

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

Though you do not see Him, you believe, and in believing there is unspeakable joy.
- St. Polycarp



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



WELCOME

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Mass Intentions for February 19 - February 25 2024

Day	Time	Presider	Intentions
February 19	8:00am	Fr. Kalas	Joseph Vais
February 20	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Dylan Ary(Birthday)
February 21	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Mary Anne Farrell, Rose Marie Hrozenjak, BC and Rip Collins, Peter Dixon
February 22	8:00am	Fr. Kalas	Bob Rettig, Robert and Jean O’Connell(Living)
February 23	8:00am	Fr. Romero	Francis and Louise Callaghan, Louie Marasovic, Evelyn Prevenas, John Jacobs
February 24	5:00pm	Fr. Lodge	Benjamin Patrick Hyink, James Chiostri, Diane Madsen, Jerry Welenc
February 25	7:15am	Fr. Belauskas	Julia Kopacz, George Herts, Reynold Aranas
	8:45am	Fr. Novick	Therese Herdzina
	10:30am	Fr. Lodge	John Baker, Stacy Baker, Living Members of the St. Cletus CWC, Marco, Emilia Rattin, and Bill DePasquale
	12:30pm	Fr. Novick	Por las benditas almas del purgatorio

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.

February -

January - Mary Ann Bamberger, Eugene Bastedo

December - Mary Lue Buchler

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...

Mary Lue Buchler
Sister of Don McMahon

Julianne Waryjas
Wife of Steven Waryjas

May they rest in peace....



Pastor's Note

*"Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths,
guide me in your truth and teach me,
for you are God my savior.
Psalm 25: 4-5*

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent, we are invited to join Jesus in the desert. Mark tells us that Jesus was driven by the Spirit into the desert where he remained for forty days. My heart tells me that Jesus will appreciate your accompaniment during this time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

A simple way of being with Jesus in the desert during the season of Lent is by intentionally making time for silence, prayer, and reflection each day. We know that our soul is yearning for silence. We know that our prayer life needs some refreshing. We also know that our mind and heart is longing for a good and healthy daily reflection. I confirmed my decision to join Jesus in the desert daily by adding it to my calendar. Perhaps you might consider doing the same.

As I join Jesus in the desert, I will ask him to make known to me his ways, to teach me his paths, and guide me in his truth. My heart and soul are seriously looking forward to being shaped, renewed, and inspired by Jesus. As you encounter Jesus in silence, prayer, and reflection, I encourage you to allow him to share his life and love with you. Sometimes that is all it takes.

When I was completing my priestly formation, several of my professors spoke highly of Thomas Merton and his writings. They encouraged us that getting to know Merton by reading his books would help us to deepen our relationship with the Lord. Back then I was able to read one of his classic books, *"The Seven Story Mountain,"* and a month ago I started re-reading it. In anticipation of Lent, I just purchased *"Thoughts in Solitude,"* another of Merton's Spiritual classics. I plan to read it during Lent. I am sure both books will be good resources for Lent.

Last Sunday, February 11th, 2024, we hosted our second St. Cletus Super Bowl Party in our Parish Center. Our gathering was blessed by the presence of 314 guests. Everyone had a great time. Everyone felt welcomed and at home. Our sense of belonging and being part of the St. Cletus Family was nourished and strengthened. My heart was filled with joy and gratitude as I saw friends, parents, and children having a great time together. I would like to recognize and thank the members of our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) for their leadership and for hosting such an amazing party for us all. I also would like to thank our Parish Staff and many volunteers for working closely with our PPC. Each of them strives to do everything for the glory of God, which is humbling and encouraging. Please hold them in prayer.

Our Lenten "Evening of Prayer and Reflection" is this Wednesday, February 21st, 2024, at 7:00 PM and will be held in our beautiful church. We are blessed to have Fr. Ken Simpson as our special guest speaker. His theme is: *"Gratitude and Forgiveness: 'It is truly and just, always and everywhere ...'"* Fr. Simpson is a well-known and respected priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He currently serves the Archdiocese as a **Consultant to Leading in a Renewed Church**. He is a thoughtful, spiritual, and engaging speaker. I have greatly benefited from his teaching and mentorship. I am confident that he will offer us valuable suggestions for our Lenten journey. Please join me in extending this invitation to your family, friends, and neighbors. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening.

