



St. Cletus Parish

2010 Stewardship Report





St. Cletus Parish
600 W. 55th St.
La Grange, IL 60525
708-352-6209

Parish Pastoral Council

Chairperson

Rita F. Mayer

Vice-Chairperson

Jim Ryva

Recording Secretary

Xavier Polanski

Corresponding Secretary

Elizabeth Goellner-McLean

Staff Representative

Paulette Bolton

Social Concerns Commission

Dick Ford, Peggy Meidell

Finance Liaison

Brian Kapusta

Youth Ministry Commission

Dawn Dion

Hispanic Ministry Commission

Silvia Casas, Fulgencio Torres

Worship Ministry Commission

Colleen Hagen, Justin Sisul

Development Ministry Commission

Ed Burke

Pastoral Care Ministry

Stuart Heyes, Jim Matthews

Technology Ministry Commission

Julie Lenz

Education Ministry Commission

Marty Mulcrone, George Pach

Parish Life Ministry Commission

Lori Ashe, Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

Parishioner at Large

Joe Bamberger

St. Cletus Parish Staff

Pastor

Rev. Robert Clark

Associate Pastors

Rev. Edgar Rodriguez

Rev. Charles Watkins

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Charles Gallagher

Deacon Couple

Rev. Mr. Jesús & Silvia Casas

Pastoral Staff

Paulette Bolton

Rev. Jesús Casas

Amy Cranny

Mary Beth Ford

Debbie Lestarczyk

Kristen Maxwell

Justin Sisul

Chris Wagner

Dolores Wouk

Liturgy / Worship Director

Hispanic Ministry Director

Youth Ministry Director

Social Concerns Director

Business Manager

Youth Ministry Director

Music Director

Technology Director

Ministry of Care

Rectory Staff

Pat Drobny

Bobbie Kallal

Mary Zwolinski

Bulletin Editor /Office Assist.

Human Resources /Records

Parish Accounting

Parish School Staff

Terri Langellier

Kathy Lifka

Mary Lee Krieger

Jeanie Scalzitti

Principal

Assistant Principal

Administrative Assistant

Office Assistant

Religious Education Staff

Holly Kallal

Sr. Pat McKee

Admin. Assistant

Director

Facilities & Grounds

Ricardo Murillo

Derek Sawicki

Maintenance

Maintenance Supervisor



October 2010

Dear Parishioners,

Our parish family has truly been blessed during this past year. We welcomed 204 new families to our parish community, which brings our total number of registered families to 2,673. We baptized 124 new young Catholics during the year. Our school educated 440 students in pre-school through eighth grade, while our Religious Education Program formed 444 young people in the faith in pre-school through eighth grade. Our Confirmation Program provided formation for 181 freshmen and sophomores. Also, 123 young people received the sacrament of Holy Eucharist for the first time, and 93 young adults were confirmed in the faith through the sacrament of Confirmation. The total number of children and young people formed in the faith was 1,100. We celebrated 14 quinceañeras for young women in the Hispanic Ministry Program. Over 50 adults participate in R.C.I.A. or other adult faith formation programs. We married 20 couples and renewed the marriage vows of numerous couples. We celebrated the Rite of Christian Burial for 88 members of the community as they enter their eternal reward. Hundreds of Communion visits to the sick and Holy Anointing of the Sick calls were made to hospitals and homes. All of this has been made possible because of your extremely generous support of the mission of our parish.

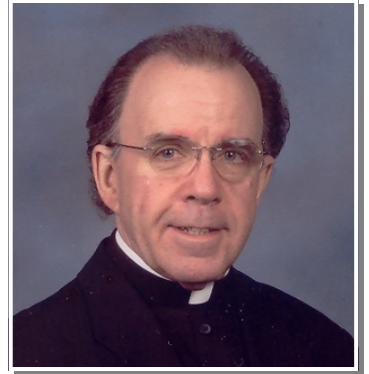
The fiscal year 2009-10 continued to be a difficult economic time for many of our parish families. Even through these difficult times you have responded to the needs of our parish ministries. With your help we have been able to significantly increase the assistance given to families in need through our Food Pantry Program and our St. Vincent De Paul Society. Your commitment to the needs of all God's people is to be commended.


As you continue to read the Stewardship Report, you will find the balance sheets and statements of revenue and expenses for this past year, as well as how your generous support has been put into action through our many ministerial activities. You should be proud of all you have been able to accomplish to spread the Good News of the Gospel within this vibrant faith community.

I would like to thank all the members of our parish finance committee for their dedication and commitment to the sound financial health of our parish. The current members of this important advisory committee are: Dave Smith (Chairman), Ed Burke, Brian Kapusta, Don McMahon, Roman Szabelski, Marie Usher, and Carol Walters.

Thank you for all your contributions of time, talent, and treasure to your parish community. Your continued generosity allows us to be faithful to our parish mission and the message of the Gospel, as we bring the Good News to all within our community.

With Sincere Thanks and Gratitude,




Fr. Bob Clark
Pastor



This is the first edition of the Stewardship Report. Detailed within this report is information with respect to many of the ministries, services, and programs at St. Cletus Parish. We hope that this information will allow you to see how your time, talent, and treasure, create, develop and support this family known as St. Cletus.

Financially, we finished the fiscal year with expenses exceeding revenues by only \$30,000. This was due to the diligent efforts of our parish staff maintaining our expense, but more importantly, we were able to achieve these results with the generosity and stewardship of our parishioners, despite the economic climate in which we live.

Parish Life

The Parish Life Commission is a ministry committed to planning social programs and activities to meet, interact, and share our Christian faith. We sponsored several family game nights, a parish picnic, the Kelly Miller Circus, a pot luck dinner, co-ed basketball gym night, and a book club which meets every other month.



Book Club: Marley and Me

The **Welcoming Committee** provides a caring and positive welcome for new parishioners on the first Sunday of each month.

The **Women's Club** provides spiritual, social, and charitable

projects. The annual Christmas Tea is a much loved tradition that brings together parishioners and raises money for a designated charity.

The **Holy Name Society** is the parish men's club that supports and promotes parish activities, including the annual Pancake Breakfast, Turkey Raffle, and July 4th Veterans' Mass.



Holy Name Society

Leisure Loafers, for seniors over 60, offers social activities the first Thursday of each month (September - June) in Morrissey Hall from 1-3 p.m.

Hispanic Ministry

The Hispanic Ministry serves individuals and families whose first language is Spanish. The primary focus is liturgical celebrations, education, sacramental preparation, and evangelization. We collaborate with the Religious Education program in preparing our youth for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

28 baptisms and 14 quinceañera services were held last year.



Quinceañeras' Retreat

A quinceañera is a celebration of life and gratitude to God on a young woman's 15th birthday.

We celebrated the traditional "Day of the Dead" in November and the "Feast of

our Lady of Guadalupe" in December.

We introduced various adult education programs, including bible study, "English as a Second Language" classes, and GED preparation classes.



The Spanish Mass schedule *Good Friday Stations of the Cross* was changed to 12:30 every Sunday, resulting in increased attendance.

The ministry reaches out to families in need with the help of the parish food pantry, St. Vincent DePaul Society, and Advent Giving Tree. We also provide referrals for social services in the Chicagoland area.

Worship

The Worship Commission continues to address the challenges presented from the Parish Convocation: to provide a variety of opportunities for different forms of worship and to reach out to parishioners in a variety of ways.

Our significant accomplishments this year include expanding prayer opportunities in the form of Taizé prayer, the Parish



Joyful Noise Concert: Sing-a-long

Mission, and a variety of Lenten prayer choices. We participated in the "Catholics Come Home" campaign and worked to integrate the elements of the campaign into our daily and weekly liturgical experiences. We continue to welcome and train new

ministers including lectors, cantors, and auxiliary ministers. Our board continues to actively pursue a wide variety of spiritual opportunities for our parishioners for the coming years.



Joyful Noise Concert: Sister Act

Notable successes to bring our parishioners together as a community include the creation of the Fine Arts Series. The series highlighted performances by our own parishioners, hosting of professional musical ensembles from the Chicagoland area, and the return of the outdoor Mass and patriotic band concert on July 3rd. We are most appreciative of the wonderful community response.

Technology

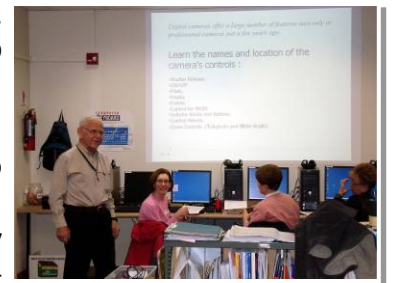
The Technology Committee provides technical expertise, support, and guidance to parish and school staff, parishioners, parents, and students. Our committee reviews and makes suggestions concerning the purchasing, updating, and cycling of equipment and software.

We offer numerous computer education courses such as Microsoft Excel and Word, digital photography, social networking, and exploring the tools of Google. Open to all, our classes have received excellent reviews. Class listings are promoted in the Canticle and on the website.

We play an integral role in the design and implementation of the long-range technology plan for the parish and school,

which has resulted in increased technology usage and acquisitions, including interactive whiteboards, updated computer & server systems, document cameras, and LCD projectors.

Our cutting edge and innovative committee who also design, maintain, and manage our website, enjoy the challenges of ever-changing technology.



Donald Hogue leading an adult computer class



Continuing The Ministry of Christ

Youth Ministry

Our high school students participated in many activities last year. **Confirmation** students (freshman and sophomores) participated in the annual Crop Walk and the Giving Tree Program. Their small group service work consisted of participating in the Empty Bowls project, raking leaves for the elderly in Countryside, serving at the Boy Scouts annual Blue and Gold Dinner, changing missals in our church, etc. The students also participated in special liturgies, attended a questions & answer session with a panel of priests, and listened to a speaker on homelessness and our role as confirmed Catholics in social justice issues. Teens from this program led our parish in the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. Additionally, the 81 students who were confirmed last spring, went on an overnight retreat with Fr. Michael Knotek.



Youth Mission Trip to St. Louis

Our **Teen Advisory Board** was comprised of 20 teens and 10 adults. This group planned socials such as Great America, Laser Tag, and an overnight ski trip. In addition, the Teen Advisory Board planned a service project at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. 15 teens and 3 adults attend the annual summer mission trip

to St. Louis, MO. Currently, the board is helping to create the new four-year catechetical component of our program, based on past work, reflection, and the results of our teen & parent surveys. The program will be implanted next year (11-12).



Youth Ministry Laser Tag

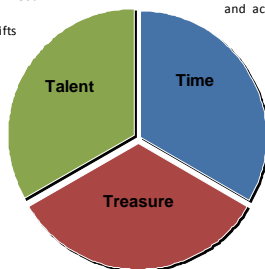
The **Kairos** retreat program for juniors and seniors in high school has really moved our parish forward in offering something for our older students. This exciting four day retreat is led by teens and adults and has been developed with our neighboring parishes, St. John of the Cross and St. Francis Xavier. Last fall, St. Cletus launched its first retreat, with 21 retreatants and 7 teen leaders. We are enjoy watching this program grow and seeing the impact it is making in the lives of our youth.

Another vibrant program in youth ministry has been the **Church Basketball League**. There were three St. Cletus teams of high school boys that participated in a LaGrange/Western Springs league of Christian churches. We also saw the revival of the girls basketball league in the spring, as our girls competed against two other churches.

STEWARDSHIP- A Life-long, faith-filled journey

A good steward recognizes that everything comes from God and receives God's gifts

A good steward cherishes those gifts and uses them in a responsible and accountable manner.



A good steward shares those gifts with others in a spirit of service and love.

Social Concerns

The driving force of the St. Cletus Social Concerns Ministry is found in our mission statement: *As members of St. Cletus Parish and the Body of Christ, we strive to answer God's call to "act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8) We do this in Christ's name by enlisting the time, talent, and treasure of our faith community to respond to human needs here and throughout the world.*

We are proud of the involvement of so many dedicated, flexible volunteers and donors, from grade school age to retirement, who take part in our outreach to people of all ages throughout our community and beyond. There are many avenues through which these good works take place, including the food pantry, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul—which together serve from 225-275 families each month—the Parish Rummage Sale, the Greater Chicago Food Depository,

Jewel "Turkey-Bucks", La Grange Business Association "Empty Bowls" Project, the Giving Tree, the Employment Ministry, Respect Life, Lenten Almsgiving Projects, Interfaith Community Partners (helping older adults stay connected to the community), the CROP Walk, and special appeals.

We have also been blessed in these challenging economic times with good neighbors outside our parish who collaborate with us as we continue to answer God's call for peace and justice for all of His children. YOUR support makes all this possible. Thank you!

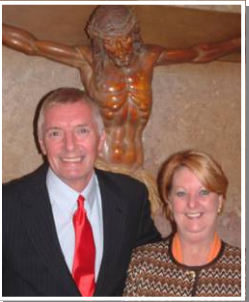


Beyond the pantry walls: storage of packed bags as we prepare for monthly food distribution.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Commission consists of the Compassionate Care Ministry, the Parish Nurse, the School Nurse, and the Ministry of Care.

Compassionate Care offers comfort, compassion, and support to families who have experienced the death of a loved one. Members meet with the family to plan the funeral and will lead the Catholic vigil prayers at the wake, if asked. During the year following the funeral, the family receives cards and literature, caring phone calls, and a care basket. The ministry's effort is a visible sign of our concern and support during this most difficult time. Stuart Heyes, our Deacon Candidate, coordinates these services for the parish. Father Bob, Fr. Edgar, and Fr. Charles are on call with the local hospitals to provide the Sacrament of the Sick and Dying.



Marlene and Stuart Heyes, Deacon Candidate

Ministry of Care provides presence, prayer, and sacrament to the sick, frail, or elderly, whether hospitalized, homebound, or in extended care facilities. Our priests also celebrate Mass at Lexington and Briar Place nursing homes.



Fr. Watkins with Delores Wouk, Director Ministry of Care

Volunteer **Parish Nurse** coordinates blood pressure checks and skilled listening, which are available in the nurse's office in the church vestibule. She also organizes blood drives and flu vaccinations for parish members.

Volunteer **School Nurse** maintains the students' medical records and keeps the school informed on state health regulations. She coordinates the Annual Health Fair with a variety of organization volunteers and nursing students, which teachers students about a healthy lifestyle. She also provides eye, hearing, and scoliosis screenings.

Parish Long Range Plan/Development

This past year our **Parish Pastoral Council** (PPC) began the process of looking into our long range plans for development and needed improvements to our parish facilities. The needed improvements to some of our parish facilities surfaced as a result of our Parish Convocation and the Facilities Feasibility Study, conducted earlier by the Trane Corporation. They found the need for more handicapped accessible meeting space and significant improvements to the education building. Some recommendations included extensive asbestos removal, the addition of new energy efficient windows and doors,

electrical repairs and updating, plumbing improvements, and some roof repairs. With the help of Laurus Strategies, we began the process of researching the potential to address these issues over the next several years. Laurus Strategies is currently working with us to formulate a specific plan for the future development of our facilities. The methodology will include the use of small group interviews, surveys, and organization of a steering committee for the possibility of a future development campaign.



Continuing The Ministry of Christ

St. Cletus School

St. Cletus School has been putting faith in the future for over 50 years. We are passionate about giving our students the strong foundations for life-long learning. We recognize diverse talents and individual learning styles and we offer certified programs from pre-school through eighth grade. Our focus on academics, religious education, and spiritual development balanced with extracurricular activities, supports our mission to develop well-rounded students.



First Communicants

School enrollment remained strong, with 440 students attending our full day pre-school through eighth grade programs. Dedicated teachers and staff continue to ensure academic excellence for the students. We also recognize and thank the families that choose and support Catholic education.



Share your Soles Service Project

Our school community lives out the good news of the Gospel with daily religion classes and student-planned liturgies. We are proud of the many hours of service our students put into our parish and surrounding community. Last year, every grade made a commitment to show their faith through service by working with several local and national organizations. The students contributed their efforts to a variety of causes including the American Heart

Association, Children's Memorial Cardiac Unit, and Share Your Soles. As a parish and school committed to community service, we participated in the collection of food for the food pantry and the Giving Tree.

The success of our fundraising efforts—Oktoberfest, Annual Fund, Spring Auction and Gala, and Cardinal Open Golf Outing—netted over \$185,000. Donations in the School Support envelopes and School Educational Endowment Fund totaled more than \$10,000. This generosity has enabled us to improve the education of our students.

Enhancements made over the past two years, to further Integrate technology into our curriculum include replacement of 31 Technology Learning Center workstations, installation of wall mounted Smart Board at each grade level, deployment of a new school file server, upgraded network infrastructure, renewal of educational online subscriptions, and introduction of an Elmo (document camera). A new electronic attendance, grade book, and report card system was put into place. The school website was redesigned in-house by the tech committee at no additional cost.

Along with those improvements, we were also able to upgrade our curricula with new Social Studies textbooks for kindergarten through 8th grade and Math textbooks the previous year. Our staff focused on Understanding by Design, differentiated instruction, technology assessment, and ongoing professional development.



Smart Boards in Classrooms

St. Cletus School, continued

At a time when many schools are forced to cut programs, we continue to maintain and improve the development of well-rounded students by offering Spanish, Art, Physical Education, Band, and Technology. We also offer numerous extracurricular programs including Athletics, Tech Club, Ceramics, Rainbows, Stock Market Game Club, Science Club, Yearbook Club, and Student Council. The before and aftercare

Religious Education

The Religious Education Department, with the help of 40 catechists, provided classes for 419 students in grades 1st through 8th. We offer an Early Childhood program for children ages 3-5. Following is a glimpse of the service projects in which students, families, and volunteers actively participated.



Reconciliation Retreat

In November, we held a Foot Care Collection for the homeless. Items collected were socks, nail clippers, ointments, lotions, bandages, and Epsom salts. Our donations were brought to the Franciscan Outreach Center in Chicago where volunteer doctors and podiatrists provided care for the homeless before the winter months.

For our Advent project in December, we asked our families to donate food items to help supplement our Christmas food baskets. We collected enough items to make 2 baskets; the remainder of the donations were used to help stock the food pantry shelves. An Advent candle sale resulted with proceeds of \$300.00.

In January, our junior high students and families visited the St. Blasé Soup Kitchen and served over 70 homeless. We provided a wonderful meal of Swedish meatballs, noodles,

programs provide a safe, fun environment for students of working parents.

We are most appreciative of the generous parish and community support which allowed us to provide our students with an education built on spiritual growth and academic excellence. We pray that you will continue to partner with us in the important mission of educating tomorrow’s leaders.

bread, sliced carrots, and cookies.

In February, we held our 2nd Annual Good Neighbor Food Drive. Our 5th Grade students and their families lead this project. They helped sort, organize, box, and transport, collected items to the rectory. We successfully collected a variety of items to help stock the food pantry shelves.

In March, sack lunches were provided for over 85 homeless people. Our junior high students made sandwiches, cut up vegetables, made a “Puppy Chow” dessert, and supplied chips and water.

In April, our 6th grade students and families were asked to donate baked goods to be sold after a weekend parish Mass. All proceeds were donated to the AmeriCares organization, which helped those in need in Chile.

In June, we held Crocodile Dock Vacation Bible School for 90 students with the help of 30 volunteers.



Vacation Bible School

All our activities center around studying God’s word, learning the faith, discovering God’s work in our life, and living out the Gospel.

Adult Faith Formation

The Adult Faith Formation ministry offers baptismal preparation classes for new parents. Pre-Cana classes are also offered for couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. These classes are taught with the help of trained volunteers.



RCIA Candidates at Easter Vigil Mass

A bible study program, “The Great Adventure Series,” with 30 participants was facilitated by Fr. Edgar. The continuing series will be offered again this year.

RCIA is a process to in which adults are educated in becoming Catholic. This year candidates were baptized, confirmed and the First Eucharist was celebrated at the Easter Vigil Mass on April 3, 2010.

PARISH DATA 2009-10

2673	Registered Families
204	Families Joined Parish
430	School Students
444	Religious Education Students
124	Baptized Catholic
50	Adult Formation Participants
123	First Holy Communicants
93	Confirmed
14	Quinceañeras
20	Celebrated Matrimony
88	Funeral Masses



Stewardship of Treasure

This portion on the 2010 Stewardship Report addresses our parish's call to Stewardship of Treasure as reflected in the financial results of the past year.

ST. CLETUS PARISH BALANCE SHEETS JUNE 30, 2010 AND 2009

	2010	2009
Assets		
Cash in bank	\$ 208,192	\$ 132,930
Cash - Auxiliary groups	80,761	85,395
Prepaid Deposit/Prepaid Expenses	18,059	16,559
Parish investments at market value	1,227,235	1,085,108
Restricted School endowment Certificate of Deposit (1)	50,470	-
Restricted School endowment investment at market value (1)	<u>497,528</u>	<u>538,333</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 2,082,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,858,325</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 247,592	\$ 146,127
Tuition deposits	<u>171,181</u>	<u>172,383</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>418,773</u>	<u>318,510</u>
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	1,115,474	1,001,482
Restricted School endowment (1)	<u>547,998</u>	<u>538,333</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>1,663,472</u>	<u>1,539,815</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 2,082,245</u>	<u>\$ 1,858,325</u>

(1) - The Restricted School Endowment investment is not available for general parish operations.

ST. CLETUS PARISH STATEMENTS OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE

TWELVE MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2010 AND 2009

	2010	2009
<u>Church Revenue</u>		
Sunday & Holy Day collections	\$ 1,405,492	\$ 1,386,352
Christmas collections	209,645	213,951
Easter collections	100,850	116,005
Tuition & fees (Catechesis and youth)	137,336	134,538
Summer Projects/Light our Way	97,092	63,066
Bequest/Memorials- Church Electrical Wiring & Lighting Renovation	187,871	16,470
Net Auxiliary groups' revenue (expense)	(4,634)	(28,935)
Archdiocesan/Sharing/Other Collections	54,506	75,824
Other income - i.e. vigils, sacrament fees, mass intentions, outreach	<u>165,525</u>	<u>124,994</u>
Total Church Revenue	<u>2,353,683</u>	<u>2,102,265</u>
<u>Church Expenses</u>		
Salaries & benefits	875,476	861,863
Utilities	66,381	63,288
Maintenance & repairs	127,193	160,990
Office / technology	56,685	47,555
Liturgical / books	104,249	89,284
Archdiocesan assessments	304,388	282,628
Summer Projects/Light Our Way	118,307	63,156
Church Electrical Wiring & Lighting Renovation	239,018	-
Long Range Plan/Development/Facility Feasibility Study	10,500	42,500
Archdiocesan/Sharing/Other Collections	54,506	75,824
Miscellaneous - i.e. food, transportation, hospitality, outreach	<u>196,595</u>	<u>124,327</u>
Total Church Expenses	<u>2,153,298</u>	<u>1,811,415</u>
Church Net Surplus	<u>\$ 200,385</u>	<u>\$ 290,850</u>
<u>School Revenue</u>		
Tuition & fees	\$ 1,633,338	\$ 1,597,505
Other/school support/fundraising (2) (3)	<u>529,354</u>	<u>462,767</u>
Total School Revenue	<u>2,162,692</u>	<u>2,060,272</u>
<u>School Expenses</u>		
Salaries & benefits	1,968,231	1,853,509
Utilities	77,192	83,056
Maintenance & repairs	55,814	57,190
Books / instructional / technology	78,964	232,274
Insurance / assessment	66,461	61,763
Fundraising	69,952	72,779
Other (2)	<u>76,690</u>	<u>85,703</u>
Total School Expense	<u>2,393,304</u>	<u>2,446,274</u>
School Net Deficit	<u>\$ (230,612)</u>	<u>\$ (386,002)</u>
PARISH OPERATING (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ (30,227)</u>	<u>\$ (95,152)</u>
<u>Other income</u>		
Interest income	2,092	1,517
Increase (decrease) in value of parish investments	142,127	(85,627)
Increase (decrease) in value of school endowment	9,665	(126,990)
NET PARISH (DEFICIT) SURPLUS	<u>\$ 123,657</u>	<u>\$ (306,252)</u>

(2) - In the 2009 column, the revenue and expense of School Associations have been netted.

(3) - Other/school support includes \$60,000 and \$30,000 distributions from the endowment for 2010 and 2009, respectively.



St. Cletus Parish
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