

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

He was lifted up,  
and a cloud took him from their sight.  
— ACTS 1:9



MAY  
24  
2020



Ascension  
OF THE  
LORD



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

ACTS 1:11

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD. All rights reserved.  
Paschal Candle Illustration: Tony Ward for J. S. Paluch; 2020. Photo: Mosaic of The Ascension of the Lord,  
St. Barnabas, London; Renáta Sedmáková/Adobe Stock

## WELCOME

*So glad you could join us!*

- 2 Important Notice about the Reopening of St. Cletus Parish
- 4 Mass Intentions and Important Notes
- 5 Letter from Cardinal Cupuch
- 6 Social Concerns
- 8 Sunday Readings
- 9 Sunday Notes
- 10 Religious Education Youth Ministry
- 11 Music Ministry
- 12 Worship Ministry
- 13 Ministry News Stewardship Report
- 10 Parish Information

## Important Notice about the Reopening of St. Cletus Parish

May 19, 2020

Dear St. Cletus Family,

I pray that you and your loved ones are healthy. As you may have seen, Cardinal Cupich recently shared our [multi-phased plan for reopening churches in the Archdiocese of Chicago](#). Specifically,

- Phase I allows for parishes to reopen for Baptism, Reconciliation, Weddings and Funerals with a limit of 10 attendees.
- Phase IA allows for parishes to reopen for private prayer and adoration with a limit of 10 attendees.
- Phase II allows for reopening for weekday and weekend Masses for larger groups, depending on the guidelines from the state and the capacity of the church building.

### Our St. Cletus Reopening Plan

First and foremost, it is important for everyone to understand that **our efforts will prioritize the safety and wellbeing of all, while maintaining due respect and reverence for the sacraments and liturgical norms of our faith.**

I am assembling a Parish Reopening Leadership Team with parishioner co-captains to lead our efforts. Together, we will attend required training from the Archdiocese to ensure that our parish reopening plan conforms to the guidelines developed by the Archdiocese in collaboration with civil and healthcare authorities. We will also receive a starter kit of protective and cleaning supplies, as well as guidance on purchasing/maintaining supplies ongoing.

### Volunteers Needed

We are in need of volunteers to assist with various aspects of our parish reopening plan. **Importantly, leadership team members and volunteers must not be part of a “vulnerable population” (that is, not over the age of 65; no underlying medical condition such as diabetes; lung disease; undergoing cancer treatment, etc.).** I ask all of you who are younger than 65 and healthy with no underlying health conditions to consider assisting with one of three reopening teams:

- Greeting Team and Ushers. Sample duties include ensuring that entrances and exits are marked and propped physically open prior to attendees' arrival/departure and that windows are open. Ensure that pew and seat tags are all in place; assist in managing the flow of congregants as they enter the church, making sure attendees use hand sanitizer upon entering, are wearing a mask, and are reminded not to enter if ill; directing people to appropriate seating/waiting areas, etc.; assist with congregants movement during the service.
- Set-Up/Sacristan Team. Sample duties include ensuring that all supplies and liturgical vessels needed for each sacramental celebration/gathering are ready for use; ensure that sanctuary and sacristy are cleaned and sanitized before and after each service; clean and sanitize all supplies and vessels used during the service. Masks and gloves will be provided if you do not have your own, in addition to approved cleaning/disinfecting supplies.
- Cleaning Team. Sample duties include disinfecting and cleaning essential and trafficked areas of the church before and after the church has been used. Masks and gloves will be provided, if you do not have your own, in addition to approved cleaning/disinfecting supplies.

The Reopening Leadership Team and I will make sure that all volunteers are properly trained. Please send us a message at [reopening@stcletusparish.com](mailto:reopening@stcletusparish.com) to indicate your willingness and ability to volunteer. From those that step forward, we will also request that some act as volunteer captains to help lead each of the three teams.



### Timing for Our Reopening

As I mentioned, the Parish Reopening Leadership Team, which is still being formed, will need to complete required training. The parish priests, our business manager, our parish maintenance team and I completed the live one-hour required training webinar when it was offered this past Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Once determined, all team members and volunteers will also need to complete the training, which will be available on demand. Once we complete the training, we will need to review and complete tasks assigned to all parishes as part of a reopening certification process to be approved by the Archdiocese.

Though the Archdiocese has indicated that a parish *may open* for sacramental celebrations, private prayer or Eucharistic Adoration by this weekend (May 23<sup>rd</sup>), **our parish, like all others in the Archdiocese, will move forward at a pace and timing appropriate for its own situation and on this limited basis, upon receiving certification from the Archdiocese.**

**Following our training and certification approval, at St. Cletus we will only open our church once the Reopening Leadership Team and I feel confident that we have the right volunteers in place to make it possible to reopen. Again, the need for parishioner assistance cannot be overstated.**

**The extensive guidelines and measures required to reopen are designed to protect our wellbeing and that of our broader community. There are still many details to be put into place, for even this partial reopening, so that both staff and parishioners can be certain of safety.**

And while our parish staff will attempt to take appropriate precautions with the advice of public health authorities, parishioners and guests should understand that they assume the risk of contracting covid-19 anytime they enter a public space since such precautions do not eliminate the risk of infection.