May our experience of being with Jesus in the desert be filled with wonder, healing, and blessings.

Fr. Elmer Romero

AN EVENING OF *Prayer & Reflection*

ST CLETUS PARISH
600 W. 55th St. La Grange, IL 60525

Gratitude & Forgiveness

"IT IS TRULY RIGHT & JUST, ALWAYS & EVERYWHERE..."

OUR GUEST SPEAKER: Fr. Ken Simpson

VENUE: CHURCH *All are welcome!*

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

(708)352-6209 www.stcletusparish.com

Note From Father Mike

Lent 1 2024

For several Lent seasons now, I have been following the world-renowned author Matthew Kelly in his annual Best Lent Ever series. Each day you receive an email with a short video reflection from Matthew himself, then a reflection from another random employee of Dynamic Catholic (Matthew's company). He really is down to earth. Very rarely does he ever repeat a past reflection. I sometimes think he doesn't sleep because he continues to churn out books. This year, he released another book which I am really looking forward to reading during Lent. In this year of Eucharistic revival, his new book is entitled *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory*.

But one of the great things that has been of help for me over the years is the practice of journaling. Each year there is a companion journal that forces me to think and pray a little bit differently. It's one of many great disciplined prayer forms. Some people can pray in a very interior way. I have never been one for keeping my thoughts inside. Yes, they permeate my own daily living; however, I have found that I remember things much better when I am writing them out. I guess that is one of the reasons I don't seem to get writer's block when coming up with a bulletin article.

During this week, I will be on retreat. I tend to do a whole bunch of writing on my retreats I've done in the past. The challenge for me on any retreat is to actually get into the presentations by our retreat masters and not simply immerse myself in writing. The other great thing about re-

treats is to enjoy nature. I have not looked at the forecast for the retreat days, but being that I am not doing my normal retreat by going up to the seminary campus (which is a spectacular place to commune with God through nature), I felt needed to do something different. With so many changes in the past couple of years, I needed to be away in order to concentrate and focus a little better.

Please pray for me while I am away on my retreat from February 19-22. Be assured you have my prayers as always.

The first reading for this weekend is from the book of Genesis – God's conversation with Noah regarding the covenant between God and human beings. The gospel is St. Mark's version of Satan tempting Jesus in the desert. Mark's style is simple narration. There are no details about the conversation we hear in other accounts between Satan and Jesus. St. Mark's point is to say that it happened and Jesus (in essence) was taken care of and ministered to by the great throng of messengers from heaven. It does not say anything about HOW Jesus overcame the temptations, but that He did it. And the result was His getting the mission underway "This is the time of fulfillment...REPENT, and believe in the gospel."

How has Lent begun for you? I pray it's your best ever!

Fr. Mike

Sunday Notes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

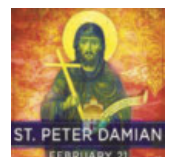
SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Presidents' Day

Wednesday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Friday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr



Sharing Our Graces and Blessings



Bible Study

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS



Scan
Here



A Parish-Wide Study Program

Join fellow parishioners young and old **every Tuesday during lent at 7pm**, as we explore the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and discover what it all means and why it matters. Don't just give up something this Lent-**get something** more out of Mass!

For more information contact **Deacon Franco** at the Parish Office or **Monica Herron** at monicaherron@gmail.com. Please, register by scanning the code above or by calling the Parish Office. We kindly ask participants to donate \$30.00 to cover the cost of materials, if possible. Thank you!

Tickets Will Be On Sale Starting Next Weekend!

ST. CLETUS PARISH

3rd Annual Lenten Fish Fry

Benefiting



Save
the
Date

Friday March 15th

Seatings: 4:30PM, 5:30PM, 6:30PM, 7:30PM

TICKETS ON SALE AFTER MASS SOON!

Sponsored By



SAINT CLETUS
**FATHERS
CLUB**

Welcome To Lent!

