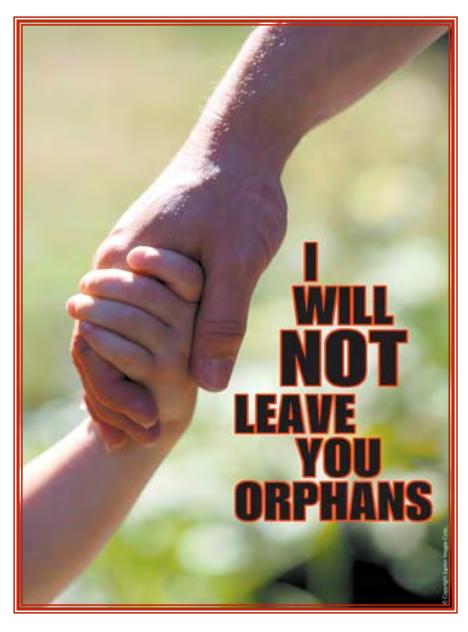


St. Cletus Canticle

April 27, 2008

Sixth 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 28 - May 4, 2008

Day	Time	Intention	
Monday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society	
Tuesday	8:00am	Brother Eamon Gavin, Christopher Wyczolkowski	
Wednesday	8:00am	Alice Vonesh, Katheryn Vonesh, Frank Wojcik, John Stewart	
Thursday	8:00am	Paulina Slobodnik	
Fr <mark>i</mark> day	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Nan Rettig	
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	Ronald Durso Robert Suchy, Stella & Fleix Gembala, Mary & Stanley Michniak, Helen & Bruno Blachowicz, Ed Smithy	
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Elwyn Seifert, Marco & Emilia Rattin Loretta Bleau, Frank Baggio, Sean Cusack Dolores Slowiak, Frank P. Walsh, Mrs. Lloyd, Betty Rhoads Barbara McDonnell, Bill Hoskins, Timothy Benrus, Elouise Prough, Rose Ann Kozelka, Dolores Slowiak, Elwyn Seifert Intentions of All Priests	

AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF MAY 3/4, 2008							
	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM		
SM	Swindall, V.	Stamm. B.	Koch, B.	Curnutt, R.	Bolton, P.		
LR	Pawlowicz, R.	Loch, K.	Dalsin, P.	Pfeiffer, I.	Pisone, M. L.		
B2	Burke, R.	Stamm, B.	Hullinger, S.	Maday, J.	Gleich, S.		
В3	Chlapecka, R.	Stamm, R.	Welch, J.	DalPorto, K.	Nash, S.		
B4	Swindall, T.	Kalata, M.	Curotto, L.	Samuelson, D.	Herzog, T.		
В5	Benkert, K.	Skupien, K.	Hogue, K.	Keating, Gay-S.	Fisher, H.		
В6	Beales, D.	Pogar, C.	Karch, T.	Hagen, C.	Haggerty, F.		
C1	Delaloyle J.	\wedge	Wiley, J.	Tosheff, C.	Mangahas, A.		
C2	Burke, J.	$\Lambda h \lambda$	Saban, J.	Hullinger, S.	Ficaro, J.		
С3	Boyer, K.		Chaney, M.	Nilles, C.	Hoskins, C.		
C4	Swindall, V.		Koch, B.	Curnutt, R.	Bolton, P.		
C5	Benkert, J.		Ford, M. B.	Burke, K.	Dunkovich, A.		
С6	Beales, N.		Karch, J.	Hagen, J.	Gebka, M. L.		
Altar Servers	D. Roll J. Kern A. McQuillan	B. Curtin J. Chervinko A. Pusatera	B. Lively J. Krecek T. Gray	K. Toscheff P. Kelley S. Rhoads	M. Tlusty K. Pikul D. Pett		

REMINDER...Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Please return your schedule questionnaires to the Minister's Room or the rectory as soon as possible. Anyone interested in participating in these ministries, please call me at (708) 352-4834.

Paulette BoltonDirector of Liturgy

Wedding Banns



Jennifer Jezek and Jeff Stanko

Kathleen Maley and Chris Ramoley



Fr. Joseph McGinnity, brother of Fr. Robert McGinnity, assigned to St. Cletus 1969-1976



May God grant them eternal rest.

Amen.

Notes from Father Bob ...

