

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ADVENT

**Daily Mass** - 8:00am

#### Sunday Liturgies

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm

7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am, 12:30 pm - Hispanic Liturgy

**Confessions** - 4:15 pm Saturdays (*Except Dec. 24*)

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

Dec. 3 - Dec. 11 at 7:00 pm (*In Church except Dec. 9-Rm 201*)

#### Holy Hour & Adoration

Dec. 6 - 6:00-7:00 pm, 7:00 - 8:00 pm - Hispanic Holy Hour

#### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Dec. 7 - 7:00 pm Vigil

Dec. 8 - 6:30, 8:00, & 9:00 am

#### Taizé Prayer Service

Dec. 9 - 7:00-8:00 pm Silent Reflection, Music, Scripture

#### Our Lady of Guadalupe

Dec. 12 - 4:00 am Las Mananitas, 7:00pm Mass

#### Reconciliation Service

Dec. 13 - 7:00 pm Parish Sacramental Celebration

#### Wednesday Evening Masses

Dec. 14, & Dec. 21 - 6:30 pm

#### Christmas Eve Dec. 24 (*Please note Mass Locations*)

2:00 pm - Church    2:15 pm - Morrissey Hall

3:30 pm - Church    3:45 pm - Morrissey Hall

5:30 pm - Church    7:00 pm - Church - Spanish

10:00 pm - Sing Carols, 10:30 pm - Mass in Church

#### Christmas Day Dec. 25 (*All Masses in Church*)

7:00 am, 8:00 am, 9:30 am, and 11:00 am



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# Mass Intentions for the Week of December 5 - December 11, 2016

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	George Duda, Walter Johnston, Georgia Delise, Marilyn Matesevac
Tuesday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Viecele, Eileen Kenny, George Duda, Marilyn Matesevac
Wednesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Dcn. Walter & Frances Klimcke
Thursday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Fred Czachor, Vincent Passardi
Friday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Tony Frasca, Special Intention - Sally Baker
Saturday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Jerry Wilson
	Fr. Baker	5:00 p.m.	Joseph L. Naponiello, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, John Sharkey, Thomas Pantoni, Angela Blazek
Sunday	Fr. Gamboa	7:00 a.m.	George Duda, Marco & Emilia Rattin, Grabowski Family, Patrick Mahoney, John & Frances Kennedy, Jane Schafer
	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Tybor
	Fr. Clark	9:30 a.m.	St. Cletus Parishioners
	Fr. Gamboa	11:00 a.m.	Julio Battistoni, Gene Kennedy, Jane Condon Layton
	TBD	12:30 p.m.	Jorge Ayala, Damuso Almeudavez, Mu Guadalupe C. deAlmeudavez

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED AND THEIR FAMILIES...

### Thomas Wolak

Husband of Doreen Wolak

### Julie Boren Asick

Wife of Peter Asick

### Anthony Curran

Husband of Madonna Curran

**May they rest in peace. Amen.**

## WELCOME WEEKEND

Welcome to all St. Cletus newcomers! Registration is available this weekend, December 3-4, after the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass and the 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m. Sunday Masses. Please stop by the back of church, say hello, and become members of St. Cletus Parish.

## HOLY HOUR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

Tuesday, Dec. 6th there will be a Holy Hour from 6-7 p.m. and Hispanic Adoration 7-8 p.m. Holy Hours are held the first Tuesday of each month.

## FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Holy Day of Obligation Mass Times:

Wednesday, Dec. 7 - 7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Thursday, Dec. 8 - 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (School)



## PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Theresa Cimaglia, Donald Price, Eileen Peters, Kathy Zydel, Adriana Pecheo, Enrique Pecho, Armando Pecheco, Fernando Cabral, Maria Cabral, Jennifer Ochino, Don Wettstein, Robert Arbuckle, Rob Semsey, Johnny Sipek, Lonnie Rott, Fran Kruse, Nick Lodato, Jack Simpson, Anne Bernier, Evelyn Ulfig, Ginny Skibbe, Kim Zwolinski, Lane Powell, Dcn. Jim Cozzo, Mirna Cozzo, Daniella DeRivera, Peter DeRivera, Damien Johnson, Lesley Hansen, Kristen Gozdecki, Steve Gozdecki, Lane Powell, Kelly Cook, Frank Ciszek, Nino Scimone, Lee Ascencio, Jean Weekley, Laura Segel, Adrina Castillejo, Otto Stuckman, Patricia Pilleggi, Isaac Musser, Jean Takes, Robert William, Gene Wallace, John Eterno, Vivian Swibel, Jennifer Streit, Julianne Hausknecht, Cynthia Cozen, Eleanor Tolan, Carol Piccolo, Pat Harris, Eleanor Brousil, Allie DeRivera, Carmen Rodriguez, Christine Bell, Jenna Zimmerman, Rachel Lipman, Mauricio Aguilar, Patricia Krieger, Brian Cabral, Fernando Cabral, Enrique Pacheco, Steve Woynicki, Irina Fursman, Linda Mantey, Marshall Johnson, Diane Bridges, Catherine McCord, Nancy Gibson, Jean Weekly, Gerda E. Dorso, Judy Duque, Carolyn Sharpe, Joanne Stevens, Linda McMahon, Erin Lively, Ed Barnicle, Glen Peters, Emily Ann Dziedzic, LaVerne Gill, Sr., Joyce Arnold, Jackie Schickel, Loretta Johncola, Denise Rowalka, Sharon Mylan, Mary Jamrozik, Shellye Bolton, Emily Devine, and John Duda. Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

## Notes from Fr. Bob...

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“A teacher once asked her class of ten-year olds:

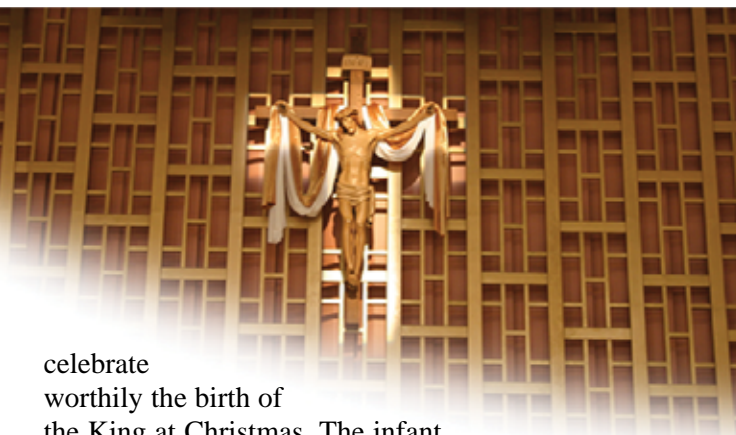
“What would you do if one day there was a ring at your front door and when you opened it you found our Lord standing on the doorstep?” One little boy knew what he would do. “I’d run upstairs,” he said, “and I’d get the big bible from my Mom’s room and I’d hand it over to our Lord and I’d say: ‘Jesus, this is your life!’”

The boy was closer to the mark than his teacher may have realized. Of course something like three-quarters of the Bible was written before Jesus was born – it’s the part we call the Old Testament, the part which usually provides the first of our Sunday readings. Naturally, the Old Testament can’t speak directly of Jesus’ life and teachings, and yet without it our understanding of him would be impoverished; without it, his life’s story would have no context, it would seem to have been parachuted in from nowhere. We’d be meeting him in two dimensions rather than three, so to say, in black and white rather than in color. St. Paul says that “everything that was written long ago in the scriptures” – he’s thinking, of course, of the Old Testament – “was meant to teach us.” It has not lost its significance. The point is perfectly illustrated in the readings we’ve heard today.

In the first, Isaiah, who lived eight centuries before the birth of Christ, looks towards a time when God’s people will rejoice in a ruler on whom the Spirit of the Lord will rest, who will rule with justice, who will bring peace, who will fill the country with knowledge of the Lord. The responsorial psalm, also from the Old Testament of course, takes up the same theme – a coming king who will rule “from sea to sea”, who “will save the poor...and the needy” and “have pity on the weak” and in whose days “justice shall flourish”.

When we turn to the gospel, there is John the Baptist crying out: “Repent, the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.” And if the kingdom is close at hand, so too is its king, the king that was promised long ago and the promises of the old are about to be fulfilled in Jesus. And so the call goes out: Make ready for the coming of the King! Without the Old Testament we would never have known how perfectly Jesus fulfills the hopes and yearnings of men and women who lived long before him. It would be like hearing the climax of the story of our salvation without hearing the lead-in to the final chapter first.

In Advent we are invited to share in the longings and yearnings of Old Testament times so that we may



celebrate  
worthily the birth of  
the King at Christmas. The infant  
of the stable is the fulfillment of the whole of the Old Testament, the realization of everyone’s hopes and dreams, and he is also destined to come again in glory at the end of time. We are to repent, says John the Baptist: that means that we’re to have a change of heart. It may well result in our finding a little extra time for prayer and scripture reading during these days before Christmas, but the main part of the preparation will be the way we lead our daily lives. After insisting that “everything written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us,” Paul sets before his readers some very practical consequences of listening to the scriptures; you must live together in harmony, he says, striving “to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you” – apparently squabbles were not unknown among the early Christians! A similar appeal is made to us today: how can we be ready to receive the Prince of Peace if we are not at peace with our brothers and sisters?

But there is something more. Paul speaks of the immense hope that the scriptures bring, for they are centered upon Jesus who is the God of hope in our midst. And so Paul concludes with a prayer – which unfortunately is not included in today’s reading – a beautiful prayer which includes in it such wonderful Christian key words as hope, joy, peace, faith, and the power of the Spirit. It’s a prayer that we might make our own on this Advent Sunday. ‘May the God of hope fill (us) with all joy and peace in (our) faith, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit we may be rich in hope’ (Romans 15:13). Amen.

*Advent Peace,*



**Fr. Bob**  
**Pastor**



# Parish School



## DATES TO REMEMBER

FSA Vendor Fair .....Dec. 10  
 Christmas Break Begins .....Dec. 23

## FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

**Tom Chinske, Principal**      **Christy Schaefer, Asst. Principal**  
 (708) 352-4820                      (708) 352-4820  
 tchinske@stcletusparish.com      cschaefer@stcletusparish.com

## 2016-17 First Trimester High Honors

Antonietti, Joseph Charles  
 Brooks, Chloe Grace  
 Davila, Isabella Marcella  
 DeGroot, Talia Mary  
 Hart, Caroline Mary  
 Hart, Casey James  
 Hogan, Caden James  
 Kane, Maureen Barrett  
 Naumovski, Antonia Mara  
 Noga, Christopher Ryan  
 Ramicone, Catherine Marie  
 Rossmiller, Zoe Judith  
 Siegert, Emily Grace  
 Vincent, Julia Jennifer  
 Annella, Gianna Marie  
 Bourjaily, Elizabeth Jane  
 Cassidy, Emma Catherine  
 Donahue, Julia Rose  
 Episcopo, Brianna Nicole  
 McNamara, Jack Vincent  
 Quinn, Abigail Elizabeth  
 Sifuentes, Sadie Gabriella  
 Townsend, John Robert  
 Wilson, Christopher James  
 Ziemba, Tyler Ronald Richard  
 Braun, Elisabeth Anne  
 Garza, Serena Raquel  
 Gilsdorf, Graham Harrison  
 Sloan, Kaelyn  
 Wangard, William Robert  
 Alpe, Luke Daniel

Decker, Isabel Bronte  
 Fatora, Kevin Anthony  
 Gamboa, Cole Hudson  
 Hurley, Patrick Gerard  
 Jacobs, Mary Grace  
 Kapusta, Emilia Ann  
 Ketchum, Margaret Therese  
 Komsthoft, Reese Emily  
 Mulcrone, Sean Thomas  
 Murphy, Kevin Joseph  
 Murray, Mary Ellen  
 Otrusina, Blake Max  
 Rohrbacher, Grace Elizabeth  
 Vranek, Emily Marie  
 Antonietti, Jessica Marie  
 Ciampaglia, Sophia M.  
 Clifford, Kathryn Dora  
 Fransen, Cecelia Jane  
 Llerenas, Sabina  
 Pulciani, Jake Joseph  
 Rausch, Margaret Anne  
 Rife, Kevin Abram  
 Serrano, Adriana Marina  
 Wangard, Elizabeth Paige  
 Bechir, Angelina  
 Calderon, Ava Marie  
 Clifford, Ryan William  
 De Santiago, Leo Antonio  
 Jacobs, Kevin Francis  
 Koziol, Grace Elizabeth  
 Magee, Jack Douglas  
 Schinker, Lauren Marie

## 2016-17 First Trimester Honors

Fransen, Lillian Grace  
 Grzybicki, Kamil  
 Pociask, Nicholas Taylor  
 Annella, Nicole Marie  
 Cranny, Tristan James  
 Grab, Emily Rose  
 Grace, Colin James  
 McLean, Zachary James  
 Schuler, Katelyn Ann  
 Shanley, Abigail Whitney  
 Bergquist, Michael James "Duke"  
 Burke, Molly Virginia Maureen  
 Cramer, Patrick Henry  
 Petrak, Anne Caroleen  
 Pullappally, GraceAnne Olivia  
 Rife, Ellen Jane  
 Skrip, Marc Allen  
 Uphues, Matthew Joseph  
 Cavaliere, Gabriella Rose  
 Dahill, Michael Austin  
 Hinckley, Anna S.  
 Beauregard, Jack Daly  
 Ludden, Liam Otto  
 Ramicone, Jonathan Joseph  
 Valdez, Brianna Marie  
 Battista, Jenna  
 Chopp, Samantha Marie  
 Mulcrone, Conor F.  
 Szaflarski, Damian John

## 2016-17 St. Cletus Parish Preferred Providers

**Friends of the Capital Campaign**



**Jeffrey R. Tobolski**  
 Cook County Board Commissioner  
 16th District



**Annella Family**



**Fr. Bob, Debbie, Bobbie, Mary & Elizabeth**



# Religious Education

## HAPPY ADVENT!

The children in Religious Education will be busy this Advent season, preparing our hearts for the birth of our Savior, and serving as the Lord’s hands and feet as we serve those in our communities through acts of service. Every grade is actively engaged in specific service projects for our home-bound parishioners or others in need in our extended community.

Please support our efforts to put the needs of others first during this holy season!

### **Service Projects our children will be participating in include:**

- Donating warm socks for the homeless in Chicago and the surrounding area
- Making cookies for home-bound parishioners



- Making fleece blankets for home-bound parishioners



- Making Christmas cards and ornaments

- Filling Christmas mugs with candy for disabled neighbors



*If you would like to donate* new socks, left over Halloween candy, Christmas mugs, holiday cookie tins, fleece for blankets or ornament craft projects, we would gladly accept them! Please bring them to the Religious Education Office during school hours, or drop them in the Rectory. Thank you for your donations!



### UPCOMING RE EVENTS:

December 4 & 5	Regular RE Class Schedule AND 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Parents join us for Family Advent Day! 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Saint Reports Due!
December 11 & 12	Regular RE Class Schedule
December 18 & 19	No Class due to Holidays
December 25 & 26	No Class – Merry Christmas!
January 1 & 2	No Class – Happy New Year!
January 8 & 9	Regular RE Class Schedule

## Social Concerns Ministry

### Food Pantry

Most needed at this time:

- Powdered/canned milk
- Coffee
- Juice
- Baking goods
- Tuna
- Holiday treats
- Detergent

Donations can be dropped off before or after masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex.

\*\*Please note, due to the Christmas trees in the Narthex, the bin has been moved to the "Brides Room" on the West side of the Narthex.\*\*

### FOOD PANTRY THANK YOU

Special thanks to food drives from St. John of the Cross Harvest Sunday, Willow Springs Christian Reform Church, the Boy Scouts, and Pleasantdale Student Council! The Holy Name Society generously shared 47 turkeys which will be used for some of our Christmas food baskets. So much to be thankful for!

There will be no regular distribution in December because of the Giving Tree and Christmas food baskets. Donations are still needed and will continue to be collected though!

### GIVING TREE

Don't forget that gifts (purple tags) are due back NEXT 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.



**GIFTS** (purple tags): Choose the gifts you wish to purchase, keeping in mind that the items listed on the tag are part of a "wish list." You need not purchase every item on the list. **Gifts are to be returned before/after Masses the weekend of Dec. 10-11.**

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.

**FOOD BASKETS** (red tags): Tags include a suggested list for the contents of a Christmas season food basket for the families using our food pantry and others struggling in our community. **Food baskets are needed on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-11:00am in Morrissey Hall.**

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: [stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns](http://stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns). For further details you can also contact Kendall Grant.

**Giving Tree Volunteer Opportunities...**Please contact Kendall to sign up

- **Saturday, December 10 - Sunday, December 11** (church): collecting and organizing Giving Tree gifts before and after all the weekend Masses.
- **Sunday, December 11 - 2:00-6:30pm**: Sorting gifts in church, loading truck for delivery to St. Agatha's and storing local community gifts in Room 201. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders can come *with an adult as a partner*.
- **Sunday, December 18** (Morrissey Hall):  
**6:30am-1:00pm** Giving Tree accepting and organizing food baskets and gifts.  
**1:00pm-7:00pm** Distribution of food baskets, gifts, and clean up.

\*7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders must come with an adult, or if in a group, 1 adult to every 5 students.

\*\*Please Note-it is not necessary to work an entire morning/afternoon shift, but at least 2 hour shifts please.

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



**ST. VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY**

Thank you to all who contributed recipes for the St. Cletus St. Vincent dePaul Cookbook! The book is off to the publisher and we have 3 upcoming opportunities for you to purchase the books just in time for the holidays!

- Dec. 3-4 before/after Masses (presale orders only)
- Dec. 10 from 6-10pm at the St. Cletus Holiday Vendor Fair in Morrissey Hall
- Dec. 17-18 before/after Masses

We appreciate your support of this important work. Books will be sold for \$15 each and all proceeds will go directly to serving those in need in our community.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**Monthly Domestic Violence Support Group**

If you or someone close to you is experiencing domestic violence this group may be very helpful.

The objective of the group is to provide all a chance to talk about domestic violence and share questions, concerns and experiences with others who are facing - or who have faced - similar situations in confidence.

Please contact Kendall Grant at (708) 215-5418 or email [kgrant@stcletusparish.com](mailto:kgrant@stcletusparish.com) or for more information.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH  
— ARCHDIOCESE of CHICAGO —  
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION

ARE YOU IN AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP OR ARE YOU AFRAID IN YOUR OWN HOME?

CALL THE 24-HOUR PHONE FOR HELP:  
**708.485.5254**

*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 purple box above. You are not alone.*

**HOMELESS PERSONS MEMORIAL**

**Monday, December 19 at 6:30pm**  
**Old St. Pat's (700 W Adams St, Chicago 60661)**

On the longest night of the year, please join us as we again remember our homeless brothers and sisters who have died in the last year. The memorial will be held on December 19th, 2016, at Old St. Patrick's Church. Music again will be provided by Harmony, Hope, and Healing, which 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.

**INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK**

Interfaith Career Network (ICN) offers job support through various programs throughout the month. For further information and upcoming events, please visit our website at [www.interfaithcareernetwork.org](http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.org).

**AARP TAX-AIDE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2017 FILING SEASON**

Looking for a rewarding opportunity to make a difference in your community? The AARP Tax-Aide Program is now seeking volunteers for the upcoming 2017 filing season.



It's not necessary for you to be an AARP member nor have a tax or accounting background to volunteer. However, some knowledge of your own personal tax matters is very helpful. All returns are prepared on computers, thus volunteers should be somewhat computer literate. Training classes will be held in January 2017. To volunteer, visit [www.aarpfoundation.org/volunteer](http://www.aarpfoundation.org/volunteer) or contact parishioner John Wagner at 708-352-0170.

**SIGN UP FOR DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS**



WRAP Presents & BE PRESENT

BEST Advent EVER

We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We shop for gifts, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and visit family and friends until we're ready to drop. This year, prepare for Christmas in a different way. Join Dynamic Catholic for Best Advent Ever: *Rediscover Christmas*. You'll receive daily emails with inspirational videos, practical tips, or free Christmas music that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most. You'll experience Christmas in a way you've never experienced it before. Are you ready for your best Advent ever?

To sign up, visit [BestAdventEver.com](http://BestAdventEver.com)

Dynamic Catholic  
*Be Bold. Be Catholic.*

## Advent - A Season of Love, A Season of Joy



### PREPARE THE WAY

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.

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### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26  
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3,10,11-13; Mt 18:12-14  
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30  
 Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38  
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19  
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
 Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent  
 Tuesday: St. Nicholas  
 Wednesday: St. Ambrose;  
 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
 Thursday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Friday: St. Juan Diego

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Did St. Francis of Assisi invent the Christmas crib? Not exactly, but his devotion to the Incarnation and his love for the poverty of the Christ Child certainly popularized this beloved custom. Long before Francis, it was a custom at the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome to enshrine a rich image of Mary, gilded and bejeweled, embracing the child Jesus. This church was founded as a kind of home for the feast of Christmas in the fourth century. In 1223, Francis was ready to celebrate this feast in a new way. In the tiny city of Greccio, he asked friends to prepare a place where they could experience the poverty and suffering embraced by Christ in his birth. It was a living scene: an ox from the barn, an ass from the stable, and peasants standing in for shepherds and kings. The night of the celebration was beautiful, the weather was warm, and people came in crowds, bearing candles and singing hymns that echoed through the forest. Francis himself chanted the Gospel and preached. The custom spread quickly, and by the sixteenth century cribs were seasonal features not only in church, but in the home.

On December 17, the liturgy begins to unfold the Lord's birth before us, and it's the right time to follow this beautiful tradition. In Germany, each night throughout Advent children prepare a bedding for the manger. At bedtime prayer, a child places a single straw in the manger for each act of devotion or virtue performed during the day. If the children are good, then the Christ child will have plenty of soft bedding when he is placed in the manger on Christmas.

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

### WELCOME TO THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

As we begin this new liturgical year, we will be hearing the Gospel of Matthew.

Each of the gospels is unique and in some of its content. Each gospel is shaped by the needs, the problems, and the trials and challenges of the community for which the gospel was written. Matthew's gospel was written for the Jewish followers of Jesus who had continued to attend the synagogue regularly. Matthew presents Jesus as the new Moses by having him do "Moses-like" things: he gives the people new rules of behavior—the Beatitudes; he has miraculous powers (healing, curing, forgiving); brought hope to many people. The main theme of his gospel is that "the kingdom of God is like..." a reign of peace and love, of harmony and serenity, of forgiveness and mercy.





DO IT YOURSELF

# Christmas

CAROL CONCERT

Sunday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 4:00 p.m.

ST. CLETUS PARISH 600 W. 55<sup>TH</sup> ST. LA GRANGE

Directed by Justin Sisul

Featuring the St. Cletus Youth Choirs under the direction of Karen Ziemba

*Come ready to sing! We'll provide the sheet music, piano, organ and professional brass ensemble to accompany your voices as we fill the church with the Christmas spirit.*

Admission is Free.

More information about the Ed Ward Fine Arts Series can be found at [www.edwardfas.com](http://www.edwardfas.com).



## Taizé Prayer Service

Friday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m.

**No fighting for a place in line or haggling over a price or circling the parking lot for a vacant opening. Mark your calendar for 45 minutes of peace and calm-filled moments to renew your heart for the miracle of Christmas.**

*Ample parking - beautiful music - words of hope and joyful anticipation of Emmanuel-God-with-us*

**WHAT IS TAIZE?** Today, ecumenical services “in the spirit of Taizé” are held around the world. As the Taizé community explain the service: “This is meditative common prayer. Gathered in the presence of Christ, we sing uncomplicated repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of simplicity.” As people gather quietly in church, they pick up a worship aid and a candle. A few lit candles are surrounded by a few icons, symbols of the faith. People sit during the first few songs and then all stand and a few people (often children) come forward to light their candles which, in turn, they light the congregations’ candles. When all candles are lit, an Alleluia is sung and Scripture is read. A song follows and each person comes to the front and places their candles in the pots provided. When all have presented their candles, all sit in silent prayer for about 10 minutes. A time for sung prayers for our brothers and sisters near and far, follows, concluded by the Our Father. A final hymn is sung and all are invited to share a sign of peace.

## Youth Ministry

### FRETUS 2017 : ROAD TO EMMAUS



What is Fretus? Fretus is the Freshmen / Sophomore Winter Retreat. This is a combined effort between St. Francis Xavier and St. Cletus Parishes. This retreat is an opportunity for freshmen and sophomore teens to examine their faith, reflect on where they are, learn a few things, and have an outrageous amount of fun! January 13-15, 2017 We are blessed to have this retreat led by wonderful, Spirit-filled junior and senior high school teens, who are eager to be companions on the journey. For more information, including registration, go to the Youth Ministry page on the parish website. This retreat will fill up quickly. If cost is an obstacle to participation in this opportunity, scholarships are available. The registration deadline is December 18th.

### GIVING TREE VOLUNTEERS

Please contact Kendall Grant to sign up at [kgrant@stcletusparish.com](mailto:kgrant@stcletusparish.com)

- Saturday, December 10- Sunday, December 11 (church): collecting and organizing Giving Tree gifts before and after all the weekend Masses.
- Sunday, December 11 2:00-6:30pm: Sorting gifts in church, loading truck for delivery to St. Agatha's and storing local community gifts in Room 201.
- Sunday, December 18 (Morrissey Hall): 6:30am-1:00pm Giving Tree accepting and organizing food baskets and gifts. 1:00pm-7:00pm Distribution of food baskets, gifts, and clean up.

\*\*Please Note-it is not necessary to work an entire morning/afternoon shift, but at least 2 hour shifts please.\*\*

### MISSION TRIP 2017

The location and dates for the summer mission trip are still being finalized. But it is never too early to begin discerning if this might be a calling for you ! We will need high school teens who have completed their freshmen year and above (including recent grads of 2017) to join us for this week-long service trip. Registration details will be available soon! Stay tuned.

We are also looking for adult chaperones who are willing to join us. Without you, this opportunity cannot be offered. Contact Elizabeth for details to see if this is something meant for you!

### RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE DINNER

Thank you so much to all who served dinner at the Ronald McDonald House last weekend! Nine teens from St. Cletus, including Will Cramer, Maddie Cranny, Katie Hart, Ailee Hogan, Jack Lively, Ryan Mitchell, Meg McLean, Alex Morlock, and Holly Skrip came together as a team. They prepared lasagna soup, caesar salad, garlic bread, and pumpkin chocolate swirl cake to serve to the families in resident. They had an opportunity to visit with the guests and hear about why they were there as well as to tour the house and learn about the purpose it serves. A special thank-you to parents Henry Morlock and Lori Lively who also came along to help!



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

## Other Ministry Notes

### THE DEACON'S HOMILY FROM LAST WEEK

A number of people asked me for the details of the book I used as my intro. It is:

*Autopsy of a Deceased Church* by Thom S. Rainer

A very good read of about 100 pages, dealing the issues of dying churches, very relevant to Cardinal Cupich's RENEW MY CHURCH initiative.

Blessings - Deacon Stuart

### 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 18, 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.

### 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*

### BOOK CLUB - DEC. 13

The St. Cletus Book Club will be meeting on Tuesday evening, December 13th, at 7:00 PM. We are meeting in Room 102 in the school. The book to be discussed is "Welcome To Hard Times" by E. L. Doctorow. All interested participants are most welcome.



### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION AND MINISTERS OF CARE

On the weekend of December 17th-18th, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Ministers of Care will be mandated for a three year period. A mandate is an order or commission given by the Archdiocese to individuals who have completed a course of training to serve or continue serving a particular parish as a Minister of Communion. It implies a commitment on the part of the ministers to serving the parish. The pastor reviews those ministers' service who have already been mandated and authorizes their re-mandating (if already in service) or commissions new ministers to be mandated. This occurs every three years. This takes place throughout the Archdiocese on one of the Sundays of Advent marking the beginning of the new liturgical year.

A blessing will be offered for these ministers at each of the weekend Masses Dec. 17-18.

If you would be interested in this ministry, please contact Paulette Bolton. Please contact Fr. Ken or Paulette if you have any questions. (708)215-5422.

### CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE



**Saturday, December 10th, 6 – 10 p.m.**

Come out for a fun evening of shopping and socializing with your friends at the St. Cletus Vendor Fair in Morrissey Hall. Admission is \$5 per person (includes a raffle ticket or a glass of wine and appetizers). 6 - 7 p.m. all ages are welcome / 7 - 10 p.m. absolutely no-one under the age of 21 is allowed.

Sample of our vendors: 10th Avenue Tea / 31 Gifts / Ivy's Artesian Glass / Bebebells Quality Bags / BMH Creations / Camp 20 Stone Jewelry / Ceramics / Courtney Renee Interiors / Divalicious Cookies & Sweets / doTerra Oils / Flat Bottom Pretzels / Kaketopia / Lip Sense / Luxe Home Interiors / Magnolia & Vine / Olivaceto LLC / Origami Owl / Pampered Chef / Perfectly Posh / Pink Zebra / Preciosa Jewelry / Premier Design Jewelry / QT Apparel & StyleDots / Michelle's Quiltings / Scentsy / Simple Pleasures Bedding / St. Cletus – St. Vincent DePaul Cookbooks / Thrive by Le-Vel / Tutus and Bows / Uniquely Pawfect / Urban Ensembles / Wristrocks



## Community Bulletin Board

### ST. CLETUS SCHOOL POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Cletus School is currently looking for help with their aftercare program. This is a part time position, 3-5:45pm M- F, subject to school being in session.

### THANKS A MILLION!

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 \$8,050. 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. We also want to give a big THANK YOU to the Girl Scouts who once again passed out the bottles after all the Masses.

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. As we approach the Christmas season, we and the babies give thanks for all of you and count you as one of our greatest blessings.

### ADVENT AT THE ABBEY

St. Procopius Abbey and Benedictine University invite you to Advent at the Abbey on December 10, 2016, from 9 am till 3 pm. The theme for the day is "Let Peace be your Quest and Aim". There will be an opportunity for the Sacrament of reconciliation and an experience of Benedictine Spirituality. Register at [procopius.webs.com/advent-at-the-abbey](http://procopius.webs.com/advent-at-the-abbey), or contact Fr. Becket at (630) 829-9253 or [bfranks@procopius.org](mailto:bfranks@procopius.org). Benedictine Monks at St. Procopius Abbey 5700 College Road Lisle, IL 60532

### ADOLF FUNERAL HOME

You are cordially invited to our Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Service. The upcoming days hold many expectations, emotion and experiences. Please be with us for a special time of remembrance, and to light your candle. Family and friends are most welcome.

Saturday, December 10, 2016 - 2:00 p.m.  
Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Ltd.  
2921 S. Harlem Avenue, Berwyn

For reservations please call 630-325-2300.

### SCSG DECEMBER EVENT

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

#### **December Event:**

Sunday, 12/11, join us for 11pm Mass at Mater Christi Catholic Church, 2431 S. 10th Ave., in North Riverside. Afterwards, is our Christmas Luncheon, 12:00pm, at Tipster's Village Pub, 8839 W. Cermak Rd., in North Riverside. Cost is \$24; that includes meal, tax, tip, and door prizes. Cash Bar. RSVP required by 12/06 if attending. Events are subject to change.

You can contact us at [singlesadmin@gmail.com](mailto:singlesadmin@gmail.com)  
Find us on Facebook – Suburban Catholic Singles

### MONTINI HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, December 7th from 6:30 to 8:30

For more info contact Kim Richmond at (630)627-6930 ext 182 or [krichmond@montini.org](mailto:krichmond@montini.org).

### CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS

Chicagoland area Catholic High Schools will offer their entrance exams on the morning of Saturday, January 11, 2017. Please visit their websites or call the school for more information or to register.

### BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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. All articles are due no later than 5 p.m. Friday a full week (nine days) before Sunday's publication.

## St. Cletus Parish Family Masses



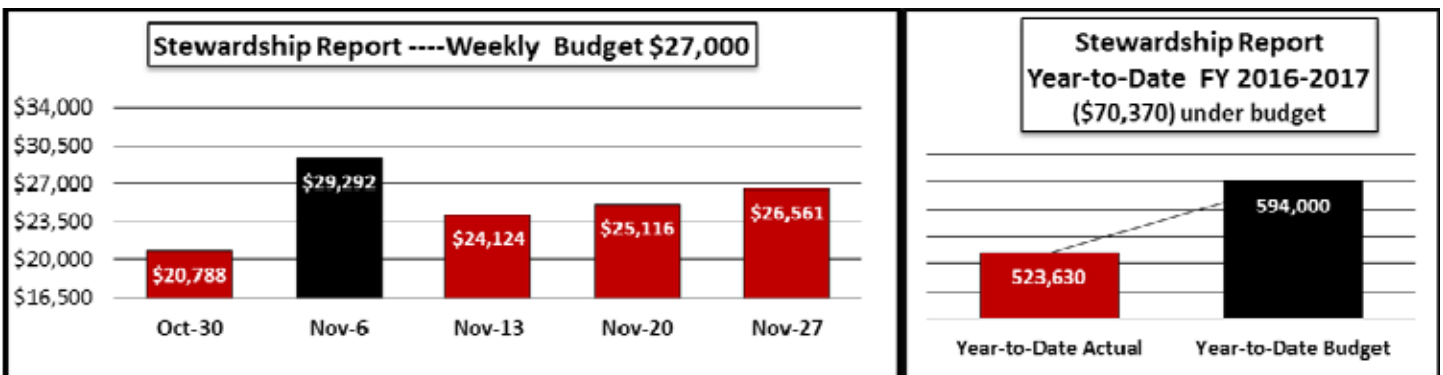
Join Us As We Celebrate...  
Family Mass

Mark your calendars:  
December 4, 2016 11:00 a.m. Mass  
December 11, 2016 11:00 a.m. Mass

# 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 4	All Masses 11:00am 4:00pm 7:00pm	Narthex Church Church Church	SVDP Cookbook Sale Family Mass Fine Arts Series DIY Christmas Carol Concert Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena	
Monday, December 5	4:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm	S Music Room Church MH	Junior Choir Rehearsal Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Men's Basketball	
Tuesday, December 6	6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 9:00pm	Church S Rm 213 RB Rectory Church S Rm 208 MH	Holy Hour School Board PPC Meeting RCIA Hispanic Holy Hour/Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Teen Advisory Boy's Church League Basketball	
Wednesday, December 7	7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 9:00pm	Church S Rm 201 S Rm 98 MH	Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena CREDO Boy's Church League Basketball	
Thursday, December 8	6:30 & 8:00am 9:00am 5:00pm 7:00pm 9:00pm	Church Church S Music Rm Church MH	Immaculate Conception Mass St. Cletus School Immaculate Conception Mass Children's Choir Rehearsal Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Boy's Church League Basketball	
Friday, December 9	7:00pm 7:00pm	Church S Rm 201	Taizé Prayer Service Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena	
Saturday, December 10	5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm	Narthex MH Church	SVDP Cookbook Sale FSA Holiday Boutique Vendor Fair Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena	
Sunday, December 11	All Masses 11:00am 7:00pm	Narthex Church Church	SVDP Cookbook Sale Family Mass Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena	

# Stewardship Report



# 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.  
 (Please note the office will close at noon on Fridays over the summer.)  
 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 11:00 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. Contact Bobbie Kallal (708) 352-6209.

## HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office ..... (708) 215-5407

## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND BENEDICTION

Holy Hour first Tuesday of the month 6:00-7:00 p.m.  
 Hispanic Adoration continues 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

## 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, *Pastoral Care* ..... (708) 215-5407  
 Debbie Lestarczyk, *Business Manager*..... (708) 215-5405  
 Christopher Wagner, *Technology*..... (708) 215-5420

### SCHOOL STAFF

Tom Chinske, *Principal*  
 Christy Schaefer, *Assistant Principal*  
 Mary Lee Krieger, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Jeannie Scalzitti, *Receptionist/Office Assistant*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

Barb Campbell, *Director of Religious Education*  
 Paulette Bolton, *Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship*

### RECTORY STAFF

Bobbie Kallal, *Human Resources/Records*  
 Mary Zwolinski, *Parish Accounting*  
 Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, *Bulletin Editor*

### PARISH/SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Tim O'Brien ..... (708) 215-5432

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Bob Clark  
 Chairperson ..... Eileen Dorchinecz  
 Vice Chairperson ..... John Rossmiller  
 Secretary ..... Jodie Pulciani

### Members

Scott Aulinskis	Valerie Sosne
Bob Havelka	Ron Skrip
Chris McLean	Patrick Townsend
Doug Rausch	Matt Wangard

### Liaisons

FSA President ..... Nikki Gorman  
 Athletic Association President ..... Brendan Foley

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor ..... Fr. Bob Clark  
 Chairperson ..... Jack Fisherkeller  
 Vice-Chairperson ..... Chuck Luna  
 Recording Secretary ..... Robbie O'Shea  
 School Representative ..... Tom Chinske  
 Director of Parish Catechesis ..... Paulette Bolton  
 Staff Representative ..... Debbie Lestarczyk  
 Hispanic Ministry ..... Luis Lopez

### Members

Colleen Hagen	Susan Hurley
Maggie Kensek	Helen McMahan
Henry Morlock	