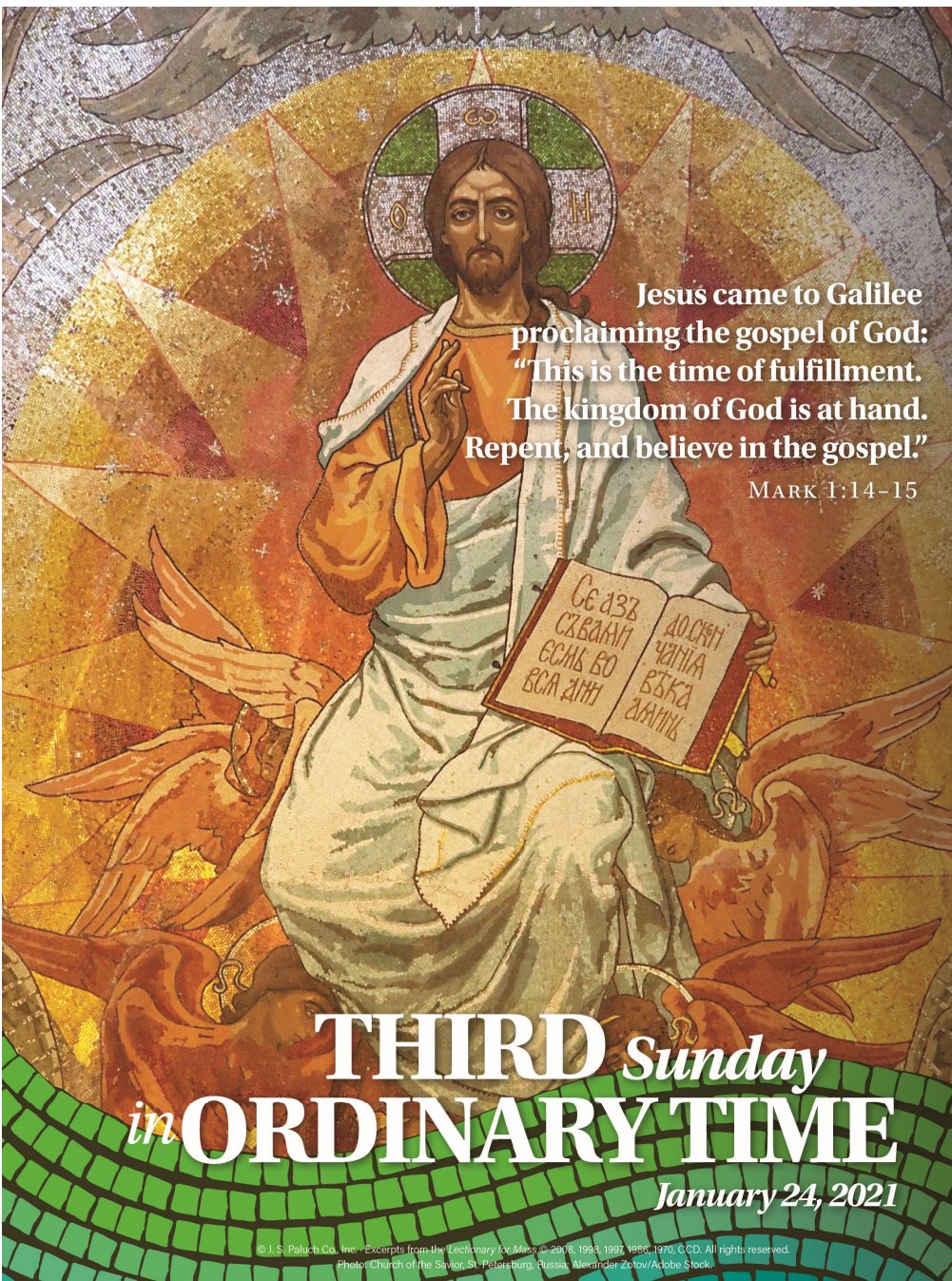


ST. CLETUS CHURCH 600 W. 55TH ST. LA GRANGE, IL

JANUARY 24, 2021

Saint Cletus Parish Canticle

The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel.
— MARK 1:15



WELCOME

So glad you could join us!

