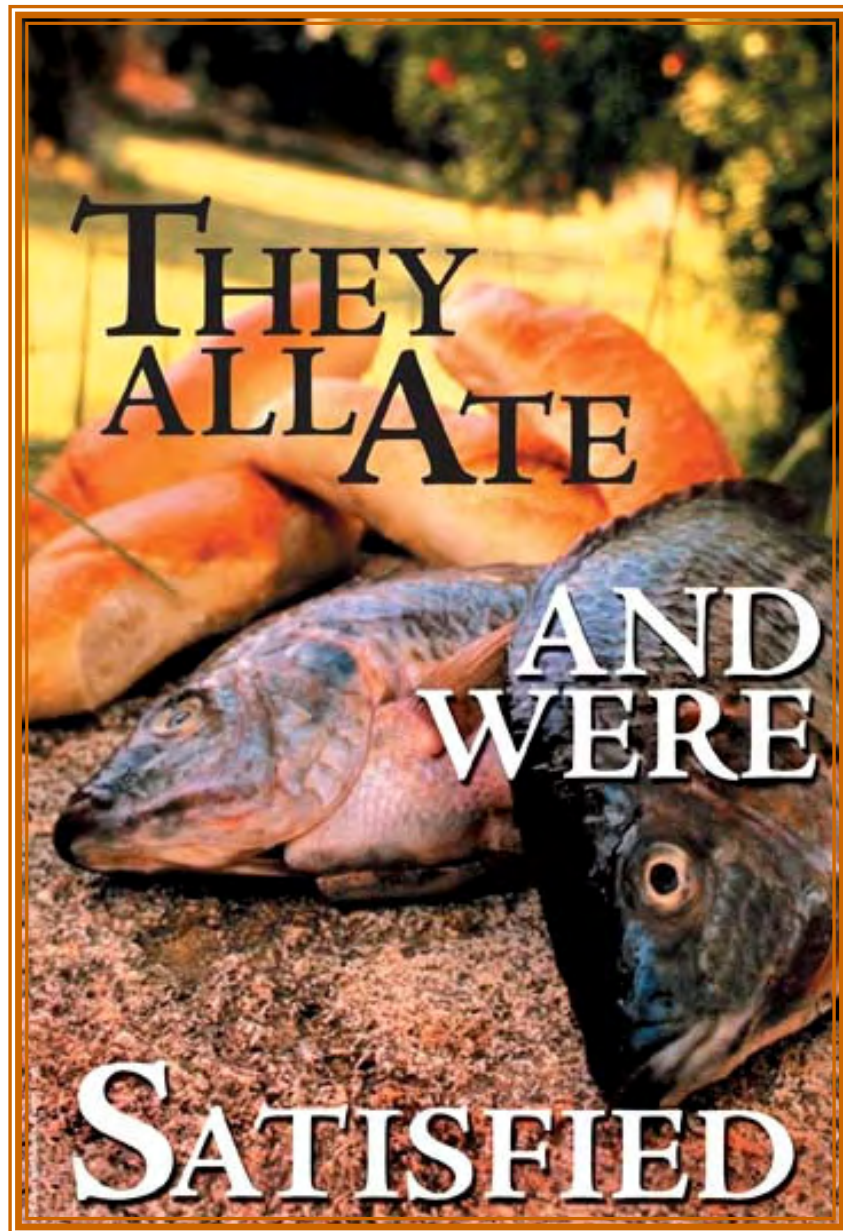


St. Cletus Canticle

August 3, 2008

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



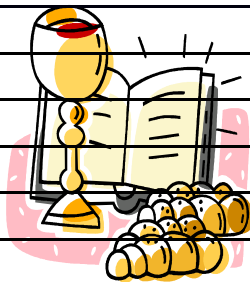
600 West 55th Street • La Grange, Illinois 60525 • 708-352-6209 • www.stcletusparish.com



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 August 4 - August 10, 2008

Day	Time	
Monday	8:00am	Johnston Family
Tuesday	8:00am	Ray Tobolski, Ann Jiganti, Thomas O'Leary
Wednesday	8:00am	Eva & Stanley Grabowski
Thursday	8:00am	Mary Ricciardone, Calandriello Family
Friday	8:00am	Purgatorial Society - Joseph Megla, Erik Geyer, Frank P. Walsh
Saturday	8:00am 5:00pm	People of St. Cletus Robert Suchy, Donna Czerwinski, Ed Smithy
Sunday	7:00am 8:00am 9:30am 11:00am 6:00pm	Mr. Denbeck, Andy Jaskierski Frances Butkus, Margaret Herzog Don & Betty Rhoads Karen M. Wilson, Sophie Egielski, Frank Michalowski Hispanic Ministry



