St. Cletus Parish Canticle Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ Through Worship, Education and Service

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

August 25, 2024 | The Twentieth 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. Javier Alexander Garcia

Associate Pastor

jgarcia@stcletusparish.com

Rev. Robert Clark Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Ramón Cazales rcazales@stcletusparish.com

Ryan Rump Music Ministry

rrump@stcletusparish.com

Juanita Avila Hispanic Ministry

javila@stcletusparish.com

Rev. Michael Novick Associate Pastor

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Rev. John Lodge

Senior Priest for Weekend

Liturgies

Deacon Franco Foti ffoti@stcletusparish.com

Norma Hernandez

Coordinator of Faith Formation

for Children and Teens

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Kendall Grant Social Concerns

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School

Greg Porod

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Mary Lee Krieger

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Dual Language Immersion

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Christy Schaefer

Assistant Principal

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Kate Townsend

Receptionist/Administrative

Assistant

ktownsend@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

R.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

		11100	7 111101110110	
Saturday August 24	Rev. Alexander Garcia	5 p.m.	† Delphine Marciszewski † Daniel Klepczarek	† Phyllis Prevenas Janet Boyer (Special Intention)
Sunday August 25	Rev. Michael Novick	7:15 a.m.	Living Members of St Cletus CWC (Living) † Marco, Emilia Rattin & Bill De Pasquale	† Robert Spyrison † Julia Kopacz † Frank Bernatawicz
	Rev. John Lodge	8:45 a.m.	† Paulette Bolton † Kysiak Family † David Besler	† Joan Klemak † Agnes Spero
	Rev. Elmer Romero	10:30 a.m.	† Paulette Bolton † Henry & Eleanor Maday † Ralph Kriho & Laura	† Donald Kotrba † Julian Medina
	Rev. Alexander Garcia	12:30 p.m.	† Gustavo Pedraza Gutierrez † Martha Pedraza Tovar † Antelmo Ramos Sanchez	† Por Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio Roberto, Rita & Maria Elena Soto (Special Intention)
Monday August 26	Rev. Alexander Garcia	8 a.m.	† Catherine Shaffer	
Tuesday August 27	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	† B.C. & Rip Collins	† Anne H. Scheer
Wednesday August 28	Rev. Michael Novick	8 a.m.	† Richard Zaremba † B.C. & Rip Collins	† Julian Medina
Thursday August 29	Rev. Michael Novick	8 a.m.	† Mary Ellen Phillips	
Friday August 30	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	† Louie Marasovic † Mike Baum	Laura Brooks (Living Intention)
Saturday August 31	Rev. John Lodge	5 p.m.	† Benjamin Patrick Hyink † Daniel Klepczarek † Theodine Phipps	Janet Boyer (Special Intention) † Antoinette Bomtempe † Michael Ortenzo
Sunday September 1	Rev. Alexander Garcia	7:15 a.m.	† Julia Kopacz	
	Rev. Michael Novick	8:45 a.m.	† Stephanie & Stanley Francuz	† Nick Brzezniak
	Rev. John Lodge	10:30 a.m.	† Francisco Cervantes † James Moles	† Donald Kotrba † Ralph Kriho & Laura
	Rev. Alexander Garcia	12:30 p.m.	Rosa Soto (Birthday)	† Por Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio

Please remember our sick in your prayers:

Patti Boland | Janet Bayer | Debbie Cote | Joanne Kasang | Korea Touranjeau | Caroline Mhley | Diana McHale | Dr. George Schein | Claire Caueney Rose Hammer | Ann Kuchta | Cynthis Gosse George & Barb Zycam

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

Please remember our dead in your prayers:

- † Norma Reid, Wife of Richard Reid
- † Marcia A. Petricig, Sister of Laura Pett
- † Karen Lipinski, Wife of Ron Lipinski

A Note from the Pastor's Desk

"Knowing that we are making meaningful contributions to others' lives leads not only to improved work outcomes but also, to enhanced health and wellbeing.

Even small acts of generosity trigger changes in our brains that makes us happier."

Tom Rath

Dear Friends,

I feel blessed to be praying, walking, and serving at St. Cletus. Every day I witness generosity, kindness, and concern for others. Our parish bulletin, website, E-News, and Facebook are always filled with good news, blessings, and holy moments that are

taking place at St. Cletus every single day of the week. We are a community that intentionally radiates peace, kindness, and love. This reality continues to fill my heart with gratitude and joy. I hope yours, too.

