

# *Saint Cletus Parish Canticle*



## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Join us for an 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 14th, 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."

### GIVING TREE DONATIONS

This weekend please return your Giving Tree Presents (purple tags) to the narthex during all weekend masses.

Next Sunday, December 20th, the Giving Tree Food Baskets should be returned to Morrissey Hall between 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.

Thank you for your generous donations.

## WELCOME



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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- |          |     |   |
|----------|-----|---|
| DEC. 14: | 7pm | Advent Parish Reconciliation Service                    |
| DEC. 20: |     | Giving Tree Food Baskets returned in Morrissey Hall     |
|          | 4pm | Bending Towards the Light: a Jazz Nativity              |
| JAN. 9:  | 5pm | Archdiocesan Mass for Life with Archbishop Blase Cupich |



## Mass Intentions for the Week of December 14—December 20, 2015

Day	Presider (Subject to change)	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	John Lestarczyk, Delphine Marciszewski, Stella Kadlec
Tuesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	John Joyce, Longin Bielan
Wednesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Evelyn Prevanas, Nanci Makris, Rose Delaloye, Thomas Forkin, Joshua Swibel, Joseph & Adeline Kulikowski
Thursday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Monica Mataitis, Edward Vonesh
Friday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Leandra Chvatal, Erik Geyer
Saturday	Fr. Baker Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Audrey Hovorka Georgia Popp, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Grace Copp, Rose Delaloye, Joseph L. Naponiello, Ralph Pignataro, Karen Carroll
Sunday	Fr. Clark Fr. Gamboa Fr. Clark Fr. Baker  Fr. Gamboa	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.  12:30 p.m.	George Duda, Frances Kennedy, Patrick Mahoney, Josephine Felice Marge May, Sam & Maria Scopelliti Josephine Sorrentino, Mark & Stephen Callaghan, Gail Flagler Dcn. Walter & Frances Klimcke, Ken Herzog, Valerie Moskus, Marcella Baronti, Gene Kennedy, Catherine Mlot St. Cletus Parishioners

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

Please welcome to our parish family:

**Joann Sheehan**

**Barbara & Jim Weyrick Family**

**Anthony Louis Defazio**

**Catie & Peter Sullivan Family**

**April Pesut and Family**

**Beverly & Slavko Marasovic Family**

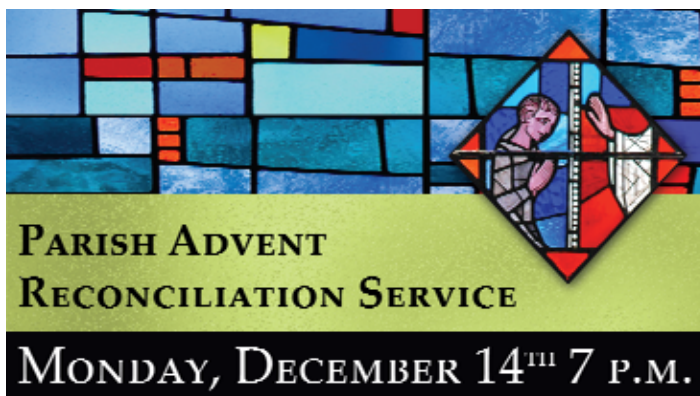
**Mary & Steven Tokic Family**

**Mary & Richard Cranny Family**

If you have been attending St. Cletus, but have not registered as a parishioner, please consider the commitment of parish membership.

### SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

This weekend, there will be a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please be generous.



### ST. CLETUS PARISH WELCOMES...

**Monika Skaiva Purvis**

Daughter of William John & Lina (Stenson) Purvis

**Vito James Vari**

Son of James & Leslie (Traficanto) Vari

**Sofia Maria Sutkus**

Daughter of Glenn & Elizabeth (Ghera) Sutkus

**Delila Guadalupe Casas**

Daughter of Paulo & Kristine (Arias) Casas

**Molly Grey Callahan**

Daughter of Kevin & Nikole (Hoster) Callahan

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

### PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Ed Kinsley, Al Dybiczy, Eleanor Tolan, Carol Piccolo, Pat Harris, Eleanor Brousil, Patricia Niwa, Allie DeRivera, Don King, Carmen Rodriguez, Tom Wolak, Christine Bell, Jenna Zimmerman, Rachel Lipman, Mauricio Aguilar, Patricia Krieger, Brian Cabral, Fernando Cabral, Enrique Pacheco, Alexandra DeRivera, Steve Woynicki, Irina Fursman, Linda Mantey, Marshall Johnson, Diane Bridges, Catherine McCord, Nancy Gibson, Jean Weekly, Peter D. Rivera, Gerda E. Dorso, Judy Duque, Carolyn Sharpe, Joanne Stevens, Linda McMahon, Roy Jenkinson, Erin Lively, Bruce Byrne, Ed Barnicle, Glen Peters, Emily Ann Dziedzic, Collette Grisko-Dote, Dave McCoy, LaVerne Gill, Richard Rottinger, Ed Vokurka, Sr., Joyce Arnold, Jackie Schickel, Loretta Johncola, Denise Rowalka, Sharon Mylan, Mary Jamrozik, Shellye Bolton, Emily Devine, John Duda, Marilyn Matesevac. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

## Notes from Fr. Bob...

### 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2015

A lone gunman stepped easily out of the car, rested his rifle on the car door and aimed it at the Church. Through the wide open doors he could see right up the long aisle to his target, a priest who was just finishing his homily at mass that morning. A shot rang out and so ended the life of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador. It was March 24, 1980.

For the previous three years Oscar Romero had preached the Gospel to all his people, and had denounced the sins and murders and tortures that were destroying his country. Using the Archdiocesan Radio Station he spoke to all the people and everyone listened to him. To the poor he was the “voice of those who have no voice”. To the rich and powerful he was a Communist and an enemy of the State, and he was publicly denounced as such.

“We have never preached violence,” Romero said, “except the violence of love, which left Christ nailed to a cross, the violence that we must each do to ourselves to overcome our selfishness and such cruel inequalities among us.”

The authorities tried to jam his radio transmissions but he gave his sermons faithfully and the poor people of El Salvador hung onto his every word. What kind of a gospel would it be, Romero asked, that did not provoke a crisis in you? Nice, pious considerations that do not bother people, this is what many people would like. Such a gospel never hurts anyone, and never helps anyone, either. No, the Gospel is courageous, and it makes demands on us, even to the giving of our lives.

This was the message of John the Baptist to his own contemporaries. The Baptist, too, was regarded equally as a messenger from God and as a madman, a holy man and a troublemaker. The people asked John, “What shall we do to make ourselves ready to meet the Lord when he comes?” John gave them simple gospel answers. Share with those who have nothing. Do not exploit others either for money or power or position. He reminded the rich and the military that true wealth, true influence and true power are spiritual things, not matters of money and guns.

Twenty centuries later, in our time, Romero gave the same message to his people. “The Church says to the rich: Do not sin by misusing your money. It says to the powerful; do not misuse your political influence. Do not misuse your weaponry. Do not misuse your power.”

The abuse of power has brought great suffering to millions of people.

In every human life we are tempted to misuse our power over others. The Baptist tells us today, “The one who is coming is more powerful than I am.” He is the one we must face. And so a feeling of expectation grew among his people.

What must we do in our lives? If we have no sense of God, or no sense of justice, we will not be expecting anything. We will fall into lazy ways of living. Then the Gospel will be only a storybook. It will have no power over us, to touch us or move us or bring us life.

That is why we need Oscar Romero to shake us up, to be a Baptist for us today. For the Advent season of 1978 this is what Romero said. “Advent should admonish us to discover in each brother or sister that we greet, in each friend whose hand we shake, in each beggar who asks for bread, in each worker who wants to use the right to join a union, in each peasant who looks for work in the coffee groves, the face of Christ. Then it would not be possible to rob them, to cheat them, to deny them their rights. They are Christ, and whatever is done to them Christ will take as done to him. This is what Advent is: Christ living among us.”

A bullet stopped that brave heart beating, but it could not still the voice. Oscar Romero: a voice in the wilderness of worldly greed, a voice calling to us today.

A feeling of expectancy, of approaching life can come to you, if you will listen out for that voice. You will say, “What must I do?” A voice will answer, “Follow me.”

*Advent Courage to Each One of Us,*



*Fr. Bob Clark*





# Parish School



## DATES TO REMEMBER

Band Concert in Morrissey Hall ..... December 16  
 Shop with Scrip Cash and Carry ..... December 19 & 20  
 Last Day of School before Christmas ..... December 22

## FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

**Jolene Hillgoth, President**      **Lauren Lewandowski, Principal**  
 (708) 215-5426      (708) 352-4820  
 jhillgoth@stcletusparish.com      llewandowski@stcletusparish.com



## St. Nick Visited St. Cletus School!

Students were excited to celebrate the of the Feast of Saint Nicholas.



## Tree Trimming

Sunday, November 29th the St. Cletus Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts kicked off the season with hot cocoa and donuts while they decorated the trees in front of Morrissey Hall.

A special thank you to Fullers for donating our Christmas trees.



## Hour of Code

December 7-13, in honor of Computer Science Education Week, students at St. Cletus in grades K-8<sup>th</sup> participated in the Hour of Code during technology classes. Hour of Code is a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify code and show that anybody can learn the basics. Visit <https://hourofcode.com/us> for more information.



## Cardinals give back!!

Kara Keating, a 2003 graduate of St. Cletus School, came back home to Kindergarten and helped our students learn the art of relaxing using Yoga breathing and stretches! The children LOVED it and we plan on using these techniques in our busy classroom! Thank you Kara! We enjoyed having you!!

## Jubilee Year of Mercy

### DESCRIPTION OF THE LOGO

The *logo* and the *motto* together provide a fitting summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about. The motto *Merciful Like the Father* (taken from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (cfr. Lk 6:37-38). The logo – the work of Jesuit Father Marko I. Rupnik – presents a small *summa theologiae* of the theme of mercy. In fact, it represents an image quite important to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of his incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze, the love of the Father.

The scene is captured within the so called mandorla (the shape of an almond), a figure quite important in early and medieval iconography, for it calls to mind the two natures of Christ, divine and human. The three concentric ovals, with colors progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ who carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker color suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.



## St. Cletus Fine Arts Series Free Concert



SAINT CLETUS FINE ARTS SERIES  
2015-16 SEASON

### BENDING TOWARDS THE LIGHT A JAZZ NATIVITY

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
**4:00 P.M.**

Returning to St. Cletus after a 2 year hiatus, we invite you to join us for this free concert featuring Bobby Lewis, Bobby Schiff, Jerry Coleman, Larry Gray, Kirk Garrison, Ken Jandes, Andy Tecson, Justin Sisul, Emma Bolam, Dawn Holt Lauber, Gayle Bisesi, Daniel Riley, Dan MacDonald, Nico Rubio and the St. Cletus Choir.

ST. CLETUS CHURCH • 600 W. 55<sup>TH</sup> ST. • LA GRANGE, IL

### *bending* **TOWARDS** *the Light* *a Jazz Nativity*



This concert is presented free of charge, a freewill donation will be collected with a portion benefitting the St. Cletus Food Pantry. We'd like to thank all the generous supporters who have made this concert possible.



## Youth Ministry

### TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

In December, we will need volunteers to assist with our parish Giving Tree on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Elizabeth to sign up for a shift. Help is especially needed in the early morning and late afternoon. This can be a meaningful way to keep the holiday busy-ness in perspective!

### ARCHDIOCESAN SKI TRIP

This event takes place January 29th-30th. Buses depart Friday evening and travel to Galena, IL for an all-night ski adventure. We will arrive back early Saturday morning. If you are interested, please submit the permission form and fee no later than January 11th. If you have questions, contact Elizabeth Tomasek at [etomasek@stcletusparish.com](mailto:etomasek@stcletusparish.com). For information regarding cost and for registration, please visit the St. Cletus website. Parent volunteers encouraged to attend as well!!!

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

We will meet again to discuss upcoming socials and service projects including our mission trip this summer! Join us to learn more and offer input on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 7-8 pm in Room 200.

### DARST CENTER RETREAT IN JANUARY



We have an opportunity to participate in an Urban Immersion Retreat at the Brother David Darst Center the weekend of January 22-24. During the weekend, we will explore the issues of injustice and the reality of oppression by serving at various local agencies and then discussing our experiences in light as our faith and our call to action. Don't delay: We need to submit our number of participants by December 21st! Registration is available on the website or contact Elizabeth for details.

### MISSION TRIP 2016

The Mission Trip planning is underway for the summer of 2016. St. Cletus will again be taking a group of teens who have completed at least one year of high school through the Young Neighbors in Action service experience the week of July 10th-16th to Detroit, MI. For more information regarding cost and for registration, please visit our website. Meetings for team building, mission formation, and fundraising plans will begin this winter.

Contact Elizabeth Tomasek at [etomasek@stcletusparish.com](mailto:etomasek@stcletusparish.com) or (708) 215-5419 [www.stcletusparish.com/youth](http://www.stcletusparish.com/youth)

## Other Ministry Notes

### HOLY NAME SOCIETY MEETING FRIDAY, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup>

The St. Cletus Parish Holy Name Society is looking for new members. The next meeting will be held on January 8th at 8:00 p.m. in the Education Building, Room 98. Please join us!



### SHOPWITHSCRIP: GIFT CARDS FOR EDUCATION



#### Cash and Carry Dec. 19 & 20!

Shop With Scrip, formerly known as MANNA, buys gift cards from vendors who sell them 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 School, St. Cletus Religious Ed, or any participating Catholic high school/college! For more information or to order online visit <http://shopscrip.stcletusschool.com>

### ST. CLETUS SCHOOL 2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE SERVICE



This year for our service project, St. Cletus School second graders will be collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please help us by collecting your tabs at home and sending them to school. We will be saving pop tabs throughout the year and appreciate all of your help.  
- Thank you. Second Grade

## Other Ministry Notes (continued)

### KOLBE HOUSE JAIL MINISTRY

#### THE DEACON'S WIFE IS COLLECTING STAMPS AGAIN!

Once again I'm collecting stamps for the Kolbe House Catholic Jail Ministry. These are to be used for the Christmas Card mailings from Detainees to their families. As many of you know I serve as a Catholic Minister for the Kolbe House Jail Ministry at Cook County. In an effort to keep the detainees connected to their families, Kolbe House is again asking for postage stamps to be used for the detainees Christmas greetings to their families. This annual effort this year is looking to collect 7,000 first class stamps.

If you would like to donate stamps in any denomination (1 cent up to first class postage) please put them in an envelope and drop them off at the rectory marked "Kolbe House Stamps - c/o Marlene". Thank You on behalf of the detainees at Cook and Lake county jails and the staff and ministers of Kolbe House.

-God Bless You all - Marlene

### OPLATKI AVAILABLE

Oplatki is available at the St. Cletus Parish Rectory office during regular business hours. A donation of \$2 is requested. Traditionally at midnight the head of the household takes the white oplatki and shares it with family and friends and then the pink oplatki with the animals on his farm or at his home. This custom brings us back to that Holy Night when even animals were able to speak, and to remind us that we are all God's creatures.



### NOTICE REGARDING BULLETIN ARTICLES

Please note that all canticle articles are to be sent to [canticle@stcletusparish.com](mailto:canticle@stcletusparish.com). Please send as text with pictures separate.

December/January deadlines are as follows:

- Articles for the December 20th Canticle are due 12/14.
- Articles for the December 27th Canticle are due 12/16.
- Articles for the January 3rd Canticle are due 12/21.

### COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY



The Compassionate Care Ministry is again badly in need of postage stamps for its notes of sympathy and support during the first year following the loss of a loved one. Each bereaved family receives six cards during that year. This means that if there are ten funerals during a period of one month, 50 stamps are needed in that month alone.

Your generous donations have meant so much in the past and we are very grateful. If you are able to contribute to this worthwhile ministry in this way, it will be very much appreciated. Simply put them in an envelope marked CCM and drop them off at the parish office—or right into the collection basket on Sunday. Thank you.

### WORD OF LIFE

"Regardless of our circumstances and whether people acknowledge it, nothing and no one can take away our God-given dignity."

— USCCB 2015-16 Respect Life Program  
"Maggie's Story: Living like Dad"  
[www.goo.gl/JKvWc](http://www.goo.gl/JKvWc)



## St. Cletus Parish Preferred Partners



The Annella Family

Cook County Board Commissioner  
Jeffrey R. Tobolski



Bill & Heidi



Lumes Pancake House  
Klapis Family  
Bon a Pit Restaurant  
Klapis Family





DECEMBER 14 <sup>TH</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Advent Parish Reconciliation Service
DECEMBER 16 <sup>TH</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Advent Wednesday Evening Mass
DECEMBER 16 <sup>TH</sup> -20 <sup>TH</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Christmas Novena in Church
DECEMBER 20 <sup>TH</sup>	7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Food baskets (red tags) returned in Morrissey Hall
	4:00 p.m.	Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity
DECEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Christmas Novena and Posada in Morrissey Hall
DECEMBER 22 <sup>ND</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Christmas Novena in Church
DECEMBER 23 <sup>RD</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Christmas Novena in Room 201

### ST. CLETUS PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

2:00 p.m.	Church	Chamber Ensemble
2:15 p.m.	Morrissey Hall	Vocalist/Piano
3:30 p.m.	Church	Children's Choir
3:45 p.m.	Morrissey Hall	Vocalist/Piano
5:30 p.m.	Church	Chamber Ensemble
7:00 p.m.	Church (in Spanish)	Hispanic Choir
10:30 p.m.	Church	Chancel Choir
<i>(10:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Christmas Carols prior to Mass)</i>		

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

7:00 a.m.	Church	Organ/ Congregational Caroling
8:00 a.m.	Church	Vocalist/Piano
9:30 a.m.	Church	Chancel Choir
11:00 a.m.	Church	Contemporary Choir
11:15 a.m.	Morrissey Hall	Vocalist/Piano



# Advent



## CELEBRATE

This Sunday, God rejoices and sings because of us. We read in Zephaniah today that God “will sing joyfully because of you, / as one sings at festivals” (Zephaniah 3:18). We know plenty about singing at festivals. Already our ears are ringing with the songs and carols that anticipate the Christmas season.

Paul reminds us of the source of our own double rejoicing: God is the mighty savior who is in our midst (in Zephaniah’s words). Because this is so, says Paul, we can rejoice and be at ease. We don’t have to worry, for God’s peace will stand guard over our hearts and minds.

A medieval carol depicts Christmas as “my dancing day” and urges us to enter into the dance. Why all the merrymaking? Because “the Lord is near,” as Paul reminds us (Philippians 4:5). He then points to another reason for the dancing: the dawn of the promise of peace, the peace beyond all understanding, that is now within our grasp.

—Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Be glad and exult! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

**Psalm** — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12).

**Second Reading** — Rejoice! The Lord is near. Make your requests known to God (Philippians 4:4-7).

**Gospel** — John tells his hearers to share their possessions with the needy; be honest; do not threaten or accuse others falsely (Luke 3:10-18).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectioary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27  
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32  
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23  
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17  
Friday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25  
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25  
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. John of the Cross

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This week, our celebration of Advent makes a transition in ritual and texts. Beginning December 18, the countdown of nine days (a novena) to Christmas sees a heightened sense of expectation, and also a turning from the call of the Baptist in the wilderness to the events leading up to Jesus’ birth. In ancient Spain, December 18 was once celebrated as the “Feast of the Expectancy,” and customs grew up to heighten readiness in the homes.

Some customs arise from monastic life and practice and spill over into our parish life. Beginning tonight, those who pray Vespers will sing in the opening phrase a beautiful title of Christ. These titles belong to a collection of opening phrases called the “O Antiphons” after the awe-inspired “O” sung on the first note. There’s a playful code in the titles: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Flower of Jesse, O Key of David, O Dawn, O Ruler, O Emmanuel. When you take their Latin names—*Sapientia, Adonai, Radix*, and so on—the titles form an acrostic when you read them backwards: “ERO CRAS.” In Latin, that is translated as “I will be there tomorrow!” It’s as if Christ were answering the prayers of the waiting people in the words of the prayers themselves.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## AN ADVENT PRAYER

May the God of peace make us completely holy.  
May God keep us blameless in spirit, soul and body  
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Forever faithful is the One who calls us—God our Father!  
Expectant, let us live in joyful hope  
for the revelation of the glory  
of our God and Savior, Christ Jesus!  
To him be glory forever!  
Come, Lord Jesus! Your grace be with us all.

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSp, copyright 1976, 1981, Lucien Deiss. Published by World Library Publications. p. 127

## STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the fainthearted with courage.

—Anonymous

## Social Concerns Ministry

### Food Pantry Needs

Most needed at this time:

- Paper goods
- Dish Soap
- Diapers
- Gift Cards to Jewel
- Canned meat
- Canned tuna

Donations can be dropped off before or after masses or anytime daily between 7:45 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex.

*If you have questions or would like to volunteer with the Social Concerns Ministry contact  
Kendall Grant  
(708)215-5418  
kgrant@stcletusparish.com*



### GIVING TREE

Gifts are due this weekend! Please 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.



♥ **PURPLE TAGS (gifts):** please remember to place your Giving Tree gifts in the Madonna della Strada chapel in the **church narthex this weekend** with the tag securely attached to the package. If you have more than one package for the same person, please attach a gift tag indicating his/her name and family number, to make sure all gifts go to the correct person. The gifts will be organized for distribution after the 12:30 PM Mass on Sunday, December 13.

♥ **RED TAGS (food baskets):** Bring your **Food Baskets** to **Morrissey Hall** on **December 20 from 7:30 AM-11:00 AM**. There will be volunteers curbside to help carry in your baskets. We ask that you securely attach the food basket tag to your package. 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.

Thank you for your continuing generosity to the less fortunate in our community.

*-The Giving Tree Committee*

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the parish website: [www.stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns](http://www.stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns) or contact Kendall Grant.

### GIVING TREE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>** (Morrissey Hall): Please contact Kendall to sign up. We are in most need of volunteers from:

- 11:00am-3:00pm
- 3:00pm-7:00pm

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

**Next Meeting - Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00pm**

Monthly Support Group on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The intent is to share our stories and listen to one another in a safe environment. We welcome both men and women survivors and victims' to express their thoughts and feelings and share their experiences.

St. Cletus-Room 200 in the Education Building. Please enter at the flagpole door.

In an emergency, dial 911, call the National Domestic Violence 24-Hour Hotline at 800-799-7233 or the local 24 hour hotline for Pillars, found in the box in the lower left. You are not alone.


### THANK YOU MISSION LADIES

Thank you to our Mission Ladies! These dedicated women recently distributed hundreds of items to those in need! This includes stuffed animals, dolls, wheelchair bags, lap blankets, and many other items going to food pantry clients, the homebound, families with parent's incarcerated people in hospitals, etc. Thank you so much for your generosity and **HARD WORK!!!**

## MARY AND MARTHA DONATIONS

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 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.

## SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS



**Retirement Fund for Religious**

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.  
[www.retiredreligious.org](http://www.retiredreligious.org)

**To donate:**  
 National Religious Retirement Office  
 3211 Fourth Street NE  
 Washington DC 20017-1194  
 Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious.  
 Or give at your local parish.

Photo: Sister Ann Hipp, CRPS, SS. ©2015 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Photographer: Jim Judala.

## HOMELESS PERSONS MEMORIAL

**Monday, December 21 at 6:30pm**

Old St. Pat's (700 W Adams St, Chicago 60661)

In the shadows of the Magnificent Mile, our brothers and sisters without homes are losing their lives. They will not go unremembered. Please join us. On the longest night of the year, we again remember our homeless brothers and sisters who have died in the last year. Harmony, Hope, and Healing puts on this service along with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Old St. Pat's, New Moms, Cornerstone Community Outreach, and the Night Ministry.

## A LETTER FROM THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF CHICAGO



Dear Illinois Vincentians - The State of Illinois has been without a budget since July 2015. The impasse between the governor and the General Assembly is causing hardship on the people we serve and the social service agencies they depend on for the assistance they deserve. We communicated with National SVdP Voice of the Poor and with your Council Presidents on this issue and we agreed to ask you to send a letter to Gov. Rauner and House Speaker Madigan urging them to work on a fair and just budget. In March 2015, SVdP National President Sheila Gilbert outlined the moral criteria to guide budgetary decisions:

Every budget decision should be assessed by whether it protects or threatens human life and dignity.

A central moral measure of any budget proposal is how it affects "the least of these" (Matthew 25). The needs of those who are hungry and homeless, without work or living in poverty should come first.

Government and other institutions have a shared responsibility to promote the common good for all, especially ordinary workers and families who struggle to live in dignity during difficult economic times.

We support the goal of reducing future unsustainable deficits and believe our state has an obligation to address their impact on the health of the economy. However, a just framework for the state budget cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor persons. It requires shared sacrifice by all, including raising adequate revenues.

Please join the voices of other Vincentians by signing a petition to urge the governor and speaker to move the budget forward, protecting poor and vulnerable people from harmful budget cuts. Sign our petition online at:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/requesting-an-illinois-budget>

Below are the mailing addresses for those who would like to send a hard copy via US Mail:

**Governor Bruce Rauner**  
**Office of the Governor**  
**207 State House**  
**Springfield, IL 62706**

**House Speaker Michael Madigan**  
**300 Capitol Building**  
**Springfield, IL 62706**

In the future, we hope you will continue to work with us as advocates on further action benefiting those we serve.

Thank you,  
 Pam Matambanadzo (Chicago VOP) &  
 Mary Anne Michelet (Peoria VOP),

Illinois Voice of the Poor Committee  
*End Poverty Through Systemic Change*



## Community Bulletin Board

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES AT SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH CHAPEL



This year due to overcrowding and fire codes, St. Francis Xavier Parish has been asked to issue tickets for the 3:00 and 5:00 masses held at the Sisters of St. Joseph Chapel. They will issue 800 tickets for each mass.

Please tell your friends and others who may be considering going to the Motherhouse for the 3:00 or 5:00 Christmas Eve mass that tickets will be required.

### SCSG DECEMBER EVENTS

Suburban Catholic Singles Group (SCSG) Multi Parish Ministry for singles in their 40's and 50's

**Saturday, 12/19** - Join us for 6pm Dinner at Maya Del Sol, 144 S Oak Park Ave. in Oak Park. Afterwards, the William Ferris Chorale Concert 8:00pm, at St. Edmund Parish, 188 S. Oak Park Ave., in Oak Park. This concert is free, each person will pay for their restaurant tab. RSVP required by 12/16 if attending.

Above events are subject to change. You can contact us at [singlesadmin@gmail.com](mailto:singlesadmin@gmail.com). Find us on Facebook – Suburban Catholic Singles

### ST. JOHN PAUL II NEWMAN 25/50 GALA

We are planning a St. John Paul II Newman 25/50 Gala on February 4, 2016 with gratitude to Father Patrick Marshall for twenty five years of service. For more information please see [www.jp2newman.org](http://www.jp2newman.org) or call Anthony Niles at 312-226-1880.



### LA GRANGE PRINCIPAL POSITION

St. Francis Xavier Elementary School is searching for a school principal for the 2016 school year. St. Francis is located in LaGrange, IL.

Our Blue Ribbon school's successful Principal will be a dedicated educator who is a practicing Catholic devoted to prayer, learning and service. Key to this role is strong leadership skills. A minimum of three years in a Catholic school is needed.

The complete job description and job posting is on the Chicago Archdiocese web site at <http://schools.archchicago.org/careers/>

### PORTIUNCULA CENTER FOR PRAYER

#### Introduction to Healing Touch

Saturday, January 9, 9 am-Noon Fee: \$25  
This workshop is for care-givers and anyone interested in learning more about healing touch. In addition to providing time for meditation and an experiential approach to healing touch, you will be introduced to how healing energy works, the benefits of this practice, and the challenging state of health care in our world today. Three CEUs are available to nurses and massage therapists who complete this course. There is an additional \$10 fee to register CEUs. Facilitator: Kathryn Hungness

#### A Morning of Memoir: Writing As A Spiritual Practice

Monday, January 11, 9:30-Noon Fee: \$20  
Adapting some of the writing practices from Jan Richardson's publication, "Women's Christmas: The Shimmering Hours", we will use photos and writing prompts as journaling techniques to glean the graced moments of the holiday season we have just experienced. In the process there will be time to ponder and savor fragments and pieces of life buried in the busy-ness and "tease out" those moments of joy, sorrow, love, gift, hope and challenge that too easily go unnoticed. There will be time to share our writing exercises. Please bring your own writing supplies. Facilitator: Colette McHale-Wisnewski

Portiuncula Center for Prayer 9263 W St. Francis Road Frankfort, IL 60423, 815.464.3880, [www.portforprayer.org](http://www.portforprayer.org)

### ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

#### Morning of Meditation: In the Presence of Love

Saturday, December 19 - Hospitality: 8:30am, Program: 9:00 -11:30am Parish Center.

Reflection by Joan Binder on our relationship with Jesus. The morning also includes small group sharing, periods of meditation, and Lectio Divina. Free will offering accepted. Registration requested, but not required [maryl05105@gmail.com](mailto:maryl05105@gmail.com) or 708-246-5108

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS

Chicagoland area Catholic High Schools will offer their entrance exams on the morning of Saturday, January 9, 2016. Please visit their websites or call the school for more information or to register.

## Week At A Glance

C...Church

S...School (Education Building)

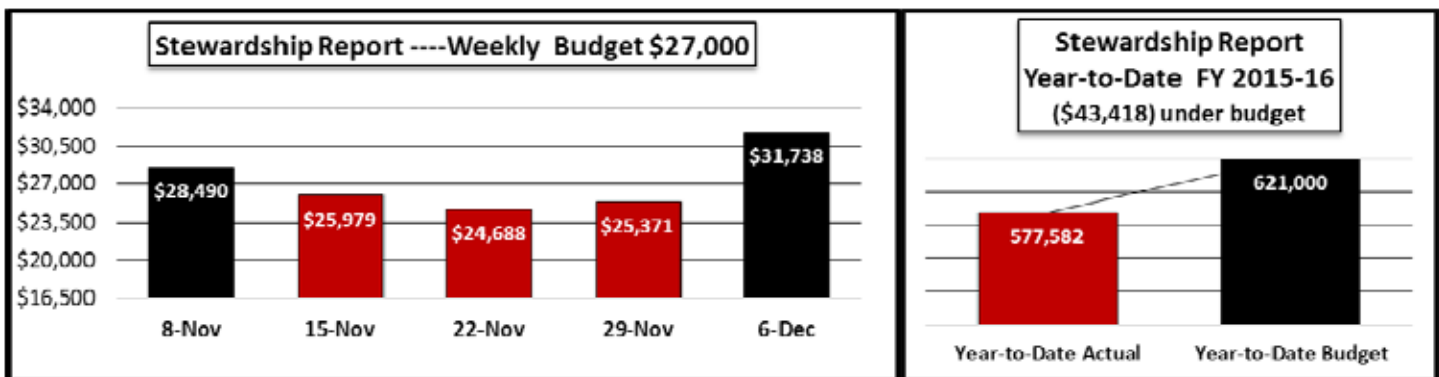
Narthex...Church Vestibule

RB...Rectory Basement

MH...Morrissey Hall

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, December 13	All Masses	Narthex	Giving Tree Gifts Returned
Monday, December 14	4:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm	S Music Room Church MH	Junior Choir Rehearsal Parish Advent Reconciliation Service Men's Church Basketball League
Tuesday, December 15	7:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm	S Rm 200 Rectory S Rm 202 MH	Domestic Violence Support Group Mtg RCIA Hispanic Ministry Men's Prayer Group Boys Church Basketball League
Wednesday, December 16	9:00am 6:30pm 7:00pm 9:00pm	RB Church Church MH	Mary and Martha Advent Mass Christmas Novena Boys Church Basketball League
Thursday, December 17	5:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 9:00pm 9:00pm	S Music Room Church S Music Room S Music Room MH	Children's Choir Rehearsal Christmas Novena Chancel Choir Rehearsal Bending Towards the Light Rehearsal Boys Church Basketball League
Friday, December 18	9:00am 7:00pm	Church Church	School Mass Christmas Novena
Saturday, December 19	All Masses 7:00pm	Narthex Church	Shop with Scrip Cash & Carry Christmas Novena
Sunday, December 20	All Masses 7:30am-11am 4:00pm 7:00pm	Narthex MH Church Church	Shop with Scrip Cash & Carry Giving Tree Food Baskets Returned Bending Towards the Light: A Jazz Nativity Christmas Novena

## Stewardship Report



### ST. CLETUS ONLINE GIVING... DONATIONS MADE EASY

We encourage you to make online donations by logging onto our website, [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com) and click on the Donate button and register using your checking account, debit card or credit card. Questions? Call Mary Zwolinski at the rectory, (708) 352-6209.

# St. Cletus Parish Information

## CONTACT US

Rectory (708) 352-6209

Español (708) 215-5440

School (708) 352-4820

www.stcletusparish.com



stcletuschurch

## RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Saturday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## MASSES

Saturday Evening: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)

Weekdays: Mon. thru Sat. 8:00 a.m.

Evening before Holy Day: 7:00 p.m.

Holy Day: 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday: 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

## BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m. Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office.

## 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 8:00 a.m. Mass and continues during the day until 6:15pm the first Tuesday of the month.

The *Chaplet of Divine Mercy* is prayed at 6:15 p.m. followed by Benediction.

*Hispanic Adoration* continues from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.

## PARISH MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: St. Cletus is a dynamic Catholic community dedicated to spreading the Good news of Jesus Christ through worship, education, and service.

Vision Statement: We welcome all. We encourage all parishioners to live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in their daily lives, by sharing their talents and faith with our parish and community.

## STAFF

### PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Robert Clark, Pastor**

**Rev. Kenneth Baker, Associate Pastor**

**Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, Associate Pastor**

**Rev. Ron Anglim, Weekend Associate**

**Rev. Mr. Jesús & Silvia Casas, Deacon Couple**

**Rev. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, Deacon Couple**

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Fr. Ken Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship** (708) 215-5422

**Larry LaLonde, Music Ministry** (708) 215-5423

**Deacon Jesús Casas, Hispanic Ministry** (708) 215-5440

**Elizabeth Tomasek, Youth Ministry** (708) 215-5419

**Kendall Grant, Social Concerns** (708) 215-5418

**Deacon Stuart Heyes, Ministry of Care** (708) 215-5407

**Debbie Lestarczyk, Business Manager** (708) 215-5405

**Christopher Wagner, Technology** (708) 215-5420

### SCHOOL STAFF

**Jolene Hillgoth, President** (708) 352-4820

**Lauren Lewandowski, Principal**

**Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant**

**Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant**

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

**Paulette Bolton, Director of Parish Catechesis/Formation**

**Barb Campbell, Administrative Assistant**

### RECTORY STAFF

**Bobbie Kallal, Human Resources/Records** (708) 352-6209

**Mary Zwolinski, Parish Accounting**

**Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor**

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Fr. Bob Clark	Pastor
Jolene Hillgoth	President
Lauren Lewandowski	Principal
Eileen Dorchinecz	Chairperson
Ron Skrip	Vice Chairperson
John Rossmiller	Secretary
Doug Rausch	Finance

### Development, Marketing & Alumni

Chris McLean	Mike Pusatera
Zlata Kozul-Naumovski	Scott Aulinskis
Ann Foley	Patrick Townsend

Jodie Pulciani

### Liaisons

Nikki Gorman	FSA President
Brendan Foley	Athletic Assoc President

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

<b>Pastor:</b>	Fr. Bob Clark
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Jack Fisherkeller
<b>Vice-Chairperson:</b>	Chuck Luna
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Robbie O'Shea
<b>School Rep:</b>	Jolene Hillgoth
<b>Director of Parish Catechesis:</b>	Paulette Bolton
<b>Staff Rep:</b>	Debbie Lestarczyk
<b>Hispanic Ministry:</b>	Luis Lopez
<b>Members:</b>	Helen McMahon
	Xavier Polanski
	Olivia Pach
	Colleen Hagen
	Susan Hurley