

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

—Luke 1:35



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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)



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Mass Intentions for the Week of December 25 - December 31, 2017

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Gamboa Fr. Baker Fr. Clark Fr. Baker	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. Cletus Parishioners
Tuesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Albert P. Dybicz, Dan Rosko, Marilyn Matesevic
Wednesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Bob Thomas
Thursday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Kim Zwolinski
Friday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Domenica Frasca, Fr. Charles Gallagher, Frank Wojcik, Marylyn Loughlin
Saturday	Fr. Gamboa Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Genevieve Janis Bob Thomas, Benjamin Patrick Hyink, John Zumpano
Sunday	Fr. Gamboa Fr. Baker Fr. Clark 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, Janina Bonczak, Stacy Baker, Martha Bergoff Ryan, John & Frances Kennedy, Patrick Mahoney, Henry & Anna Pleszka St. Cletus Parishioners Eugene Sorrentino, Lorraine & George Kurland, John J. Kurland, Armida Morales Gene Kennedy, Justice Lawrence X. Pusateri, Marilyn Matesevac, Chester & Anne Koziol Deceased St. Cletus Parishioners

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

Elizabeth (Bette) Ann Murawski

Peter May

May they rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH OFFICE 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. Please note that the parish offices have moved to our new location in the parish center. All deliveries should be made to the new office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.



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

November - Chuck Harwood, Denise Hradecky, 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 Wittowksi, 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, Frank Niwa

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



Notes from Fr. Bob...

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

King David wants to mark a new stage in his reign. His wars have ended, his enemies have been subdued, his kingdom is secure, his palace is built. A new era of peace and prosperity beckons, and David seeks to commemorate this, to show the permanence of his achievements and power, by constructing a suitable dwelling place for God. This is something very natural – an act of recognition of God, but also an expression of David’s own position, power and accomplishments.

Perhaps in our own way, we can have something of David’s mixed motives in our relationship with God. There can be times when we consciously do things for God. It might be a major life-decision or a small act of kindness or self-sacrifice. Mixed up in our selfishness and dedication can be a little of what David felt: a certain self-conscious pride in what we are doing, perhaps a desire to be noticed and admired by others, or at least to make ourselves seem worthy in our own eyes, a feeling that we are giving God something over and above what might be expected. It can be as if, somehow, we can make God grateful to us, perhaps even get God to realize that he owes us something.

The Lord’s reply to David should snap us out of such self-delusion. Whatever David thinks he is doing for God, God reminds David of all the great things he has done for him and for the people of Israel. All things come from him, and David would be nothing without him. He reminds David how utterly dependent he is on God’s graciousness – not just in the present and in the past, but also stretching right out into the future. This is also a salutary reminder to us of just how much we depend on God’s goodness – and that we can never give anything to God which he has not first given to us. We cannot earn or deserve, let alone coerce his love. Anything we do for God is always a response – and a very inadequate one – to the greatness of God’s love for us in the first place.

There is a marked distinction between David and Mary. Mary is under no illusions about her own importance. Far from having David’s brash confidence in approaching God, Mary is disturbed, confused; she needs to be reassured that there is no need to fear. In saying she is a virgin; Mary is acknowledging her own emptiness, her inability to do what God is asking of her on her own. It is only by the power of God himself that Mary is able to allow God to achieve his purposes. Mary’s humble acquiescence is in stark contrast to David’s proud self-confidence.



It is through Mary that God finally builds himself a home, a dwelling-place among his people. He lives not in a house of wood or stone, but in a womb of flesh and blood, a heart full of love. As we stand on the threshold of another celebration of God’s coming into our world at Christmas, like Mary, we need to listen to the voice of God and acknowledge our own emptiness and dependence on God, but like her, trustingly give our “yes” to God. Like Mary, we too can say: “I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let what you have said be done unto me.” It is when we seek God’s will, not our own, that God really can come and make his home in us. And through our lives, his love can then become real – in the flesh – in the world through us. That is God’s invitation and challenge to us. As individuals and a Church, we can have confidence not in our own abilities and talents but in God’s faithfulness and power. For nothing is impossible to God.

Advent Blessings,

Fr. Bob

Fr. Bob, Pastor

CHRISTMAS WISHES

I would like to offer Christmas Blessings and Prayers to each member of St. Cletus Parish. Myself, along with Frs. Ken Baker, Lorenzo Gamboa, Deacon Stuart Heyes & Marlene, and the entire St. Cletus Parish Staff wish you good health and a prosperous New Year.

May the love of Christ be present to you each day of your lives.

Christmas Blessings,

Fr. Bob

Fr. Bob, Pastor

Parish School



DATES TO REMEMBER

Christmas BreakDecember 23-January 7
 Catholic Schools Week Open House..... January 28
 Spring Auction March 3

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



Pre-School Christmas Program

The Preschoolers delighted everyone with the joyful sounds of Christmas. A true blessing on our beautiful stage in the new Parish Center.



Annual School Christmas Program

The 1st through 4th grade shared their talents with the St. Cletus community as they told the story of "The Miracle on Bethlehem Street." Their beautiful voices reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas.

Mark your calendars and
 Join us Sunday, January 28th
 for our Catholic Schools Week

Open House

Join us to talk with teachers and administrators, and discover why St. Cletus School is the right choice for your family!





Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In 1223, just two years before his death, Saint Francis of Assisi set up a living crèche, a replica of the manger in Bethlehem at the birth of Jesus. He preached and prayed before the scene. His biographer, Thomas of Celano, says that in that moment Francis was “overwhelmed with love and filled with wonderful happiness.” His contemplation of Jesus, the Word made flesh, drew him to experience the depth of God’s love.

We live in a troubled world beset by wars, violence, injustice, broken relationships, and illness. Beyond that, we do believe and are convinced that God loves us and walks with us in Jesus, his Son. As we know, God will heal us and our broken world and bring us into the fullness of life. It is my hope that when you pray before the mystery of the Incarnate Word, as Saint Francis prayed, you will be renewed in hope and confidence and be “overwhelmed with love and filled with wonderful happiness.”

May God bless you with a renewal of faith, hope, and love as we celebrate the birth of the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Handwritten signature of Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO



*Christmas 2017
Cardinal's letter to the Faithful
Archdiocese of Chicago*

Social Concerns Ministry

FOOD PANTRY

Most needed at this time:

- Cereal
- Laundry detergent
- Toiletries
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Canned soup
- \$10 Walmart or Jewel cards (distributed at our Easter food pantry)

Donations can be dropped off before or after masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex.



GIVING TREE THANKS



2017 ended on a hopeful note for the 500+ families who were grateful recipients of Christmas gifts and/or food baskets during our Advent Giving Tree Project. That hope and goodwill was shared by the myriad of parishioners and people in our community who participated in the project by taking and filling gift and/or food basket requests from the trees; by volunteering countless hours to help in the necessary preparation, organization, and distribution of the beautifully wrapped and carefully selected gifts and food items; by offering financial assistance to make sure everyone who registered for the program was remembered; by spreading the word in our community about this project to ensure support even beyond that of our faithful parishioners; or by praying for the struggling families we serve, and for the stamina and health of our volunteers.

Thank you to all –organizations, groups, and individuals, who contributed in any way to the overwhelming success of this year’s Giving Tree Project. The workings of the Holy Spirit were most apparent in every step along the way! A special word of gratitude to several individuals who volunteered countless hours from start to finish on our Giving Tree Committee. There was no job—big or small—which they did not take on with good cheer!

This outreach program continues to give to all volunteers involved an inspiring perspective to the Advent and Christmas Season. We are filled with awe, humility, and gratitude as we act as ambassadors of this caring parish.

