

St. Cletus Parish Canticle

Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ
Through Worship, Education and Service

600 W. 55th St, La Grange, IL 60525



September 15, 2024 | Twenty - fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Mission and Vision Statement

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

Mt 28:19-20

Parish Office

(708) 352-6209
Monday - Friday
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



stcletusparish.com



St. Cletus Parish



St. Cletus Church

St. Cletus School

(708) 352-4820
stcletusschool.com
700 W 55th St, La Grange, IL 60525



Directory

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Elmer Romero Pastor eromero@stcletusparish.com	Rev. Michael Novick Associate Pastor mnovick@stcletusparish.com
Rev. Javier Alexander Garcia Associate Pastor jgarcia@stcletusparish.com	Rev. John Lodge and Rev. Ron Kalas Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgies
Rev. Robert Clark Pastor Emeritus	Deacon Ramón Cazales rcazales@stcletusparish.com
Deacon Franco Foti ffoti@stcletusparish.com	Larry Manetti O.C.I.A lmanetti@stcletusparish.com
Norma Hernandez Coordinator of Faith Formation for Children and Teens nhernandez@stcletusparish.com	Kendall Grant Social Concerns kgrant@stcletusparish.com
Juanita Avila Hispanic Ministry javila@stcletusparish.com	Ryan Rump Music Ministry rrump@stcletusparish.com

Operations Staff

Deacon Franco Foti Operations Director ffoti@stcletusparish.com	Jim Dion Business Manager jdion@stcletusparish.com
Giselle Rico Office Manager grico@stcletusparish.com	Olga Montalvo Parish Office Coordinator omontalvo@stcletusparish.com
Luis Lopez IT Manager llopez@stcletusparish.com	Derek Sawicki Maintenance Supervisor dsawicki@stcletusparish.com

School

Greg Porod Principal gporod@stcletusparish.com	Christy Schaefer Assistant Principal cschaefer@stcletusparish.com
Mary Lee Krieger Administrative Assistant mkrieger@stcletusparish.com	Kate Townsend Receptionist/Administrative Assistant ktownsend@stcletusparish.com
Frank Ochoa Dual Language Immersion Coordinator fochoa@stcletusparish.com	Sara Hodak Parish/School Life Coordinator shodak@stcletusparish.com

Parish Information

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. Mass

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil, 5 p.m. (English)
Streamed live: <https://www.youtube.com/@stcletusparish/streams>
7:15 a.m. (English)
8:45 a.m. (English)
10:30 a.m. (English)
12:30 p.m. (Español)

Confessions

Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

Baptisms / Bautizos

Contact the parish office
(708) 352 - 6209

Religious Education For Children Educación Religiosa Para Niños

Contact / Comuníquese con
Norma Hernandez (708) 968 - 6474

O.C.I.A

Contact the parish office.

Weddings

Please contact the parish office 6
months prior to the wedding date.

Quinceañeras y Presentaciones

Comuníquese con Juanita Avila al
(708) 215 - 5441.

Funerals

Contact the parish office.

