

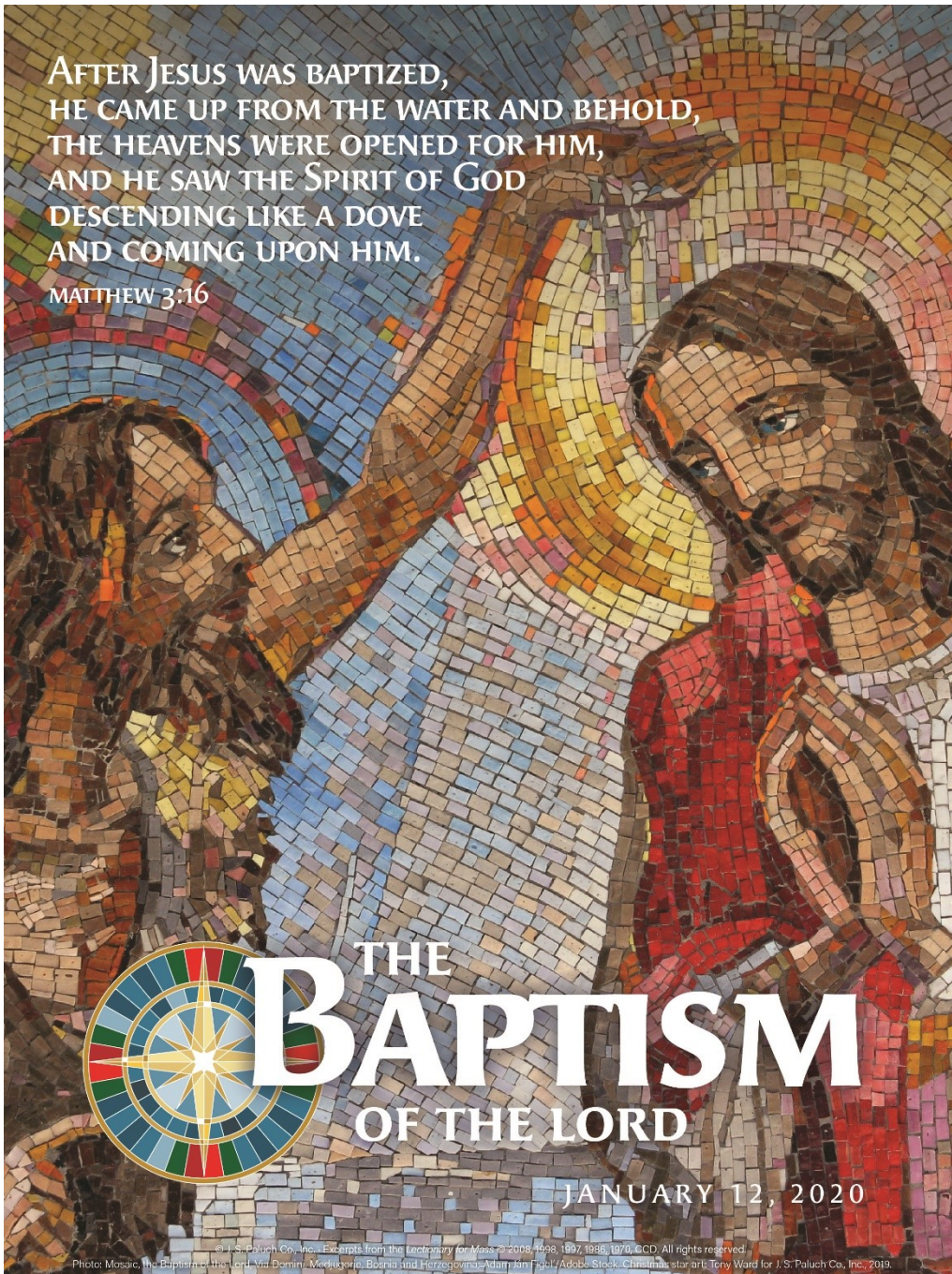
Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

**A voice came from the heavens,
saying, "This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased."
— Matthew 3:17**



**AFTER JESUS WAS BAPTIZED,
HE CAME UP FROM THE WATER AND BEHOLD,
THE HEAVENS WERE OPENED FOR HIM,
AND HE SAW THE SPIRIT OF GOD
DESCENDING LIKE A DOVE
AND COMING UPON HIM.**

MATTHEW 3:16



WELCOME

So glad you could join us!