I can't decide whether I actually like Lent, or whether that matters. Some years, it is my favorite time of the year, but when I was younger, it was terrible. We had to "give up" something (which never worked out for the entire season), had to eat the terrible school lunch macaroni and cheese (which, actually, in those days was every single Friday, not just in Lent), and count all the ways you couldn't measure up to Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the desert, stood up to being tempted by the devil, and knew all the time that he was going to die a painful, shameful death on our behalf. In my view, we were expected to walk around under a little cloud of guilt for the entire six weeks. The weather at this time of the year is terrible and sad, even if (or maybe worse if) there is no snow. The symbols of the coming of spring (and the Resurrection) are not always immediately apparent. So Lent, on its surface, is not necessarily a positive experience. But we can make it that way.

We have kicked off our Lent this year with Ash Wednesday, as always. In the Old Testament, ashes signify mortality and penance. Non-Christian cultures use ashes as a symbol of mourning, as well. So on this penitential day, we place ashes on our heads. Unfortunately, many people see this as the only reason to go out of their way to church on Ash Wednesday. For many years, ashes have been what Father Andrew Greeley called the "Catholic ID card," and each year there is more and more pressure on the parishes, to distribute ashes outside a liturgy—"ash and dash," where people just want ashes but cannot be bothered to enter into community worship on this holy day. But whether we come to mass or a liturgy of the word, it remains important that we step off on this journey together, as a community, with an understanding of Lent beyond walking around with a dirty face. We worship together. We minister together. We mourn together. We are penitential together. We are all one community.

As an adult, I see Lent more in the context of the Resurrection. Lent is what Jesus went through in order to rise from the dead and save us from our sins. The Resurrection means very little without the Passion, and the Passion means very little without our reflection and penitence during Lent. We journey to the Resurrection through Lent together in community.

This weekend's readings have the first of our baptismal symbols in Lent (more about that next week!), as well as the story of Jesus being tempted in the desert (a version of this gospel appears on the first Sunday of Lent in all three liturgical years). The people have offended God, so God floods the earth and destroys everything except for faithful Noah and his family and the animals he saves. God gives them a rainbow as the sign of the covenant after the rain. We can see the flood as a symbol of baptism, which is illuminated by the second reading, explaining that the Flood and our own baptism washed everything clean.

Jesus is tempted by the devil in this weekend's gospel. The temptation is the theme in the First Sunday of Lent's gospel every liturgical year, but in Year B (where we are), it is just a passing reference. This gospel highlights that Jesus comes away out of the desert into Galilee when his cousin John the Baptist is arrested. Jesus begins to proclaim the word, and using the words we used on Ash Wednesday, exhorts us to repent and believe in the gospel. This is how we can go forward with our lives, not just during Lent but all the time.

Our Lenten journey has started! Let's move forward on our way to the Resurrection!

Tina Norton, Pastoral Associate

Boy Scout Plant Sale

TROOP 19 SPRING PLANT FUNDRAISER



Boy Scout Troop 19 is selling a variety of annual plants and hanging baskets!!! Pick-up will be in early May at the American Legion in La Grange.

Link to order: <https://go.noblevalleywreathsale.com/troop19spring/> or scan QR Code

Please select St. Cletus Parish as the "participant" at checkout.



Thank you for supporting Troop 19!

Social Concerns Ministry



**ST. CLETUS
FOOD PANTRY**
THURSDAYS
4-8PM

Wish List:

- Canned meats
- Cereal and oatmeal
- Detergent and soap
- Pasta and pasta sauce
- Diapers size 4, 5, 6
- Baby wipes

Follow us on
Facebook:
@StCletusFoodPantry
Instagram:
@St.CletusFoodPantry

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

FOOD PANTRY

Donation Reminder!

We have seen a recent uptick in donations of items we cannot accept. WE DO NOT ACCEPT DONATIONS OF MEAT, PERISHABLES (including fruits/vegetables), CLOTHING OR HOUSEHOLD GOODS. Please also be mindful of putting donations in the outside donation bin during freezing temperatures as items can expand and burst. Donation bins are also located in the Church Narthex, for your convenience. If you have any questions about a donations, please do not hesitate to ask first! foodpantry@stcletusparish.com or 708.215.5418. Thank you!

Community Partners

Brendan Bergnach chose to partner with St Cletus Food Pantry for his Eagle Scout project. He created 65 cleaning kits for guests. He raised all the donations and funds and did the shopping, sorting, and delivery of every single kit. Each family was able to take an entire kit! Thank you, Brendan!



Winter hats and gloves courtesy of RML Specialty Hospital in Hinsdale!

GIFT CARDS FOR EASTER

We are currently seeking donations of \$25 gift cards to Jewel or Walmart. Donations can be dropped in the weekly collection basket or at the Parish Center (please do not put gift cards in the donations bins). Or you can make an online donation to the food pantry. Please write (gift cards) in the memo/notes.

Each year, during the month of Easter, we distribute \$25 gift cards to Jewel/Walmart to each household. Thank you for your support!

A SEASON FOR REFLECTION

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

MISSION LADIES


The Mission Ladies are in need of white eyelet fabric to make Baptismal Bibs. If you have any to donate, it can be placed in the church food pantry donation bin or brought to the Parish Center. Thank you!



School News

DINING 4 DOLLARS NIGHT THIS THURSDAY!

Join us for our **D4D** February 22nd


5-7pm


No need to show this flyer or even mention St. Cletus! We will receive 15% of all proceeds for sales during our timeslot so spread the word!!

Where: McDonalds
5701 South LaGrange Road, Countryside

Dine-in and Drive Through

FEAST OF ST. BLASE

In honor of the feast of St. Blase, Deacon Franco went around to all of our classrooms to give blessings upon all of our students!



Thank you!

“So that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you.” (Jn 17:21)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

These past several weeks reminded me of the above passage, as many hands came together to prepare for the “Super Bowl” party we held in our Parish Center this past Sunday. Indeed, many more hands were at work on the day of the event to ensure everything was going as planned.

If you were here, whether rooting for the Chiefs or the 49ers, I am sure you would agree that all present had a great time.

Being part of the Church means we are all part of the Body of Christ. St. Paul reminds us: “For as in one body we have many parts, and all the parts do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ” (Rom. 12:4-5).

This type of event is a reflection of our intention to be and remain in the Body of Christ. Different people with different talents come together and make this possible. We are very grateful to all those who selflessly made this party a total success before, during, and after it. They are true disciples.

Blessings, Deacon Franco



Gathered as One!

The Super Bowl Fellowship this past Sunday was a wonderful opportunity for parishioners, school families, and neighbors to come together as one family united in Jesus Christ. I was blessed to assist at check in greeting those gathering for the game as we welcomed everyone into the Parish Center as a form of radical hospitality. Whether you were a Chiefs Fan, a 49ers Fan, or a Bears Fan (Someday we will make it to the Super Bowl again!), we were all gathered for one reason that was to experience the presence of God as reflected in each one of us. The volunteers assisted in so many different ways of service by welcoming people, assisting them to find their seats, helping them carry their food, organizing games for the children and making sure everyone felt at home while at St. Cletus. We are a welcoming community working toward the greater glorification of our Heavenly Father in all that we do.

God Bless!

Principal Gregory Porod

Hispanic Ministry

FECHA-DATE	HORA-TIME	EVENTO-EVENT	LUGAR-PLACE
20 de febrero, 2024	7:00 p.m.	Adoración al Santísimo Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament	Iglesia Church
18 de febrero 2024	12:30 p.m.	Misa en Español Spanish Mass	Iglesia Church
Segundo Sábado de cada mes Second Saturday of each month	8:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.	Adoración Nocturna Night Adoration	Iglesia Church



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will begin planning the Living Stations of the Cross. If you would like to participate you can join us on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the church for the first rehearsal. We will be meeting every Thursday of Lent from 7 to 8pm. The Living Stations of the Cross will take place on Good Friday, march 29, at 10:00 am. For more information, contact Juanita Avila 708-215-5441

VIA CRUCIS VIVIENTE

Comenzaremos a planificar el Vía Crucis Viviente. Si les gustaría participar pueden unirse a nosotros el jueves. 15 de febrero de 2024 a las 7:00 pm., en la iglesia para el primer ensayo. Nos reuniremos todos los jueves de Cuaresma de 7 a 8 pm. El Vía Crucis Viviente se llevará a cabo el Viernes Santo, 29 de marzo, a las 10:00 am. Para más información, se pueden comunicar con Juanita Ávila 708-215-5441.

FORMATION OF THE MINISTRY OF CARE

Thank you to the following people who took the training of Ministry of Care. Manuel and Margarita Ruiz, Rosamaría Martin, Erasmo Zavala, María (Cuquita) Quesada, Desiree Diaz and Kathy Speck. We thank God for their willingness to take Communion to those who are homebound, in nursing homes, or in hospitals. Home/hospital visitation and communion calls. Please contact the Minister of Care office. 708-352-6209

FORMACIÓN DEL MINISTERIO DE COMUNIÓN A LOS ENFERMOS

Gracias a las siguientes personas que tomaron la capacitación para ministros de Comunión a los Enfermos. **Manuel and Margarita Ruiz, Rosamaría Martin, Erasmo Zavala, María (Cuquita) Quesada, Desiree Diaz y Kathy Speck.** Damos gracias a Dios por su disposición de llevar la Comunión a quienes están confinados en sus hogares, en hogares de ancianos o en hospitales. Visitas domiciliarias/hospitales y llamadas de comunión. Comuníquese con la oficina del ministro de los Enfermos. 708-352-6209

Annual Catholic Appeal

2024 Annual Catholic Appeal: Together at the table

Our parish is conducting our campaign for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments. The new Annual Catholic Appeal theme, "Together at the table," is an important theme as we prayerfully consider our support for the Appeal but also important for embracing the life that the Lord wants us to live. Each pledge makes a difference! All parish communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, schools and ministries to deliver needed services. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response. To make your gift, you can complete the mail-in giving envelope available at church or make a gift online at annualcatholicappeal.com.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Ministry News

CONSIDER PRAYING THE ROSARY FOR LENT

Mary was with Jesus every step of the way through His life. Praying the Mysteries of the Rosary is a perfect way to join her during this Season of Lent, as we make our way to the cross. There are so many ways to do this:



Join us in church at 1:00 each Wednesday. Pray with others as we send up our prayers and petitions to heaven.

Say the Rosary from home on Monday evenings at 7, when the Living Rosary prays for peace in the world.

Volunteer to say one decade from home each day as a member of St. Cletus' Living Rosary. Call Mary Lu at 630-430-3338 to commit to a decade of your choice. This is a simple but very moving way to grow in your prayer life and place your heart in Mary's hands. Say the Rosary each day of Lent, whenever you can. Think about each Mystery, what Mary and Jesus were feeling and how it impacts your life. Put your worries in her hands. Stepping out of your busy life to give a half hour each day to God and Mary costs nothing, but opens your heart and mind to a fuller appreciation of the Love of God and Mary's pure devotion, thereby strengthening your own spiritual life.

Try it and see where Mary leads you.

BOOK CLUB



Come join us on April 9th for a discussion of *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. . We meet at 10 a.m. in the Gallagher Room. If you have any questions, please e-mail book_club@stcletusparish.com.

For those who like to look ahead, our June book is *The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

This week the children in our Faith Formation Classes prepared for Lent by studying a special lesson on Ash Wednesday. During the class our children discussed what the meaning of Ash Wednesday is and why we are signed with ashes and where the ashes come from.

We learned giving up something for Lent is following Christ's example and the importance of praying, asking for forgiveness and doing good deeds.

To help us remember our Lenten promise all of our Faith Formation children received a special W.W.J.D., (What Would Jesus Do) bracelet. Our hope wearing the bracelet will remind our children to act in the way Christ teaches us.

A reminder for our families: because of the President's Day Holiday, classes will not be in session this weekend, Sunday, February 18 or Monday, February 19.

