

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.
— 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN ADVENT

- Daily Mass** 8:00am
- Confessions** 4:15pm Saturdays (Except Dec. 23rd)
- Christmas Novena** (in Spanish)
 - Dec. 16-20 7:00pm in Church
 - Dec. 21-22 7:00pm in Parish Center Meeting Room
 - Dec. 23 7:00pm in Morrissey Hall

Holy Hour & Adoration

Dec. 19 6:00-7:00pm

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 23/ 24*

Saturday: 5:00pm (no 4:15pm Confessions on Dec. 23)
Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
 and 11:00am (Spanish Mass)

*There is no 12:30pm Mass on Dec. 24, 11am is in Spanish

Christmas Eve Sunday, December 24

| | | |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| 2:00pm | Church | Chamber Ensemble |
| 2:15pm | PC-Fr. Clark Hall | Cantor/Piano |
| 3:30pm | Church | Children's Choir |
| 3:45pm | PC-Fr. Clark Hall | Cantor/Piano |
| 5:30pm | Church | Chamber Ensemble |
| 7:00pm | Church (Spanish) | Hispanic Choir |
| 10:30pm | Church | Chancel Choir |
| (10:00-10:30pm Christmas Carols prior to Mass) | | |

Christmas Day Monday, December 25

| | | |
|---------|--------|-------------------------------|
| 7:00am | Church | Organ/Congregational Caroling |
| 8:00am | Church | Cantor/Piano |
| 9:30am | Church | Chancel Choir |
| 11:00am | Church | Cantor |

*Please note there is no 12:30pm Mass on Dec. 25



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Mass Intentions for the Week of December 18 - December 24, 2017

| Day | Presider (subject to change) | Time | Intentions |
|-----------|--|---|--|
| Monday | Fr. Baker | 8:00 a.m. | Bob Thomas |
| Tuesday | Fr. Gamboa | 8:00 a.m. | Shirley Sharkey |
| Wednesday | Fr. Clark | 8:00 a.m. | Daniel Scatena, Mary C. Burns |
| Thursday | Fr. Baker | 8:00 a.m. | Kim Zwolinski |
| Friday | Fr. Clark | 8:00 a.m. | Amy Evans, Special Intention - Laura Brooks |
| Saturday | Fr. Baker Fr. Clark | 8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. | Henry & Anna Pleszka, Ted Szlezak Angelo Cumbo, Joseph Naponiello, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Edmund Pilarski, Vera Martinez, Dennis Gabriel, Mother of Alicia Ghera, Dorothy and John Walsh, Maria and Sam Scopelliti |
| Sunday | Fr. Gamboa Fr. Clark Fr. Baker Fr. Gamboa | 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. | St. Cletus Parishioners Stacy Baker, Edward Stec Sr., Marilyn Matesevac Florence Wiencek, Michael Wiencek, Albert Wiencek, Laura Wiencek Gene Kennedy, Kadlec Family, Marilyn Matesevac |

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

Mary Ann Wuchek

May she rest in peace. Amen.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND



This weekend there will be a second collection to support the Living our Faith, Building our Future Capital Campaign. This final phase will complete our parish center and secure St. Cletus' future. We are calling all parishioners to give their time, efforts, and talent for this final initiative. Please support our parish community's legacy of stewardship and help us complete our parish center. Thank you for your generosity.

WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS

Please welcome to our parish family:

Bridget & Conor Howard Family

MaryAnn Gorchos

If you have been attending St. Cletus, but have not registered as a parishioner, please consider the commitment of parish membership.



Marriage Banns

Ashley Cuppari & Jim Cirese

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.