St. Cletus School

(708) 352 - 4820
stcletusschool.com
700 W 55th St,
La Grange, IL 60525

Mass Intentions

Saturday September 14	Rev. Michael Novick	5 p.m.	Jon & Denise Parlier 50th Wedding Anniversary (Special Intention)	† Stephen Tisa † Tom Matthews † Delphine Bentley Janet Boyer (Special Intention)
Sunday September 15	Rev. Michael Novick	7:15 a.m.	† Julia Kopacz	† John & Petronelle Rudaitis
	Rev. John Lodge	8:45 a.m.	† Delphine M. Bentley † Mary Kay Rios † Nick Brzezniak	Health Blessing for John Prusko, Sr. (Living)
	Rev. Elmer Romero	10:30 a.m.	† Raymond J. Walsh	† Donald Kotrba Caroline Mhley (Living)
	Rev. Alexander Garcia	12:30 p.m.	† Angel & Margarita Jaramillo † Carlos Cesar Jaimes Rodriguez	† Por Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio † Amairani Pacheco Joaquin and Blanca (Special Intention)
Monday September 16	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	† Evelyn Prevenas	
Tuesday September 17	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	85th Birthday of Identical Twins Rich & Rob Kurland	
Wednesday September 18	Rev. Don Cambe	8 a.m.	† B.C. & Rip Collins	† Richard Zaremba
Thursday September 19	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	† Joseph Vais	† Donna O' Keefe
Friday September 20	Rev. Jim Antiporek	8 a.m.	† Louie Marasovic † David Trzesniewski † Joseph Vieceli	† Ed Stec † Karen Gorak
Saturday September 21	Rev. Anthony Muraya	5 p.m.	† Kristina Thiel † William Gray † Gloria Gray	† John Nisbet Janet Boyer (Special Intention)
Sunday September 22	Rev. Gus Belauskas	7:15 a.m.	† Marco, Emilia Rattin & Bill De Pasquale † Julia Kopacz	† John and Frances Kennedy † Patrick Mahoney
	Rev. Elmer Romero	8:45 a.m.	† Al Haddad † Frank Wojcik † William Dudley	Health Blessing for John Prusko, Sr. (Living)
	Rev. Ron Kalas	10:30 a.m.	† Kenneth "Ken" Raymond Hickey	† Charles & Florence Straka
	Rev. Elmer Romero	12:30 p.m.	† Rosario Garcia † Virginia Garcia Rivera	† Lorenza Jaramillo † Por Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Please remember our sick in your prayers:

Debbie Cote | Joanne Kasang | Jorea Touranjeau |
Caroline Mhley | Diana McHale | Dr. George Schein
| Claire Caueny | Rose Hammer | Ann Kuchta |
June Matasic

Please remember our dead in your prayers:

† Ellen Benrus, Mother of George Benrus
† William Dudley, Sister of Denise Koshay
† Mary Anne Matthews, Wife of Jim Matthews

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

"Man cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself."

-Vatican II (Gaudium Et Spes, 24)

Dear Friends,

Our 2024 Fall Festival went well last week. It was filled with wonder, gratitude, and joy. The feeling of being part of God's family was celebrated and nurtured. We noticed our hearts being loved as we enjoyed each other's presence. Fraternity and friendship were indeed fostered and shared.

Your kindness, leadership, and hospitality touched the hearts of many. As I

mingled and talked with people, I received countless words of encouragement and positive feedback. For some, it was their first time. For some others, it was their second, third or fifth time. They felt welcomed and safe. They marveled at how well everything was organized. They felt moved by your witness and kindness. I would like to offer you my sincere gratitude for your support, commitment, and prayers for good weather which the Lord blessed us with.

People appreciated seeing our parish grounds carefully arranged and tidy. They noticed how clean the entire venue was. They saw volunteers walking up and down throughout the Fall Festival making sure tables, chairs, and floors were clean and free of debris or trash. I would like to acknowledge and thank our volunteers (parishioners, guests, and staff) for serving with care and love. I also felt encouraged by your witness.

Sara and John Hodak (Co-chairs) assisted by an amazing Committee gave us, once again, an astonishing and successful Fall Festival. They have a big heart. They love God with all their heart and mind. They love St. Cletus Parish. As we saw last year and this year, they love bringing us together as one family. They love seeing us having fun and

growing in friendship with one another as children of God. I consider them disciples of Jesus Christ and

evangelizers. They lead us to Christ with their actions.

I would like to offer Sara and John and the Committee my wholehearted gratitude and appreciation for their leadership, support, and witness. Hold them in prayer.