AUXILIARY MINISTER SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF AUGUST 9/10, 2008

	5:00 PM	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
SM	Heyes, S.	Swindall, V.	Welch, J.	Hullinger, S.	Hagen, C.
LR	Bamberger, S.	Chlapecka, T.	Spizzirri, S.	Reynolds, C.	Pisone, M.
B2	Heyes, S.	Swindall, V.	Welch, J.	Hullinger, S.	Hagen, C.
B3	Richards, M.	Swindall, T.	Warren, C.	Nilles, C.	Hoskins, C.
B4	Ryva, J.	Meade, M.	Karch, T.	Maday, J.	Nash, S.
B5	Thornton, M.	Hinton, G.	Benkert, K.	Severino, S.	Garske, E.
B6	Thuma, M.	Mezan, M.	Micek, J.	Nolan, J.	Hagen, J.
C1	Boyer, K.		Hogue, K.	Burke, K.	Mangahas, A.
C2	Heyes, M.		Stopka, S.	McCaffray, P.	Fisher, H.
C3	Bamberger, M.		Bliss, G.	Haggerty, F.	Kigin, B.
C4	Hockman, S.		Karch, J.	Horak, V.	Ficaro, J.
C5	Thornton, W.		Benkert, J.	Stumreiter, E.	Nicosia, C.
C6	Sipek, S.		Kwak, T.	Mulderink, K.	Hagen, E.
Altar Servers	Lang, C. Finucane, M. Callahan, K.	Stanczyk, S. Mrazek, M. Heim, J.	Vokurka, S. Laweer, J. Lawler, K.	Jacobs, A. Griffin, H. Geraci, M.	Frisbie, S. Krecek, J. Clarke, T.



Wedding Banns

*Shannon Morahan
&
Joseph Sedlacek*

*Maureen Casgrain Donnelly
&
Robert William Kruse, III*



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament Monday, August 4, and every first Monday of the month. Adoration begins immediately after the 8:00am Mass followed by Benediction at 6:45pm.



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Mary Barnish, Elaine Bianco, Freda Guide, 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 Mateševac, 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'Rourke, Debbie Broz and Scott May. Please know we pray daily for our sick.

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

When children are in preschool and elementary school, it is more than easy to interest their parents in supporting and taking an active part in school life. For a start, the children usually like their parents to be involved in what is happening in their lives. Then, quite a number of parents are personally present at school activities or volunteering in one way or another almost daily. This regular contact makes school part of their lives, a feature that is increased by their chat and friendship that develop with other parents who are involved. With high school a different scenario often occurs. Teenage children are often embarrassed at their parents' presence, and they want to keep them as far away as possible from their activities, whether work or play. Then the schools themselves usually have much larger campuses and parents often feel more daunted by the size of the establishments and their own mixed memories of teenage years. Unintentionally the school can be experienced by parents as hostile rather than friendly territory. It also does not feel as easy to get involved in the more demanding academic and extra-curricular activities offered to the pupils. Parents are no longer gods!

Later on in life a reconciliation of views usually occurs. The parents marvel to see their children emerge as mature adults from their stormy teenage chrysalises, and the children are amazed at how their parents have matured so rapidly as well.

St. Paul is aware of how much we put between ourselves and God. His letter to the Romans explores how even the Law, which should have impressed upon the chosen people their need of grace or salvation, becomes oppressive as they seek a righteousness before God based on their obedience. To live as God wants we need the inner gift of faith, which acts like an internal combustion engine of goodness. The reason for this is because faith is the free gift of God. We cannot earn it. But nor can we separate ourselves from it. Our natural and traditional ideas of God, even today, contain a strong tendency to make God distant and forbidding. Accompanying this belief is a feeling of our own inadequacy and failure. We feel guilty because we cannot bridge the gap, because we cannot live up to what we believe are God's expectations of us. St. Paul forcefully reminds us that this is not the point. Of course we cannot bridge the gap. Of course we are failures. But this does not matter. What matters is the overwhelming love of God for us, revealed in all its compassion and enrichment, in the person of Jesus Christ. Nothing can get in the way of that love, a love illustrated so well in the gospel story of the feeding of the five thousand, where we see Jesus taking pity on the crowds, healing them and feeding with sheer abundance.

