

PARISH STAFF

REV. ROBERT CLARK

Pastor

REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. KENNETH BAKER

Associate Pastor

REV. CHARLES GALLAGHER

Pastor Emeritus

REV. RON ANGLIM

Weekend Associate

REV. MR. JESÚS & SILVIA CASAS

Deacon Couple

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Deacon Jesús Casas

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(708) 215-5440

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Music Ministry

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Christopher Wagner

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Kathy Lifka

Assistant Principal

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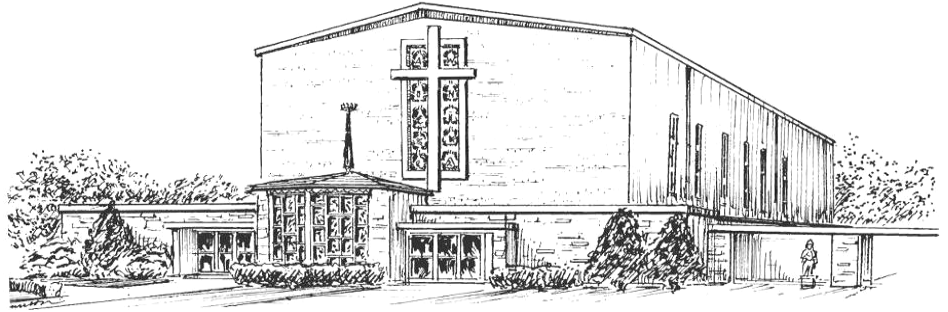
Bobbie Kallal

Human Resources

Mary Zwolinski

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(708) 352-6209



St. Cletus Canticle

600 W. 55th Street - La Grange, IL

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

December 4, 2011

Second Sunday of Advent



All are welcome.

Handicapped parking is located in front of church.

Personal hearing devices are available from the ushers/greeters.

**Children's Chapel available for the young and the restless
in the rear of the church.**

Mass Intentions for the Week of December 5 - December 11 , 2011

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Walter Johnston, Victoria Kalembe, Jennie Harkabus
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Blythe A. O'Sullivan, Dale Fisher
Wednesday	6:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Purgatorial Society Immaculate Conception Vigil
Thursday	6:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society Rosa Frasca DeSimone, Jolana Arvay, Linda Johnston Purgatorial Society
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Cletus
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Purgatorial Society Dorothy McNichols, Patricia Netzel, Anne Brady, Julie Pawelek
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Walter Dobrowolski Patricia Halm, Apolonia Zagradnik, John Hopp Laura McDonnell, Henry & James Meske, Julia Hartnett Sheila Delaney Santori, George Benrus, Sandy & John Fisher, Sophie Egielski, Thomas Gallagher, Nicolas Murphy Damaso & Maria Guadalupe C de Almindarez



St. Cletus Parish Welcomes...

Derek Burdzinski,

son of Mark & Sylvia (Casas) Burdzinski

Leo Nathaniel Donofrio,

son of Ken & Margaret (Golik) Donofrio

Michael Anthony Petrbok,

son of Michael & Marla (Panicola) Petrbok

Madelyn Rose Quinn,

daughter of Martin & Beth (Hayes) Quinn

*to the Catholic Faith through the
Sacrament of Baptism.*



Please remember our sick in your prayers:
Mary Dybas, James McSweeney, John Karch,
Gertrude Steiber, Gerdi Dorso, Joe Falls, Loretta Pavlik,
N. Zagrodnik, Scott Malcak, Bob Zimmerman,
Breann Moddes, Betty Niwa, Joan Workman, Betty Zapf,
Donald Cuttill, Idolina Montano, Sue Kremer,
Gail Pankow-Locker, Kathryn Super-Wilson,
Lydia Ciaglia, Maeva Bishop, Katie Meyer,
Howard Pohlman, Evelyn Kilker, Jessica Gundling,
Joe Saban, Ola Maveety, Jean Weekley,
Marilyn Matesevac. Also pray for our parishioners who
are in nursing homes or are homebound and unable to
attend Mass.



Come and adore our Lord in the
Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, December
6, and every first Tuesday 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.



