

# Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

They opened their treasures  
and offered him gifts of  
gold, frankincense, and  
myrrh.  
-Matthew 2:1 1b



Photo from the Archive of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland

**POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI**

APRIL 16, 1927 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

— ❖ —  
IN MEMORIAM

## WELCOME

*So glad you could join us!*

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## Mass Intentions for January 9 - January 15, 2023

Day	Time	Presider	Intentions
January 9	8:00am	Fr. Romero	J.J. Farrell, St. Cletus Purgatorial Society
January 10	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Clara Guardino
January 11	8:00am	Fr. Novick	BC and Rip Collins
January 12	8:00am	Fr. Novick	Lydia Danielewicz, Peter DeRivera
January 13	8:00am	Fr. Novick	St. Cletus Parishioners
January 14	5:00pm	Fr. Lodge	Lydia Danielewicz, Joan McCarthy
January 15	7:15am	Fr. Romero	John Duda, Christos Malakates
	8:45am	Fr. Lodge	Thomas Birks
	10:30am	Fr. Novick	Joel and Carole Stuart
	12:30pm	Fr. Hays	Kevin Santiago Romero

### 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.*

**January - Daniel Lacey, Janusz Szczepanski, Joe DeLaloye**

**December - Marlene Heyes, Patricia Rodey**

**November -**

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

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

**Carol Scatena**

**John P. Nisbet**  
Father of Kristen Thurston and Michael Nisbet

**May they rest in peace....**

### ST. CLETUS PARISH WELCOMES...

**Jacob Joseph Kovel**

Son of Walter Kovel and Karla Merida

**Gianna Contreras**

Daughter of Michael and Joselyn Contreras

**Levi Arturo Gallegos**

Son of Jose Arturo Gallegos and Maria Fernanda Flores

**Chelsea Cabrera**

Daughter of Pedro and Azusena Cabrera

**TO THE CATHOLIC FAITH THROUGH THE SACRAMENT  
OF BAPTISM**



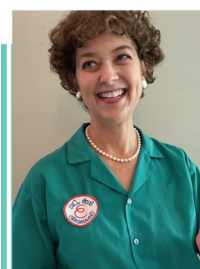
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### JOIN US JANUARY 18TH

ST. CLETUS COUNCIL OF  
CATHOLIC WOMEN

January 18<sup>TH</sup> | 7 p.m.

**Join us for a  
Living History  
Portrayal by  
Leslie Goddard  
as JULIA CHILD**



In the 1960s, thousands tuned in every week to watch Julia Child demonstrate the art of French cooking on television. Actress and scholar Leslie Goddard, Ph.D. brings the iconic French Chef to life in this portrayal, where Child discusses everything from her relationship with her husband Paul Child to the mishaps of cooking on television. Bon Appetit!

All ladies are invited. There will be a brief business meeting. Refreshments will be served.

## Pastor's Note

*“Being and praying with you  
and together growing in friendship with Jesus Christ  
is my holy moment.”*

Dear Parishioners,

I am delighted to share with you that our Christmas celebration was exceptional and spiritually enriching. Your prayers, kindness, trust, and support gave us (staff and volunteers) the courage and inspiration to pray and work together in order to have everything ready for Christmas. The sanctuary of our church was prayerfully arranged. It looked beautiful. The worship aid was put together with care and love. Our gushers, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, choirs, cantors, sacristans, altar servers, deacon, and visiting priests served and fulfilled their ministries with dedication and passion. I offer them my wholehearted gratitude for their service, ministry, and dedication to the Lord and to each and every one of you.

I felt joy and the power of the spirit of Jesus Christ on both days: Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. Watching everyone praying, singing, receiving, and exchanging joy was beautiful and reassuring. Seeing our church and the Parish Center filled with parishioners on Christmas Eve was special. It was a holy moment that the Lord gave me.

On Monday, December 26, 2022, after the 8:00 AM Mass, Fr. Michael Novick, Associate Pastor, and I had an unscheduled sharing/conversation in the kitchen of the rectory as we enjoyed a cup of coffee. We talked about our Christmas experience at St. Cletus. He was touched by the way we celebrated Christmas. He was encouraged by your witness. I told him, that I was also touched, moved, and inspired. We both agreed that we are lucky to be your priests. We both are very happy and grateful to the Lord for sending us to you. As we concluded our sharing/conversation, we made the decision to share with you our Christmas homily. Please keep both of us in your prayer.

