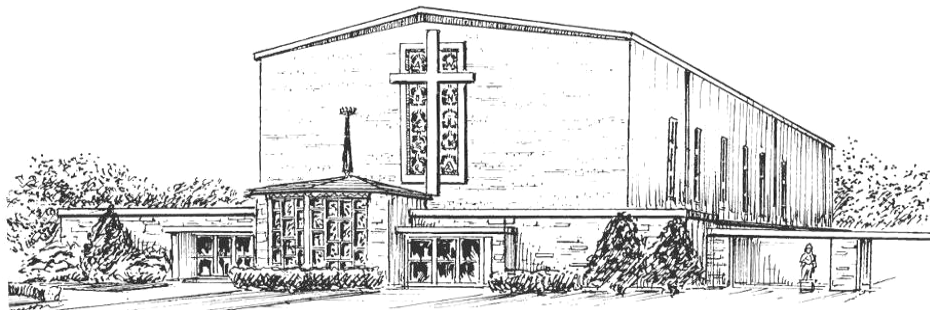
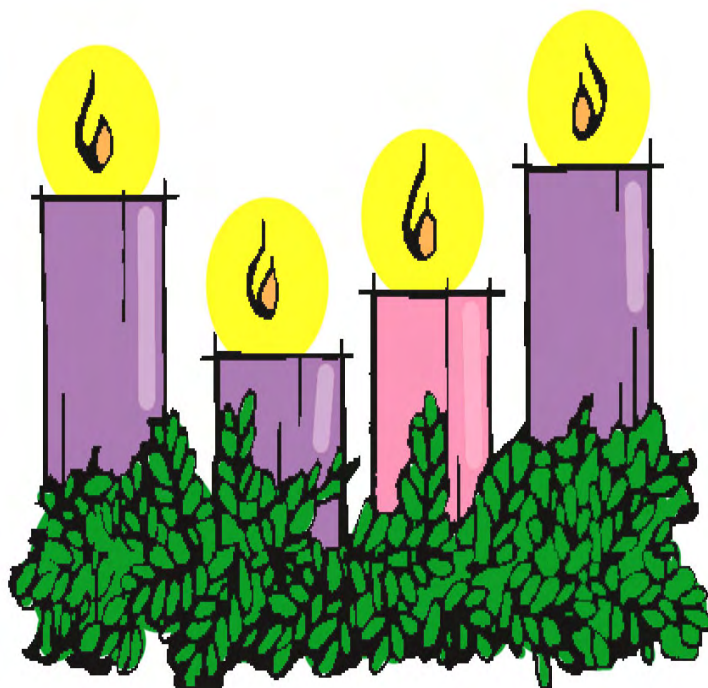


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Mass Intentions for the Week of December 20 - December 26, 2010

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Rudy Poropat
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Henry & James Meske, Constantion DeBartolo, Mary Grace Potacki Parisi
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Chester Zulaski, Abe Katzmarek, Ruth Ann Taylor, George Benrus
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Josef & James Slowik, Angelo Cumbo, Rose Acevedo, Marge May, Kadlec Family
Friday Christmas Eve	2:00 p.m. 2:15 p.m. 3:30 p.m. 3:45 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 10:30 p.m.	} <i>PARISH PRIESTS' INTENTIONS</i>
Saturday Christmas Day	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Marco & Emilia Rattin, Lorraine & George Kurland, Lester Buczek Roger Vandriessche, Florence Curtis, Elsie Wagner, Gaetano & Angelina Scopelliti John Cirone, Roseann Lodato, Frank Muscarello Anne & Chester Koziol, Anne, Percy & Norman Hamilton, Dan Rosko, Timothy Benrus, Eugene Kennedy, Frank & Lottie Mendrala, Kalembe Family Purgatorial Society



Please remember our sick in your prayers:
 Joan Workman, Dick Radom, Rosa Battista,
 Idolina Montano, Wei Wu, Sue Kremer,
 Gail Pankow-Locker Kathryn Super-Wilson, Lydia Ciaglia,
 Cindy Bringle, Sherry Sumner, Maeva Bishop, Rebecca
 Mueller, Joshua Thomas, Jr., Leslie Imholt, Loretta Pavlik,
 Katie Meyer, Howard Pohlman, Evelyn Kilker,
 Jessica Gundling, Dominic Cairo, Rajamma Thomas,
 Joe Saban, Ola Maveety, Jean Weekley, Gen Andorf,
 Rich Andorf, Marilyn Matesevac. Also pray for our
 parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound
 and unable to attend Mass.



*The child to be born will be called holy,
 the Son of God.
 (-Luke 1:35)*



PLEASE NOTE

...the Rectory Office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24, and Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25. The office will re-open Sunday, December 26, at 8:00 a.m. On Friday, New Year's Eve, the office will be closed and on Saturday, New Year's Day, January 1, 2011. The office will re-open on Sunday, January 2, 2011 at 8:00 a.m.. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT 2010

Our faith, which comes to us with fragrant incense, flickering candles, consecration and communion, it now comes to us in the human forms and animal shapes of the Christmas crib. If God was mysterious before, coming down on the altar in sacramental sign and raised host, now it is marvelous to see with our own eyes that he was very, very human also. He loved animals and was surrounded by them. He loved children and came to them like this: a helpless babe but cozy and warm. This unseen, unknowable God, dwelling in unapproachable light, is here and now with us in flesh and blood. He is part of this world's pageant and part of our parish life. He is part of our everyday lives and resides with you and with me. The phrase "God is with us" makes perfect sense now. God is here and we have found him.

Like us, Jesus has a Mom and Dad who love him very much. They watch over him and take care of him, so that, like us, he can grow up safe and sound and surrounded by love. He has a home in a village called Nazareth. his Dad is a carpenter. He grows up and goes to school like all boys and girls do. This is a wonderful kind of God, one who wants to be exactly like we are. This kind of God we can talk to, because we can "see" him and get to know him. From watching his life and how he lives it, from studying his behavior, we can really get to know what kind of person this Jesus is. Raised from the dead and now living forever, this Lord is also flesh, and he is our brother and friend. For that is why he came...quite simply, to be one of us.

This truth, that God has become a human being, forms the opening statement of Paul's letter to the Romans, read aloud to us today. My message to you, says Paul, is that the Son of God took on our human nature, becoming a son of David's race. His name is Jesus, and being God's Son, he was raised from the dead so that everyone would know that he is the Lord. The Lord is now with you, and with all who call on his name. What Paul tells the Romans in his letter, he now tells us today: we are God's beloved, here in this place, and we are called to be saints.

The Christmas crib warms the heart of every person who looks on it. How could it not? For there, in that tender scene, in the form of a helpless child, we see the tenderness of God. That same child will be helpless once again, when his life is snatched from him on a cross, and once more we will look upon the helplessness of God.

What message is this that God is trying to give us? Why this helplessness, why this vulnerability to the pain of the world? The answer lies in a most forgotten word...the word is "INNOCENCE." Innocence is a total inability to hurt others, and so as such, it is the greatest ability of all. Looking upon the crib, many of us have recognized the face of God in a helpless child. This is the sign that has been given to us, Mary's child. In that child we see not only the loveliness of God, but also the beauty of every human being.

May the joy and "Innocence" of the Christmas cribs in our Church and homes bring us the realization of how loved we are by this God of LOVE. The prayers and thoughts of all the priests and the deacon of the parish, along with your parish staff, wish each of you a blessed, innocent, and holy Christmas. May peace reign in our hearts and homes throughout this holy season and forever.

Blessings Always,

Father Bob
Pastor

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Thanks for Lasting Joy

Lord, our God,
 who pours out every blessing,
 as we prepare to remember
 the coming of your Son,
 help us to see the difference
 between what we think we need
 and what we do need.
 Give us insight to recognize your gift
 in the people around us,
 the places where you've put us,
 the tasks that we must do.
 Lead us to seek you,
 not the perfect present,
 the spotless house, or
 the amazing meal.
 Be, then, our
 lasting joy.
 We ask this through
 Christ our Lord.
 Amen.



Sunday, December 19, 2010 Tension or Joy?

Today's Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Romans 1:1–7; Matthew 1:18–24. Light. Peace. Patience. Now joy. It may sound odd in a week overflowing with preparation: shopping, cooking, decorating, running errands. Words like *stress* or *fatigue* spring more easily to mind. But hidden in the readings, like surprises beneath the tree, are causes for celebration.

