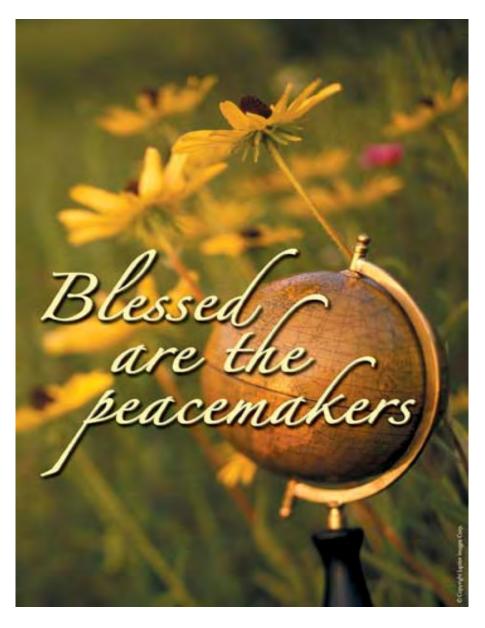


St. Cletus Canticle

February 3, 2008

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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 February 4 - February 10, 2008

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Andrew Schlidt, Stella Kadlec, Anne Bresnahan
Tuesday	8:00am	Barbara Lezak, Nan Rettig
ASH Wednesday	6:30am 8:00am 9:00am 3:30pm 6:30pm 7:30pm	People of St. Cletus Walter Roger School Mass Prayer Service People of St. Cletus Spanish Mass
Thursday	8:00am	Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family, Stefan & Paulina Slobodnik
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society—Stephen P. Butkovich, Jonii Patterson
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	People of St. Cletus Deborah Schaefer, Michael Sanderson, Peter Venute, Dennis Kutta
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am	Frank Wojcik People of St. Cletus Michael Arpaia, John Hovorka Rose Ann Kozelka, Karen M. Wilson, John Hovorka, Georgeanne McCusker, Sarah Tuohy - Special Intention - Joyce & Oliver Field - Special Intention

Auxiliary Minister Schedule

Sat	Saturday, February 9, 2008				
	5:00 pm	LR	Demonte, L		
SM	Bolton, P	C1	Bozec, B		
B2	Beales, N	C2	Beales, D		
ВЗ	Boyer, K	C3	Sheridan, E		
B4	Hockman, S	C4	Bolton, P		
B5	Bartucci, C	C5	Kensek, M		
В6	Delaloye, J	C6	Loch, L		
Sunday, February 10, 2008					
	7:00 am	LR	Hagen, J		
SM	Hagen, C		_		
B2	Hagen, C	J			
В3	Hagen, J	1	- 3/// /		
R4	Parlier, D	V			

	Q.OO om	
6	Mezan, M A	. M
5	Parlier, J	
4	Parlier, D	
3	Hagen, J	(° 3 \
2	Hagen, C	

DO WIEZZII, WIA	,
8:00 am	LR Okkema, P
SM Micek, J	C1 Okkema, A
B2 Kigin, B	C2 Kuchta, A
B3 Borsilli, H	C3 Samuelson, D
B4 Hullinger, S	C4 Micek, J
B5 Welch, J	C5 Thuma, M
B6 Curotto, L	C6 Stopka, S



Wednesday, February 6, 6:30am SM Curnutt, R B2 Curnutt, R B3 Kwak, T B4 Severino, L B5 Sipek, S B6 Bolton, P	ister Schedule 2008 LR Bolton, W	ASH WEDNESI PRAYER SERVICE 3:30pm SM B2 Andrews, D B3 Chaney, M B4 Hinton, G B5 Hogue, K B6 Zupanic, R	
8:00am SM Dunkovich, A B2 Karch, J B3 Bozec, B B4 Wouk, D B5 Horak, V B6	LR Reynolds, C C1 Walsh, MJ C2 Karch, T C3 Saban, J C4 Dunkovich, C5 Bliss, G	6:30pm SM Bolton, P B2 Manhagas, A B3 Nilles, C B4 Gebka, M L B5 Heyes, S B6 Kessler, T	LR Pisone, M I C1 Koch, B C2 Nicosia, C C3 Gleich, S C4 Bolton, P C5 Heyes, M C6 Dillane, J

LENTEN PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

There will be various prayer opportunities during Lent. Please watch the Canticle for dates and times.

Paulette BoltonDirector of Liturgy.

February 9/10

5:00pm - J. Kern, A. Boland, D. Bowie

7:00am - B. Curtin, A. Dostal, N. Lobraco

8:00am - A. Anfield, N. Magats, M. Figura

9:30am - E. Maldanado, A. McQuillan, S. Frisbie

11:00am - M. Flannery, N. Gacek, J. Pristo

FEBRUARY 6, 2008 - ALTAR SERVERS ASH WEDNESDAY

6:30am - N. Smith, S. Patterson

6:30pm - M. Patterson, A. Sandoval, J. Pristo

Notes from Father Bob ...

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the Poor in Spirit."

When the Apostle Paul established the Christian community in Corinth, it was not long before internal problems erupted, and people began to vie with one another for status and self-importance. Paul has to write to them and point out how foolish they are to think and behave in this way. Boasting he says is such a foolish thing. No one in the world has got anything to boast about to God. No one has got any reason to get "on a high horse." As the Church's funeral liturgy so aptly puts it, "We brought nothing into this world, and we shall take nothing out of it." All we have, all we are, is the pure gift of God. We should see ourselves like that, and we should behave ourselves like that.

If we do have a boast, it is a boast that the entire world can share in – namely, to be part of Jesus Christ, the Lord. For, in the Son of God made man we have all the wisdom, all the virtue, all the holiness, and all the freedom we could ever want. Let that be our boast! Yes, in Jesus, the Lord, we have the man of the Beatitudes, the man of that great, revolutionary wisdom: the man who was first, and who made himself last of all, and least of all. Jesus, the man "who was humbler yet, ever to accepting death, death on a cross." But God raised him high.

This Jesus, this humble carpenter from Nazareth, sat on a hillside and spoke to the world about revolution. He took this world as we know it, and he turned it upside down. He did not overturn governments or powers. He did not alter systems or societies – at least, not politically, and not polemically. Nor did he boss people. No. He blessed them. "Blessed are you," he said.

When you open your eyes and see the world differently; when you open your heart and receive the world differently; when you open your mind and think of the world differently; then you will change, and the world will be different, and the kingdom of God will appear. The Beatitudes are not simply lovely words to be framed and put upon a wall. They are a practice for our daily life. They are wisdom, virtue, hand freedom. Now that is something to boast about!

FEAST OF ST. BLASÉ

Today, February 3, the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time is also the traditional day that we celebrate the Blessing of Throats in honor of St. Blasé. Therefore, we will a blessing of throats at the end of each Mass this weekend starting with the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass of anticipation Saturday, Feb 2. The blessings of the throats will take the place of the final blessing at each Mass. "Through the intercession of Saint Blasé, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness."

LENT 2008 — "MAKE ROOM FOR GOD!"

Our parish theme for this Lenten Season will be "Make Room for God!" Our Lenten journey begins this Wednesday February 6, 2008 with the distribution of ashes. The schedule for Ash Wednesday is as follows: 6:30 a.m. Mass with distribution of ashes following the homily; 8:00 a.m. Mass with distribution of ashes after the homily; 9:00 a.m. Mass (School) with distribution of ashes after the homily; 3:30 p.m. Prayer Service with distribution of ashes after the homily; 6:30 p.m. Mass with distribution of ashes after the homily; and 7:30 p.m. Mass (Spanish) with distribution of ashes after the homily.

PLEASE NOTE: ASH WEDNESDAY IS A DAY OF UNIVERSAL FAST AND ABSTINENCE IN THE CHURCH.

May we all truly "Make Room for God!" this Lenten Season!

Father Bob



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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2008

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME; WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

Practice makes perfect

World Day for Consecrated Life honors the witness of those who have chosen to follow Christ through the practice of the "evangelical counsels" of poverty, chastity, and obedience. These holy counsels have their roots in such gospel passages as Matthew 19:21 when Jesus says: "If you wish to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." Few Christians publicly vow to follow this fast track to holiness—and it is certainly not a requirement for discipleship. But Christians of every generation are enriched by the dedication, courage, and joy experienced by those called to consecrated life. Give thanks today for their example and recommit to your own path to holiness.

TODAY'S READINGS: Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12a

"Consider your own call, brothers and sisters."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

ORTHODOX CLEAN MONDAY

Spring cleaning

"The springtime of the fast has dawned, the flower of repentance has begun to open." So begins the celebration of Clean Monday for Orthodox Christians. On this day, the preparation for Lent begins with a service of mutual forgiveness. This cleansing of old grudges is probably a more fitting pre-lenten ritual than the more popular Fat Tuesday celebrations better known in the West. Take some of the weight off your spirit today with your own forgiveness ritual. Bury the hatchet by making a phone call, writing a letter, or visiting a grave.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20 "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!"

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

FEAST OF AGATHA, VIRGIN, MARTYR; SHROVE TUESDAY All that I am

It's stories like that of Agatha, a young virgin from Sicily (d. 251) who was tortured by having her breasts cut off, that make following in the footsteps of the saints seem so difficult, if not downright impossible. But what's often missing from popular accounts of the lives of saints is their ability to find God, and therefore joy, in all things—including those experiences that an observer might consider unbearable.

Today as we contemplate our own voluntary deprivations during the upcoming season of Lent, we can glimpse the inner peace that conquers hardship when our intention is, as Agatha put it, that "Christ possess alone all that I am."

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3; Mark 5:21-43

"Jesus said to the hemorrhaging woman, 'Daughter, your faith has saved you.' "

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

ASH WEDNESDAY

Reboot your spirit

Every year when Lent comes around we seek ways to "keep" the season more meaningfully. This year, try thinking of Lent as a spiritual reset button that lets you get back to the basics of being Christian. Push that button by praying today: "Loving God, you call us to yourself. As this holy season begins, help me to turn to you more often in prayer. Help me to remove from my life the things that make it hard for me to see you in

every moment and in all of your beloved creation. And lead me to become more generous with myself. Amen."

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

"Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY Life quiz

Some multiple-choice questions require no research whatsoever. When Moses sets life and death before the people and asks them to choose, the right answer is not obscure. When he likewise offers them blessings and curses, we know for sure which we would prefer. So why does human history so often swerve into the "death and curses" lane anyway? Because these options don't always come with truthful labels. Death-dealing situations arrive disguised as necessary evils, and curse-laden choices are sugarcoated with false promises. Discerning the true nature of things requires the Holy Spirit's guidance.

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25 "Today I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses."

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

FEAST OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, VIRGIN Let it begin with me

Kidnapped at the age of 9 from her village in the western Darfur region of Sudan, Saint Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) was sold and resold into slavery five times, until she finally gained her freedom and joined a religious order in Venice, Italy. Bakhita is venerated as a saint with a special connection to slavery and oppression. Her memoirs recount harrowing details of her experiences, atrocities matched today for many in her native Darfur, where perhaps 400,000 have died in recent years. We can dedicate this day to the cause of peace in Sudan. Visit www.savedarfur.org to learn how you can help.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matthew 9:14-15 "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to let the oppressed go free?"

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY - Repentance starts here

A common response to Lent is to "give up" something, which would be fine if we stopped there, but then we add things like chocolate, beer, or red meat. If we just stopped after "I will give up," perhaps we'd allow ourselves to stop battling with God, trying to hold on to old (and often comfortable but sinful) ways of living. Jesus' mission, he says, is to invite sinners to a change of heart, which can happen only if the sinner lets go, yields, if we give up our own ways and allow ourselves to fall into the hands of God.

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32 "I have come to call not the righteous but sinners to repentance."

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www.TakeFiveForFaith.com. Licensed for noncommercial use. All rights reserved. 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, and Patrice J. Tuohy

RCIA/RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This afternoon our Candidates will journey to Holy Name Cathedral to pray with Cardinal George and candidates from seven other parishes around the archdiocese as they deepen their commitment to the Catholic Church. Please remember our Elect and the Elect around the Archdiocese as they journey closer to full membership in the Catholic Church on Holy Saturday.

Did you ever wonder why we worship as we do? Why are our gifts bread and wine at Mass? Why should we go to Church? These questions and others will be addressed by Mr. Joseph Paprocki as he meets the 7th and 8th graders and parents of the St. Cletus Religious Education Program on Sunday, February 10. All are welcome to come and listen to wisdom, humor and faith-sharing the of Mr. Paprocki. Joe will begin his presentation at 9:15am and conclude at 10:45am in Morrissey Hall. I will welcome Joe and would love to welcome you too!

Pat KahlDirector of Religious Education

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The Rite of Election/Enrollment of Names for our Year II Confirmation Candidates will take place at the 11:00 AM Mass this Sunday, February 3. The purpose of this celebration is twofold: (1) The community tells the candidates that the church appreciates their participation in the preparation for Confirmation and wishes to express its continuing openness to, gratitude for, and support of the candidates; and (2) the candidates sign their names on a scroll as a sign of their appreciation for the community's support and as a pledge to enter in a more deeply personal way into the immediate preparation for the sacrament. Please keep our teen candidates in your daily prayers.

Amy CrannyYouth Director

SOCIAL CONCERNS

REMINDER: Thursday, February 14, is our next Food Pantry. Please bring your in-date nonperishables with you when you come to Mass. Food donation bins are located in the Madonna della Strada Shrine in the church vestibule. Thank you for remembering the St. Cletus Food Pantry when you do your grocery shopping!

Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns

Please take note: As my Boy Scout Eagle project I will be working with Troop 216 to provide Easter Baskets for distribution to client families at the March 13 Food Pantry. I am asking you to help us complete the task, by making specific donations, including baskets, materials such as grass, saran wrap, ribbon, and individually wrapped Easter candy. Please look for us next weekend, February 9-10, before and after all Masses. We will be in the church vestibule, handing out flyers listing what we need and collection dates/information.

Thank you for helping St. Cletus Food Pantry and many people in our community.

John Findley

LEISURE LOAFERS

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 7, at 1:00pm in Morrissey Hall. This meeting will feature a presentation by Tim Baker, a popular Chicagoland entertainer, followed by refreshments.

Plan on attending and do bring a friend. Come enjoy a fun afternoon. Hope to see you there!

Mary White

NURSES...

Are you looking for a way to share your expertise with your St. Cletus community? The Parish Nurse Ministry is seeking volunteer nurses to take blood pressures after the Sunday 9:30 and 11:00am Masses. The commitment takes a very short time but is much appreciated by our parishioners who are concerned about their health. Please contact Eleanor Mlot after the 8:00am Sunday Mass or call Clare Slowik (708-352-1296).



This Wednesday, February 6, is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be distributed at all liturgies. Our Mass schedule is 6:30am, 8:00am, 9:00am (school Mass), 6:30pm, 7:30pm (Hispanic Mass). A Prayer Service will be held at 3:30pm.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

<u>Abstinence</u> from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14-years-old and older on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound by all this may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength according to ones needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

EVERY PERSON HAS BASIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT FLOW FROM OUR HUMAN DIGNITY AND BELONG TO US AS HUMAN BEINGS.

Choosing a recipient for our Lenten almsgiving evolved from a concern of two of our 8th grade students, Marie Johnson-Dahl and Kendra Tosheff, and this Catholic Social Justice Principle. Through research Marie and Kendra discovered that although access to clean water is a basic human right,

- 1.3 billion people do not have this access.
- Every day, 34,000 people die from water-borne diseases due to unsanitary drinking water.
- More than half of Africa's people don't have access to safe drinking water.
 For us, getting a drink of water is as easy as turning on a faucet, but for many Africans, it means walking for miles, sometimes up to ten miles, just to get water, and often from an unsanitary pool or river.

