

PARISH STAFF

REV. ROBERT CLARK

Pastor

REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES WATKINS

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES GALLAGHER

Pastor Emeritus

REV. MR. JESÚS & SILVIA CASAS

Deacon Couple

PASTORAL STAFF

Paulette Bolton

Worship

(708) 215-5422

Deacon Jesús Casas

Hispanic Ministry

(708) 215-5440

Amy Cranny

Youth Ministry

(708) 215-5419

Mary Beth Ford

Social Concerns

(708) 215-5418

Debbie Lestarczyk

Business Manager

(708) 215-5405

Justin Sisul

Music

(708) 215-5423

Christopher Wagner

Technology

(708) 215-5420

Dolores Wouk

Ministry of Care

(708) 215-5407

SCHOOL STAFF

Jolene Hillgoth

School Principal

Kathy Lifka

Assistant Principal

Denise Parlier

Administrative Assistant

Mary Lee Krieger

Receptionist/Office Assistant

(708) 352-4820

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Patricia Kahl

Director of Religious Education

Holly Kallal

Administrative Assistant

(708) 352-2383

RECTORY STAFF

Patricia Drobny

Bulletin Editor/Office Assistant

Nora Gardner

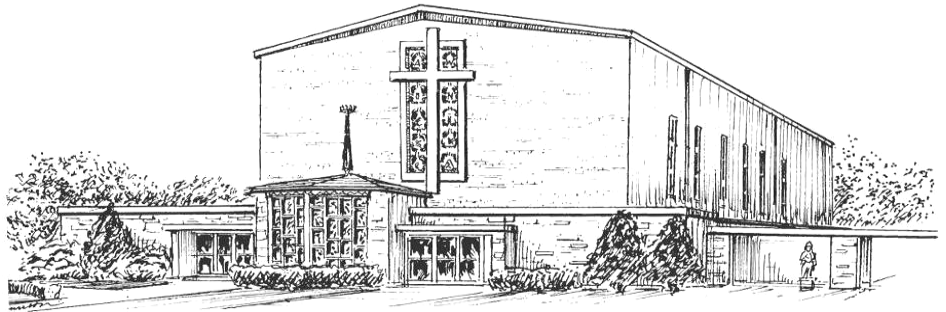
Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

Bobbie Kallal

Human Resources

Mary Zwolinski

Parish Accounting



St. Cletus Canticle

600 W. 55th Street - La Grange, IL

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

January 3, 2010

Epiphany of the Lord



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 January 4 - January 10, 2010

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society - Walter Johnston
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Irene Megla, Walter Johnston
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Tom Benka, Arlene Skryd
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Rev. Robert Shannon
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society - Anthony Martini
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Kadlec Family Ruth Ann Taylor, Lawrence Micek, Sr., Joyce Conerty, Florence Curtis, Robert Suchy
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Melvin Leo, Anne, Mel, Jim & Joe Callahan, Falk-Gordon Families, Arlene Defino Special Intention for Conversion Cecelea Staszak, Quinn Crawford Frank Kwak, Sophie Egielski, Ted Podwizd Souls in Purgatory



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



Marguerite "Marge" May,
wife of Peter

Irene Frances Ryan,
mother of Julie Grendolfo

***May the Lord grant them eternal rest.
Amen.***

CHANGE IN BAPTISM SCHEDULE

Please Note: The Sacrament of Baptism will be moved to Saturday from Sunday. Baptisms will be celebrated the first and third Saturday of the month at 11:30 A.M. Hispanic baptisms will be held the second and fourth Saturday at 11:30 A.M. Please contact the rectory office, to make arrangements.

PRAY IN ALL WAYS MONTHLY SERIES

Starting Tuesday, January 5, *The Well* is offering a monthly Tuesday prayer series at 10:00 A.M. or 7:00 P.M. (call ahead for the evening session).

Sister Mary Southard will facilitate "Praying with Art" at the first session. The Well is located at 1515 W. Ogden Ave., La Grange Park.

There will be a free-will offering. For more information, visit the program page of the website: www.csjthewell.org or call (708) 482-5048.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Epiphany of the Lord;
National Migration Week
Monday: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Tuesday: St. John Neumann
Wednesday: Blessed André Bessette
Thursday: St. Raymond of Peñafort;
Julian Calendar Christmas



The Epiphany of the Lord January 3, 2010

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come,
the glory of the Lord shines upon you.

— Isaiah 60:1



NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 2010

Children singing “twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are” are a reminder of the innocence of childhood and the way in which a child captures the wonder and mystery of the world in which we live. For children, the stars have a magical, mysterious character. For an adult, a starlit night in a dark sky can still evoke a sense of wonder. The thought of radio-telescopes penetrating the furthestmost points of the galaxy looking for dust and the presence of black holes sweeping up matter in the universe deepen the idea of the mystery in which we live. No wonder for ancient people the star pointed towards God’s activity in creation. For the wise men, the sight of the mysterious new star led them to go on pilgrimage to the Christ Child.

The second reading captures the heart of the message of Epiphany. The message of Christ is for all people; the death and resurrection of Christ saves all women and men and offers them the hope of eternal life. All are part of one body whose head is Christ. A light has shone in the darkness; through Christ there is a new meaning to human life and a new promise from God to his people.

The wise men that come bearing gifts help us to understand the person of Christ and the meaning of his birth. This birth is surrounded by mystery in the power and the work of God is active. The star unites the work of God in the heavens and on earth. Three gifts point to the meaning of the person of the Christ Child. Gold is the gift which is a sign of Kingship. Christ reigns over all people as Christ the king. His kingship can be likened to a Shepherd king who cares and tends for his flock, who seeks out the lost sheep and wants to restore it to the fold. Frankincense is the gift which indicates that Jesus is the Son of God. The promise of God is fulfilled; God becomes flesh, lives among people, heals the sick and forgives sin. Myrrh is the gift which points to the fact that the Christ Child will die and be buried. He will be anointed with myrrh at burial. The feast of the Epiphany looks forward to the great celebration of Easter morning when the women come to the tomb and discover that Jesus has risen from the dead. God is triumphant over death.

The wise men worshipped and then returned home by a different route. The poet, T. S. Eliot, writes of the wise men looking back many years later and reflecting on this event. Their life had been changed. While they returned home, they are no longer at home there. The old life had lost its flavor and it seemed stale. The things that had been important now seemed unimportant. Life had been changed. They began to see life in a new way.

At the end of the twelve days of Christmas celebration, we go back to our regular routine of daily life. Putting away the Christmas tree, the decorations and the tinsel is a sign of moving into the New Year. What has changed? At one level, very little. At another level, we have celebrated that the Epiphany speaks of the Good News of the birth of Christ for all people. Many images describe the Christian as a pilgrim, an alien in the world, living in the world but not of the world. The Christian will never be fully at home in the world. For Christians, as people on pilgrimage, the journey continues because there is no lasting city on earth. At the end of the pilgrimage is the joy of eternal life with God. Being a pilgrim is a reminder that the meaning of life has been turned upside-down by the birth of Christ. The Feast of the Epiphany reminds the family of the Church of its true priority; to see Christ’s face in one’s neighbor and to praise God.

*Blessings of the Epiphany,
Father Bob
Pastor*



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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Home sweet home

There's something sweet about arrivals, whether our destination is an exotic vacation spot or the grateful landing at home in a familiar bed. Travel can be exciting or tedious, but in either case the end of the road has its merits in terms of creature comforts, and just maybe the embrace of a friend. We can sympathize with the joy and relief of the Magi when their star-guide finally came to a halt over Bethlehem. In the spirit of Epiphany make your home a welcoming place and open your heart to receive each spiritual traveler.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12*

"When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy."

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

FEAST OF ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

Individuality flowers in the universal church

Two hundred years ago Elizabeth Ann Seton founded the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joseph's, the first new community for religious women to be established in the United States. Pope Paul VI said at her canonization as the U.S.'s first native-born saint: "Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton is an American. All of us say this with special joy, and with the intention of honoring the land and the nation from which she sprang forth as the first flower in the calendar of the saints." Today we celebrate being part of a universal church that nevertheless honors specific cultures and peoples.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 3:22-4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25*

"They brought to him all who were sick."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

FEAST OF JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP

Dream the impossible

One of the most remarkable features of Saint John Neumann's life (1811-1860) is that he was able to become a priest in the first place. By the time he decided to join the priesthood, there was a surplus of clergy—not only in his native Bohemia but all over Europe. Every inquiry elicited the same response: All ordinations were suspended for the foreseeable future. Undaunted, Neumann wrote to the bishop of New York, who agreed to ordain him. He had to travel halfway across the world to achieve his dream, but he did it. God does not give us dreams we cannot achieve. What dream have you put off because it seemed "impossible"? Today is the day to reconsider taking that first step.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44*

"As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them . . . and he began to teach them many things."

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Believing is seeing

"No one has ever seen God," the First Letter of John says. If that's so then how can people know what God is like and what God wants us of us? The answer is fairly simple. While we may have to wait until after our earthly pilgrimage to know God fully, we can see God *now*. God is love, scripture says. In the love we show others, and others show us, God is present right in front of us. The Christmas and Epiphany celebra-

tions have amply demonstrated God's original love for us. How about returning the favor?

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52*

"If we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us."

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

FEAST OF RAYMOND OF PEÑAFORT, PRIEST

Love: The secret weapon

Today's saint, Raymond of Peñafort (1175-1275), lived during a time when much of Spain was under Muslim rule. Rather than take up arms against them, Raymond learned to speak Arabic and used his resources to build schools for Arab children. He even got his buddy, Thomas Aquinas, to write a book explaining the Christian faith to Muslims. He believed that love was greater than military might—he couldn't have been too far off because he lived to be 100!

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 4:19-5:4; Luke 4:14-22a*

"Whatever is begotten by God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith."

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Keep your Christmas present

It is two weeks since Christmas. You remember Christmas—"May your days be merry and bright" and all that. Too often we think of "getting through the holidays" rather than savoring, like fine wine, the implications of "God with us." Our attitude often resembles the routine of the classroom: data traveling from the notes of the professor to the notes of the student without having spent time in the mind of either one. What Christmas celebrates is nothing less than the most radical moment in human history: the leap from the divine to the human, piercing the veil, God taking root in skin and bone and changing our destiny forever. The lights may be packed away, the gifts exchanged, but that's trivia. How have I been changed by these days? In his first letter John evokes "water, blood, and Spirit," a triple, shattering testimony to Jesus as Son of God and to our own eternal life because of him. We need time to take that in.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16*

"There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood."

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

Look for signs of life

It seems odd to continue celebrating the Christmas season and newborn Jesus when at Mass we hear proclaimed Jesus' deeds and mission and we celebrate his death and resurrection. What was the church thinking when it extended the Christmas season so long? Two words: *new life*. Christmas is not only a time to remember the occasion of Jesus' birth; it is also a time to immerse ourselves in God's call to each of us to new life. Over and over again in this season we have opportunities in scripture, in liturgies, and in the ordinary goings-on of our life to experience and witness to this new life. Be on the look out!

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30*

"We know that the Son of God has come."

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Contributors: Father Paul Boudreau, Alice Camille, Daniel Grippo, Father Larry Janowski, O.F.M., Ann O'Connor, Sean Reynolds, Joel Schorn, Patrice J. Tuohy, and Sister Julie Vieira, I.H.M.


St. Cletus School

 700 W. 55th St
 LaGrange, IL 60525

 (708) 352-4820 phone
 (708) 352-0788 fax
www.stcletusschool.com

REGISTRATION

St. Cletus School offers a full day preschool as well as 3 and 4 year-old half-day preschool, a half-day or full-day kindergarten option, and an average class size of 23 students in grades 1-8. Our well-rounded educational program offers Spanish, art, music, physical education, library, and computers as part of the student's schedule. Daily religion classes, service hours, and school Masses provide further opportunities for students to enhance the school experience. Junior Great Books, Student Council, boy and girl scouts, athletic programs, band, choir and before and after care programs are available.

If your child is beginning his/her education, or if you are considering a change, please call the school to make an appointment to visit or to register.

Please call the school office at (708) 352-4820 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between the hours of 9:00 A.M. until Noon if you have questions or would like to make an appointment to visit our school. Come "Discover St. Cletus"!

Jolene Hillgoth
 Principal

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE


St. Cletus Technology Learning Center

Adult Technology Training Courses

2010 Winter Series

- January 7** **Digital Photography Basics**
- January 14** **Intro to the Internet**
- January 28** **Microsoft Word Basics**
- February 4** **Microsoft Excel Basics**

Space is Limited so Register Now!

Call: (708) 215-5420 or
 Email: cardinaltech@stcletusparish.com

\$15 per class or \$50 for all four

- Classes start at 7:00pm
- Flash Drive and all course materials included in cost



Please remember our sick in your prayers:
 John Burke, Gen Andorf, Rich Andorf,
 Dolores Duda, Betty Jo Boden, Sherry Sumner,
 Patricia Swain, Rene Quiñones, Patricia Krieger,
 Bernice Hyatt, Norma Evans, Therese Wess, Scott May,
 Dr. Karen Chermel, Denise Kuchta, Anna Cizek,
 Roberta Zeman, James Prucha, Emma Fontana,
 Mark Ronchetti, Kathryn Super-Wilson, Larry Rincon,
 Joseph Fajdich, Betty Niwa, Donal Fox, Sister Arlene
 Gibson, Marilyn Matesevac, Ruth Calandriello.
 Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing
 homes or are homebound and unable to attend Mass.
 Please know we pray daily for the sick and dying.

The St. Cletus Annual Mission will begin on February 7, 2010 with Fr. Dennis Koopman, OFM as the Mission Preacher. Fr. Dennis will lead us through a time of reflection, healing and prayer as we all prepare for the beginning of Lent.



St Cletus Presents

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation

Ever tried to read the Bible straight through, only to get bogged down in the Old Testament and quit?

Ever heard an Old Testament reading at mass and wondered "What's that about?"

Did you know that the Old Testament and New Testament are a seamless story of God's revelation in history, culminating in the ultimate revelation of Jesus Christ?

Did you know that the story continues today in the life of the Church?

Most bible studies focus on one book of the Bible. In 2010 St. Cletus is offering a unique opportunity to study the ENTIRE story! Come join us for *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*.

St. Cletus will host this 24 week video study class in 2010, in three segments over the course of the year. On January 11, an information session will be held at 6:30 in Room 98 (Kindergarten Room). Come and find out if this class is for you!

You are under no obligation to enroll in the class if you attend the information session.

This renowned class was developed by Jeff Cavins, who served as a Protestant Minister before returning to the Catholic Church.

By the end of the class, you will:

1. Have read 14 of the narrative books of the Bible, and understand the major people, places, and events of the 12 major time periods of salvation history,
2. Discover the 6 covenants God made with humanity and how these covenants led up to the establishment of the Church.
3. Learn about God's marvelous plan of salvation history – and how your own faith story fits into "His-story".

This background will give you a firm foundation of the main points of the story that will be an invaluable help for all further Bible study or reading. A better understanding of the story will also make weekly or daily mass more meaningful.

If you choose to register for the class after the information session, a \$50 fee will need to be paid on January 11 for the purchase of a study kit. Study kits will be ordered on January 12, and available for pickup the weekend of January 16/17. You will also need a Bible and Catechism for the class.

Once again, there is no cost or obligation to attend the information session on January 11. Please come and find out if this class is for you. The information session will include a video presentation by Jeff Cavins and will last approximately one and a half hours.

Questions? Call the rectory at 708 - 352 - 6209
or e-mail: dblecic@hotmail.com

SUNDAY COLLECTION**Total Active Registered Families 2,514**Collection Statistics

of envelopes used - this week 705
 % of registered families 28%

Amount Collected

\$17,637 Envelope Users
 3,061 Loose Checks/Cash
 8,298 Ach User
 \$28,997

December 27, 2009 Budgeted Collection = \$26,750**Weekly (Under) Over Budget \$2,247****This Fiscal Year @ 12/27/09**

Actual Sunday Collections \$690,906
 Budgeted Sunday Collections 695,500
 (Under) Over than Budgeted \$ (4, 594)

