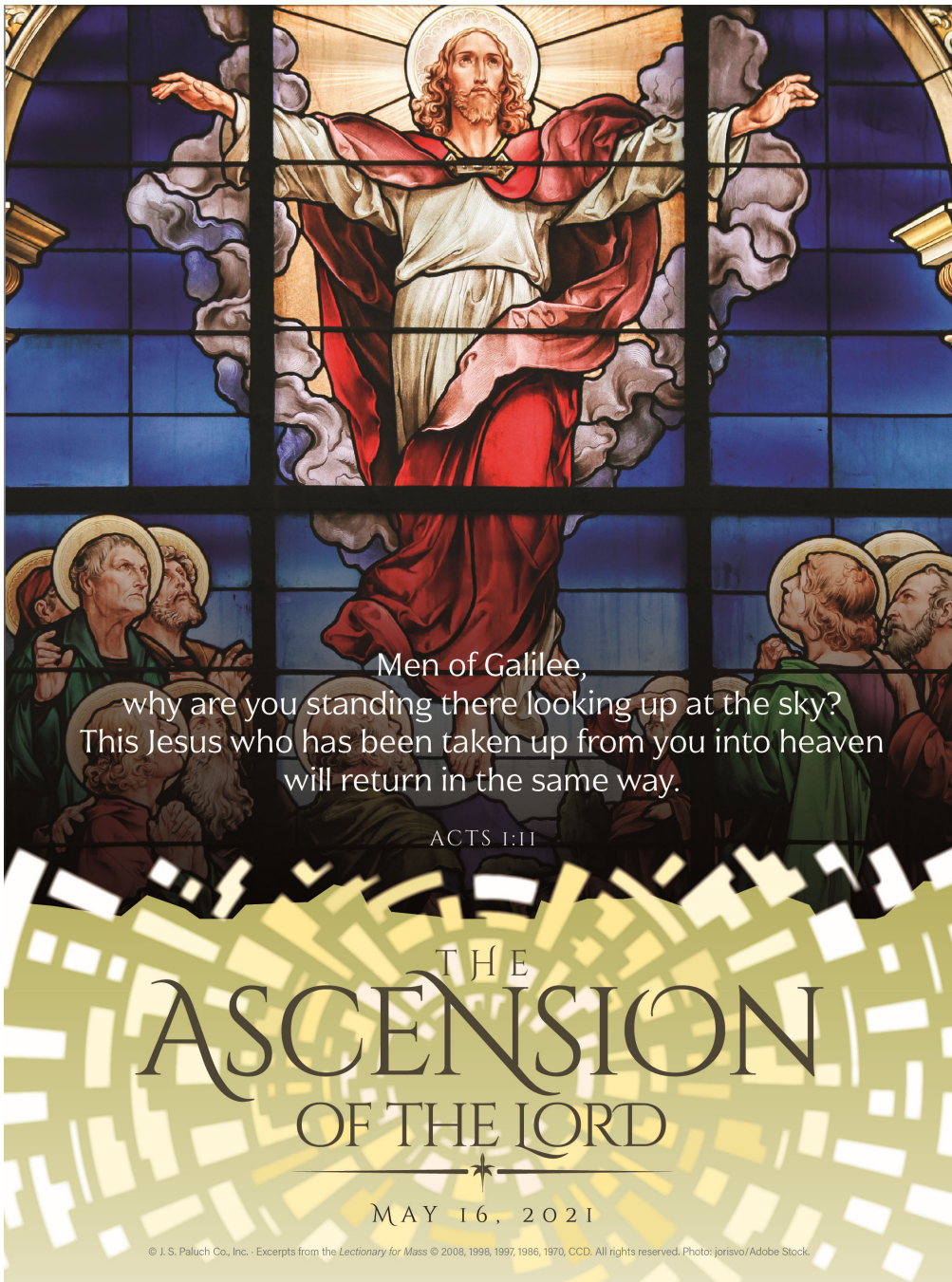


Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Whoever believes and is baptized
will be saved.
— Mark 16:16



Men of Galilee,
why are you standing there looking up at the sky?
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven
will return in the same way.