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

Kathleen H. Szabelski,
sister of Roman Szabelski

Virginia Barbara Beranek,
mother of Jean Milton

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

**NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...****SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2011**

If genius is supposed to be 90% hard work, then success is 90% good preparation. When we are very young, we imagine that we can do anything and everything! Children, who have just been watching a film or a play, are immediately lost in imitating what they have just seen. It doesn't even have to be a film. It can be driving a car, booting a football, attempting a pirouette or imagining the garden gate is a horse. Each of these skills seems easily attainable to the mind of the child, though their actual execution usually does not live up to the source of inspiration. On occasion, a particular experience catches fire and becomes a passion that, in turn, leads to a lifetime's dedication. Succeeding in any vocation or profession takes time, energy and perseverance, along with that touch of natural skill and initial engagement. We can experience gloomy stages on the journey, when the vision blurs, and we are tempted to despair or change tack. And we do not always achieve what we set out to do.

Sometimes our early obsessions are not meant to be fulfilled. With the wisdom of hindsight, we may realize that our journey has actually taught us much more than we imagined. The failures, the detours, the changed goals, can be as important as final success in the original endeavor. The real art is to enjoy the unexpected fruits of the journey, as well as the intended ones. People in the time of Jesus may have hoped and prayed for the Messiah. What they received moved even their dreams into a different dimension.

Mark begins his Gospel with a bid for credibility. He has to combine the old and the new, for if Jesus fulfills expectations, he also transcends them. Mark very carefully prepares the ground for the telling of the good news. His task is to introduce us to the person of Jesus, who is Christ, the Son of God. What Mark means by these titles will be made clear as the story unfolds. His story's claim to authenticity rests initially on its foundations in the Scriptures. The first person to appear is John the Baptist, who fulfills the role foreseen by the prophet Isaiah. He prepares the way for the Lord, by proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John's authority is hinted at by his appearance and his habitat. He has the accoutrements of Elijah, the one who tradition believes will come as the forerunner of the Messiah; he lives in the desert, the birthplace of the chosen people. His message is simple: repent and be forgiven.

That message remains the same for us. If we wish to prepare for the Lord, we too need to change our hearts and accept forgiveness. The old ways of doing and seeing are not enough. Preparation is, more than anything, learning to remove the objects that interfere with our vision and our openness to the Lord. John ends his announcement, like all good showmen, with the claim that we haven't seen anything yet. He just baptizes with water. The one who is coming after him will baptize with the Holy Spirit. The image recalls God himself, hovering over the waters at the creation of the world. We are left in a state of great suspense, wondering just who is to come. Who is this man whose arrival is couched in the language of a new creation?

We go through many processes of preparation. Our schooling prepares us for adult life. Special training prepares us for jobs and professions. In the Church, we prepare carefully for the celebration of each sacrament. We also prepare for the special events of the Church's year. At this time, of course, we prepare for Christmas. Much of our preparation involves making certain that we have what we need for what we are to do. No wonder our minds can be so overloaded. Have we remembered the presents, the cards, the tree, the food, the drink, the crackers, the invitations...and then what about the poor, the lonely, and the homeless? We all know the heart of the matter can get lost in the rush to get everything done.

Perhaps we should take a leaf out of John the Baptist's book. His preparation was not an overloading, but a stripping down, a getting rid of the baggage we carry. John suggests we enter into a state of stillness and openness, so that we will then be ready to be filled. It is a paradox. How do we prepare for the unexpected? How do we get ready for the unknown? Our practice is often to try to out-give the Great Giver. Instead, we are asked to let go of everything, so that we may be ready to receive. We cannot have open hands if they are full of shopping lists of carefully defined hopes and expectations. We have to give access to the unknown and the unexpected.

*Advent Prayers,
Father Bob
Pastor*



Do You Hear What I Hear?

HOLIDAY CLASSICS WITH THE TOWER CHORALE

Patrick Godon, New Music Director

Jim Winfield, Founder & Director 1986-2011

Start your holiday season with us! Hear your favorite holiday classics and enjoy the splendid piano and organ accompaniment of Dennis Zimmer along with a lively brass quartet. Delight in our special guests, the Highlands Show Choir.

December 3rd and 4th

Saturday at 8:00 pm, Sunday at 4:00 pm

St. Cletus Church, 600 W. 55th Street, LaGrange

Adults: \$18, Seniors/Students: \$15. Children 10 & under: Free

Information: towerchorale.org

- The Creation - by Franz Joseph Haydn - Sunday, 3/4/12
- A Night of Gershwin - Saturday 5/5/12 and Sunday 5/6/12
- 7th Annual Fundraising Spaghetti Dinner - Saturday, 2/18/12

2011-2012
26th
SEASON



SAINT CLETUS FINE ARTS SERIES



Join Us!

*Enjoy a delicious lunch and get some
Christmas shopping done too at our Boutique!*



Saturday, December 10th
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
La Grange Country Club

BOUTIQUE VENDORS:

Barb McDermott Designs

Hand-stitched purses, belts and headbands.
Facebook - Barb McDermott Designs

OMG Design

Knit scarves, hats, gloves and sweaters for
adults and children. Facebook - OMG Design

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Holiday gift sets and stocking stuffers
including: skin care products, cosmetics,
body care, and fragrances will be featured.
Visit www.marykay.com/jrapp to get an idea
of what's available for the Holidays.

Stationery Stop

Personalized gift items, stationery, picture
frames, address stamps, Nora Fleming dishware

Chicago Artisan Gypsies

A group of four jewelry artisans with creative
and unique pieces to suit everyone's style.

Run-A-Muck Kids

Hairbows, hairclips, headbands, hairbow
hangers and headband stands for girls. Lots of
Christmas and holiday accessories.

Jack and Jill

Handmade decoupage plates with quotes on
them for all occasions: holidays, hostess gifts,
girlfriends and yourself!

Download an invitation at www.stcletusparish.com/parishlife/womensclub

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS APPEAL “SHARE IN THE CARE” SECOND COLLECTION - DECEMBER 10/11

Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests offered their lives in service to others often ministering for little, if any, pay. Their sacrifices over many decades now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement and health care. Your tax-deductible donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please Share in the Care and give generously to next week's collection. Envelops are available in the pews today.

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY!



Don't forget to return your Giving Tree **gifts** to the **Church next weekend, December 10/11 when you come to Mass.** Please arrange for a friend or family member to return them for you if you will not be in town. **Remember, each tag represents a real person. When you took a tag from the tree, you made a commitment to that person, and to returning your gift(s) on time.** After Sunday Masses on December 11, gifts are sorted for distribution to St. Agatha's or to the needy in our community. Be sure the gift tag is securely attached to the packages. If you have any questions, contact Mary Beth at (708) 215-5418 or Maureen, (708) 839-0345. Thank you for your generosity!

Adult and high school teen volunteers are needed here at St. Cletus on Sunday, December 18, to help check -in and distribute food baskets. If you can help for a few hours between 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. in Morrissey Hall, please contact Mary Beth, (708) 215-5418 or Maureen, (708) 839-0345. Thanks!

Social Concerns Committee



**OPLATKI IS AVAILABLE AT THE
RECTORY OFFICE DURING
REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS
A donation of \$3.50 is requested**

The word “Bethlehem” means “the house of bread.” The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity and friendship. Religious family customs bring the truths of faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas Eve customs is the Christmas Wafer. With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of all members of the family, those present as well as those who are absent, the head of the house breaks the wafer and distributes it, one piece to each person at the table. The spiritual lesson is this age-old custom is that the unity of the family is grounded in God's love for us. May you experience unity and love through this simple celebration.



MARY AND MARTHA

We are approaching *Holiday Time* once again. We hope you have been saving little items for the Briar Place residents Christmas packages. We will be putting our gift bags together in the Rectory Basement on Friday, December 16, at 9:00 a.m. Small items e.g., lotions, shampoo, combs, tooth brushes, toothpaste, denture cleaner, deodorant, playing cards, small books, and jewelry are needed. We usually assemble 70 bags. Please drop off your donations at the rectory. Thank you for your kindness.

Mary White

PARISH FORGIVENESS SERVICE

BROTHERS AND SISTERS, ANYONE WHO BELONGS TO CHRIST IS A NEW PERSON. THE PAST IS FORGOTTEN AND EVERYTHING IS NEW. GOD HAS DONE IT ALL. HE HAS SENT CHRIST TO MAKE PEACE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND US. AND HE HAS GIVEN US THE WORK OF MAKING PEACE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND OTHERS. WHAT WE MEAN IS THAT GOD IS IN CHRIST, OFFERING PEACE AND FORGIVENESS TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD.” (2 Cor. 5:17-19)

We have another opportunity to be graced by God's peace and extend it to others through the sacrament of Reconciliation. Our Parish Forgiveness Service will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m.** in the church. Advent is a time to mend quarrels, to forgive those who have hurt us, and to pray for peace. What better way to “Be watchful! Be Alert! WE do not know the day nor the hour.”



ST. CLETUS PARISH 2011

December 3rd-12th Spanish Ministry
Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena - 7:00 p.m.

December 6th
Adoration - Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Benediction at 6:15 p.m.

December 7th
Feast of the Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass
7:00 p.m.

December 8th
Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Times
6:30, 8:00, 9:00 a.m. (School Mass)

December 12th - Spanish Ministry
Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration
4-5:00 a.m. "Mañanitas" (morning greetings)
5-6:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. Mass

December 13th
Parish Forgiveness/Reconciliation Service
7:00 p.m.

December 16th-22nd - Spanish Ministry
Christmas Novena - 7:00 p.m.

December 19th - CREDO
Nativity Movie at 7:00 p.m.
followed by Adoration/Benediction in church

December 20th
Christmas Concert - 7:00 p.m.

December 23rd - Spanish Ministry
Christmas Spanish Posada
7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS SCHEDULE
2011

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

CHRISTMAS DAY

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



ACCOMPANIMENT:

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

ACCOMPANIMENT

CONGREGATIONAL CAROLING
 VOCALIST/PIANO
 CHANCEL CHOIR
 CONTEMPORARY CHOIR
 SPANISH CHOIR

"The Year of the Teen and Young Adult" Youth Ministry Update!

TEEN FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM: Instead of having December small and large groups, we will be helping Social Concerns Ministry with the Giving Tree on Sunday, December 11, from 2:15-6:30 p.m. and also on December 18. Please confirm which shift you will be working on December 18.

CHRISTMAS DROP-IN: Please join us on Tuesday, December 6, anytime between 5:30-8:00 p.m. for Christmas treats, music, and games. All are welcome! Bring your friends!

ADVENT PRAYER FOR PARENTS OF TEENS: Take time out of your busy day to pray and reflect on the meaning of Christmas! We will meet again on Friday, December 16, at 10:00 a.m. in our new teen room. Please join us! Bring a friend! All are welcome.

Kristen Maxwell

Youth Ministry

Cardinal Corner

News from the St. Cletus School Board

Faith, Family, Future

St. Cletus School Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students for making the 2nd quarter honor roll at St. Cletus School:

Honor Roll:

8TH Grade

Jocelyn Arciniegas, Margaret Cole, Teresa Finucane, Peter Garvey, Justin Goethals, Marina Gonzalez, Claire Hinckley, Charles Jankowski, Ryan Kelly, Mark Laghi, Jonathan Levitske, Cullen Sheridan, Colin Temple

7TH Grade

Matt Ashe, Thomas Cirrincione, Hailey Edenfield, Lauren Engels, Amy Fatora, Maria Flach, Matthew Franklin, William Golden, Sean Heslin, Liam Kennedy, Bobby Koys, Krystal Levitske, Drew Mrazek, Cailey Muldoon, Andrea Serrano, Grace Thomas, Cynthia Turza, Michelle Nelson, Caroline Wuerl

High Honor roll:

8TH Grade

Jenna Chesswas, Emma Decker, Andrew Hubona, Megan Kern, Thomas Lombardo, Karoline Orloff, Dominic Riccione, Amanda Sadowski

7TH Grade:

Margaret Doheny, Katherine Krecek, Thomas McGing, Meghan Nelson

Congratulations to St. Cletus Speech Participants!

At the Fenwick High School speech competition, St. Cletus placed 2nd overall. More than 200 students from 10 schools competed. Ten St. Cletus students of our 45 participants placed individually.

Original Oratory:

Teresa Finucane, 2nd Place
Emma Decker, 2nd Place

Prose Reading:

Justin Goethals, 1st Place
Amy Fatora, 4th Place
Ivana Escobedo, 6th Place

Poetry Reading:

Meghan Nelson, 1st Place

Declamation:

Tommy Lombardo, 1st Place
Andy Schramka, 4th Place
Jonathan Levitske, 4th Place
Colin Temple, 6th Place

Congratulations to all our participants, and a big thank you to Gina McAndrew for coaching the students again this year!



Cardinal Corner

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE

St. Cletus School ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

*Keeping Catholic school as affordable
and accessible as possible for all families.*

Dear St. Cletus Parishioner:

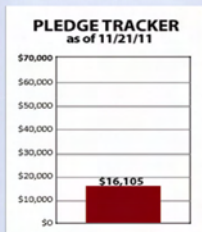
Please consider making a tax deductible gift to St. Cletus School before the end of the tax year, December 31st.

Every gift counts! By contributing to the Annual Fund, you transform your desire to help further the mission of St. Cletus School into exceptional, faith-filled education for our students. Whatever you can give, your participation is vital and so much appreciated!

Please return your reply envelope to the school office or in a collection basket at Mass.

Thank you for your support.

Elizabeth A. Goellner *Chris P. McLean*
Elizabeth Goellner and Chris McLean
Annual Fund Chairs



No matter the size,
EVERY GIFT
IS APPRECIATED.
EVERY GIFT
MATTERS.
EVERY GIFT
HELPS A CHILD.



Principal Jeff Taylor, enjoyed the feast too!



During the month of November, the first grades spent some time learning about the First Thanksgiving. We learned about the different types of homes the Indians lived in and how they survived through the cold months of the year. Students learned an Indian Stick game and made butter to go along with corn bread. The Indians actually invented popcorn too.

We learned that the Pilgrims did not actually call themselves Pilgrims. They referred to themselves as Saints. The name of Pilgrims actually came from William Bradford. They traveled in tight quarters with very little.

The Pilgrims learned a great deal from the Indians, but both remembered to give thanks for the wonderful harvest, friends and love they shared. We took time to remember all that we are thankful for as Children of God.

We are very blessed. Thank You, God for the many wonderful blessings we have everyday.

submitted by Christine Schaefer

Our Kindergarten students worked hard to get ready to celebrate our Feast. They prepared food, costumes and songs.

Eating together as Pilgrims and Indians was the best part of this fun filled learning unit! God has blessed us with His never ending love! We hope [your](#) families felt God's goodness as you enjoyed Thanksgiving with those you hold near and dear!

submitted by Margaret Bentley





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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2011

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Make your way

Deserts and wildernesses can be beautiful, but they have an element of danger as well. They're good places to get lost for one thing, and in them you're vulnerable to forces of nature that are vastly more powerful than you. Sometimes, though, you have to travel through the trackless wastes to get where you want to go, and that's true spiritually as well. To reach the Promised Land, the Israelites had to walk through the desert; to return from Exile in Babylon they had to journey back to Jerusalem. John the Baptist called people out to the desert to repent. As you continue your Advent journey, remember that sometimes you have to walk through life's deserted stretches to arrive at the place where God is found.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (5)*
"Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

ADVENT WEEKDAY

In praise of caretakers

When a person is seriously ill or injured, it is easy for the caretakers to get overlooked as we focus our sympathies and attention on the stricken person. But even when it is a labor of love, caretaking is hard work, unending and exhausting in many cases. Next time you visit an ill person, make it a point to offer the caretaker some concrete help: bring along a home-cooked meal, do the laundry, or spell them for an afternoon so they can run some errands or simply take some personal time. Let's take care of the caretakers in our midst—we will need them ourselves some day!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181)*
"Some men brought on a stretcher a man who was paralyzed."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

FEAST OF NICHOLAS, BISHOP

The people's bishop

Even if church leadership makes you tear your hair out sometimes, you've got to love this bishop. Nicholas was a fourth-century superhero: saving poor girls from prostitution by providing them with dowries, restoring murdered boys to life, advising sailors how to navigate through storms, rescuing men consigned to execution, feeding a city on the brink of famine—and in his spare time arguing against heresies at the Council of Nicaea. What a diocese this Turkish prelate must have run! Pray that your local leader might have the patronage and guidance of this great saint.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14 (182)*
"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

FEAST OF AMBROSE, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

It's time for some fresh thinking

Like all great leaders, Saint Ambrose was an original thinker. He was an ardent advocate for the poor: "He who sent forth his apostles without gold had not need of gold to form his church. The church possesses gold, not to hoard, but to scatter abroad and come to the aid of the unfortunate." He also avoided rigidity when it was not helpful: "When I am in Milan, I fast; when I am in Rome, I do not." The answers to our current struggles with poverty and diversity are, like the kingdom of heaven, very near. We only need some original thinking to perceive them. In what ways do "the ways things are" cloud our vision? How can we practice seeing with new eyes?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183)*

"They will soar as with eagles' wings; they will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint."

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Conceive of this

The angel Gabriel addressed Mary as "full" of grace, with no place in her for sin, and while we are painfully aware that we are *not* full of love—that envy, pride, bitterness, and jealousy are within us as well—as Christians we believe that despite the sin-caused rift between humanity and God, God still chooses in our favor and gives us hope that all may yet be well. God's marvels not only enable virgins or elderly women to have babies but also let you and me respond to grace and ourselves become fertile with compassion and bearers of good news for the world.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38 (689)*

"I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Get to know God's feminine side

Because we use the term "Father" so often to refer to God, we may forget that God is neither male nor female but rather ultimately beyond anything our human concepts and categories can express. Because we use words and images to communicate, however, it is good to remember that we have feminine as well as masculine ones we can use to talk about the divine. Feminine images primarily come from what's known as the Wisdom tradition, found in the latter half of Hebrew scripture in such books as Proverbs, Job, Sirach, and the Wisdom of Solomon. In fact, *wisdom*, often portrayed as a woman, is mentioned 222 times in scripture, including by Jesus, so be sure to remember her in your own prayers!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185)*
"Wisdom is vindicated by her works."

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Save a seat at the table

"The peculiar grace of a Shaker chair," Thomas Merton observed, "is due to the fact that it was made by someone capable of believing that an angel might come and sit on it." Merton was mystic enough not only to believe that but to describe to you the angel seated there. For centuries before Jesus, the people of Israel likewise waited for the return of a prophet who seemed more angelic than human: Elijah the wonder-worker, who rode to heaven in a fiery chariot. At every Passover the Jewish community keeps a chair for Elijah at the table. How do you make room for the holy?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186)*

"In those days . . . there appeared the prophet Elijah whose words were as a flaming furnace."

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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.

Sunday Collections – November 20 and 27, 2011

Total Active Registered Families	2,774	<u>Amount Collected</u>		
<u>Collection Statistics</u>		11-20	11-27	
# of envelopes used - this week	708	\$ 20,151	\$21,300	Envelope Users
% of registered families	26%	2,864	3,779	Loose Checks/Cash
		2,098	2,098	Electronic Giving
Weekly Collection Budget: \$27,000		\$25,113	\$27,177	Total
Over (under) Budget				

This Fiscal Year @ 11/27/11

Actual Sunday Collections	\$586,311
<u>Budgeted Sunday Collections</u>	<u>594,000</u>
YTD Over (Under) than budget	\$ (7,689)

*Hail Mary... Our prayers are being answered.
Mass attendance is increasing. Keep Praying!
Fr. Bob, Pastor*

WEEK AT A GLANCE December 5 - December 11

DATE	TIME	Room/Location	EVENT
Monday, December 5	7:00 p.m. 7:00	S-201 S-98	Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Guide to Mass
Tuesday, December 6	7:00 a.m. 7:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	C C MH Lobby S-208 S-200 S-201 C MH	Adoration Signup Adoration & Benediction Market Day Teen Drop-In RCIA Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Spanish Adoration High School Boys' Church League
Wednesday, December 7	3:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	S-102 C S-201 S-207 S-200 MH	Guide to Mass Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass RE Catechist Christmas Gathering Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Worship Ministry High School Boys' Church League
Thursday, December 8	7:00, 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	C C S-Music S-Band S-Music S-201 S-Music S-102 MH	Immaculate Conception Mass Times School Mass Children's Choir Spanish Choir Contemporary Choir Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Chancel Choir AA Meeting High School Boys' Church League
Friday, December 9	2:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	MH Lobby S-201 S-207	MANNA Cash & Carry Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Spanish Ministry Bible Class
Saturday, December 10	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	CV S-201	Collection of Giving Tree Gifts Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena
Sunday, December 11	7:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	CV C S-207	Collection of Giving Tree Gifts Sorting Giving Tree Gifts Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena
C.....Church CV.....Church Vestibule MH.....Morrissey Hall		S.... RB...	School (Education Building) Rectory Basement

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 Tuesday 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

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