

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

In the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption  
-Psalm 130



## Gather Together With Us This Lenten Season

- **Daily Mass(Monday-Friday) 8am**
- **Communal Reconciliation Service**  
March 27th 7pm
- **Evening of Prayer**  
March 29th at 7pm
- **School Stations of the Cross**  
March 30th at 2:30pm
- **Parish Stations of the Cross**  
March 31st-7pm
- **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, April 2nd**  
Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale  
*Please return your CRS Rice Bowl*
- **Holy Thursday, April 6th**  
Feet Washing Service at 9:30am (Led by our school children)  
Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7pm
- **Good Friday, April 7th**  
Living Stations of the Cross at 11am(Spanish)  
The Passion of the Lord at 3pm  
La Pasion del Señor 7pm(Spanish)
- **Holy Saturday, April 8th**  
Blessing of food baskets at 10am  
The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night at 7:30pm
- **Easter Sunday, April 9th**  
7:15, 8:45, 10:30, and 12:30pm(Spanish)

Lent  
2023

## WELCOME

*So glad you could join us!*

- 2 Mass Intentions and Important Notes
- 3 Pastors Note
- 4 Note From Father Mike and Sunday Notes
- 5 Evening of Prayer and Reflection
- 6 Hispanic Ministry
- 7 Social Concerns Ministry
- 8 Making a Difference
- 9 Pig Roast Save the Date
- 10 Kids Corner
- 11 Kids Corner
- 12 School News
- 13 Cardinalpalooza
- 14 WISE and Parish Survey Update
- 15 Ministry News
- 16 Community News
- 17 Week at a Glance and Stewardship Report
- 18 Parish Information

# Mass Intentions for March 27 - April 2, 2023

Day	Time	Presider	Intentions
March 27	8:00am	Fr. Plovanich	Delphine Marciszewski, Father Charles Watkins
March 28	8:00am	Fr. Killeen	Alice Vonesh, Josephine Krug
March 29	8:00am	Fr. Romero	BC and Rip Collins
March 30	8:00am	Fr. Killeen	Louie Pesut
March 31	8:00am	Fr. Romero	St. Cletus Parishioners
April 1	5:00pm	Fr. Romero	Rose Marie Hrzenjak, Father Charles Watkins, Albert Gutierrez
April 2	7:15am	Fr. Romero	John Duda, Chris Campbell, Rita Campbell, Ted and Julia Kopacz
	8:45am	Fr. Lodge	Kenneth Ruta, Josephine Sorrentino, Frances Konieczny, Agnes Schultz, Frank Niwa
	10:30am	Fr. Novick	Nicholas Lodato, Peter Dixon, Derek Karl Klein, Michael Lombardo
	12:30pm	Fr. Romero	Carlos Rivera, Gerardo Torres

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

**Glenn Thomas McAtee**  
Husband of Regina McAtee

**Richard "Dick" B. Daley**

May he rest in peace....

**JOIN US FOR HOSPITALITY!**



**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.*

**March** - Enemorio Cisneros, Galdino Padilla , Juana Garcia, Beto Montalvo. Laura Terrazino, Charlie McCarthy, Denise and Rich Jandura, and Baby Muffy, Francie Smith, Enrique Durán, Donald Hogue  
**February** - Daniel Lacey, Matthew O’Connell, Roman Szabelski, Edward Rojack, Juana Martinez, Louie Soto, Leo Gonzalez, Tillie Gonzalez  
**January** - Janusz Szczepanski, James Wallace, Bill Gozdecki, Peter Felice, Donna Kurcz, Bill Deleeshe

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

## Pastor's Note

*Jesus told her,  
"I am the resurrection and the life;  
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,  
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.  
Do you believe this?"  
John 11:25-26.*

Dear Parishioners,

Our Lenten journey continues to be blessed by the Lord. The Spirit that led Jesus to the desert has been close to us. It has been animating our spirit to stay connected with Jesus. It has been stirring and nourishing our deepest longings to stay close to God and each other. It has inspired us to renew and strengthen our faith and our relationship with God who loves us. I am confident that the Spirit will continue to bring us closer to the heart of Jesus as we embrace the remaining days of Lent and welcome Holy Week next Sunday, as we celebrate Palm Sunday. This is a blessing. It continues to become more evident to me that the Spirit that led Jesus to the desert is present in our lives and parish community. It has been guiding, encouraging, and affirming our desire to be with Jesus and each other. It has been helping us to notice and acknowledge the presence of the Lord among us. I am happy to name some of those places where the Spirit has been present.

First, the *A Jazz Passion* held last Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 4:00 PM at the Parish Center, was beautiful. 140 people attended the event. The talented composers, musicians, and performers passionately shared with us their own experience of the Passion. Through the love they have for beautiful music and art, they invited us to feel and experience the Passion of the Lord. I personally felt the presence of the Spirit. It certainly was special and moving. I would like to thank the leaders of Ed Ward Fine Art Series for always thinking of us and for sharing with us their passion and love for music and art. In a special way, I would like to acknowledge and thank Justin Sisul for always bringing to St. Cletus his gifted friends and for sharing his love for St. Cletus with us.

Second, on the weekend of March 11-12, 2023, we held a second collection at each Mass to support the ministry of Saint Vincent de Paul. I am happy to let you know that \$15,266 were collected. Thank you for your generosity. Thank you for affirming the ministry and leadership of St. Vincent de Paul at our parish. I pray that the spirit of the Lord fills your heart with his peace and kindness.

Third, like last year, this year we are hosting the Tri-Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM in church. It will be an opportunity for us all to welcome and experience the love and mercy that God has for each of us as we come together and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are hoping to have 10 confessors. You will be able to celebrate the sacrament in English, Polish, and Spanish. Please pray that we do this well and in the Spirit of Jesus.

Fourth, our second *Evening of Prayer and Reflection* is this week, Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at 7:00 PM in church. I am looking forward to it with hope and joy. I am confident that the spirit will be present and speak to us through Fr. Anthony Muraya. Please join us. If possible, please extend this invitation to others.

Fifth, on Tuesday morning, March 13, 2023, I woke up tired and not feeling myself. After breakfast, I took a home Covid test which was positive. Following the CDC guidelines, I isolated myself from others in the Rectory. Then, on Saturday morning, March 18, 2023, after breakfast, I took a home Covid test which was negative. The symptoms I had were mild for which I give thanks to the Lord. I am grateful and appreciative of the generosity of my brother priests including Bishop Kevin Birmingham for coming to St. Cletus to celebrate Mass for us while I was not feeling well. The Spirit was at work and Mass continued to be celebrated as anticipated.

Six, some of you have inquired recently about the burnt-out light that shines on the cross above the altar. The spotlights that currently light the sanctuary contain 585-watt halogen bulbs that burn out, on average, after six months. The rental cost of the 40-foot manlift to replace these light bulbs is a little over \$1000, which needs to be done at least twice per year. The manufacturer of the spotlights has recently developed a retrofit kit that replaces the halogen bulbs with long-lasting energy efficient 150-watt LED bulbs of the same light intensity that are rated to last more than 45,000 hours before needing replacement. After ordering eight of these retrofit kits, which arrived late last week, it is our intention to retrofit all eight spotlights when Derek Sawicki (Head maintenance) returns to work from Poland at the end of this month, resulting in long-term savings on both our electric bill and recurring rental costs.

Seven, over 500 members of our parish have already completed the Disciple Maker Index survey. Thank you kindly! The Spirit is at work. As a reminder, the online survey closes on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 11:59 PM. I am hopeful that a few hundred more of you will be completing the survey. Once again, thank you.

**May the Spirit continue to help us find refuge, strength, healing, renewal, and peace in Jesus. Fr. Elmer Romero**



## Note From Father Mike

### Week 5 Lent 2023

Now that we've gone past the Lenten midpoint, time will seem to move faster and faster. It always seems to happen that way with everything (except basketball games where the last two minutes of a game tends to take at least 20 minutes in real time). Just think about the fact that Holy Week is only a week away. Then Easter is on final approach. It's big stuff, even if it seems like we do the same thing every year. I still hear from lots of people that the Catholic Church is boring. "Why doesn't the Church change things up a little bit in the rite? Other churches don't do the same thing every week." Well, that is all in the area of perception. What we do at Mass each week in the Church isn't the same thing. Oh it may have many of the same features and prayers; however, each week (and each day for that matter) is different. It's the first time we are celebrating that liturgy. I'd say if you want to blame anyone for Mass being boring, blame God. He is the Creator who set time in motion. With each passing nano-second, the Mass is new. So why do we get bogged down by thinking it's the same old thing?

For the past three weeks, I've been recuperating away from St. Cletus after having some relatively minor surgery. And yet, as "minor" as the surgery was, time is what was needed to get me the proper rest for healing incisions and working thru pain. And add that on top of the grieving I've had to deal with in the death of my best friend? 2023 has not been very kind to me and my soul. Yet, time is what has been needed to recapitulate my mind and help my soul to heal. Oh I'm nowhere near over any of the physical, emotional, nor spiritual pain these first few months of 2023. I've got a long way to go. Still, I am fully aware that Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection is the road on which I seek to follow. All of my present "suffering" I am trying to join to Jesus'.

Sometimes I feel like I am only trying to simply eject my friendship with Fr. Charles memory out of my brain and heart. His family has come to Illinois a couple of times in the last few months and essentially cleaned Fr Charles stuff out of Illinois with the exception of a few things left to handle. I'm glad they allowed me to take a few things of his. Yet, as much as I know in my heart I never want to forget the last 25 years with Fr. Charles in my life, I feel guilty in some way for going back to some of my old habits I had before I met Fr. Charles. For instance, he had a knack for cooking certain things HIS way. Some of those things he cooked were from his life in the south. Many of those dishes I won't even think to try and cook. If I want to eat them, then I guess I'll go out to get them. But even side dishes like cole slaw – while many people simply use cabbage, carrots, and some sort of dressing, Fr. Charles always "doctored" HIS cole slaw with other ingredients. Oh it was good, don't get me wrong, but I won't likely go out of my way to do that stuff. Maybe someday, but for now, it's not on my radar.

I've been making my way through Lent with more help from the renowned author Matthew Kelly "Best Lent Ever." This year, of course, his lessons are based on Holy Moments, the concept that was introduced to us back in Advent. As I write this, today's lesson spoke about how Holy Moments make a difference at work. If we think in terms of a 40 hour work week, and taking out 4 weeks of vacation for many full-time jobs, it would take 46 years for someone to work 90,000 hours. That's a lot of potential Holy Moments. Have you been paying attention for Holy Moments at work? Keep moving forward toward Easter!

Fr. Mike

## Sunday Notes

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday:** Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

**Monday:** Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

**Tuesday:** Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-3

**Wednesday:** Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

**Thursday:** Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

**Friday:** Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

**Saturday:**Is Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Monday:** 5th Sunday of Lent

**Saturday:** April Fools' Day

**Next Sunday:** Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Holy Week begins



# Evening Of Prayer And Reflection



JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF  
*Prayer & Reflection*

**THEME:**  
**APPROPRIATING  
THE SPIRIT OF  
CHRIST:**

“And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.”  
(Romans 6:10-11)



## SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

**Fr. Anthony Muraya, STL, PhD**

Fr. Muraya, is originally from Kenya, and a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago since 2012. Has served the archdiocese as an associate pastor

at St. Paul of the Cross in Park Ridge and currently is seminary formator and an Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology at the University of St. Mary of the Lake-Mundelein Seminary.

The third born in a family of nine (six boys and three sisters). Fr. Muraya grew up Lutheran on his father’s side of the family. He converted to Catholicism at 14 years of age. The real culprit of his change was his maternal grandmother, a true matriarch if ever there was one, to whom he owes his life, faith, and vocation. As formator, he relishes the opportunity to accompany seminarians in their discernment adventure. As pastor, he looks forward to be part of vibrant faith communities at the parish on weekends.

## OUTLINE

- 7:00 PM** Opening Song
- 7:05 PM** Welcome and introduction of special guest speaker
- 7:10 PM** Reflection by Fr. Anthony Muraya
- 7:50 PM** Personal silent reflection
- 7:55 PM** Meditation song
- 8:00 PM** Conversation with Fr. Anthony Muraya
- 8:20 PM** Acknowledgments/Thank you!
- 8:25 PM** Pray togetherThe Lord’s Prayer/Blessings
- 8:30 PM** Closing song



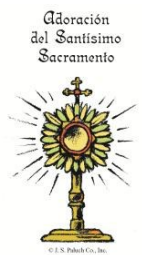
**MARCH 29, 2023**  
**7:00 – 8:30 PM**

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# Hispanic Ministry

FECHA-DATE	HORA-TIME	EVENTO-EVENT	LUGAR-PLACE
28 de marzo, 2023	7:00 p.m.	<b>Adoración al Santísimo</b> Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Iglesia Church</b>
26 de marzo, 2023	12:30 p.m.	<b>Misa en Español</b> Spanish Mass	<b>Iglesia Church</b>
<b>Segundo Sábado de cada mes</b> Second Saturday of each month	<b>8:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.</b> 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.	<b>Adoración Nocturna</b> Night Adoration	<b>Iglesia Church</b>
<b>Sábados</b>	<b>8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Confesiones</b>	<b>Iglesia</b>



## ADORACIÓN NOCTURNA

Cada segundo sábado del mes el Ministerio Hispano lleva a cabo la Adoración Nocturna, comenzando con una Misa a las 8:00 p.m. seguido de la Adoración al Santísimo hasta las 5:00 a.m. Todos están invitados a participar.

## NOCTURNAL ADORATION

Every second Saturday of the month the Hispanic Ministry conducts Nocturnal Eucharistic Adoration, beginning with a Mass at 8:00 p.m. followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 5:00 am. Everyone is invited to participate.

## DEVOCIÓN GUADALUPANA

El Ministerio Hispano lleva a cabo la Devoción Guadalupeana rezando el rosario todos los días 12 de cada mes a las 7:00 pm 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.

@stcletusparish.com. at the Hispanic Ministry office or Deacon Ramón Cazales. 708-215-5441

## VIA CRUCIS

Estaremos realizando el Vía Crucis viviente en español el Viernes Santo, 7 de abril de 2023 a las 11:00 a.m. en la iglesia. Por favor haga planes para ese día y únase a nosotros para recordar la crucifixión y muerte de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Todos están invitados

## WAY OF THE CROSS

The living Stations of the Cross in Spanish will take place on Good Friday, April 7, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. in the church. Please plan for that day and join us in remembering the crucifixion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. Everyone is invited

## ¡GRACIAS!

Gracias a todas las personas que participaron en el Retiro de Cuaresma el sábado pasado, tuvimos una experiencia maravillo el poder reflexionar en Caminando con Jesús, Gracias al Padre Elmer Romero y a Hector Obregon-Luna por haber facilitado este retiro. Gracias también al Diacono Ramon Cázales por su participación. Gracias a los músicos que animaron el retiro con sus cantos y música. Gracias por ayudarnos a reconocer nuestro caminar continuo con Jesús. Gracias

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Lenten Retreat last Saturday, we had a wonderful experience being able to reflect on Walking with Jesus. Thank you to Father Elmer Romero and Héctor Obregón-Luna who facilitated this retreat. Thank you also to Deacon Ramón Cázales for his participation. Thank you to the musicians who animated the retreat with their songs and music. Thank you for helping us recognize our continuing walk with Jesus. Thank you.

## LA PASION DEL SEÑOR / THE LORDS PASSION

Please join us to commemorate the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, at 7:00 pm in Spanish. / Favor de unirse a nosotros a conmemorar la Pasión de nuestro Señor el Viernes Santo 7 de abril a las 7:00 pm en español.





# Social Concerns Ministry



## ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY THURSDAYS 6-8PM

### Wish List:

- \$10 gift cards to Walmart or Jewel
- Pasta
- Jelly
- Dish Soap
- Deodorant
- Beverages
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Diapers size 4, 5, 6
- Baby wipes

### Follow us on

Facebook: @StCletusFoodPantry

Instagram: @St.CletusFoodPantry

## BIG NEWS!



### BIG NEWS!

We have some exciting updates from the food pantry! **New Hours:** Beginning in April, we will be expanding our food pantry distribution hours. Our **new hours will be 4:00-8:00pm**. This will double the amount of time customers are able to come for food assistance and provide more flexibility in their day to stop in for help.

**Additional Volunteer Opportunities:** Increasing our hours means that we need more volunteers! Beginning in April, will be adding a **new volunteer session every Thursday from 3:15-5:15pm**. This is perfect for students right after school, but we definitely need adults during this shift, as well! This will double our Thursday night volunteer opportunities!

April sign up is now available at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e094cacac2ea2fc1-stcletus#/>

### Matching Donation: We have been given an anonymous **matching donation of up to \$35,000!**

These funds will help us provide additional assistance at a crucial time when SNAP benefits are being cut and our numbers are increasing. This will help us purchase more food, expand our cold storage capacity, increase our hours and volunteer opportunities. Please consider helping us reach this full match! Donations can be made online to the "Food Pantry", checks can be written to "St. Cletus Food Pantry" and put in the collection basket, brought to the Parish Center or mailed to: Attn Food Pantry 600 W 55<sup>th</sup> St. La Grange, IL 60525

Thank you for your support! You allow us to dream bigger and expand to meet the growing needs in our community.

## LENTEN OUTREACH

### The Power of Sacrifice

Lent can feel like a long time. Sometimes we'd like to skip right to Easter! But through prayer and sacrifices, we share in Christ's suffering and prepare for the joy of his resurrection. This Lent, we've learned how people in Honduras, the Philippines and Kenya made sacrifices so their families and communities can thrive. How have your Lenten sacrifices helped your family and community and communities around the world? Visit [crsrice-bowl.org](http://crsrice-bowl.org) to learn more.

**Please remember to return your Rice Bowls next weekend, April 1-2. They can be placed in the collection basket, thank you!**

## WORD OF LIFE



"There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those 'brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves'... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life" (*The Gospel of Life 86*).

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

If you are experiencing problems, especially abuse, in your relationship, talk to a professional counselor. Find professional assistance by calling the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-7233. Chat with a service provider and find the domestic violence services nearest you. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.



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

# Making A Difference

## GIVING BACK

### St. Cletus Food Pantry Opens New Space to Better Serve Neighbors

By Kendall Grant, Director of Social Concerns, St. Cletus Parish

This past Fall, St. Cletus Food Pantry opened in a brand new space on their campus in La Grange. The new location is bright, vibrant and offers first floor accessibility to all who visit. After over two years of pivoting to outside food pantry distribution during the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Cletus was thrilled to open their brand new home. Two former classrooms were renovated to create a customer-friendly, grocery store model for people seeking food assistance.

The Pantry began over 30 years ago and serves residents in 18 municipalities throughout Lyons Township and beyond. A pantry customer that recently came for groceries shared, "our boys love coming and getting a treat and playing in the kids area. We never thought we would need help like this but once I got cancer and lost my job we just could not make ends meet. This place has been a blessing for our family and an answer to prayers."

St. Cletus offers more than just food assistance. Clients also come for help with rent, utilities and other major expenses. This year the annual Christmas Giving Tree program provided presents for 1,367 individuals throughout Lyons Township, including 50 clients



of BEDS Plus. Over \$40,000 in grocery gift cards were also distributed to each family, along with food baskets.

Recently, the pantry has formed relationships with Venezuelan families seeking asylum that are living at a nearby emergency shelter. "People started coming to our Spanish Mass and we began making connections", says Kendall Grant, Director of Social Concerns at St. Cletus. They began welcoming the families to join community celebrations, including them in the Christmas Giving Tree program, and coordinating a private party donated by Flying High.

As the families have begun transitioning from emergency shelter to housing, St. Cletus helped take the lead to organize Welcome Packs. These "packs" include almost everything needed for a new home: sheets, blankets, towels, dishes, groceries and more! One of the recipients shared, "Since our family arrived here in the LaGrange area, I have only received blessing after blessing. We are so impressed, because truly, in no country have they really offered us help like this. And we feel very happy because we have been through so much." Each pack is valued at \$800-\$1,000. St. Cletus partnered with other area organizations, including: D105, Nazareth Academy, the Sisters of St. Joseph, St. John of the Cross and St. Francis Xavier, to assist in the process.

St. Cletus, with the help of the community, looks forward to continuing to answer the call and assist neighbors throughout Lyons Township.

To learn more about giving back in the area check out the La Grange IL Give Back Group on Facebook.

## LAGRANGE LIVING

An article recognizing the difference our Food Pantry is making in the recent edition of LaGrange Living Magazine

## IN GRATITUDE

By Kendall Grant, Director of Social Concerns, St. Cletus Parish

St. Cletus Food Pantry is made possible because of generous donors, community partners and volunteers. Whether it is donating Christmas gifts, checking dates on donations, loading or unloading vehicles, weeding in the garden, or helping someone shop at the pantry, together we are working to end hunger in our community.

To learn more about giving back in the area check out the La Grange IL Give Back Group on Facebook.

- 1 - Girl Scouts
- 2 - Nazareth Academy
- 3 - St Cletus School at the garden
- 4 - Moms and Daughters
- 5 - The Leadership



morna freitas —  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
Now Open in Bolingbrook  
FINE ART DANCE & PORTRAIT STUDIO



**Save The Date**

*St. Cletus Community*

**S E C O N D   A N N U A L**

**PIG ROAST**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 10**

**IN THE COURTYARD  
AFTER THE 5:00 PM MASS**

★ **FOOD** ★ **GAMES** ★

★ **LIVE MUSIC** ★

★ **BOUNCE HOUSES** ★

★ **ENTERTAINMENT** ★

**DON'T WANT TO EAT? COME ANYWAY!**

**ALL THE FUN IS FREE!**

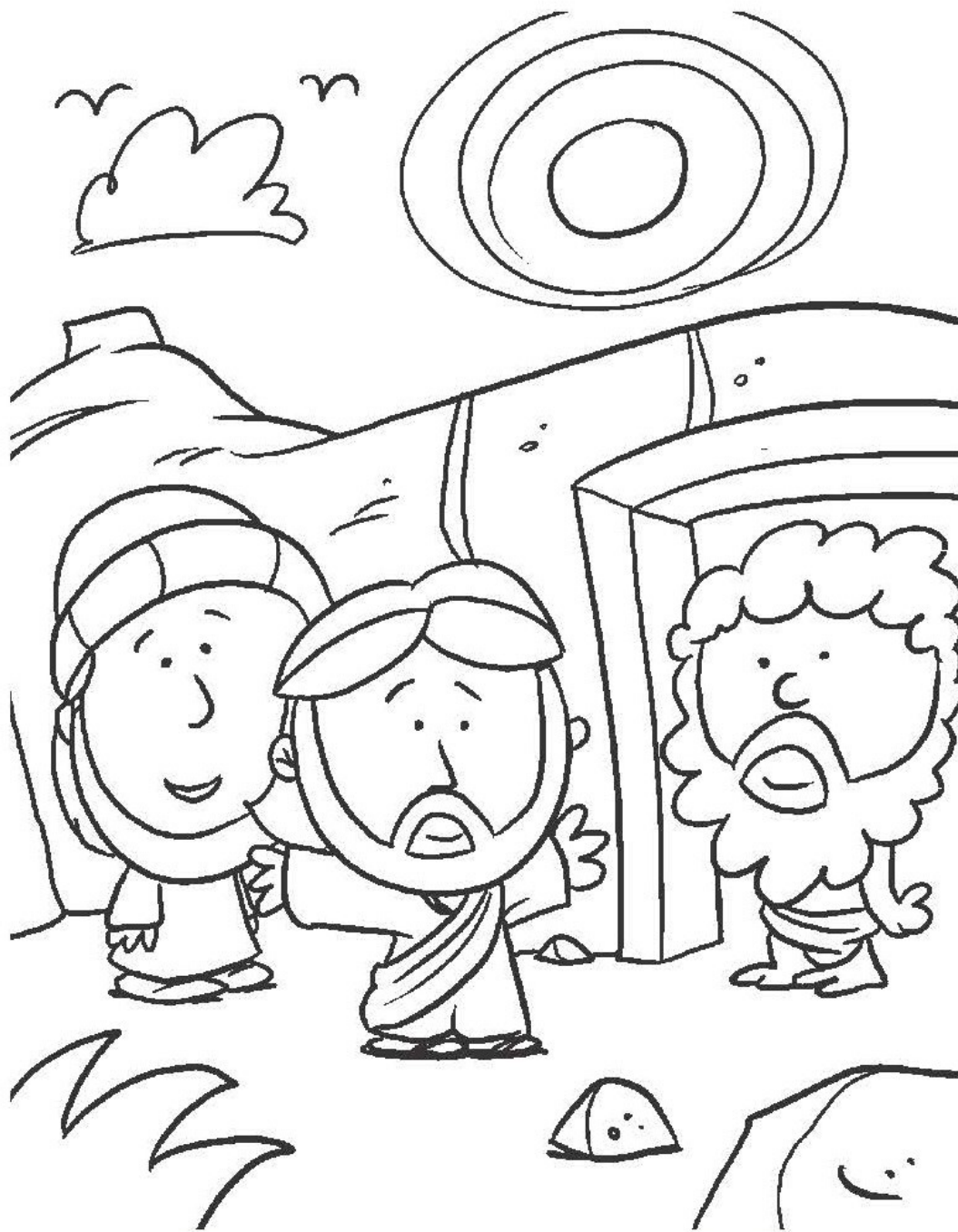
**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Kids Corner



## COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.





# Kids Corner

## PUZZLE

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GOD'S SON  
SICKNESS  
RISE

LAZARUS  
MARY  
MARTHA

BELIEVES  
WEEPING  
WRAPPED

S	A	O	E	T	R	H	I	E	T	Y
T	W	R	A	P	P	E	D	H	O	N
O	E	K	R	W	Y	A	O	Y	U	T
B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S	T	S	H
H	P	T	S	A	O	M	Y	N	I	E
T	I	H	E	U	N	A	J	H	C	S
U	N	S	V	M	A	R	Y	L	K	O
O	G	K	H	E	I	T	D	W	N	U
T	P	A	Y	N	O	H	S	Y	E	A
I	S	D	L	A	Z	A	R	U	S	H
G	O	D	S	S	O	N	F	E	S	R

# School News

## WE SURE ARE LUCKY!

Our students had a great time celebrating St. Patrick’s Day! Our student council hid 3D printed cardinal tokens in all the classrooms and students that found them got a sweet prize at the end of the day! Our students also were able to enjoy a performance from the Trinity Irish Dance Company which included some current and form cardinals! What a wonderful day!



## A GREAT BASKETBALL SEASON!

Our 5th and 6th grade girls just completed their seasons! We are so proud of how much they have learned and grown throughout these last few months! We can’t wait to see them in action again next season!



## REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR!

Congratulations are in order for our 8th graders that participated in the Regional Exposition of the Illinois Junior Academy of Science yesterday. Olivia Dixon placed first at regionals, Madelyn Gentile and Finley Gorman placed second and Erin Kennedy, Natalie Kapusta and Amelia Ludden are moving on to state!! Wow! What a showing for our cardinals! So proud of you ladies!



## TAX CREDIT REMINDER!



There’s still time to donate to St. Cletus School through the Tax Credit Scholarship Incentive Program.. For additional donation information please call Empower Illinois for guidance at 1-800-616-7606 or call the St. Cletus School Office at 708-352-4820. Share this information with your relatives and friends. Thanks for supporting St. Cletus School.



# Cardinalpalooza

## AUCTION TICKETS FOR SALE TODAY!

## PURCHASE A TICKET!



**2023**  
**ST. CLETUS**  
**AUCTION**

2 TICKETS,  
2 CUPS  
\$200

SATURDAY  
APRIL  
29TH

**Cardinal  
palooza**

SINGLE  
TICKET  
\$85

7:00-  
11:00PM

**ST. CLETUS PARISH CENTER**  
**LIVE MUSIC, DRINKS, FOOD**

**DJ CUE**  
**GROUND**  
**ZERO**

**KARAOKE**

**BAND:**  
**HITS &**  
**MRS.**

ORDER TICKET ONLINE @  
[E.GIVESMART.COM/EVENTS/UBF/IS](http://E.GIVESMART.COM/EVENTS/UBF/IS)

Scan this QR code to purchase a ticket to our event! \$85 per person or \$200 to be a "Family Sponsor" and receive 2 tickets and 2 auction cups to get our specialty cocktail the night of the event for free!



## WINE CELLAR RAFFLE



Scan this QR code to purchase a chance to win 50 bottles of wine! Winner need not be present! \$50 per ticket or 3 for \$100

## LIQUORPALOOZA RAFFLE

Scan this QR code to purchase a chance to win 5 quality bottles of alcohol! 6 winners will be chosen! Winner need not be present. \$25 per ticket or 5 for \$100



We would love to have you JOIN US on April 29th as we celebrate and support our school! It's a night full of live music, drinks, great food, and great items to bid on! Help us as we strive to hit our \$95,000 goal! We are already almost half way there! Can you believe it?! Tickets are for sale after all masses this weekend

## OUR LIVE AUCTION ITEMS INCLUDE....

A one week trip to the Big Island of Hawaii (air fare included), a tour of WGN studios and getting to go behind the scenes on Dean Richards summer show, 4 100 level Chicago Bulls tickets, an overnight in downtown Chicago, voucher for up to 20 guests to a rooftop across from Wrigley Field for a Cubs game (all you can eat and drink!), a private mass with Father Elmer in your home! Purchase a \$100 "Best of Live" ticket and if your name is drawn you get to choose ANY of our live items at no extra cost! (MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN BEST OF LIVE)

# WISE

For more info. Contact: [hobregon@stcletusparish.com](mailto:hobregon@stcletusparish.com)



It is true, we all have the gifts and capacities to succeed in life, but sometimes having someone to encourage us can make a huge difference in our FAITH journey. Thus, when you share your faith experiences with other people, you help them see the meaning of love, care, forgiveness, peace, etc.

Don't forget, "there are as many different ways to be holy as there are people on the planet." Pope Francis

+ BE A **WISE** ENCOURAGER!

"Let's evangelize at all times and when necessary let us use words" St. Francis of Assisi



## Parish Wide Survey Update! LAST CALL!

Thank you to all who have responded! **The deadline for completing on-line and/or returning all paper surveys is this Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.** All family members, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up, are asked to individually participate. Only 5 days left to let your opinions be heard! All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

Select one of these ways to access the survey:

- 1) go to the St. Cletus website and click on "TAKE SURVEY HERE" (you may select from 17 languages!)
- 2) use this link: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/ggt5y4>.
- 3) go to the parish center, M-F, 9 to 5, and use the computer which has easy access to the survey
- 4) pick up a paper copy (available in English or Spanish) weekdays at the parish center or take home a copy today; see one of the ushers!

If you have any questions or to make special arrangements for obtaining/returning a paper copy, please contact Karen Ziemba, 708-215-5466 or by email: [DMISurvey@stcletusparish.com](mailto:DMISurvey@stcletusparish.com).





# Ministry News

## DISCUSSION.

For the next book discussion we are reading **In the Woods** by Tana French. We will meet on April 11 at 10 AM in the Fr. Gallagher Room of the Parish Center.



For those who like to look ahead....

June 13 **The Dream Daughter** by Diane Chamberlain

August 8 **Christ the Lord out of Egypt** by Anne Rice

As always, all are welcome.

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

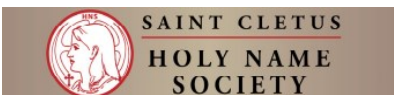
## THE CCW BAKE SALE IS COMING!!

ST. CLETUS COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN CCW Bake Sale needs your help! Please drop off donations on Saturday, April 1st from 4-6pm and Sunday, April 2nd before 10:30am in the Gallagher Room of the Parish Center.

Be sure to stop by the CCW Bake Sale on Sunday, April 2nd 7:30am-2:00pm in the Gallagher room to take home some delicious bakery.

## ADVANCED TICKET SALES FOR HOLY NAME SOCIETY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Holy Name Society Walter Klimcke pancake breakfast will be on April 2nd from 7am to 12:30 pm. Advanced tickets are available for purchase in the narthex after 5pm mass Saturday and from 7am - noon on Sunday this weekend . Cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. We hope you can join us for this annual event. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.



## GIRLS CHURCH LEAGUE BASKETBALL 2023



Hey, High School Girls! Join us for HOOPS! We are looking for girls interested in forming a team for the girl's basketball Church League this Spring! It would be a short season running from April 15 until May 6 or 13. If interested please e-mail me at [Imanetti@stcletusparish.com](mailto:Imanetti@stcletusparish.com). We are thinking the fee will be between \$40 - \$50.

Once we know how many are interested we will post the registration information. Thank you for your interest. God Bless, Lawrence Manetti

## THANKS TO THE CCW

Many thanks to the CCW membership for their “laundry skills” together at our March meeting, we put together 121 laundry kits that were delivered to BEDS in LaGrange. These kits included detergent pods , dryer sheets and quarters. These kits will help our BEDS neighbors with their laundry. Thanks to the CCW membership for their outreach to our wider community. We also had a good time playing Crazy Bingo and sharing ideas for future CCW and parish events.



# Community News

## VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

We beg you good and holy priests. In every age you call men to follow you as servants and shepherds of your people. Open their hearts to your call and give them the courage to follow you. Be their rock of refuge and their lights as they discern.

Help us to support them on their journey, and to love them as your disciples.

We thank you for all that you are and all that you do. In your name we pray.  
Amen.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

## ENGAGE COMMUNITY – MARCH EVENT

### Game Night

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, March 29th for a board game/card night.

**Where:** Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier, 124 N. Spring Avenue, LaGrange, IL.

**When:** 7:00-8:30 March 29

**Who:** All are welcome. Engage focuses on adults over 50 single, married, divorced, widowed, parishioners and visitors to foster Christian community through social and service events.

**What:** Bring your favorite board game or a deck of cards. You may also bring carpet-friendly snacks or a beverage to share (no red wine).  
RSVPs are encouraged.

For questions or to RSVP, please email Jane at [janeLGPark@gmail.com](mailto:janeLGPark@gmail.com)

Community events are scheduled for the last Wednesday of the month.

## ARE YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, WIDOWED?



*If you have been recently widowed and are still struggling with the loss, or if you have been widowed for some time and need something to get you “over the hump” because you seem stuck in one spot, this program is designed to help you move on with life while still treasuring your past and its precious memories.*

This unique retreat/workshop will be held at **St. Mary’s Retreat House, Lemont, Illinois.**

The Joyful Again! program is for both men and women (all ages) who have been widowed and are still trying to find hope and new joy in life. All are welcome.

**What: Retreat/workshop for Widowed Men & Women**

**When: April 1 & 2 (2-day program)**

**Where: St. Mary’s Retreat House, Lemont, Illinois (Commute or stay overnight.)** For further information, call: 708-354-7211. e-mail us at [joyfulagain7211@gmail.com](mailto:joyfulagain7211@gmail.com)

**website: [www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org)**

## LENTEN EVENTS AT ATHENAEUM CENTER

*Tree of Life | Tree of Death: What Reiner’s Trees Teach Us About the Passion of Jesus. Monday, March 27th, 7pm, Athenaeum Center, 2936 N Southport Ave. Tickets are free, with a suggested donation. For more info, please visit: [athenaeumcenter.org](http://athenaeumcenter.org)*  
Fr Paul Anel, a Brooklyn based priest and artist, will invite us into deeper contemplation of Christ’s Passion, sacrifice, and our own humanity as he delves into Reiner’s use of nature in the *Stations*.



**Dancers from Ballet 5:8 will present *Mourning*, an original work in conjunction with the Stations. Begin your Holy Week with this ballet reflection on grief and hope. Tuesday, April 4th, 7pm, Athenaeum Center for Thought & Culture, 2936 N Southport Ave. Tickets are free, with a suggested donation. For more info, please visit: [athenaeumcenter.org](http://athenaeumcenter.org)**



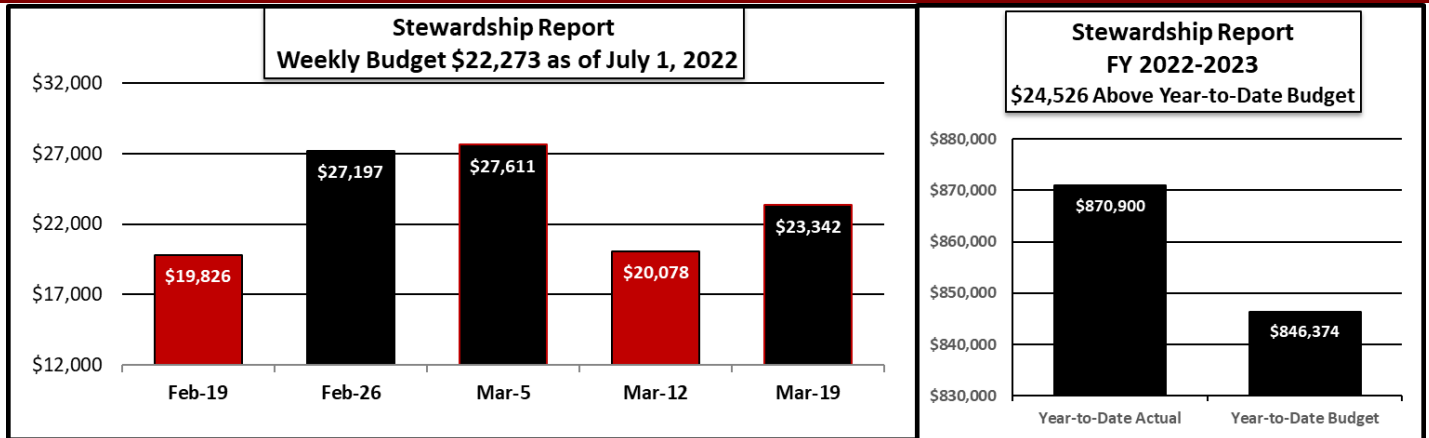
Grief is inescapable. Every culture has different rituals to process grief, yet a strand of shared humanity exists in the ebb and flow of grief. We can turn away from the five stages of grief, shield ourselves from the pain of a lost future, but we find that when we face our suffering, the darkest of night can give way to the warmth of morning.



## Week At A Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, March 26	8am-2pm	Parish Center	Hospitality
Monday, March 27	5:30pm-8pm 7-9pm	Gallagher Room Church	Gushers Meeting Tri-Parish Confessions for Lent
Tuesday, March 28	7-8pm  7-8:30pm 8-10pm	Church  Gallagher Room Parish Center	Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament (Spanish) Athletic Association Meeting Church League Basketball
Wednesday, March 29	9am-12pm 7-8pm	Gallagher Room Church	Mission Ladies Lenten Evening of Reflection
Thursday, March 30	6-8pm 8:30-9pm	Food Pantry Parish Center	Food Pantry Distribution Church League Basketball Practice
Friday, March 31	7-8pm	Church	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, April 1	8:30am-9:15am	Church	Confessions
Sunday, April 2	7am-2pm	Parish Center	Holy Name Society Pancake Breakfast and CCW Annual Bake Sale

## Stewardship Report



### GIVING YOUR FIRST HOUR TO GOD

Thank you for your continued stewardship of St. Cletus Parish. Parishioners sometimes ask for suggestions about appropriate weekly contributions. When in doubt, consider giving your hourly pay rate at work (“*giving your first hour to God*”). Whatever you can give will go toward keeping the lights on and supporting the good work of the Parish.

### BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be emailed to [canticle@stcletusparish.com](mailto: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!

# St. Cletus Parish Information

## CONTACT US

Parish Center.....(708) 352-6209  
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.

Monday thru Friday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday .....Closed

## MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday .....7:15 a.m., 8:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,  
..... 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)  
Weekdays..... Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.

## CONFESSIONS

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

## BAPTISMS

Parents must be registered parishioners. Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements 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.

Please contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at (708) 352-6209.

## HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office .... (708) 352-6209

## STAFF

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. Elmer Romero, *Pastor*  
Rev. Michael Novick, *Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Kevin Hays, *Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgy*  
Rev. John Lodge, *Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgy*  
Mr. Ramón Cazales, *Deacon*  
Rev. Robert Clark, *Pastor Emeritus*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Tina Norton, *Pastoral Associate* (708) 215-5412  
Ryan Rump, *Music Ministry* (708) 215-5423  
Kendall Grant, *Social Concerns* (708) 215-5418  
Christopher Wagner, *Technology* (708) 215-5420

### HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF (708) 215-5441

Juanita Avila, *Head of Hispanic Ministry*

### SCHOOL STAFF (708) 352-4820

Gregory Porod, *Principal*  
Christy Schaefer, *Assistant Principal*  
Mary Lee Krieger, *Administrative Assistant*  
Kate Townsend, *Receptionist/Administrative Assistant*  
Jeannie Scalzitti, *Receptionist/Administrative Assistant*  
Sara Hodak, *Marketing/Development*

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

Lawrence Manetti, *Director of Faith Formation for Children*  
Hector Obregon-Luna, *Associate Director of Faith Formation*

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

Jim Dion, *Business Manager*  
Olga Montalvo, *Parish Administrative Assistant*  
Silvia Castellanos, *Parish Secretary*  
Sara Hodak, *Bulletin Editor*  
Doug Morrisey, *Parish Finance Council Chairperson*,  
Email: [finance@stcletusparish.com](mailto:finance@stcletusparish.com)  
Helen McComiskey, *Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*  
Email: [ppc@stcletusparish.com](mailto:ppc@stcletusparish.com)

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Elmer Romero  
Chairperson..... Bob Wasik

### MEMBERS

Kevin Hogan                      Bob Malham                      Stephen Mersman  
Mike Napleton                      Griselda Quintero                      Julio Quintero  
Jennifer Senyard

### 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.