St. Cletus Parish/School is blessed to have an amazing and caring staff, faculty, and administrators. Their

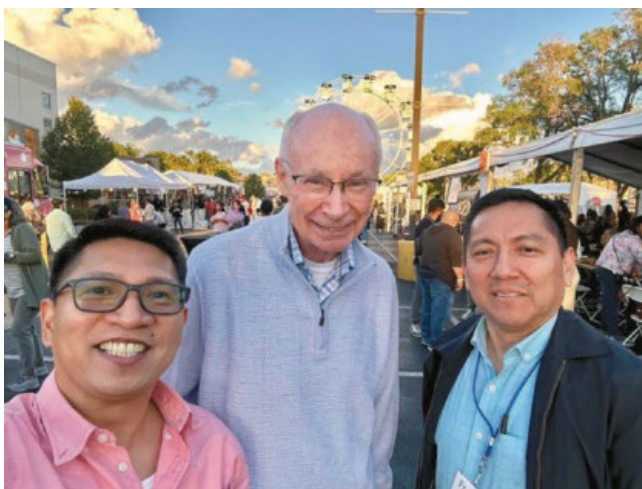
dedication and action tell us that they find joy serving at our parish/school. At the Fall Festival, we saw them partnering, collaborating, and working together with our Fall Festival leaders and volunteers. This type of service, dedication, and collaboration is something that they offer daily (Monday-Friday) in the Parish/School Office. I would like to offer them my sincere gratitude for their dedication, commitment, and generosity. I feel blessed serving with them.

On Friday night, I was happy to welcome to our Fall Festival two good friends: Fr. Don Cambe, Pastor of St. John of the Cross, and Dan Cochran. We shared a meal, some wine, and beer as we caught up with all the holy moments we experience in ministry. I was humbled by their visit and their words of encouragement.

I am happy to let you know that on the weekend of October 12-13, 2024, we will publish a detailed 2024 Fall Festival financial report in the parish bulletin.

May the joy experienced at the Fall Festival continue to strengthen our relationship with one another and the Lord.

Fr. Elmer Romero



A Note from the Associate Pastor's Desk

RENEWAL AT ST. CLETUS

Saints. Cletus, John of the Cross, and Francis Xavier parishes were granted the opportunities to remain separate entities, both in the parishes and the school. All three have been thriving and organic communities for many years. However, we cannot take this news lightly. We still need to continue to grow individually and collectively. We want this area of Vicariate V to thrive. St. Cletus has had several ways we are able to see signs of renewal. I was asked a day or two before writing this article how I would define the word "renewal." My response was "constantly being created." In other words, whether it's at the outer reaches of our visible universe or the first flower that buds in the springtime, God continues to create. It also involves using something that already exists. If some new form of life or mineral is discovered, that's not renewed but simply new.

When I began my time at St. Cletus, there was quite a bit of cultural diversity, but not cultural unity. There was more of a "two parishes in one" model – things that would happen in English and Spanish separately. There didn't seem to be much invitation to join in each culture's events. Within the last year, that had changed quite a bit. The Parish Potluck was one of the first places I saw it. Fall Fest had people from both cultures working to make it a great success. The Day of the Dead and All Souls Day celebrations, the Mass with the Cardinal, and the Parish Picnic were all great in showing what we truly can be for the future of St. Cletus. The picnic had music and food and volunteers all focused on being a prime source of unity. That unity was also represented in the children trying to do their part in

making it a success, working with the popcorn and sno-cones, and all the while just having fun and playing with each other. It was heart-warming.

Don't get me wrong. We are not finished.

Another sign of renewal for me has been in terms of the staff. You know there have been many staff changes especially in the last year. The people who have filled those positions have brought new perspective and new energy.

In terms of "renewing" my mind and heart, I feel like I've made strides. For example, recently, I came across a phrase on the Archdiocese of Chicago Renew My Church webpage. It referred to fostering a culture of evangelization. "We evangelize by being authentic followers of Jesus who are willing to share our lived experience of how Jesus transformed our life because we want to help someone know God's love and have their own encounter with Jesus." I'm sure it's a great overall statement and likely true, but for some strange reason, I got hung up on "authentic." Of course, I've heard the word used in terms of how ethnic foods might be prepared and served, but here, I didn't see that. I had to go look at a thesaurus to find what other words could be substituted for "authentic." Probably the best I found in this instance was the word "genuine." Just by being genuinely ourselves, Christ should radiate from us and be intimately seen by those whom we encounter along our daily living whether at home, work, school, shopping...

Be authentic!

Fr. Mike



St. Cletus Parish Annual Potluck

Save the Date: Saturday, October 19th, at 6 p.m.

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW—the sponsor of this event) will provide a main dish but we'd like you to bring your favorite dish (to serve 8-10 people) and join us for an evening of good food and friendship. This is an informal fun gathering to acquaint and re-acquaint yourself with fellow parishioners. Advance reservations will be requested; watch the Canticle/bulletin for more details. If you have a question, please contact us at: ccw@stcletusparish.com or call: 708-710-0644.



Parish Life

Date	Time	Events	Location
Monday, September 16	4:30 p.m.	Girls' Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
	6 p.m.	Faith Formation Open House	Morrissey Hall
Tuesday, September 17	3 p.m.	School Faculty Meeting	Gallagher Room
	3 p.m.	St. Cletus Cross Country Practice	Field
	4:30 p.m.	Girls' Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
	6 p.m.	Pilot Alpha (English)	Room 213
Wednesday, September 18	9 a.m.	Mission Ladies	Gallagher Room
	1 p.m.	Living Rosary	Church
	4:30 p.m.	Girls' Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
	4:30 p.m.	St. Cletus Flag Football Practice	Field
	7 p.m.	Teen Seekers Open House	Rooms 201 & 203
	8 p.m.	School Fathers Basketball	Parish Center Gym
Thursday, September 19	1:15 p.m.	Grand Friends Mass	Church
	3:00 p.m.	St. Cletus Cross Country Practice	Field
	3:15 p.m.	Girls Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
	4 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution	Food Pantry
	7 p.m.	Year 2: Confirmation Parent Meeting	Morrissey Hall
Friday, September 20	4:30 p.m.	Girls Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
	6:00 p.m.	Alpha Piloto (Spanish)	Room 213
Saturday, September 21	6:30 a.m.	Mum Delivery Day	Parish Center Gym
	1 p.m.	Girls Volleyball Games	Parish Center Gym
Sunday, September 22	1:30 p.m.	Girls Volleyball Games	Parish Center Gym

Readings of the week

Sunday: Is 50:4c-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (9)/
Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10,
17/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4,
5/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5,
12 and 22/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17,
28/Lk 7:36-50

Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-
20/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-
13

Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catechetical Sunday

Monday: Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian,
Bishop, Martyrs

Tuesday: St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor
of the Church; Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin
and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

Friday: Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gön, Priest, and Paul
Chöng Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs

Saturday: St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Next Sunday: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Cletus Parish

Join Us For Our Annual Pet Blessing

600 W. 55th St.
La Grange



October 4th at 4pm by
our statue of
St. Francis of Assisi



Faith Formation

Formacion de la Fe

Upcoming Events:

- Open House - Week of September 15
- First Day of class - Week of September 22nd

To see the full details on the calendar, please scan the QR code based on your child's program



Faith Formation- Monday's and Sunday's
Formación en la fe - Lunes y domingos

Próximos eventos:

- Junta Informativa - Semana del 15 de septiembre
- Primer día de clase - Semana del 22 de septiembre

Para ver todos los detalles de este calendario, escanee el código QR que corresponda al programa de su hij@.



Teen Seekers - Wednesday's
Grupo de jovenes - Miércoles

Sharing our Blessings



Sharing our Blessings



Social Concerns



St. Cletus Food Pantry

Thursdays
4-8 p.m.

Wish List:

- Cereal
- Condiments
- Boxed Potatoes
- Baby Wipes
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Shampoo
- Body wash
- Hand Soap

Follow us on

Facebook:

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If you have questions or would like to volunteer
Kendall Grant
(708)215-5418
kgrant@stcletusparish.com

Interfaith Career Network

Staying Motivated & Marketable During Your Career Transition



Thursday, September 19
7:00-9:00pm
St. John of the Cross Parish Center
5005 Wolf Rd. Western Springs

Navigating a career transition can be both exciting and challenging. We're going to provide you with an engaging presentation on how best to stay motivated and marketable during this pivotal time. You'll discover practical strategies and mindset shifts that can help you maintain momentum, overcome obstacles and achieve your professional goals.

Changing industries? Seeking advancement? Starting a new venture? Our speaker, Deborah O'Donnell, will provide you with the tools and inspiration needed to thrive in your career journey.

For More Information InterfaithCareerNetwork.com

SVDP DONATION TRUCK

October 5 from 10:00-5:00

October 6 from 8:00-12:30

St. Cletus Parking Lot

Accepting clothes* & household items such as picture frames, decorations & small kitchen items *Please pack all clothes in bags or boxes

NO Furniture, toys, electronics and appliances



Volunteers Needed (Jr. High-Adult): Sign up at:



BABY BOTTLE VOLUNTEERS

- Help pass out baby bottle envelopes after Mass(s) October 5 & 6.
- All ages welcome.
- Proceeds benefit Women's Care Center in LaGrange.
- Sign Up at:



School News

Superintendent Greg Richmond Visit to St. Cletus

By Principal Porod

Archdiocesan Superintendent Greg Richmond visited St. Cletus School for the third time in two years. He has been very impressed with our curricular offerings especially a newly implemented Dual Language Immersion Program. The DLI Program is currently being offered in Pre-School for our four year old students. Parents have the option of enrolling in either the DLI Pre-School 4 Year Old class or our all English Pre-School 4 Year Old class. In the DLI class students are being taught in both English and Spanish. The program also focuses on providing students with the opportunity to become more aware of linguistic and cultural diversity. According to the University of Notre Dame, a sponsor of the program along with the Archdiocese of Chicago, initial studies indicate that students excel exponentially in their academics in dual language classrooms. By providing students with the opportunity to develop intercultural and global abilities, students are better prepared to excel in today's increasingly competitive global society. The goal is for St. Cletus School to expand one DLI class per year over the next decade enabling two classes per grade level. One will be in traditional English instruction and the other in dual-language Spanish immersion. St. Cletus will continue to offer excellent academics and nurturing communities having as a core foundation in both values and faith.

The following are comments from representatives from both the University of Notre Dame and the Archdiocese of Chicago:

- *"I am still smiling after the visit last Thursday. Superintendent Greg Richmond shared how fabulous the visit was today in our Leadership Meeting."* - Karen Rebhan-Csuk, Deputy Superintendent of School Support, Archdiocese of Chicago



- *"I am truly grateful for the opportunity to witness Nairely and Sonia in action with the children in the Dual Language classroom. The level of engagement and progress of the children at this early stage in the school year was truly inspiring."* –

Erika Gallardo, Hispanic Engagement and Outreach Manager, Archdiocese of Chicago

- *"What a blessing it was to see so many months / years of conversation and preparation come to fruition - and in the most meaningful and beautiful ways: **In a classroom that celebrates faith, knowledge, language, and culture!** We are so proud of St. Cletus and the Archdiocese of Chicago for your vision and execution. We are your biggest cheerleaders!"* – Dr. Katy Lichon, University of Notre Dame

- *"Excellent job this morning. I saw everyone with a smile on their face. I felt the closeness and work of the Holy Spirit in everyone."* – Fr. Elmer Romero, Pastor of St. Cletus Parish



Thanks to our entire "Team" at St. Cletus School who made this visit part of history in the making for the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Catholic Schools. Special thanks to: Pastor Father Elmer Romero, Dual Language Coordinator Frank Ochoa, Assistant Principal/Director of Academics Christine Schaefer, Teachers Nairely Nieves and Sonia Sanchez.

St. Cletus Parish School has also been asked to host Leadership Day for approximately one hundred and seventy five administrators and priests from the Archdiocese of Chicago. The Professional Development Day and celebration of liturgy will take place on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.



SEMINARIAN EDUCATION FUND

The archdiocesan collection for the
education and formation of our future priests.



Jeff Mateer/Studio West Photography. Photo courtesy of USML/Mundelein Seminary.

The Seminarian Education Fund provides support for men studying for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Chicago. The fund helps cover the cost of educating our seminarians as they proceed through the stages of formation before ordination as priests.

Your generosity supports these men answering God's call to a life of service for the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Please give today at

archchicago.org/seminarianfund

Thank you!



MUMS FOR SALE!

8TH GRADE FUNDRAISER

The St. Cletus 8th Grade Class is proud to carry on our tradition of selling mums to support 8th grade events and activities. We are excited to partner once again with Hinsdale Nurseries to offer 2-gallon mums and ornamental cabbages for just \$11 each.

AVAILABLE COLORS:

Mums: gold, maroon, purple, orange, white | **Cabbages:** red/purple

TO PLACE AN ORDER:

Please use the order form below and bring it to St. Cletus School.
Orders and payment are due by **Monday, September 16**. Make checks payable to St. Cletus School.

PICK-UP INFORMATION*:

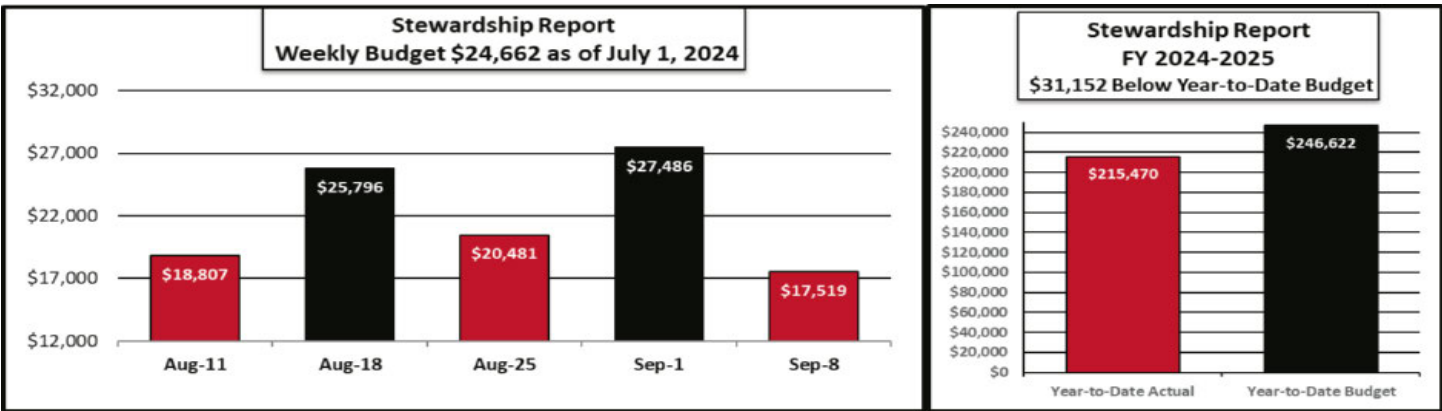
Saturday, September 21 | 11a-3p | St. Cletus Field
**If you have ordered mums through an 8th grader, he/she will contact you to coordinate delivery.*

For questions: contact Maria or Bob O'Connell at 201-403-1986

Buyer's Name & Telephone # _____
Number of each color/style:

GOLD	MAROON	PURPLE	ORANGE	WHITE	ORNAMENTAL CABBAGE

Total # of Mums/Cabbages: _____ Total Price (\$11/ea): _____



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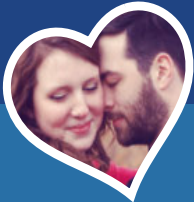
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