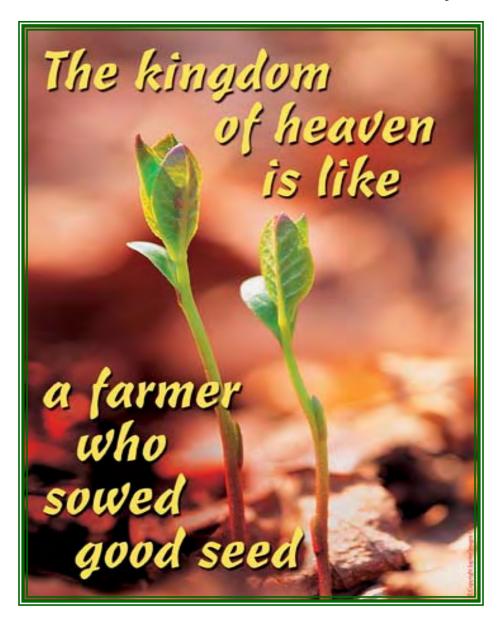


St. Cletus Canticle

July 20, 2008

Sixteenth 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 July 21 - July 27, 2008

Day	Time	
Monday	8:00am	Jozef Slowik, Francis Sciacca
Tuesday	8:00am	Joseph Vieceli, Millie McCarthy
Wednesday	8:00am	Mary Jane Taylor
Thursday	8:00am	Stanley Pawlowicz
Friday	8:00am	Rev. Robert Shannon, Margaret Lucente, Erik Geyer
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	People of St. Cletus Robert Suchy, Bernadette Sheehan, Mildred McCarthy, Leah Bond
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Bryde Carter Rose Mary Ptak, Arthur Dalton Dolores Slowiak Lenore Madden, Timothy Benrus, Carolyn & Carrie Kopman, Susan Knotek Hispanic Priest's Intentions

AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF JULY 26/27, 2008

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Benkert, K	Zmuda, R.	Micek, J.	McCaffray, P.	Dunkovich, A.
LR	Gallagher, J.	Bellasario, J.	Hagen, J.	Wehrmeister, R	Pisone, M.L.
B2	Benkert, K.	Zmuda, R.	Micek, J.	McCaffray, P.	Dunkovich, A.
В3	Bartucci, C.	Zmuda, L.	Kigin, B.	Bolton, P.	Chaney, M.
В4	Heyes, M.	Mezan, A.	Hagen, C.	Severino, S.	Ficaro, J.
В5	Rotunno, P.	Smith, P.	Karch, T.	Stumreiter, E.	Nicosia, C.
В6	Hockman, S.	Smith, D.	Hagen, E.	Maday, J.	Mangahas, A.
C1	Andrews, D.	^	Welch, J.	DalPorto, K.	Hoskins, C.
C2	Benkert, J.	Λiλ	Bliss, G.	Meuwissen, J.	DalPorto, K.
СЗ	Reichl, M.	72	Warren, C.	Nolan, J.	Mulderink, K.
C4	Heyes, S.		Hagen, J.	Nilles, C.	Herzog, T.
C5	Kensek, M.	4	Karch, J.	Dillane, J.	Brannigan, R.
С6	Bozec, B.		Hagen, Juli	Blecic, D.	Schump, C.
Altar Servers	J. Condotti A. Condotti M. Figura	K. Sipek J. Riccione R. Funk	M. Caplice M. McAtee B. Lively	E. McLaughlin C. McLaughlin S. Rhoads	T. DalPorto C. Oboikovitz E. Ashe

FREE WILL

We have nothing of our own but our will. It is the one thing that God has so placed in our own power that we can make an offering of it.

-St. John Vianney



Veronica Garcia & Julio Garcia

Regina Augustine & Junichi Sato

Shannon Morahan & Joseph Sedlacek

Maureen Casgrain Donnelly & Robert William Kruse, III

Please pray for those who have died and their families...



Richard Joseph Pitlik, husband of Marilyn Pitlik

Catherine M. Padgen, mother of Robert Wood

May God grant them eternal rest.

Amen.

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I don't feel that you have understood me." These words capture the difficulty we have in communicating to one another. It can be very hard at times to express our true feelings and experiences to another person, sometimes even to ourselves. James and Mary had been experiencing difficulties in their marriage. They did not seem to understand one another any more. Little irritations had begun to become major stumbling blocks in their relationship. Jane and her daughter were no longer able to talk to one another. They just didn't seem to understand each other any more. Maybe a long heart-to-heart talk would sort it out. At times like this, people turn to a counselor or seek advice from someone experienced in communication. If communicating with one another can be difficult, how easy is it to communicate with God? John says his prayers but sometimes he feels that they are only words and do not seem to express his deepest self.

St. Paul is aware of the difficulty of prayer and the struggle of putting into words the deepest desires of the heart. However, this is not cause of despair for him; rather it is an opportunity to trust in God. The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. Even when we think our prayer is inadequate and the words are not properly expressed, God knows what we want and grace perfects our human attempts. When the words are right, we gain insight into our need; perhaps this is more for our benefit than God's.

Growth in the spiritual life is like learning a new language. Prayer changes with age and maturity. As children, we learned prayers like the Our Father and Hail Mary. These words can become the starting point for a lifetime of reflection. The words of the Our Father sum up all the petitions of prayer.

When we pray "Our Father", we begin by recognizing that we are one human family, brothers and sisters in Christ who can address a common Father. Yet we each have a different experience associated with the word father. Different meanings follow. Hopefully, many have experienced a loving relationship with their father. Some have not been so fortunate and a few perhaps experienced violence or neglect from a father-figure. The scriptures remind us that each person's understanding of father is very limited. God the Father in the scriptures is revealed as one who is like a shepherd who seeks out the lost sheep, even if it is only one out of a hundred. The father is like an elderly man who runs out to welcome home his son who had left home and went off to see the world, fell upon hard times, spent all his money and returned home penniless. There is no word of recrimination, "I knew this would happen to you, you should have listened to me", but rather his words announce that there will be a party.

Sometimes it is difficult to articulate our deepest needs and the needs of others. God asks only that we do our best and recognize our dependence. Begin by praying in whatever way you want, God understands. Honesty is important. We might be afraid to tell God that we are angry or hurt. Only when we do this are we honest in prayer. By naming these feelings before God, we grow in the ability to pray.

God desires that each person will find his or her way back to the Father. God is waiting to embrace each person. It is never too late to repent. Jesus promised everlasting life to the repentant thief who asked for mercy; "Today you will be with me in paradise." This promise is there for each person. Jesus warns against the premature judgment of others and advises that judgment should be left to God. This scene does not sit easily in contemporary society. Whilst it may be necessary to send some people to prison as a result of crime, the gospel is a reminder that one of the aims of the criminal justice system is rehabilitation by repentance and conversion. Christians are reminded of this fact in the words of the "Our Father": forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. This is difficult; we pray for the capacity to do so.

Extraordinary Blessings during Ordinary Time, Father Bab



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

SUNDAY, JULY 20, 2008

INTERNATIONAL WORLD YOUTH DAY ENDS Tomorrow's leaders in seed form

Jesus may not get an A on his botany quiz (certain orchids have the smallest seeds, not the mustard seed he claims), but his point is clear enough: God is at work even (especially) in the small and powerless. During this week young people from around the world have been in Sydney with the pope. Why should the pope, like his predecessor, regularly spend time with the young rather than with the world's power-wielders? Like the Holy Father, we must see in our children not only those who need our care and protection for their happiness; we must see them as members of Christ's body in their own right. "Let no one look down on you because of your youth," Paul wrote to Timothy. No one is too young to carry the seed of faith, nor too old to bear fruit.

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43

"A mustard seed is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs."

MONDAY, JULY 21

FEAST OF LAWRENCE OF BRINDISI, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH The gift of a broken heart

In his *Personal Narrative*, the early American sermon writer Edward Fitzgerald reveals something important about love when he says, "I have greatly longed of late for a broken heart, and to lie low before God." It is unlikely any of us long for a broken heart. But to consider a broken heart a gift, Fitzgerald must have seen something akin to what Saint Lawrence of Brindisi approached when he wrote, "Love stirs itself from sorrow; and love itself is in equal measure lanced with sorrow." The lower we lie in sorrow, the further we can experience God's sacrificial love that comes down to us. Moreover, the pureness of our emotions when we are steeped in sorrow allows us to offer up to God a supple material for his grace. Instead of fearing your brokenness, offer it up.

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 6:1-4, 6-8; Matthew 12:38-42 "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

TUESDAY, JULY 22

FEAST OF MARY MAGDALENE Jesus is for everybody

Mary Magdalene was the first person in history to encounter the risen Jesus. That's pretty amazing when you consider that she was perhaps the lowliest of the disciples, mistrusted by the others. Why not the apostles Peter or John? They were also at the tomb that morning, had seen it empty, and had gone to tell the others. Jesus chose Mary precisely so that the possibility of such an encounter could be realized by everyone. Lowliness does not disqualify a person from discovering Christ. Ponder the empty tomb and you, too, can see the Lord.

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; John 20:1-2, 11-18 "Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord.'"

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

FEAST OF BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, RELIGIOUS See and hear God more clearly

In one of her many visions, Saint Bridget, the great Swedish mystic and patron of Europe, received instruction from the Virgin Mary about God: "Think on his justice and judgment in such a way that you do not forget his mercy, for he does not work justice without mercy or mercy without justice. The cloak is faith. Just as the cloak covers everything and everything is enclosed in it,

human nature can likewise comprehend and attain everything through faith." Duly inspired, Bridget worked tirelessly in defense of her faith and in support of the poor. Wrap yourself securely in the cloak of faith and come to understand God's justice and mercy more fully.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10; Matthew 13:1-9 "Whoever has ears ought to hear."

THURSDAY, JULY 24

FEAST OF SHARBEL MAKHLUF, PRIEST Inspiration from a hermit

The child of a mule driver, the Lebanese monk Saint Sharbel (1828-1898) ran away from home to join a monastery when he was in his early 20s. While a monk, he longed to live like the ancient desert fathers and in 1875 became a hermit, which he remained for the rest of his life. His poverty and prayer gained for him a reputation for holiness, and people sought him out for advice and blessings. His tomb still attracts pilgrims of all faiths. You may not want or need to head to the hills to find God, but you probably have ways you can simplify your life and make more room for prayer.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Matthew 13:10-17 "Thus says the Lord: I remember the devotion of your youth, your love as a bride."

FRIDAY, JULY 25

FEAST OF JAMES, APOSTLE

You send me

What makes the apostle James different from the many other "Jameses" in the New Testament? The word *apostle* comes from the Greek *apostolos*, "someone sent out." The more general meaning of the word is translated into Latin as *missio*, from which we get *missionary*. But it is also used in a more specific sense to refer to the first 12 disciples whom Jesus chose, named, and "sent out" to the world. While we honor James in name today as one of those 12, we can honor him and the other apostles much more by carrying on their work in the world. Ready for your send-off?

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28 "Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant."

SATURDAY, JULY 26

FEAST OF JOACHIM AND ANNE

A grand legacy

Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mary, are not mentioned in scripture, but legend says they were childless and thus rejected by society until they experienced simultaneous annunciations that God had other plans. They are often depicted in art as a couple kissing at Jerusalem's Golden Gate where their separate angels had sent them to announce their mutual good news to each other: Not only would they have a child, but she will be a queen. While Grandparents Day was established in 1979 "to help children become aware of strength, information, and guidance older people can offer," this memorial of Jesus' grandparents emphasizes handing on the treasure of faith. The affinity that the old and the very young often have for each other in our families is an opportunity to leave our grandchildren much more than our signed wills.

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 7:1-11; Matthew 13:24-30 "The Kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field."

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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

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Office of the Archbishop



Post Office Box 1979 Chicago, Illinois 60690-1979

June 30, 2008

Dear Father Clark:

In accord with canon 553 of the code of Canon Law, I am pleased to appoint you as Dean of Deanery IV-E. I will ask your Episcopal Vicar, Bishop Thomas Paprocki, to receive your Profession of Faith. Your term of office, which is renewable, is effective immediately and will conclude on June 30, 2010. The term of Dean is for three years with all current terms having begun on July 1, 2007.

I am grateful for your willingness to serve the Archdiocese and, in particular, the people of God in your Deanery through the office of Dean. As Dean, you will be assisting me, the Vicar General and your Episcopal Vicar to better provide for the pastoral governance of this local church.

The office of Dean is described in canons 554 and 555. In general, it is the Dean's responsibility to promote and coordinate common pastoral activity within the Deanery, to see to it that the priests and deacons in the Deanery diligently perform their proper roles and duties, that the parishes in the Deanery are being administered properly in accord with liturgical norms and canon law, as well as Archdiocesan policies and procedures, and that parish sacramental records are correctly inscribed and kept in good condition. In addition to these provisions, your role as Dean will be more fully explained and discussed in future meetings with the Episcopal Vicars and other Deans.

Father Clark, you have my personal support and prayers for you in this ministry. I am sure that the priests and people of the Deanery will welcome your leadership.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.

Archbishop of Chicago

Ecclesiastical Notary

Reverend Robert J. Clark St. Cletus Church 600 West 55th Street La Grange, Illinois 60525

cc: Most Reverend Thomas J. Paprocki, Episcopal Vicar Very Reverend John F. Canary, Vicar General

Mr. Jimmy Lago, Chancellor



Wednesday, July 23, is the last day to drop off your "treasures" at Morrissey Hall (St. Cletus gym) for the Rummage Sale. Please support the sale, which benefits the St. Vincent DePaul Society, by shopping Saturday, July 26, between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Invite your relatives, friends and neighbors to champion this worthy cause. The Girl Scouts will be hosting a bake sale in conjunction with the event. Thanks for your continuing support of the Social Concerns Ministry.

ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY

We were able to serve 145+ families last Thursday at our July food distribution due to your continuing generosity. Thank you! Once again we ask your help as we restock our shelves and begin making up bags for our next distribution. Here are a few things to keep in mind:



- At this time we have no canned fruit and are in need of most of our staples, including rice, dry pinto beans, peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, tomatoes, meals in a can/box, tuna, canned vegetables, macaroni & cheese, soup and paper goods.
- We are also low on our "extras". Some favorites include coffee, powdered or evaporated milk, oatmeal, juice, crackers or cookies, diapers (especially sizes 4 & 5), toiletries, laundry detergent and dish washing soap.
- All non-perishables are greatly appreciated. Please remember to check expiration dates to avoid out of date goods which we cannot use.
- These items can be dropped off in the designated food bins located in the Madonna della Strada shrine in the Church vestibule. You can bring them when you come to Mass over the weekend, or, daily from 7:45 AM 4:00 PM.

The Food Pantry distributes groceries from the vestibule of the Church on the second Thursday of each month, from 6:30-8:00 PM. Our next distribution will be on August 14. If you have any questions, please contact me at (708) 215-5418 or **mford@stcletusparish.com.**

Mary Beth Ford
Director of Social Concerns



St. Cletus School



FULL-DAY PRESCHOOL



Combined 3 and 4 year-olds
Beginning Fall 2008
Hours 8:15am to 3:00pm
Monday through Friday
Before and AfterCare available

Tuition: \$4,000 Fees: \$ 133 Total: \$4,133

(ten installments of \$413.30)

For more information, call the school office at (708) 352-4820.



RCIA- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Sign up now for the program for Adults that desire to become Catholics or who may be interested in finding out the answer to the question, "What does it mean to become Catholic?" We, the team at St. Cletus, are ready to welcome you, answer your questions, and continue to journey with you if you decide that the Catholic Church is for you. Classes begin on Wednesday, September 24, at 7:00pm. For more information, please contact me at (708) 352-2383.

Pat Kahl

Director of Religious Education

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS!

MISSION TRIP: Please keep our teens in your prayers as they leave this weekend to go and serve the Lord by serving others. A group of 8 teens and 2 adults are heading to Cass Lake, MN on a mission trip to serve the Native American people on a reservation. They will be working on home repairs/painting projects and will work with the children from the reservation, teaching them about God and His love for us. We would like to thank the people of St. Cletus for supporting us during our fund raising efforts. We look forward to sharing our experience with you when we return!

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN...

Do you have enthusiasm for working with teens, concern for the growth and development of youth, and a desire to share your faith with others? I am looking for some warm, honest and sincere parishioners who are flexible and willing to give of their time and talent to minister to our teens in the position of Adult Small Group Advisor in our High School Confirmation Preparation Program. These Advisors share their home and their faith as they meet six times a year in groups of 10-14 teens to nurture the spiritual development of our youth.

Lesson planning/formation sessions are held monthly to give Advisors the support and guidance necessary to enjoy the many rewards of this ministry. Please pray and strongly consider this commitment. This position is a two-year commitment, which can be filled by couples, individuals or can be shared with a friend. I am happy to meet with you, answer any questions regarding this ministry and/or put you in contact with past/present Advisors. I can be reached at (708) 215-5419 or acranny@atcletusparish.com.

Amy Cranny
Youth Director

UPCOMING MANNA CASH & CARRY

Need your Manna fix? Missing your Manna? There will be a Manna Cash & Carry in the Morrissey Hall lobby **THIS** Monday evening, July 21, from 6-7pm. Any questions? Please call Erin Rhoads 708-588-0510 or Leslie Doherty 708-482-0257.

Stewardship

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom." Matthew 13:24, 37-38

As children of God, we are all "good seeds," blessed by God with the potential to accomplish much good in this world. We fulfill God's plan for us when we share our unique talents and our financial gifts to build up God's kingdom. Through our stewardship we blossom!

Weekly Giving Summary

Last Weekend	
This Fiscal Year thru 07/13//08	. ,
Last Fiscal Year thru 07/15/07	79,839

For the 2008/09 fiscal year Sunday Collections have been budgeted at \$28,325 per week.

Note: There were 5 Sundays in July 2007.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi
Tuesday: St. Mary Magdalene
Wednesday: St. Bridget of Sweden
Thursday: St. Sharbel Makhluf

Friday: St. James

and Scott May.

Saturday: Ss. Joachim and Anne

Please remember our sick in your prayers: Evelyn Kilker, Al & Vicki Klevinsky, Bart Dill, Terri Dill, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, Mary Leslie Imholt, Ryan Cosgrove, Ann Fahey, Joan Klein, Sheila Nash, Rosemary Sylvester, Rose Olferchek, Steve Zeman, Sister Arlene Gibson, Zach Sperka, Marguerite May, Mike Patzelt, Rita D'Onofrio, Marilyn Matesevac, Hunter Peters, Cacilia Ziegler, Ruth Calandriello, Ann Marie Nabor, Nadine Pankow, Patty Johnson, Agnes Suennen, Joseph Johnson, Stephanie Yakowicz, Virginia Pankow-Locker, Wilson, Gail Josie Spoto, Larry Wojnar, Louise Jaunich, Frank Werner, Agnes Olszowka, Michael Karpinski, Augustin Jaso, Marie Krolecki, Mary O'Rourque, Debbie Broz

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark

Pastor

Rev. Edgar Rodriguez

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

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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

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Kathy Lifka

Assistant Principal

Denise Parlier

Administrative Assistant (708) 352-4820

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(708) 352-2383

RECTORY STAFF

Patricia Drobny

Bulletin Editor

Nora Gardner Rectory Receptionist

Bobbie Kallal

Administrative Assistant

Michele O'Brien

Director of Financial Operations

(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. Edgar Rodriguez • 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.

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.