Eucharistic Revival Reflection

Eucharistic Revival: How He Loves You

Ashes, dust, the desert. We encounter these images at the beginning of Lent, mindful of our need for repentance. It's a sobering season in which we, like Jesus in today's Gospel, are called by the Holy Spirit to fast and pray.

But as we spend time in the sparse wilderness, **never forget one thing: Jesus loves you**—individually, personally, without qualification. He endured the desert, abandonment, and crucifixion because he loves you. And he invites us to journey alongside him during Lent because he wants us to be with him forever.

In a world where love often seems temporary, superficial, or selfish, Jesus' model of love strikes us to the core. He lives out this love by laying down his life for us—re-presented each day at St. Cletus and throughout the world in the Eucharist.

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" (John 15:13).

Whatever you're wrestling with during Lent, never forget that you are known and you are loved.



Community News

VOCATION PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

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

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

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

Amen.



RSVPs are encouraged.

For questions or to RSVP, please email Jane at janeLGPark@gmail.com

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED LAGRANGE/WESTERN SPRINGS UNIT INVITES YOU...

“Bear with One Another in Love,” on Friday, March 1, 2024, at Advent Christian Church of the Highlands, 1525 Plainfield Road, LaGrange Highlands.

This World Day of Prayer celebration will feature guest speaker Jennifer N. Eseed, JD, who will offer comments on the topic “Perspectives from a Palestinian Christian Woman.” Under the direction of Church Women United International, this program was written, during the initial COVID outbreak, by the Christian women of Palestine who call us to connect with the homeland of Jesus. The content is especially pertinent in view of the conflict currently affecting the nations in the Middle East.

The morning will include 10:00 a.m. Bible Study, 11:00 a.m. Celebration, and conclude with optional dutch-treat luncheon at a selected area restaurant. Reservations are not required; all are welcome.

For more information contact: 708-710-0644 or email: cwulgws@gmail.com

ENGAGE COMMUNITY – FEBRUARY EVENT

Game Night

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 29th for a board game/card night.



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

When: 7:00-8:30 March 29

Who: All are welcome: married, divorced, widowed, parishioners and visitors to foster Christian community through social and service events.

What: Bring your favorite board game or a deck of cards. We’ll choose what to play based on the group’s size & interests.

You may also bring carpet-friendly snacks or a beverage to share (no red wine).



Preferred Partners



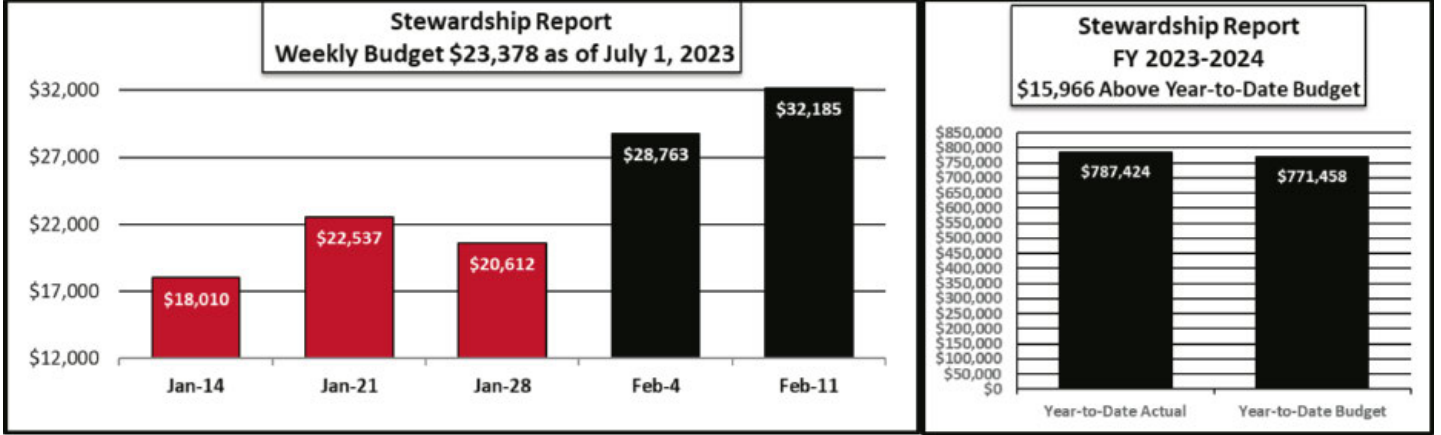
Thank you!



