

PARISH STAFF

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REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. KENNETH BAKER

Associate Pastor

REV. RON ANGLIM

Weekend Associate

REV. MR. JESÚS & SILVIA CASAS

Deacon Couple

REV. MR. STUART & MARLENE HEYES

Deacon Couple

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St. Cletus Canticle

600 W. 55th Street - La Grange, IL 60525

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

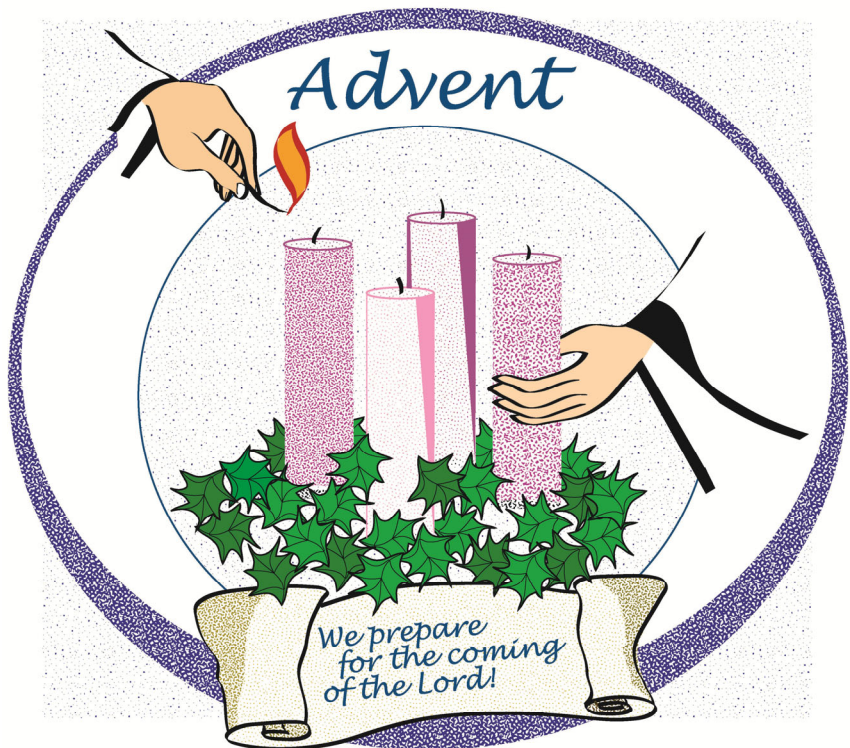
(708) 215-5440 Español

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 1, 2013



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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 2 – December 8, 2013

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Nancy Battle, John Dunbar Battistoni, Anna Pleszka
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Salvitti
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Nancy Tisa, Patricia Leonard
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Walter Johnston, Ralph Mack
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Nan Rettig, Joseph Viececi, Victoria Kalembe
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Jeanne Nowicki Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Edward Zajac, Salvatore Guardino, Georgia Popp
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Marco & Emilia Rattin, William Gozdecki, Sr., John Karch, Mary Jane Manley, Charles Fogarty Brian Luczak, Walter Maveety & Family Diane Paulsen Angelita Ramirez, James Corcoran Nicolas Arambula



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Loretta Johncola, Catherine Mlot, Denise Rowalka, Marty Weber, Barbara Kotas, Hector Gonzalez, Donna Cameron, Dave McCoy, Eric Sanchez, Anna Mae McCormick, Sharon Mylan, Mary Jamrozik, Margaret Bauer Fountain, Christine Anderson Rita, Shellye Bolton, Emily Devine, Gerda Dorso, Betty Niwa, Karen Stoltman, Judy Duque, Mark Bergnach, Joan Curtin, Phil Hodak, Nancy Ptak, Jennie Boerste, John Duda, George Duda, Steven Onusaitis, Lorraine Walter, Pam Wilson, Loretta Harwood, Marilyn Matesevac, Joe Butkus, Elizabeth Dougherty, Barbara Stamm, Teddy Kowalski, and Frances Klimcke. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound and are unable to attend Mass.

Please know we pray daily for the sick and the dying.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS SECOND COLLECTION DECEMBER 7/8

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Next weekend we will have a 2nd collection for the Retired Religious. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides prescription medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

More than 93% of donations aid senior residents.
For more info go to www.retiredreligious.org

ADVENT REFLECTIONS /ACTIONS

LITTLE BLUE BOOKS containing daily Advent reflections & actions will be available November 30/December 1 in Room 98 (Kindergarten Room) in the Education Building. Suggested offering: \$1.

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 **Monday, December 16, 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.”



NOTES FROM FATHER BOB...

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2013

"Don't you remember, dear, what day it is today?" "Well, yes" replies husband rather cautiously. "It's, it's ... the 28th of November." "That's right" says wife. "And what's the 28th of November?" "Well, er, yes, oh yes, of course, it's our wedding anniversary, isn't it?" That kind of conversation, I suspect, takes place in many a household! But even a forgetful husband knows there's something special about anniversaries.

True, they come round year after year, and yet, ideally at any rate, they are never quite the same. Each time I celebrate my own priestly anniversary my great hope is that I will understand a little better what it means to be a priest and be filled with a corresponding gratitude for the gift I have received. I'm sure that on their wedding anniversary many a couple enjoy a similar kind of experience.

All this helps to explain why the Church's 'liturgical year' is so important. It is a twelve-month's cycle of anniversaries, memorials of the events by which God has won our salvation and opened for us the way to heaven. But God never repeats himself: just as each day is a new day, so each season of the liturgical year is a new season. Though we may have celebrated it many times before, we are invited to plumb its depths anew, to discover aspects we hadn't perhaps noticed before.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the season which starts off a new liturgical year. It's the time when we prepare to celebrate the astonishing truth that God became one of us. Our first reading reminded us that Jerusalem was dear to the Jews because it was, they believed, God's own dwelling place. But never did God draw so near to us as when Jesus took our human nature and was born in Bethlehem. The idea of Advent is not that we should try and revive the emotional 'Christmasy' feelings of childhood days but rather that we should grow in appreciation of the startling truth of the Incarnation, God's Son coming to dwell in our midst.

However, the readings we have heard make it clear that we are meant to have in mind not only the first coming of the Lord Jesus but also his second coming at the end of time. And, as Jesus makes clear in the gospel, since we cannot know the day or the hour of his coming, the only sensible thing is to be in a permanent state of readiness. With a touch of humor, he points out that no man in his right mind would fail to make suitable preparations, if he knew that a burglar was due to arrive at his house! How much more then should we prepare, we who know with certainty that the Lord himself is one day to be our visitor.

Advent, then, highlights the truth that here and now we exist in an in-between stage – looking back to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and forward to his coming at the end of time – and so, not surprisingly, it urges us to make the most of present opportunities. Paul promises that 'it will be daylight soon', his way of describing the second coming of Jesus; so now, he says, we must 'stay awake' (no slipping back into the night of sin); we must live like soldiers, always ready for the only contest which really matters, that one on which our eternal future depends. "Let your armor" he says "be the Lord Jesus Christ," we've to "put him on" in the sense of enveloping ourselves in his teaching, allowing his standards and his sentiments to direct our lives. It's not so much a question of undertaking a new way of life as of renewing our ordinary way of life so that more and more it will reflect a genuine love of God and of our fellow men and women. Paul, you remember, was able to say: 'I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me' (Galatians 2:20). If, in our own small way, we are to celebrate the anniversary of the greatest event in human history, the Incarnation; and at the same time making the ideal preparation for the greatest event in our own personal history, that meeting with the Lord when he comes again.