As we embrace and enjoy the new year that the Lord is giving us my prayer is that together we continue to be open and willing to collaborate with the Lord as he continues to bless our efforts to become a parish that is warm, friendly, welcoming, kind, vibrant, and loving.

Below I share with you a holy moment from one of our parishioners and a copy of my Christmas homily. Enjoy.

“I attended a Blue Christmas service at an episcopal church designed to comfort people who have experienced a loss. At one point, we were asked to silently reflect on God’s love for us & focus on his presence. I closed my eyes & did feel him near me. This was a holy moment that I hope I will never forget.”

“Dear sisters and brothers, Welcome and Merry Christmas! Thank you for celebrating Christmas with us. Your presence, your faith, and the love you have for the Lord is inspiring.

I believe Jesus is smiling at all of us at this moment. I am able to sense his joy as he sees all of us cherishing and celebrating his birth.

As we celebrate his birthday, he wants us to know that we are loved unconditionally by him. He wants us to receive his love. He wants us to let his love warm our hearts. He wants us to allow his love to strengthen our faith. He wants us to let his love remove from us any experience or mistake that is holding us back from receiving his love. He really wants us to know that we are loved! After letting us know that we are loved, he has two invitations for us today.

First, “**Remain in my love.**” This is an amazing invitation. Jesus, the Son of God after letting us know that we are loved by him is inviting us to remain in his love. I am sensing that our hearts want to remain in his love. Why? Because that is not only the right thing to do but because only in his love, do we find true joy and meaning for our lives.

Second, he tells us “**Share my love.**” Jesus wants us to share his love. He knows that many people are in need of his love, perhaps even a member of our own family. Today, he is asking us to collaborate with him in sharing his love. Jesus wants to allow others to receive his love through us. From experience we know that each time we share Jesus’s love with others, we ourselves experience joy and peace in our hearts.

After being reminded by Jesus that we are loved, and invited to remain in his love, and share his love, we join the heavenly host of angels, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Merry Christmas!

Aided by the Holy Spirit may we continue to become aware of the manifestation of Jesus Christ in our lives and share it joyfully.

Fr. Elmer Romero



## In Memoriam

In Memoriam

### POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

April 16, 1927 – December 31, 2022

Papacy:

April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013



Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a “cultural synthesis” was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a “true world political authority” to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, “Fellow Worker in the Truth,” Pope Benedict XVI's teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.*

## Note From Father Mike

### People on the Move

Epiphany may be normally on January 6<sup>th</sup>, but the Church (especially in the United States) celebrates it on the second Sunday after Christmas. So, while it will have passed by the time you read this, there is something that I want to address.

While I was still a deacon, I was introduced to a special ministry that came to me through a former associate pastor of St. Cletus, Fr. Charles Watkins. There is an office at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops called the Office for Migrant and Itinerant Workers which oversaw circus, carnival, Indy Car racing, and other organizations of people who make a living while traveling from town to town, state to state by various ways of entertaining people. I know that some of you have told me that you remember that Fr. Watkins' circus connection. Well, as a deacon, Charles asked me to help out one of the priests who was going to be celebrating Mass for one of the Ringling Brothers, Barnum, and Bailey Circus troops AT THE UNITED CENTER. Honestly it was pretty cool overlooking the Michael Jordan statue in the venue before Mass began (I was concentrating on Jesus at Mass, not on Jordan – HA HA).

I haven't been with the ministry for several years now, especially after Illinois passed a law which, in essence, banned one of the most popular acts from Illinois – the elephants – after being pressured by several activist groups that were for animal rights. I was heartbroken because of my initiation into the circus world, a world unto itself. I watched just how wrong the activists were as every animal in their shows were treated with love, not abuse. Of course, there are wrong ways to train animals, but there are right ways as well. Positive reinforcement – particularly

some sort of food – is how the animals are trained. And no, they were not starved, nor beaten, nor whipped for any reason. Of course, they are wild animals too. The only time an animal's life might have been in danger was if they attacked either a trainer or if (God forbid) someone watching the show. Otherwise, like any domestic animal, when they know who loves and feeds them, they respond with love in return. Now, that doesn't get to happen and it practically was a nail in Ringling Brother's "coffin."

What so many activists fail to realize is that people who work in the traveling show industry only make their living when there is a crowd/audience to play before, and the bulk of the acts people have gone to see in the circus revolved around wild, large animals. The fact remains that more animals die in the wild because of poachers, those who are only interested in killing wild animals for sport. The world has certainly changed without Ringling Brother's around. They actually tried to put on a show primarily revolving around ice skating. What happens now? What do these families that have grown up under circus tents do to make a living? Some of those families have know the circus as their home for generations.

I ask that you pray with me this Epiphany weekend for people like the wise men who simply traveled by caravans of camels doing work for money – not for fun.

Happy New Year!

Fr. Mike

## Sunday Notes

### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The Lord shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalm** — All the nations will worship you, Lord (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — The Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrive looking for the newborn king of the Jews (Matthew 2:1-12).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38;  
Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10; Mt 3:13-17

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9; Mk 1:21-28  
or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12; Ps 8:2ab, 5, 6-9;

Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95:6-11; Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78:3, 4bc, 6c-8; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 1:1-3;  
Jn 1:29-34

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord

Monday: The Baptism of the Lord

Tuesday: First Week in Ordinary Time begins

Friday: St. Hilary

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary;  
Julian Calendar New Year

Saturday: St. Raymond of Penyafort; First Saturday;  
Julian Calendar Christmas



# Sharing Our Graces And Blessings

## A SEASON OF BLESSINGS

What a truly blessed and beautiful Christmas season we have had! Thank you to everyone who helped make our church look SO beautiful for all of our masses and to everyone who participated in each of our masses!





# School News

## CHRISTMAS CRAFTS!

Before Christmas break our first graders joined together for some Christmas fun with children from the Center for Independence. They had so much fun together! It has been such a joy having them in our school!



## GET RID OF YOUR BROKEN CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

The St. Cletus students in NJHS are collecting broken and unusable Christmas tree lights to be recycled.

There is a box in the Narthex until January 23rd!



## 21+ TRIVIA NIGHT

Gather a team of no more than 10 people (less is fine!) and come join the fun!

January 13th at 7:30pm in the Parish Center

(Check-in begins at 7:15pm)

**\$15 per person by 1/12**  
**\$20 per person at the door**

**This event is BYOB. Feel free to bring snacks too!**

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People on Team \_\_\_\_\_

Drop off to the school office  
Make Checks Payable to St. Cletus FSA

# Hispanic Ministry News

FECHA-DATE	HORA-TIME	EVENTO-EVENT	LUGAR-PLACE
10 de enero, 2023	7:00 p.m.	<b>Adoración al Santísimo</b> Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament	<b>Iglesia</b> Church
8 de enero 2023	12:30 p.m.	<b>Misa en Español</b> Spanish Mass	<b>Iglesia</b> Church
<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</b> Church
<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. .

nosotros, y sean parte de nuestra familia y amigos.

## FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Today the Hispanic Ministry will be celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord, with What is Epiphany? Epiphany - also known as Three Kings' Day - is a Christian festival, which starts on 6 January. It is a special date in the Christmas story as it's when people celebrate how a star led the Magi - also known as the Three kings or the Wise Men - to visit the baby Jesus after he had been born.

## FIESTA DE LA EPIFANÍA

Hoy el Ministerio Hispano estará celebrando la Epifanía del Señor, con ¿Qué es Epifanía? La Epifanía, también conocida como el Día de los Reyes Magos, es una fiesta cristiana que comienza el 6 de enero. Es una fecha especial en el relato navideño ya que se celebra cómo una estrella llevó a los Reyes Magos - también conocidos como los Reyes Magos o los Reyes Magos- a visitar al niño Jesús después de su nacimiento.



**Que te adoren, Señor,  
todos los pueblos**



# Social Concerns Ministry



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

Wish List:

- Beverages (tea, coffee, juice, hot chocolate mix)
- Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Diapers size 4, 5, 6
- Bathroom cleaners
- Laundry Detergent
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Shave cream
- Razors

Please note, our donation bin is now located past the flagpole, near door 4.

Follow us on Facebook:  
@StCletusFoodPantry

Instagram:  
@St.CletusFoodPantry  
\*\*Please remember, we do not accept donations of clothing or household goods, fresh/frozen meat, or perishables. If you have a question about a donation, please check first! Thanks!

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

## BLESSINGS

Recently, we were able to host some of our neighbors staying in a nearby shelter. It was an opportunity to help get the kids "out of the house" to "run of some energy" over winter break. We've all been there! It was a joy to play with the kids, share lunch and bust open some piñatas. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers for helping and playing!



## INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

### Leverage LinkedIn: Automate Your Job Search

Join us on Thursday, January 19 from 7-9 pm and start off your New Year with a new job search strategy! Ever heard about how great LinkedIn is for a job search but uncertain about how it adds value? Feel like there's a hidden job market, but aren't sure how to find it? Our presenter, Nicole Magats, is a Recruitment Consultant at Hirewell.

She will walk you through:

- how to set up your LinkedIn profile
- what sections you need to fill out
- how to stand out in a crowd of other candidates on LinkedIn

Learn secrets from an executive recruiter on how to power your career to new heights via LinkedIn. We look forward to seeing you at St. John of the Cross Parish Center, 5005 Wolf Road, in Western Springs. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost to attend.

Visit <http://www.interfaithcareernetwork.org> for additional resources.

## 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.



## Music Ministry

### *Words of Appreciation to the members of our St. Cletus Music Ministry...*

What a lucky lady I am to be the Director of such a fine group of talented and very dedicated singers who regularly offer their time and talent to enrich our liturgies! I think many of you who were with us last weekend would agree, they absolutely outdid themselves this Christmas Eve and Day!

We started Christmas Eve at 2:00 p.m. in Church with the Combined Youth Choirs in attendance. This year we had 20 enthusiastic young choristers who provided the congregation with their angelic voices in praise and appreciation of the birth of the baby Jesus. Megan Koziol, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, led the Psalm with great courage, confidence and enthusiasm; our three graduating 8<sup>th</sup> graders, Finley Gorman, Natalie Kapusta and Erin Kennedy, who have been in the choir since 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, each took a turn at the cantor stand leading various parts of the Mass. Other “cantors” included Cassidy Johnson, Leah Koziol, Molly Malham, and Genevieve Visuetti. We are so proud of these future leaders of our church!

4:00 p.m. in Church showcased St. Cletus’ very own rendition of the “Von Trapp Family” as The Doppke Family (including Erin Doppkes’ sister Bridget O’Neill) offered their rich harmonies and utilized their God-given lovely voices as they ministered at that Mass. Dad Jim, oldest son Jack (who is a student at Boston College/majoring in music), sister Lauren, and little brother PJ (about 6 feet tall) along with Mom, Erin, and Aunt Bridget, are all to be commended for their more than beautiful addition to that Mass. (As an aside, a gentleman who attended that Mass on Saturday afternoon, was in church on Sunday morning and approached me and told me how their music had touched him; he was so inspired by them.) I hope if you were there you too were moved by the quality of music leadership they provided.

Both the 2 and 4 included Kathleen Kress on flute and Andreanna Moravec on violin! Thanks ladies for adding your special touch to those masses.

I must not forget that while we were doing beautiful music in church, the 2:30 and 4:30 Masses going on in the Parish Center featured Justin Sisul on the piano and Jennifer Lowe (of the Covergirls Violin Show who recently appeared on the Parish Center stage, brought to us courtesy of the Ed Ward Fine Art Series), and included Alison (Sisul) Vogt and George Pach as cantors at each mass respectively. I’m sure many of you were pleased to see former Music Director Justin at the keyboard. It’s always good to have back for these special occasions.

10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve mass featured 22 members of the Chancel Choir, Mike McComiskey as cantor, Goerge Pach, as Psalmist, (plus several other key musical responsibilities), Jennifer Lowe on violin, Tom Faldani on timpani, and Jim Arns on the organ. An instrumental and choral prelude plus just a touch of “congregational participation” began at 10:00 p.m. It was a glorious evening filled with rich, joyful voices!

The next morning, Christmas Day, featured cantor Jim Cirese at the 7:15 a.m. Mass. Returning from the day before was Jack Doppke (home from college on Christmas Break) at the 8:45, and Mike McComiskey and the Chancel Choir at the 10:30 a.m. mass. Instrumentalists Jim and Jenn returned as well but we added Jeff Mickus who really added so much with his trumpet!

To all those from the music ministry who participated, to the instrumentalists who added their wonderful talents to the mix, and to the congregation who really sang out, thank you all for making this Christmas very special here at St. Cletus! May God bless us all.

From the bottom of my heart,

Karen Ziemba, Director of Music Ministries





# Ministry News

Save  
the  
Date

Sunday,  
January 22, 2023  
2pm  
&  
Monday,  
January 23, 2023  
7pm



Author and renowned speaker,  
**Deacon Keith Strohm**

is coming to

**St. Cletus Parish Center!**

He will share how

much you are loved by our

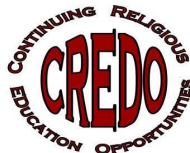
Heavenly Father in his two talks,

**“Called to be Sons & Daughters” (Sunday) and  
“Walking the Path of Discipleship” (Monday)**



Free will offering graciously accepted

Sponsored by:



**COME AND JOIN OUR CHOSEN DISCUSSION GROUP FOR SEASON 2!**

Last summer **CREDO** organized a discussion group for the series about Jesus and the disciples called The Chosen. We completed season 1 in November and will begin discussing season 2 the week of January 9<sup>th</sup>. We meet every 2-3 weeks to discuss an episode.



For things to make sense, you would need to watch season 1 in addition to watching the first episode of season 2 before the first meeting. Season 1 is currently available on Netflix. Season's 1 and 2 are currently available on Amazon Prime, Peacock, other streaming services, and for free with The Chosen app on Apple or Android.

Said a participant: “This series is VERY well done. The first episode can be a bit difficult to watch, but stick with it and give it a try. My favorite quote from the series (so far) comes from the character in the first episode: “I was one way and now I am completely different, and the thing that happened in between was Him.””

If interested, contact Colleen Hagen at [cahmd@aol.com](mailto:cahmd@aol.com). Please indicate in your e-mail what days of the week you are available. We meet at 7pm. We hope you can join us for Season 2.

**REMEMBER TO SIGN UP TO BRING UP THE GIFTS AT MASS!**

We would love to have people (families, couples or single people) bringing forward the bread and wine at weekend masses, and we hope you will consider doing so. This is a great way to celebrate a visit to St. Cletus by a family member, or as part of a mass you have made an offering for, in honor of someone in your family. Or, if you would just like to help with our worship, you are most welcome.

We have a Signup Genius for this available at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D4BA4A923ABFC1-bring>

Or, if you are not comfortable using Signup Genius, please call our Pastoral Associate, Tina Norton, at the Parish Office, or email her at [tnorton@stcletusparish.com](mailto:tnorton@stcletusparish.com), and she will sign you up. Thanks and happy new year!

**DISCUSSION**

For the next book discussion we are reading **Laine Change** by Mary Ann Doornbos We will meet on February 14 at 10 AM in the Fr. Gallagher Room of the Parish Center.



For those who like to look ahead....

April 11 **In the Woods** by Tana French

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

As always, all are welcome.

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

# Community News

## SAVE THE DATE

**DUELING PIANOS IN THE PARISH CENTER**



**FRIDAY, FEB. 3**  
8:00 PM  
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM

RSVP ON ONLINE:  
[www.edwardfas.com](http://www.edwardfas.com)

FEATURING:  
TONY KIDONAKIS  
ANDREW BLENDERMANN

\$40 INCLUDES:  
WINE, BEER,  
HEAVY APPETIZERS

FUN GAMES  
AND RAFFLES

## PURGATORIAL SOCIETY

"Most souls are released on Christmas Day. Followed by Easter, then Our Lord's feast days, Our Lady's feast days and Saturdays are days of rest, consolation and deliverance." ~ St. Alphonsus Ligouri  
Enroll your deceased loved ones for FREE and join us in prayer for the holy souls through the Octave of Christmas and beyond!

Information pamphlet and enrollment forms can be found in the narthex or visit: <http://www.stcletusparish.com/purgatorialsociety>



Special intentions for January anniversaries will be remembered at Mass on Monday, January 9th, 8am

## 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



Vocation Office  
750 North  
Wabash Ave. Chicago, IL

## LOOKING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY?

Join ours.

The **Engage Community** is for middle-age people, 50 and up (single, divorced, widowed or married) to foster Christian community through social and service events.

Potential upcoming events are movies and discussion, game/social nights and group service opportunities.

Volunteers needed with some event planning experience to help launch Engage.

If interested, email Amy at [sspagetts@aol.com](mailto:sspagetts@aol.com).

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Beginning January 9, 2023

Mondays at 9:10 a.m.

following 8:30 mass, in Unity Hall at St. Francis Xavier

Seasons of Hope at St. Francis Xavier Parish will meet over a 6-week period to help participants walk through the grief process. Anyone mourning the loss of a loved one is welcome to attend. It is suggested that participants allow 3-6 months from the time of loss before attending. Attending Mass is *not* a requirement for the group!



**Call Maggie McMahon at 708-352-0168, ext. 338 for more information to register.**

mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers"

## WORD OF LIFE



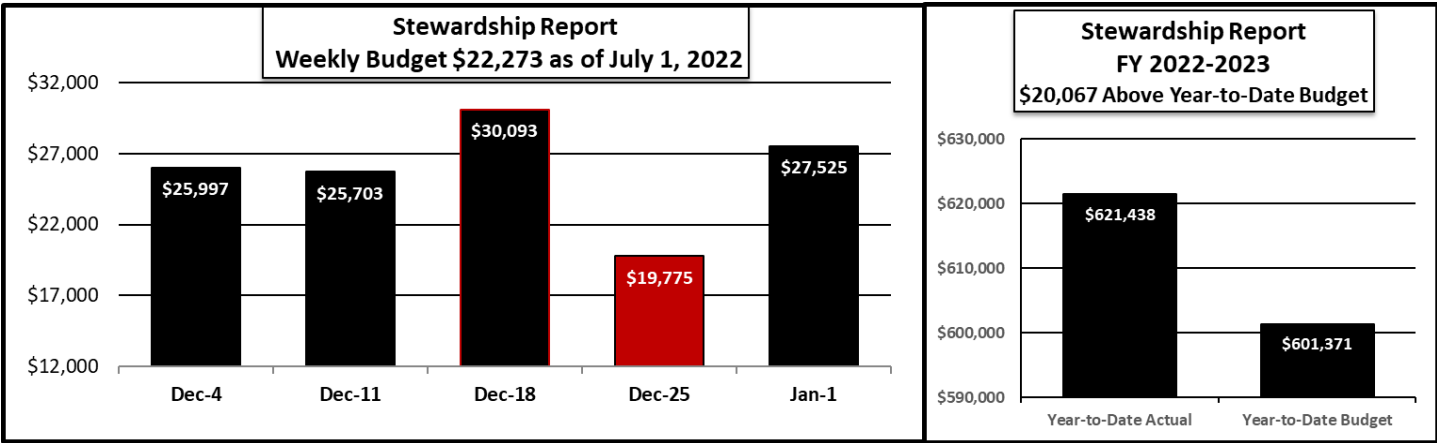
"O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers"



## Week At A Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, January 8			
Monday, January 9			
Tuesday, January 10	8:15-9:45pm	Parish Center	Church League Basketball Practice Grades 10 & 11
Wednesday, January 11	9am-12pm	Gallagher Room	Mission Ladies
Thursday, January 12	6-8pm	Food Pantry	Food Pantry Distribution
Friday, January 13	7:15-9:30pm	Parish Center	Adult Trivia Night
Saturday, January 14	8:30-9:15am	Church	Confessions
Sunday, January 15			

## Stewardship Report



**GIVING**

*Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically? It is SO EASY!*

Visit the St. Cletus Parish website at [stcletusparish.com](http://stcletusparish.com) and click the “DONATE” BUTTON (pictured to the right). Click Sunday donations. We accept checks (ACH), debit and credit cards. If you have questions or need help, contact Jim Dion at [jdion@stcletusparish.com](mailto:jdion@stcletusparish.com) or 708.352.6209.




**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

# 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  
**Karen Ziemba, 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 Morrissey, 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.



CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/  
Olga Montalvo/Sara Hodak

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2016  
Adobe Acrobat XI  
Windows 10 ltsc

PRINTER

HP Laserjet 1022

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

July 17, 2022

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 15

Wednesday 3pm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

**PLEASE PRINT 900**