- 2 Mass Intentions
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- 5 Religious Education
- 6 Parish School
- 7 Note from
Deacon Stuart
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- 9 Stewardship Report
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- 10 Parish Information

Mass Intentions for January 25 - 31, 2021

Day	Presider (subject to change)	Time	Intentions
January 25	Fr. Clark	8:00am	Jane Goellner
January 26	Fr. Clark	8:00am	Joseph Vieceli
January 27	Fr. Gamboa	8:00am	St. Cletus Parishioners
January 28	Fr. Baker	8:00am	Monica Mataitis
January 29	Fr. Baker	8:00am	Russ Evans
January 30	Fr. Baker	5:00pm	Benjamin Patrick Hyink, George Popp, Charlie, Charley and Jacqueline Krebs
January 31	Fr. Gamboa	7:15am	George Duda, Jorie Pollard, Michael H. Speck
	Fr. Baker	8:45am	Stacy Baker, Eugene Sorrentino, Samuel Colonna and B. C. Collins, Frank Treski
	Fr. Clark	10:30am	Bill DePasquale, Emilia & Marco Rattin, Louie Pesut
	Fr. Gamboa	12:30pm	St. Cletus Parishioners

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 - Catherine Cosgrove, Virginia Klecka

December - Montana Jennings, Judy McLean, Ginny Skibbe, Mary Ann Vokurka, John Zydek

November - Sandra Eckrich, Patricia Hays, Marilyn Kornau, Maria Matayka, Kevin Peck, Patricia Rodey, Laura Terrazino, Patrick Wingert, Carol Reckwerdt, Rosemarie Gallagher, Virginia Kriho, Toni Swindall, Vic Swindall, Baby Vivian Furry, Frank Colonna, John Duda, Alice Dunkovich, Annette Bonvillian, Mary Ann Doornbos, John Paul Granger, Virginia Klecka, Frank Niwa, Waclaw Berdysz, Mary Duckett, Wayne Hamilton

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

ONLINE SIGN UP REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All worship opportunities require that you pre-register. No walk-ins allowed. The sign up links can be found on our website, stcletusparish.com. If you don't have internet access you can call the parish office for assistance at 708.352.6209.



Recordings of masses are available on the St. Cletus Parish YouTube channel.

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

Carol Dale

Wife of Tom

Patricia Hays

John (Jack) Polacek

May they rest in peace. Amen.

STATEMENTS REGARDING THE NEW COVID-19 VACCINES

Please see pages 6-11 of this week's Canticle for statements from the Vatican, USCCB, and Cardinal Cupich regarding the new COVID-19 Vaccines. More information can be found online:

<https://www.usccb.org/news/2020/us-bishop-chairmen-pro-life-and-doctrine-address-ethical-concerns-new-covid-19-vaccines>

<https://www.ilcatholic.org/illinois-bishops-join-u-s-bishops-statement-on-covid-19-vaccines/>

<https://www.archchicago.org/en/news-release/-/article/2020/12/23/cardinal-blase-j-cupich-encourages-everyone-to-get-vaccinated-against-covid-19>

<https://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines>

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2020-12/vatican-cdf-note-covid-vaccine-morality-abortion.html>

Notes from Fr. Bob...

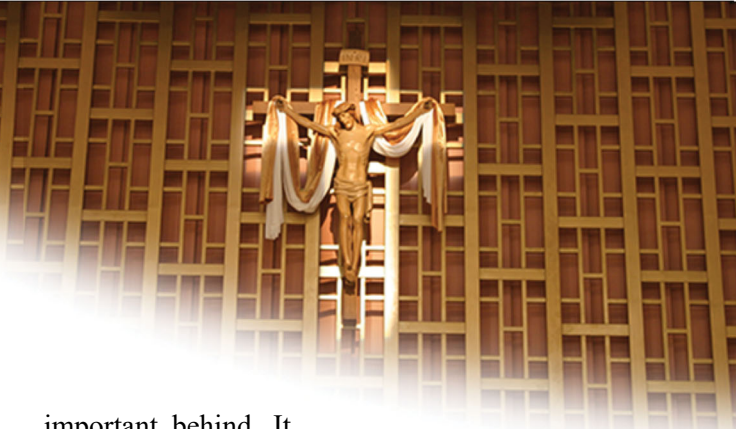
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mark is just beginning to tell us the story of Jesus. He has set out his main character's credentials, offering us the witness of John the Baptist and the prophecies of the Scriptures. Now he brings Jesus himself onto the scene. It is at the time of John's arrest. There is an undercurrent of danger running through Mark's account of Jesus' life, an undercurrent that will grow stronger, to flow out into the events culminating in his death. Jesus begins his public life with a summary of what he is about, as succinct a Mission Statement as any modern organization could demand. The time people have been waiting for has come. The kingdom of God, the new state of God's presence in the world, is being inaugurated. To be part of it we have to repent and believe the Good News. Putting flesh on these bones will be the story of the gospel. We see people turning away from the past, turning from evil and from failure and being transformed by what Jesus says; we will see people discovering their true destiny.

The first example we are offered is the calling of Jesus' closest followers or disciples. Mark's gospel is very much the gospel of action, so here too we see no questioning of destiny but an immediate response. Simon and Andrew, James and John don't utter a word. At once they leave both their livelihood and their families and follow Jesus. Mark was well aware of the cost to early Christian communities of their belief, where following Jesus brought persecution and inevitable family splits. For Romans, for example, the gods of the household, the lares and penates, were inextricably bound up with being family. So you could not follow Jesus and remain within your family, unless your whole family chose to follow you in your belief. The disciples are offered as a reassuring model. Even before knowing Jesus they respond immediately to him. It is a world of high drama and response Mark is introducing to us.

We live in a world that is often very confused. Some young people do still grow up with a clear sense of purpose and conviction. Many struggle to discover themselves against the pressures of peer groups, changing fashions, conflicting values and an underlying sense of uncertainty. In other parts of the world oppressive regimes and a lack of economic and political freedom make it even more difficult to discover that sense of having something special to do or be in life.

Mark's draws a picture that is tough, but is also reassuring. In one way he is letting us know that nothing has changed. The discovery of destiny will always be a challenge. We always have to leave a lot that we consider



important behind. It may even be our family or our livelihood. The American poet Robert Frost talked about taking the road less traveled by, and there is always that element of the unknown involved; but that, as he went on to say, makes all the difference. What we have to leave behind are bits of us that impede our real progress, the baggage we all carry in one way or another – the false messages and perceptions, the fears and anxieties. What faces us is the Good News. The Good News tells us that we matter in a unique way. It tells us that we too are part of Christ's transfiguration of the world into a better place.

Blessings Always,



Fr. Bob
Pastor

Social Concerns Ministry



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

Most needed at this time:

- \$10 gift cards to Jewel or Walmart
- Dish Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Razors
- Deodorant
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Diapers size 5 & 6
- Baby Wipes

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](#)

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

If you made a donation to the St. Cletus Food Pantry or Social Concerns in 2020 and you would like a tax letter, please contact Kendall at kgrant@stcletusparish.com or 708.215.5418.

WORD OF LIFE



“Many people know someone personally who is suffering because of an abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? ... Even a woman who doesn’t go to church or think of herself as religious can be afraid that God will never forgive her for having an abortion. She should know that God loves and forgives those who are sorrowful. He wants to comfort them and give them his peace.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion”

9 DAYS FOR LIFE



JANUARY 21-29, 2021

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day’s intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



3 WAYS TO JOIN



9DaysforLife.com

Religious Education

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

Over the past few months, many people have been busy preparing virtually for Sacramental Celebrations. We have young children, teenagers, High School students, young adults, and more “seasoned” adults all in the process of preparing for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

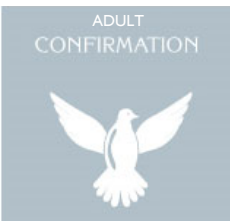


We have two people in our RCIA program this year, one younger elementary aged student and one adult. They have been meeting virtually through Zoom calls each week since early October.

Our younger student, Anahy Martinez, is a **Catechumen**. This means she is preparing for all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. She is a wonderful young girl, who was so excited to receive her first Bible at the Rite of Acceptance in December! She has spent each day reading more of the stories of our faith in the Scripture, and is loving every minute of it!

Erica Velazquez is our adult **Candidate**. Erica will be completing the Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist and Confirmation) at the Easter Vigil. Erica joins our weekly zoom calls with enthusiasm, and we have a large RCIA team on the calls as well. Years ago, Erica brought her two sons (then in 5th and 8th Grade) to join our RCIA program for children. Inspired by their faith journey, she has returned to complete the journey to the Sacraments of Initiation herself.

Adult Confirmation Class



This year, St. Cletus offered an adult Confirmation class for the first time. We are collaborating with St. John of the Cross and St. Francis Xavier to offer this virtual class. We have six adults in the class, meeting for seven consecutive weeks in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The ages of our six participants are mostly young adults. They are a dynamic and fun group of people who are eager to learn and share their faith stories with one another. We are excited to have them join in our larger Confirmation celebrations at

the end of February, where they can witness to their own faith and desire to be confirmed, along with our teenagers of the parish.

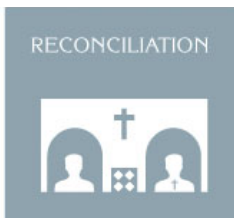
Sacrament of Confirmation



This year we are preparing 103 teenagers in the Religious Education program and the Parish School for the Sacrament of Confirmation. These teens have been very busy preparing for this sacrament by completing different requirements, including: curriculum lessons, writing a saint report, participating in a virtual Sponsor Meeting, completing and journaling about service experiences and writing a letter to the Pastor sharing why they desire to be confirmed.

Confirmation masses are scheduled for the weekend of February 27 and 28. Due to the pandemic restrictions, we are limited in the number of people allowed in each mass, so we will be celebrating in four different Confirmation masses this year. Also due to the pandemic, the Archdiocese has delegated the authority to confirm to the Pastor this year, so our 103 teens and six adults will be confirmed this year by Fr. Bob Clark. It is a wonderful honor for Fr. Bob to be able to confirm these young people in his final year as pastor here at St. Cletus.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist



This year we are preparing 100 young students for these two important sacraments.

First Reconciliation services have been postponed twice this year due to COVID-19 surges, but we look forward to celebrating with these children in March.



First Eucharist will be held in five different masses this year (similar to what occurred last year during the pandemic) in late April and early May.

Please keep all of these young children, teenagers, young adults and “seasoned” adults in your prayers over the coming months. We are so happy that we can continue to share God’s outpouring of grace and love through the sacraments with all of them, even during a pandemic. God’s love and mercy conquers all!

SUPPORT ST. CLETUS SCHOOL

Join our Socially Distanced

St. Cletus School Cardinal Raffle

Grand Prize: \$1000

Second Prize: \$500

Third Prize: \$500



\$10.00 per ticket

Buy Tickets January 31st - February 11th

Drawing held on February 12th, 2021

Attention St. Cletus Parishioners & Catholic School Alumni

This year, Catholic Schools Week takes place January 31 to February 6, and St. Cletus School needs your support. Please consider purchasing tickets for our annual Cardinal Raffle. Tickets can be ordered using the form below. We hope that you can join us in continuing to provide a quality Catholic education.



It's a great day to be a Cardinal!
Proceeds will go towards our Fine Arts Programs at St. Cletus School

For more information, please contact Emily Wasik at 630-229-7720 or virgoekw@gmail.com

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please send raffle fees and donations back to St. Cletus School: **600 W. 55th Street, La Grange, IL 60525.** Tickets may also be purchased from current student families. Entry tickets will be emailed back to purchaser. No email? No problem, just leave your phone number and we will contact you about your tickets. Thank you!

\$10.00 per Raffle Ticket

\$_____ We would like to donate to help St. Cletus School.

Please make checks out to: St. Cletus School

We hope that you can contribute to the success of our St. Cletus students!



*Join Deacon Stuart and Marlene Heyes
for an unforgettable journey*



New Dates

The Splendors of Ireland

May 15-25, 2022

Depart/return USA

Dear friends,

Given the events of last year we decided to reschedule the trip to May 2022.

This will give all interested time to get vaccinated, decompress, get comfortable with traveling by air again and really enjoy a relaxing Irish vacation.

We had a webinar late last year which covers the itinerary in detail and the recording is available if you are interested by contacting me via phone or by email.



Ireland is a truly unique place as all who've been there or came from there will agree.

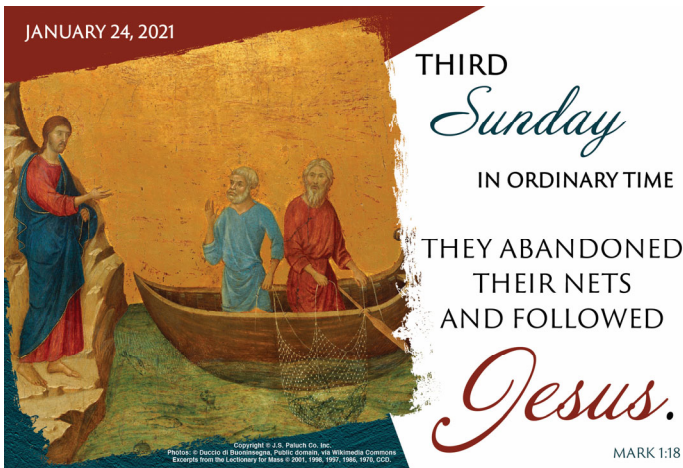
We look forward to your company, on what we believe will be a most memorable visit to the Emerald Isle, land of laughter, awesome hospitality, Guinness and a much slower pace of life.

Blessings - Dcn. Stuart & Marlene

P: 630-842-3967

E: stuart.heyес@icloud.com

Sunday Notes



A NEW DAY DAWNS

Today we hear how Jonah, sent by God to warn the people, storms through the streets of Nineveh, scaring the citizens out of their wits. And it works! God has a change of heart, seeing “by their actions” how the people turn from evil (Jonah 3:10). A new day dawns.

Next we hear Paul telling the Corinthians, “The world in its present form is passing away” (1 Corinthians 7:31). He calls for a change of heart. Stopping short of telling them to stop carrying out their everyday activities, he urges them—rather mysteriously—to live “as though” they aren’t doing the things they are doing. A new day has dawned.

Finally, Jesus stands on the shore and cries, “The kingdom of God is at hand!” (Mark 1:14). Simon and Andrew abandon their nets—and even their father—and follow him. A new day had dawned.

Everyone has to change when a new day dawns: the Ninevites, the Corinthians, the apostles, even Jesus! Didn’t a new day dawn today for us as well?

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The Ninevites turn from their evil ways in response to Jonah’s message (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).

Psalm — Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

Gospel — Jesus proclaims, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” The new disciples abandon their nets and follow him (Mark 1:14-20).

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

NOT WITHOUT LOVE

The soul cannot live without love.

—St. Francis de Sales

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Tuesday:	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday:	Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday:	Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25
Friday:	Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-2, 8-19; Lk 1:69-75; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday:	Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle
Tuesday:	Ss. Timothy and Titus
Wednesday:	St. Angela Merici; Tu B’Sivat (Jewish new year of trees) begins at sunset
Thursday:	St. Thomas Aquinas

FEAST OF FAITH

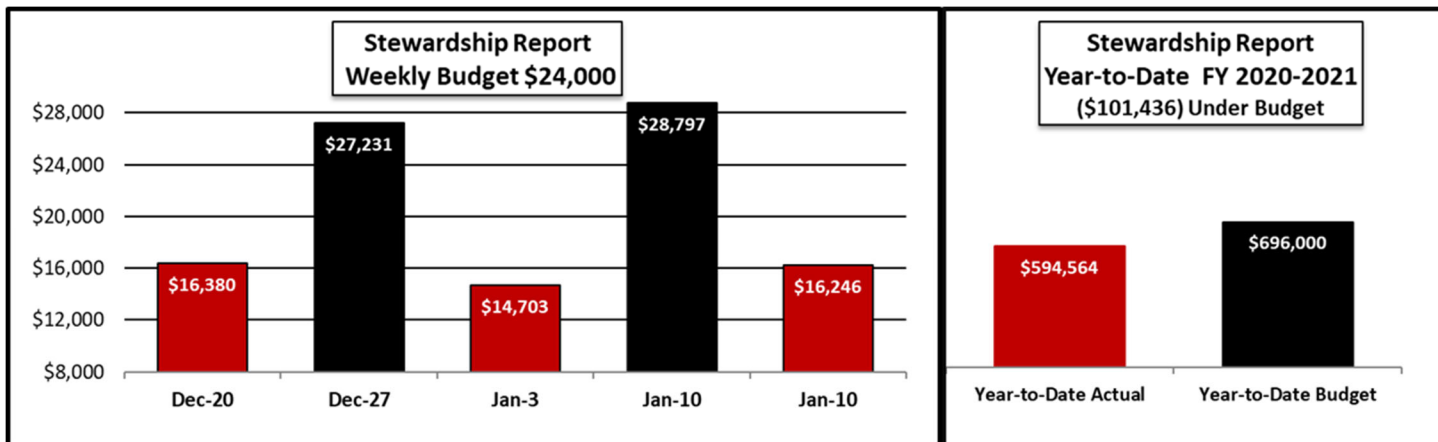
The Penitential Rite

Standing together in the presence of the Lord, we acknowledge our weakness, our sins and faults and failings. But the penitential rite is really less about our sins than it is about God’s mercy. It is not a time for individual confession, like a mini-sacrament of reconciliation. It is, rather, a preparatory rite, preparing us to praise the mercy of Christ as we acknowledge our own weakness. When Simon Peter witnesses the miraculous catch of fish—when he realizes who is in the boat with him—he falls at Jesus’ feet with the words, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man” (Luke 5:8). We are like Peter. The more aware of the Lord’s presence we become, the more awareness we also have of our sinfulness, our weakness.

The penitential rite of the Mass takes several forms, from the traditional *Confiteor* or “I confess” to a litany, spoken or sung by the deacon or cantor with responses by the entire assembly. The penitential rite always includes the words *Kyrie, eleison; Christe, eleison*—Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy. This ancient Greek prayer came to the Roman liturgy from the East, and still echoes in many of the litanies of the Eastern Rite Churches. These words turn our gaze from our own weakness to the gentleness, the kindness, the forgiving love of Christ.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Stewardship Report



Ministry News

BOOK DISCUSSION



The next book discussion will be at 7 P.M. February 9, 2021

We will discuss Happiness is a Choice You Make by John Leland.

For those who like to look ahead:

April 13, 2021: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

June 8, 2021: Saints for All Occasions by J Courtney Sullivan

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

FRATELLI TUTTI DISCUSSIONS

Invitation to Community Conversations: Emerging from the Pandemic Together - Saint John of the Cross and Saint Francis Xavier parishes invite you to explore the great ideas and tangible ways that we can build a more just world in our personal relationships, social life, politics and institutions.

SESSION ONE: *“If we want to encounter and help one another, we have to dialogue.” Fratelli Tutti, 198.* | January 21, 2021 from 7 - 8:15 pm

SESSION TWO: *“The Good Samaritan: Who is my Neighbor?”* | January, 28, 2021 from 7 - 8:15 pm

SESSION THREE: *“Self-gift as the Key to Deeper Fulfillment”* | February, 4, 2021 from 7 - 8:15 pm

Interested individuals can attend one or more than one session. **It is not necessary to have read *Fratelli Tutti* to participate.** Email mmcmahon@sfxlg.org to register/ receive the Zoom invitation.

COMPASSIONATE CARE MINISTRY

The **Compassionate Care Ministry** is again badly in need of postage stamps for its notes of sympathy and support during the first year following the loss of a loved one. Each bereaved family receives six cards during that year. This means that if there are ten funerals during a period of one month, 50 stamps are needed in that month alone. Your generous donations have meant so much in the past and we are very grateful.

If you are able to contribute to this worthwhile ministry in this way, it will be very much appreciated. Simply place them in an envelope marked **CCM** and put them through the slot in the rectory door—or drop them in one of the collection baskets located at each exit in the church building.

ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



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

Visit the St. Cletus Parish website at 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

BULLETIN ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Please note that all Canticle articles are to be emailed to 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
 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-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 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.....Mon. thru Sat. 8:00 a.m.

We continue to offer daily Mass online and our 5pm Vigil Mass is livestreamed each Saturday. 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.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions First Saturday of the Month 9:00 to 9:45 a.m.
Must call parish offices to schedule a reservation.

BAPTISMS

Parents must be registered parishioners. Please make arrangements by calling Bobbie Kallal 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. 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 Cadena, 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
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

Fr. Lorenzo Gamboa Cadena, 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
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

MEMBERS

Bob Malham
 Kevin Hogan
 Mike Napleton

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/
Debbie Lestarczyk (Bus Mgr)

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

PRINT 400 PLEASE!!!