**Since we are just in the beginning of the reopening process, St. Cletus will not be ready to reopen this weekend. We will communicate with the parish the exact date that we will be able to reopen.**

As Cardinal Cupich has noted, Scripture teaches that we indeed are “our brother’s keeper.” Our Lord Jesus Christ prayed, “that they all may be one” (*Jn 17:21*) and commanded us “love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another” (*Jn 13:34*). **Our collective patience, willingness to help, and the care we take to reopen is a demonstration of our unity and love for one another.**

May God grant you His peace during this difficult time and may He manifest His love and presence to you in abundant ways.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Fr. Bob Clark,  
Pastor

## Mass Intentions for May 25 - 31, 2020

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Intentions
May 25	Fr. Gamboa	Delphine Marciszewski
May 26	Fr. Clark	Patrick Mahoney
May 27	Fr. Baker	Virginia Rachford
May 28	Fr. Clark	Delphine Marciszewski
May 29	Fr. Baker	Martha Mullaney
May 30	Fr. Gamboa	Benjamin Patrick Hyink, Joan Clark
May 31	Fr. Baker	Robert Bethhauser, Bill DePasquale, Emilia & Marco Rattin, George Duda, Stacy Baker, Mary Lestarczyk

### PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

*We always welcome names for the sick. Please note that requests must only be made by the individual or an immediate family member. Names will remain in this prayer list for 3 months.*

**May** - Annette Bonvillian, Mary Ann Doornbos, John Paul Granger, Virginia Klecka, Frank Niwa

**April** - Waclaw Berdysz, Mary Duckett, Alice Dunkovich, Wayne Hamilton, Christine Wolosewicz

**March** - Joyce Arnold, Frank Colonna, John Collingwood, Jeanie Hills, Charles (Bud) Howe, Mark Radulski, Mary Ramirez, Rose Serrano, Rachael Schopp Ludwig Stoiber, Joseph Gregory Stroude, Laura Terrazino, Grace Yamamoto, John Duda, Hermelinda Nevarez, Linda Stoinski, Judy Halvorson, Emily Malec, Gerda E. Dorso, Kim and Tony Fox, Deborah Krueger, Patricia Rodey, Michael Stoinski, Robert Stoinski

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

### JOIN US FOR MASS ONLINE

We continue to celebrate Mass from the St. Cletus altar on a daily basis and on Sunday. Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube channel and click the bell icon to be notified of the latest videos. You can also find the link on our website and Facebook page.

### 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.

### A CALL TO PRAYER

**Providing a Light in the Darkness** - Prayer can help to strengthen our bonds with one another and with God, regardless of our faith identities. By turning to prayer, we call forth a light in the darkness.

**Who we are:** Volunteers from across the Archdiocese of Chicago who feel called to accompany anyone feeling the need to pray during this time of uncertainty and isolation.

**What we offer:** A phone line staffed from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, as well as 24-hour voicemail and e-mail connections. Our prayer partners are here to pray with you - opening our hearts to God, asking for his blessings and peace.

**We are available at:** 312.741.3388

ENGLISH:  
[PRAYWITHME@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG](mailto:PRAYWITHME@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG)

ESPAÑOL:  
[REZACONMIGO@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG](mailto:REZACONMIGO@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG)

POLSKI:  
[POMODLSIEZEMNA@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG](mailto:POMODLSIEZEMNA@CALLEDTOPRAYER.ORG)

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

National Alliance on Mental Illness Helpline:  
800.950.6264

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 800.273.8255

[GetHelp@catholiccharities.net](mailto:GetHelp@catholiccharities.net)

Catholic Charities Cook County: 312.655.7700

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



May 13, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

These fifty days of Easter, leading to Pentecost, are marked by unprecedented suffering, as humanity has fallen victim to a perilous contagion. In addition to the threats to our physical wellbeing, we are suffering spiritually as the Covid-19 pandemic has required restrictions of our worship and active participation in the sacramental life of the Church. Surely, there have been moments in history when governments and rulers have persecuted Christians and banned their public worship. This is not one of them. Rather, the present restrictions come in response to an extreme medical emergency as local, state and federal authorities – specifically public health officials – legitimately fulfil their responsibilities to safeguard human life and the common good. They have based their reasonable guidance on careful consideration of empirical data and the best available disease-mitigation practices as they seek to contain the pandemic’s rampage through our communities.

While everyone must exercise good citizenship in observing these restrictions, I call on the Catholic faithful, as advocates for justice and charity, to comply with these regulations. From the first pages of Scripture we learn that we indeed are “our brother’s keeper,” a truth that must inspire us as we are called to sacrifice. We should also be motivated to cooperate with public safety norms, given our reverence for life and human dignity. This is, at its heart, a moment to proclaim the breadth and depth of what it means to be pro-life, particularly as this virus preys on the most vulnerable in our midst.

The good news is that a plan for a gradual reopening of our churches has now taken shape, as I note below. However, since our movements will be restricted as that plan unfolds in different phases, your pastors and bishops will continue for the present time to offer Mass in private each day and to livestream and broadcast Masses from our parishes and the archdiocese. I am particularly grateful to ABC-TV, Univision and Polvision in Chicago for giving us airtime every Sunday. These celebrations surely are not the same as gathering in our churches for Mass, but I know from hearing from many parishioners that they provide a great deal of solace and support in this time of uncertainty.

We must be honest. We expect this situation to continue for some weeks, and any plan for reopening our churches for public worship must include every precaution to ensure public Cardinal Cupich letter on Plan for re-opening gatherings do not create a second wave of contagion, thus squandering the gains made through our sacrifice in these days.

With those realities in mind, I am heartened to announce that we have reached an agreement with the Office of the Governor on a multi-phase Plan for re-opening our churches for the celebration of the sacraments, private prayer, adoration and Mass. As I share the Plan with you, both by way of an Executive Summary and the full Plan in the following pages, I want to assure you of my prayers for you and your family’s personal, material and spiritual wellbeing.

I also express my appreciation to the many people on the archdiocesan staff and in the Office of the Governor for the many hours they have given to designing and fine tuning this agreement.

Again, I call on all Catholics to seize this moment to exercise faith-filled citizenship in a way that reflects our deep regard for life, our calling as disciples of Jesus and our love of country.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blase Cupich".

Archbishop of Chicago

# Social Concerns Ministry



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

### Most needed at this time:

- Gloves (all sizes)
- Canned fruit
- Toothpaste
- Liquid hand soap
- Laundry detergent
- Canned meals (spaghettios, ravioli, etc.)

Please look for the FOOD PANTRY DONATION bin near the Rectory door, they will be checked daily.

Follow us on facebook:  
@StCletusFoodPantry

Now on Instagram:  
@St.CletusFoodPantry

## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE



Volunteers at our most recent food pantry distribution



The St. Cletus maintenance staff unloaded a record 5,875.03 pounds of food from this week's Food Depository delivery! Left to right: Brian, Ricardo, Derek, Roger. Daniel not pictured.

## AREA RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

### 2nd Baby Shower Date Added!

We have added a second date to drop off Baby Shower items at Women's Care Center. If you were not able to attend the first date or want to donate again you can drop off donations at Women's Care Center on Thursday, May 28 from 12:00-4:00. The wish list remains the same. Thank you for all your donations!



<p><b>Mother's Day Baby Shower Collection</b></p> <p>Thursday, May 28 12:00-4:00 Women's Care Center 136 N La Grange Rd, La Grange, IL 60525</p> <p>2nd date added!</p>	<p><b>Wish List</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Books</td> <td>Nursing Covers</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newborn clothes</td> <td>Baby toiletries</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diapers (NB-6)</td> <td>Desitin</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wipes</td> <td>Swaddle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pull-Ups</td> <td>Blankets/wraps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baby Clothes</td> <td>Diaper backpacks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Toddler Clothes</td> <td>Breastmilk storage bags</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Breastfeeding Pillows &amp; Covers</td> <td>Nursing pads</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Sleepsacks</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Bathing tubs</td> </tr> </table>	Books	Nursing Covers	Newborn clothes	Baby toiletries	Diapers (NB-6)	Desitin	Wipes	Swaddle	Pull-Ups	Blankets/wraps	Baby Clothes	Diaper backpacks	Toddler Clothes	Breastmilk storage bags	Breastfeeding Pillows & Covers	Nursing pads		Sleepsacks		Bathing tubs	<p><b>How to Donate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go to Women's Care Center: 136 N La Grange Rd, La Grange, IL 60525</li> <li>• Please pull up to the back door for drop off</li> <li>• A staff member will collect your items</li> <li>• Do not leave your car</li> </ul>
Books	Nursing Covers																					
Newborn clothes	Baby toiletries																					
Diapers (NB-6)	Desitin																					
Wipes	Swaddle																					
Pull-Ups	Blankets/wraps																					
Baby Clothes	Diaper backpacks																					
Toddler Clothes	Breastmilk storage bags																					
Breastfeeding Pillows & Covers	Nursing pads																					
	Sleepsacks																					
	Bathing tubs																					

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

### Airbnb and HotelTonight to help domestic violence victims in Chicago during coronavirus pandemic

Airbnb and HotelTonight will work with anti-domestic violence workers to help domestic violence victims find a place to stay amid the coronavirus, Chicago officials announced.

Under Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker's stay-at-home order, there's been an increase in domestic violence calls to the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline, and the police department has seen a 12% increase in domestic violence calls from Jan. 1 to mid-April, Mayor Lori Lightfoot's office said.

Airbnb and HotelTonight will work with the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline to help people "flee a violent situation." The hotline will work with HotelTonight and The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence to place a hotel reservation on

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



the caller’s behalf, officials said.

The Network will cover the costs with money from the state, the city said.

“There is a growing need to support victims of domestic violence as there is increased demand for shelters during the pandemic, and we are pleased to work with the city of Chicago and The Network to help fill this transitional housing need,” Kelley Gossett, head of Chicago Policy for Airbnb, said in a statement. “By connecting The Network with accommodations, we hope to help Chicago domestic violence survivors get to a place to stay as quickly as possible.”

Lightfoot praised Airbnb in a statement.

“This new partnership with Airbnb creates a key link for individuals fleeing violent situations by affording them immediate safe shelter and enabling them to take the next steps in their journey of recovery and growth,” Lightfoot said.

*Chicago Tribute April 28, 2020*

Coordination of this program will be facilitated through the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline which is available to residents 24/7/365 at 877-863-6338 and The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH  
— ARCHDIOCESE of CHICAGO —  
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION  
[www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org](http://www.domesticviolenceoutreach.org)



ARE YOU IN AN UNHEALTHY RELATIONSHIP OR ARE YOU AFRAID IN YOUR OWN HOME?

CALL THE 24-HOUR PHONE FOR HELP:  
**708.485.5254**

## WORD OF LIFE



“O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,  
“A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers”

## USCCB CALL TO ACTION - SNAP

**Hunger is criminal, food is an inalienable right.**  
- Pope Francis

Families are struggling to put food on the table during this time of economic crisis. Churches and charities are working overtime to meet this rising need, but more must be done. SNAP effectively addresses hunger by delivering

resources directly to low-income households to help families keep food on the table. It’s also a proven tool to boost the economy - every dollar spent on SNAP generates between \$1.50 and \$1.80 in economic activity. Congress has the opportunity to protect those who are most vulnerable by strengthening SNAP for the duration of the economic crisis.

Tell Congress to prioritize SNAP in the next COVID-19 relief bill by:

- Increasing the maximum SNAP benefit amount by 15%
- Increasing the minimum SNAP benefit amount, which is currently only \$16
- Suspending all SNAP rule changes that limit eligibility and benefits

More information at <https://www.voterveice.net/USCCB/campaigns/74161/respond-pro-life-activities/upload/Letter-to-FDA-urging-ethical-COVID-vaccines.pdf>



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF  
CATHOLIC BISHOPS

## NEW MINISTRY UNEMPLOYED TOGETHER

The pandemic has sadly created unemployment and reduced employment for several in our communities.

Unemployment is not just an economic problem; it impacts ones sense of worth, security and spirit. It can be a spiritual challenge as it affects people at every level. It affects ones well being.

St. Cletus Parish is launching a virtual small faith group called "Unemployed Together". It is to help those facing the same challenge of unemployment to grow in faith and relationship with Christ through the lens of this exceptionally challenging moment in his/her life.

*All are welcome!*

The small group will meet weekly, virtually via Zoom video conferencing. An invitation to the Zoom video meeting will be emailed to you the week that the sessions begin. Meetings will be held on either Tuesdays from 2:30-3:30 p.m. or on Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. You can choose which time works best for your schedule when you register. Sessions will run from June 9 & 10 to July 14 & 15. Each session will last one hour.

Please go the parish website ([stcletusparish.com](http://stcletusparish.com)) to sign up for this new virtual small faith sharing group!

# Sunday Readings

MAY  
24  
2020



Ascension  
OF THE  
LORD

## READING 1

**Acts 1:1–11**

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Ps 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9**

**R. (6) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

All you peoples, clap your hands,  
shout to God with cries of gladness,  
For the LORD, the Most High, the awesome,  
is the great king over all the earth.

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

God mounts his throne amid shouts of joy;  
the LORD, amid trumpet blasts.  
Sing praise to God, sing praise;  
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

For king of all the earth is God;  
sing hymns of praise.

God reigns over the nations,  
God sits upon his holy throne.

**R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

## READING 2

**Eph 1:17–23**

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

## GOSPEL

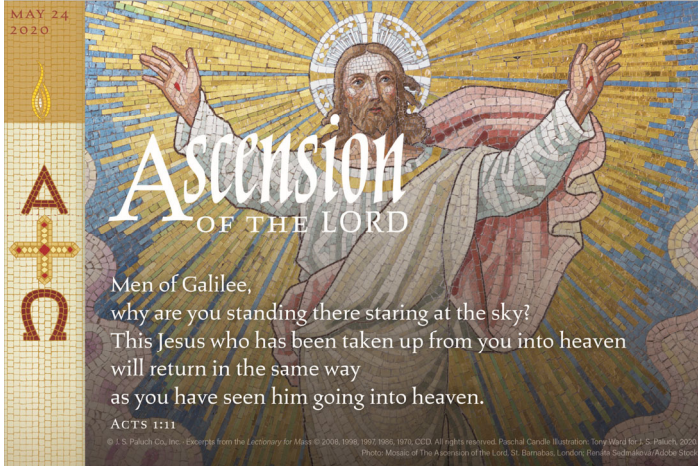
**Mt 28:16–20**

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner. The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



# Sunday Notes



## “PUSHED” OUT ON MISSION

There is a delightful character in the original *Dr. Dolittle Tales* called the “Pushmi-Pullyu.” It is a beast with two identical halves, with a head at each end. No matter which direction the beast walks, one end is the “push me” and the other is the “pull you.” Today’s feast is a bit like that in the life of the church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, it is the ascension of Christ that calls for the Holy Spirit, which consequently sends or “pushes” the church out on its mission. This is the message that we hear from the angels today as they tell the friends of Jesus not to look up into the clouds, but to get busy. It is the message of Jesus himself in Matthew’s Gospel, as he sends them out to baptize. He also tells them, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). And it is this message, confident in faith that Jesus has ascended to shouts of joy, that “pulls” us along to our final destiny. The life of the faithful disciple, sent into the world on mission, will one day know the same risen, ascended glory.

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord;  
World Communications Day
- Monday: St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII;  
St. Mary Magdalene de’ Pazzi;  
Memorial Day
- Tuesday: St. Philip Neri
- Wednesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury;  
Shavuot (Jewish observance) begins at sunset
- Thursday: Julian Calendar Ascension
- Friday: St. Paul VI

## HEAVEN

The world is only peopled to people heaven.

—St. Francis de Sales

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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

## TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

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

**Second Reading** — May the Father of glory give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-23).

**Gospel** — Jesus instructs the Eleven to baptize and teach people of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## SAINT PHILIP NERI (1515-1595)

### May 26

In a shop near the Vatican, a group of Americans laughed as the shopkeeper showed off his fluent English and latest souvenir, a key ring whose papal portrait, when pressed, activated a recorded blessing. Through the shop window, two clerics scowled disapproval. The shopkeeper grunted, “They’re a very somber order who’ve left the Church. I recognize them.” “By their long robes?” an American asked. “Many in Rome wear robes,” replied the shopkeeper. “It’s their long faces!” When Philip Neri arrived in sixteenth-century Rome, there was reason to be somber. Swiss Guards had been massacred on Saint Peter’s steps defending the pope. Parts of Europe were abandoning the Church. But Philip resolved to be an “apostle of joy,” drawing especially the young to Christ—and frequent confession and Communion—by his sincere interest in their problems, prayerful example, and gentle humor. His “Oratory,” a movement as well as a place, provided recreation and devotion in a joyful atmosphere of companionship, service, and liturgy. Philip Neri challenges each of us to begin improving Church and world by changing ourselves with unflinching joy.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Religious Education

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Happy Ascension Sunday! Religious Education families received a Family Home Lesson on the Ascension this week. We hope you have some fun with the different activities! Next weekend we celebrate Pentecost, the Birthday of the Church!

Many people use the 9 days between the feast of the Ascension (which is on a Thursday) and Pentecost to pray a Novena Prayer for the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The 9 days of a novena prayer originated with the Apostles and Mary waiting in prayer between the Ascension of Jesus and Pentecost. May we all wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost into our hearts once again, and allow us to use the gifts of the Spirit to enlighten us, strengthen us in our prayer and service to others, and to be closer in our relationship with God. Here is a prayer you can pray at home during these 9 days of the Novena:

For more information please contact  
Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education  
bcampbell@stcletusparish.com | 708.352.2383 |  
re.stcletusparish.com

### A NOVENA PRAYER FOR THE 7 GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Christ Jesus, before ascending into heaven, You promised to send the Holy Spirit to Your apostles and disciples. Grant that the same Spirit may perfect in our lives the work of Your grace and love. Grant us the Spirit of Fear of the Lord that we may be filled with a loving reverence toward You; the Spirit of Piety that we may find peace and fulfillment in the service of God while serving others; the Spirit of Fortitude that we may bear our cross with You and, with courage, overcome the obstacles that interfere with our salvation; the Spirit of Knowledge that we may know You and know ourselves and grow in holiness; the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten our minds with the light of Your truth; the Spirit of Counsel that we may choose the surest way of doing Your will, seeking first the Kingdom; Grant us the Spirit of Wisdom that we may aspire to the things that last forever; Teach us to be Your faithful disciples and animate us in every way with Your Spirit.*

*Amen.*

## Youth Ministry

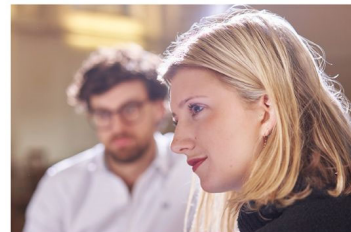
### ALPHA ONLINE - ALL ARE WELCOME!

You, your friends, family, neighbors are invited to join us for Alpha Online. All are welcome - no matter the faith background or where you live - we can all gather online!

Alpha is designed to help bring us closer to God in a fun, safe, friendly, judgement-free environment. There is no commitment. It is free.

We have two options: Tuesday nights from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10:00 -11:30 a.m. Each session will include a gathering time when we hope to laugh a bit, a short film on a faith topic, and then a small group conversation all via Zoom. Some topics include: Who Is Jesus?, How Can I Have Faith?, What Does the Holy Spirit Do?, and Why and How Do I Pray?

Register online at [pvm.archchicago.org/evangelization/events](http://pvm.archchicago.org/evangelization/events), or email [officeforevangelization@archchicago.org](mailto:officeforevangelization@archchicago.org) for more information.



Join the conversation.  
Try Alpha.

#TryAlpha



# Music Ministry

This weekend we celebrate The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. We hear in the Gospel according to Matthew that we are to “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.” Our Lord gives the mandate to carry on in His name!

As we all know very well, it has been two months now since we, the Church, have been physically absent from the celebration of the sacraments, including baptisms. I still distinctly remember when my third child, a baby girl (not that I didn’t love my two boys!) was blessed on her baptism day. It was a huge celebration; a glorious day in June; Bishop Tom Murphy (a Chicago boy, but then Bishop of Great Falls, Montana) was in town and did the honors. Our guest list included the usual relatives, but to me, more importantly, our parish family was also present not only in church but at the party back at the house. Truly there were no less than 90 people there to support our family and share our joy.

Fast forward now to post-corona virus, 2020. How many babies are there now waiting to be baptized? How many RCIA candidates were we supposed to baptize at the April Easter Vigil? How many families will be saddened NOT to be able to invite everyone to celebrate with them because we will be limited, in the foreseeable future until God only knows when, in the number of family and friends who will be allowed to witness a baptism and then gather in celebration?

Well, so as not to absolutely dwell on the negatives, let me suggest the following. Yes, our “church life” is going to be different. How we will adapt is up to each of us.

We know, that also per this weekend’s Gospel, Jesus told us: “And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” He is with us every day of our lives! That same infusion of “Father, Son and Holy Spirit” that we received at our baptism needs to be celebrated every day. How we emerge, when we get back to the “new norm” is entirely up to us. Hopefully we have all learned from these days of isolation. We miss our community, the reception of Eucharist, the reception of ALL sacraments but hopefully the absence has made us grow stronger in our commitment to do a better job of being disciples for Jesus, every moment of every day! Of being more active in the ministries available to us at our parish; not just on the weekends or at special celebrations, but every moment of every day!

As I always have a song that relates to my music ministry and as a Christian in this world, I share these words with you now. They are from the song “I Have Been Anointed.” Text and music by Steven C. Warner, Founder and Director Emeritus of the University of Notre Dame Folk Choir.

“I have been anointed with the song of the Lord,

A song of love and compassion, a song to set me free!

God is my rock of salvation!

A beacon for my soul! Hallelujah! Amen. Hallelujah! Amen.

Praise to the rock and the wellspring creator of my soul!”

Have a great week!

Karen

**R.W.S. Landscaping & Lawncare**  
708-489-6333



V MECHANICAL INC.  
SINGLE SOURCE HVAC & R CONTRACTOR  
WWW.VMECHANICALINC.COM | 708-863-6737



ALL AROUND AMUSEMENT



Jerry Mitchell, Real Estate Broker (630) 849-5857

- Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, LTD
- Battistoni & Beam Orthodontics Ltd.
- Friends of Countryside Mayor Sean McDermott
- FCI Construction Inc.
- Hallowell & James Funeral Home
- Health Pic
- Horizon Wealth Management
- Jeffrey R. Tobolski Cook County Board Commissioner-16th District
- LG Celtics Soccer Club
- Unique Plumbing
- WATRA Church Goods

Thank you to our 2019 St. Cletus Parish Fall Fest Major Sponsors.





# Worship Ministry

## **MORE ON THE HOME FRONT - SHARING PARISHIONERS' THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

- Volunteer with Interfaith Community Partners, calling residents in a retirement facility to chat and pass the time of day
- Informing myself with Scripture reading
- Share prayer with a friend
- Make a daily gratitude list
- Continuing the Lenten practice to fast and pray each day
- Give up internet once a week or limit TV time to do something "hands on"
- Friend sends me a spiritual "Thought for the Day"- I pass it on
- Look at and learn about good example of others
- Lighting a candle at home for COVID-19 victims & the unemployed
- Resuming an interest in knitting and making new gifts
- Cleaned cabinets and shredded old paperwork
- Baked brownies and dropped them off at family members' homes
- Started to write family memoirs, recalling happy and sad times shared

## **4 BOOKS RECOMMENDED (BESIDES THE BIBLE):**

Seven Story Mountain

Man's Search for Meaning

My Utmost for His Highest

Jesus Calling

## **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER (IN LIEU OF PHYSICALLY RECEIVING THE EUCHARIST)**

I believe You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
 I love You above all things  
 and I desire to receive you into my soul.  
 Even though I cannot at this moment  
 receive You sacramentally,  
 Come at least spiritually into my heart.  
 I embrace You as if You were already there  
 and unite myself wholly to You.  
 Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

***"God shared our lives that we might share His."***

## **SAINT JOHN'S ABBEY**

### **Fr. Don's Daily Reflection**

*Psalm 62: "In you alone is my soul at rest. My help comes from you."*

Occasionally some tragic event like the death of a fellow student will hit our college students with the need to value the present more. Their "present," however, usually lasts only a few days.

Then it's back to: "When is spring going to come?" "Next summer we're all meeting at Lucy's cabin on the Fourth." "I'm just coasting." "I can't wait 'till the weekend."

For most of us, with the arrival of COVID-19, that "present" seems to be hanging on.

The present and the hoped-for future vie for attention. We hope for the "good old days" when we knew there would be final exams, graduation in mid-May, followed by June, July and August and ending with the return to classes (in a room with real people within touching distance!) and football.

In the shadow of COVID-19, we live in uncertainty. When will it end? We hope soon – or sooner! It certainly won't hurt to pray for an end.

"Stay at home" makes living in the present – often in the same building! – a necessity while we hope for an end. But living here and now can mean valuing our time, our family, our friends, not taking for granted the people we live with or see all the time.

Unfortunately for the unemployed, the present means food shelves, seeking/accepting neighborly and governmental assistance, being stuck with the same place, the same people, day after day.

Our thoughts in this time of having to distance ourselves from friends makes all the taking for granted that we have done seem doubly wrong.

But the stimulation of the future keeps breaking in. Balancing the future and the present falls to each of us. Good news comes when a friend in Hong Kong calls while sitting in a coffee shop (!). A friend in northeastern China encourages us when he says that schools and businesses are re-opening.

All the good times, all the great people, all the wonderful opportunities are not in the future. There is so much now that we should embrace and cherish while it is before us.

Families in the present crisis can find themselves with a renewed sense of each other's value. We can choose to see it as a time to learn patience with each other's quirks, odd habits, laziness or excessive energy. It helps others and takes our minds and hearts off dear "me" if we can direct our thoughts and energies away from ourselves to the good of others.

*Psalm 27: "I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness / in the land of the living.*

*Wait for the Lord; be strong; / be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord!"*

— **Don Talafous OSB**  
**Saint John's Abbey**  
[www.stjohnsabbey.com](http://www.stjohnsabbey.com)

# Ministry News

## LIVING ROSARY

Let us join in Praying the Rosary from our Homes!



The St. Cletus Living Rosary invites you to join us in simultaneously praying the Rosary from our homes on Sunday, May 24th, starting at 12:15. Whether you pray five decades or all twenty decades of the Rosary, Mary will hear our prayers and know that we join as a group amid these difficult times, sending her our intentions, hopes and fears. Hopefully we can pray together as a group in the fall, but for now let us join as one in prayers of gratitude and devotion. God bless and keep us and all of St. Cletus safe.

## BOOK DISCUSSION



The next book discussion will be at 7 P.M. June 9<sup>th</sup>. In the likely event that we will still be following guidelines for sheltering at home, this will be a Zoom meeting.

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL

Thank you to all who participated in our Virtual Spring Auction! We had over 90 participants in our Zoom call where we held our Live Auction and announced our raffle winners. We are pleased to say our winners ranged from school families to parish families to friends of St. Cletus as well.

It was a fun , exciting night where we reached our “ call for cash” goal of \$20,000!

We are excited for our 8th grade students. We are so proud of them for our their hard work and dedication! Check out our outside the Parish Center to honor them.

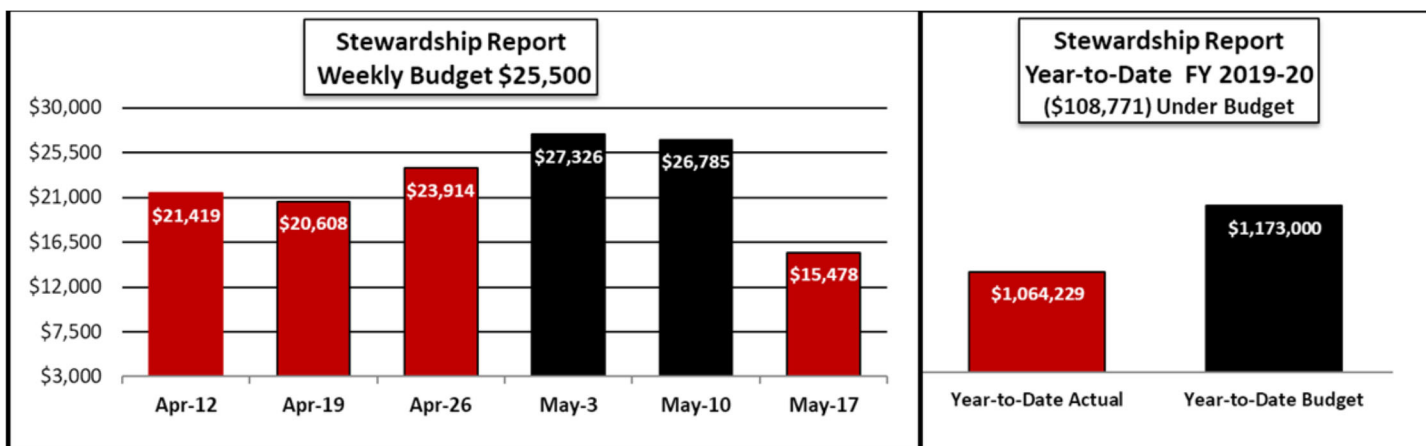
So much excitement! It is a Great Day To Be A Cardinal!

### FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

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

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

# Stewardship Report




## ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



Please consider supporting St. Cletus Parish by enrolling in electronic giving during the temporary closing due to COVID-19. It is SO EASY! Visit the St. Cletus Parish website at [www.stcletusparish.com](http://www.stcletusparish.com) and click the “DONATE” BUTTON. Click Sunday donations. We accept checks (ACH), debit and credit cards. If you have questions or need help, call Mary Zwolinski 708.352.6209.

# St. Cletus Parish Information

## CONTACT US

Parish Center.....(708) 352-6209  
 Español .....(708) 215-5440  
 School .....(708) 352-4820  
 www.stcletusparish.com.....  stcletuschurch

## PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

*Please note that all deliveries and inquiries should be made to the parish center office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.*

Monday-Saturday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday ..... 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

## MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.  
 Sunday ..... 7:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m.,  
 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (SPANISH)  
 Weekdays..... Mon. thru Sat. 8:00 a.m.  
 Evening before Holy Day ..... 7:00 p.m.  
 Holy Day.....6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Confessions every Saturday..... 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

## BAPTISMS

1st & 3rd Saturday of most months at 11:00 a.m.  
 Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation class. Please make arrangements by calling the Parish office. Contact Bobbie Kallal (708) 352-6209.

## WEDDINGS

Dates and times are reserved for registered parishioners. Initial arrangements must be completed five months in advance of the wedding date. Contact Bobbie Kallal (708) 352-6209.

## HOME/HOSPITAL VISITATION AND COMMUNION CALLS

Please contact the Ministry of Care Office ..... (708) 215-5407

## STAFF

### PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Robert Clark, Pastor**  
**Rev. Kenneth Baker, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, Associate Pastor**  
**Rev. Mr. Stuart & Marlene Heyes, Deacon Couple**

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Fr. Baker/Paulette Bolton, Worship**.... (708) 215-5422  
**Karen Ziemba, Music Ministry** ..... (708) 215-5423  
**MaryClaire Zurowski, Youth Ministry**(708) 215-5419  
**Kendall Grant, Social Concerns** ..... (708) 215-5418  
**Deacon Stuart Heyes, Pastoral Care** .. (708) 215-5407  
**Debbie Lestarczyk, Business Manager** (708) 215-5405  
**Christopher Wagner, Technology** ..... (708) 215-5420

**HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF**..... (708) 215-5440  
**Rev. Lorenzo Gamboa, Head of Hispanic Ministry**

**SCHOOL STAFF**..... (708) 352-4820

**Gregory Porod, Principal**  
**Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal**  
**Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant**  
**Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF** ..... (708) 352-2383  
**Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education**  
**Deborah Pusinelli, Assistant**  
**Paulette Bolton, Director of Adult Faith Formation and Assistant Director of Worship**

**PARISH OFFICE STAFF** ..... (708) 352-6209

**Bobbie Kallal, Human Resources/Records**  
**Mary Zwolinski, Parish Accounting**  
**Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor**  
**Kadie Lestarczyk, Parish Assistant**  
**Daria Sawicki, Parish Assistant**

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Bob Clark  
 Chairperson ..... Bob Wasik  
 Vice Chairperson .....  
 Secretary .....

### MEMBERS

Bob Havelka	Karla Martinez
Kevin Hogan	Bob Malham
Mike Napleton	Shanta McGahey
Paula Struwing	

### LIAISONS

FSA President ..... Nikki Gorman  
 Athletic Association President ..... Michele Kulovic

## PARISH MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

### Mission Statement

St. Cletus is a dynamic Catholic community dedicated to spreading the Good news of Jesus Christ through worship, education, and service.

### Vision Statement

We welcome all. We encourage all parishioners to live the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in their daily lives, by sharing their talents and faith with our parish and community.



CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

St. Cletus Church #9238  
600 W. 55th Street  
La Grange, IL 60525

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/  
Debbie Lestarczyk (Bus Mgr)

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2003  
Adobe Acrobat 7.0  
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER

HP Laserjet 1022

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

May 24, 2020

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 15

Wednesday 3pm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

**ONLY PRINT 50 PLEASE!!!**