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Day/Date	Start Time	Location/Rm. #	Event
Monday, Jan. 4	8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:30 p.m. 7:00 pm	C C MH S-200	Adoration/Benediction Hispanic Adoration Men's BB Ath. Assoc Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 5	7:00 pm 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	S-213 S-200 Comp. Lab MH	R. E. Board Meeting Social Concerns Meeting Tech. Comm. Meeting YM Basketball
Wednesday, Jan. 6	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	RB MH S-201 S-201	Mission Ladies School Market Day Catechist Formation YM Basketball
Thursday, Jan. 7	1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	MH S-Music S-Music S-Music S-Music S-200 Comp. Lab MH	Leisure Loafers Meeting Children's Choir Youth Choir Contemporary Choir Chancel Choir AA Meeting Technology YM Basketball
Friday, Jan. 8	9:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	C R-98 S-Music S-207	School Mass Holy Name Society Meeting Hisp. Ministry Choir Hisp. Ministry Bible Class
Saturday, Jan. 9	5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	CV MH	Catholics Come Home School Jack Frost Night
Sunday, Jan. 10	8:00 a.m.-Noon	CVS	Catholics Come Home
C CV MH	Church Church Vestibule Morrissey Hall	S RB	School Rectory Basement

**ATTENTION!
LEISURE LOAFERS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Come to our first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 7, at 1:00 P.M. in Morrissey Hall. Share your holiday stories with friends.

*Alice Katzmarek***HOLY NAME MEMBERS**

Please join us for our first meeting of 2010 on Friday, January 8, 8:00 P.M. in Room 98 in the Education Building. We will discuss upcoming events of the new year. New members are always welcome. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

*Dan Gibbons***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

As a community service concerning the 2010 census, part-time jobs are available. This opportunity might be very beneficial to parishioners seeking temporary employment. Most jobs would be paying \$17.50 per hour. If you are interested, please call 1-815-221-4470 **OR** 1-866-861-2010 or **www.2010censusjobs.gov** for more information.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

St. Cletus Catholic Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago is a Christian community of believers and followers of Christ Jesus. We call and welcome all to join our family of faith as we seek to live the Gospel values in our daily lives, community and world. We are committed to providing spiritual nourishment through the worship of God, celebration of the sacraments, Christian education and use of our time, talent and treasure in serving others with compassion and love.

MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
11:00am, 12:30pm (Spanish)

Weekdays: Mon., thru Sat., 8:00am

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00pm

Holy Day: 6:30am, 8:00am

BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30 am. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation Class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office (708-352-6209)

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 (708-215-5407).

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Adoration begins following the 8:00am Mass and continues during the day until 6:15pm the first Monday of the Month.

The *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* is prayed at 6:15pm followed by Benediction.

Hispanic Adoration continues from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday of the month 4:15-4:45pm.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

<i>Co-Chairpersons:</i>	Anne Babirak, Tom Finucane
<i>Vice - Chairperson:</i>	Rita Mayer
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Xavier Polanski
<i>Corresponding Secretary:</i>	Lori Ashe
<i>Worship Ministry:</i>	Elizabeth Goellner-McLean Justin Sisul
<i>Finance Liaison:</i>	Brian Kapusta
<i>Parish at Large:</i>	Joe Bamberger
<i>Youth Ministry:</i>	Rita F. Mayer Dawn Dion
<i>Education Ministry:</i>	Anne Babirak, (School) George Pach (Rel. Ed.)
<i>Pastoral Care Ministry:</i>	Stuart Heyes Xavier Polanski
<i>Development Ministry:</i>	Ed Burke Tom Finucane
<i>Staff Representative:</i>	Jolene Hillgoth
<i>Hispanic Ministry:</i>	Silvia Casas Ignacio Saavedra
<i>Social Concerns:</i>	Dick Ford Jim Ryva
<i>Technology Representative:</i>	Julie Lenz
<i>Parish Life:</i>	Lori Ashe Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

Suburban Catholic Singles Group

SCSG would like to invite Catholic singles (mid 30's thru mid 50's) to the following January events:

1/9 – Dinner and a movie (TBA)

Please see website for details

1/16 – Food Pantry Distribution - 10 a.m. – noon
First Church of Lombard
220 Main St.
Lombard, IL

Please dress warmly!

For more information: Please contact Jenny Balanoff at singlesadmin@gmail.com.

Visit our web site for more information...
www.suburbancatholicsingles.blogspot.com

LITTLE MINUTES

Little drops of water, little grains of sand,
make the mighty ocean, and the pleasant land;
so the little minutes, humble though they be,
make the mighty ages of eternity.

—Julia A. Fletcher Carney