- 2** Mass Intentions and Important Notes
- 3** Pastor's Note
- 4** Parish School
- 6** Social Concerns
- 8** Youth Ministry
- 9** Ministry News
- 10** Sunday Notes
- 11** Mission Ladies
- 12** Community Bulletin Board
- 13** Stewardship Report Week at a Glance
- 14** Parish Information

Mass Intentions for the Week of January 13 - 19, 2019

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Joan Klein, Mary Cranny
Tuesday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Patricia Donovan, Ola Maveety
Wednesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Virginia Rachford, Wanda Zumpano, Frank Wojcik
Thursday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Delphine Marciszewski, Cheryl Fisherkeller
Friday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	St. Cletus Parishioners
Saturday	Fr. Gamboa Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Frank Baggio, Gene Gajos, Julie Kerrigan Jim Deslauriers, Delphine Marciszewski, Frank Skrip Sr.
Sunday	Fr. Clark Fr. Gamboa Fr. Baker Fr. Clark Fr. Gamboa	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m.	George Duda, Dorothy Dybas, Richard Gomez Stacy Baker, Anita & Camilo Ferreira Gomez Marjorie Cullen, Anthony Perkovich, Cheryl Fisherkeller, Diane Bradford B.C. Collins, Joan Klein, Angioletta Innocenti, Virginia Gebka Marcos Cadena, Maria del Refugio Vazquez, All Souls in Purgatory

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND



Living Our Faith, Building Our Future
The Final Phase

Next weekend there will be a second collection to support the Living our Faith, Building our Future Capital Campaign: Final Phase. Thank you for your continued generous support.

FALL FEST 7 ANNOUNCEMENT



We can't think of a better way to ring in the new year than to announce the headliners for 2020. It's another lineup you can't miss so mark your calendars now!

Headliners: The Boy Band Night, Mike and Joe, and Sixteen Candles



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

Edward Kuchta

May they rest in peace. Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

We always welcome names for the sick. Please note that requests must only be made by the individual or an immediate family member. Names will remain in this prayer list for 3 months.

January - Joan Clark, Joyce Arnold, Frank Colonna, John Gerdevich, Jeanie Hills, Mary Ramirez, Charles (Bud) Howe, Rose Serrano, Ludwig Stoiber, Joseph Gregory Stroude, Laura Terrazino, Grace Yamamoto, John Collingwood

December - Ed Kutcha, Hermelinda Nevarez, Linda Stoinski, Judy Halvorson, Emily Malec, Rachael Schopp

November - Joan Clark, Gerda E. Dorso, Kim and Tony Fox, Shirley Funk, Don King, Deborah Krueger, Patricia Rodey, Michael Stoinski, Robert Stoinski, John Duda, Stella Fabian, Dr. Max Scheyerer, Rosario Martinez, Edward J McNamara, Jose Perez, Margaret Pirman, Daniella DeRivera, Leo & Gloria Rivera, Ann Scheer, Virginia Skibbe, Carol Witkowski, Ted Buczek, Johnson Dy, Nancy Gibson, Norman Kwak, Kathryn McCord, Jackie Schickel, Nicole Will-Montemagni, Jean Weekley


Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

Notes from Fr. Bob...

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The nature of the creation of the universe continues to fascinate the human mind. The big bang theory may have superseded the poetic description found in Genesis, yet there are striking similarities between the two accounts. At first sight it seems hard to reconcile the modern claims of random chance in the creation of life to the picture in Genesis of an all-seeing God directing the stages of evolutionary development. But there may be more similarities than we think. The idea of God as an unmoved mover or a necessarily existent and intelligent director of the universe owes more to Greek philosophy than to the Scriptures. In the Scriptures the driving force behind creation is God's Spirit, hovering over the waters. And elsewhere in the Scriptures we know Jesus himself will refer to the Spirit as being as free as the wind, blowing where it wills. When we look each day at the creation that surrounds us, what strikes us first is not its uniformity or simplicity, and certainly not its intelligibility. What amazes is its sheer abundance and variety, much of it to no seeming purpose and yet offering us a breathtaking panorama we naturally imitate in our own myriad and sometimes mad moments of human creativity. There is risk involved. There is always the possibility of death, destruction and despair. Yet nothing remains outside the kingdom of God's love.

The Acts of the Apostles are the gospel of the Holy Spirit. Firstly Peter and then Paul appear as the main agents of the Spirit at work in the world of the early churches. They are examples of the true disciples, followers of Christ who are open to the Spirit and led by him in ways they do not expect. For Peter this meant particularly that he had to come to a new understanding of who was meant to receive the good news and what conditions should be imposed on those receiving it. He had to discover that Jesus was the Lord of all. The watershed in this discovery was his great vision of a sheet being lowered from heaven with God's instruction to kill and eat of the animals on the sheet. The moral of the vision was not just that the followers of Christ were no longer to be bound by the dietary restrictions of Jewish Law. The vision symbolized the universality of Christ's salvific mission. Peter recognized that Christ himself was only empowered to take up and accomplish his mission through the power of the Spirit. It was through this anointing by the Spirit at his baptism



that
Jesus was
inspired to go about
doing good and curing all who
had fallen into the power of the devil. What we see
Peter and the other apostles doing after their
experience of receiving the Spirit at Pentecost is
exactly the same. They too are given the confidence
to go about doing good and healing those in need.

By baptism we too are anointed by the Spirit. This means that we too are inspired to follow in the footsteps of Peter in the living out of Christ's message. We too may need to make breakthroughs in our understanding of that message as we go through life. It is not a message that is given in a fixed package in advance. It is a message that unfolds more and more as we allow ourselves to be guided by the Spirit, and, again, the Spirit may lead us down uncharted paths. But if we want to check whether the underlying direction of the Spirit is active within us, we need only look again at the examples offered us by Peter and Paul. Are we conveyors of the good news of peace? Are we unifiers and reconcilers or do we drive others apart? Are we healers? Have we got in touch with that inner power that can bring about healing and renewal in the lives of others? The Church has always been involved in the service of healing, whether spiritual or physical. Many Christians give themselves to the healing professions under the Spirit's inspiration, but through the power of baptism we are called to heal each other through the little acts of daily care. Finally, when we look at our lives, do we, like Jesus, go around doing good? Is the world a better place for our presence in it? When we are touched by the Spirit, we are all able to be life-giving performers in the great dance of creation.

Anointed in the Spirit,



Fr. Bob
Pastor

Parish School



★ 2014 ★
BLUE RIBBON
RECIPIENT

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL DATES TO NOTE

January 26..... Catholic Schools Week Open House
January 29..... School Mass 10:30am
March 28..... Spring Auction

FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

Gregory Porod, Principal
(708) 352-4820
gporod@stcletusparish.com

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

ALUMNI NEWS



Congratulations to the following members of the St. Cletus Class of 2016 on being named Illinois State Scholars:

Fenwick High School - Kaitlyn Cassidy

Nazareth Academy - Lindsay Degnan & Julia Laghi

Lyons Township High School - Nathaniel Banos, Charles Burke, Madeline Cranny, Carson Hart, Katherine Hart, Aidan Kelly, Jack Petrak, Moira Sommerfeld, Liam Sponaule, and Patrick Townsend

We are proud of your accomplishments and wish you continued success for the remainder of your high school career and beyond!



Save The Date

When: Saturday, March 28, 2020

Where: St. Cletus Parish Center

Time: 6 p.m.

Cost: \$50 per person

Includes drinks, music, food, silent and live auction



St. Cletus School

FAITH FAMILY FUTURE

St. Cletus builds a strong foundation for life-long learning and recognizes the diverse talents and individual learning styles of our students. We offer certified programs from pre-school through eighth grade. Our focus on academics, religious education, and spiritual development balanced with extracurricular activities supports our mission to develop well-rounded students.

- Faith Based Education from Preschool through Eighth Grade
- Nationally Recognized for Academic Excellence
- Technology Integrated into Classrooms and Curriculum
- Athletic and Extra-Curricular Activities
- Half-day and Full-day options for Kindergarten and Preschool
- Extended Care
- Caring Community



★ 2014 ★
BLUE RIBBON
RECIPIENT

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK Open House

Sunday, January 26th

10:30 am - 12:30 pm



Find out why SC is the right choice for your family. Call 708-352-4820 or stop by the school office to setup a tour!



St. Cletus School

700 W. 55th Street
La Grange, IL 60525

(708) 352-4820 phone
(708) 352-0788 fax
www.stcletusschool.com

January 2020

As fellow parents, we know how important choosing a school is for our children. That is why we hope you will consider St. Cletus Catholic School for your child's education.

Education- We are a Blue Ribbon Award winning school for overall academic excellence and achievement. Beginning as early as preschool, your child will begin to receive a well-rounded education, allowing them to grow both intellectually and socially, with the help of a dedicated and highly qualified group of teachers and staff.

Community- From the staff, to the teachers, to the families of St Cletus, we support, encourage, and help one another. We believe your child and your whole family will feel this welcoming community atmosphere.

Faith- Most importantly, we are a school that is rooted in our faith in Christ and His teachings. We believe it is essential to help shape character and build integrity in students. That is why we are committed to daily prayer and praise to God in the classrooms, reading Bible stories and applying God's teaching, going to church together as a class once a week, celebrating school-wide Masses at least once a month, as well as many community service opportunities for the students to give back and help those in need.

Please call **(708)-352-4820** or visit us online at stcletusschool.com to learn more about our wonderful school or to schedule a tour of the St. Cletus School.

Sincerely,
St. Cletus school board and staff



FAITH FAMILY FUTURE



Social Concerns Ministry



ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY THURSDAYS 6-8PM

Please note the Food Pantry will be closed on January 2. Happy New Year!

Most needed at this time:

- Shelf stable milk (dry, canned, non-refrigerated)
- Kitchen wraps (foil, plastic, wax paper)
- Kitchen storage bags (zip lock, sandwich)
- Dish Soap
- Diapers size 5 & 6
- Baby Wipes

Donations can be dropped off before or after Masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex (at the back of church).

Follow us on facebook:
@StCletusFoodPantry

Now on Instagram:
@St.CletusFoodPantry

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

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER OPENINGS

Volunteer slots are now available for January-February at Food Pantry Distribution nights. Volunteers are needed from 5:30-8:30pm in the Rectory Basement to help clients shop, distribute items, and assist in carrying items to vehicles. These opportunities are generally geared towards middle school-adult. To view openings and sign up visit: <http://bit.ly/2GrgAWt>

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 (kgrant@stcletusparish.com) or 708.215.5418 for more information.

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 to the right.

You are not alone.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH
— ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO —
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION
www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org

YOU HAVE A SPECIAL STRENGTH INSIDE YOU
I HEAR YOU I BELIEVE YOU
YOU'RE NOT ALONE
IT ISN'T YOUR FAULT
A CHILD IS NEVER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF AN ADULT
IT'S NOT YOUR JOB TO STOP IT
YOU HAVE HAD TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES THAT OTHER CHILDREN NEVER HAD TO
YOU HAVE A SPECIAL STRENGTH INSIDE YOU
I BELIEVE YOU

ARE YOU IN AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP OR ARE YOU AFRAID IN YOUR OWN HOME?
CALL THE 24-HOUR PHONE FOR HELP:
708.485.5254

INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

Leverage the Power of LinkedIn

For our January speaker we have a LinkedIn Account Manager coming to speak to our group. LinkedIn provides you with opportunities to reach company execs, find contacts that can open doors into companies you are interested in, and helps recruiters find you. Want to learn how to target employers? Want to know what employers look for in their candidates? Join us on January 16 from 7-9 pm and get answers to these and other questions related to LinkedIn. Our speaker, Lisa Rudisel is an Account Manager at LinkedIn. Her insights will be informative and important to everyone in a job search. Start the New Year with ICN at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 S. Wolf Road, Western Springs. This meeting is open to everyone and there is no cost to attend.

INTERFAITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Interfaith Community Partners is looking for a part-time Volunteer Coordinator to arrange for transportation for clients 60 and better within our community. Hours are Thursday and Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm. Computer skills necessary, pleasant

phone communication plus love of working with older adults. Please submit your resume to Janet Garreau at jgarreauicp@gmail.com or call our office for further assistance at 708-354-9328.

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PROGRAMS

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED SUPPORT

St. John of the Cross Parish is hosting a weekly support group for those who have been through divorce or who are in the midst of the divorce process. Divorce and Beyond meetings are faith-based and designed to bring hope and healing to one of life's most difficult and painful experiences of loss. Topics include; dealing with stress, anger, loneliness, forgiveness, and healing. Experienced leaders create an open and confidential atmosphere conducive to judgement free sharing and discussion.

Begins Thursday, January 16 (7:00 p.m.)

Register online: <https://www.stjohnofthecross.org/divorceandbeyond> or contact Steve Weigand at the SJC Parish Office. (708) 246-4404 ext.137

SEASONS OF HOPE GRIEF SUPPORT

St. John of the Cross Parish is hosting 'Seasons of Hope' support group for anyone grieving the loss of a loved one. 'Seasons of Hope' is a six-session support ministry led by experienced, caring adults familiar with the grief process. Weekly sessions present a faith-based topic and include discussion, Scripture, and prayer. It is recommended that participants allow 3-6 mo. from time of loss before attending. Register online: www.stjohnofthecross.org/grief-ministry or contact Steve Weigand at the SJC Parish Office. (708) 246-4404

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

All are welcome to any of the 4 weekly groups for Christian Meditation in the St. John of the Cross Parish Center, room 7. Meetings last 45 to 55 minutes, and no experience is necessary.

Tuesdays, 7:30 pm; Wednesdays, 2:30 pm; Saturdays, 8:00 am; Mondays, 10:30am - Christian Meditation as an 11th Step Practice

For more information contact Betsy at wccmchgo@gmail.com or 708-246-8315.

LOSS PROGRAM

St. John of the Cross parish will begin hosting a monthly support group for those grieving the loss of a loved one from suicide. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month. L.O.S.S.

(Loving Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) is a non-denominational program that provides a safe, judgement free environment intended to help survivors and family members share experience, and draw strength and hope within a loving community. Trained counselors are on hand at each meeting. Call LOSS at 312.655.7285 or SJC (708) 246-4404 for more information.

PRAY FOR HEALING MINISTRY

St. Cletus has started a ministry to pray for healing in the church – healing from the wounds resulting from the sexual abuse scandal. The ministry is open to all, and all are encouraged to join. You will receive an email once or twice a month, encouraging you to prayer. Each email will contain a suitable prayer for those of us who find words harder to come by. The parish website has a form you need to complete to join – under the 'Ministries & Groups' tab on the home page. No computer? No worries – please give your name and address to the parish center and we will send you each offering via the US postal service. Questions? Please contact Jerry Mitchell (630 849 5857) at prayforhealing@stcletusparish.com

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY



WORD OF LIFE

““An unexpected pregnancy can be a difficult and frightening time, and it's important that your friend knows you are thinking of her and supporting her. ... don't forget the most important thing is to pray. Even if it's just a quick two-second prayer, prayer is the most effective way we can help. Pray for her, for her child, and for guidance in how you can give her the best possible support.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting” (www.respectlife.org/support-her)

9 DAYS FOR LIFE



JANUARY 21-29, 2020

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



4 WAYS TO JOIN



9DaysforLife.com

Image: A mosaic of Our Lady of Guadalupe decorates a side altar in the Church of Santa Maria della Famiglia at the Vatican, Dec. 15. (CNS photo/Paul Haring.)

Youth Ministry

ALPHA FOR TEENS

A faith formation opportunity offered collaboratively through Saint Cletus and Saint John of the Cross Youth Ministries for teens in our community.

What is Alpha for Teens?

Alpha for Teens is a 9-week course that creates a space where teens can be excited to bring their friends for a conversation about Jesus. The series offers compelling stories, images, questions, and discussion topics well spread throughout each episode to better engage youth, helping them think about how these issues relate to their lives as they discuss with their friends and leaders. In each session, we'll eat food, watch a talk, and discuss questions in small groups.



- **Food** has a way of bringing people together and building community. So whether it's a light snack, sweets or a full meal, Alpha always starts with food.
- The **talks** tackle core questions about life and faith from a Christian perspective. Each episode averages 23 minutes in length.
- Throughout each episode, there are three **discussion** breaks. These breaks give everyone a chance to share thoughts and ideas in small groups without fear of being corrected or judged.
- Along the way, there are opportunities to experience **worship** through music and moments for **prayer**.
- All of this is done in a **fun** environment where everyone is welcome.

All High School teens are invited to attend our weekly Alpha for Teen Series, beginning **Sunday, January 12, 6:15-7:30 PM, in the Saint John of the Cross Parish Center**. All are invited to come to share a meal, watch a short video, and talk about questions and topics from the video. Through the next 9 weeks, the Alpha Teen Series explores timeless questions about life, faith and God for a new generation.

How do I sign up?

Registration can be found on the Youth Ministry page on the Saint Cletus Parish Website, as well as on the Saint John of the Cross Parish Website.

Alpha for Teens needs Adult Volunteers!

VIRTUS-compliant adults feeling called to assist in the preparation and implementation of Alpha for Teens, please contact MaryClaire Zurowski, mzurowski@stcletusparish.com.

MaryClaire Zurowski, Youth Ministry Coordinator
mzurowski@stcletusparish.com
youth.stcletusparish.com | Instagram @stcletus.youthministry

Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE

This weekend our RE classes resume! We look forward to hosting our annual First Grade Church Tour in the Church on Monday evening from 6-7:30 p.m. for our First Grade children and their parents. We are also excited for our upcoming Family Catechetical Event on Saturday, January 25th, called Incredible Families of Faith! It will be held in the Parish Center from 10 a.m. – 12 noon! Please mark your calendars so that you don't miss this fun event!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING RE DATES:

January 12/13 Regular RE classes in session, Special Needs/Adaptive classes in session, Early Childhood in Session. First Grade classes all meet on Monday evening, January 13th in the Church for the Church Tour. Eighth Grade Red Service Books and Letters to the Pastor are due!

January 15 Teen Seekers meets

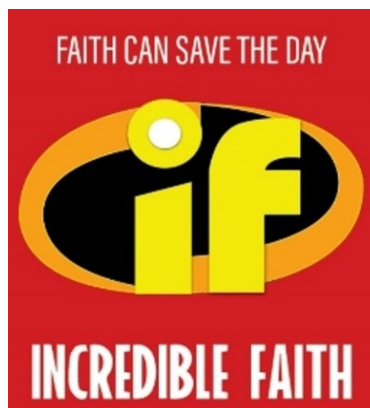
January 19/20 No classes due to the MLK holiday weekend

January 22 Teen Seekers meets

January 25 Religious Education Family Catechetical Event – Incredible Families of Faith! 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. in the Parish Center

January 26/27 No classes due to Catholic Schools Week

February 2/3 Regular classes resume



Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education
 bcampbell@stcletusparish.com | (708) 352-2383
 re.stcletusparish.com

Other Ministry News

BOOK DISCUSSION

The next book discussion will be at 7 P.M. on February 11th in the Father Gallagher Room in the Parish Center. We will discuss The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See. For those who want to look ahead, on April 14: Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. On June 9: The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver. All are welcome. Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES

CABARET
FUNDRAISER FOR THE ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES

ED WARD
FINE ARTS SERIES
AT ST. CLETUS, LA GRANGE, IL

DUELING PIANOS IN THE PARISH CENTER
FRIDAY, FEB. 7
8:00 PM
 DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

FEATURING:
TONY KIDONAKIS

TICKETS:
 \$40 IN ADVANCE
 \$45 AT THE DOOR

RSVP ON ONLINE:
www.edwardfas.com

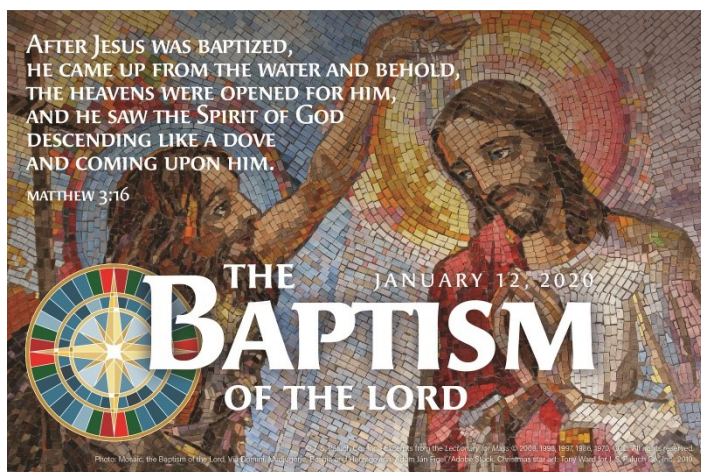
CHRISTMAS DAY MASS IN THE JAIL

Pictured below is Cardinal Cupich as he celebrated Christmas Day Mass in the Jail, Deacon Stuart Heyes assisted.

Thank you Deacon Stuart and Marlene for all of the wonderful work you do in your ministry.



Sunday Notes



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8; Ps 116:12-19; Mk 1:14-20
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd;
 Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10;
 Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25;
 Mk 1:40-45
 Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1-12
 Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7;
 Mk 2:13-17
 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3;
 Jn 1:29-34

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord
 Monday: First Week in Ordinary Time; St. Hilary
 Friday: St. Anthony
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary;
 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

SAINT HILARY (C. 315-367)

January 13

Born in Poitiers, France, whose populace would later elect him bishop, Hilary, married and a father, was converted from paganism to Christianity through his reading of scripture. The focus of his prayerful study was the Prologue to the Gospel according to John, which portrays Jesus as the divine Logos, eternally begotten of the Father. As a result, Hilary became in the words of the biblical scholar Jerome, “the Latin Trumpet against the Arians,” heretics who believed Jesus to be merely human, not divine. In defense of Christ’s divinity, Hilary was not only eloquent in debate but utterly fearless in the face of relentless persecution and even exile. Thus by the witness of his own discipleship, Hilary taught that faith in Jesus as the divine Son of God has consequences. Reflecting on Jesus’ challenge to his disciples, “You are the salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13), Hilary notes that, as salt both preserves from corruption and adds savor to food, so must the faithful disciple bear a witness that, by word and example, leads others to immortality and virtuous living.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CERTAINTY

The Son of God died; it is by all means to be believed because it is absurd. And he was buried and rose again; it is certain because it is impossible.

—Tertullian

PEACE

We should have great peace if we did not busy ourselves with what others say and do.

—Thomas à Kempis

THIS IS MY BELOVED SON

This Sunday’s celebration of the Baptism of the Lord closes the Christmas season. In the scriptures we see one more epiphany, or manifestation, of the Spirit of God in Jesus—but this time it is as an adult, rather than as a child. Jesus’ baptism also serves as the inauguration of his prophetic mission and the messianic age.

Today’s reading from Isaiah describes God’s chosen Messiah, upon whom God’s spirit rests. In the Acts of the Apostles Peter says that “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power” (Acts 10:38). Finally, in the proclamation from Matthew’s Gospel Jesus’ baptism in water goes almost unnoticed. The crucial moment comes when the Spirit of God comes upon Jesus and a voice from heaven echoes the words of Isaiah: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Matthew 3:17).

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Isaiah speaks of the Servant whom the LORD upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

Psalm — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

Second Reading — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

Gospel — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).

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

UNITY

Unity is vision; it must have been part of the process of learning to see.

—Henry Adams

Thank you to our Mission Ladies



November 20, 2019

Mission Ladies
c/o St. Cletus Parish
600 West 55th Street
La Grange, IL 60525

Dear Ladies (too many to list by name),

Earlier today I came over to pick up the walker bags you made for the rehabilitation patients here at AMITA Health Adventist La Grange Hospital. I brought a volunteer with me because we also dropped off some fabric that another volunteer donated. I am so glad I had an extra set of hands, as I picked-up 100 walker bags nicely packaged into two large plastic bags. You went above and beyond my expectations when I asked for some walker bags for our patients!!

What more can I say than AMAZING and WONDERFUL and BEAUTIFUL!! Each bag lovingly crafted by one of you will bring so much happiness to a lucky patient. I know the bags also will brighten the day of not only the patient, but the unit as the Rehab Unit in a hospital is not always the prettiest of places – too many wheelchairs, walkers, canes, etc.

I hope you can feel the hugs that I'm sending your way and the wishes for a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas. It goes without saying the New Year will bring you all that you want and deserve because you do so much for so many.

Hope to see you soon. Treats on me.

Again, hugs and many THANKS from me on behalf of our Rehab patients.

Sincerely,

Christine DeMaria
Volunteer Coordinator
AMITA Health Adventist La Grange Hospital

5101 South Willow Springs Road
La Grange, IL 60525

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

If you'd like to volunteer with the St. Cletus Mission Ladies in their work making item for poor children and nursing homes, our small group welcomes ladies young and not so young to join us. We meet every Wednesday from 9 to 11:30 a.m. We are a friendly group, we work and socialize. No talent is needed... "Come join us."

Community Bulletin Board

JOYFUL AGAIN! WIDOWED MINISTRY



"I knew I needed something." "I wanted things to get better." "This helped a lot." (What they say about us.) We understand. We've been there.

Upcoming Retreats:

March 14 & 15 *Our Lady of the Angels, Hse. of Prayer, (Mt. Assisi Center Bldg.) 13820 Main St., Lemont, IL (Near Cog Hill)

June 27 & 28 St. Julie's Parish, Tinley Pk., IL (near Harlem Ave. and 159th St.) No overnight available

For more information contact us at 708-354-7211, joyfulagain7211@gmail.com, www.joyfulagain.org.

THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Mary Southard Paint Your Soul Retreat
9 AM Thurs., Jan. 16 – 3 PM Sunday, Jan. 19

Mary Southard, CSJ is a celebrated artist, experienced educator and retreat director in love with Life and with the Creator/Creation. In this retreat, for artists and non-artists alike, we will engage with the energies and images from within our own abundant and beautiful souls. Cost: \$475 (includes overnight accommodations and meals)



The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park, IL. A Member of the Congregation of St. Joseph Mission. Network. www.csjthewell.org 708-482-5048

TOWNSHIP OF LYONS

The Township of Lyons 6404 Joliet Rd Countryside Board of Trustees in conjunction with Jessie White, Secretary of State and Michael Frerichs, State Treasurer will hold Mobile ID and I-Cash on Thursday, February 6, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Renew your driver's license, obtain a state ID card, get your license plate renewal sticker, search for lost & forgotten cash. No reservations necessary...Call Mike Porfirio, Clerk or George Pach, Deputy Clerk @ 708-482-8300 x 221 for more information.

BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be emailed to canticle@stcletusparish.com as text with pictures attached separately. All articles are due 5p.m. Friday a full week (9 days) before Sunday's publication.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? It is SO EASY! Visit the St. Cletus Parish website at www.stcletusparish.com and click the "DONATE" BUTTON. Click Sunday donations. We accept checks (ACH), debit and credit cards. If you have questions or need help, call Mary Zwolinski 708.352.6209

R.W.S. Landscaping & Lawncare
708-489-6333



V MECHANICAL INC.
SINGLE SOURCE HVAC & R CONTRACTOR
WWW.VMECHANICALINC.COM | 708-863-6737



John Wilson
Western Springs, IL
(708) 246-5604



Professional Land Clearing

ALL AROUND AMUSEMENT



COLDWELL BANKER

Jerry Mitchell, Real Estate Broker (630) 849-5857



Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, LTD
Battistoni & Beam Orthodontics Ltd.
Friends of Countryside Mayor Sean McDermott

FCI Construction Inc.
Hallowell & James Funeral Home
Health Pic
Horizon Wealth Management

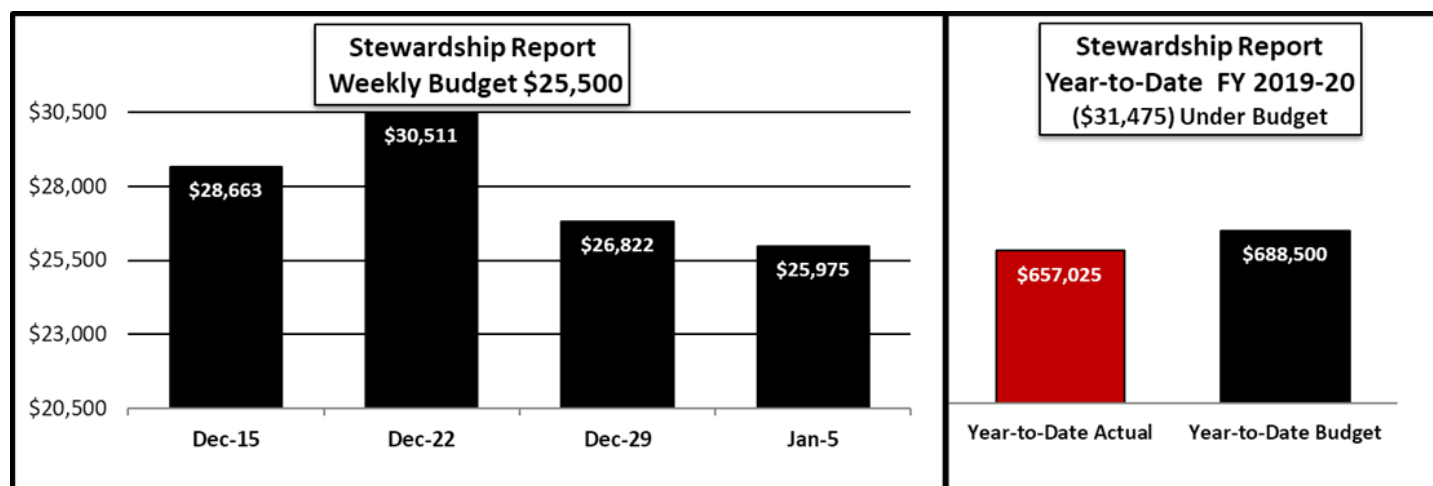
Jeffrey R. Tobolski Cook County Board Commissioner-16th District
LG Celtics Soccer Club
Unique Plumbing
WATRA Church Goods

Thank you to our 2019 St. Cletus Parish Fall Fest Major Sponsors. These businesses will be listed in our Parish Canticle for one year as preferred providers.

Week at a Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, January 12	12:00pm 12:15pm	School Room 102 Parish Center Mtg Room	RCIA Teens Living Rosary Group
Monday, January 13	4:00pm 6:00pm 8:00pm	School Music Room Parish Center Mtg Room Parish Center Gym	Junior Choir CREDO Men's Basketball
Tuesday, January 14	7:00pm 7:00pm	Rectory Church	RCIA Spanish Holy Hour
Wednesday, January 15	9:00am 7:00pm 7:00pm	Parish Center Mtg Room Parish Center Gym School Room 117	Mission Ladies Boys Church League Teen Seekers
Thursday, January 16	5:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm	School Music Room Parish Center Gym School Music Room	Children's Choir Rehearsal Boys Church League Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, January 17			
Saturday, January 18	3:30pm 5:00pm	Parish Center Gym Narthex	Boys Church League Respect Life Commission
Sunday, January 19	7:00am	Narthex	Respect Life Commission

Stewardship Report



YEAR-END STATEMENT BY REQUEST ONLY

As tax time approaches, we ask everyone who would like a year-end statement of their Year 2019 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the office @ (708) 352-6209 with your request. You may also email bkallal@stcletusparish.com and submit your request electronically. Rather than mail statements to everyone in the parish, it seems more prudent and conservative to only mail them to those who need them for tax returns. Of course, your statement is available anytime a need for it may arise. Thank you.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Envelope # _____

Jack Fisherkeller
Helen McMahon
Henry Morlock

Susan Hurley
Robbie O'Shea