Week At A Glance

DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, February 18	After 7:15am mass	Gallagher Room	New Lector Training
Monday, February 19			President's Day - School and Parish Offices Closed
Tuesday, February 20	7pm 7pm 7pm 8pm	Basement Gallagher Room Church Parish Center	PPC Meeting Bible Study Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Spanish Senior Basketball Practice Church League
Wednesday, February 21	10am 9am-12pm 1-1:45pm 7pm 8-10pm	Church Gallagher Room Church Gallagher Room Parish Center	Mass w/ School Children Mission Ladies Living Rosary Parish Finance Council Meeting School Fathers Basketball
Thursday, February 22	4-8pm 5-7pm 8-10pm	Food Pantry McDonalds Parish Center	Food Pantry Distribution Dining 4 Dollars Night at McDonald's in Countryside Church League Basketball Team Practices
Friday, February 23	7-8pm 8-9pm	Church Parish Center	Stations of the Cross Frosh/Soph Church league practice
Saturday, February 24			
Sunday, February 18	After 7:15am mass		New Lectors Training

Stewardship Report



YEAR-END STATEMENT BY REQUEST ONLY

As tax time approaches, we ask everyone who would like a year-end statement of their Year 2023 financial offering to the parish to fill out the form below and return it or simply call the office @ (708) 352-6209 with your request. You may also email jdion@stcletusparish.com and submit your request electronically. Rather than mail statements to everyone in the parish, it seems more prudent and conservative to only mail them to those who need them for tax returns. Of course, your statement is available anytime a need for it may arise. Thank you.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Envelope # _____



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 SundayClosed

MASSES

Saturday Evening..... 5:00 p.m.
Sunday7:15 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*
Deacon Franco Foti, *Operations Director*
Rev. Michael Novick, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. John Lodge, *Senior Priest for Weekend Liturgy*
Mr. Ramón Cazales, *Deacon*
Rev. Robert Clark, *Pastor Emeritus*

PASTORAL STAFF

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

HISPANIC MINISTRY STAFF (708) 215-5441

Juanita Avila, *Head of Hispanic Ministry*

SCHOOL STAFF (708) 352-4820

Gregory Porod, *Principal*
Christy Schaefer, *Assistant Principal*
Frank Ochoa, *Dual Language Immersion Coordinator*
Mary Lee Krieger, *Administrative Assistant*
Kate Townsend, *Receptionist/Administrative Assistant*
Sara Hodak, *Marketing/Development*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

Lawrence Manetti, *Director of Faith Formation for Children*
Norma Hernandez, *Coordinator of Faith Formation for Children and Teens*
Clara Santin, *Faith Formation Administrative Assistant*

PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

Jim Dion, *Business Manager*
Olga Montalvo, *Parish Administrative Assistant*
Silvia Castellanos, *Parish Secretary*
Sara Hodak, *Bulletin Editor and Director of Social Media*
Doug Morrisey, *Parish Finance Council Chairperson*,
Email: finance@stcletusparish.com
Helen McComiskey, *Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*
Email: ppc@stcletusparish.com

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

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

LIAISONS

FSA PresidentJoleen Kirchens
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.

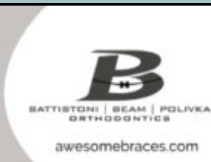
Vision Statement

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.

Experience the Difference

Office Locations:

La Grange | 708.352.4500
Oak Park | 708.848.5900

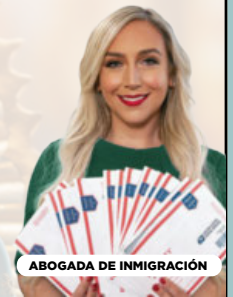


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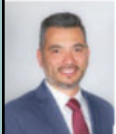
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