As this Christmas and New Year unfolds, may the same Spirit who guides us in this project continue to dwell among us all!

In peace, Kendall Grant



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 THANKS

Many thanks to everyone who supported our Food Pantry in 2017. You can be proud that our Food Pantry continues to meet the need for food support in our community, because of the St. Cletus parishioners’ ongoing positive response to Jesus’ call to help the less fortunate and to see Him in the faces of those we serve. Your concern and generosity was apparent every month with your food donations and monetary contributions...you are the foundation of this outreach!

We are grateful, too, for the donations and sponsored food drives from so many community schools, organizations and businesses.

Lastly, our food pantry could not operate without the many hours of service provided by our volunteers. THANK YOU for your dedication in sorting and shelving groceries, packing bags, carrying them to church to set up for the monthly food distribution, donating hours of service to the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which helps pay for food we order from them each month, and most especially for representing St. Cletus Parish as you serve our clients. As Jesus would say “Well-done, good and faithful servant!”

With the continued support of donors and volunteers, in 2018 we will strive to keep our shelves stocked, to adequately serve those who come to us for help.

Thanks again!

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!

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. ...Your support might be the only support she receives. Even if we never know how, the smallest things we do can change someone’s life.”



USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
 “10 Ways to Support Her When She’s Unexpectedly Expecting,” www.bit.ly/10WaysRespectLife

"Let us allow the Child in the manger to challenge us...Let us allow ourselves to be challenged by the children who are not allowed to be born,"

Pope Francis, Christmas homily, 2016

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Only 34% of people who are injured by intimate partners receive medical care for those injuries

Source: National Coalition Against 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

St. Cletus Parish Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

2:00pm	Church	Fr. Baker	Chamber Ensemble
2:15pm	PC-Fr. Clark Hall	Fr. Clark	Cantor/Piano
3:30pm	Church	Fr. Gamboa	Children's Choir
3:45pm	PC-Fr. Clark Hall	Fr. Clark	Cantor/Piano
5:30pm	Church	Fr. Baker	Chamber Ensemble
7:00pm	Church (Spanish)	Fr. Gamboa	Hispanic Choir
10:30pm	Church	All Clergy	Chancel Choir

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

CHRISTMAS DAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:00am	Church	Fr. Gamboa	Organ/Congregational Caroling
8:00am	Church	Fr. Baker	Cantor/Piano
9:30am	Church	Fr. Clark	Chancel Choir
11:00am	Church	Fr. Baker	Cantor/Piano

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 JANUARY 1

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the *Christkind* in Austria and Belgium, *El Niño Jesús* in Columbia, and *Le Petit Jesus* in France, where he shares his duties with *Père Noël*. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but *Ježíšek*, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — I will fix a place for my people. I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place without

further disturbance (2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16).

Psalm — For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 89).

Second Reading — To the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, be glory forever and ever (Romans 16:25-27).

Gospel — Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word (Luke 1:26-38).

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.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Monday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
 Tuesday: St. Stephen; Kwanzaa begins
 Wednesday: St. John
 Thursday: The Holy Innocents
 Friday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket
 Saturday: Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27-29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
During the Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
 Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
 Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
 Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40
 Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 105:1-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or Hb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]

THE JESSE TREE

THE FOURTH WEEK (1 DAY):

St. Joseph the Carpenter – Matthew 1:18-25

Mary and Joseph Travel to Bethlehem – Luke 2:1-5

Wise Men Follow the Star – Matthew 2:1-12

CHRIST IS AMONG US!



Other Ministry News

PARISH OFFICE 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

Please note that the parish offices have moved to our new location in the parish center. All deliveries should be made to the new office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.

SCCCW - ST. CLETUS COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN



SAVE THE DATE & COME TO THE PARTY



CCW will be celebrating its first anniversary at our regular January meeting!

Date: January 9, 2018
 Place: Gallagher room in the Parish Center
 Time: 7:00pm

Don't miss the party with food, fun & games, fellowship & a toast to our dynamic group of parish women!