The St. Cletus 2024-25 School year started on Tuesday, August 20th, 2024. We are blessed to have 255 students enrolled in our school. We are also blessed to have wonderful and committed teachers, staff, and administrators. They love teaching and helping our children learn and grow as beloved children of God. Next

week, on Friday, August 30th, 2024, at 9:30 AM we will celebrate Mass of the Holy Spirit with our School Family. Please join us. In a special way, I kindly ask you to hold our students, teachers, staff, and administrators in prayer.

Our Parish School is blessed with many amazing committees and organizations. One of them is the Parish School Board. The board serves as an advisory body. Michael Burns is the new president of the board. They already held their first meeting on August 5th, 2024, in the Parish Center. They support the ministry, work, and leadership of Greg



Porod, Principal, and Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal-Director of Academics. I am encouraged by their witness, generosity, and contribution.

I am delighted to let you know that on December 22nd, 2024, at 4:00 PM we will be hosting a Choral Christmas Concert in our beautiful church. Please

mark your calendar and start extending invitations to your family, neighbors, friends, and coworkers. Let them know that it is going to be a beautiful and joyous concert. I am grateful to the members of our choirs and Ryan Rump, Director of Music Ministries,

for their generosity and willingness to celebrate the birth of our lord Jesus at St. Cletus with a Choral Christmas Concert.

All preparations for the upcoming Fall Festival continue to go well. The committee is grateful for all the support they have received. They are encouraged by your

generosity and inspired by your willingness to help to make our Fall Festival an experience of kindness, fraternity, and love. They truly appreciate your contribution as I do.

Joshua in today's first reading says, "Decide today whom you will serve ... As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Consider reflecting on the choice Joshua and his household made. Then, pray and ask for the grace to serve the Lord.

Fr. Elmer Romero



A Note from the Associate Pastor's Desk

Many of Jesus' disciples who were listening said, "This saying is hard; who can accept it?"

Here we are at the end of the Bread of Life discourse. Jesus has just poured out His whole being in words, teaching us about what we know to be the Eucharist, after having fed thousands of people with 5 loaves of bread and two fish. He relates this amazing event to his followers so that they could understand maybe a little better by bringing up a story from the time of Moses. His people in the desert were starving and he prayed, and

God provided manna. The people with Jesus of His time were hungry and it was getting late. God provided – His very self. "I am the Bread of Life... whoever eats this bread will live forever." And now they tell Jesus "This is difficult?"

Of course, it is.

Yet, I come back to the question, why is this difficult even for today's Catholics? It's because we still only what we want to see, what we are able to observe. I come back to the topic I touched on last week. Space.

We hear from physicists and astronomers unfathomable statistics about the solar system, the planets, how old the sun is, how black holes form, the distance of light years, that our own Milky Way and the Andromeda galaxy are going to collide in 5,000,000,000 years, and SO much more. I am sure that the given mathematical calculations, it's all true. Yet, human beings – the most intelligent life forms in Creation being made in God's image and likeness – are so quick to say yes to something none of us will be around to see in our lifetime light years away from Earth, but they can't say yes to Jesus not only being able to give us His very own Body and Blood as food and drink, but also doing it. And the Eucharist isn't the only mystery Catholics have a hard time with. The Immaculate Conception of the

Blessed Virgin Mary is a big one. Many Catholics don't believe she remained a virgin her whole life either, and that at the end of her earthly life, she

> was assumed into heaven body and soul.

> There are the Annunciation, The Nativity, The Resurrection, The Ascension, Pentecost, the teaching on the Holy Trinity, and, miracles that have been witnessed; yet, since the sciences can't prove these, who can accept it all? Why are we so quick to dismiss faith? Many of the followers left Jesus and returned to their

former ways of life. Will we?

I'm sure you've heard us tell you at some point about one of our professors at the seminary who would tell us discipleship is not for the faint of heart. It's hard. Jesus never promised it would be easy. In fact, if we are going to be true followers, then we need to be willing to take up our own cross and walk the lonely road with him.

Fr. Mike



Parish Life

Date	Time	Events	Location
Monday, August 26	4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7 p.m.	Girls' Volleyball St. Francis/St. Cletus Boys' Football Practice CREDO-Chosen Group Discussion	Parish Center Gym Field Gallagher Room
Tuesday, August 27	3 p.m. 3 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	School Faculty Meeting St. Cletus Cross Country Practice Girls' Volleyball Practice	Gallagher Room Field Parish Center Gym
Wednesday, August 28	1 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m.	Living Rosary Girls' Volleyball Practice Quinceañera Prep Meeting School Fathers Basketball	Church Parish Center Gym Gallagher Room Parish Center Gym
Thursday, August 29	3 p.m. 4 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	St. Cletus Cross Country Practice Food Pantry Distribution Girls Volleyball Practice Boys Scouts	Field Food Pantry Parish Center Gym Morrissey Hall
Friday, August 30	9:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 7 p.m.	School Mass- Mass of the Holy Spirit Girls Volleyball Practice Ushers & Ministers Quarterly Meeting (Spanish)	Church Parish Center Gym Gallagher Room
Saturday, August 31	5:00 p.m.	Fall Fest Ticket Sales	Church
Sunday, September 1	During Masses	Fall Fest Ticket Sales	Church

Readings of the week

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17,

18-19, 20-21, 22-23 (9a)/

Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-

5/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12,

13/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/

Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk

6:17-29

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt

25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-

21/Mt 25:14-30

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday: St. Monica

Wednesday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of

the Church

Thursday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist **Next Sunday:** 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



SEPTEMBER 8TH AT 10:30AM

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

— Fred Rogers





ENTERTAINMENT TIMELINE

Thursday 9/05

- Blooze Brothers
 - o 7:00pm 10:00pm



Friday 9/06

- Trinity Irish Dance
 - 5:00 5:45pm
- Sonora Dinamita
 - o 7:00 pm 10:00 PM



Saturday 9/07

- St. Cletus Kids Got Talent
 - 12:00 1:00pm
- Vest Dance Troupe
 - 1:30 -2:30pm
- DC Studio
 - 3:00 4:30pm
- Dancing Queen
 - o 7:30 10:00PM



Sunday 9/08

- First Responders Mass
 - o 10:30am
- Bears Game
 - o 12:00 pm
- Fortunate Sons
 - 3:00 pm 5:00 pm
- Infinity
 - o 7:00 pm 9:00 pm



Carnival Hours:

Thursday 5-10pm

Friday 5-11pm

Saturday 12-11pm

Sunday 12-9pm



In Our Friendship Bracelet Era

Visit our friendship bracelet tent at Fall Fest to make your own and trade all weekend!

1 Bracelet for \$2 or 3 for \$5!



We are looking for jr high students to help run the tent!



2024 FALL FEST FOOD VENDORS:





EL PATRON

All 4 Days



All 4 Days



9/05, 9/06, & 9/08



9/08



9/06 & 9/07



All 4 Days



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:

@StCletusFoodPantry

Instagram:

@St.CletusFoodPantry

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

NEW Home Delivery Program

We are thrilled to share that we recently launched our Home Delivery Program! We now offer delivery of groceries to those living in Lyons Township that are homebound. If you,

or someone you know, are interested in this new program, please reach out to see if you are eligible:

kgrant@stcletusparish.com or 708-215 -5418.

Senior Sendoff

Each year we send off some of our favorite students as they leave the nest and head off to college. This year is no exception! Please join us in wishing all of our graduates good luck on their next steps!

(Left to Right)

Thomas: Mizzou-Accounting and Finance

Amelia: Lewis University-Nursing

Caitlin: Santa Clara University- Environmental Studies Katie: Binghamton University-Contemplative Literature





Ministerio Hispano

Fecha	Hora	Evento	Lugar
Domingo, 18 de agosto	12:30 p.m.	Misa en Español Spanish Mass	Iglesia
Martes, 20 de agosto	7:00 p.m.	Adoración al Santísimo Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament	Iglesia
Segundo sábado de cada mes	8 p.m 5 a.m.	Misa, Confesiones, Adoración Nocturna Mass, Confessions, Nocturnal Adoration	Iglesia
Sábados	8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Confesiones	Iglesia

Devoción Guadalupana

El Ministerio Hispano lleva a cabo la Devoción Guadalupana rezando el rosario todos los días 12 de cada mes a las 7:00 p.m. en la iglesia. Todos están invitados a participar.



Guadalupe Devotion

The Hispanic Ministry holds the Guadalupe Devotion by praying the rosary every 12th day of each month at 7:00 pm in the church. Everyone is invited to participate.

Junta de Ujieres Hispanos

El viernes 30 agosto de 2024 habrá una reunión general en español para los Ujieres y ministros de Bienvenida. Estaremos compartiendo nuestras experiencias en el ministerio y

descubriendo maneras de continuar creciendo en nuestra fe y compromiso en estos ministerios. La reunión se llevará a cabo en el salón Gallagher a las 7:00 pm. Se anima a todos los ujieres y al grupo de bienvenida a asistir a esta reunión. Gracias

Meeting for Hispanic Ushers

On Friday, August 30 2024, there will be a general meeting in Spanish for Ushers and Welcome Ministers. We will be sharing our experiences in the ministry and discovering ways to continue

growing in our faith and commitment to these ministries. The meeting will be held in the Gallagher room at 7:00 pm. All Ushers and the Welcome group are encouraged to attend this meeting. Thank you.



School News



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

(Formerly RCIA)

Are you or anyone you know interested in exploring the Catholic Church? Are you or do you know somebody who is wondering how o become Catholic? We would like to extend a personal invitation to join us in the OCIA Program.

OCIA is a process through which adults become members of the Roman Catholic Church. This consists of steps, periods, and rites that make up the model of Christian Initiation. Groups are currently forming, program begins mid-September.

We ask that anyone interested in joining the program, or anyone having questions to contact Lawrence Manetti, at Imanetti@stcletusparish.com

Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos



¿Está usted o alguien que usted conoce interesado en explorar la Iglesia Católica? ¿Conoce a alguien que se esté preguntando cómo hacerse católico? Nos gustaría extender una invitación personal a unirse a nosotros en el Programa de RICA.

RICA es un proceso a través del cual los adultos se convierten en miembros de la Iglesia Católica Romana. Consiste en pasos,

etapas y ritos que conforman el modelo de Iniciación Cristiana. Los grupos se están formando actualmente, el programa comienza a mediados de septiembre.

Pedimos que cualquier persona interesada en unirse al programa, o cualquier persona que tenga preguntas que se comunique con El P. Alex Garcia (jgarcia@stcletusparish.com), con Norma Hernandez (nhernandez@stcletusparish.com), o llame a la oficina, 708.352.6209.

CATHOLIC WOMEN

Welcome back CCW members from all your summer travels! We have a jam packed year ahead so put the second Wednesday of September, November, January, March & May on your calendar now and plan to attend our general meetings! As always, we encourage you to bring a friend!

Our first meeting is Wednesday, September 11th at 7pm in the Gallagher room. We will have a short business meeting followed by the Installation of our board members, hospitality & and performance by A La Carte a small group from the Choral-Aires chorus. It promises to be a fun night. If you have any vintage Christmas ornaments or just some you'd like to recycle, please bring your ornament

donations to our September meeting. We raised a nice sum of money last year by selling them so we'll do it again at the Pot Luck Supper and the HO HO Holiday breakfast. Thank you for supporting this effort. Questions? Please direct them to: ccw@stcletusparish.com

SAVE THE DATE: PARISH POT LUCK SUPPER

Saturday, October 19th after 5pm mass. Details to follow but plan now to attend. Looking forward to seeing you at our first general meeting September 11th with your ornament donations!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Embrace Your Legacy

We wanted to share with you that August is Make **A-Will Month**. Please consider leaving a lasting legacy that embodies your faith and dedication to St. Cletus Parish. These considerate and purposeful contributions leave a legacy that extends beyond our lifetimes, ensuring that our mission of faith, service, and community support thrives for generations to come. If you would like to learn

more about how you can include St. Cletus Parish in your will and other easy ways to embrace your legacy, please visit the archdiocesan planned giving resources page at www.archchicago.org/make-a-will.

Thank you for supporting St. Cletus Parish.

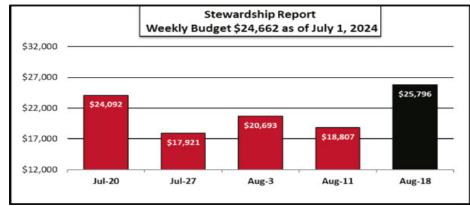
XXI Sunday in Ordinary Time, cycle B.

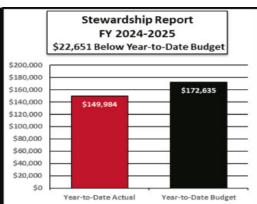
How ironic! The gift of living bread had become the reason why many broke away and severed ties with Jesus. Even those most readily disposed to Jesus chose to leave him. No less surprising is the fact that Jesus offered no easy remedy to the doubts and disillusionment of his disciples. He worked no further sign; he offered no further explanation. He simply challenged them to open themselves to the gift of faith.

Revelation has no "optional parts." The gift of living bread is no less credible than the resurrection and

ascension of Jesus. The "bad news" was that some did not accept the gift of faith and refused to believe. The "good news" is that others, by faith, confirmed Jesus' teaching as *good news*, as gospel and the way of salvation.

At every Eucharistic encounter, believers in the gathered assembly are invited to contemplate all Jesus, the Bread of Life, means. This is a transformative act. We are asked to make it part of our lives and help others to do the same, spreading hope and inspiration.





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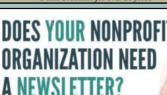
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