

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



Let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth.

— 1 JOHN 3:18



Welcome TO OUR NEW PASTOR!



Fr. Elmer Romero

We look
forward to
welcoming
Fr. Elmer to
St. Cletus
Parish.

ST. CLETUS PARISH | JULY 1, 2021

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Mass Intentions for May 3 - May 9, 2021

Day	Time	Intentions
May 3	8:00am	BC Collins, Edward McNamara
May 4	8:00am	Delphine Marciszewski, Joseph Vieceli, Agnes Meske, Edward McNamara
May 5	8:00am	Edward McNamara
May 6	8:00am	Bill Bolton, Edward McNamara
May 7	8:00am	Nan Rettig, Edward McNamara
May 8	5:00pm	Delphine Marciszewski, Joseph & Kay Klemak, Michael Ohlinger, Patricia Hays, John Battistoni, Ed Stec, Mary Suchy, Agnes Meske, Special Intention of CCW Members
May 9	7:15am	Maria Wisniewski, George Duda, Stacy Baker, Barbara Rains, Ola Maveety, Gert Kovel
	8:45am	Josephine Sorrentino, Rose Haddad, Lena Crispino, Amalie Moravec, Rosemarie Gallagher, Stanko Marasovic, Shirley Funk
May 9	10:30am	Fran Chafetz, Ann Connelly, Dolores Murphy, Bill Bolton, Jeannie Adolf, Michael Lombardo
	12:30pm	St. Cletus Parishioners

MOTHERS DAY COLLECTION



There will be a second collection at all masses next weekend, May 8-9, for Catholic Charities. Please give what you can this Mother's Day to the second collection by placing your gift in the envelope provided, giving online at www.catholicharities.net, or by texting HOPE to 878787, Thank you.

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.

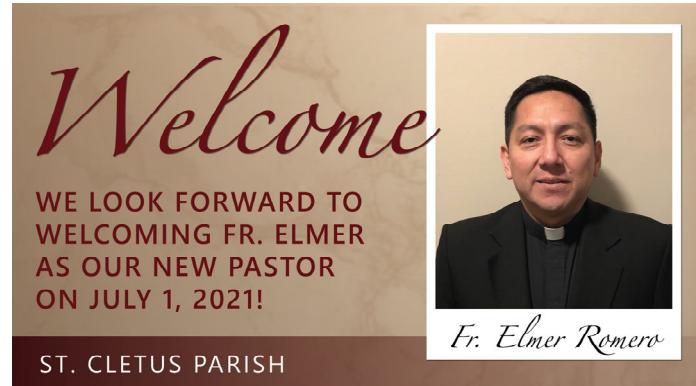
April - Laurie Stewart, Catherine Cosgrove

March - Ed Kuchta, Frank Niwa, Joanna Polanski, Gladys Vaci, Tom Valenti

February - Virginia Klecka, Montana Jennings, Judy McLean, Ginny Skibbe, Mary Ann Vokurka, Sandra Eckrich, Marilyn Kornau, Maria Matayka, Kevin Peck, Patricia Rodey, Laura Terrazino, Patrick Wingert

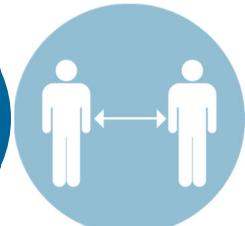
Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

WELCOME FR. ELMER ROMERO



ONLINE SIGN UP REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All worship opportunities require that you pre-register. No walk-ins allowed. The sign up links can be found on our website, stcletusparish.com. If you don't have internet access you can call the parish office for assistance at 708.352.6209. Recordings of masses are available on the St. Cletus Parish YouTube channel.



Notes from Fr. Bob...

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Karl Rahner SJ, one of the great theologians of the last century, wrote many books in which he tried to make sense of the Catholic faith for his contemporaries. That's what a theologian has to do. Towards the end of his life he wrote an influential essay on the future of the Christian faith. It began with this provocative statement: "The Christian of the future will either be a 'mystic'...or...will cease to be anything at all."

Did he mean that we must all have visions like St. Teresa of Avila? Karl Rahner thought that the old Catholic culture that he had known as a boy was fast disappearing, eroded by an increasingly secular world. It meant that the average Christian could not depend on a Christian culture that everyone took for granted. So he thought that unless Christians had a deep and personal experience of God they would not be able to keep up the practice of their faith. That is all he meant by saying that each person needed to be a mystic. No matter how big the institutional Church seems to be, if its members do not have in them the life blood of a personal encounter with God, then it will wither away.

Jesus took for granted that his Jewish faith needed laws and institutions like the Temple if it was going to transmit its message to the next generation. And so he knew that his Church must be built on the rock of Peter; then God would preserve it from all its enemies. But in today's Gospel, he tells his disciples at the Last Supper that if they are to survive they must remain close to him. He takes the image of the vineyard, which was used to represent Israel in the Old Testament, and in a sense identifies himself with it by saying: I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser."

If the disciples are to survive then they must be branches of Jesus, the vine. And just as a vine is pruned to make it more fruitful, the disciples will also grow by being tested in their faith. Jesus tells them to remain close to him and have the living sap flowing in their branches, or else they will shrivel up. He insists that at the heart of their faith there is this close personal relationship with him: "Make your home in me, as I make mine in you." As they are united in Christ so they will be united through him to the Father. But this experience is not just for special members of the Church, like the apostles. The Spirit is given to everyone. All are called to have this "mystic" experience of being so close to Christ in their daily life that they produce good fruit.

It is easy to get carried along by externals. The Church is essential to our faith. We cannot say, as some do, that we want Jesus but not the Church. In the Creed we affirm our belief in Jesus Christ and also in "one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church." The institutional Church is a key part

of our
faith, but there
is always the danger of
just going through the motions and
dying on the vine. The institution will shrivel unless its
members have the sap of the living Christ flowing
through them.

As Karl Rahner pointed out, it is much more difficult now to be carried along by other people's faith in a society that is both secular and often hostile to our beliefs. How can we produce the fruit that will show that Christ's Church is alive and well? We do not need to be mystics like some of the great saints, but to make sure our practice of the faith, whether it is going to Mass or saying our prayers, is firmly based on a close personal relationship with Jesus. We don't at first have to do anything but rather to be at peace in his presence, to allow him to dwell in us. Then we can share a deep communion with him as we receive his body and blood in the Eucharist. If we change the image from sap, we could say that his real presence in his blood gives us new life. If we do have this close relationship of the branch to the "true vine," then it will produce good fruits especially in the way we love God and one another.

Alleluia!



*Fr. Bob,
Pastor*

Social Concerns Ministry



ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY THURSDAYS 6-8PM

Most needed at this time:

- Kleenex
- Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies
- Flavored rice/noodles
- 2 lb dry pinto beans
- Canned pasta
(spaghettios, ravioli, etc)

Please look for the FOOD PANTRY DONATION bin near the Rectory door, they will be checked daily.



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 UPDATE



Boy Scout Troop #3177 stopped for a photo between unloading ALLLLLLL of the donations they collected as part of the "Scouting for Food Drive". Thank you for all of your hard work!



We were thrilled when Hodgkins Library reached out to donate books! The library thoughtfully pre packed bags of books, bookmarks, and erasers specifically designed for either Young Adults or Youth.



Our friends and neighbors at St. John of the Cross Parish donated 140 bags of food to the pantry this month! WOW! Thank you so much for your consistent support!

AREA RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Please join us for our annual Mother's Day Baby Shower Collection for Women's Care Center in La Grange. Again, this year we will be donating directly to WCC (instead of hosting a church drop off). Please check out their list of most needed items so we can make the biggest impact! Thank you!

Mother's Day Baby Shower

Thursday, May 6 | 9:00-1:00
Monday, May 10 | 1:00 - 5:00

How to Donate: 1) Go to Women's Care Center: 136 N. LaGrange Rd. La Grange, IL 60525. 2) Pull up to the back door for drop off. 3) Place items on the back porch.



LETTER FROM GRACE BERGER - BIKING FOR BABIES

Dear Friends and Family,

I have been invited and chosen to be a part of such a movement with an organization called Biking for Babies. This will be my 2nd year riding with them, and I could not be more excited. The mission of Biking for Babies is to renew the Culture of Life, one pedal stroke and one pregnancy resource center at time, by increasing PRC awareness, raising financial and spiritual support, and forming young adults, like myself, into pro-life missionaries. This July, I have a special opportunity to travel across the country, from Columbus, OH to St. Louis, MO to bring awareness to centers across the country that help women who find themselves in crisis pregnancies. Donations can be made online at www.bikingforbabies.com; or make checks payable to "Biking for Babies," with **my name** in the **memo** line. If you are unable to donate at this time, I ask for your prayers as I travel on this mission, especially on the hills, and for the mothers and babies I ride for.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely in Christ, Grace V. Berger

Ministry News

BOOK DISCUSSION



For the next book discussion, we are reading **Saints for All Occasions** by J. Courtney Sullivan. We will meet on June 8, 2021 at 7 PM. The location will be announced in the Canticle beforehand. As always, all are welcome. Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

WORD OF LIFE



“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

USCCB Respect Life flyer quoting Pope Francis’ “Day for Life Greeting” © 2013 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

Job Search: How to Keep On, Keepin' ON!

Join us on Thursday, May 20 from 7:00-8:30 via Zoom. We all know a job search is tough and it's *really* tough to Keep On, Keepin' On in the middle of Covid and no response from the recruiter who promised to contact you within two days, eight days ago! But you can do it! Our speaker, Conor Cunneen will provide you with down to earth, implementable AND memorable concepts to help you Keep On, Keepin' On. This is a program that WILL help you feel better about yourself during the job search...and more confident during the interview. Connor will also specifically address the issue that no corporate entity admits exists, yet every boomer has to address - Ageism. Conor is a recipient of the President's Gold Medal for Volunteer Service for the work he does with those in a job search; also a Chicago Humerous Speaker of the Year, so you can be assured of a fun, yet meaningful and helpful presentation. Connor has presented on many occasions to ICN to genuinely rave reviews. Don't miss this one!

The link to this Zoom meeting can be found on our website at <http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.org/> calendar. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost to attend.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING

Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? Visit www.stcletusparish.com and click the “DONATE” BUTTON. Then click Sunday donations. If you have questions, call Mary Zwolinski at 708-352-6209.

PRAY THE ROSARY TODAY AT 2:00

The Living Rosary is hosting an AT HOME joint recitation of the Rosary in honor of Mary during May. We cannot gather over the weekend at church yet but this way we can unite our prayers and praise. So at 2:00 TODAY, AT HOME, pray as many of the 20 decades as you can. Mary will welcome our prayers and hear our intentions.

We will continue to meet each Wednesday at 1:00 in the church to pray one set of mysteries together. You can sign up on the St. Cletus website or just come and sign in when you arrive. Joining our prayers together, whether we are physically present at church or spiritually together from our homes, is a very moving gift of love and faith, placing ourselves and our intentions in Mary's care. God bless and keep us all in these difficult times.

If you would like further information on the Living Rosary, call Mary Lu Gebka at 630-430-3338 or stop by on Wednesdays at 1:00.

SURVEY REQUEST - COLLEEN HAGEN

We are all looking forward to the end of this crisis, this pandemic, and a return to normal. There is a good chance that the “new” normal will be different from the normal we, and the rest of the world, were used to. The new normal for the parish will include a new pastor in July and beginning the Renew My Church process. Lots of change, but change can also be opportunity. So as not to go forward blindly but to proceed with intention and direction, it is better to ask people what they are thinking and not assume what people want. A survey is being sent out by email to obtain information about the state of the parish and the state of mind of the parish community. If you do not receive the email or wish to fill out a paper copy, please call the parish office or ask a greeter when you come for mass. Thank you in advance for your help. Colleen Hagen

SCCW

Hello CCW members! We continue to miss all of you but wanted to make sure we send out one more message to stay close this Mother's Day. Check your mailbox or front door during the week of May 3-7 for a little envelope from your CCW board. Hopefully we will be able to meet in person in the near future. In the meantime bless your month of Mary, with joy & good health!

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.

Religious Education

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

This week's Gospel from John continues with the I AM statements of Jesus. This week we hear him say, "I am the true vine." He was trying to help us understand the value of being connected to him by faith. Helping children understand this statement can be challenging, because many of them have never seen a grapevine in person. Maybe a simple way of helping them to understand this is to talk about a lamp in your home. A lamp cannot give out light unless it is connected to a power source. It needs to be "plugged in" in order to work properly and provide light to those who need it. Similarly, we need to be "plugged in" or "connected" to Jesus in order to live properly and be a light to the world.

This is our second weekend of First Communion Masses. We are so blessed to have 100 children celebrate with us,

for the first time, at the Table of the Lord. Another of Jesus' I AM statements is "I am the Bread of Life". This bread of life discourse focuses on Jesus as true and complete gift to us. In the Eucharist, Jesus is food and drink for the world. As we receive this gift, we in turn become food and drink for the world. As Jesus gives himself to us, so we must in turn give ourselves away to our neighbor and to the world. That's the crazy thing about love, the more we give, the more we are filled with love. I pray that our children always approach the Eucharist with the same wonder and awe that they did on their First Communion day, each day that they come to Mass. May we, as adults, receive this Eucharistic gift and then become the gift to others. Please continue to pray for all of our First Communicants that they always remain this close to Jesus, and that they continue to join us at the table each week.



Parents Prayer for our Children

Father, you give each one of us a special life and love in our families.

It is through the experience of sharing and growing together
that we deepen our experience of you.

As we join with our children in this time of preparation
before they celebrate the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time,
we ask You to be with us in the power and gift of Your Spirit.
We ask you to encourage all of us to be aware of the wonder
of Your Sacramental gift and to deepen our union with You
and with one another in and through Jesus, Your Son.

Amen.

Children Celebrating First Eucharist



Please pray for these children who will join us at the Table of the Lord for the first time on April 24th, May 1st and May 2nd. May God bless them on their First Communion day, and every day.

Olivia Acevez	Brendan Flood	Francisco Mendez
George Alexa	Kate Flood	Elizabeth Morales
Alan Barrios	Kayla Fry	Emory Morelock
Felix Belcak	Owen Garbe	Nina Musillami
Joseph Beyers	Keylin Garcia	Isabella Navarrete
Alexander Bravo	Carlos Garcia-Martinez	Christian Nino
Thomas Brennan	Mayte Garcia-Martinez	Abigail Nunez
Nora Bresnahan	Emily Gierut	Natalia Ochoa
Calvin Brockob	Nina Godinez	William O'Connor
Michael Budde	Logan Gonzalez-Ruiz	Jameson O'Farrell
Hannah Burtelson	Estacy Guzman	Michael Olewinski
Bradley Buttron	Osleidy Guzman	Benjamin Percival
Steven Bylina	Ellen Hennessy	Maya Pickering
Axel Campos	Ansel Hernandez	Jayden Ramirez
Paul Carin	Tim Jankowski	Stephanie Ramirez
Juliette Castillo Lopez	Gabrielle Keene	Connor Sand
Gabriel Cepek	Bennett Kirchens	Ann Marie Schaffer
Brianna Cervantes	Jimmy Kopp	Alexandra Schuda
Dylan Chowaniec	Erin Kress	Zoey Schuda
Maxwell Cooper	Maeve Kursell	Abbie Serritella
Cade Corbett	Santiago Lobos	Evan Sladek
Nolan Courtright	Madison Machalinski	Emiliano Solis
Devin Diaz de Leon	Lucy Magee	Benjamin Strozak
Diego Diaz de Leon	Max Magee	Ava Swanson
Madelyn DiOrio	Ailin Martinez	Kailey Tapalla
Matthew Dixon	Evelyn Martinez	Michael Ticknor, Jr.
Liam Duffy	Alma Martinez	Mila Tokic
Nicole Episcopo	Alfonso Martinez Gallegos	Soleil Valverde
Nolan Farnsworth	Nicholas Mc Manus	Vanessa Velazquez
Ben Fitzgerald	Brody Mc Neil	Owen Yarbrough
	Adam Mc Nichols	

St. Cletus School

Greg Porod, Principal
708) 352-4820 | gporod@stcletusparish.com

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

SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS

We are so proud of all of our 7th grade for their work on History Fair projects!

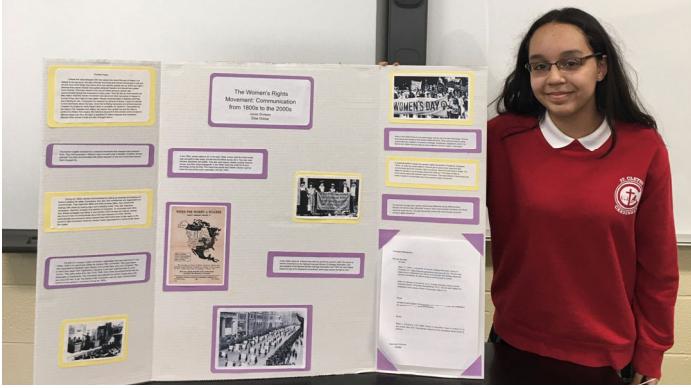
Congratulations to the students that will advance to the State Competition! Well done and good luck!



Jason Garza, Oliver De Santiago, Nathan Sosne



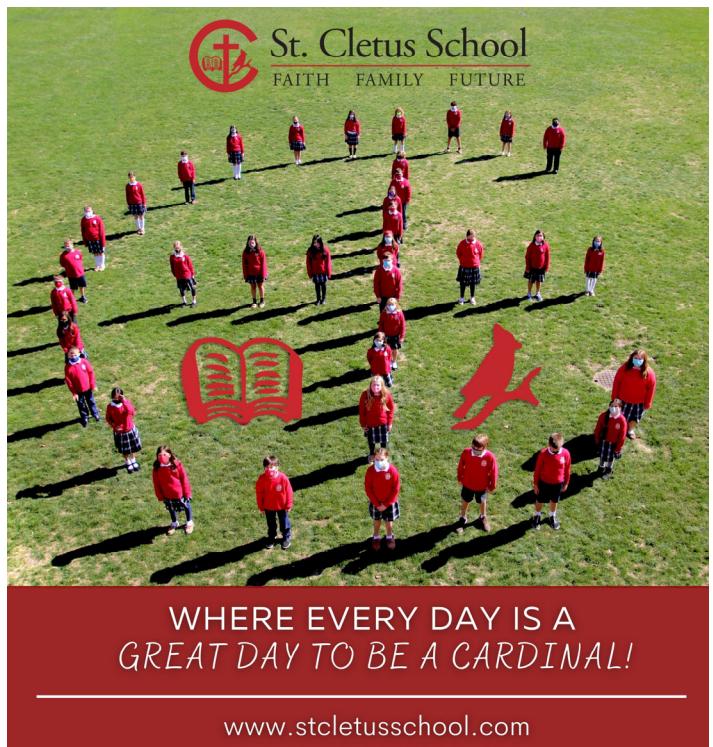
Anthony Lopez, Darragh O'Keefe , Michael Russell, Brian Solis, Joey Sweeney



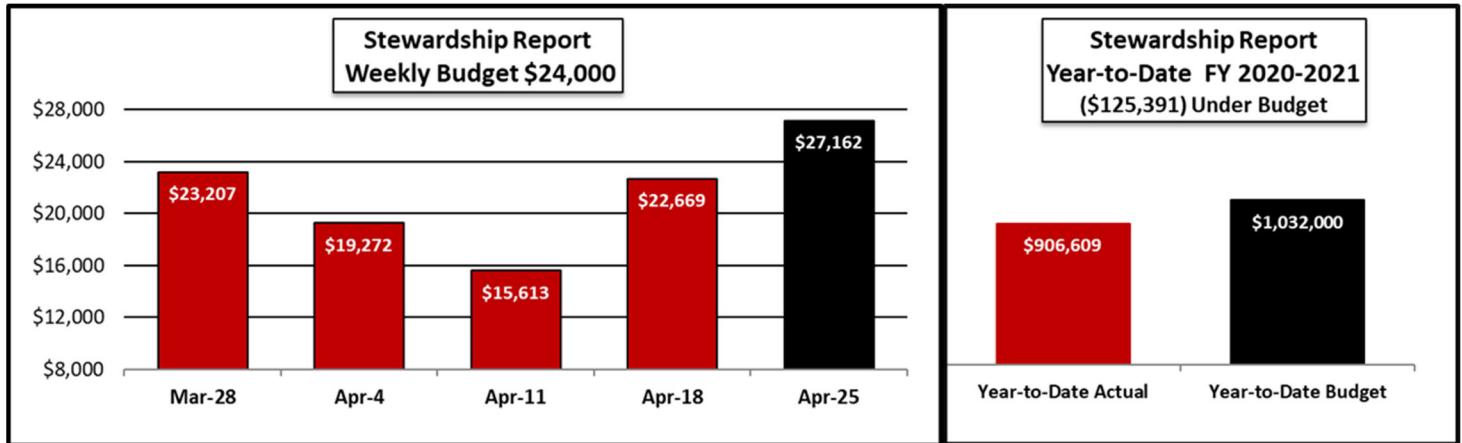
Elise Ochoa

FEAST OF ST. CLETUS

Our students celebrated the Feast of St. Cletus this week by learning more about our patron saint.



Stewardship Report



Sunday Notes

BEARING FRUIT

Few of us, even when we meditate on the image of the vine and branches, stop to really think about how God “prunes” us. For some there is the danger of thinking that we are already producing fruit for the kingdom, in deed and truth as John says, perhaps raising a family, being active in our parish, and so on. But even those branches which are bearing fruit, the Gospel tells us, can be pruned to produce still more. Today Saul, freshly “pruned” by his conversion, arrives in Jerusalem and meets resistance. Since he had been persecuting Christians, this was only natural. But even after he is accepted and begins to bear fruit, he meets further adversity, and his letters are filled with many accounts of how his trials “pruned” him to produce greater fruit for the kingdom. Like him, as long as we remain in Christ we will continue to bear fruit and, when the will of the Father determines it is time to prune us, the strength of the true vine must enable us to endure it.

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Barnabas reported to the apostles how Saul had seen the Lord on the way (Acts 9:26-31).

Psalm — I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people (Psalm 22).

Second Reading — This is God's commandment: that we may believe and love (1 John 3:18-24).

Gospel — I am the true vine; whoever remains in me will bear much fruit (John 15:1-8).

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21;

Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21
 Sunday: Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48; Ps 98:1-4;
 1 Jn 4:7-10 or 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 15:9-17

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Fifth Sunday of Easter
Monday:	Ss. Philip and James
Wednesday:	Cinco de Mayo
Thursday:	National Day of Prayer
Friday:	First Friday

FEAST OF FAITH

The Homily - The ambo, or pulpit, is a special place—it is the place for God's word. That is why it is not used for all the spoken words of the Mass, even important words like the collects and the blessing. The ambo is only used for the scripture readings, and for the homily and the prayer of the faithful.

The homily is part of the Liturgy of the Word. It flows from the readings we have just heard, and helps us to understand the way in which God is speaking to us today. The homily is not a lecture, a catechism lesson, or a speech. It is more like an exhortation; it has an urgency about it, for it calls us to find ourselves in the scripture, to live the faith we profess, to see our world by the light of the Gospel. The homily, in itself a response to God's word, demands a response from us. There are many styles of preaching and many ways to respond to the scriptures. But whether the homily is weak or strong, an open ear and an open heart can find in it an abundance of spiritual nourishment.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

St. Cletus Parish Information

CONTACT US

Parish Center	(708) 352-6209
Español	(708) 215-5440
School	(708) 352-4820
www.stcletusparish.com.....	 stcletuschurch

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Please note that all deliveries and inquiries should be made to the parish center office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.

Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday	Closed

MASSES

Saturday Evening	5:00 p.m.
Sunday	7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)
Weekdays	Mon. thru Fri. 8:00 a.m.

We continue to offer daily Mass online and our 5pm Vigil Mass is livestreamed each Saturday. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel and click the bell icon to be notified of the latest videos. You can also find the link on our website and Facebook page.

CONFESIONS

Confessions First Saturday of the Month 8:30-9:15 a.m.
Must call parish offices to schedule a reservation.

BAPTISMS

Parents must be registered parishioners. Please make arrangements by calling Bobbie Kallal at (708) 352-6209.

WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date. Contact Bobbie Kallal (708) 352-6209.

HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

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

STAFF

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Robert Clark, Pastor
Rev. Kenneth Baker, Associate Pastor
Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa Cadena, Associate Pastor
Rev. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, Deacon Couple

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship (708) 215-5422
Karen Ziomba, Music Ministry (708) 215-5423
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

HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF (708) 215-5440
Fr. Lorenzo Gamboa Cadena, Head of Hispanic Ministry

SCHOOL STAFF (708) 352-4820
Gregory Porod, Principal
Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal
Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant
Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383
Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education
Paulette Bolton, Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship

PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209
Bobbie Kallal, Human Resources/Records
Mary Zwolinski, Parish Accounting
Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor
Kadie Lestarczyk, Parish Assistant
Daria Sawicki, Parish Assistant

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

PastorFr. Bob Clark
ChairpersonBob Wasik

MEMBERS

Bob Malham
Kevin Hogan
Mike Napleton

LIAISONS

FSA PresidentRhonda Aumann
Athletic Association.....Tina Pryor

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.

PARISH MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Experience the Difference
922 S LaGrange Rd. | La Grange, IL 60525
708.352.4500
6855 W North Ave. | Oak Park, IL 60302
708.848.5900



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Your Parish in Your Will.
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ENGLERT
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for FREE*

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- Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters
- Durable, all-weather tested system not a flimsy attachment

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