Our spiritual growth can often take a similar track to our human development. During our spiritual teenage years, which do not always coincide with our physical adolescence, we feel the need to separate ourselves from the authority figures in our lives, loving as they may be. Our rediscovery of how they may be a more real presence in our lives, perhaps as more equal or intimate companions, is the true business of growing up. If we find it difficult to think of God in such terms, we need only think of how St. John's Gospel invites us to be friends rather than servants. Our God is stripped of any autocratic powers in the person of Jesus Christ in order to be our healing friend and servant. The bit of us that remains an undeveloped child or teenager finds that difficult to accept. We want God to be dictatorial and distant. That makes it easier for us to keep our distance! We can refuse to believe, and blame God at the same time. God, however, keeps on loving us all the same, a thought consoling to all who wander away and also to those who grieve for their children or loved ones who seem to have turned away from God. Whatever diversions we take in our spiritual journeys, God's overwhelming love is always there. Our openness to that love is what enables us to then become friends and servants to each other in God's image and likeness.

Extraordinary Blessings in this Ordinary Time,

Father Bob



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

Sunday, August 3, 2008

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thought for food

“Give them something to eat” was Jesus’ mandate to his disciples concerning the hungry masses. It is still his mandate to us today as more than 1 billion people—one-sixth of the world’s population—live in extreme poverty on less than one U.S. dollar a day. With grain and fertilizer prices skyrocketing, the world’s poorest have never been more vulnerable. If we want people to be able to feel the loving presence of God in their lives, let’s first make sure they aren’t feeling the wracking pain of chronic hunger. Visit www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu or www.bread.org for ideas on how to help.

Today’s readings: Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

“Jesus said to his disciples, ‘They need not go away; you give them something to eat.’”

Monday, August 4—Feast of John Mary Vianney, priest

Lead by following

By the year 1818, the remote town of Ars in France had lapsed in its faith. Things only looked worse when a newly ordained priest was sent to minister there. Father Vianney had barely made it through seminary because he was a dull student and in poor health. Yet he single-handedly brought the whole town back to church with three simple tools: prayer, penitential acts, and example. Before his death Ars had become a pilgrimage site for many who wanted an hour in the confessional with the holy Curé of Ars. How does your example encourage others to faith?

Today’s readings: Jeremiah 28:1-17; Matthew 14:22-36

“Immediately Jesus spoke to his disciples in the boat, ‘Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.’”

Tuesday, August 5

Feast of Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome
Can you bear it?

“Mary, the Mother of God” had been a widely used and cherished title for hundreds of years when it was called into question in the early fifth century by a bishop who proposed that Mary should instead be called “Mother of Christ.” The people of Constantinople promptly and vigorously disagreed, but the matter was not officially settled until the Council of Ephesus in 431. It was in honor of the council’s confirmation of Mary as Theotokos (Mother or “Bearer” of God) that Pope Sixtus III built the largest and most important shrine to Mary in the West: the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome. How do you bear God in the world?

Today’s readings: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Matthew 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

“Why do your disciples break the tradition of the elders?”

Wednesday, August 6

Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord; Hiroshima Memorial Day
The power to dazzle—or destroy

Bright light may indicate glory—as of Christ—or terror. On this day in 1945, Lt. Paul Tibbets, the pilot of the Enola Gay, which dropped the first atomic bomb, later wrote, “A bright light filled the plane. We turned back to look at Hiroshima, . . . hidden by that awful cloud . . . boiling up, mushrooming.” And Jesuit Father John A. Siemes, on the ground at that moment, remembers, “Suddenly . . . the whole valley is filled by a garish light . . . and I am conscious of a wave of heat . . . I see nothing more than that brilliant yellow light.” In the plane, copilot Robert Lewis turns away and asks himself, “My God, what have we

done?” That the feast of Transfiguration occurs on this date is a perpetual irony, but we must not turn away. The power to transfigure the world can be for good or ill in a generation of superpowers.

Today’s readings: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Matthew 17:1-9

“And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.”

Thursday, August 7—All about rocks

Here’s a riddle: When is a rock not a rock? The answer is: When it’s a stumbling stone. Jesus calls Peter a “rock” when the apostle professes his faith. But then he turns around and calls Peter an “obstacle,” a word that literally means a “stumbling stone,” a rock over which one trips and falls. It is a reminder to Peter—and to us—that following Jesus leads to suffering, because people of the world will reject the ways of God’s kingdom. The values of the world can only lead to death because all things are passing away. But the values of the kingdom will last because the kingdom is coming and will never pass away.

Today’s readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 16:13-23 “He turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.’”

Friday, August 8—Feast of Dominic, priest—Friars put up a fight

Many of the monastic orders of the church were first formed in opposition to mistakes in thinking. An example of this pattern is the Order of Preachers founded by Saint Dominic in the early 13th century in part to fight the Albigensian heresy, which had become very prominent in southern France. Its adherents believed in a strict opposition between the spirit (pure good) and the flesh (an evil creation of Satan). The Albigenses also refused to believe that Christ resurrected or ever took a material body at all. We need to know of mistaken ways of thinking not only as problems of the past but also as misconceptions that many of us may still carry with us.

Today’s readings: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7; Matthew 16:24-28

“For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?”

Saturday, August 9

Feast of Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin, martyr; Nagasaki Memorial Day—Dare to dream the impossible

Anthropologists seem to agree that human beings are becoming less violent. Yet with 100 million violent deaths in the 20th century and the violent death toll rising by the millions in each year of the 21st century, it doesn’t seem possible that we’ve become a kinder, gentler species. What will it take for us to continue to make progress? The first step is to believe in peace. But, noted Eleanor Roosevelt, “It isn’t enough to believe in peace. One must work at it.” In honor of Saint Teresa Benedicta, who died in a Nazi concentration camp, and the tens of thousands killed in the bombing of Nagasaki, commit to initiating peace among feuding family members, neighbors, communities, and nations.

Today’s readings: Habakkuk 1:12-2:4; Matthew 17:14-20

“For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for 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

Youth Ministry News!

Recently 8 of our high school teens went to Cass Lake, MN to serve a Native American community through an organization know as YouthWorks. The teens who went on the trip were: Margaret Gleich, Julie Hagen, Heidi Heim, Brian Kelly, Lauren Mayer, Robert O'Heron, Amanda O'Shea and Joel Pavlik. Special thanks to Jim Hagen for going as an adult chaperone for the week.



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Native American Community



Here are some words from the teens experiences: "I felt that I helped out the community a lot. I played with many children at the Kids Club." "The trip opened my eyes to a new spiritual world as well as to a better understanding of the Native American culture." "I felt like I was really impacting the kid's lives. They were so starved for our attention and our love. It was great to be able to give them that and to give back to the community." "I will always remember this trip and thank you, St. Cletus parishioners, for helping fund it."

If you would be interested in going on a trip next year, why not join the teen advisory commissions board and learn how you can participate in this exciting work! Questions/Information, please contact me at (708) 215-5419.

Amy Cranny

Director of Youth Ministry

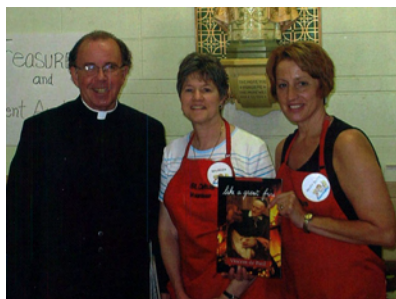
St. Cletus' 1st Annual Rummage Sale

If you happened to be in the vicinity of St. Cletus Parish last week and weekend, you couldn't help but notice all the "Rummage Sale" activity in and around Morrissey Hall! I must have been asked by dozens of people "do you think this sale is going to be a success?" My answer was always the same "No matter how many dollars we bring in to benefit our newly forming Conference of the St. Vincent DePaul Society, this event is already a huge success. The St. Cletus Social Concerns Commission has brought together people of all ages, from all ministries even beyond our parish boundaries, who are working together for a common goal, to answer Jesus' call to give hope and help to those in need." The great news is that we also raised approximately \$9,000...a wonderful total for our 1st annual rummage sale! I will be able to give you an exact amount, once our silent auction proceeds are in.

Treasures abounded, but none so precious as those who brought in items for the sale, spread the word to their friends and neighbors, put in as many volunteer hours as they could to collect, clean, sort, display, price, pack, sell, clean up, etc., provided goods and help for the bake sale, and of course those who shopped till they dropped! The rummage sale also provided an opportunity for our Food Pantry clients to pitch in and lend a helping hand. They are so grateful for your monthly assistance with groceries and felt that volunteering to help was a tangible way to express that gratitude. So a big THANK YOU to all our amazing donors, volunteers (too many to list here) and customers! Special thanks to chairperson, Maureen Soldat, her fellow Social Concerns Representative on the Parish Council, Jim Ryva, the dedicated and energetic members of the Social Concerns Commission, and the supportive parish/school staff. We invite you all to consider the opportunities for social justice education and service our Commission will provide throughout the year. In the early fall we will be sponsoring a *Society of St. Vincent DePaul* information night to recruit volunteers for this new ministry at our parish. Again, thank you for being such generous people!

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns



Fr. Bob, Maureen Soldat and Mary Beth Ford display an art book about St. Vincent de Paul.

Fr. Bob blesses the volunteer workers just before the start of the Rummage Sale.



A long line of customers gather before the Rummage Sale opens.



Chair Maureen Soldat and PPC rep Jim Ryva confer.



Rich arranges sporting goods.



Bob and Roman handle the cash boxes.



Volunteers Judy Kennedy and Colleen Hagen supplied ice cold water in addition to home made treats.

“Multi-Church Employment/Networking Task Force Being Formed”

St. John of the Cross has been facilitating monthly evening sessions to provide those in a career transition advice and networking opportunities during their job search. There are very few services that provide this type of free career assistance in our community. We would like to include other local parishes in this endeavor to expand the current services currently being offered to job seekers in our local area. Increasingly, more are being affected by layoffs and corporate downsizings who could benefit from the networking and free career assistance we offer.

We need some motivated volunteers who would be willing to help plan a September Career Fair to be held locally at one of our participating churches. Plans include offering resume reviews, career transition advice, outplacement professionals, and possible job listings from parishioners who are aware of opportunities within their companies. The planning meeting will be held 8/12, at 7pm in the Parish Center at St. John of the Cross. If you would be interested in volunteering your talents and joining a multi-church planning team for this important effort, please contact one of the following to learn more details:

Tom Rohan 708/246-4231
Judy Kennedy 708/352-8943



Save the Date!

**Mark your calendar
St. Cletus Parish and School
Inaugural 5K Run/Walk and
Oktoberfest on October 18, 2008.**



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Remember Our Dead

Robin Peters,
wife of Glenn Peters
Joseph Altman,
husband of Adleta Altman

May God Grant Them Eternal Rest. Amen.

STEWARDSHIP

*“Why spend your money for what is not bread;
your wages for what fails to satisfy?”
(Romans 8:28)*

WEEKLY GIVING SUMMARY

Last Weekend..... \$ 30,539
A Year Ago..... 27,606

This Fiscal Year (thru 07/27/08) \$103,810
Last Fiscal Year (thru 07/29/07)..... 128,802

Do you really trust God? Do you believe that all things work for good? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. However, when we wholeheartedly place our trust in God we will never be disappointed.

Please note: Many parishioners have elected to have their weekly Sunday offering contribution debited out of their checking account once or twice a month. If you would like more information, contact Bobbie at the rectory office. (708-352-6209)



ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY...

We are ALL feeling the effects of rising food prices, which only increases our appreciation for the generosity you show each week as you bring in non-perishable goods for our monthly food distribution. As we continue packing bags for our August 14 Food Pantry, here are some suggestions for items we currently need: Pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, tuna, canned fruit, canned vegetables, meals in a can/box, rice and dry pinto beans. Extras such as powdered or evaporated milk, coffee, tea, juice, paper goods, and size 4-6 diapers are also greatly appreciated. In August we also like to provide some new school supplies to our families with school age children. If you wish to donate any of these items, they can be placed in the food bins in the Church vestibule. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

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
(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

Mary Zwolinski
Receptionist/Office Assistant
(708) 352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Patricia Kahl
Director of Religious Education
Mary Lee Krieger
Administrative Assistant
(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

Vice - Chairperson: Rita Mayer
Corresponding Secretary: Lori Ashe

Worship Ministry: Sue Schiller, Jackie Wiley

Finance Liaison: Brian Kapusta

Parish Representative: Joe Bamberger, Lori Ashe

Youth Ministry: Barb Mitchell, Rita Mayer

Education Ministry: Anne Babirak, (School)
Sharon Gleich (Religious Education)

Ministry of Care/Compassionate Care Ministry:
C. Rodger Brown, Xavier Polanski

Development Ministry: Maggie Nelson, Tom Finucane

Staff Representative: Jolene Hillgoth

Hispanic Ministry: Tim McCormick, Marynez Llanes,
Ignacio Saavedra

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.**

**EUCCHARISTIC 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.