December - Kyle Marsden, Frank Colonna, Peter May

November - Anne Bermier, Chuck Harwood, Denise Hradecky, Peter May, Isabel McKeegan, Eileen R. Peters, Kay Petalick, Larry Schmitz, Chris Tosheff, Jean Weekley

October - Jenna Zimmerman, Evelyn Ulfig, Joy Wettstein, Nathaniel Scheyerer, Gerda E. Dorso, Connie Monzel, Maria Elena Serrano, Ginny Skibbe, Carol Wittowski, Frank Colonna, Jenna Zimmerman, Emily Devine, Catherine Troyner, Patricia Rodey, Alice Katzmarek, Baby William Eric Anderson, Otto Stuckman, Laura Terrazino, Gerda E. Dorzo, Maryann Scalise, Kris Kahn, Peter May, Frank Niwa

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

Notes from Fr. Bob...

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

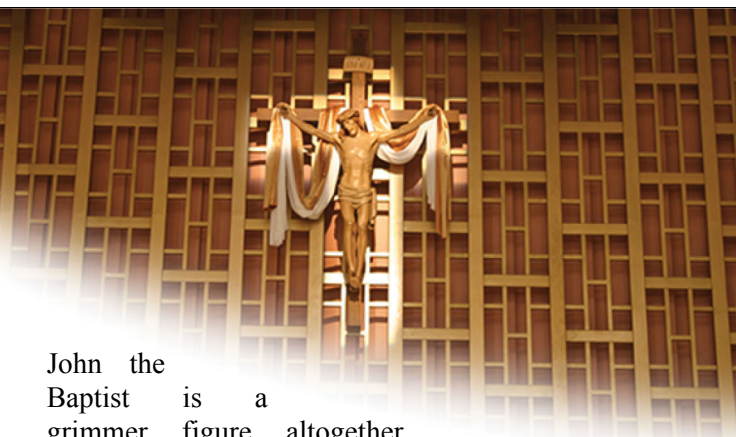
“Everybody’s happy now,” Henry said. “Yes, everybody’s happy now, repeated Lenina. They had heard the words over and over again, a hundred and fifty times a night for twelve years.

Happiness is important in Aldous Huxley’s *BRAVE NEW WORLD*, the futuristic satire on science and progress. In the book, children are brainwashed from an early age to believe they are happy. And where brainwashing does not convince, SOMA takes over. SOMA is a drug which induces a feeling of wellbeing. It protects the inhabitants of *BRAVE NEW WORLD* from anxiety, from thinking unhappy thoughts. In a parody of a communion service, SOMA is consumed by the worshippers, and happiness is the result. But there are the misfits who have their doubts. They suspect that there is more to happiness, and as they discover the truth, they suffer.

BRAVE NEW WORLD is funny, far-fetched, and wholly frightening. It is a penetrating look at modern science-driven society, taking current trends to their logical conclusions. The POSSIBILITY of it all is what alarms. Cloned human beings, chemically engineered, brainwashed and drugged. People taught over and over again that they live in a world with the supreme values of “Community, Identity and Stability”. And above all, they are happy. Surely there is no danger that this nightmare scenario will ever come true?

In the light of the artificial happiness of *BRAVE NEW WORLD*, Paul’s injunction today to “be happy at all times” can seem at best impossible, at worst, sinister. How can we be told to be happy? Surely happiness is a feeling that arises inside us because we have reasons to be happy: we have what we need to live; we have people around us to love; we are aware of our blessings. But Paul is under no illusions. For him, happiness is no easily achieved state; it is not something cheap. Paul is no stranger to suffering. His happiness comes from prayer and from faith.

The prophet Isaiah lived in a time of great political turmoil, was often in danger of his life, and, according to Jewish tradition, was put to death. Yet the spirit of joy which pervades some of his prophecies is equal to that found in any other biblical literature. “I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God.” The presence of the Lord, for Isaiah as for Paul, is the cause of a deep and lasting happiness.



John the Baptist is a grimmer figure altogether.

There would seem to be no joy or happiness in his ministry. But John was driven by the Spirit of the Lord, preparing the way for Jesus. John saw the ugly side of people as they came to him with their sins. He saw the hypocrisy of professional religious people, and angrily denounced it. But anger alone is not enough to drive the prophet. He must have a vision of a better world. He must glimpse glory. He must sense, however fleetingly, true happiness in his soul.

Today’s reading from Isaiah foretells that the time of the Messiah will be one of gladness and rejoicing. It is John the Baptist who ushers in that time. It is he who hands over to Jesus the ministry of forgiveness; it is he who recognizes and proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God. It is he who can rejoice that the time so long foretold has come. Though John will pay with his life for the message he preaches, he can die knowing that his mission is fulfilled. John is a happy man.

There is no point faking happiness: we fool only ourselves. We cannot find true happiness in escape: we merely find distraction from our misery. So *BRAVE NEW WORLD* is not for us. But the happiness of Isaiah can be ours. If we can look at the world through the eyes of the prophet and glimpse it as it is meant to be, we will be inspired and full of praise to God. If we can have the faith of the apostle Paul, for whom Christ was all, then we will have a window into heaven. And glimpsing eternal happiness, we can rejoice on earth. If we can have the integrity and faithfulness of John the Baptist, proclaiming salvation in Christ, then we will have the reward of faithfulness: happiness with God, for ever.

There are no short cuts. Advent teaches us the importance of waiting and watching. Not simply passing time until something happens, but using time creatively to prepare ourselves for the Lord who is with us, yet who is to come. And lest we imagine it is all hard work and sacrifice, we are reminded it is about happiness too.

Advent Happiness,
Fr. Bob, Pastor

Parish School



DATES TO REMEMBER

School Band Concert December 19
 Christmas Break December 23-January 7
 Catholic Schools Week Open House..... January 28

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



Thank you from Girl Scout Troop 50668

Thank you to all that donated coats to the Girl Scout coat drive. You have given the gift of warmth this season. The Community Nurse Association was very grateful for the generous amounts of coats they received.



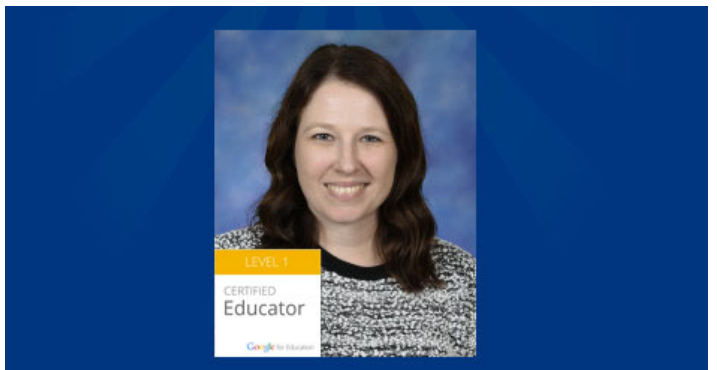
Celebrating St. Nick's Day

St. Nicholas came by for a visit on Decmeber 6th with his elf helpers. All the students received a red and white striped candy cane to enjoy and to remind them of the staff Jesus carried.



Kindergarten Welcomes Advent

Advent is here, when Advent is over, Christmas is here!! Our Kindergarteners have been busy preparing their hearts for Jesus' birthday. The class is preparing to show kindness to everyone. Our students are sharing kind deeds with the class. Some examples are helping clean up after dinner, watering the Christmas tree, holding open doors for people, and carrying in groceries.



Google Certified Educators

Congratulations to Ms. Shupe and Mr. Paul for becoming the most recent Google Certified Educators on staff joining Miss Smith, Miss Overton, Miss Gross, Mrs. Duffy, Mrs. Gridelli, Miss Ortiz, and Mr. Wagner.

We're Almost There...



Living Our Faith, Building Our Future

The Final Phase

Join us for the final effort to complete our beloved parish center.

Our first phase was successful in completing the shell of the building and purchasing some interior furnishings. However, the space is not yet complete. There are still some furnishings that have not been added to this space. Some of these needs include: audio equipment, tables and chairs, commercial grade concessions equipment, security equipment, and stage lighting.

This center has become the focal point and heartbeat of parish life. Join us in addressing the pressing needs of the present and providing stability for the future. We will be inviting every family to participate in our final phase. We have received almost \$300,000 from early gifts! Thank you for your prayers and support.

The Final Phase Will Enhance and Secure Our Most Vital Aspects of Parish Life



Youth



Community



Safety and Innovation

The Breakdown

Goal: \$1.5 million

- St. Cletus was fortunate enough to receive a modest loan, just under \$1,000,000, in order to cover the remaining construction costs of the parish center and to begin furnishing the space. This campaign seeks to pay back that loan and exist debt-free as a parish!
- The estimated cost of the remaining items that need to be purchased in this final phase is \$500,000. This campaign seeks to make the parish center fully functional, so as to better serve the needs of the community.

All the funds raised that surpass our goal will be allocated towards parish savings, so as to secure our church's future.



Social Concerns Ministry

FOOD PANTRY

Most needed at this time:

- Healthy snacks
- \$10 and \$25 Jewel gift cards
- Cereal
- Laundry detergent
- Cooking oil
- Sugar

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!

THANK YOU!

Thanks to Lyons Township High School for the food donation this week! On behalf of the households we serve, THANK YOU and may your Christmas be filled with joy and peace!



Thank you to Del's Moving & Storage for donating a moving truck again this year to help us with gift transportation..

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

GIVING TREE



Food baskets are due this weekend! On Sunday we will be distributing the food baskets, along with Christmas gifts, to our local recipients. Please remember, each tag represents a real family. When you took a tag from the tree, you made a commitment to that person, and to returning your item(s) on time.

♥ **RED TAGS** (food baskets): Bring your **Food Baskets** to **Morrissey Hall** on **Sunday, December 17th from 7:30 AM-11:00 AM.**

Please pull up on STONE AVE. and a volunteer will help unload your donation.

We ask that you securely attach the food basket tag to your package. If your food is in more than one container, if possible please mark the containers 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc. This will be a big help in our organization process.

A HUGE thank you to our volunteers last weekend! We had about 100 different volunteers move and organize (literally) thousands of gifts donated by generous St. Cletus families! Thank you for your donations!

This year we again had a special donation of a moving truck from **Del's Moving & Storage**. Parishioner Randy Balla and his son-in-law helped us carefully transport gifts down to our sharing parish St. Agatha's to distribute to 200 individuals. Thank you!!! (www.delsmovers.com)

Thank you for your continuing generosity to the less fortunate in our community.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



In an emergency, dial 911, call the National Domestic Violence 24-Hour Hotline at 800-799-7233 or the local hotline for Pillars, found in the box below.

You are not alone.

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

CALL THE 24-HOUR PHONE FOR HELP:
708.485.5254



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

WORD OF LIFE

“He is always with us. Jesus promised this when he gave the disciples the same mission he gives to each of us: Go. . . . Walk with each other. Do not be afraid to embrace God’s gift of life. Whatever storms or trials we face, we are not alone. He is with us.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
2017-18 Respect Life Reflection



YOUR PRAYERS MATTER.
YOUR SACRIFICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
9daysforlife.com

9 DAYS FOR LIFE
PRAYER - PEACE - PROMISE

9 DAYS FOR LIFE

Living out Christmas in the New Year How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments?

Each year the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance.

One way to live out the message of Christmas and follow Our Lady’s example is to join 9 Days for Life, a digital pilgrimage of prayer and charitable action from January 18 – 26. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!

HOMELESS PERSONS MEMORIAL

Tuesday, 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 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.

WE ARE CREATED TO DEPEND UPON ONE ANOTHER AND TO WALK TOGETHER IN SUFFERING.

Caring for Loved Ones At Life’s End:
www.goo.gl/fvSEYp

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

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St. Cletus Parish Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 23/ 24*

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am,
and 11:00am (Spanish Mass)

Please note there is no 12:30pm Mass on Dec. 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

2:00pm Church Chamber Ensemble

2:15pm PC-Fr. Clark Hall Cantor/Piano

3:30pm Church Children's Choir

3:45pm PC-Fr. Clark Hall Cantor/Piano

5:30pm Church Chamber Ensemble

7:00pm Church (Spanish) Hispanic Choir

10:30pm Church Chancel Choir

(10:00-10:30pm Christmas Carols prior to Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:00am Church Organ/Congregational Caroling

8:00am Church Cantor/Piano

9:30am Church Chancel Choir

11:00am Church Cantor

Please note there is no 12:30pm Mass

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 30/31

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am,
and 12:30pm (Spanish)

FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

8:00am ONLY (not a holy day of obligation)



***PLEASE NOTE:** The 4th Sunday of Advent Masses do not substitute for attendance at the Christmas Eve/Day Masses. It just happens that Dec. 24th is the 4th Sunday of Advent, followed by Christmas Eve. Even though, this year, they fall on the same calendar date, they are different liturgies. By the same token, attendance at the Christmas Eve/Day Masses does not fulfill the Sunday obligation for attendance at the regular 4th Sunday of Advent Mass.

Third Sunday of Advent



REJOICE

Isaiah proclaims truly good news to us! God's coming brings not sadness, guilt, fear, wrath, or condemnation. No, God's coming is a source of comfort and joy. Saying it once is not enough, for today's readings are full of joy. Mary's Magnificat substitutes for our psalm today, and our second reading encourages us to rejoice, to give thanks and praise. This is the root meaning of the Greek word for Eucharist. We are urged to rejoice and give thanks, because the coming of the Lord brings joy, healing, liberty, release, vindication. It makes the very earth spring up with new life! Good tidings!

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up before all the nations (Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11).

Psalm — My soul rejoices in my God. (Luke 1:46-50, 53-54).

Second Reading — Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good (1 Thessalonians 5:16-24).

Gospel — I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord (John 1:6-8, 19-28).

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25 |
| Tuesday: | Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25 |
| Wednesday: | Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38 |
| Thursday: | Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45 |
| Friday: | 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56 |
| Saturday: | Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66 |
| Sunday: | 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38 |

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday: | Third Sunday of Advent |
| Thursday: | St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins |
| Saturday: | St. John of Kanty |

PROPER UNDERTAKING

Never undertake anything for which you wouldn't have the courage to ask the blessings of heaven.

—Georg C. Lichtenberg

THE JESSE TREE

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called "Gaudete Sunday". Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice". Rejoice is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians. The church marks this Sunday on the Advent wreath with a pink candle. Today is a joyful reminder that hope and salvation are near.

During Advent we not only prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but we also check in to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive him when he comes again. It's a time for reflection and a chance to make a stronger commitment to our own spiritual lives. It's a time to recommit to daily prayer, acts of mercy and kindness and love of our neighbor.

During these last weeks of Advent, let's pray that hope, love and joy increase our awareness of Christ's presence in our world. Let us take a look at some of December's demanding activities with new eyes, eyes that fully expect to find God in every moment of each day.

THE THIRD WEEK:

Jesse's Family is Chosen

1 Samuel 16:1-1

David Kills Goliath

1 Samuel 17: 1-54

Solomon's Wisdom

1 Kings 3:3-28

God Takes Elijah to Heaven

2 Kings 2:1-13

Daniel in the Lion's Den

Daniel 6: 1-28

Jonah in the Whale

Jonah 1 and 2

Virgin Mary, Jesus' Mother

Matthew 1:23 & Isaiah 7:14

Gabriel Appears to Mary

Luke 1:26-38



Other Ministry News

YOUTH MINISTRY - FRESHMAN/ SOPHOMORE FRETUS IDENTITY RETREAT JANUARY 12-14

Calling all Freshman and Sophomore students in the Parish! Please join us on January 12-14, 2018 for the annual Fretus Identity Retreat! This awesome retreat will give you the opportunity to look at and reflect on the many choices, transitions and relationships you are experiencing at this time in your life. There will be plenty of free time to enjoy outdoor activities too! Please grab a friend and plan on joining us for this fun-filled weekend! Please see the parish website for additional information and for the registration form. Hurry! Spaces are filling up!

YOUTH MINISTRY - JUNIOR/SENIOR KAIROS RETREAT

Registration for the March Kairos Retreat for Juniors and Seniors will open in January. Watch for more details!

Email bcampbell@stcletusparish.com with questions.

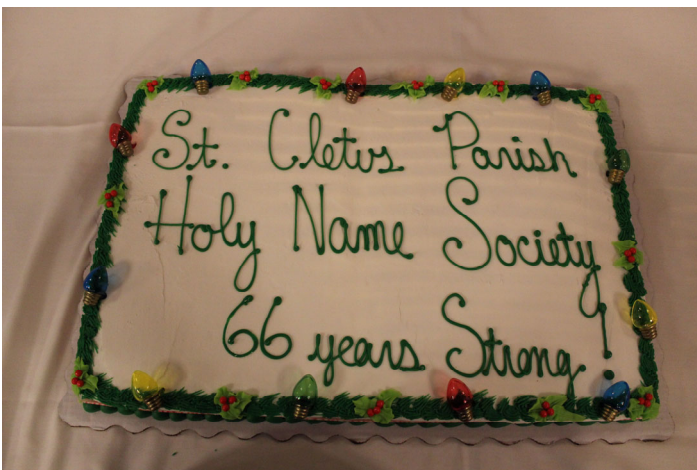
HOLY NAME SOCIETY



The SC Parish Holy Name Society held it's 2017 Christmas Dinner on December 1st at Salerno's.



Fran Callaghan and friends are among those who attended this year's Christmas Dinner. Fran, second from left, is a founding member of the parish's Holy Name Society - 66 years!



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

The Ho Ho Holiday Breakfast with Santa was great fun! Many thanks to the CCW, the school FSA, and all of the volunteer adults and students who worked hard to make it a great time for parish families!



RECTORY HOLIDAY HOURS

The St. Cletus Parish Offices will be closed for Christmas and New Years on the following dates:

- Monday, December 25
- Tuesday, December 26
- Monday, January 1st
- Tuesday, January 2nd

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 DISCUSSION

February 13 – *The Lilac Girls* by Martha Kelly

April 10 – *Colony* by Anne R. Siddons

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294.

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. 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 by December 18th. Thank you for your kindness.

SCCCW - ST. CLETUS COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



1st Anniversary Celebration at our General Meeting!

Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00 pm

Mark your calendars and join us as we celebrate friendships made and our many accomplishments!

All women ages 18 - 118 are invited!

MISSION LADIES

Our 2017 year is ending with a good feeling of giving out a total of 987 items to 7 local charities. Our thanks & appreciation goes out to all those who donated & worked on different items to meet this total.

We are a small mighty and dedicated Mission Group of ladies. We enjoy socializing each other's Company. We are looking for more young & not so young ladies to join our Mission — no special talent is required to participate. We meet every Wed 9am to 11am. We do not meet during June, July, August and December. Also work can be done at home.. Come join us. We are still in need of 4 ply & baby yarn. We can also use crosses for the Baby Bibs ... at least 1inch high or smaller. When leaving any donations in the Ushers room please mark it for "Mission Ladies." For more info call Dolores Scaletta (708-839-9605). Again THANK YOU ALL. So much.

OPLATKI AVAILABLE



Oplatki is available at the St. Cletus Parish Center office during regular business hours. A donation of \$2 is requested.

Traditionally at midnight the head of the household takes the white oplatki and shares it with family and friends and then the pink oplatki with the animals on his farm or at his home. This custom brings us back to that

Holy Night when even animals were able to speak, and to remind us that we are all God's creatures.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING

Donate Online *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.

BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSION

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. Please note that due to the holiday there will be an early deadline for the Dec. 31 Canticle, those articles are due Wednesday, Dec. 20. Thank you!

Community Bulletin Board

ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

Morning of Meditation

The Gift of Quiet: The Gift that Keeps on Giving

Saturday, December 23

9:00am – 11:30am, Hospitality 8:30am

Presenter: Dr. Karen Pedigo, Psychologist. All are invited: Those who meditate. Those who want to know more about meditation. In the St. John of the Cross Parish Center.

Sponsored by the Christian Meditation group (wccm-usa.org, wccm.org). Free will offering accepted Reservations requested. Contact: Betsy—708-246-8315 or wccmchgo@gmail.com.

PASSION PLAY TRIP TO GERMANY



13 DAYS, 11 CITIES & 3 COUNTRIES Skyline Travel is proud to offer an exclusive travel experience culminating in an once-in-a-decade excursion to Oberammergau's Passion play in Germany! RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY! \$200 per person non-refundable deposit. Only 45 spots available. Estimated Air-Inclusive Package \$6,350.00 per person based on double occupancy. Call Skyline Travel at 630-963-2277 for details.

BELLARMIANE JESUIT RETREATS

"The Beatitudes: A Faith for Head, Heart, & Hands" an Ignatian, Silent Retreat for Women. February 2-4, 2018 with Carol Ackels.

Four Shepherds Retreat: "Who am I? Where am I going? How do I get there?" an Ignatian, Silent Retreat for Men. January 5-7, 2018 with Fr. Doug Leonhardt, SJ

Bellarmino Jesuit Retreat House • 420 W County Line Rd • Barrington, IL 60010 • 847-381-1261 • www.JesuitRetreat.org.

THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER

The Shock of Advent, Pat Bergen, CSJ

As we are drawn more deeply into Advent and Christmas something wonderful is beginning to dawn on us. Can you perceive it? If you are eager to discover what is dawning or if you are ready for a shock that will change your life, or if you can't figure out what is happening in the world and you are tired of walking around in the dark, join us! Offered twice: Dec. 18, 7-8:30PM and Dec. 19, 9:30-11AM. Cost: \$15

ZOOM Into 21st Century Spirituality with John Surette, SJ

John Surette, The Well's beloved friend, remains in Massachusetts. But thanks to 21st century technology, we will "meet" with him to entertain a discussion around a question of John's choice. Participate from your home in this videoconference call, or join us at The Well. Monday, Dec. 18, 1-2PM, also same time Monday Jan. 15, Feb. 19, and Mar. 19. Cost: \$10/session.

SAVE THE DATE for The Well Coffeehouse Fun-raiser

Friday, Feb. 2, 7-10PM - Be prepared to be entertained with live performances ranging from comedy to poetry to piano and song, jazz to pop, amateur to professional. Bring your own food and drinks. Sweets available for purchase. Doors open at 7PM. Cost: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door

1515 Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park, IL.

To register: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048

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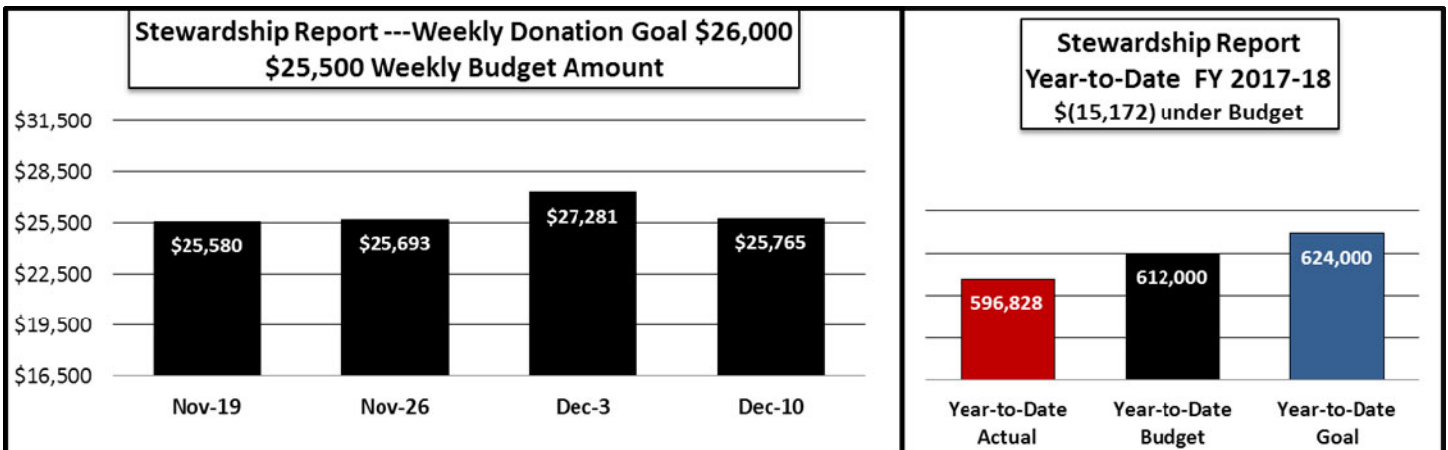
Jeffrey R. Tobolski
Cook County Board
Commissioner 16th District

Thank you to all of our 2017 Fall Fest Sponsors! Those at the \$2,500 and above will be featured in the Canticle as Preferred Providers.

Week at a Glance

| DAY/DATE | TIME | LOCATION | EVENT |
|------------------------|--|--|---|
| Sunday, December 17 | 7:00am 7:00pm | Morrissey Hall Church | Giving Tree Food Basket Drop Off Christmas Novena |
| Monday, December 18 | 7:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm | Church Parish Center Gym Morrissey Hall | Christmas Novena Men's Basketball Boy's Church League |
| Tuesday, December 19 | 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 9:00pm | Church Rectory Church Parish Center Gym Morrissey Hall | Holy Hour RCIA Christmas Novena School Band Concert Boy's Church League |
| Wednesday, December 20 | 7:00pm 9:00pm | Church Morrissey Hall | Christmas Novena Boys Church League |
| Thursday, December 21 | 7:00pm | PC Meeting Rooms | Christmas Novena |
| Friday, December 22 | 7:00pm | PC Meeting Rooms | Christmas Novena |
| Saturday, December 23 | 7:00am 7:00pm | PC Meeting Rooms Morrissey Hall | Christmas Novena Christmas Posada |
| Sunday, December 24 | | | See Page 8 for full Mass Schedule |

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 2017 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the rectory @ (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 # _____

St. Cletus Parish Information

CONTACT US

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

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 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

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. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, Deacon Couple

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship (708) 215-5422
Karen Ziemba, Music Ministry (708) 215-5423
Youth Ministry (708) 352-6209
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
Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, Head of Hispanic Ministry

SCHOOL STAFF

..... (708) 352-4820
Tom Chinske, 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
Deborah Pusinelli, Assistant
Paulette Bolton, Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship

RECTORY STAFF

..... (708) 352-6209
Bobbie Kallal, Human Resources/Records
Mary Zwolinski, Parish Accounting
Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor
Carol Scatena, Weekend Assistant

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Eileen Dorchinecz
 Vice Chairperson John Rossmiller
 Secretary Valerie Sosne

Members

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Scott Aulinskis | Colleen Mhley |
| Bob Havelka | Patrick O'Toole |
| Kevin Hogan | Ron Skrip |
| Chris McLean | Patrick Townsend |
| Nicholas McKeehan | |

Liaisons

FSA President Guadalupe McKeehan
 Athletic Association President Brendan Foley

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 Chairperson Jack Fisherkeller
 Vice-Chairperson Chuck Luna
 Recording Secretary Maggie Kensek
 School Representative Tom Chinske
 Director of Parish Catechesis Paulette Bolton
 Staff Representative Debbie Lestarczyk

Members

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Mary Ann Doornbos | Colleen Hagen |
| Susan Hurley | Helen McMahan |
| Robbie O'Shea | Henry Morlock |

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Cletus Church #9238
600 W. 55th Street
La Grange, IL 60525

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/
Debbie Lestarczyk (Bus Mgr)

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 7.0
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER

HP Laserjet 1022

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

December 17, 2017

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 15

Wednesday 3pm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS