

PARISH STAFF

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REV. EDGAR RODRIGUEZ

Associate Pastor

REV. KENNETH BAKER

Associate Pastor

REV. RON ANGLIM

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REV. MR. JESÚS & SILVIA CASAS

Deacon Couple

REV. MR. STUART & MARLENE HEYES

Deacon Couple

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(708) 215-5423

Deacon Jesús Casas

Hispanic Ministry

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Amanda Birth

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Deacon Stuart Heyes

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Bulletin Editor/Office Assistant

Bobbie Kallal

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Mary Zwolinski

Parish Accounting

(708) 352-6209



St. Cletus Canticle

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

(708) 352-6209 Rectory

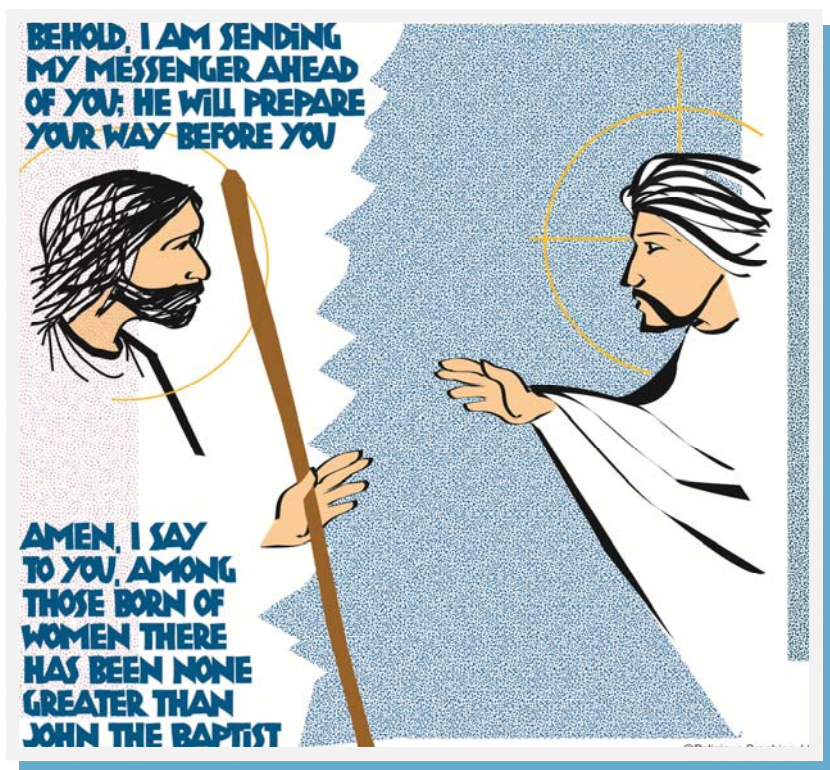
(708) 215-5440 Español

(708) 352-4820 School

www.stcletusparish.com

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2013



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 16 – December 22, 2013

Day	Time	Intentions
Monday	8:00 a.m.	Nanci Makris, Evelyn Prevenas
Tuesday	8:00 a.m.	Edward Vonesh
Wednesday	8:00 a.m.	Erin Potts, Ralph Mach
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Richard & Kathleen Mladenik, Monica Mataitis
Friday	8:00 a.m.	Purgatorial Society
Saturday	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Timothy Wickerd Rose Delaloye, Rosanne Marshall Hasler, Georgia Popp, Joseph Salvitti, Benjamin Patrick Hyink
Sunday	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	Deceased members of the George Kurland Family, Marco & Emilia Rattin, John Karch, Maria Wisniewska, Steve Hoag, Ellen & Aldo Rostan Eddie Wisner, Roger Vandriessche, Abe Katzmarek, Mary Jane Manley William H. Nault, George M. Nault, Chester Wojcik, Dr. Nancy Nelson, Stella Pelehac, Roseanne Lodato, Alison Mary Fitzpatrick Joe & Mary White, Kadlec Family, Dr. Julio Battistoni, Roseanne Marshall Hasler, Ken Herzog, Helen Kaminski Nicolas Arambula



Please remember our sick in your prayers: Sue Engstrom, Ray Salstedt, Ron Ziemba, Loretta Johncola, Catherine Mlot, Denise Rowalka, Marty Weber, Barbara Kotus, 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 Matesevaz, 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.

Wedding Banns

Bridget O'Connor & Matthew Matkovich



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

Lorraine (Mary) Connolly,
mother of Patricia Gould

Maria A. Latoza,
mother of Shirley Deutsch

Mary Ellen Nemec,
mother of Bob Nemec, Jr.

Frank Victor Bedenk,
brother of Alvin Bedenk & uncle of Ruth Matuch

Ida Ladisa,
mother of Isabel Saporito

PARISH FORGIVENESS SERVICE

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 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...

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2013

Arak is a spirits drink, something akin to vodka, and made by the Arabs. As a body-warming and mind-numbing drink, it became the friend and companion of a young, Scottish soldier during the dark days of war in 1942. Fighting with the "Desert Rats" in North Africa, against the great German general, Erwin Rommel, that young soldier felt that his world was coming to an end. "The Africa Corps" of the German army had the Allies on the run, and victory for Britain looked very unlikely. News coming from home was equally bleak, as towns and cities suffered constant bombing from the raids of Goering's Luftwaffe. It was a bad time, with no light or hope on earth's horizon. The soldier sought refuge in the bottle. Arak became his comfort in sorrow.

"That will kill you," a fellow soldier warned him. He did not care. And kill him it did. One morning his fellow soldier woke up in his sleeping bag on the desert sand, and found the young Scot dead, beside him. He had found his exit from life, from a life too hard to live. The desert sand, the burning sun, the vast and empty sky, all spoke to him of the end of hope, and we cannot live without hope. And so he died. Yet his companion and many like him, lived to see a better day, and a change of fortune and the promise of peaceful times.

The words of Isaiah would have been very appropriate then. "Let the wilderness and the dry lands exult, let the wasteland rejoice and boom." Yes, a total transformation had occurred. The fortunes of Israel were changed when the exile to Babylon was over, and the people could return home: just as the tide of war also turned, and "desert rats" could go home. What had looked like disaster is now turned to glory, the glory of going home.

In the days of the early Church, James, "the brother of the Lord," writes a letter to all the Jewish converts to Christ, to encourage them to persevere and to be patient in times of hardship. Think of the farmer, he says. He knows what he has planted in the ground. He knows what power is in the seed to emerge and flourish and bear fruit. But he has to wait for autumn rain and spring rain. For a long time there is no sign of life, it is buried in the earth. Then the miracle happens. The earth breaks open to reveal the new life and to give us food and fruit and flower.

Life is like that, says James. We must wait patiently and not lose hope. Rather, we must help each other to hope. So he goes on to give another example. Think of the prophets of old, how much they put their hope in God and were patient in times of trial. He did not need to think very far back. Think of John the Baptist.

John the Baptist in his prison was a man in chains and in confusion. His forceful preaching had been stopped in mid-shout, his career curtailed. Detained in Herod's dungeon, his wide world and wider vision of the coming Messiah had shrunk to the width of his prison cell. He is caught in the narrows, his drive diminished, his voice silenced. Then he hears of Jesus and of the voice reclaimed – for you cannot shut up God's word. John sends the question so he can know, "Are you the one?" The answer is not a simple "yes", because so short an answer leaves too much unsaid. We need to see. So Jesus sends John a vision, a picture of the truth. "Tell John what you see and hear." Lives are being healed, and the word is being spoken. "Do not lose faith in me!"

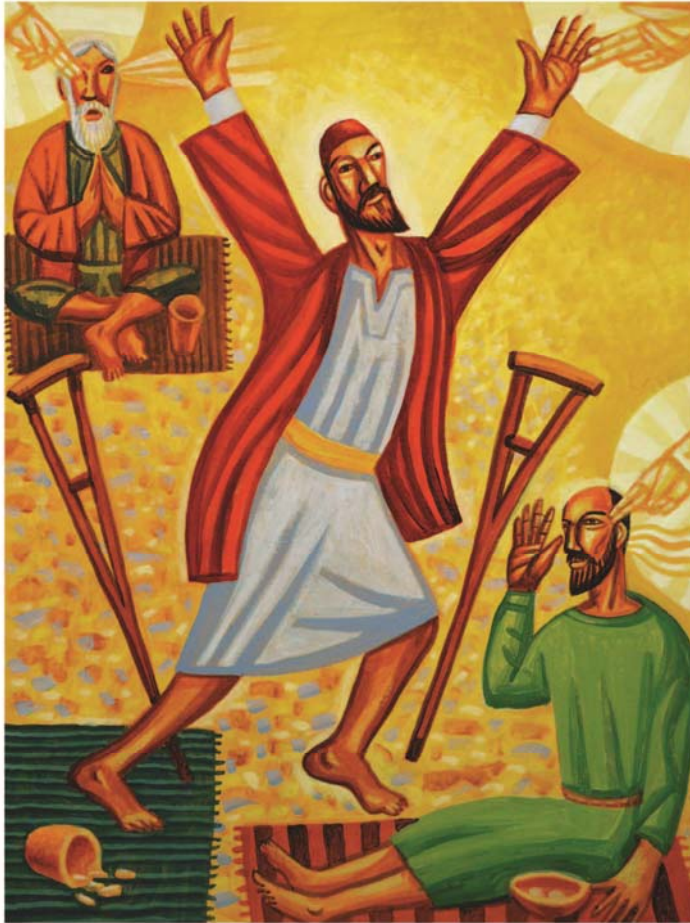
John can persevere, right to the end. His life is not in vain. His patience is not pointless. They point to the power of goodness and love, for which he is prepared to suffer for the sake of others. Sin and selfishness have no such powers. They witness to nothing, they merely fade away.

We are not immune to the troubles of this world, or to the agonies that cause people to despair. But the seed of hope has been planted in us, and hope is bright. Then let us give to others what God has given to us – a reason to rejoice.

Advent Hope, Peace and Love,

Father Bob
Pastor

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Stand as Prophets

Father of all and sender of prophets,
in their old age, you gave Zechariah and
Elizabeth a Son called John.
Growing up strong in the Spirit,
John prepared a way for the Lord.
Through your holy prophets,
you give new sight to the blind,
set the lame walking, cleanse the lepers,
give hearing to the deaf, raise the dead,
and proclaim your good news.
With yearning and trust, we await
your Son.
As baptized believers,
may we who await the coming of
your kingdom
be strong of heart.
Help us to live in holy unity
and stand as prophets of Christ's
healing and peace.
Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sunday, December 15, 2013 The Kingdom Breaking In

Today's Readings: Isaiah 35:1–6a, 10; Psalm 146:6–7, 8–9, 9–10; James 5:7–10; Matthew 11:2–11. Today the prophet Isaiah describes a desert that is parched and yet will “blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing” because the Lord is coming. And once God arrives, the blind, deaf, lame, and mute will be healed! These same transformations appear again in the Gospel. They are the signs of the Kingdom breaking in—and Jesus tells the disciples of John the Baptist to carry this news to him, in prison. For Isaiah's people, for John the Baptist, and for us, the coming of the Kingdom is good news indeed! God is in the world, and in spite of our fears and feebleness, he is coming to save us.

The world around us holds up different signs—enticements to buy and spend and strive. It is a challenge to follow the advice of James, in the Second Reading, to wait patiently in joyful hope and “strengthen our hearts.” The Church leads us on a counter-cultural path, for good reasons. At the end of the Gospel, Jesus explains that: “no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” The Kingdom Jesus is bringing will make even greater deeds and insights possible! How can we help to bring that Kingdom? What good news could we share and what healing and caring deeds could we perform as we wait? Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, December 16

Las Posadas

The Spanish word, *Las Posadas*, meaning “lodging” or “accommodation,” names a traditional nine-day novena that includes walking each evening through neighborhoods to commemorate Mary and Joseph’s search for lodging in Bethlehem. On Christmas Eve, doors will open to feasting and welcome. Consider joining in at a parish in your area that celebrates *Las Posadas*. As Mary and Joseph are refused shelter by many Bethlehem innkeepers, Jesus is refused understanding by the chief priests and elders in today’s Gospel. Today’s Readings: Numbers 24:2–7, 15–17a; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8–9; Matthew 21:23–27.

Tuesday, December 17

O Sapientia, O Wisdom

Today begins the proclamation of the O Antiphons, familiar to us from the beloved Advent hymn, “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” These ancient poetic verses (actually the antiphons for the Magnificat at Evening Prayer) express our yearning for the Lord and describe him as wisdom, root, key, star, king, and God-with-us. How is the wisdom of God directing your life during this season? Today’s Readings: Genesis 49:2, 8–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 3–4ab, 7–8, 17; Matthew 1:1–17.

Wednesday, December 18

O Adonai, O Lord of Lords

As the chosen people were led out of bondage in Israel and were later led home from exile, so we ask God to redeem us with his justice in today’s antiphon. The one whose powerful outstretched arm created, redeems, and continues to embrace the cosmos in love is worthy of our trust. In today’s Gospel we read that Joseph trusted the guidance God sent him in the form of a dream. What challenges do you trust the Lord to

help you overcome today? Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 23:5–8; Psalm 72:1–2, 12–13, 18–19; Matthew 1:18–25.

Thursday, December 19

O Radix Jesse, O Root of Jesse

From humble peasant roots, King David emerged as a mighty and powerful tree for the people of Israel. Now from the same humble beginning we await the King of kings, Lord of lords, and Prince of peace who comes without the trappings of an earthly king. In what ways are we freeing ourselves from the trappings of materialism and power? Don’t miss the beautiful story about John the Baptist’s parents, Zechariah and Elizabeth, in today’s Gospel. Today’s Readings: Judges 13:2–7, 24–25a; Psalm 71:3–4a, 5–6ab, 16–17; Luke 1:5–5.

Friday, December 20

O Clavis David, O key of David

Jesus is the key of David, who opens hearts and minds that are locked in fear, disease, and sin. We await the key that will open our own hearts and empty them of what is keeping us from becoming who we are called to be. In what ways is God’s grace transforming our lives and leading us to full personhood? How did Mary respond to God’s grace in today’s Gospel? Today’s Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Psalm 24:1–2, 3–4ab, 5–6; Luke 1:26–38.

Saturday, December 21

O Oriens, O Rising Sun

In the midst of winter darkness in the northern hemisphere, we wait for the sun of justice to rise. Christ is the light of the world; he is brightness and warmth, dispelling darkness and supporting life, physical and spiritual. In today’s Gospel, Anna welcomes Mary and teaches us about the dynamics of hospitality. We open our homes so that Christ, hidden in each visitor, may come in. In what ways is Christ, the sun of justice, becoming more visible to us as we open ourselves to his presence? Today’s Readings: Song of Songs 2:8–14; Psalm 33:2–3, 11–12, 20–21; Luke 1:39–45.





**ST. CLETUS PARISH 2013
PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES**

December 15th
Tower Coral-Spirit of the Season
4:00 p.m. in Church

December 16th
Parish Forgiveness Reconciliation Service
7:00 p.m.

December 16th-23rd - Spanish Ministry
Christmas Novena
7:00 p.m.

December 18th Church
6:30 p.m. Mass

December 21st & 22nd - Spanish Ministry
Christmas Posadas & Rosary
7:00 p.m. - Room 98 in the Education Building

Rejoice! The Lord is near.

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CHRISTMAS EVE/CHRISTMAS DAY
MASS SCHEDULE
2013

CHRISTMAS EVE

2:00PM...CHURCH
2:15PM... MORRISSEY HALL
3:30PM... CHURCH
3:45PM...MORRISSEY HALL
5:30PM...CHURCH
7:00PM...CHURCH/SPANISH
10:00PM...CHURCH
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
HISPANIC CHOIR
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
CHANCEL CHOIR

ACCOMPANIMENT

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

New Year's Eve/New Year's Day

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2013

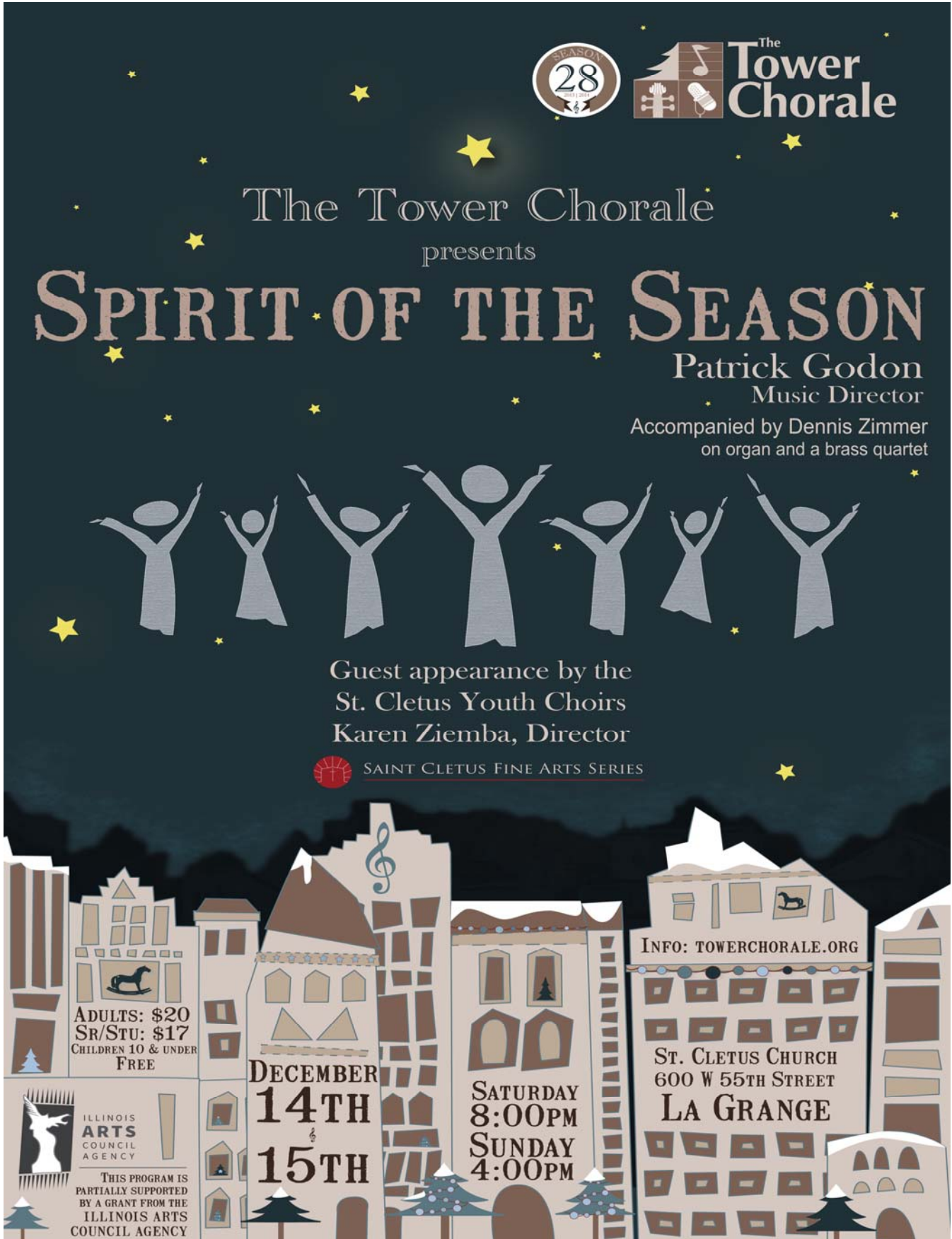
8:00AM

5:00PM-VIGIL MASS FOR SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

9:00AM

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



SEASON 28

The Tower Choral

The Tower Choral
presents

SPIRIT OF THE SEASON

Patrick Godon
Music Director

Accompanied by Dennis Zimmer
on organ and a brass quartet

Guest appearance by the
St. Cletus Youth Choirs
Karen Ziemba, Director

SAINT CLETUS FINE ARTS SERIES

ADULTS: \$20
SR/STU: \$17
CHILDREN 10 & UNDER
FREE

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COUNCIL
AGENCY

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COUNCIL AGENCY

DECEMBER
14TH
15TH

SATURDAY
8:00PM
SUNDAY
4:00PM

INFO: TOWERCHORALE.ORG

ST. CLETUS CHURCH
600 W 55TH STREET
LA GRANGE

St. Cletus School News



Because of Winn Dixie Project

Rooms 114 and 115 completed a novel study of *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo. Students were able to choose from various projects and apply their knowledge of the text. Pictured are students from room 114 playing each other's "Who Am I?" games. Students that selected this option created a game and used character descriptions and vivid language to describe character's physical appearance, personality, and behavior.



What is Sublimation? Ask A 4th Grader

Fourth graders have learned that there is actually a fourth component to the water cycle – sublimation! Since we do not have a glacier nearby, students used dry ice as a substitute. After observing a video on sublimation, students carefully dropped a piece of dry ice into a beaker of warm water. They were able to observe how a solid can become a gas without first becoming a liquid. To add to the fun, fourth graders added a bubble solution and food coloring and observed one colorful display! They also dropped a piece of dry ice into a balloon that they attached to a plastic water bottle, and watched how the carbon dioxide gas blew up the balloon.



2nd Grade Service Project

Our second grade service project this year is collecting pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House. The pop tabs collected are recycled and then earn money to provide families of sick children a place to stay while their loved one is in the hospital. We are collecting ourselves and we are asking our families and friends to collect too! Earlier this school year, we went to all the classrooms at St. Cletus and told them about our service project and we provided each classroom a container to help us collect tabs. The students love bringing in a big haul of pop tabs from their relatives and find joy in knowing that these tabs help a family with a sick child. On Monday, Tommy Goryl excitedly presented me with a gallon jug filled with pop tabs from his Grandma! Emily Lathrop said that her favorite part is "knowing that she is helping kids that are sick." Julia Ludden said "I feel proud that we are able to help kids in need!"

DATES TO REMEMBER

School Band Concert December 18
 Christmas Break Starts December 23
 School Resumes January 6

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

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

The Christmas Food Baskets will be distributed to our local recipients this weekend on Sunday. If you took a red "Food Basket" tag from the Giving Tree, please bring your basket to **Morrissey Hall on Sunday, December 15, between 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** Remember to securely attach your tag to the basket, so we know the size of the family for which it is intended. If your food is in more than one container, if possible please mark the containers 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc. This will be a big help in our organization process. Thanks for helping make the holidays brighter for a needy family in our community!

Mary Beth Ford, Director of Social Concerns



Market Day order forms are available in the Church Narthex. Order forms are due back to the school by Thursday, December 19, 2013 by 3:00 p.m. Online ordering due by 11:00 p.m., Saturday, January 4, 2014 www.marketday.com

Pick-Up is on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in Morrissey Hall.



The Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) have arrived. If you would like to purchase some, please come to the Rectory office. Each envelope (3 per envelope) is \$2.

THE LOOK OF LOVE

What does love look like?

It has feet to go to the poor and needy.

It has eyes to see misery and want.

It has ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of others.

—St. Augustine



Gift Cards for Education

For this program vendors sell gift cards to us at a percent discount. We then sell them at face value.

Half of the proceeds helps our school the rest you can apply to tuition at St. Cletus or ANY public/private high school or college!

Today!

For more Information or to order online visit www.stcletusschool.com/fundraising/manna/



ST. CLETUS BOOK FAIR

A three-day pre-Christmas book fair in Morrissey was organized by St. Cletus School Librarian, Mary Delaney, and co-chairpersons, Leticia Schutlz and Mary Ellen Staelgraeve.

Photo by Jim Matthews

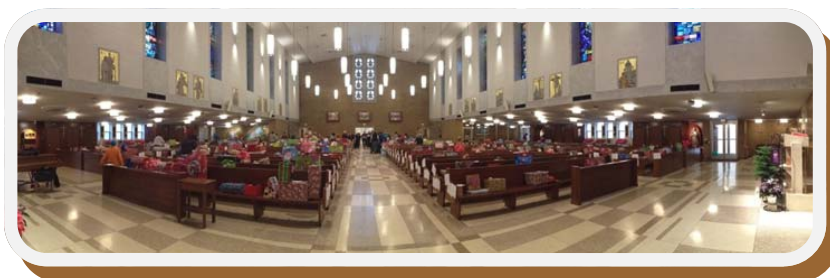
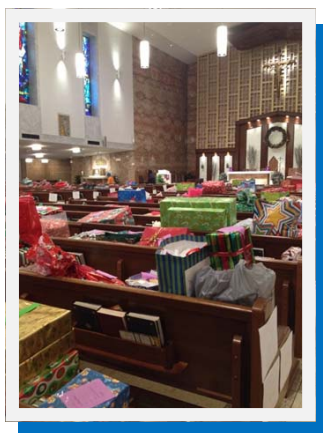


"On Sunday, December 1, the St. Cletus School Girl Scout and Cub Scout troops decorated Christmas Trees in front of the school. The girls and boys hung ornaments they made at previous meetings, sang Christmas carols, and had hot cocoa and cookies to jump start the holiday season. A big THANK YOU goes out to Fullers Car Wash for donating the trees!"

Youth Ministry Update!

2013-2014 TEEN FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Giving Tree and made it a successful event! We helped hundreds of families both from St. Cletus and St. Agatha's and truly helped make a difference in their Christmas season!



Merry
Christmas



Our next teen Mass is January 12, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.! Please join us as readers, altar servers, gift bearers and ushers.

Freshman/Sophomore Retreat is January 10-12, 2014 at Camp Manitoqua! Please pray for the teens here and at St. Francis Xavier that will be attending.

ARCHDIOCESAN ALL NIGHT SKI EVENT 2014!

Friday, January 31 - Saturday, February 1, teens from all over Chicago will be skiing at Chestnut Mountain in Galena. Our bus will depart Friday evening and will return Saturday morning. Adult chaperones are needed (contact me if you are willing)! Registration information is available on our website <http://stcletusparish.com/ministries/youth/>. Registration forms are due by January 10, 2014! No late registrations will be accepted because all our forms must go through the Office of Catechesis.

Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas! Check your email for updates. Our first small group meeting of the New Year will be January 19, 2014.

Any Questions! Contact Amanda Birth at abirth@stcletusparish.com or (708) 325-5419.

Amanda Birth

Director of Youth Ministry

PROMISE FULFILLED

Today's readings address the faithful one, the one who waits on God but may not feel God's presence. Every person who seeks God has at one time or another experienced the absence of God. Jesus himself cried out during his dark night of the soul.

The Epistle of James speaks to this. The author says that we must be as patient as the silent, fallow earth that awaits the slow, soaking rains of winter and the hard, necessary rains of spring. As the farmer is sure of the precious yield of the land, we can be sure of the precious yield of our patient waiting. God is never far away.

The messengers from John the Baptizer asked Jesus if he was the one whose coming John had announced. The messengers wanted to hear the answer that the imprisoned John already knew. Everything that John said was finally happening: because of Jesus, light shines in eyes; words of promise are received; people leap and dance.

The promise of Isaiah is fulfilled in Jesus. Wobbly knees and feeble hands are strong, the desert blooms, the savanna and steppe flower, the darkness is chased away.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27
 Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
 Wednesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
 Thursday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
 Friday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
 Saturday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
 Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent
 Monday: Las Posadas begins
 Saturday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins



St. Cletus Parish Welcomes...

Andrew José García,

son of Adrian & Adrianna (Baez) García

Aubrey Hannah Hanson,

daughter of Tom Hanson & Nicole Barry

Timothy Edward Jankowski,

son of Robert & Maribeth (Gorman) Jankowski

Charles John Rufa,

son of Peter & Katie (Moran) Rufa

Emily Francine Sinkuler,

daughter of Ronald & Jennifer (Mical) Sinkuler

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

Raising Faith-Filled Kids • One Word at a Time

Cooperate



I brought my four-year-old daughter Judy to a Holy Name Society meeting featuring a visit from Santa. It was what my friend Joellyn calls "a dad-run event." In other words: chaos.

As my daughter waited patiently to approach Santa, boisterous boys cut in line in front of her. Judy said, "They won't cooperate. They just want to be first."

Family life goes better when we all cooperate, and so does the world. Here is a recipe for what to teach your children about cooperating and the desire to be first: 1. Be the first to be aware of others. 2. Be the first to be understanding. 3. Be the first to be kind. 4. Be the first to be encouraging. 5. Be the first to forgive. 6. Be the first to be joyful. —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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THANKS FOR BEING LIFE SAVERS!

Women's Care Center of La Grange would like to thank all St. Cletus parishioners who donated to our recent **baby bottle collection** at the parish. The total amount collected to date is **\$6,780**. We are so pleased with your response and are very blessed by your generosity! You have made it possible for us to continue our life-saving and life-affirming work helping women and babies in our area.

We are deeply grateful to Fr. Robert Clark, pastor, and to Wayne and Marianne Hamilton, pro-life coordinators, for all their support and leadership in this event.

Because of your sacrifices large and small, *Women's Care Center of La Grange* will be able to help save babies' lives through compassionate counseling, free ultrasounds, medical referrals and material assistance given to their moms and dads in crisis. May the Lord of Life bless you for caring for His littlest ones! Merry Christmas!



LET US CONTINUE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE IN THE MILITARY ESPECIALLY...

Ryan McDonell, USA
1st Lt. Sara Jean Sedlacek, USA
Pfc. Paul Jacobsen, USMC
Nick Radziwon, US Navy
1st Lt. Thomas G. Dybiczy, USA Ranger
Lt. Cdr. Amy Sloan Bloyd, US Coast Guard
Michael Carr, USA
Captain Anthony Cech, USA Chaplain
Sgt. Franklyn Cuchana, USA
2nd Lt. Thomas G. Dybiczy, USA Ranger
Sgt. Michael Fittanto, USA
M/Sgt. Patrick Hegeman, USMC
Sgt. Joseph Kaminski, USA
Kevin Lewis, USA
Pfc. Zackus McLeod, USA
Capt. Robert Mele, USAF
Capt. Steven Muscolino, USAF
Spf. Kyle Nicholson, USA
Pvt. James Reisel, USA
S/Sgt. Daniel Hattie, USAF
Pfc. Matthew Sparks, USMC
Capt. Charlie Drucker, USA
Major Christopher Strahlman, USA
M/Sgt. Anthony Zito, USA

MORNING OF MEDITATION ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS: DOCTOR OF DIVINE LOVE

***Presentation by Joyce Hajdukovic, SFCC, PhD**

***Periods of meditation**

***Time for sharing**

All are invited:

Those who meditate,

Those who want to learn to meditate, and

Those who want to know more about meditation.

Saturday, December 21, 2013

Hospitality 8:30 a.m., Program 9:00-11:30 a.m.

St. John of the Cross Parish Center
5005 South Wolf Rd., Western Springs

Sponsored by the Christian Meditation group
(wccm.org)

Freewill offering accepted

Reservations are requested but not required

Contact:

Mary: (708) 246-5108, or

mary105105@gmail.com



MARY AND MARTHA

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 Thursday, December 19, 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.

PERSPECTIVE

A mountain shames a molehill until they both are humbled by the stars.

—Old adage

STEWARDSHIP - SUNDAY COLLECTION – DECEMBER 8, 2013

Total Active Registered Families 2,755

Amount Collected

of envelopes used this week 659

% of registered families 24%

Weekly Collection Budget: \$27,000**Over (Under) Budget: \$1,181**

This fiscal Year @ 12/8/13

Actual Sunday Collections: \$ 587,254

Budgeted Sunday Collections 621,000**YTD Over (Under) budget: \$ (33,746)****Collection Statistics**

\$ 22,562 Envelopes Users

3,945 Loose Check/Cash

1,674 Electronic Giving**\$ 28,181 Total Collected**

Advent is the season of preparation and anticipation. Please help us to increase our weekly giving by a few extra dollars so we can be prepared to meet our weekly financial obligations.

*Thank you,
Fr. Bob Clark
Pastor*

WEEK AT A GLANCE			
DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION/ ROOM #	EVENT
Sunday, December 15	7 :00 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 4 :00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	S-98 RB C S-200	MANNA Cash & Carry Ministry of Care Meeting Fine Arts Concert Youth Ministry
Monday, December 16	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	C S-201 MH	Parish Forgiveness Service Christmas Novena Mens' Basketball
Tuesday, December 17	7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	S-200 Rectory Dr C	Youth Ministry RCIA Christmas Novena
Wednesday, December 18	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	C C	Advent Mass Christmas Novena
Thursday, December 19	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	RB S-Music S-Music C S-Music	Mary & Martha Collection for Nursing Home Residents Children's Choir Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal Christmas Novena Chancel Choir
Friday, December 20	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	C S-208 MH Lobby S-Music S-201	School Mass Parents of Teen Prayer Group MANNA Cash & Carry Hispanic Choir Christmas Novena
Saturday, December 21	7:00 p.m.	S-98	Rosary and Posada
Sunday, December 22	7:00 p.m.	S-98	Rosary and Posada
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.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

708-215-5421

CONTACT PERSON

Pat Drobny/Bulletin Editor
Debbie Lestarczyk-Bus Mgr (708-352-6209)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS