

# St. Cletus Faith Formation Newsletter

Friday, April 21, 2023



Dear St. Cletus Families,

This Sunday we hear the Gospel story of THE ROAD TO EMMAUS. The Road to Emmaus tells of two men are traveling to Emmaus just days after the [crucifixion of Jesus](#) when a third man "drew near to them." Together they walked and discussed the life of Jesus of Nazareth.

When the men get to Emmaus and join in supper, the third man is recognized as Jesus himself as he broke and blessed the bread. Jesus then vanished. The Gospel of the Road to Emmaus serve as one of many post-resurrection appearances of Jesus, it is a lesson for us today that we can look to the Scriptures to see how God's plan has unfolded. Let Us Pray:

Living God,

Long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever.

Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Amen.

## Altar Servers

St. Cletus is inviting children presently in grades 4 – 8 to consider being an Altar Server. Being an Altar Server is a special ministry of service that children can perform for their parish. Through active participation in the Mass as a server; children develop a better understanding and appreciation of the power of the Mass.

A letter of invitation along with a flyer inviting children to a special Information Session on June 17, 2023.

## Calendar

Please remember, this week, April 23 - 24, our classes are in session.

Next week, April 30 – May 1 is the last session of our Formation Year.

We will celebrate the First Communion of our children on May 6 at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p. m. And on Sunday, May 7 in Spanish at the 12:30 p.m. Mass. Please pray for our First Communicants and their families as they take this important step in their spiritual lives.

### St. Cletus Food Pantry: BIG NEWS!

Remember, our hours for the food pantry have been expanded. 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#/>

### Mother's Day Baby Shower & Carnation Sale

Mother's Day Weekend (May 13-14) the Area Respect Life Ministry will be collecting donations for Women's Care Center in La Grange. Please see their Wish List for the most needed items and bring them to Mass with you!

### Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for volunteers to help sell flowers after all the Masses May 13-14. This opportunity is appropriate for middle school and up, adults welcome. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-mothers#/>.

### First Communion

First Communion families, remember the First Communion Banners should be turned into the Faith Formation Office by April 26. If you need information about the banner, please contact the Faith Formation Office.

We will be rehearsing for our First Communion Ceremonies. Presently they are scheduled for Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the Church for the 10:00 a.m. Mass and on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for the 1:00 p.m. Mass. We also ask that those attending the Spanish Mass to come at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 5.

## **Spiritual Resources**

A word about the resources, I include the resources weekly to assist you in your role as the primary Catechist. My hope is that you will find one or two of the activities useful in promoting discussion and faith sharing with your children.

### **Sunday Readings and Resources for our children:**

*Catholic Kids Media* – The Road to Emmaus! A fun Catholic reflection for kids based on the readings for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter, cycle A. [Third Sunday of Easter.](#)

### **Kid's Corner: Click on the links below for some fun with this week's Gospel**

[Fun With the Gospel](#)

[Gospel Coloring Page](#)

[Help Jesus and his Disciples find Emmaus](#)

[Double Word Search Puzzle](#)

## *Note*

Our Formation Year ends next Sunday and Monday, April 30 & May 1. Hector and I will be meeting latter in the week to discuss our Faith Formation Program for next year.

One thing we know; at least two additional sessions will be added to the Formation year, this will put us more in-line with what the office of Life Long Formation is asking.

Another question is the time: Do we continue with 10:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Sundays or move it up to 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.? As I mentioned last week, with the desire to establish a Parish Family Mass at 10:30 a.m., does the time change or do we not schedule classes on those Sundays?

Our Monday night classes seem to be working fine, so we do not anticipate any changes except for adding two sessions. If anyone has any thoughts, please contact me. I am always willing to listen to ideas that can enhance our program.

Once we have a definite calendar, we will be send out the registration information for 2023 – 2024 Faith Formation Year.

Have A Great Week!

God Bless,

Lawrence Manetti  
Director of Faith Formation

Hector Obregon-Luna  
Associate Director of Faith Formation