Advent Blessings,

Father Bob
Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Christ our Peace

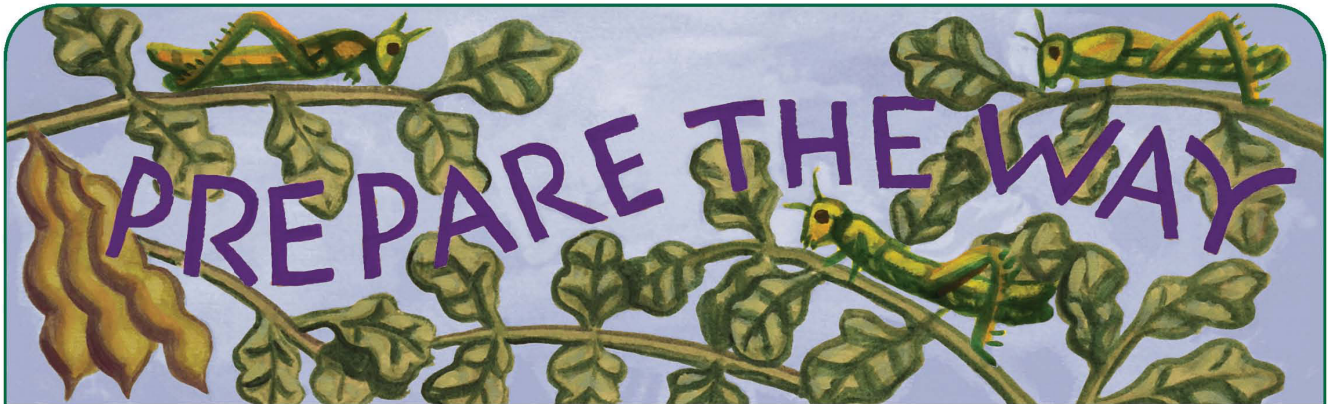
Father, we stream toward your
mountain
where you teach us the ways of peace
and invite us to share in your salvation.
Awaken us from our sleep
so that through your grace
the humble poor will be blessed!
May your Word refashion our hearts
and hands
to pound our weapons into tools
of service
and banish all fear and distrust.
As we come to the setting of the sun,
may we walk in the light of your glory,
and be ready to meet you
at an hour we do not expect.
We ask this through our light and
everlasting peace,
our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday, December 1, 2013
Walk in the Light of the Lord's Peace!

Today's Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Psalm 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Matthew 24:37-44. Today's First Reading invites us to climb the mountain of the Lord, to be instructed in the ways of our God, and walk on the path of justice and peace. God is gathering us to himself, and through the revelation of the Word, God is creating a new and universal community built upon harmony and lasting peace. Yet we live in times of conflict and war; we must lay down our weapons (physical weapons and violent attitudes) and take up the light of Christ's peace.

As we enter into this period of joyful expectation again, we adopt a hope-filled attitude and open ourselves to the kindness and salvation of our God. Through the Savior, God

again extends his infinite and redeeming love. Unlike the people Matthew speaks of, who, in the time of Noah, were unconcerned about the Lord's will for us, we try to prepare for his coming by staying awake and being attentive to the needs of the world. What needs? As in Isaiah's time, the world needs peace! Advent is the time to practice peace, to focus on reasons to rejoice in the Lord. In the domestic church of your home, explore ways that peace can take root—discussing conflicts instead of letting them build or explode, learning to find resolutions between different points of view. O Lord, give us peace in this holy season and help us to change our lives and live according to the Gospel.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 2

Invite the Lord under Your Roof

The centurion's words in today's Gospel, "Lord I am not worthy to have you come under my roof," are like the words we now say at Mass before receiving the Body and Blood of the Lord. During this holy season, gathered at the family dining table around the Advent wreath, invite the Lord under your roof. Share the light of Christ as you pray for the peace of God, whose face shines on us all. How do you proclaim peace in today's world? Today's Readings: Isaiah 4:2–6; Psalm 122: 1–2, 3–4b, 4cd–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 8:5–11.

Tuesday, December 3

St. Francis Xavier

The Holy Spirit is always at work in the Church. In today's Gospel, Jesus rejoices in the Spirit and reveals the truth to the child-like. The Spirit leads missionaries, like St. Francis Xavier, whose memorial we celebrate today, to share the love of Christ in places where he is not known. If you have children in your household, find places this Jesuit priest visited in the sixteenth century on a map of India and Japan, talk about respecting people of different cultures, and pray for missionaries. Today's Readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Luke 10:21–24.

Wednesday, December 4

St. John Damascene

John Damascene, the eighth-century saint whose memorial may be celebrated today, defended the Church's veneration of sacred images. Looking upon images of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints is like looking through a window that leads us to the face of God. In today's Gospel, Jesus feeds the multitudes. What could you do in Advent to feed the poor? Bring one or two cans of food to your church or local St. Vincent DePaul Society to be shared with households in need. Today's Readings: Isaiah 25:6–10a; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6; Matthew 15:29–37.