Sixth Sunday of Easter

All religions attempt to respond to the problem of suffering. Christianity's answer has always centered on the person of Jesus himself, the God who emptied himself to be like his creatures, to the point of suffering and dying on our behalf. Peter uses his example when trying to explain and encourage good Christian belief and practice. It is very human to get into violent argument in defense of cherished beliefs. Peter argues for a more peaceful approach. Right from the beginning people tried to attack Christians on the grounds that they were practicing strange and occult rites. It was a world in which such magic and superstitions abounded, so it is understandable that this new belief should immediately be confused with such excesses. To counter such mischievous misunderstanding, Peter counsels the giving of explanations with courtesy, respect and a clear conscience. Slanderous accusations lose their power when their victims are living transparently good lives. If God asks the victims to suffer still from such attacks, it is better to do so for living good lives than living badly. This is what Christ himself did. He was able to do so because he was empowered by the Holy Spirit. In a similar way, the Acts and John's Gospel argue, we who call ourselves Christian need to be empowered by the Spirit in the same way. It is not by our own strength that we live out the gospel. Both our understanding and the practice of our belief come through the Holy Spirit living within us.

There have been times in the past when we could take for granted that people in general had some knowledge of Christianity. The language of the Bible and its stories underpinned art and architecture, music and culture. In fact the western world used to proclaim itself to be Christian, even if it never practiced very well what it preached. But there are few countries now that could call themselves Christian in this way. There are few in which a knowledge of even the major events of the Christian story can be presumed. At a superficial level this means we can be laughed at for being Christian. It also means that we are more than likely to be misunderstood. In some parts of the world this misunderstanding reaches the form of downright opposition, physical oppression and persecution. The living out of the Christian message as exemplified in Christ himself is by no means over. Whether we are able to follow his example and live up to our belief depends on how far the gospel message is real to us. It is only if we really reverence the Lord Christ in our hearts and remain open to his Spirit that we will be able to continue to offer his gospel of love to all we meet. We do not follow Christ through our own strength. It is only through the mystery of his grace given in his Spirit that we too will be able to communicate his life serenely in both word and deed.

Altar Server Training

I am pleased to say that Father Charles and I have had the great pleasure of working with and retraining our dedicated Altar Servers over the past several weeks. We were both impressed with their attentiveness and commitment to this most important ministry at the altar. We have had the opportunity to review all the Mass parts with our servers and have been able to discuss and practice their role during the liturgy.

We are currently beginning the initial training of our new servers who are finishing up their 6th grade year in school. We have more than 35 new servers who have asked to be trained. They are very prayerful and excited about serving the Lord at His altar.

Once we have completed all re-training of our veteran servers and training of our new servers we will formally install them in the ministry of service at the altar. We look forward to presenting them to the entire parish community at one of our weekend parish liturgies. Please keep each one of these dedicated young men and women in your daily thoughts and prayers. Remember to thank God for their willingness to serve God's people at the altar.

Easter Alleluia Blessings, Father Bob



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

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2008

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - With you always

When Jesus was saying farewell to his disciples in the Gospel of John—praying that farewell, really, because what he had to say to them he said to God in prayer—he promised he would not leave them alone. He would send his Spirit, an Advocate, to be present to them until he returned. And lo and behold, at Pentecost it happened. Christ did not go away; he remained in a different form. So if you want to know what the Holy Spirit is, just think of it as Jesus' ongoing presence, which is always with you.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you."

MONDAY, APRIL 28

EASTER WEEKDAY - Come stay at my house

God has bestowed so many gifts on creation. In fact, the world is here in the first place because God's love overflowed—God wanted to share the divine love. God even sent Jesus and became human so as to invite people more deeply into life in God. So shouldn't the response to all this generosity be a generous one in which we welcome God into our lives, are open and inviting with God in prayer, and honor and care for our world and its creatures? Start opening doors today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26-16:4a "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home."

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

FEAST OF CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Catherine the great saint

Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) lacked formal schooling and died at a young age, yet she managed to become a counselor to popes and a renowned philosopher and theologian. Her many letters are considered a treasure of early Italian literature. She even achieved the rare distinction of being named doctor of the church, one of the first two women to be so honored in 1970 by Pope Paul VI (the other being Teresa of Ávila). Yet perhaps her greatest witness was her dedication to the ill and the poor, whom she served in hospitals and homes. She packed several saintly lives into her brief lifetime and provides us a lifetime of inspiration.

Today's readings: Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11 "But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?'"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

EASTER WEEKDAY - Religiously speaking

You hear a lot about how many people these days are "spiritual but not religious." That they pick and choose the pieces of their spirituality without much connection to organized religion. But recent surveys paint a different picture: More than half of Americans between the ages of 21 and 45 are not involved in religion. Any religion. They live without it, don't understand it, and think it's pretty much inhabited by the backward-thinking and occasional pathological examples they see in the news. This situation, however, does not call for condemnation but education and reaching out. Those who believe know that faith is a natural and even necessary part of life; in fact, it's the most important. So try to guide—gently—a "nonreligious" person to recognize the need for a loving God that's in all of us.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; John 16:12-15 "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city . . . I found . . . an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.'"

THURSDAY, MAY 1

EASTER WEEKDAY; NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER A day to pray

Today is our National Day of Prayer. It is a day whose roots reach all the way back to the Continental Congress of 1775, when the delegates declared that a day be set aside to pray for our fledgling nation. It has had an uneven history since then (largely because of our unease with "government-mandated" prayer), but some of our most illustrious presidents, including Washington, Madison, and Lincoln, were advocates for a day of prayer. Harry Truman finally signed the bill into law in 1952.

It's good to be reminded that our prayers are needed for the benefit of something larger than our own narrow circles of concern. Today, plan to set aside a few extra moments to pray for our country and our leaders.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 18:1-8; John 16:16-20

"Crispus, the official of the synagogue, became a believer in the Lord, together with all his household."

FRIDAY, MAY 2

FEAST OF ATHANASIUS, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH Trouble ahead, trouble behind

It was not unusual for Saint Paul to be hauled before courts and officials because of his preaching of the gospel. He had a way of stirring things up. So did Saint Athanasius, the fourth-century bishop of Alexandria in Egypt, who spent a total of 17 years in exile for defending the doctrine that Christ was both fully human and fully divine. God calls us to stick with our beliefs whatever the cost to our personal comfort zones. And as God did for Paul and Athanasius, God changes those costs into the blessedness of closeness to the divine.

Today's readings: Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23 "Very truly, I tell you . . . you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy."

SATURDAY, MAY 3

FEAST OF PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES Believing is seeing

How many times have we thought, "If I could just receive some sort of sign that I'm on the right track. If only I knew where I am going. If only I were sure!" When we find ourselves being caught up in these anxious thoughts, we have only to remember the apostles, the ones who were with Jesus from the beginning. To the very end of his life they weren't sure exactly who he was. They wondered, they questioned, they doubted. Nevertheless, they followed Jesus in spite of their uncertainty. There is no proof in matters of faith. In the realm of the spirit, "seeing is believing" holds no currency. To see, we must first believe.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14 "Philip said to Jesus, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' "

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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

MANNA THIS WEEKEND!

MANNA will be available after all Masses THIS weekend, April 26/27, in the church vestibule. 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. Order forms will be available at the MANNA table the day of purchase. Think Spring! Consider using Home Depot gift cards for any home improvement projects you may be doing! Any questions please call Caryn Dombro (630) 789-8560 or Lisa Heim (708) 354-4257.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS UPDATE!

St. Cletus Food Pantry has recently received a monetary donation from Church World Service (CWS). Here is an excerpt from their letter. "Dear Friends: On behalf of the La Grange/Western Springs CROP Hunger Walk, it's my privilege to share with you the enclosed check for \$1,193.95. This contribution to your work represents the commitment and compassion of CROP Hunger Walk volunteers, walkers, and donors, and is presented in recognition of the outstanding work you (St. Cletus Parish) are doing to help stop hunger and poverty in your community. Each year some 2,000 communities across the United States reach out in partnership to poor and hungry people, here and in some 80 countries around the world. And they take advantage of an option unique to CROP Hunger Walks—they elect to share up to 25% of what they raise with effective local hunger-fighting agencies such as yours. Last year more than \$4 million went to local agencies to help alleviate hunger and poverty in the United States." Many thanks to all parishioners who participated in the Fall 2007 Walk as walkers or as especially our Year 1 Confirmation Candidates! You made a difference!

FOOD PANTRY REMINDER: Please help...our pantry shelves are empty, and we still have 90-100 bags left to make for our May 8 Food Distribution! Staples we need most at this time include rice, dry pinto beans, meals in a can/box, jelly, canned fruit, pasta and pasta sauce, and tuna. Extras such as crackers, coffee, juice, boxed side dishes, evaporated or powdered milk, or any in-date non-perishables will help us fill the needed bags.

THANK YOU for your ongoing generosity!

Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns

WELCOME SUNDAY

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers. Registration is available next weekend, May 3/4, after the 5:00pm Saturday Mass and the 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am Sunday Masses.

Please stop by the back of church, say hello, and become members.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament Monday, May 5, and every first Monday of the month. Adoration begins immediately after the 8:00am Mass followed by Benediction at 6:45pm

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

THANK YOU PARISHIONERS!

I would like to thank all the St. Cletus parishioners who

donated to my Food Pantry Easter Basket Project. I was able to make 260 Easter Baskets with the help of the Troop 216 Boy Scouts. The project was a huge success due to the generosity of my St. Cletus Family. I would also like to give a special thank you to Mrs. Mary Beth Ford and Mrs. Debbie Lestarczyk for all their help and guidance. Again, thank you to all for your help on my journey to Eagle Scout. It has been a very rewarding experience.

John Findley

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

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 are 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.

Jim Matthews



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 Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Steve Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Zeman, Mary Jane Taylor, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Patzelt, Mike Richard Taylor, Rita D'Onofrio, Marilyn Matesevac, Adrianne Welenc, Hunter Peters, Cacilia Ziegler, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nadine Pankow, Nabor, 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.

St. Cletus Parish Family welcomed the following child to the Catholic Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend.



Owen Robert Hogan, son of Kevin & Christa (Sibr) Hogan

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED LUNCHEON

MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY will be celebrated by La Grange—Western Springs Church Women United on Friday, May 2, at the La Grange United Methodist Church, 100 W. Cossitt Ave., La Grange.

The theme for the day will be "God's Wisdom Inspires Hospitality." The celebration begins with a Bible Study at 11:00am. A salad luncheon will be served at 12:00Noon followed by a program at 1:00pm.

A Donation for lunch will be \$5. Call Mary White at (708) 246-0340 or Mary Torgler at (708) 246-1952.

Mary White



Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1, at 1:00pm in Morrissey Hall. We will play BINGO and have refreshments. See you there!

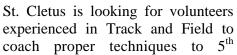
Mary White

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 7, 2008, 2:30pm at Holy Name Cathedral, 751 N. State St., Chicago.

Couples married in 1958 and interested in attending should contact our parish office at (708)352-6209 by June 6, 2008.

St. Cletus Athletics Needs You!



through 8th grade athletes during practice and track meet events. Anyone who participated in Track and Field in High School and/or College would especially be welcomed. This is a great opportunity for experienced high school students to fulfill service hour requirements.

If you have experience in High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump, Shot Put, Discus or Javelin, we would love your help. Field events practices are at LT South-Bennett field and begin at 5:45 and last about an hour. They are generally held 1 day a week; based on availability of the facilities. The meet season is 5 weeks long, held on Saturdays from April 19 to May 17; but field coaches are not required to attend meets.

Any person wishing to volunteer to work with the children of St. Cletus School are required by the Archdiocese of Chicago to attend and participate in a Virtus Training Session.

For more information, please email Athletic Director Lukasz Majewski, coaches Dan Kelley and Maureen Rhode or Athletic Association President Rob Luxem at athletics@stcletusparish.com.

BIBLE SCHOOL

I need some Cowhands – junior high, high school, college age, and any interested adults to help at the Ranch! I promise you a high energy week of fun and activity. So hop in the saddle and call me at (708) 352-2383. Perhaps you would like to lead the craft group, sing around the fire, pass out the "grub", share and be involved in our scripture stories, lead or games. Everything is planned and organized, we just need "hands" to lead us in our daily "chores." The fun begins on Monday, June 23, at 9:00am for one week. Staff training will take place during June.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

STEWARDSHIP

Remember that when you leave this earth you can take nothing with you that you have received - only what you have given: A full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage.

-St. Francis of Assisi

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend	\$ 27,379
A Year Ago	24,362
This Fiscal Year (thru 4/20/08)	\$1,158,566
Last Fiscal Year (thru 4/21/07)	1,080,776

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.

TALENTS

This is one of the most underrated areas of stewardship. So many of us are hesitant and even adamant about not sharing ourselves publicly with what ability we have. We are quick to say "I can't" or "I'm just a farmer or a factory worker and don't know anything else."

Nothing is further from the truth, and if we are willing to be used, the results may amaze us.

Earn Funds for St. Cletus

The parish is proud to announce CommUNITY banking with National City. Existing customers can simply link interest-bearing accounts to CommUNITY Banking number 407 and National City will match the interest paid with an annual payment to the parish. New checking and savings accounts also earn the parish funds by referencing the same number when opening new accounts. Find a flyer on the parish and school website by clicking the "fundraising" link, you can call the parish Dept. of Technology 215-5420, 708) or you can email communitybanking@stcletusparish.com more information or questions.

Chris Wagner
Director of Technology

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

(708) 352-4856 **Paulette Bolton** Director of Worship (708) 352-4834

Amy Cranny

Director of Youth Ministry

(708) 215-5419 Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

(708) 215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk

Director of Facilities & Grounds

(708) 215-5405 Derek Sawicki

Supervisor of Maintenance

(708) 215-5406 **Justin Sisul** Director of Music (708) 352-4547 **Christopher Wagner**

Director of Technology (708) 215-5420

Dolores Wouk

Director of Ministry of Care

(708) 215-5407

SCHOOL STAFF

Jolene Hillgoth School Principal Kathy Lifka Assistant Principal **Denise Parlier**

Administrative Assistant (708) 352-4820

Patricia Kahl

Director of Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Mary Lee Krieger Administrative Assistant (708) 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 (708) 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

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

Hispanic Ministry: Tim McCormick, Marynez Llanes, Social Concerns Ministry: Maureen Soldat,

> Ignacio Saavedra 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.