God truly understands human beings when, in the First Reading, he tells Ahaz to ask for a sign. Some of us occasionally think in terms of magic: If the phone rings right now, I'll know I should take the job. If the car breaks down here, I shouldn't attend the meeting. If the gift is precisely the right color, I should buy it. God, who made our human minds, knows that propensity.

Furthermore, God is prepared to send a staggering sign, far more than Ahaz ever dreamed. As scripture commentators

have pointed out, what Ahaz really needed, with his kingdom being invaded, was an army. Instead, he got the promise of a baby. A baby must have also seemed unhelpful to Joseph. Unmarried, torn between compassion and rigid codes of honor, he creates a compromise, a quiet divorce. Then God's direct intervention shows him a better way.

We, too, think we know what things we need—most likely, things we can't afford. A baby coming into our lives can seem like an overwhelming burden, a responsibility we can't handle. Yet this child will save us all. God must chuckle as he surprises us with something, someone, infinitely better than what we envision. If God is with us, indeed, taking on human flesh, the joy outshines anything else we could possibly want for Christmas.

This Week at Home



Monday, December 20

God's Surprises

Today's Gospel sets the tone for the rest of the week. As we prepare to commemorate Christ's birth, we hear the words of the angel, announcing that Mary will be the mother of "the Son of the Most High" and that Elizabeth, Mary's barren, elderly cousin, is also pregnant. To be a barren woman was a dire fate at this time. Yet God turns Elizabeth's tragedy to treasure, promising her a son, even in her old age. Remember a disappointment you have experienced. How did the passage of time or God's grace change it? Then imagine yourself praising God, as Elizabeth does in Luke 1:25. Today's Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Luke 1:26–38.

Tuesday, December 21

Saint Peter Canisius

One of the first Jesuits, Peter Canisius (1521–1597), was a great teacher, preacher, and diplomat, working mainly in Germany to defend and teach the Catholic faith during the Protestant Reformation. He founded numerous colleges and universities. In the midst of violent controversy, he remained positive and generous toward opponents. Peter recognized the power of printed media and encouraged book publication, still a new technology. To honor him, read an article in a Catholic magazine or a book about our faith this month. Today's Readings: Song of Songs 2:8–14; Luke 1:39–45.

Wednesday, December 22

Jesse Tree

As Christmas approaches, create a Jesse tree from a bare tree branch, a custom named for King David's father, Jesse. Read Isaiah 11:1: a shoot will sprout from Jesse and form a tall tree of ancestors that ends with Jesus. Making this tree will help you learn about important Old Testament figures.

Anchor the branch in rocks in a large tin can. Then cut out felt or paper symbols representing the ancestors, and hang them on the branch with yarn or string, reading the

corresponding scripture passage. Try some of the possibilities listed today and tomorrow: a rainbow for Noah (Genesis 9:11–17), a tree for Abraham (Genesis 18:1), a tent for Sarah (Genesis 18:9–14), a ladder for Jacob (Genesis 28:10–17). Today's Readings: 1 Samuel 1:24–28; Luke 1:46–56.

Thursday, December 23

More Jesse Tree Symbols

Continue to add these symbols to your Jesse tree: a shepherd's crook for Rachel (Genesis 29:9–12), a colorful coat for Joseph (Genesis 37:3), a tambourine for Miriam (Exodus 15:20–21), a lamp for Samuel (1 Samuel 3:1–3), a sheaf of wheat for Ruth (Ruth 2:1–9), a harp for David (1 Samuel 16:17–18), a dove for Elizabeth (Luke 1:39–45), an angel for Mary (Luke 1:26–35), a manger for Jesus (Luke 2:1–7). Today's Readings: Malachi 3:1–4, 23–24; Luke 1:57–66.

Friday, December 24

Pause to Reflect

It's tempting to rush through chores today, doing final shopping, decorating, and cooking. Those activities may naturally consume most of the day. But build in reflection time too. Sit in silence by the Christmas tree, Advent wreath, or a window. Think what Jesus' Incarnation as a human being means to you. How is your life different because he was born? What would you like to say to Jesus or Mary? Today's Readings: (Morning) 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67–69.

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day

Now, at last, the preparations are either completed or abandoned, and we can rest in the happiness of this day. Be attuned to all the ways Christ continues to be born in our midst. Perhaps it's through a child's energy, a friend's gift, the beauty of snowy evergreens, or our own joy. Phone someone who may be ill, lonely, or grieving today to share the peace of Christ's coming. Today's Readings: (Day) Isaiah 52:7–10; Hebrews 1:1–6; John 1: 1–18.



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Keeping the Seasons
Reproducibles for Advent-Christmas 2010–2011



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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2010

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Discover your roots

The O Antiphons can be thought of as Jesus' spiritual autobiography. They connect the events of the past with the reality of his birth, life, ministry, and death. Today's O Antiphon prayer, "O Flower of Jesse's Stem," reminds us of God's promise to send a messiah through the family of Jesse. For us, what often looks like a random jumble of experiences takes on a pleasing shape when viewed as a means to understand how God has been present throughout our lives. In the spirit of the O Antiphons, Advent is a good time to begin taking stock of our spiritual history. Where are we now in relation to God and our faith? And: How did we get here?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24*

"Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel."

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

ADVENT WEEKDAY

An open and shut case for salvation

Today's O Antiphon highlights one of Jesus' more unusual titles: Key of David. What exactly does that refer to? The earliest Christians, many of whom were Jews by birth and upbringing, had an uneasy relationship with Judaism. A rift had developed between the two traditions as both claimed to be God's people. At the end of the first century, John, in the Book of Revelation, assured Christians that the door of heaven was open to them. Drawing on an image used by the prophet Isaiah, John wrote that Christ "holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open" (Revelation 3:7). At this time of year we celebrate our roots as well as our salvation.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38*

"Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Ode to joy

On Christmas Day of 1886, while listening to a choir singing the evening vespers service in the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, the teenage Paul Claudel—who would become a prominent French poet, dramatist, and diplomat—experienced a conversion back to the Catholic faith of his childhood. "In an instant," he said, "my heart was touched, and I believed." With Christmas 2010 fast approaching, we ready ourselves to be touched by and believe in the quiet joy of the Nativity of the Lord. "Joy," Claudel also said, "is the most infallible sign of the presence of God." Welcome that joyful presence once again this Christmas and pray with the church today: "O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Luke 1:39-45*

"The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Behold the king of glory

Today's O Antiphon, *O Rex Gentium*, "O King of the Nations," has as one of its many influences the Old Testament passage from Isaiah 9: "For unto us a child is born, a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder." If those lines sound familiar, you have the 18th-century German-British composer George Frederick Handel to thank: His vastly popular *Messiah* oratorio has become a mainstay of Christmas concerts across the globe. The *O Rex* antiphon refers to Christ as the "only joy of every human heart," and certainly Handel's exuberant composition captures that joy. Listen to one of the many versions of Handel's *Messiah* or attend a

Messiah concert. You will be overjoyed by God's glory!

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56*

"My soul magnifies the Lord."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

ADVENT WEEKDAY

God with us

The best-known Advent song begins "O come, O come Emmanuel," but actually this verse is supposed to come at the *end* of the song, the climax of all the titles by which we call the savior. Emmanuel, in Hebrew, means "God with us," which might evoke only a shrug of the shoulders. But think of those you love, especially those from whom you're separated: loved ones in nursing homes, in the military, estranged friends, friends in other parts of the world or beyond this world. *With* is such a simple little word, but isn't it what we ache for? As we near Christmas, allow this truth and its simple word to plant itself in your soul: God *is* with you. God *is with* you. Now. Always.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachai 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66*

"Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Will the line be unbroken?

The fact that Jesus' lineage could be traced to the "house of David" was a big deal to his early followers, who as fellow Jews knew that God in the Books of Samuel and Chronicles had promised that messianic leadership of the people would come from a descendent of David. Perhaps that lineage seems a distant concern today, but the takeaway is to be aware of where we come from as a church and whose shoulders we stand on. There would be no living faith today, no midnight Christmas Mass to celebrate tonight, if those who came before had not lovingly carried it forward and handed it on to the next generation. Will we do the same?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79*

"He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

No chilly reception

Saint Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first Christmas crèche, but it wasn't originally the familiar scene of Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus. What Francis did at midnight Mass in the tiny town of Greccio was assemble a few farm animals around an empty, straw-lined manger. In that chilly mountain cave, Francis wanted to feel with his own senses the poverty and coldness of the world into which Love was born. Legend has it that in a vision Francis did see an infant in the hay, but it seemed lifeless until, moved with pity, he picked it up and it stirred, flush with life. Christmas is coming face-to-face with the chill of human fear, pain, and sorrow. It is embracing one another until we, too, are flushed with warmth and hope.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14*

"His life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness."

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

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE 2010

CHRISTMAS EVE:

2:00PM...CHURCH
2:15PM...MORRISSEY HALL
3:30PM...CHURCH
3:45PM...MORRISSEY HALL
5:30PM...CHURCH
7:00PM...CHURCH-SPANISH
10:30PM...CHURCH

ACCOMPANIMENT:

CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
VOCALIST/PIANO
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
VOCALIST/PIANO
CHAMBER ENSEMBLE
HISPANIC CHOIR
CHANCEL CHOIR

**CHRISTMAS DAY:**

7:00AM...CHURCH
8:00AM...CHURCH
9:30AM...CHURCH
11:00AM...CHURCH
12:30PM ...CHURCH

**ACCOMPANIMENT:**

ORGAN/CONGREGATIONAL CAROLING
VOCALIST/PIANO
CHANCEL CHOIR
CONTEMPORARY CHOIR
HISPANIC CHOIR

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

8:00AM...CHURCH

NEW YEAR'S DAY:

(Not a holy day of obligation)
8:00AM & 5:00PM

**CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS**

The Christmas Food Baskets will be distributed to our local recipients this weekend on Sunday. If you took a "Food Basket" tag from the Giving Tree, please bring your basket to **Morrissey Hall this Sunday, December 19, between 7:30-11:00 a.m.** Remember to securely attach your tag to the basket, so we know the size of the family for which it is intended. Thanks for helping make the holidays brighter for a needy family in our community!

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

**IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME**

If Jesus Christ had not come, the prophecies would be unfilled; there would be no Savior. The character of God who loves us and cares for us would be unknown; the secret of peace for the world would be unrevealed. The world would be without the marvelous example of a sinless life.

-Dr. Paul S. James



St. Cletus School

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE



For the past five weeks, the Sixth Grade has participated in the “Pennies for Peace” project, which encourages students to become active participants in global peace by sending contributions to help children in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Along with some of their Cardinal buddies, they collected 33,000 pennies = \$330.



SPRING AUCTION AND CARDINAL ROYALE

Support the Spring Auction and Cardinal Royale - March 19th, 2011 at Bella Banquets. In the midst of all the snow, don't forget spring is right around the corner! The 2011 Spring Auction and Cardinal Royale is shaping up to be a great event - and we would like to involve as many people as we can. Do you have an item or special talent you would like to share? Donation forms can be found on the auction website www.stcletusschool.com/auction/. Any person or business that donates cash, goods or services greater than \$250 will have a link to their website listed on our Auction home page. - See page 9 ➡

VOLUNTEER DEALERS NEEDED

If you have ever wanted to be on the winning side of the casino tables, this is your opportunity. We need to provide our own volunteer dealers for the Charitable Gambling that will be featured at the Casino Royale. We will need Dealers for Blackjack, Craps, Roulette and Texas Hold Em. Training will be provided prior to the event. Dealers will be asked to serve one of the 1.5 hours shifts that the tables will be open. The more volunteers we have, the shorter the shifts. Questions? Please e-mail auction@stcletusparish.com or contact Stefani Shanley at Stefani.Shanley@comcast.net.



SPONSOR & DONOR FORM

St. Cletus Spring Auction & Gala
March 19, 2011 7 p.m. - Midnight

☐ I WILL SPONSOR THE ST. CLETUS SPRING AUCTION. I HAVE ENCLOSED A CHECK FOR \$_____.



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Admittance for 2, valued at \$150

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Listing or Business Card in Auction Book
Admittance for 2, valued at \$150



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PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO THE ST. CLETUS SCHOOL OFFICE.

Youth Ministry News!

MISSION TRIP TO MON VALLEY, PENNSYLVANIA - JULY 31-AUGUST 5, 2011

We're excited to be going on another mission trip with YouthWorks again this summer! Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Limited spaces are available. Once all of our spots are filled, we will be gathering together to prepare for our trip. Adult chaperones are needed. Information can be found on our parish website at www.stcletusparish.com/youth. Permission slips and \$100 non-refundable deposits made payable to St. Cletus Youth Ministry must be returned to Kristen Maxwell by January 14. Call (708) 215-5419 or email kmaxwell@stcletusparish.com with any questions.

ALPINE VALLEY SKI TRIP, EAST TROY, WISCONSIN - SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2011

Grab your friends and come skiing or snowboarding with us! We will be leaving from the St. Cletus parking lot at 1:00pm and will return at approximately midnight. Information can be found on our parish website at www.stcletusparish.com/youth. Permission slips, liability forms, and fees must be returned to Kristen Maxwell by January 7. Call (708) 215-5419 or email kmaxwell@stcletusparish.com/youth with any questions.

Kristen Maxwell
Youth Ministry



Attention! St. Cletus Alumnae

Girls, we are looking for St. Cletus grads that would be interested in participating in an alumnae tournament or game to open up the

2nd Annual Erin Potts Invitational Friday 2/4 Evening times to be determined

Cost \$20/person includes T shirt
All proceeds will be donated to the
Sarcoma Alliance in Erin's name

Please email me with team info. If you don't have a team and would like to participate, we can find a team to place you on. We are looking for girls of any age, whether a recent graduate of St. Cletus or someone that graduated a "few" years back, we would love to have you!

Please come out for a night of fun and support this great cause!

Sue Lovett Rejdukowski, St. Cletus class of 1983
6/8th Grade Volleyball Coach
SueRej@sbcglobal.net
C: (708) 334-0237

St. Cletus



The next book is

The Art of Racing in the Rain
by Garth Stein

We will meet to discuss it on...

Tuesday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m.
Room 102 in the Education Building

Questions? Email: loriashe@aol.com

WATCHING AND WAITING

In his love Christ has filled us with joy
as we prepare to celebrate his birth,
so that when he comes at the end of time
he may find us watching in prayer,
our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

STEWARDSHIP

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.
(1 Pt. 4:10)*

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO THE EARLY CANTICLE DEADLINE OUR COLLECTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 12 WILL BE INCLUDED IN NEXT WEEK'S CANTICLE.

WEEK AT A GLANCE			
Day/Date	Start Time	Location/Rm. #	Event
Monday, December 20	7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	C MH	Christmas Novena Posada
Tuesday, December 21	7:00 p.m.	C	Christmas Novena
Wednesday, December 22	7:00 p.m.	C	Christmas Novena
Thursday, December 23	6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	S-Music S-Music RB	Contemporary Choir Chancel Choir AA Meeting
Friday, December 24	See Mass Schedule on Page 2 * Christmas Eve - Facilities Closed		
Saturday, December 25	See Mass Schedule on Page 2 * Christmas Day - Facilities Closed		
Sunday, December 26			
C CV MH	Church Church Vestibule Morrissey Hall	S RB	School Rectory Basement



RELIGIOUS GIVE THANKS!

Women and men religious throughout the country offer heartfelt thanks for your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your gift makes a tangible difference in the lives of thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter Solstice
Thursday: St. John of Kanty
Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord
 (Christmas)

TRUST IN GOD

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to "tempt the LORD" in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord's enduring protection of God's chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew's reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.

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 11:30am. 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).

EUCHARISTIC 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.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

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

Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

<i>Chairperson:</i>	Ed Burke
<i>Vice-Chairperson:</i>	Joe Bamberger
<i>Recording Secretary:</i>	Xavier Polanski
<i>Corresponding Secretary:</i>	Elizabeth Goellner-McLean
<i>Worship Ministry:</i>	Colleen Hagen Justin Sisul Brian Kapusta
<i>Finance Liaison:</i>	TBA
<i>Parish at Large:</i>	Dawn Dion
<i>Youth Ministry:</i>	Marty Mulcrone (School)
<i>Education Ministry:</i>	George Pach (Rel. Ed.)
<i>Adult Faith Formation:</i>	Mike Pusatera
<i>Pastoral Care Ministry:</i>	Gary Lewis Jim Matthews
<i>Development Ministry:</i>	Ed Burke
<i>Staff Representative:</i>	Paulette Bolton
<i>Hispanic Ministry:</i>	Silvia Casas Louis Lopez
<i>Social Concerns:</i>	Dick Ford Peggy Meidell
<i>Technology Representative:</i>	Julie Lenz
<i>Parish Life:</i>	Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

Merry Christmas
and all the best in the New Year
from St. Cletus Parish.
Thank you for your continued
support.



WINTER REMINDER

As inclement winter weather approaches, please remember to use caution in our parking lot and walkways on the parish grounds.