Thursday, December 5

The Rock of Salvation

Isaiah tells us today that God is our solid rock upon which we build a life of spiritual practices. Try the ancient practice of *lectio divina* (pronounced LEK-tsee-oh dih-vee-nuh), or sacred reading of Scripture. Choose a Scripture passage and read it slowly (*lectio*), meditating on a word or phrase from the passage (*meditatio*), allowing a prayer to flow from the text (*oratio*), and resting in God's divine being (*contemplatio*). The *lectio* and *meditatio* steps are repeated two or three times before moving to *oratio* and *contemplatio*. Today's Readings: Isaiah 26:1–6; Psalm 118:1 and 8–9, 19–21, 25–27a; Matthew 7:21, 24–27.

Friday, December 6

St. Nicholas

Many legends surround this fourth-century bishop who lived in what is now Turkey and whose memorial may be celebrated today. He is best known for his concern for the poor. Begin collecting coins today, and on January 22nd (the day of prayer for the legal protection of unborn children, established by the U.S. bishops) share what you collect with a local organization that advocates for unborn children. Day to day, pray about how to uphold the dignity of each human person. Today's Readings: Isaiah 29:17–24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; Matthew 9:27–31.

Saturday, December 7

St. Ambrose

This fourth-century bishop, whose memorial we celebrate today, was a great teacher, and he also composed many hymn texts during his life. His words for the Advent carol "Savior of the Nations, Come" are found in most hymnals, or find the hymn at <http://www.cyberhymnal.org/hymn/s/a/saviorof.htm>, where you can hear the melody through Midi. Consider praying these words or even learning the song as this first week of Advent closes. Today's Readings: Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26; Psalm 147:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8.



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Keeping the Seasons
Reproducibles for Advent-Christmas 2013–2014



**ST. CLETUS PARISH 2013
PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES**

December 3rd

Adoration Blessed Sacrament/ 8:30 a.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Benediction

Spanish Adoration - 7:00 p.m.

December 4th Church

6:30 p.m. Mass

December 11th Room 98

6:30 p.m. Mass

December 3rd-11th Spanish Ministry

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

7:00 p.m.

December 6th

Taize Prayer Service

December 12th - Spanish Ministry

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

5:00 a.m. "Mañanitas" (morning greetings)

7:00 p.m. Mass - Reception to follow in MH

December 14th

Tower Coral-Spirit of the Season

8:00 p.m. in Church

December 15th

4:00 p.m. in Church

December 16th

Parish Forgiveness Reconciliation Service

December 16th-23rd - Spanish Ministry

Christmas Novena

7:00 p.m.

December 18th Church

6:30 p.m. Advent Mass

December 21st & 22nd - Spanish Ministry

Christmas Posadas & Rosary

7:00 p.m. - Room 98 in the Education Building



GETTING READY

Today marks the beginning of another liturgical year. The tone of today's readings casts us in the role of students learning solemn lessons. The reading from Isaiah sets the stage, calling us up a mountain to receive the Lord's instruction. In this passage we study peace.

Then Paul steps forth with sober admonitions. We have to wake up; reminds us that we really do know the time in which we are living.

Finally, Matthew presents Jesus the storyteller. Just imagine, Jesus tells us, what it was like in Noah's time. He paints a vivid picture of ordinary people living ordinary lives and ignoring the warnings that Noah heeded. Totally unconcerned, they were destroyed. How will it be any different for us? No one knows when the Lord will come. But we have been warned.

Perhaps we find such sobering scriptures unappealing and threatening. But within them there is promise. We are to live in the light with nothing to hide. We are to be ready.

**prepare yourself
for the coming
of the Lord**



TEAM MEMBERS

Pictured top to bottom, left to right

Paulette Bolton, Joanna Polanski, Jolene Hillgoth, Xavier Polanski, Steve Kriz, Emily Kriz, Larry Lewandowski, Mary Beth Ford, Barb Pisto, Greg Stupka, Mary McTigue, Scott Caron, Sue Hurley, Jim Matthews, Bob Hausknecht,

Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Louie Lopez, Pastor Fr. Bob Clark, Fulgencio Torres, Helen McMahon, and Alida Carpenter

ST. CLETUS PARISH TRANSFORMATION TEAM

As the world around us changes, and as we change as people, it is healthy to step back and evaluate how we are living out the mission of Christ through our parish.

For the past 12 weeks, over 30 parishioners have met weekly to pray, discern and imagine the mission of Christ in St. Cletus Parish. The committee reviewed the input of over 300 parishioners from the parish transformation survey distributed in August and September. Our reflections and discussions affirmed who we are and much of what we are doing as a parish. However, we also took a fresh look highlighting areas of need that challenge us to try new ideas and approaches. ***Our goal is to celebrate the gift that is our parish community, while trying to make our parish even more vibrant and effective in carrying out the spirit of Jesus' mission and ministry.***

We then divided into smaller groups to develop specific plans for Mission and Finance and School.

In the coming weeks, we will share with the parish themes and ideas that have resulted from the parish transformation process:

1. Our Mission Narrative uses the imagery of the St. Francis Assisi mosaic in the back of our Church. This Mission Narrative does not replace our mission statement, rather, it is meant to articulate who we are as a parish, what we value, what inspires us, and how we are being called to live out Christ's mission in our community. This will set the foundation for developing a series of action plans that will be the roadmap for how we will live out Christ's mission even more vibrantly.
2. After several weeks of discussion, the parish transformation team chose the 'building blocks' of Evangelization, Catechesis and Missionary Spirit as guides to formulate the parish transformation plan. \
3. The parish transformation plan will be shared to the parish at Mass, the Canticle, Parish website and other venues.

Our request is for your personal involvement implementing our parish transformation plan in the coming months. We need involvement and input from **all** areas of the parish. This means our team needs to be made up of a representative cross section of ages, areas of interest, ethnicities, and levels of involvement. I encourage you to discern if you are being called to join the Parish Transformation Team. If you have not been very involved in the parish in the past, please do not let that stop you from joining the team. We need input and involvement from everyone in order to implement a strong plan. Please inform the parish office (708 352-6209) or email **bkallal@stcletusparish.com** of your interest and contact information.

**“APPROACHING ADVENT IN PRAYER”****TAIZÉ PRAYER****DECEMBER 6th****7:00 P. M.****IN CHURCH****ENTER ADVENT IN PEACE - SONG - SCRIPTURE - SILENCE****ALL ARE WELCOME**

Taizé prayer is a gathering of people using music, scripture, prayer, and silent reflection to pray for peace and reconciliation in our world.

It originated in Taizé, France after World War II, by the late Brother Roger who saw a need for forgiveness and healing. It has steadily grown throughout the world as that need is ever more evident. Thousands of young people gather in Taizé weekly recognizing the power of this community prayer. Please come and experience the peace of this prayer. It is a beautiful way to begin Advent and set our Christmas preparations in the right direction.

Paulette Bolton,

Director of Parish Catechesis/Formation

PLEASE NOTE!**NEW PARISH PILOT PROGRAM**

Starting in December all ministries and organizations will have the opportunity to sell, promote or hand out literature each weekend in Room 98 (Kindergarten Room) in the Education Building. Back in the fall we thought of initiating this change but held off. Due to space constraints in the Narthex it was now decided to initiate this as a pilot program that we will focus on from December through June. Then we will survey the parishioners for feedback.

Room 98, directly across from the west side church entrance, is the closest most accessible room near the church. This will allow 5 or 6 groups at a time to promote their ministries and organizations. We will also have hospitality available the first weekend of the month to welcome our new parishioners and gather with current parishioners.

As is the current policy all rooms in the Education Building, Rectory and Church must be reserved for any and all activities. Please contact Bobbie Kallal by email bkallal@stcletusparish.com and/or Debbie Lestarczyk dlestarczyk@stcletusparish.com to reserve this space.

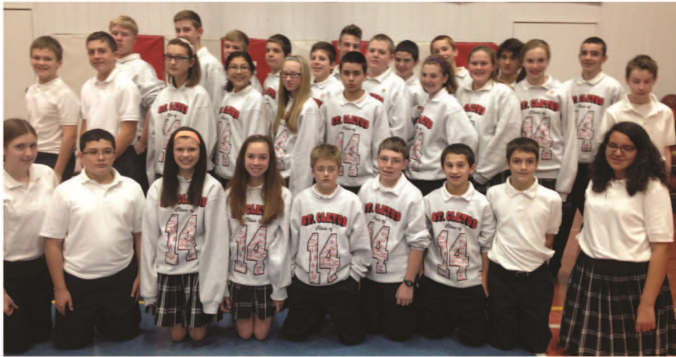
We hope you understand the reasoning behind this change and will help promote it with your ministries and organizations. We think this will be a great way to gather parishioners, exchange welcomes and hospitality.

God bless,

Fr. Bob



St. Cletus School Update



8th Graders Receive Their Class Sweatshirts

The 8th grade class took part in a long standing St. Cletus tradition recently, they received their class of 2014 sweatshirts.



Congrats on a Strong Season

The St. Cletus junior varsity football team had a strong season under the coaching trio of Ed Farnan, Kevin Dahil and Abe Rife. The 5th and 6th grade boys finished the regular season strong with a stunning 13-12 victory over St. Michael and entered the playoffs with a solid 5-1 record.

The Cardinals looked to avenge their lone seasonal loss when they faced off against rival, St. Francis of LaGrange, on October 10th. Although the St. Cletus defense held strong, the Cardinal offense was held in check by an equally stalwart St. Francis squad. The tough defensive struggle ended in a St. Francis victory with the final score 6-0.

The young Cardinals, however, didn't have to wait long for another shot at their neighborhood rival as the 6th grade boys' basketball team pounded the St. Francis Falcons 35-6 on November 12th.

Spring Auction & Gala - March 8th

Here are some ways you can help make this event a success:

- Ask your employer to make a product or cash contribution, or to purchase an ad in our catalog. Email auction@stcletusparish.com for sponsorship information.
- Ask friends and family members who own businesses for a donation. Nothing is too small as items will often be packaged together with other items.
- For those local businesses you support, ask for a donation of support in return, such as gourmet grocery certificates, restaurants, sporting goods, specialty clothing, jewelry, spas, toy stores – the list is unlimited.
- Do you or someone you know have a second home you could donate for a week or a long weekend? These are some of our best donations.
- Do you have a special talent you could share, e.g., knitting, fused glass making, painting, tiling, woodworking, or jewelry craft? Your time and talent donation would be so appreciated.
- Want to donate a fabulous dinner by teaming up with friends to help host a great evening? Dinners and Parties are some of our bestselling items.

The more donations we receive, the more we can sell at auction, the larger the benefit to the school. Donation Deadline for Auction items is Friday, February 14th.

For more information on the event and donation forms visit the "Support St. Cletus" portion of the school website.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Dining 4 Dollars - Countryside McDonalds December 9
School Christmas Performance December 11
School Band Performance..... December 18

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR OF OUR SCHOOL

Jolene Hillgoth, President
 (708) 215-5426 | jhillgoth@stcletusparish.com

Margaret Hayes, Principal
 (708) 352-4820 | mhayes@stcletusparish.com

Youth Ministry Update!

2013-2014 Teen Faith Formation Program

Our next group gathering will be December 8, from 2:00-6:15 p.m. All High School Age Teens are welcome to join us! We will be sorting gifts for our annual giving tree project! Please let me know what times you can come to help!

GIVING TREE

We are looking for Teens to help with our annual giving tree project! December 8 and 15. Please contact me to sign up! Bring the whole family.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2013/2014

December 8 - Giving Tree 2:00-6:15 p.m. (St. Cletus)

December 15—Giving Tree 7:00 a.m. –6:00 p.m. Pizza and White Elephant gifts after until 7:30 p.m. (St. Cletus)

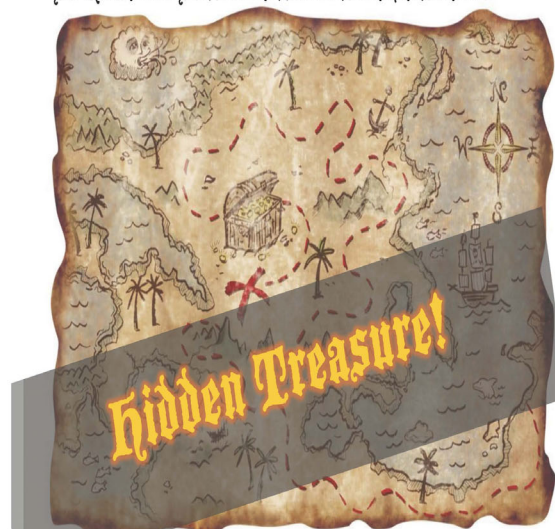
January 12, 2014 - Teen Mass 11:00 a.m. (St. Cletus)

Freshman/ Sophomore Retreat is January 10-12, 2014 and the Theme is *Hidden Treasure*. The permission form can be found on our website and they are due back by December 15! Join us for a weekend away! →

Amanda Birth

Youth Ministry Director

St. Cletus and St. Francis Xavier Parishes Present:



All freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to join us for a fun retreat weekend. At Camp Manitouqua, we will explore the parables in new and creative ways.

What/where is the hidden treasure?

COME FIND OUT!

Juniors and seniors will take us on an adventure we'll never forget!

The retreat will be
6pm Friday, January 10
through
12pm Sunday, January 12

Can you find the Hidden Treasure??

MINISTRY OF CARE MEETING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 @ 12:30 P.M. RECTORY BASEMENT

Will all Ministers of Care please make every effort to attend.

This meeting is also open to anyone who is interested in ministering to those in La Grange Hospital or to the homebound. Please feel free to attend and hear about this very special ministry.

Deacon Stuart
(708) 215-5407
sheyes@stcletusparish.com



HOLY NAME CHRISTMAS PARTY

Reminder: The HNS annual Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 6, at Sawa's Old Warsaw Restaurant, 9200 Cermak Road, Broadview. Cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. You can sign up in the Ministers' Room. HNS members, ushers, and money counters, please bring a gift for the raffle.

Dan Gibbons

Social Concerns Ministry

GIVING TREE UPDATE

- Don't forget to return your Giving Tree **gifts** to the **Church next weekend, December 7-8 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 8, 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 more than one package for the same person, please attach a gift tag on each package indicating his/her name and family number, to make sure all gifts go to the correct person. If you have more than one package for Family Request, please mark 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc.**
- Student (Jr. High accompanied by an adult, high school on up) and Adult volunteers are needed here at St. Cletus on Sunday, December 15, to help check-in and distribute food baskets. If you can help for a few hours between 7:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. in Morrissey Hall, please contact Mary Beth, (708) 215-5418 or Maureen, (708) 838-0345. Thanks.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

- Thank you to all parishioners who purchased "turkey bucks" at the Countryside Jewel store in November. Those funds went towards pre-cooked traditional Thanksgiving dinners, which Jewel prepared for us to distribute to some of our food pantry families on Tuesday, November 26. All interested Food Pantry families signed up for a "chance" to win one of these delicious dinners. At time of printing, the final number of families we will be able to serve is not known...but we do know from past experience that all the families will be most appreciative of a delicious Thanksgiving meal.
- Don't forget we are collecting **Jewel stamps for Rachel Ray Dinnerware** for our Advent Giving Tree Outreach. If you are not collecting them for yourself, please put the stamps in an envelope and place with your food donations, or drop the envelope in the collection basket, or at the rectory.
- Our most needed items are **rice, dry pinto beans, cereal, canned fruit, peanut butter & jelly, coffee, and juice.**

Thank you to all who support our efforts to respond to human needs with justice and love, in Christ's name.

Mary Beth Ford

Director of Social Concerns

WORLD AIDS DAY, December 1, 2013

World AIDS Day is an international day of celebration. It is all about people getting the facts about HIV/AIDS, getting involved in some way and caring. It was established in 1988 by the World Summit of Ministers of Health on AIDS and is observed in over 150 countries around the world.

World AIDS day draws public awareness to the AIDS pandemic and addresses the stigma, discrimination and rejection which persons living with HIV/AIDS face every day. It is a day to bring a message of hope, understanding and compassion to persons affected by the disease.

Please remember those persons living with HIV/AIDS, their families and loved ones, caregivers, researchers and those millions orphaned by the disease in your prayers.

The Catholic Charities HIV/AIDS Task Force for the Archdiocese of Chicago 1-(312) 948-6500



ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, December 3, 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.



WELCOME SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers. Registration is available next weekend, December 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 Room 98 in the Education Building, say hello, and become members.

Raising Faith-Filled Kids • One Word at a Time

Prepare



I experienced a kind of enlightenment one Saturday while cleaning the bathroom. We were preparing for company. In a flash, I came to see that our chores—the cooking, cleaning, dragging chairs up from the basement—were sacred actions. Preparing for guests is certainly mundane, but that was the point. I imagined Jesus standing next to me, telling me, “You say you want to get close to me. Don’t you realize how close I am to you already? Spending hours on your knees reciting prayers as if in an endurance contest is not what I’m asking of you. When you’re down on your knees scrubbing the floor for your family, just know that I am there.” This Advent, follow Blessed Teresa’s example and “Do small things with great love.” —Tom McGrath

YEAR OF STRONG CATHOLIC PARENTS

The **ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO** in partnership with **LOYOLA PRESS**.

For more parenting resources: www.loyolapress.com

www.CatholicParentsChicago.org

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REMINDER: CREDO MOVIE NIGHT DECEMBER 6



Begin your Advent journey to Christmas by experiencing the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Join CREDO to view the movie, “The Nativity” followed by Adoration and Benediction.

The movie will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Room 98 in the Education Building. The movie ends in the stable at Bethlehem where all are adoring Jesus.



We will then move to the church so that we can adore Jesus as well. If you only wish to attend Adoration and Benediction they will begin at 9:00 p.m.

We hope this event will be a meaningful start to Advent for you. Older children and families are welcome.

CREDO

(Continuing Religious Education Opportunities for adults)

Spirito! Singers

Under the artistic direction of Molly Lindberg, Spirito! Singers will be performing their Christmas Concert, *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*, on December 7, at 7:00 p.m. and on Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. at Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, 149 W. Brush Hill Road, Elmhurst. Reserved seating tickets are \$22 and can be purchased at www.spiritosingers.org or by calling (877) 8WEWE-SING.

St. Francis Xavier Domestic Violence Outreach Ministry invites you to hear Peggy Radke, Director of Training with Family Shelter Service. She will offer a 1 hour program on “How to Passively Defuse Volatile Situations” on Sunday, December 8, at 4:30 p.m. at **St. Francis Xavier Church, 124 N. Spring Ave., La Grange.**

DUE TO THE EARLY PRINTING OF THE CANTICLE THE SUNDAY COLLECTION FOR 11-24-13 WILL BE PRINTED IN NEXT WEEKEND'S CANTICLE.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

"Jesus answered, 'My kingdom does not belong to this world.'" (John 18:36)

How often do we put all our time and energy into building a kingdom here on earth, forgetting that life here is short? The real kingdom is in the next life. Yet, how much time and energy do we invest in working for that eternal kingdom?

WEEK AT A GLANCE			
DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION/ ROOM #	EVENT
Sunday, December 1	7:00 a.m.	R-98	Fine Arts Ticket Sales
Monday, December 2	9:00 a.m. 9:00 p.m.	C MH	School Reconciliation Men's Basketball
Tuesday, December 3	8:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	C\ C S-Music S-201 Rectory DR MH S-201 MH	Adoration & Benediction Spanish Adoration Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal Teen Advent Prayer Service RCIA Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Hispanic Ministry Men's Prayer Group YM Church League
Wednesday, December 4	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	RB MH C C C	Mission Ladies Market Day Advent Mass Catechist Christmas Gathering Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena YM Church League
Thursday, December 5	5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	S-Music C S-Music MH	Children's Choir Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Chancel Choir YM Church League
Friday, December 6	2:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	MH Lobby C S-201 S-98 C	MANNA Cash & Carry Taizé Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena CREDO Movie Night CREDO Benediction
Saturday, December 7	4:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	S-Music 2-98	Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal Welcome Committee
Sunday, December 8	7:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	S-98 C	Welcome Committee Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena
C...Church Narthex...Church Vestibule (East & West) MH...Morrissey Hall			S...School (Education Building) RB...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).

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

DEPARTMENT

POSITION

Administration

Fr. Bob Clark
Jolene Hillgoth
Margaret Hayes

Pastor
President
Principal

Executive Committee

Mike Pusatera
Marty Mulcrone
Heather Alpe

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Secretary

Finance Committee

Mike Magee
Bob Gray

Policy

Shawn Temple

Development & Marketing

Michael Gilmartin
Chris McLean
Zlata Kozul-Naumovski
Ron Skrip
Ann Foley
Rachel Luna
Doug Rausch

Liaisons

Mary DeGroot
Kevin Dahill
Chris McLean

FSA President
Athletic Assoc President
Tech Comm Liaison

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

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

Sunday: 8:00am-1:00pm

BULLETIN ARTICLES

The deadline for Canticle article submission is 5:00 p.m. Friday, one full week prior to Sunday's publication. Articles may be submitted electronically to pdrobny@stcletusparish.com.