Marie and Kendra believe that change is possible, and that our parish can make a difference. They discovered and contacted an organization, African Well Fund, a registered non-profit organization, dedicated to raising funds for building wells in Sub-Saharan Africa, and educating the public about Africa's need for improved access to sanitized water. Some more facts to consider as we answer Jesus' call to share our blessings are:

- The average cost of building a well there is about \$4,000-\$5,000.
- Each well can improve the lives of hundreds of people.

 The cost of not having access to clean water can come at a price far too high, at the expense of human lives, and often children's lives.

Special water bottles will be available in the Church vestibule during Lent for all families who wish to take part in this outreach. We invite families to bring in their donations weekly to pour into the well located in Church. Additional bottles will be available as needed. Each week we will provide a progress report in the Canticle, as well as educational facts. Let's work together as a parish to build hope...one well at a time. A visit to www.AfricanWellFund.org will provide even more information.

KELLY MALECKI - Replenishment Drive

In March of 2007, 4-year-old Kelly Malecki was diagnosed with medulloblastoma, an aggressive form of brain cancer. Tests confirmed that the tumor had spread to her spinal cord and another part of her brain. "I am so grateful for all of the donors that have kept Kelly alive that I wanted to give back to the community by hosting a blood drive", Kelly's mom, Ellen said. Now 5, Kelly has undergone her last chemo treatment and is hopefully on her way to recovery. You can brighten lives like Kelly's by donating blood...

Saturday, February 9, 2008
8156 S. Archer - Willow Springs, IL
Senior Community Center Activity Room
10AM to 3PM
To schedule an appointment contact,
Life Source at 847-803-7943
Appointments recommended
WALK-INS WELCOME!

Please remember our sick in your prayers: Freda Guide, Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Vincent Trauth, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash. Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Mary Jane Taylor, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Mike Patzelt, Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Marilyn Matesevac, Hunter Peters, Mario Cacilia Ziegler, Jackie Dudley, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Patty Johnson, Connie Kostecki, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Bridie Boyce, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Wilson, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourque, Debbie Broz, Scott May. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or homebound and unable to attend Mass. Please know we pray daily for our sick.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008

...immediately following the 8:00am Mass with Benediction at 6:45pm.

Adoración Noctuna continues until 8:00pm with song and prayer

Stewardship

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend	\$ 27,356
A Year Ago	26,356
This Fiscal Year (thru 1/27/08)	\$828,048
Last Fiscal Year (thru 1/28/07)	797.500

As always, we sincerely thank all who generously give of their treasure, as well as those who give of their time and talent, to support the work our parish does in the name of Jesus Christ.

PUT YOUT FAITH INTO ACTION

If you want to serve older adults through visitation, telephone reassurance or providing assisted transportation, Interfaith Community Partners is conducting a volunteer training session on Sunday, February 24 at St. Cletus School in room 213 from 12:15 to 3:30 PM. Open to all. A light lunch will be served. Registration and questions: (708) 579-8929. Or you may contact Mary Beth Ford for more information at (708) 215-5418 or mford@stcletusparish.com.

Please pray for those who have died and their families:

- † Barbara Thompson,
 Sister of Father Charles Watkins
- † Joe Lyons, Husband of Eloyse
- † Emil J. Chlapecka, Father of John Calt and Tom Chlapecka
- † Daniel Carlisle,
 Husband of Kathleen
- † Bernadette Sheehan
- † Annette Fracasso,
 Mother of Pat Samuel
- † John Patrick Line,
 Permanent Deacon at St. Cletus during the 70's.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 6:00pm (Spanish)

Weekdays: Monday thru Saturday: 8:00am

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00pm

Holy Day: 6:30am, 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.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

1st Monday of the Month immediately following the 8:00am Mass with Benediction at 6:45pm.

Adoración Nocturna continues until 8:00pm with song and prayer.

Rectory Office Hours

Monday thru Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm

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

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Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill

Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins

Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Gallagher

Pastor Emeritus

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