Come join us and become a member if you aren't already....a great New Year's resolution!

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. Thank you!

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.

BOOK DISCUSSION

February 13 – *The Lilac Girls* by Martha Kelly
 April 10 – *Colony* by Anne R. Siddons
 Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294.

ST. CLETUS PARISH FALL FEST



Our 2017 Fall Fest raised over \$110,000! Thank you to everyone who made this event a success.

We have already begun working on our 2018 Fall Fest and we hope to see you September 6-9, 2018.

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 soon. Watch for more details in January!

Email bcampbell@stcletusparish.com with questions.

ED WARD FINE ARTS SERIES AT ST. CLETUS

GREYHAT
 FUNDRAISER FOR THE ST. CLETUS FINE ARTS SERIES

PIANO BAR IN THE PARISH CENTER
FRIDAY, FEB. 9
8:00 PM
 DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

FEATURING:
 TONY KIDONAKIS
 JEFF SNYDER
 SHANA PETRONE

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

RSVP ON ONLINE:
www.edwardfas.com

St. Cletus School Spring Auction



St. Cletus Supporters:

We are excited to be organizing the 2018 Spring Auction, “*A Night at the Races*,” to take place on Saturday, March 3 at the St. Cletus Parish Center. This fundraising event is fulfilling a crucial financial role for the school. We invite you to GET INVOLVED and make a contribution to this very important fundraising event.

The St. Cletus School Auction Committee is in the process of pulling together great auction items from community sponsors, but history has proven that most of our highest earning auction packages come from St. Cletus Parish families and friends like you. We hope you will help us again this year through your very generous donations to this important school event.

The more donations we receive, the more we can sell at auction and the larger the benefit to the school. Help us make this event spectacular with an outstanding range of items!

There are so many ways for your family to contribute:

- Ask your employer to make a product or cash contribution, or to purchase an ad for our catalog.
- Ask friends and family members who own businesses for a donation. Nothing is too small, as items will often be packaged together with other items.
- For those local businesses you support, ask for a donation of support in return, such as gourmet grocery certificates, restaurant gift certificates, sporting goods, specialty clothing, jewelry, spas, toy stores – the list is unlimited.
- Do you or someone you know have a second home you could donate for a week or a long weekend? These are some of our best donations.
- Do you have a special talent you could share, e.g., knitting, fused glass making, painting, tiling, woodworking, or jewelry craft? Your time and talent donation would be so appreciated.
- Are you a gourmet cook? Want to donate a fabulous dinner by teaming up with friends to help host a great evening? Dinners and parties are some of our best selling items.

We want to thank you, in advance, for your participation and support of this event. We look forward to working together to create not only a fun and memorable event for all that attend, but the most successful auction yet! We hope to see you “At the Races” on Saturday, March 3rd in the new St. Cletus Parish Center!

Silent auction questions can be directed to:

Donna O’Keeffe
 donna.pleiter@sbcglobal.net
 (m) 312.305.1342

Lupe McKeehan
 gmckeehan76@gmail.com
 (m) 312.823.9152

Please note: Donation Deadline for Silent Auction items is January 31st. Donation forms can be found on our website <http://auction.stcletusschool.com/>

Community Bulletin Board

JOYFUL AGAIN



Retreat/ workshop for widowed men/women

The Joyful Again! program brings understanding and hope to help you on your new life's journey.

"I felt welcome." "Found hope." "Am more at peace."

Dates: **March 3 & 4, 2018** **April 21 & 22, 2018**

For more information contact us at Joyful Again! Widowed Ministry. 708-354-7211 , www.joyfulagain.org joyfulagain7211@gmail.com, (Short video on website.)

IMPORTANT: register early, space limited.

BELLARMINE 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.

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.


THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER

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 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

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

 Don't miss out on the upcoming enrichment for married couples and religious on February 2-4, 2018 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Elk Grove Village, IL. The enrichment begins with a private weekend experience including 11 presentations about practical tools for growing in loving relationships, and provides ongoing enrichments after the weekend from the Worldwide Marriage Encounter community.

For information on applying, please go to wwme-chicagoland.org (or pick up a brochure* on your way out) and say YES TODAY, to God's call to love one another!

ST. BARBARA'S IN BROOKFIELD

Multicultural Taste of St. Barbara on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 6-9pm in the St. Barbara Parish Center, 4015 Prairie Ave., Brookfield, IL.

Food and drink tickets available at the door. Bring the family for food, drink, raffles & fun!

Preferred Providers

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

J. WILSON PRINTING, INC.
John Wilson
Western Springs, IL
(708) 246-5604

MAZUR
MAZUR-SON CONSTRUCTION

newman architecture

Jeffrey R. Tobolski
Cook County Board
Commissioner 16th District

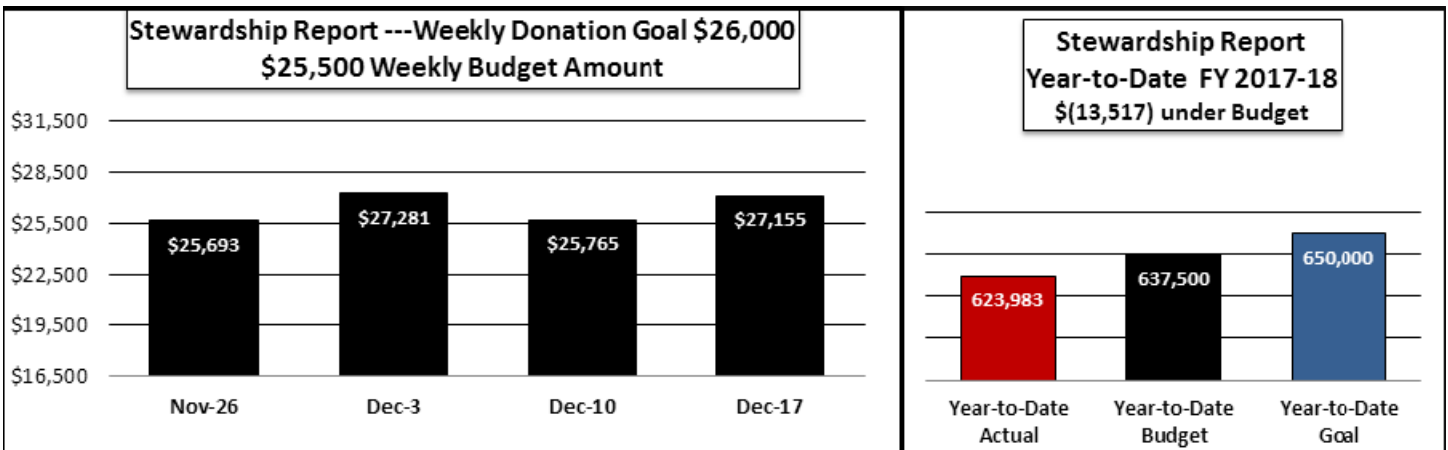
Thank you to all of our 2017 Fall Fest Sponsors! Those at the \$2,500 and above will be featured in the Canticle as Preferred Providers.

Week at a Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, December 24			See Page 8 for full Mass Schedule
Monday, December 25			See Page 8 for full Mass Schedule. Facilities Closed.
Tuesday, December 26			Facilities Closed
Wednesday, December 27			
Thursday, December 28			
Friday, December 29			
Saturday, December 30			
Sunday, December 31			
Monday, January 1	8:00am	Church	Feast of Mary, Mother of God (not a holy day of obligation) Facilities Closed after 8am Mass

Stewardship Report

WEEKLY GIVING REPORT



ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING

Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? 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.

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

Parish Office(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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 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)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS