would rejoice at John’s birth (Luke 1:14), and Jesus himself praised John as the greatest person ever “born of women.” What made John so great? Many attributes, not the least of which was his courage. In the tradition of the great prophets, he was willing to “speak truth to power,” even when it cost him his life. We do well to honor him and the prophetic tradition he represents.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Isaiah 49:1-6; Acts of the Apostles 13:22-26; Luke 1:57-66, 80*

“All who heard of these things pondered them and said, ‘What then will this child become?’”

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Quick to judge

If you were to stop and notice how many times you judge people on a given day, you might be surprised at the sheer number. How many times do you criticize the person rather than only what they did or said? Or said something in their absence you would never say to them in their presence? Or fault them for a shortcoming you are also guilty of? Most of us would not like—or be able to withstand—the judging we do of others.

Jesus’ teaching on this point is pretty clear: The right to judge is God’s alone. If you do not want judgment to circle back on you, then don’t judge others. Don’t usurp God’s prerogative and thus make yourself vulnerable. And if you do have to point out an error to another, make sure you are aware of your limitations first.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 12:1-9; Matthew 7:1-5*

“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.”

TUESDAY, JUNE 26 — The way can be narrow

When the saints go marching in, who will be in the parade? Some would have us think only a select few will walk the road to salvation. Others feel their own unworthiness will send them permanently to the row of spectators. Still others think the road so wide that everyone will make it in the end, however they lived.

The decision about who gets to go to God is ultimately up to God. It’s not for us to guess the inner workings of the divine mind or put fences around God’s mercy. The difficulty is not in figuring out who gets saved but in meeting the challenge of doing what God wants for us. Fortunately the gift of scripture and 2,000 years of church tradition show us the way.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 13:2, 5-18; Matthew 7:6, 12-14*

“For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27 — Prophet statements

You won’t see “Prophets Wanted” in the classified section of the newspaper. It’s not a formal job title anymore as it was in the ancient world. We still, however, have many voices clamoring for our attention. Ads, the internet, entertainment, good causes, bad causes, late-night infomercials for get-rich-quick schemes or miraculous weight-loss products—all of these voices want to bend our ears and capture our eyes for a moment, usually to try to persuade us to shell out our money. But true prophets speak for God and have very important messages for us indeed. And Jesus had a simple way to figure out the real prophets from the false ones, even when the latter come in attractive garb. Do their prophecies come true? Do

they lead people to good or to evil? Ask yourself, Where are the real prophets today? Where can you hear their voices and listen to their words?

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Matthew 7:15-20*

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.”

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

FEAST OF IRENAEUS, BISHOP, MARTYR

The peaceable kingdom

Irenaeus, the third-century bishop of Lyons, was one of the first people to set down the basics of Christian belief. He also emphasized the importance of tracing beliefs back to the apostles—indeed he was separated from the apostles by only two degrees: His teacher Saint Polycarp was a disciple of the apostle John. His major surviving work, *Adversus Haereses—Against the Heretics*—defined doctrine by way of opposing the Gnostics. But he did not deal with the erring in a heavy-handed way. According to the early church historian Eusebius, his “name means ‘peaceable’ and . . . by temperament [he] was a peacemaker.” Before becoming a bishop he had gone on a mission to the pope recommending merciful treatment for another groups of heretics, the Montanists. Saint Irenaeus offers us a model of firm but forgiving faith.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 16:1-12, 15-16; Matthew 7:21-29*

“Everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock.”

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

SOLEMNITY OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

The odd couple

Two people couldn’t be more different than Peter and Paul, who came from very different backgrounds and had very different gifts. But here’s something they shared that we don’t often hear about on their feast day: They both did great damage to the cause of Jesus at some point in their lives. Peter denied Jesus three times on Jesus’ darkest night, and Paul spent his early years zealously persecuting Jesus’ followers. So next time you do something that you are not proud of, remember that Jesus came “to save sinners, not the righteous,” and keep striving to do better. If Peter and Paul could end up as great saints and heroes of the faith, there is hope for us all!

TODAY’S READINGS: *Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18; Matthew 16:13-19*

“Jesus asked his disciples, ‘Who do people say that the Son of Man is?’”

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

I am not worthy

“Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.” These well-known words from the Communion Rite come from the gospel. They are first spoken by a centurion of all people—a Roman military officer, an outsider, a pagan—who, it turns out, believed more strongly than Jesus’ own followers in the power of his mere word. Unfortunately, their very familiarity makes it less likely that we realize what we’re saying. The next time you say these words before receiving the body of Christ, think about what they really mean, and what might be possible if we meant what we said.

TODAY’S READINGS: *Genesis 18:1-15; Matthew 8:5-17*

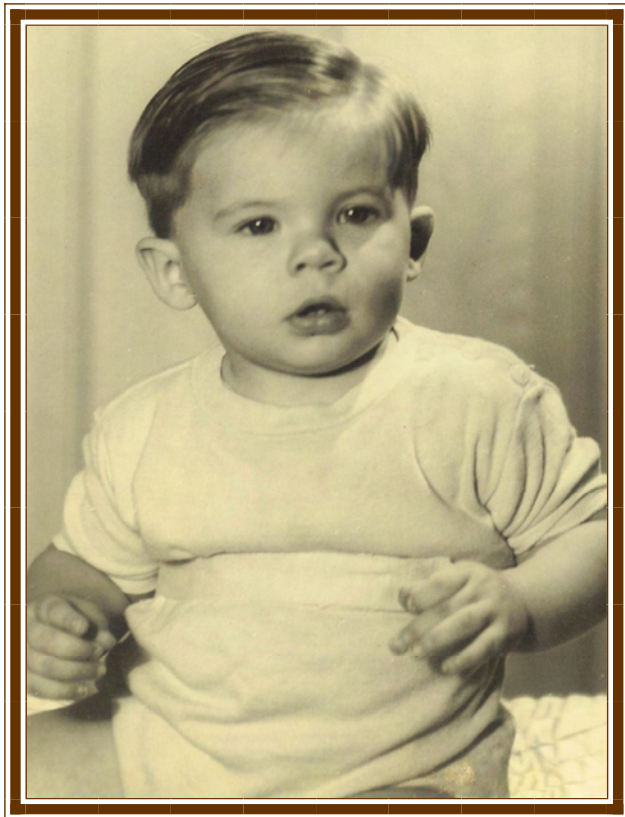
“To the centurion with the sick servant, Jesus said, ‘Go; let it be done for you according to your faith.’”

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

Guess Who?

THIS CUTE LITTLE BOY TURNED
60 YEARS YOUNG THIS WEEK.
CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS IS?



Catechists Needed:

Jesus says, "They call me Teacher. With YOU I will walk and talk. I will guide you. Listen! Believe! Trust! I will take you on a journey, known and unknown to you. Respond! Share my life and love with those you meet along the way!"

Let the journey begin, call the Religious Education office at (708) 352-2383 to find out more details about the catechetical ministry. I am waiting to hear from you!

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Congratulations!



The following students will be receiving Holy Eucharist for the very first time on Sunday, June 24, at the 11:00am Mass.

- Abran Nunez
- Emmanuel Nunez
- Yecenia Nunez

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Youth Ministry News

Great America is on July 25! Bring your high school friends and have a great day! Buses will depart at 12:30pm from St. John of the Cross. Permission slip forms can be downloaded from our website at www.stcletusparish.com/youth and turned into the Youth Ministry Office by July 16.

Reminder! We have been playing coed 16" softball on Sunday evenings at St. Cletus Parish for all high school teens. "Pick up" games are played from 6:30-8:00pm. Drop off on 54th & Spring Ave. Bring a bottle of water and appropriate attire. Hope to see you there today!

Put Your Faith Into Action Interfaith Community Partners Volunteer Training

For people who want to serve older adults through visitation, telephone reassurance or providing assisted transportation. Open to all!

When: Sunday, June 24, 2007
12:15 to 3:30pm

Where: St. Cletus Church
600 W. 55th St.
La Grange, IL

A light lunch will be served.

Registration and Questions: (708) 482-6597



St. Cletus School has limited openings available for the 2007-2008 school year.

In addition to our first through eighth grade classes, we offer:

Preschool: Our preschool classes meet for half days-3-pre on Tuesdays and Thursdays; our morning 4-pre class on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and our 4-pre afternoon class Monday through Friday.

Kindergarten: We offer both half-day and full-day programs.

Before and Aftercare Programs are also available.

Please contact the school office at (708) 352-4820 for information on openings for specific programs. Our website: www.stcletusparish.com/school is always available for information on the school and registration forms.

Jolene Hillgoth
Principal



Independence Day Mass Honors Veterans

On Wednesday, July 4, at our 8:00am Mass we will once again honor veterans of all branches of military service. We invite those who have served our country to wear a piece of their military uniform or some insignia that represents their service, and to sit with their fellow veterans in a place of honor in our church. The Mass will include a procession of the military flags carried by local veterans, and our musical "Salute to the Services" performed by a 40-piece band under the direction of Mr. Ed Ward. A light reception will be provided on the parish grounds following the Mass. Please join us to honor our veterans on this special day!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Monday: Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time
Wednesday: St. Cyril of Alexandria
Thursday: St. Irenaeus
Friday: Ss. Peter and Paul
Saturday: The First Holy Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church; Blessed Virgin Mary

Items Needed for Compassionate Care Ministry...

The Compassionate Care Ministry has begun delivering Care Baskets to our bereaved families, and we are in need of baskets about 10" in circumference. We could also use foil-packaged tea (any flavors), clear undecorated cellophane gift bags (medium and large), white tissue paper, and books of postage stamps for our card mailings.

Please leave items in the box marked Compassionate Care Ministry in the Minister's Room in church.

If you have any questions, please contact Rita Pawlowicz at (708) 839-0848 or email her at ritapawl@yahoo.com. Thank you for blessing our bereaved families with your care, compassion and love!

Christian Giving



June 17, 2007

Budgeted revenue:	\$29,061
Collection received:	23,907
Shortage for this week:	- 5,154
Revenue to budget	
Shortfall for this fiscal year:	- 133,026
# Of envelopes mailed:	3,291
# Of envelopes returned:	865
Thank you for your continued financial support.	



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Rosemary Sylvester, Anna Mae Sica, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Mary Jane Taylor, Robert Orrico, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach

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, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Connie Kostecki, Jonii Patterson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Rose Ptak, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Emil Chlapecka, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourke, Debbie Broz, Scott May.



MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00PM

**Sunday: 7:00AM, 8:00AM, 9:30AM,
11:00AM, 6:00PM (Spanish)**

Monday: 8:00AM

Tuesday: 8:00AM

Wednesday: 8:00AM

Thursday: 8:00AM

Friday: 8:00AM

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00PM

Holy Day: 6:30AM, 8:00AM, 9:00AM

Weekdays: Monday thru Saturday: 8:00AM

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 (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 (215-5407)

CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday of the month 4:15-4:45PM

Rectory Office Hours

Monday:	8:00am-7:00pm
Tuesday:	8:00am-7:00pm
Wednesday:	8:00am-7:00pm
Thursday:	8:00am-7:00pm
Friday:	8:00am-7:00pm
Saturday:	9:00am-7:00pm

Bulletin Articles

The deadline for Canticle article submission is 5:00pm Friday, **one full week** prior to Sunday's publication. Articles may be submitted electronically to canticle@stcletusparish.com.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark

Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill

Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins

Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Gallagher

Pastor Emeritus

Rectory Staff

Bobbie Kallal

Director of Pastoral Services & Operations

Michele O'Brien

Director of Financial Operations

Patricia Drobny

Nora Gardner

Rectory Receptionists

Rectory Office

352-6209

Pastoral Staff

Maria Arias

Director of Hispanic Ministry

352-4856

Paulette Bolton

Director of Worship

352-4834

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Youth/Social Concerns

352-4641

Debbie Lestarczyk

Director of Facilities & Grounds

215-5405

Justin Sisul

Director of Music

352-4547

Christopher Wagner

Director of Technology

352-8597

Dolores Wouk

Director of Ministry of Care

215-5407

School Staff

Jolene Hillgoth

School Principal

Lynda Connelly

Assistant Principal

Denise Parlier

Administrative Assistant

School Office

352-4820

Religious Education Staff

Patricia Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Mary Lee Krieger

Administrative Assistant

Religious Education Office

352-2383

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS