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REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES WATKINS

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES GALLAGHER

Pastor Emeritus

REV. RON ANGLIM

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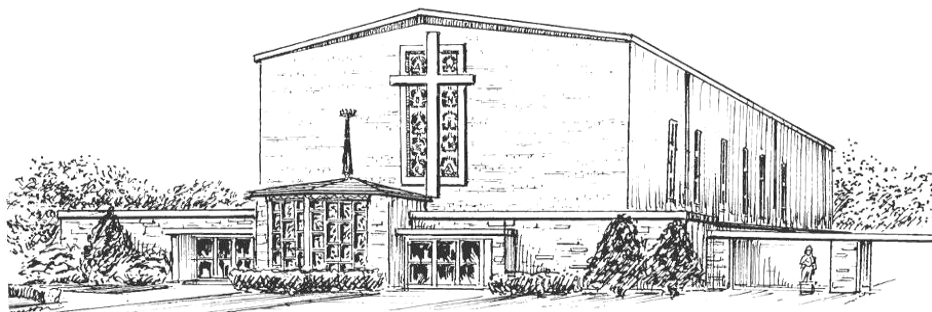
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St. Cletus Canticle

600 W. 55th Street - La Grange, IL

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

May 1, 2011

Second Sunday of Easter



He breathed
on them...

Receive the Holy Spirit.



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 May 2 - May 8, 2011

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Georgia Popp
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Cletus
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Robert Rook, Eva & Stanley Grabowski, Walter Johnston, Brother Michael Grace
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Nan Rettig
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Purgatorial Society Roy J. Lane, Sr., Georgia Popp, Rose Delaloye, Joseph & Kay Klemak, Caroline B. Crumpler
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Emilia & Marco Rattin, Debbie Sipek, Georgia Popp, Howard Madsen Florence Curtis, Yolanda DiNella, Ethel Maveety, Josephine Mikutis, Helen Luczak, Anna Pleszka, Irene Wisniewski, Adeline Kulikowski Kay Battle, Tecla Kwak, Mary Jo Stefanski, Roseann Lodato, Rose Radice, Rose Mary Ptak Sophie Egieski, Rose Battista, Loretta Yanta, Rosa Frasca DeSimone, Timothy Benrus Purgatorial Society



Please remember our sick in your prayers:
 Rose Pasquale, Dale Gurney, John Harden,
 Mary Alice Gregorchuk, Harry Fisher,
 Chester Wojcik, Donald Cuttill, Laura McDonnell,
 Dick Radom, Idolina Montano, Wei Wu, Sue Kremer,
 Gail Pankow-Locker, Kathryn Super-Wilson,
 Lydia Ciaglia, 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.

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



Roland Kowal,
father of Vernon

Anne Russell,
former parishioner of St. Cletus

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



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on
 Monday, May 9, and every first Monday of the month.
 Adoration begins immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.
 The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed at 6:15 p.m.
 followed by Benediction.

Hispanic Adoration continues from 7:00-8:00 p.m.



WELCOME SUNDAY

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers.
 Registration is available next weekend, May 7/8,
 after the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and the
 7:00, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses.
 Please stop by the back of church, say hello, and
 become members.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Easter; Divine Mercy Sunday; Holocaust Remembrance Day
Monday:	St. Athanasius
Tuesday:	Ss. Philip and James
Thursday:	Cinco de Mayo
Friday:	First Friday; National Day of Prayer
Saturday:	First Saturday

NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 2011

“Look at Joan. She weighed 280 pounds and had tried every diet under the sun. But after only three months on our new sensible eating plan, she is down to an incredible 140 pounds. Joan says she is now full of confidence, and her whole outlook on life has changed.” “Dave is only 30, and already his hair has turned gray. But thanks to our new formula hair colorant, Dave has not just regained his natural hair color, but he has found that women who used to ignore him now pay him a lot more attention.” A lot of advertisements we see these days use this “before and after” format to sell their products. Pictures don’t lie, and there’s nothing so convincing as having the evidence of dramatic change put before our eyes to make the extravagant claims of the advertisers.

The theme of today’s readings could be described as being an early version of this type of “before and after” selling. In the gospel, Thomas is the ultimate hard-bitten consumer, unwilling to believe anyone’s claims—even his friends’—unless he has the evidence in front of him. Jesus raised from the dead? He won’t believe it unless he can see it with his own eyes—in fact unless he can feel the very wounds of the cross on Christ’s body. And of course, Jesus duly obliges: “Put your finger here...give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer, but believe.” Faced with such overwhelming evidence, Thomas does indeed believe.

But there is another striking “before and after” image presented to us in today’s readings. John tells us that “the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were for fear of the Jews.” But the picture of what happened after that, once Jesus had given the gift of the Holy Spirit, is totally different. The description of that early Christian community in Acts is light years away from the frightened, disheartened, tiny group of disciples huddled together in that upper room. Once the Spirit is given, all fear is gone. The disciples preach openly; the community grows in numbers; and they are full of praise and courage. And indeed, the second reading goes one step further. It also describes a ‘before’ and an ‘after.’ The ‘before’ is this present life of faith, which gives us joy and hope but is also tinged with trials and suffering. Peter promises that there will be an ‘after’—once this time of testing is over—when we can come into the inheritance promised to us, an eternal reward which can never be spoiled, which is the salvation of our souls.

The readings today are not simply descriptions of past events or of what happened to Thomas and that early Christian community. They are paradigms, models of what God can do to us in our individual lives and in our parish and religious communities. He takes away our fear and replaces it with his peace. He fills us with his Spirit so that we, too, can form a community which is faithful to the teaching of the apostles, centered on the breaking of the bread and prayer, and where all members care for each others’ needs. He sends us out with a mission, his mission, and he promises to work with us—through “miracles and signs”—to confirm the message he gives. We simply need to make that leap of faith, as Thomas did.

This is no fairy story or wishful thinking; this is the common experience of Christians throughout the centuries. The community Peter wrote to didn’t live in some romantic Christian ideal. They knew real danger, real pain, even death for the sake of their faith in Christ. But he reminds them—and us—that no matter what the trials we face, real faith is possible: “You did not see him yet you love him.” Or as Jesus tells Thomas: “Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.” We each face the trials of life and of faith in our own particular ways—perhaps we face rejection or hostility because of our faith; perhaps our faith has cost us in terms of career or friends; perhaps our cross is that of physical illness, mental anguish, grief, poverty or loneliness. Whatever our trials, Peter encourages us to take heart, to keep our faith alive, to remember the hope we now have, and to look forward to that glorious “after” which awaits all those who remain faithful.

*Faith in the Risen Christ,
Father Bob*



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

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2011

SOLEMNITY OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Believing is not always seeing

Poor Saint Thomas the Apostle! He's held up as the poster child of doubt—the one who had to see and touch the wounds of the risen Jesus before he would believe in the resurrection—and he's also the straw man for Jesus' words, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me?" But give Thomas a break: He was only asking for what the other apostles had—they believed because they had seen the Lord already! Thomas is also the set-up man for an even more important teaching: "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Only the first generation of Christ's followers would know him in the flesh. The rest of us believe through hearing the good news about him.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31 (43)*
"Although you have not seen him you love him; even though you do not see him now yet [you] believe in him."

MONDAY, MAY 2

FEAST OF ATHANASIUS, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Let's get together

The average parish is a motley crew: young and old, fervent believers and tepid ones, the well-off and the struggling. These days parishes may also have members who speak different languages or have opposing political convictions. How can the Body of Christ absorb this cacophony? Keeping it together has always been a challenge for the church. It was once a matter of Jews and Gentiles. In the time of Saint Athanasius it was orthodoxy vs. Arians. Yet Athanasius declared: "A pure and simple realization: Beings of opposite natures can unite in a concord of harmony." Our unity remains a cherished element of our church.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8*
"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness."

TUESDAY, MAY 3

FEAST OF PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

We have seen him

There Jesus was, raised by God, and his apostles were still asking questions. First, Thomas: "Master . . . how can we know the way?" Then Philip: "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." It's said there are no stupid questions, but, guys, the answers were literally looking you in the eye—and had been the whole time. "*I am the way and the truth and the life,*" Jesus reminded them. "Whoever has seen *me* has *seen the Father.*" It's also said there shouldn't be a gap between appearance and action. No different for Christ's disciples. "Whoever believes in me," Jesus said, "will do the works that I do." Want to see Jesus? He's already there, in your heart and in your love.

TODAY'S READINGS: *1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14 (561)*
"From now on you do know him and have seen him."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

EASTER WEEKDAY

A sign worth broadcasting

If Americans can cite any scripture text, it might be John 3:16 (For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son . . .). A group in Alabama made a video of a bunch of guys noticing a sign with that Bible verse on it and looking it up on a smart phone to find out what it means. The video was rejected as a Super Bowl commercial because it promoted a particular religion, which may be true. But it would have been a good reminder. Sometimes we have to hold up a sign, make a phone call, visit a sick friend, or forgive a spouse in order to

help one another see what and who is already among us.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21 (269)*

"God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him . . . might have eternal life."

THURSDAY, MAY 5

EASTER WEEKDAY

Let God be your guide

If it's all up for grabs, why pay attention to what others teach or preach when everyone has their own relationship with God? After all the Bible says, "Obey God, not humans." Well, yes—and no. Indeed the buck does stop with God in that we are oriented by our nature to listen to God and respond to God's call. But there's a lot out there to compete with our natural inclinations—fear, vulnerability, peer pressure, misinformation, and more—all of which can provide compelling alternative messages. Fortunately God graces us with not only our own lights but scripture and the church to give us a better sense of how to navigate. Think about the ways in your own life that God uses to connect with you.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36 (270)*
"We must obey God rather than men."

FRIDAY, MAY 6

EASTER WEEKDAY

It's possible with God

It is human to question our capacity to accomplish great things. We tend to focus on what little we have to work with, whether it's time or money or ability—or all three! But God does not give us dreams we have no ability to realize. We have only to recall the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes to know that is true. One lesson of the story is that with God great things are possible from even the most humble beginnings. This Easter season place your whole self—your gifts, talents, abilities, heart, and soul—into God's hands with the sure knowledge that if the yearning comes from God, it is possible.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15 (271)*
"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?"

SATURDAY, MAY 7

EASTER WEEKDAY

It is I

Jesus had sent the disciples on ahead of him in a boat. During the night the going got pretty rough. In the midst of their struggle—remember, they were rowing—Jesus came toward them on the water, a startling development even though it meant rescue. Jesus allayed their fears with three words: "It is I." Actually, it's only two, in Greek: "I am." Sound familiar? They are the words God uses to identify himself at a number of places in scripture. So Jesus isn't merely saying, "Don't worry, it's me." He's declaring that he is God but also that God simply *is*—the foundation of everything. Next time you find yourself rowing against the waves of trouble, remember you're always on solid ground, so to speak, with God.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21 (272)*
"He said to them, 'It is I. Do not be afraid.'"

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Contributors: 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.

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Our clients continue to express their deep appreciation for the hope we give them each month as we provide supplemental groceries to help them make ends meet. Along with their bag of non-perishables in April, as a special Easter gift, each family received a \$10 Jewel card to purchase perishables, such as meat, eggs, milk, etc. The little ones were all smiles as they received an Easter stuffed animal, specially refurbished by our Mission Ladies. Thank you for the large part you play in helping those struggling in our community. A few reminders:

- All non-perishables are greatly appreciated. At this time most needed staples include meals in a can/box, canned meat, dry pinto beans, jelly, canned fruit, tomatoes/tomato sauce, cereal, boxed side dishes, and paper products..
- Besides our staple items, we also include one or two “special items” in each of our pre-packed family bags. These might include a condiment, cooking oil, packets of noodle or rice and sauce, evaporated or powdered milk, crackers, or cookies, etc.
- We also have a “specials table” from which our clients choose one or two items to supplement their staples. Some favorites include coffee, tea, juice, powdered lemonade, diapers (especially size 4-6), toiletries, laundry detergent and dish washing soap.
- Remember to check expiration dates to avoid out of date goods, which we cannot use.
- We also need full-size brown paper bags.

Please drop off your donations in the designated food bins in the Church vestibule when you come to Mass over the weekend, or daily from 7:45a.m-4:00p.m. Thanks, again!

The Food Pantry received a large food donation as one of the recipients of the United States Post Office Food Drive last weekend. Thanks to all who donated to that event, to the food pantry volunteers who picked up, delivered, and sorted the groceries, and to Boy Scout Troop and Crew 216 for lending a much appreciated hand in the carrying and sorting of the goods received. Their cheerful work made a huge undertaking go very smoothly!

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

Youth Ministry Update!

WANTED: Adult Chaperones for Mission Trip

We are looking for enthusiastic adults over age 25 to chaperone our trip to Mon Valley, Pennsylvania from July 31–August 5! Please contact Kristen Maxwell at (708) 215-5419 or kmaxwell@stcletusparish.com for more information.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who supported our Fannie May candy sales after Masses on Palm Sunday weekend. We earned more than \$2,100! We are so blessed to have the support of our parishioners!

MISSION TRIP MEETING

This Tuesday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 201 in the Education Building, teens who are attending the mission trip will meet to pray, discuss finances, and make other preparations. Bring your music for the trip!

WENDY'S NIGHT

On Tuesday, May 10, from 5:00–8:00 p.m., Wendy's (9941 W. 55th St.) will be donating 15% of all of its sales to St. Cletus Youth Ministry to pay for the remaining cost of our mission trip. (We are a little short on gas money!) Please consider dining at Wendy's with your family or friends that evening!

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

We will meet on Tuesday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 201 in the Education Building. We will begin to plan social and service events for the summer and next school year.

2011–2012 TEEN FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION REMINDER

Don't forget to register for our new program beginning in September! All high school teens are invited and encouraged to participate! Forms and information are available on our parish website at www.stcletusparish.com/youth. Contact Kristen Maxwell at kmaxwell@stcletusparish.com or (708) 215-5419 with any questions.

Kristen Maxwell

Youth Ministry Advisor



Postures and Gestures at Mass



In the celebration of Mass we raise our hearts, minds and voices to God, but we are creatures composed of body as well as spirit and so our prayer is not confined to our minds, hearts and voices, but is expressed by our bodies as well. When our bodies participate in our prayer we pray with our whole person, as the embodied spirits God created us to be, and this engagement of our entire being in prayer helps us to pray with greater attention

During Mass we assume different postures: standing, kneeling, sitting, and we are also invited to make a variety of gestures. These postures and gestures are not merely ceremonial. They have profound meaning and, when done with understanding, can enhance our personal participation in Mass. In fact, these actions are the way in which we engage our bodies in the prayer that is the Mass.

Each posture we assume at Mass underlines and reinforces the meaning of the action in which we are taking part at that moment in our worship. Standing is a sign of respect and honor, so we stand as the celebrant who represents Christ enters and leaves the assembly. This posture, from the earliest days of the Church, has been understood as the stance of those who are *risen with Christ and seek the things that are above*. When we stand for prayer we assume our full stature before God, not in pride, but in humble gratitude for the marvelous thing God has done in creating and redeeming each one of us. By Baptism we have been given a share in the life of God, and the posture of standing is an acknowledgment of this wonderful gift. We stand for the Gospel, the pinnacle of revelation, the words and deeds of the Lord, and the bishops of the United States have chosen standing as the posture to be observed in this country for the reception of Communion, the sacrament which unites us in the most profound way possible with Christ who, now gloriously risen from the dead, is the cause of our salvation.

The posture of kneeling signified penance in the early Church: the awareness of sin casts us to the ground! So thoroughly was kneeling identified with penance that the early Christians were forbidden to kneel on Sundays and during the Easter Season when the prevailing spirit of the liturgy was that of joy and thanksgiving. In the Middle Ages kneeling came to signify the homage of a vassal to his lord, and more recently this posture has come to signify adoration. It is for this reason that the bishops of this country have chosen the posture of kneeling for the entire Eucharistic Prayer.

Sitting is the posture of listening and meditation, so the congregation sits for the pre-Gospel readings and may also sit for the period of meditation following Communion.

Gestures too involve our bodies in prayer. The most familiar of these is the Sign of the Cross

with which we begin Mass and with which, in the form of a blessing, the Mass concludes. Because it was by his death on the cross that Christ redeemed humankind, we trace the sign of the cross on our foreheads, lips and hearts at the beginning of the Gospel. Fr. Romano Guardini, a scholar and professor of liturgy wrote of this gesture:

When we cross ourselves, let it be with a real sign of the cross. Instead of a small, cramped gesture that gives no notion of its meaning, let us make a large, unhurried sign, from forehead to breast, from shoulder to shoulder, consciously feeling how it includes the whole of us, our thoughts, our attitudes, our body and soul, every part of us all at once, how it consecrates and sanctifies us ... (Romano Guardini, **Sacred Signs**, 1927)

But there are other gestures that intensify our prayer at Mass. During the Confiteor the action of striking our breasts at the words *through my own fault* can strengthen my awareness that *my sin is my fault*. In the Creed we are invited to bow at the words which commemorate the Incarnation: *by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary and became man*. This gesture signifies our profound respect and gratitude to Christ who, though God, did not hesitate to come among us as a human being, sharing our human condition in order to save us from sin and restore us to friendship with God. This gratitude is expressed with even greater solemnity on the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord and on Christmas when we genuflect at these words.

The *Our Father* is followed by the Exchange of Peace, the gesture which we express through a prayerful greeting of peace, that we are at peace, not enmity, with others. This exchange is symbolic. The persons near me with whom I share the peace signify for me, as I do for them, the broader community of the Church and all humankind.

Finally, with the new *General Instruction*, we are asked to make a sign of reverence, to be determined by the bishops of each country or region, before receiving Communion standing. The bishops of this country have determined that the sign which we will give before Communion is to be a bow, a gesture through which we express our reverence and give honor to Christ who comes to us as our spiritual food.

In addition to serving as a vehicle for the prayer of beings composed of body and spirit, the postures and gestures in which we engage at Mass have another very important function. The Church sees in these common postures and gestures both a symbol of the unity of those who have come together to worship and a means of fostering that unity. We are not free to change these postures to suit our own individual piety, for the Church makes it clear that our unity of posture and gesture is an expression of our participation in the one Body formed by the baptized with Christ, our head. When we stand, kneel, sit, bow and sign ourselves in common action, we given unambiguous witness that we are indeed the Body of Christ, united in heart, mind and spirit.

YOU ARE INVITED!

WHAT: to become a Lector

OR: to become a Eucharistic Minister

WHERE: St. Cletus Church

WHEN: Monday, May 9

Lector Training: 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Eucharistic Minister: 7:15-8:15 p.m.

PLEASE RSVP TO PAULETTE BOLTON (708) 352-6209

ATTENTION! Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Please pick up your schedule questionnaires in the vestibule today and return them by May 8. Thank you for all your dedicated service.

Paulette Bolton

Director of Liturgy

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**

May 2011

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Season of Easter is a season of hope. This year, the Catholic Charities Collection on Mother's Day very appropriately occurs during this holy season. The life, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ won for us the gifts of salvation and hope. On Mother's Day, we celebrate the life-giving love and devotion of the heroic women who modeled and passed on to us the gifts of hope and faith.

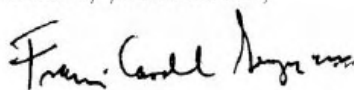
During the Season of Easter, the readings reiterate themes of the new life that is ours in the Risen Christ. As Catholics, we are people of hope who share this gift with our brothers and sisters of all faiths, especially those who are in need. For 93 years, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago has restored hope to poor or struggling families and individuals, because hope is what matters most to a homeless family with a parent out of work, or a senior on a limited income who lives alone.

Last year, more than a million people of all ages, races and religions received services through Catholic Charities' 159 programs at 156 sites in Cook and Lake Counties. Seniors, parents and children, pregnant and parenting teens, and hungry and homeless families and individuals come to Catholic Charities hoping to find the basic necessities to maintain life: food, clothing, housing, parenting skills and a renewed sense of dignity. They find professional and compassionate help to ease their anxiety, work their way out of poverty, build healthy family relationships, and solve the problems that keep them from independence and financial self-sufficiency.

From conception to natural death, Catholic Charities strives to maintain the dignity and respect to which every human being is entitled. As our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI stated in his encyclical letter on Christian hope, *Spe Salvi*: "The one who has hope lives differently; the one who hopes has been granted the gift of a new life." Thank you for your continued gift of hope, your charity and your willingness to open your hearts in prayerful and practical support of the poor and vulnerable with your gift to the Catholic Charities Collection on Mother's Day.

May Mary, the Mother of Jesus and of the Church, and her Divine Son bless you and your families with hope, peace and joy as you celebrate Mother's Day and the Easter Season. You and those you love are in my prayers; please keep me in yours.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.
Archbishop of Chicago



THE DIVINE MERCY MESSAGE AND DEVOTION

The message of the Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us - all of us. He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His Joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

- A. Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.
- B. Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.
- C. Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

The message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska (*Diary of Saint Faustina*). Spend time to learn more about the mercy of God, learn to trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others as Christ is merciful to you

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As most of you may know, I am approaching the end of my five-year assignment here at St. Cletus as one of your associate pastors. The Personnel Board expects that at the end of this term of service that the priest will seek a new assignment or else be extended for a period of time at his current parish. Since I have been asked to exercise this option and move on, I will be leaving St. Cletus for a new assignment. However, due to a number of health issues that have plagued me over this past year, Cardinal George has approved a personal leave of absence so that I may appropriately address these issues and ready myself for a new assignment. Therefore, as of May 1, 2011, I will be leaving St. Cletus to make use of this time for my personal benefit. Since I will not be returning to St. Cletus, I wish you all a fond farewell and ask that you keep me and all our priests in your prayers. These five years with you have been memorable, and I will carry you all in my heart for years to come.

God Bless...and Goodbye!

Fr. Charles Watkins

ATTENTION LEISURE LOAFERS!

Our May meeting is on Thursday, May 5, 1:00 p.m., in Morrissey Hall. Please join us for a fun time.

Alice Katzmarek

PLEASE NOTE: The Mass Intention book for 2012 is open. Masses can be scheduled in the rectory office Monday thru Saturday from 9:00 a.m.-5:00



HOLY NAME SOCIETY CELEBRATES!

Past Presidents of the Holy Name Society will be honored at the Friday, May 6, annual dinner at Sawa's Old Warsaw Restaurant at 9200 Cermak Road in Broadview. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$10. Bring an item for the raffle! Please sign up in the Ministers' Room. Hope to see you there.

Dan Gibbons



Christ Our Light!

2nd Sunday of Easter - May 1, 2011

The blessing heard around the world! Today we can officially pray to Blessed John Paul II. So many remember this Pope; his faith with vibrancy and frailty inspire us. One way we connect to the light of Christ is through the holiness of others. Some of these holy ones are well-known to the world, most are well-known to ourselves alone.

St. John of the Cross describes the dark night. Everyone I know has entered a 'dark night' at some point in their lives, a time when the evidence of a merciful God remains hidden and distant. Loss of employment, death of a loved one, the chronic illness of a daughter, the senseless destructive power of racism (prejudice with power united to demean another) – the dark night has a legion of manifestations. Is God faithful still? Can I remain faithful without any evidence to do so? And we know the holy ones who answer a resounding yes to both questions.

Jason, a teenager, was facing a second liver transplant; the previous one failed. He asked the doctors if he could walk into surgery. Gratefully the doctors found a way to let this young kid demonstrate the courage to face his dark moment. And the parents: this child of theirs became iconic revealing hope.

Maria was near death's door so many times one loses count. She becomes the beacon for others. "In recovery there will be a time you want to crawl into a closet and hide; it is so painful to regain any semblance of normalcy. And so you crawl" Marie says; "and you will – in time – get up and enter the rehab again".

Dying was awful and awfully slow for Frank. A bright and resourceful man who enjoyed a powerful career and inspiring children entered his dark night. His priest journeyed with him and offered no consoling words, only routine faithful presence. This bright man resisted the vulnerability that was his. The sadness of losing everything and everyone, even his mind, overwhelmed all his spiritual pieties. The faithful presence of a loving friend as the crucifix was placed again at the bedside before prayer – this invited the tears of acceptance and released the burden of wanting to understand *why* such pain. No answer but Christ crucified.

One form of divine mercy is allowing others to be holy for us so we might connect to God. And then there is another form of divine mercy – knowing that God asks each of us to be holy for another, allowing holiness to come from within us. Accept that He is Risen for you! Pray: Christ, be our light!

-Rev. Msgr. Rich Hynes
*These Easter series of eight articles offer
stories of connection to the Risen Christ*

Msgr. Rich Hynes, a priest for 39 years, serves the Archdiocese of Chicago as Director of the Department of Parish Life & Formation. His previous Archdiocesan assignments include Pastor-St. John of the Cross (Western Springs), Associate Pastor-St. Martin de Porres (Chicago), St. Athanasius (Evanston), St. James (Arlington Heights), and Spiritual Director at the St. Joseph College Seminary at Loyola University.

PUT YOUR FAITH INTO ACTION!

Interfaith Community Partners is holding a volunteer training session. The session will be this Sunday, May 1, from approximately 12:15-3:15 p.m. at St. Louise DeMarillac School, 1125 Harrison Avenue, La Grange Park. All interested persons who want to serve older adults through visitation, assisted transportation, or telephone reassurance are welcome. Lunch will be served.

To register or for more information, call (708) 5t79-8929.



THE SAINT CLETUS COMMITTEE FOR RESPECT LIFE ACTIVITIES...

is hosting the 20th Annual *Mother's Day Baby Shower and Carnation Sale* in the church foyer after all Masses next weekend, May 7/8.

Baskets will be in the church foyer to collect baby gifts.

Gift Suggestions:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| + new layette items | +baby shampoo |
| +crib sheets | +baby wash cloths |
| +newborn diapers | +baby towels |
| +blankets | +undershirts |
| +bibs | +rectal thermometers |
| +baby lotion | +booties |
| +baby oil | +baby powder |
| +newborn sleepers & outfits | +baby hats/caps |

(no need to gift wrap your donations)

Donations will be distributed to needy mothers in our own Parish community and to Catholic Charities sponsored Centers.

Pick up your Mother's Day red or white carnations at the tables in the foyer next week for still only \$1.

Marianne & Wayne Hamilton

Respect Life Committee Coordinators



CALLING ALL ANGELS/VOLUNTEERS!!

Have you ever experienced a time in your life when you felt alone, abandoned, scared, pressured and without choices? These are the girls that come into our centers for love and support. Woman's Choice Services needs your help with our mission to promote the culture of life in our community by providing positive choices and support to women in need. Our life centers offer free consultations for women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. We offer free pregnancy testing, limited ultrasound, material assistance, post-abortion healing, parenting classes and mothering programs. Our offices are located in Crest Hill, Downers Grove, Hinsdale, and Lombard..

To learn more about Woman's Choice Services and our volunteer opportunities, please contact the Hinsdale site manager, Jillian Nozar at jillian@womanschoiceservices.com or (630) 655-3290



WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

We joyfully welcome the following men and women into our faith community. They have prayed and studied for the past several months. We ask God's blessing on them and their families as they commit themselves to following Jesus.

ROBERT PHILLIP AGOSTO

ELBA BARRIOS

ANNA EDEMEKONG

MEGHAN TREJO

May you continue to walk in the presence of God on your faith journey.

Sr. Pat McKee

Director of Religious Education

Please give generously to the Mother's Day Appeal on the weekend of May 7/8. Envelopes are available in the pews this weekend.



May the Month of Mary



"LIVING OUR FRIENDSHIP, PASSING ON THE KEY"

Church Women United La Grange/Western Springs

Friday May 6, 2011

St. James Lutheran Church, 5129 Wolf Road, WS

Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.- Celebration: 10:30 a.m.

Salad Lunch: 11:45 a.m. - Cost: \$7

Luncheon Reservations Required by Monday, May 2

Please call: Mary White, (708) 246-0340

www.churchwomen.org

ENVELOPE PACKETS

OPS! PLEASE DISREGARD THE ‘LIGHT OUR WAY’ ENVELOPES THAT ARE IN THE MAY AND JUNE OFFERTORY PACKETS THAT YOU RECEIVED. WE WILL NOT BE DOING THE COLLECTION THIS SUMMER. SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY HAVE CAUSED.

Fr. Bob
PASTOR



WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

“Blessed are they who have not seen me, but still believe!” (Today’s Gospel)

It is also easy to doubt how great our marriage can be unless we trust in Him to strengthen our marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends for the Chicago/Northwest Indiana area are June 24-26, September 9-11, November 4-6, 2011. Early registration is highly recommended. For reservations/information, call Jim & Kris at 1-800-442-3554 or contact us at [www/mechicago-gary.org](http://www.mechicago-gary.org). For a Weekend en Espanol (other dates), contact Oscar & Luz at 847-675-2119 or Aurelio & Letitia at 773-284-5308.



LOSS Program for Children and Youth

Catholic Charities’ LOSS (Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) program has provided specialized counseling and support groups for adults in the Chicago area for many years. LOSS recently initiated a support program for children and teens (ages 3 to 18) and will be running a summer session. All parents, teens, and children who have been affected by the death of a loved one to suicide are welcome. Please contact the LOSS office with any questions or for more details about the summer program: (312) 655-7283. Catholic Charities serves everyone, regardless of religious affiliation.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS NEEDED AT SHARING CONNECTIONS FURNITURE BANK

Sharing Connections Furniture Bank, a nonprofit organization in Downers Grove, provides furniture and household items to low-income families. They currently have a critical need for gently-used household goods in order to better serve needy families. **When you are doing your spring cleaning, please remember to donate your excess items.** Kitchenware such as dishes, glasses, small appliances, and silverware are very much needed. There is also a critical shortage of towels, lamps, and boys’ spring & summer clothes. Finally, unopened personal care items are needed including shampoo, deodorant, and conditioner.

If you can donate any of these items, please drop them off at the SCFB warehouse at 5111 Chase Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515. The warehouse is open to receive donations Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m.- until noon. Financial donations are also welcome. Their website www.sharingconnections.org explains what other items are accepted.



50th Golden Wedding Anniversary

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, August 28, at 3:00 p.m. at St. John Brebeuf, 8307 N. Harlem Avenue in Niles. Couples married in 1961 interested in attending this celebration should contact the rectory office, (708) 352-6209.

For further information, call the Family Ministries Office at (312) 534-8351 or visit our website www.familyministries.org.

Sunday Collection – April 17 and 24, 2011

Total Active Registered Families 2,749

<u>Collection Statistics</u>		<u>Amount Collected</u>	
# of envelopes used - this week	688		
% of registered families	25%	\$39,288	Envelope Users
		11,551	Loose Checks/Cash
		<u>3,871</u>	Automatic Debit
Weekly Collection Budget: \$54,500		\$54,710	Total
Over (under) Budget	\$210		

This Fiscal Year @ 04/24/11

Actual Sunday Collections \$1,138,085

Budgeted Sunday Collections \$1,171,750

Currently, we have received \$94,000 toward our budgeted Easter Collections of \$100,000. Thank you for your continued generous support. Happy Easter to each one of you. Fr. Bob

YTD Over (Under) than budget (\$33,665)

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Day/Date	Start Time	Location/Rm. #	Event
Monday, May 2	8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	C C S-200 S-207 S-98	Adoration and Benediction Spanish Adoration Athletic Association Meeting PreCana EPIC Class
Tuesday, May 3	3:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	C S-201 S-Library S-200 RB	Altar Server Training Teen Mission Trip Meeting Tech Committee Meeting Social Concerns School Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 4	9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. 3:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:45 p.m.	RB C S-102 MH S-200 S-201 MH	Mission Ladies Altar Server Training EPIC Class Market Day Worship Ministry Kairos Meeting Girls' Church League
Thursday, May 5	3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.	C MH S-Music S-Music S-201 S-Music S-102	Altar Server Training Sports Awards Children's Choir Contemporary Choir SVDP District Vill Meeting Chancel Choir Closed AA Meeting
Friday, May 6	2:30 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	MH C Off Campus S-207	MANNA Cash & Carry Altar Server Training Holy Name Past President's Dinner Hispanic Ministry Bible Class
Saturday, May 7	10:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	C C CV CV MH	First Communion Mass First Communion Mass Respect Life Committee Welcome Sunday Girls' Church League
Sunday, May 8	7:00 a.m. 7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	CV CV S-213	Respect Life Committee Welcome Sunday Hispanic Ministry/English Classes/GED
C Church CV Church Vestibule	S School RB Rectory Basement		MH Morrissey Hall

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
<i>Finance Liaison:</i>	Brian Kapusta
<i>Parish at Large:</i>	TBA
<i>Youth Ministry:</i>	Dawn Dion
<i>Education Ministry:</i>	Marty Mulcrone (School) 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
<i>Parish Life:</i>	Peggy Meidell Fr. Edgar Rodriguez

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

OFFICERS

<i>Pastor:</i>	Fr. Bob Clark
<i>Principal:</i>	Terri Langellier
<i>Chairperson:</i>	Tim O'Brien
<i>Vice Chairperson:</i>	Luke Sheridan
<i>Secretary:</i>	Jeanne Kelly
<i>Athl. Association President:</i>	Amy Grace
<i>FSA President:</i>	Deborah Kemmer
<i>PPC Rep:</i>	Marty Mulcrone
<i>Tech. Committee Rep:</i>	Mark Staelgrave
<i>Marketing:</i>	Heather Alpe Bridget Garvey
<i>Finance:</i>	Ed Burke Bob Gray
<i>Alumni:</i>	Cathy Hinckley
<i>Policy & Planning:</i>	Jim Krecek
<i>Recruitment & Retention:</i>	Mary Schramka

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Cletus Church #9238
600 W. 55th Street
LaGrange, IL 60525

TELEPHONE

708-215-5421

CONTACT PERSON

Pat Drobny

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 7.0
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER

HP Laserjet 1022

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

May 1, 2011

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 15

TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 3:00

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS