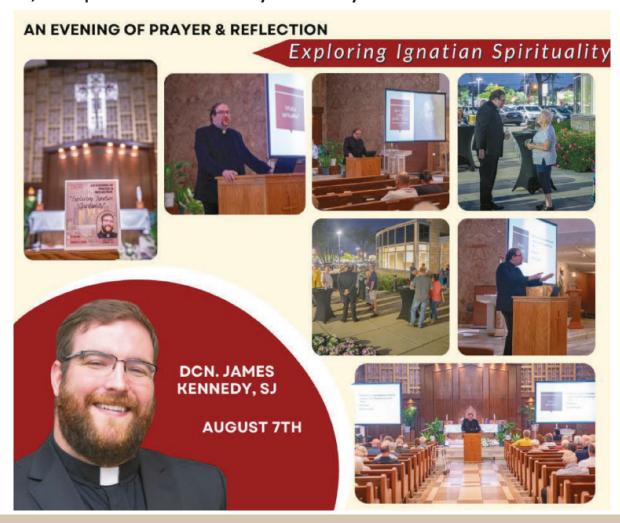
St. Cletus Parish Canticle Spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ Through Worship, Education and Service

August 18, 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

mnovick@stcletusparish.com

Rev. John Lodge

Senior Priest for Weekend

Liturgies

Deacon Franco Foti ffoti@stcletusparish.com

Norma Hernandez

Coordinator of Faith Formation

for Children and Teens

nhernandez@stcletusparish.com

Kendall Grant Social Concerns

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Operations Staff

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Operations Director

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Luis Lopez

IT Manager

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Derek Sawicki

Maintenance Supervisor

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School

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Principal

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Mary Lee Krieger

Administrative Assistant

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Frank Ochoa

Dual Language Immersion

Coordinator

fochoa@stcletusparish.com

Christy Schaefer

Assistant Principal

cschaefer@stcletusparish.com

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

		.,,,	<u> </u>	
Saturday August 17	Rev. Michael Novick	5 p.m.	† Daniel Klepczarek † Theresa Macion Janet Boyer (Special Intention)	† Antoinette Bomtempe † Michael Ortenzo † Joan Klemak
Sunday August 18	Rev. Michael McCabe	7:15 a.m.	† Mary Dybas † Julia Kopacz † Sophie Bautista	† Rose Marie Moore † Daniel Moore
	Rev. Alexander Garcia	8:45 a.m.	† Louie Marasovic † Julian Medina	† Evelyn Prevenas † Karen Lipinski
	Rev. John Lodge	10:30 a.m.	† Pegi Kelly Yearling † Ed Ward	† Henry Maday † Donald Kotrba
	Rev. Alexander Garcia	12:30 p.m.	† Gustavo Pedraza Gutierrez † Martha Pedraza Tovar † Antelmo Ramos Sanchez	† Por Las Benditas Almas del Purgatorio Alejandra Viurquez (Birthday
Monday August 19	Rev. Michael McCabe	8 a.m.	† Joseph Vais	
Tuesday August 20	Rev. Alexander Garcia	8 a.m.	† Mike Thuma † B.C. & Rip Collins	† Cecilia Jones
Wednesday August 21	Rev. Michael McCabe	8 a.m.	† Natalie Nicoletti † Brandon Kievlehan † Kay Klemak	† B.C. & Rip Collins † Gus Casey
Thursday August 22	Rev. Michael Novick	8 a.m.	† Francis Callaghan	
Friday August 23	Rev. Elmer Romero	8 a.m.	Al & Geri Hinton 67th Anniversary (Special Intention)	† Louie Marasovic
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 † Julian Medina † Henry & Eleanor Maday	† Donald Kotrba † Ralph Kriho & Laura
	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)

Please remember our sick in your prayers:

Patti Boland | Janet Bayer | Debbie Cote Joanne Kasang | Jorea Touranjeau | Caroline Mhley Diana McHale | Dr. George Schein | Claire Caueney | Rose Hammer 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

"Man is created to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord, and by this means to save his soul."

St. Ignatius of Loyola

Dear Friends,

Our recent Evening of Prayer: Exploring Ignatian Spirituality, which was held on August 7th, 2024, went very well. We heard the voice of God speaking to us through Deacon Jim Kennedy. Over 100 people attended the event. Each of them responded to the invitation with a generous heart. I could tell that they felt welcomed, at home, and in the presence of God. We all went home feeling refreshed in our relationship with God.

Since the beginning of my priestly formation (Fall of 1992), I heard my seminary formators and professors saying, "God delights speaking to his people." As I listened to Deacon Jim Kennedy speak at our Evening of Prayer, I noticed my heart and soul being at peace. My sense of gratitude and joy was overwhelming. I felt my desire to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord renewed. Many thanks to Deacon Jim Kennedy for his zeal, generosity, and especially for allowing God to speak to others through him.

Deacon Jim Kennedy's Reflection is available in our parish website along with his PowerPoint presentation. I kindly encourage you to watch it. And if you could, please share it with others. Good news and blessings are meant to be shared. God touches the hearts of the hearers but also of the givers. Below you will find Deacon Jim Kennedy's blessing or holy moment.

St. John Henry Newman once wrote "God has created me to do Him some definite service...therefore, I will trust Him." As I began my presentation, I had to trust that the Lord had led me to this moment and that I had allowed myself to be led. Ignatian spirituality has been the way the Lord has brought me closer to himself. So, to share it with others (especially others who know me well or remember me from way back when) required a little bit of risk. But, as I began to speak, I felt the Lord drawing me close and saying, "take the risk with me!" With that, the pressure was gone, and I could speak from the heart, knowing that the Lord was there beside me and had, indeed, brought me there. As Newman also wrote, "The Lord knows what He is about."

Our parish is blessed to have a generous, insightful, and spirit-filled Parish Pastoral Council. They served with a smile at the social after Deacon Jim Kennedy's talk. They find joy praising, reverencing, and serving the Lord and others. They start their monthly meeting by praying, spending time with the Living Word of God (Lectio Divina), and acknowledging His presence among us. They allow the Spirit of God to work through them. I delight serving, collaborating, and discerning the will of God with them for our parish. I very much appreciate their prayer, witness, and counsel. Outside of our meetings and weekend Masses, we see them joyfully volunteering and serving. For example, they were serving at St. Cletus Family Picnic. They radiate the Joy of the Gospel. Please hold them in prayer.

The Fall Festival is just over three weeks from now. Our co-chairs, Sara and John Hodak, supported by a very good and generous committee, are working closely in finalizing every detail so that we might have another successful Fall Fest. Their witness, dedication, and commitment are moving. I am also encouraged by many of you who have already contacted the committee to let them know of your availability and willingness to assist. Also inspired is the generosity of those who are choosing to sponsor our Fall Fest. Every help and effort make a difference. I consider the Fall Festival as a unique opportunity to share God's goodness, peace, and love with all. Thank you for joining us in this effort.

I put together this message after having breakfast with my parents in Peru. They are the source of inspiration, kindness, and love in my life. I feel the presence and closeness of God in and through them. They continue to offer me the support I need to serve you and the Lord. Receive their warm regards. I will be returning to St. Cletus on Monday evening, August 19th, 2024.

As we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ at Mass, may our desire to praise, reverence, and serve God our Lord increase each day.

Fr. Elmer Romero

A Note from the Associate Pastor's Desk

Faith and Space

Brothers and sisters, while I admit that I spend time Facebook, I've come across something fascinating in my eyes. There are "Reels" as you scroll through your home page. I am pretty sure Facebook tracks the subjects of the various "Reels" we may watch and how often. That, in my view, is just part of how social media works. But that is not the fascinating piece to this article. I have been finding "Reels" that have to do with astronomy, physics, and space. Frequently, these are simply narrated by a "generic" voiceover. Sometimes, there are scientists who talk about the many phenomena of what happens in space.

There are some that talk about asteroids that are being tracked by telescopes that reach far into space and project their paths. This past week, an explosion, light years away, from us happened and as a result, there is a noticeable coloration in the sky. The effects of the explosion will not be "felt" by us here on Earth, but simply seen. It's something that tends to happen about once every 80 years.

Then there are other videos that talk about how an asteroid might break off as it nears Earth, could enter our atmosphere, and make a major impact on Earth's surface, devastating areas of the world.

Another video that I particularly liked was of the genius Neil DeGrasse explaining the physics behind why the sky is dark at night. You and I may just say because the sun set in the west. However, physics explains it that with an infinite universe that is continuously expanding, even the speed of light can't keep up with the rate of expansion. We would like to think that whatever direction we look, light would reflect back from what it "strikes." The light, in theory, should hit something if there are so many stars and galaxies out there, but it doesn't always do so. Hence, the dark sky. And the closer you get to one of the earth's poles, the more stars you can see simply for different angles and distance from the source of that light.

What I still love, however, is when someone wants to try in any way possible to explain creation and its constant renewal without giving God any credit. I guess it's one of my own fantasies that one of these super-intelligent humans decides that God deserves to

be credited with not only creating EVERYTHING, but that within the randomness of space, God has a plan for every occurrence and object.

In what may seem like a tragic explosion, He creates new.

Something that is a relatively newer discovery is that just as the planets in our solar system journey around the gravity of our Sun, which is NOT the center of the Milky Way galaxy, so the many galaxies that have been noted by scientists are actually revolving around a point called "The Great Attractor." Is it possible that the universe itself "began" at that "point?" I know we've all heard about what is known as the "God particle" – an infinitesimal, atom-sized piece with super -high gravitational force that exploded and expanded in every direction to gradually create everything as molecules and material collided and cooled along the way. Inertia continues and some larger objects have properties like our own Sun's gravity. But there is so much more to the universe that begs the scientists to answer can we ever know ALL of what is out there?

Yet, in the same breath, theologians continue to hope for explanations as to how ordinary bread and wine actually change before our very eyes into the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ without changing their physical appearance. A few months ago, closer to the beginning of the Eucharistic Revival in the United States, I came across the story of a Eucharistic miracle where a host actually bled. Forensic scientists are always called in to run lab tests in such instances, likely checking for anyone's blood that may have come in contact with the substance in question. In that particular instance, it was not anyone that could be noted and verified. Plus, the blood in question was not only that of a human being but it was freshly dripping. Is that some sort of magic? No. It defies all logic. So, science and reason can theorize and/or calculate about the happenings in deep space, but cannot do so of something tangible and explain its source.

Like I said, it's fascinating stuff to me.

In the end, all things center in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Fr. Mike

Parish Life

Date	Time	Events	Location
Monday, August 19	5:30 p.m. 7 p.m.	Back to School Open House CREDO-Chosen Group Discussion	School Gallagher Room
Tuesday, August 20	9:30 a.m. 4 p.m. 7 p.m.	Opening School Mass Girls' Volleyball Practice Informative Catechist Meeting	Church Parish Center Gym Gallagher Room
Wednesday, August 21	1 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m.	Living Rosary Girls' Volleyball Practice St. Francis/St. Cletus Boys' Football Practice Parish Finance Council Meeting School Fathers Basketball	Church Parish Center Gym Field Gallagher Room Parish Center Gym
Thursday, August 22	3 p.m. 4 p.m. 4 p.m. 7 p.m.	St. Cletus Cross Country Practice Girls Volleyball Practice Food Pantry Distribution Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Meeting (Spanish)	Field Parish Center Gym Food Pantry Gallagher Room
Friday, August 23	4 p.m.	Girls Volleyball Practice	Parish Center Gym
Saturday, August 24	9:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	Catechist Retreat Fall Fest Ticket Sales	Gallagher Room Church
Sunday, August 25	During Masses	Fall Fest Ticket Sales	Church

Readings of the week

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6/Ps 34:2-3, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15

(9a)/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Monday: Ez 24:15-23/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt

19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30,

35cd-36ab/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt

20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mt

22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt

22:34-40

Saturday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-

18/Jn 1:45-51

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

16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 (9a)/

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. John Eudes, Priest

Tuesday: St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the

Church

Wednesday: St. Pius X, Pope

Thursday: The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin

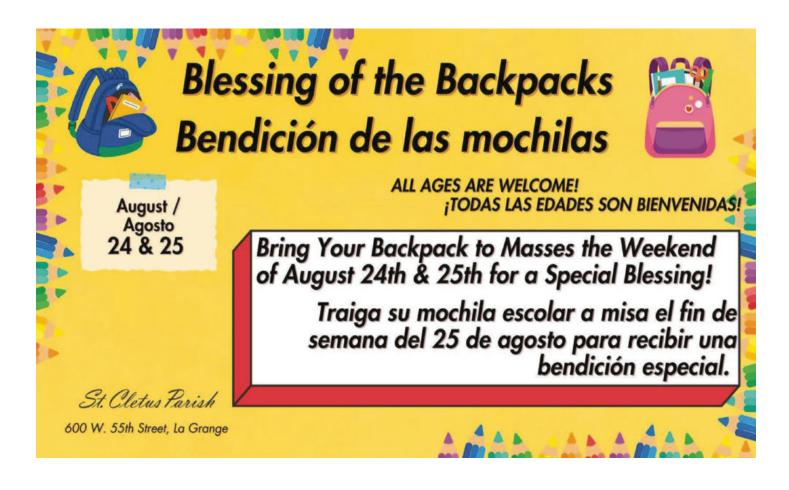
Mary

Friday: St. Rose of Lima, Virgin

Saturday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle



Thanks to the generosity of the parish, a group of male parishioners and St. Cletus School dads have resumed weekly basketball pickup games in the Parish Center. We play these recreational basketball games most Wednesday evenings, and we welcome additional parishioners and school dads to join us. If you would like to learn more or be added to the "roster" (invite list), please reach out to Mike Magee at mjmmrm1@icloud.com, or Kieran Kelliher at kkelliher@gmail.com.





Come see us in the Narthex after mass!

Fall Fest is just 3 weeks away!!

Come purchase:

- Megapasses
- Tshirts
- Lucky Leaf Raffle Tickets









We will be raffling of 5 TVs on the last night of our Fall Fest!

- Four 65 inch Samsung TVs
 - One 65 inch LG OLED GRAND PRIZE TV

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16

13 26 39

9 25 44

PARISH CENTER

SATURDAY 9/07 - 2:15-4:15PM

SUNDAY 9/08 - 1:00-3:00PM

- **LIMITED TO 125 SEATS**
- **MUST BE 18+ TO PLAY**
- **ONLY PLAYERS ALLOWED**
- **CASH PRIZES**
- **BRING CASH FOR EXTRA GAMES AND TREATS!**



Friday, September 6th, 2024 2-4pm

St. Cletus Parish Fall Fest 700 West 55th Street La Grange, IL 60525

Please join us for this free and private event for children and adults with disabilities, and their immediate families. The carnival grounds will be closed to the public for this event. We hope to see you there! Please contact fallfest@stcletusparish.com with any questions!

Social Concerns

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.





St. Cletus Food **Pantry**

Thursdays 4-8 p.m.

Wish List:

- Cereal
- Condiments
- Boxed Potatoes
- Baby Wipes
- School Supplies
- 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



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.	Adoración Nocturna Nocturnal Adoration	Iglesia
Sábados	8:30 - 9:15 a.m.	Confesiones	Iglesia

Clase para Ministros de Comunión

Se llevará a cabo una clase de Formación para todos los Ministros de Comunión Hispanos el jueves 22 de agosto de 2024 a las 7:00 p.m., en el Centro Pastoral. Compartiremos nuestras experiencias como Ministros

Eucarísticos. El diácono Franco será el presentador de esta clase. Quiero agradecer al Diácono Franco por su disposición de compartir su conocimiento y sabiduría con nosotros.

Class for Hispanic Eucharistic Ministers

The continuing education class for all Hispanic Eucharistic Ministers will be held on Thursday, August 22nd, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gallagher Room. We will share our experiences as Eucharistic Ministers. Deacon Franco

will be the presenter for this class. I want to thank Deacon Franco for his willingness to share his knowledge and wisdom with us.

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

Lets Welcome our New Teachers



Ms. Maggie McQuinn our 7th & 8th grade Language Arts, Literature, and Social Studies teacher.

Ms. McQuinn graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Middle Grades Education. Her two focuses were ELA and Social Studies. Ms. McQuinn taught ELA in the public middle schools in her hometown of Orland Park. She is very excited to start anew at St. Cletus, getting to teach both of her focused subjects!

Mrs. Stacey Firestone - 4th Grade Teacher

Mrs. Firestone graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 2007 with a bachelors in Elementary Education, with concentrations in Math and Science. She has been a teacher at St. Cletus since 2019, working with Early Childhood, but is very excited to take on the new role of teaching 4th grade!



Outside of school she loves to travel (especially to Disney World) and spend time with her family and dog, Buddy.

Ms. Lindsey McAuliffe, Second Grade Teacher

Ms. McAuliffe is thrilled to join Saint Cletus school for the 2024-2025 year! Teaching second grade is a dream come true for her! She feels privileged to guide our young students as they prepare for their First Communion and grow in their understanding of the Holy Eucharist. Her goal is to create a nurturing environment where students develop a strong foundation in reading, writing, mathematics, and social-emotional skills. She is excited to work with the students and their families to make this a memorable and successful year! Outside of the classroom, Ms. McAuliffe is a mom to a curious two-year-old boy

and enjoys being creative through painting and reading. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in English from Elmhurst University.

A letter from Christy Schaefer, School Assistant Principal

St. Cletus School was happy to receive a\$2000 donation in honor of Mr. Mike Clarke for his years of service to our athletic program as a coach. Coach Clarke impacted countless lives and inspired positive actions on and off the basketball court. We want to thank the Bruce family, especially Marty, Teddy and Billy for this generous donation which will go toward the purchase of new equipment for our

sports programs. These St. Cletus graduates have fond memories of their time at St. Cletus School, and Coach Clarke had a big part in those memories.



Thank you, Coach Clarke and thank you Marty, Teddy and Billy Bruce!

TreeMachine is here on our campus! We are proud to partner with this program, collecting gently used shoes and clothes. (No other items) For every full bin, 1 tree is planted by this company and for every pound collected, our school earns money! This is a win-win! Please consider doing

some fall cleaning and donating to our bins today!

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

The (OCIA) program, previously known as RCIA, is aimed at adults who are not baptized, who are baptized in another Christian Faith, or individuals who have been baptized Catholics but have not received the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Various sessions in the program focus on Jesus, the Mass, the Bible, our beliefs and teaching etc. We encourage our parishioners to spread the word about the program to friends, family members, and neighbors.

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

We are also looking for one or two parish volunteers who may be interested in being part of the RCIA Team in accompanying candidates on their journey. We ask you also to contact Mr. Manetti.

Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos



El programa (RICA) está dirigido a adultos que no están bautizados, que están bautizados en otra Fe Cristiana, o individuos que han sido bautizados Católicos pero no han recibido los sacramentos de Primera Comunión y Confirmación.

Varias sesiones del programa se centran en Jesús, la Misa, la Biblia, nuestras creencias y enseñanzas, etc.

Animamos a nuestros feligreses a correr la voz sobre el programa a amigos, familiares y vecinos.

Pedimos que cualquier persona interesada en unirse al programa, o cualquier persona que tenga preguntas para ponerse en contacto con el Padre Alex Garcia, jgarcia@stcletusparish.com, o a Norma Hernandez, nhernandez@stcletusparish.com.





BUONA FUNDRAISING

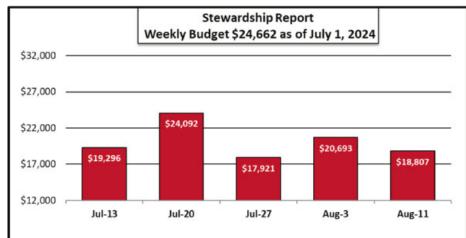


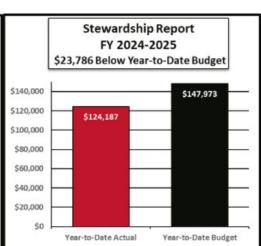
20 % OF SALES WILL BENEFIT

St. Cletus School

August 19th, 2024 Buona Countryside 20 W. Plainfiel Rd, IL 60453 (708) 236-0379

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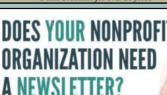
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