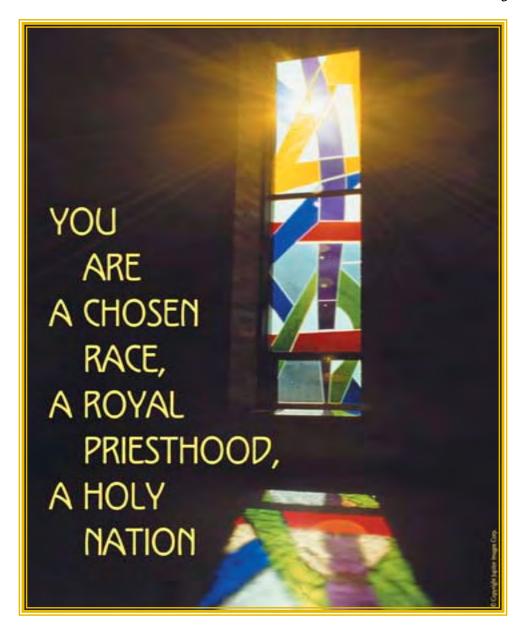


St. Cletus Canticle

April 20, 2008

Fifth Sunday of Easter



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 April 21 - April 27, 2008

Day	Time	Intention
Monday	8:00am	Stanley Pawlowicz
Tuesday	8:00am	Special Intention-Brendan Ahern, Special Intention-Brigid & Jim McCormick, Special Intention-Margaret McShane, George O'Connell
We <mark>dnesday</mark>	8:00am	People of St. Cletus
Thursday	8:00am	Joseph Vieceli, The Guide Family
Friday	8:00am	Ruth Wandtke, Michael Maly
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	John Stachura Robert Suchy, Barbara McQuaid, Ed Smithy
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Donald Wouk, John & Elsie Wagner Dr. Thomas O'Shea, Rose Mary Ptak Virginia Shepler Carolyn & Carrie Kopman, Joseph & JoAnn Schumann, Regina Dunn, Frank & Sophie Wadda Hispanic Priest's Intentions

AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF APRIL 26/27, 2008						
	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM	
SM	Micek, J.	Wouk, D.	Hullinger, S.	Dunkovich, A.	Hagen, C.	
LR	Augustine, E.	McDonnell,M	Dalsin, P.	Pfeiffer, I.	Pisone, M.L.	
B2	Delaloye, J.	Wouk, D.	Karch, J.	Burke, K.	Wiley, J.	
В3	Kalata, M.	Smith, D.	Biesadecki, C.	Horak, V.	Nilles, C.	
B4	Curnutt, R.	Smith, P.	Nicosia, C.	Nolan, J.	Hagen, J.	
В5	Nash, S.	Kessler, T.	Meade, M.	Stumreiter, E	Haggerty, F.	
В6	Ryva, J.	Sipek, S.	Kwak, T.	Schump, C.	Benkert, J.	
C1	Bamberger, M.		Hagen, J.	Severino, L.	Augustyn, R.	
C2	Reichl, M.		Karch, T.	Williams, A.	Samuelson, D.	
СЗ	Bozec, B.	7	Biesadecki, B.	Thuma, M.	Gebka, M.L.	
C4	Micek, J.		Hullinger, S.	Dunkovich, A.	Hagen, C.	
C5	Andrews, D.		Kuchta, A.	Meuwissen, J.	Garske, E.	
С6	Hockman, S.		Bliss, G.	Zupanic, R.	Benkert, K.	
Altar Servers	B. Stepuszek N. Lobraco D. Pett	N. Magats A. Goethals K. Meade	S. Patterson J. Rodriguez T. Murphy	A. Heslin S. Garvey A. Kopicki	M.Patterson M. Rincon J. Heim	

Wedding Banns



Veronica D'Amato and Danny Torgeson

Alma Lucia Rodriguez Romero and Fernando Lara-Flors

> Jennifer Jezek and Jeff Stanko

Kathleen Maley and Chris Ramoley

HEALING MASS

Mass for the Feast of St. Peregrine, the cancer saint, will be celebrated Sunday, May 4, at 2:00pm at the National Shrine of St. Peregrine, Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica. Persons with cancer and others seeking healing will be invited to come individually for a blessing with a relic of St. Peregrine at the conclusion of Mass. Our Lady of Sorrows is located in Chicago at 3121 West Jackson Blvd., adjacent to I-290, the Eisenhower Expressway. There is ample, secure parking at the rear of the Basilica. For more information, call (773) 638-5800, ext. 19.

Notes from Father Bob ...

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The time of the early Church was one of great ferment and growth. The speed of the development often clashed with the need to maintain the purity of vision. It is possible that the first letter of St. Peter is loosely based on a baptism homily, when a main concern of the preacher would be what it meant to belong to the Church. In baptism we are chosen by God, but what does this mean? It means that we are chosen to be like Jesus himself. He was rejected but was to be the cornerstone. Similarly, we may be rejected by the world, an all too common experience for the early Christians. But if we set ourselves close to Jesus, we shall be a holy priesthood of living stones. And our task as such will be to sing the praises of God who called us out of darkness into his own wonderful light. The readings from Acts and St. John's Gospel elaborate this choice still further. As the community expands, responsibilities have to be shared. The first deacons or servants of the community were selected to take on the practical concerns of pastoral care while the apostles dedicated themselves to prayer and to the service of the Word. The qualifications for this diaconate were summed up in the person of Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit. We need the same qualities to be active Christians. We are then true followers of our Lord, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The approaching feast of Pentecost is a time for reflecting on the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they help us create community. The "project" of the Church remains at different stages in different places. In Africa, for example, there is at present a sense of liveliness and growth, lots of vocations combined with a vibrant search as to how to be Christian in an African culture. But in so many African countries there is also the challenge of poverty and the prevalence of disease, asking difficult questions not just of Africa but of the whole world. In Europe and the West there is a general shortage of vocations and a strong attack on religion from the secularist perspective. Yet though there may be a decrease in numbers attending Sunday Mass, there is an overall increase in lay participation in church life and a growth in lay communities. In all these cases we are asked to listen to the Spirit so that we may respond as a priestly people. It is the responsibility of the whole assembly, not just the leaders, to make the decisions that will enable us to be followers of Christ in our world today. The debate takes place between the Lord who leads us to the Father and the world in which we live. It is always a shared conversation, where we talk to each other about where the Spirit is leading us and how he is calling us to follow our Lord here and now.

Our Parish Convocation Update

The Institute for School and Parish Development, which has been working with St. Cletus Parish and the Parish Pastoral Council throughout this past year, is working very hard at tabulating all the results of our Parish Convocation. They will meet with our Parish Pastoral Council for a final input session on April 29, 2008. Once they have completed this final input session they will be able to begin the work of developing their final report to our parish community.

It is planned that on June 3, 2008 our entire parish family will be invited to gather together and be presented with the completed report. The Institute for School and Parish Development will give us a power point presentation of the final conclusions and recommendations that have been generated as a result of this in-depth process of creating a Long Range Development Plan for our parish.

I would like to thank, on behalf of myself and your Parish Pastoral Council, all the parishioners who participated in this process. Your input has been most appreciated and valued.

Easter Blessings,
Father Bob



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

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - The view from here

People say the darnedest things when someone dies. They say, "God took him from us" or "God must've had a reason." But according to our faith, Jesus promised to rescue us from death. When, because of age or illness or injury, our mortal bodies can no longer sustain God's precious gift of life, Jesus promised to "come again" and snatch us from the jaws of death. The Bible says, "In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died" (Wisdom 3:2). God had a reason for giving us life. And Jesus has a reason for saving us from death. Death is not part of God's plan for us. Only life.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12 "I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also."

MONDAY, APRIL 21

EASTER WEEKDAY; FEAST OF ANSELM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH - Faith seeking understanding

Anselm of Canterbury, one of the few to be called a doctor of the church, was influential in rejuvenating the philosophical rigor of Catholic thought in the Middle Ages. Though Anselm's scholastic approach toward Christianity suffered criticism from those who felt he tried to replace faith with reason, the bishop always held that his inquiries into the nature of God sprung from an abiding love and desire for God. Anselm said, "I do not seek to understand in order that I might believe, but seek to understand because I believe." That's what people in love do. They ponder all the rare and unique qualities of their love for the sheer joy of the exercise. Follow Anselm's lead and devote your thoughts to God today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26 "The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send, will teach you everything."

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

EASTER WEEKDAY - Look for the open door

Saint Paul had reason to suspect his attempt to bring Christ's good news to the Greeks was ill-fated. Even after making a cripple walk again and astounding the crowds, the Jews stoned Paul and left him for dead. All we are told at that point is that he simply stood on his feet and proceeded into the city of Derbe to continue preaching. Perplexingly, when Paul and Barnabas then return to the church in Antioch, they celebrate the door of faith now open to the Gentiles. That is a peculiar "open door" indeed that leaves one stoned and left for dead! But when failure appeared nearest at hand, Paul found opportunity. Today, find in each of your failures and misfortunes an opportunity for God's grace to fill in.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a "Paul and Barnabas called the church together and related how God had opened a door of faith for the Gentiles."

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

FEAST OF GEORGE, MARTYR - The original dragon-slayer

Old maps would indicate the end of the known world with the phrase, "There be dragons here." It was a way of saying, "It's probably not a good idea to go there." In a legend of Saint George, he did not shy away from doing battle with a dragon. In the only story of a canonized saint fighting such a creature, he not only killed this menacing animal an army could not slay but also saved a princess, preached to the grateful people, distributed his reward money to the poor, and went on his way. Not a bad day's work.

What dragons of the unknown—of ignorance and the fear that accompanies it—can you slay? What good word or gift can you pass along as you go your way?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 "Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing."

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

FEAST OF FIDELIS OF SIGMARINGEN, PRIEST, MARTYR—A bono idea

Fidelis of Sigmaringen (1577-1622) was martyred during a time of great strife between Calvinists and Catholics in Switzerland. Fidelis had a special love of the poor, often giving away his warm clothing in winter. He studied law and was known as "advocate for the poor" because he took on the cases of people who had no one else to represent them. The "pro bono" tradition of free legal aid continues to this day. Legal aid societies in many communities help needy clients find lawyers who will represent them without charge. Consider supporting such a worthy cause in your community, in the name of Fidelis. Visit www.findlegalhelp.org, a website of the American Bar Association, for more information.

Today's readings: Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11 "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 - No worries

Worry: It's one of the hallmarks of the human condition. We worry about money and our jobs and whether our children will grow up to be happy, faith-filled adults. Or maybe we're anxious about a war, or the economy, or what's happening in the developing world. We know worry never helped a thing. It has never changed the course of events or averted a disaster or benefited our children. Why do we bother? "Habit" is one answer. "If we don't, who will?" is another.

We have to admit that there really are no good reasons to worry. Today, let's consider Peter's suggestion to "Cast all your worries upon [God] because he cares for you." Hmm. What would our day be like if we did just that?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20 "Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you."

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

EASTER WEEKDAY - Popularity can be fatal

While it's nice to hear the United States characterized as a *Christian* country, for Jesus' face to be on the cover of *Time* or *Newsweek* occasionally, for a film about his passion to be a hit—all of these things are ultimately superficial. For a while the crowds pursued Jesus like we pursue rock stars today, but religious and political intrigue and jealousy turned that same popularity against him. Jesus says the world will hate us, too, if we are clearly his disciples who take the part of the excluded, challenging power, speaking out against violence, and standing with those who have no one to speak for them. Feeling a little too much love? Maybe I'm headed in the wrong direction.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 "If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you."

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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

April 20, 2008 Fifth Sunday of Easter Page Five



SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2008

There will be a Blood Drive THIS Sunday in Morrissey Hall from 7:30am until 1:00pm. Remember that blood donors are needed every day for critically ill patients, accident victims, people needing surgery and those suffering chronic illnesses. The need is great so do a wonderful community service - DONATE BLOOD TODAY! All are welcome!

Clare Slowik

Parish Nurse

INVITATION TO SERVE AT THE LORD'S TABLE

If you are interested in becoming a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please call the Liturgy Office at (708) 352-4834 or the rectory, (708) 352-6209. Scheduling is based on your availability. We are always looking for friendly faces to help with ushering as well. Please consider one of these important ministries.

ST. CLETUS PARENTS...

Registration forms went home this week to students in the 6th & 7th grades with information regarding new server training dates. Altar Serving offers a wonderful opportunity to participate in the liturgy and parish service at a young age. Please encourage your sons and daughters to get involved.

Paulette Bolton

Director of Liturgy

FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for so generously answering our call for help in filling our shelves for the April food distribution! We do have a good beginning as we work towards restocking our shelves for the May 8, Food Pantry, but when we serve 140+ client families each month, we need to continuously replenish our staples. Here is the list of most needed items: Canned fruit, tuna, meals in a can/box, pasta and pasta sauce, dry pinto beans, rice, tomatoes/tomato sauce, paper goods and size 5-6 diapers. Extras include juice, coffee, cooking oil, crackers, powdered or evaporated milk. All indate non-perishables are greatly appreciated. Please drop off your donations in the food bins located in the Madonna della Strada Shrine in the church vestibule. Again, thank you for adding food pantry items to your regular grocery lists!

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

AVALANCHE RANCH BIBLE SCHOOL

WAH-HOO! We need YOU to serve as a ranch hand, ranch leader, or cook at the Ranch; that is, Avalanche Ranch, the St. Cletus Religious Education Bible School. The activities are all planned, we just need volunteers to present and participate in a week of unbelievable fun and adventure. Junior high students and ADULTS of any age are welcome to join the crew. The ranch opens on Monday, June 23, from 9:00am – noon. Call me at (708) 352-2383 for more information.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

HOLY NAME SOCIETY CELEBRATION!

Coffee and donuts will be served after the 8:00am Mass on Saturday, April 26, by the Holy Name Society. The special occasion? It's the Feast Day of *St. Cletus*, the third Pope, who legend says was a fan of the Catacomb version of the snack.

Past Presidents of the Holy Name Society will be honored at the Friday, May 2, annual dinner at Sawa's Old Warsaw Restaurant at 9200 Cermak Road in Broadview. Cocktails at 6:30pm and dinner is at 7:00pm. Cost is \$10. Bring an item for the raffle! Members should sign the list in the Ministers' Room or phone chairman Fran Callaghan by April 30.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you Lord for our church and our church family. Stir us up always to do your will and to be good stewards of all that we have. Amen.

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend	\$ 25,743
A Year Ago	23,925
This Fiscal Year (thru 4/13/08)	\$1,131,187
Last Fiscal Year (thru 4/14/07)	1,056,414

2008 Easter Collection

As of April 13, 2008	\$118,245
Budgeted	110,000
Easter 2007 Actual	112,350

This spring, it is interesting to think about how birds build their nests and prepare for the next generation. The mother bird lays her eggs in the nest, sits on them until they hatch, and then feeds, nurtures and teaches them until the younglings are ready to fly on their own.

We, as Christians, must do the same for our family: build and maintain a place for our children to be nurtured and grow as Christians. Our children certainly are the future and the church will continue to be a place for their spiritual nurturing. We need to do our best to be stewards of our time, talents and resources to provide that environment.

Just as we attend to our own "nests" at home, we must also attend to maintaining the spiritual nest necessary for the next generation of Christians to grow and flourish. When we volunteer our time, or give contributions and offerings to the church to fund programs and other issues, like a Mother bird, we are providing for our little ones, sustaining and nurturing the next generation of Christians.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS...

This meeting is for anyone who believes they have a drinking or drug problem and would like some help. All are welcome!

There will be a closed AA meeting every Thursday evening at 8:00pm, in the Education Building, Room 213. Please use the flag-pole entrance.

Religious Education End-of-Year Celebration

Do you feel like a celebration? Then come and join the Religious Education Families of our parish for our *End of the Year Religious Education Mass* on Sunday, April 27, at 12:30pm in Church. Join us as we celebrate God's blessings to conclude a great year and anticipate a wonderful summer. Following our Mass, walk over to Morrissey Hall and have an ice cream sundae. It will be a great day. Please, come and share in our joy.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Please remember our sick in your prayers: Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Robert Haws, Roy Laurence, Bernie Kelly, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, 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, Adrianne Welenc, Hunter Peters, Cacilia Ziegler, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Wilson, Gail Pankow-Locker, Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourque, Debbie Broz and Scott May. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass. Please know we pray daily for our sick.

MANNA NEXT WEEKEND

Manna will be available after all Masses next weekend, April 26/27. MANNA is an ongoing fundraising program through the St. Cletus FSA, which purchases gift cards at a discount, sells them at face value and the proceeds then go to the school. Think Spring! Consider using Home Depot gift cards for any home improvement projects you may be doing. Order forms will be available at the MANNA table the day of purchase. Any questions, please call Caryn Dombro (630) 789-8560 or Lisa Heim (708) 354-4257.

21st Century Women's Voices: Seeking Them, Listening to Them, Spreading Their Stories

Become a part of the emerging desire to build hope and courage for women. On Saturdays, April 26, May 10, May 24 and June 7, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., join Joan Krebs as she leads this interactive, thought-provoking and inspiring program to unite feminine voices so that they may be heard. In this series, held at The Well, 1515 W. Ogden Ave., LaGrange Park, men and women will work together to research, cooperatively introduce selected emergent feminine voices and collaborate to design response. The 2000 Madeleva Manifesto exemplifies feminine solidarity and virally growing global networking. Central and South American women clamor, "Never again without us!" and Mary Southard, CSJ, says, "If nations would be healed, woman's song must be sung." The offering for the series is \$10 per session plus the cost of the book. Advance registration is required. Register online at www.csjthewell.org or you can thewell@csjlagrange.org or call 708 482-5088 or 708 482-5048.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday: St. Anselm Tuesday: Earth Day

Wednesday: St. George; St. Adalbert Thursday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen Friday: St. Mark; Arbor Day





C Annika Nelson

THE WAY

Today we sense the apostles' trepidation as they begin to realize that the Lord would soon be leaving them. In their fear, they ask, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" (John 14:5). Jesus tells them that he is the way. The Easter season has been a time of growing in Easter faith so that we, too, may learn to know that Jesus is the way. We can take comfort in the Lord's promise that he is going to his Father's house to prepare a place for us, his chosen people who have been called out of darkness into God's wonderful light. As the paschal candle continues to burn during this holy season, let us remember that in baptism we were given the light of Christ. With Christ our light as the beacon lighting our way, let us march toward the glory of Pentecost.

Please pray for those who have died and their families:



May God grant her eternal rest.

Amen.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark

Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Neill Associate Pastor

Rev. Charles Watkins Associate Pastor Rev. Charles Gallagher

Pastor Emeritus

PASTORAL STAFF

Maria Arias

Director of Hispanic Ministry

352-4856 **Paulette Bolton**

Director of Worship 352-4834

Amy Cranny

Director of Youth Ministry

215-5419 Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk

Director of Facilities & Grounds

215-5405 Derek Sawicki

Supervisor of Maintenance

215-5406 **Justin Sisul** Director of Music

352-4547

Christopher Wagner Director of Technology

215-5420 **Dolores Wouk**

Director of Ministry of Care

215-5407

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Jolene Hillgoth School Principal Kathy Lifka Assistant Principal Denise Parlier

Administrative Assistant 352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Patricia Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Mary Lee Krieger Administrative Assistant 352-2383

RECTORY STAFF

Bobbie Kallal

Director of Pastoral Services

Michele O'Brien

Director of Financial Operations

Patricia Drobny Bulletin Editor Nora Gardner Rectory Receptionist 352-6209

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor - Rev. Robert Clark • Associate Pastor - Rev. Patrick O'Neill • Associate Pastor - Rev. Charles Watkins

Co-Chairpersons: Anne Babirak, Tom Finucane Recording Secretary: Sue Schiller

Worship Ministry: Sue Schiller, Jackie Wiley

Parish Representative: Joe Bamberger, Lori Ashe

Education Ministry: Anne Babirak, (School)

Sharon Gleich (Religious Education)

Development Ministry: Maggie Nelson, Tom Finucane

Hispanic Ministry: Tim McCormick, Marynez Llanes,

Ignacio Saavedra

Vice - Chairperson: Rita Mayer

Corresponding Secretary: Lori Ashe

Finance Liaison: Brian Kapusta

Youth Ministry: Barb Mitchell, Rita Mayer

Staff Representative: Jolene Hillgoth

Ministry of Care/Compassionate Care Ministry:

C. Rodger Brown, Xavier Polanski

Social Concerns Ministry: Maureen Soldat,

Jim Ryva

Technology Representative: Julie Lenz

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

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

Weekdays: Mon., thru Sat., 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.

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.