

# St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter



Friday, March 24, 2023

Dear Parents,

This Sunday is the fifth Sunday of Lent. On this day our Gospel tells the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead.

When he raises Lazarus from the dead, we hear those powerful words cried out in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here, come out. Unbind him, let him go free.

In this Gospel, we renew our hope in Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life who helps us to walk towards Easter, and know the joy of his being raised from the dead, and our new life as adopted children of God the Father.

To hear a reflection of this week's Gospel, click on the link. [Gospel Reflection](#)

## Family Mass

While there are no classes this week, we are inviting all of our Faith Formation Families to join us for the celebration of the Liturgy at the 10:30 a.m. Mass, this Sunday, March 26.

We hope you will join us.

## Hospitality Weekend

This weekend is Hospitality Weekend. Our Faith Formation Program is sponsoring the hospitality this month. ***We are in need of volunteers to help us staff the hospitality after the Masses this weekend.***

WE ARE IN THE NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE SERVING. We are asking our Faith Formation Families to help us. We need help following the 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and after the 7:15, 8:45, 10:30, and 12:30 on Sunday. Please consider helping, it is an opportunity for us to introduce the Faith Formation Program and Families to the larger parish.



## [Hospitality Weekend - Faith Formation](#)

Please review the available slots below and click on the button

To sign up. Thank you!

[www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

## Please Join Us

All are invited to these upcoming Parish events:

### CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

- All St. Cletus parishioners are invited to a tri-parish Reconciliation Service at St. Francis Xavier Parish on Saturday, March 25; at 10:00 a.m.
- The tri-parish Reconciliation Service hosted at St. Cletus will be on Monday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m.
- Remember, St. Cletus offers the sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday from 8:30 until 9:15.



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF  
*Prayer & Reflection*

**THEME:**  
**APPROPRIATING  
THE SPIRIT OF  
CHRIST:**

"And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you."  
(Romans 6:10-11 )



#### SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

**Fr. Anthony Muraya, STL, PhD**

Fr. Muraya, is originally from Kenya, and a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago since 2012. Has served the archdiocese as an associate pastor

at St. Paul of the Cross in Park Ridge and currently is seminary formator and an Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of St. Mary of the Lake-Mundelein Seminary.

The third born in a family of nine (six boys and three sisters). Fr. Muraya grew up Lutheran on his father's side of the family. He converted to Catholicism at 14 years of age. The real culprit of his change was his maternal grandmother, a true matriarch if ever there was one, to whom he owes his life, faith, and vocatio. As formator, he relishes the opportunity to accompany seminarians in their discernment adventure. As pastor, he looks forward to be part of vibrant faith communities at the parish on weekends.

#### OUTLINE

- 7:00 PM** Opening Song
- 7:05 PM** Welcome and introduction of special guest speaker
- 7:10 PM** Reflection by Fr. Anthony Murray
- 7:50 PM** Personal silent reflection
- 7:55 PM** Meditation song
- 8:00 PM** Conversation with Fr. Anthony Muraya
- 8:20 PM** Acknowledgments/Thank you!
- 8:25 PM** Pray togetherThe Lord's Prayer/Blessings
- 8:30 PM** Closing song



**MARCH 29, 2023**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**

FOLLOW US



## Calendar

Just a reminder this week in lieu of classes our Faith Formation Program will participate in the Family Mass. Classes will not be in session next Sunday, April 2, Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday, April 9.

Our next class will be in session on Sunday, April 16 and Monday, April 17.

## Volunteer Opportunity

Just a reminder, the St. Cletus Holy Name Society will be hosting the *Walter Klimcke Pan Cake Breakfast* on Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Palm Sunday). They are asking our 8, 7, & 6 graders to volunteer to assist at the breakfast.

Student service hours will be credited for time worked. Seventh & Sixth graders may use the volunteer time toward Confirmation. A sign-up form is included with the newsletter. Please bring completed forms to the school office or email back to [lmanetti@stcletusparish.com](mailto:lmanetti@stcletusparish.com). **(Note: the 9:30 a.m. Mass has been filled).**

## St. Cletus Food Pantry: BIG NEWS!

Beginning in April, we will be expanding our food pantry distribution hours. Our new hours will be 4:00-8:00pm. Therefore, **we need more volunteers! We are adding a new volunteer session every Thursday from 3:15-5:15pm.** This is perfect for students' right after school, but we definitely need adults during this shift, as well! Volunteers must be 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. This will double our Thursday night volunteer opportunities, we hope you can join us. Sign up is now available at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

## Take Part in Our Parish Wide Survey

Thank you to all who have responded! The deadline for completing on-line and/or returning all paper surveys is this Friday, March 31. All family members, 8th grade and up, are asked to individually participate. Only 5 days left to let your opinions be heard! All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole. Select one of these ways to access the survey:

Please take some time to participate.

[Take Survey](#)

## For Our Kids!

Catholic Kid's Media: Lazarus, come out! A fun Catholic reflection for kids based on the readings for the 5th week in Lent. To view click the link: [Readings for Sunday](#)

## **Fun Activities for Children**

[Gospel Activity for Fifth Sunday of Lent](#)

[Sunday Gospel Coloring Page](#)

[Sunday Gospel Word Search](#)

A few weeks ago we mentioned that it was the Blessed Virgin who made the first Way of the Cross. But who is credited with spreading the custom throughout the world?

### **Who Spread the Stations of the Cross throughout the world?**

St. Leonard of Port Maurice promoted the Stations in a way no one else had done before.

Jerusalem was a long way away. It took months for a healthy, lucky pilgrim to reach its walls and reverently follow the Stations of the Cross. And healthy, lucky pilgrims were comparatively few.

St. Leonard of Port Maurice mused over this, casting his mind's eye over the miles and miles of land and sea between Italy—where he lived—and Jerusalem. How he wished that he and all Catholics might venerate the Stations! Not in a distant, unfamiliar fashion, but with a devotion that was very vibrant and close to their hearts—and close to their homes.

Well, there was only one thing to be done. And Leonard did it.

The saintly Franciscan was a missionary, as were most Franciscans. From 1708 until his death forty-three years later, he traveled Italy, preaching. Everywhere he went, Leonard promoted special devotion to the Stations of the Cross. Many of his fellow Franciscans assisted him in this work.

That is not all he did, however.

As he traveled, Leonard *built* replicas of the Stations so that Catholics could follow Our Lord's path to Golgotha with concrete steps and depictions.

Leonard erected 572 Stations of the Cross throughout Italy. The most famous of these are the Stations in the Coliseum, where the Vatican's Good Friday service has been held for nearly 300 years.

Have A Great Week!

God Bless,

Lawrence Manetti  
Director of Faith Formation

Hector Obregon-Luna  
Associate Director of Faith Formation