ACTS 1:11

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 16, 2021

WELCOME

- 2 Mass Intentions
Important Notes
- 3 Pastor's Note
- 4 Social Concerns
- 5 Ministry News
- 6 Religious Education
- 8 Parish School
- 9 Stewardship Report
Sunday Notes
- 10 Parish Information

Mass Intentions for May 17 - May 23, 2021

Day	Presider <small>(subject to change)</small>	Time	Intentions
May 17	Fr. Gamboa	8:00am	BC Collins
May 18	Fr. Gamboa	8:00am	William Winters
May 19	Fr. Baker	8:00am	Jozef Pabin
May 20	Fr. Clark	8:00am	Ted Lihosit
May 21	Fr. Clark	8:00am	Frank Wojcik, Special Intention - Theresa Mataitis
May 22	Fr. Clark	5:00pm	Bill Bolton, Regina Kondor, Michelle Montalto
May 23	Fr. Baker	7:15am	George Duda, Stacy Baker, Elaine Rys, Michael Jakubosky
	Fr. Clark	8:45am	Rosemarie Gallagher, Frank Treski, Robert & Agnes Findor
	Fr. Baker	10:30am	St. Cletus Parishioners
	Fr. Gamboa	12:30pm	St. Cletus Parishioners

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

John Norris Mulvenna
Husband of Bonnie

Beverly Hagen
Mother of Jim

May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

May - Laurie Stewart, Catherine Cosgrove, Mary Depasquale

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

March - 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

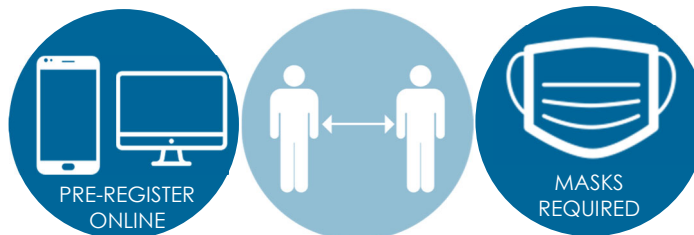
Also pray for our parishioners who are in nursing homes or are homebound unable to attend Mass.

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...

ASCENSION SUNDAY

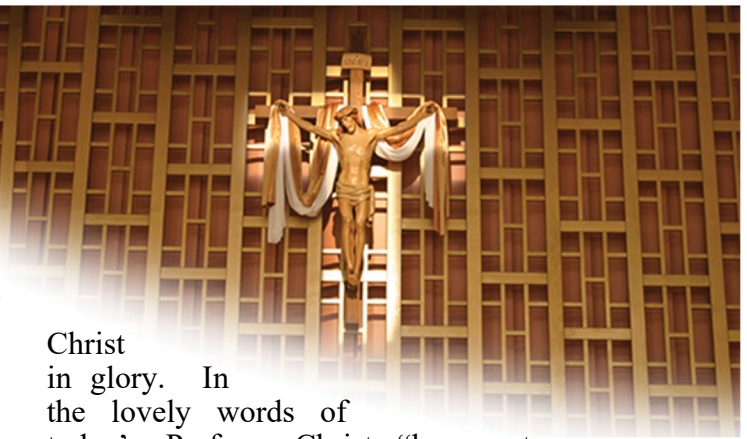
We rejoice first of all because of what the Ascension means to Jesus himself. It has two aspects. The one described in today's first reading and the Gospel is the one we tend to think of automatically whenever we hear the word "ascension". It is a visible event; it takes place on the Mount of Olives some forty days after Easter; it is witnessed by the apostles; it leaves them gazing up into the sky in a state of bewilderment.

But in a sense all this is just a sign, a visible way of manifesting to the apostles a more wonderful event that has already taken place at the moment of the Resurrection. Jesus is already exalted; already his body has been glorified, though for some time the glory remains hidden, while he completes the instruction of his disciples.

Once the time of instruction is over, all can be revealed. It's revealed in terms of a cloud which takes him gently into its embrace, hiding him from the disciples' sight; it's spoken of by the gospel writers in terms of his being "taken up to heaven" and being seated "at the right hand of the Father". Of course, Jesus is not some kind of super astronaut, heaven is not a place in the sky and God doesn't have hands; but what can we do when all we have are feeble words with which to express the inexpressible? The fact is that Jesus as man has entered into a new and glorious kind of existence, beyond our understanding.

So, on this day, we rejoice because our Lord and Master, having lived among us, having suffered, died and risen in glory, has now in his humanity reached his true home with the Father. His humanity has now been drawn into the power and majesty of the Blessed Trinity.

However, there is another reason why this is a day of rejoicing, and it is because the Ascension has extraordinary implications for ourselves. In the first place, as Jesus promised, it is to our advantage that he has disappeared from our sight. For now, through the Holy Spirit, he is more profoundly and more intimately present to us and to the whole of humanity than he ever could be when visibly present on earth. Furthermore, Jesus' Ascension reveals the destiny to which we are all called. Our true home is heaven; united by faith and love with our exalted Lord, we look forward to our final homecoming, to being with



Christ in glory. In the lovely words of today's Preface, Christ "has past beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope...Where he has gone, we hope to follow."

According to today's Gospel, our Lord's final command was to take his message to all creatures and to baptize all who would believe. Because that command has been carried out down through the centuries, you and I have heard the Good News; you and I have received the faith and been baptized. Perhaps today we ought to spend a little time reflecting prayerfully upon our good fortune, realizing again our duty to spread the Good News. Above all we can rejoice that through baptism we have embarked upon a journey to a haven, which is beyond all havens, that home where we shall exult forever with our risen, ascended and glorified Lord.

Ascension Blessings,

Fr. Bob

**Fr. Bob
Pastor**

FR. LORENZO LAST WEEKEND OF MASSES

Fr. Lorenzo Gamboa will celebrate his last weekend of Masses at St. Cletus Parish May 22 and May 23. He will be in the Parish Center after all Masses that weekend if parishioners would like to stop by and see him before he leaves. Please note that a table will be set-up so that Fr. Lorenzo is safely distanced from well-wishers and masks must be worn at all times. We hope you will join us in wishing Fr. Lorenzo good luck and God's blessings in his next assignment.

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 DISTRIBUTION

Volunteer opportunities are now available through the end of September!

Please dress for the weather, you will be outside! PLEASE NOTE the change in start time is 5:15pm. Thank you! Sign Up at: <https://bit.ly/3ePenm>



GARDEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We will be clearing and prepping the garden Sunday, May 16 from 10:00-12:00.

Flexible, daytime opportunities to help water and weed the garden on Mondays/Fridays (weather permitting) are available. Wednesday afternoon harvesting slots are also available.

Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3vxZtsg>



St. Cletus Food Pantry Needs

GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

Join us at: <https://bit.ly/3vxZtsg>

AREA RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Thank you to all who helped donate to our annual Mother's Day Baby Shower Collection with Women's Care Center in La Grange!



LETTER FROM GRACE BERGER - BIKING FOR BABIES

Each Mother's Day my mom and I light a candle and say a prayer for my biological mother who chose LIFE for my twin sister and I. Imagine a world where women don't have to make choices out of fear or convenience, but rather feel empowered to make choices out of love and purpose. Imagine a society that embraces the *immeasurable* worth of every human life from conception to natural death. Imagine a world where, by using your unique set of gifts, you change a culture from a society that values convenience to one that treasures life.

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 to ride again. 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 **Colombus, OH** to **St. Louis, MO**. A part of our formation includes fundraising for life-affirming pregnancy resource centers to decrease the cost of services to families in crisis pregnancy situations. To best help these pregnancy resource centers, I have set my own fundraising goal of **\$2,800**. I hope you are able to make a donation that will help me achieve this life-saving goal. Please donate 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. Conor has presented on many occasions to ICN to genuinely rave reviews. Don't miss this one!

Zoom Meeting Info:
Meeting ID: 833 8893 5265
Passcode: 697636

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.

MISSION LADIES

It's been long time since the Mission Ladies have gotten together to work on Mission items. So far it doesn't look like we can get together before Sept. 2021. A few of the Mission ladies have been doing Mission work at home. We are low on supplies - Mission Ladies are in need of Fabric Yarn - all colors, GlueSticks - (regular size), Crosses, (no bigger then 1- inch, and Ribbon, white 1/4 inch wide.

We are completely out of white eyelet fabric for making Christening Bibs for babies who are baptized at St. Cletus Church. For information please call 708-839-9605, Thank you. Dolores Scaletta

THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER

Please register for programs at The Well Spirituality Center online: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048. All programs are on Zoom unless noted otherwise, during this time of COVID-19.

Virtual Summer Retreats:

Solitude and Resilience, June 3, 6:30-8:30 PM. What learnings might we take from this pandemic, with all its interruptions, that can bring us healing and hope? Directed, June 20 – 25. From the comfort of home, meet with a spiritual director daily to fit your schedule, and partake in group sessions each evening.

Boundless Compassion, July 18 – 23. Discover how compassion can change a heart, change a life, change a world, using insights from spirituality, science and psychology.

Legacy, August 15 – 20. For those of us of a certain, age, this retreat entertains two central questions: What am I leaving? To whom am I leaving it?

LAST CHANCE TO FILL OUT SURVEY

This weekend is the last chance to fill out Colleen Hagen’s parish survey. It is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QD7CQVR>.

Paper copies are also available in the parish office or in the ministers' room in the back of church. Thanks to everyone who has already completed the survey.
- Colleen Hagen

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 5:00 p.m. Friday a full week (9 days) before Sunday’s publication.

Religious Education

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?



Up, up, and away...the celebration of the Ascension takes place forty days after Easter, by the church calendar. Jesus rose from the grave, and after appearing to his disciples for 40 days, rose into Heaven to take his place at the right hand of the Father. Why is this

important? The Ascension reminds us of who Jesus was, and also brings to mind the importance of how He has

gone to prepare a place for us. We await His return, but know that He is with us still in the meantime. Jesus gave us special promises prior to His departure for Heaven. He went up to be with God the Father, but He will return someday. As we await his next coming, we are called to spread His love to others around us. Jesus also promised to send the Advocate to us – the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will fill us with important gifts of wisdom, understanding, courage, right judgment, knowledge, reverence, and wonder and awe. Jesus gave us important work to do on Earth – to spread the Good News, to love God and our neighbor, to serve one another.

We are happy to be able to share some photos from our past two weekends of First Communion celebrations! Please continue to pray for our first communicants, that they return often to the table of the Lord!





Photos courtesy of
Sara Hodak
Photography
sarahodakphotography.com



St. Cletus School

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

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

Be A Light

This has been a tough year for everyone but we have made it through together and would love to shine a light on our school and all of you!



Please consider purchasing a lantern to honor a loved one.

Someone who has passed away, an important family member or friend, a soon to be graduate, first communicant, alumni, anyone you would like!

Lanterns are \$15 each

Quantity: _____

Who would you like to honor?

Lanterns will be displayed outside of school the first week of June.

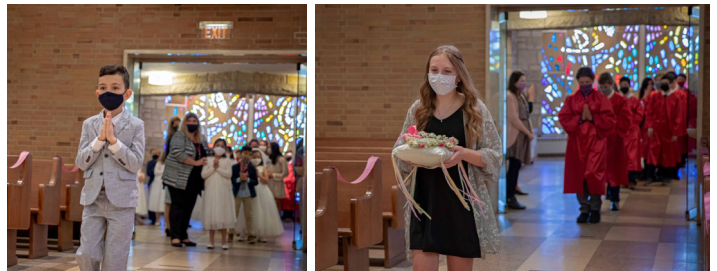
Please return this form by May 19th.

Cash or check payments only.
Please make checks payable to St. Cletus School.

Lanterns will be available for pick up on June 4th from 10:30-11am

MAY CROWNING

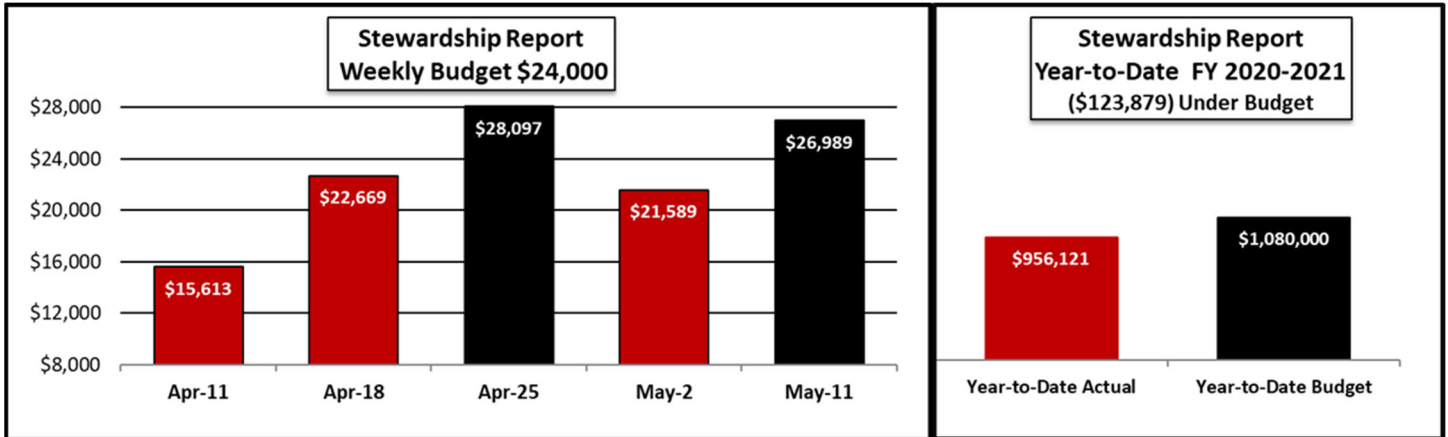
"Oh Mary! We crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels, Queen of May." What a blessed Monday we had as our 2nd graders and 8th graders gathered in church to celebrate Mary.



2021-22 ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

Visit www.stcletusschool.com to learn about all the great things happening at our school and take a virtual tour. Give us a call at 708.352.4820 for more information.

Stewardship Report



Sunday Notes

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ASCENSION

The theological unity, or perhaps even the temporal experience of the early community, made it seem that Jesus’ resurrection and his ascension were inseparable aspects of a single mystery. Only in the later writings of Luke and John has further theological reflection helped the Christian community to distinguish different dimensions of the mystery. Liturgical tradition has followed the forty-day chronology formulated by Luke. We would miss the point, however, if we were to demand a precise historical chronology of events such as the Resurrection-Ascension that are primarily spiritual in nature and that clearly surpass the bounds of time and space as we know them.

What is important for us to grasp is the significance of the Ascension. For Luke, it is the decisive turning point that marks the end of Jesus’ earthly ministry and the beginning of the disciples’ Spirit-led ministry and thus the ministry of the whole church down to our own day.

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — This Jesus will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens (Ephesians 1:17-23) or *Ephesians 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]*.

Gospel — The Lord Jesus was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God (Mark 16:15-20).

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: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
- Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
- Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; World Communications Day; Shavuot (Jewish observance) begins at sundown
- Tuesday: St. John I
- Thursday: St. Bernardine of Siena; Julian Calendar Ascension
- Friday: St. Christopher Magellanes and Companions
- Saturday: St. Rita of Cascia; Vigil of Pentecost

THE LOAN

We didn’t inherit the earth from our parents. We’re borrowing it from our children. —Chief Seattle

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 SundayClosed

MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday7:15 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.

CONFESSIONS

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 Ziemia, *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*

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Bob Wasik

MEMBERS

Bob Malham
 Kevin Hogan
 Mike Napleton

LIAISONS

FSA President Rhonda Aumann
 Athletic Association..... Tina Pryor

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.

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

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