

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

JULY 4, 2021

# *Saint Cletus Parish Canticle*

**My grace is sufficient for you,  
for power is made perfect in weakness.**  
— 2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW PASTOR AND ASSOCIATE PASTOR



FR. ELMER ROMERO  
PASTOR



FR. DAN COSTELLO  
ASSOC. PASTOR

*Please join us for hospitality following each mass as we  
celebrate Independence Day weekend and welcome  
Fr. Elmer and Fr. Dan.*

## Mass Intentions for July 5 - 11, 2021

| Day     | Time    | Intentions  |
|---------|---------|---|
| July 5  | 8:00am  | Michael Pizzuto, Elena Salazar, JJ Farrell  |
| July 6  | 8:00am  | Joseph Viececi, Paul Budvitis, Joseph Vais  |
| July 7  | 8:00am  | Elaine Rys, Frank Wojcik  |
| July 8  | 8:00am  | Tom Lihosit   |
| July 9  | 8:00am  | St. Cletus Parishioners   |
| July 10 | 5:00pm  | Louie Pesut, Robert Suchy, Joan & Harry Brown, Rodney Pretzel, Special Intention of CCW Members |
| July 11 | 7:15am  | Stacy Baker, Richard Gomez, George Duda   |
|         | 8:45am  | Maryann Zborek, Michelina Vanchieri   |
|         | 10:30am | Amalie Moravec, John Jacobs, Sylvia Pesut, Vic & Toni Swindall                                  |
|         | 12:30pm | St. Cletus Parishioners   |

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

**Jeffrey Pelletier**

**Margaret Polaski**  
Wife of Edward

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

### **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.*

**June** - Joseph Busta, John Duda, Howard Eggert, Joan Klemak, Marian Mozdzen

**May** - Catherine Cosgrove, Mary Depasquale, Laurie Stewart, Laura Terrazino, Ed Kuchta, Frank Niwa, Joanna Polanski, Gladys Vaci, Tom Valenti

**April** - Virginia Klecka, Montana Jennings, Ginny Skibbe, Mary Ann Vokurka, Sandra Eckrich, Marilyn Kornau, Maria Matayka, Kevin Peck, Patricia Rodey, Patrick Wingert

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

### **PARISH CENTER SUMMER HOURS**

St. Cletus Parish Center Summer Hours in June and July:

Monday thru Thursday      9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Friday                              9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday        Closed

### **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY**



The St. Cletus Parish Office will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day.

### **INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND**

This year's Independence Day Weekend will find St. Cletus celebrating both the arrival of our new Pastor, Fr. Elmer Romero, and our newest Associate Pastor, Fr. Dan Costello, and continuing the tradition of honoring our veterans on the Fourth of July! Fr. Elmer, Fr. Dan and Fr. Ken will concelebrate mass for the first time together at the Saturday evening mass, and Fr. Elmer and Fr. Dan will introduce themselves at each of the weekend masses. This year, as the Fourth of July falls on a Sunday, we are required to celebrate the mass for the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

However, in keeping with our tradition of having a special celebration on July 4, our parish priests will concelebrate the 10:30 mass, joined by Fr. Robbie Deka, Ch., Capt., USAF as the main celebrant. At the mass we will honor our veterans, and present the Fr. Charles Gallagher Award to parishioner, Charlie Schiller. While our celebration will be simpler this year, we will have hospitality following each mass. We look forward to being with our parish family on Independence Day Weekend!

## A Note from Fr. Elmer

### **ABOUT FR. ELMER ROMERO**

#### **Ministerial Experience:**

I am a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago. I was ordained on May 24, 2003 by Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago. After my ordination, I was appointed as the Associate Pastor of St. Matthias and Transfiguration Parish in Chicago effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 I was appointed as the Pastor of St. Mark Parish in Chicago where I joyfully completed my term of six years. Then on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012 Cardinal Francis George appointed me as the Associate Dean of Formation at Mundelein Seminary where I assisted with the responsibility of forming future priests for our Church. Now I am here at St. Cletus Parish, because Cardinal Blase Cupich has appointed me as your new pastor effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

#### **Background:**

I was born and raised in Peru. My parents, Teodoro and Felipa, love children. They had 13 children. I am number 6. Dad and Mom, with their simplicity of life, shared with us their joy, care, and love. As I recall my upbringing, it seemed like we had a party or a picnic every day at home. They made a good team raising us. They showed us how to be responsible with our lives. They taught us to be respectful and caring. They found in God their inspirations, blessings, and patience to deal with us.

#### **Vocation to the Priesthood:**

My vocation to the priesthood was nourished by my parents and home parish. Dad and Mom were the first ones to teach me how to make the Sign of the Cross, pray the Our Father and Hail Mary. Every night Dad would stop by our rooms and make the Sign of the Cross over our foreheads. Only after receiving Dad's blessing would we go to sleep.

When it was time for First Communion, Dad and Mom enrolled me in the Religious Education Program at the parish. I was lucky to have sister Adelinde Plieger (a nun from Austria) as my catechist. She was a good teacher. She was so friendly and joyful. So, I learned from her some of the foundations of our faith. Frequently, with some intensity, she would remind us that we would be receiving Jesus at the Mass of our First Communion. One day, she said to us, "Remember always that Jesus wants to be your friend forever." Since then, I am happy to let you know that Jesus has been my friend. He is a good and loyal friend. I am glad that he is your friend, too.

Another person that played a huge role in my discernment process to enter the seminary was my pastor, Fr. Pablo Fink Piok, a missionary priest from Italy. One day as we were delivering groceries to those in need, he said to me, "Elmer, God wants you to be his priest." I was not expecting to hear something like that at all. A few years

later, I heard from him again with the same invitation. At this time, I decided to pay more attention to his invitation and off I went to the seminary in Quito, Ecuador where I spent seven years before coming to Chicago in the summer of 1999. After arriving in Chicago, I spent a year at UIC learning a new language. Then, the following year, I entered Mundelein Seminary where I completed my priesthood formation in 2003.

God has been so good to me since I was born. He has given me wonderful parents. He has blessed me with amazing religious sisters and a caring pastor as I was growing up. Then, when I joined the seminary (Ecuador and Chicago), I was met by wonderful and caring people such as nuns, priests, and parishioners like yourselves. It was through their care, witness, and encouragement that God affirmed my vocation to the priesthood.

I am so happy to be part of your parish. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you personally. It is my hope that together we will continue to discern God's will for our parish community. I am confident that through your prayer and counsel God will show me how to be a diligent, attentive, and caring pastor.

***Happy Fourth of July!***

***May the Lord bless you abundantly!***

***Fr. Elmer Romero,  
Pastor***

### **CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT BOBBIE!**

Bobbie Kallal is retiring after 40 years of ministry at St. Cletus.

St. Cletus Parish is grateful for the many years of service.

We wish her the best and will miss her!





## Social Concerns Ministry



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

#### Most needed at this time:

- Jelly
- Toothpaste
- Facial Tissue (Kleenex)
- School Supplies

Please look for the FOOD PANTRY DONATION bin near the Rectory door, it 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*

### GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY VOLUNTEERING

If you haven't been able to grab one of our volunteer slots, considering volunteering at the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Let them know you are from St. Cletus Food Pantry and you will earn \$15 for our pantry each time you volunteer! Check out their link for volunteer eligibility information and sign up. [www.chicagosfoodbank.org/volunteer](http://www.chicagosfoodbank.org/volunteer)

### INTERFAITH CAREER NETWORK

**Federal Job Search: Demystifying the Government Sector** - Join us on Thursday, July 15 from 7-8:30 pm via Zoom and discover if job opportunities in the federal sector exist for you. Have you heard scary stories about the complexity of applying for a federal job? Are you stumped about where to start a federal job search and how to modify your resume to match the application requirements? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, don't miss this federal job search workshop with Becky Brillon (MS-HRM, CPRWA and career strategist). Becky will be our guide through [usajobs.gov](http://usajobs.gov). She will provide useful information about working in the federal sector and how to translate civilian skills to federal skills, how to effectively interpret federal requirements and use those details to apply, interview and land a position in the federal sector. This a virtual workshop filled with valuable information you need to know if you're interested in the federal sector. The link to this Zoom meeting can be found on our website at <http://www.terfaithcareernetwork.org/calendar>. Everyone is welcome and there is no cost to attend.

### INTERFAITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**SAVE THE DATE FOR ICP's FALL BENEFIT** - Friday, October 1, 2021 at 6pm at Carriage Greens Country Club. Plans are in the works to be back in person for our fall benefit this year, so please save the date for this fun evening in support of older adults! More details coming soon....

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH

#### Who Is at Greatest Risk? <sup>1</sup>

Any person, anywhere, can be a victim of abuse. Domestic violence affects both women and men, and cuts across all age, racial, ethnic, religious, educational, and socioeconomic strata. Available research, however, indicates that domestic violence does appear to be more prevalent in certain groups:

- women, including those who are single, separated, married or divorced;
- teens and young adults;
- women who lack access to their own financial resources;
- women who abuse alcohol or other drugs, or whose partners do;
- women who are pregnant and have been previously abused; and
- individuals whose partners are excessively jealous or possessive.

#### Characteristics of Abusers

There is no universal profile of an abuser. Perpetrators of domestic violence can be young or old, male or female, professional or unskilled, educated or illiterate, rich or poor, religious or secular, or of any race or ethnicity. Abusers run the gamut of psychological "diagnoses," ranging from perfectly normal to psychotic. However, abusers tend to:

- objectify their partners (i.e., treat them as a category or object, not as a full human being);
- feel entitled to get their needs met without regard to the needs or feelings of their partners;

- use power (be it physical, emotional, political, economic or spiritual) to make sure their agenda is accomplished;
- feel that coercion is an effective and acceptable way to get their needs met;
- have the opportunity to be abusive without being held fully accountable; and
- behave abusively with a particular victim.

Consciously or unconsciously, most batterers assume a sense of privilege, which is used to gain and maintain power, or the “upper hand” in the relationship. They tend to believe their behavior is completely justified and necessary to fulfill their role in the relationship, as the one who is in charge, in control, is the provider and is “king of the castle.” They feel they have attained or have been endowed with privilege to behave the way they do, and do not believe what they are doing is wrong in any way. They believe the role of their partner is to do what she is told, and to further and support the batterer’s agenda and needs. Examples of privilege used as justification by batterers include: being male; being physically stronger; being heterosexual, or alternatively being a more experienced gay or lesbian; being white; being a U.S. citizen or being documented (if an immigrant); being the wage earner, or earning more money if both are employed; being more highly educated; being able-bodied; and being more religious or observant, among others.

In addition, the following characteristics are often seen in abusers:

- Often, abusers will not clearly acknowledge that their behavior is abusive or even hurtful, even if they have been arrested and convicted of a violent crime. For example, an abuser may tend to focus on what “she said” that “made him” act in a way that he considers to be justified and not at all wrong. It often takes years for abusers to move through a process of healing within themselves.
- Following a discrete abusive incident, some perpetrators may be truly sorry for their actions. Some batterers are horrified that they have hit their wives or girlfriends, are overcome with remorse, and genuinely want to change. They may apologize profusely and shower their partners with gifts and extra attention. Unfortunately, without professional help from a certified batterer intervention program, the cycle of violence usually begins anew, often with more dangerous consequences in future assaults.
- Abuse is likely to continue and to progressively escalate if abusers do not address their violent behavior. Voluntary or court-appointed professional help is almost always necessary for a perpetrator to change his behavior. Certified batterer intervention programs take between one and two years to complete.
- Some abusers blame their violent acts on external factors such as their partner’s behavior or provocation, being drunk, coping with a medical or psychological illness, or simply having a bad day. Experts in batterer intervention are quick to remind clients that they

themselves must take responsibility for their own behavior. There is no excuse for domestic violence.

<sup>1</sup>Elaine J. Alpert, et al. *Responding to Domestic Violence: An Interfaith Guide to Prevention and Intervention*, The Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women’s Network, 2005



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

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

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

## WORD OF LIFE



“Through our prayers and through the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers, may fathers come to know the irreplaceable role they hold in the lives of their children, and the responsibility they share in welcoming God’s gift of new life!”

Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux “Fathers’ Irreplaceable Role in Welcoming Life”

## FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

School supplies will be distributed each Thursday in August. Please place donations in the food pantry donation bin near the Rectory door. Please note, all items should be new, and unopened. Thank you for your generosity.

**St. Cletus Food Pantry**

# School Supply Drive

**Items Needed:**  
Washable Markers  
24 pack Crayons  
Spiral Notebooks  
Pens  
#2 Pencils  
Glue Sticks  
Glue  
Kid Scissors

\*All items should be new & unopened\*

Items can be dropped in the  
'Food Pantry Donation' bin outside the Rectory



# St. Cletus School

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

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

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL IS HIRING!

We are looking for several position to be filled at St. Cletus School.

Please contact the school office @ 708-352-4820 or email cschaefer@stcletusparish.com if you are interested!

Positions available:

- Part time Reading Resource teacher
- Full Day preschool teacher
- 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher
- Aftercare worker (from 3pm – 6pm)
- Substitute teachers – all grades needed

It's a Great Day to be a Cardinal at St. Cletus School! Please consider joining our family!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STATE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS!

We are pleased to announce that many of students did place at this year's State Science Fair! Congratulations to:

- Matthew Rife- Gold
- Saylor Episcopo – Silver
- Charlie Wangard – Silver
- Reichen Ziemba – Silver
- Kyle Alpe – Bronze

We are very proud of all of our newest Alumni and know they will represent St. Cletus School well in their High School years!

## 2021-22 ENROLLMENT IS OPEN

Visit [www.stcletusschool.com](http://www.stcletusschool.com) to learn about all the great things happening at our school and take a virtual tour. Give us a call at 708.352.4820 for more information.

## DINE AT BUONA BEEF ON JULY 15 AND SUPPORT ST. CLETUS SCHOOL!

Save the date!!! We hope you are having a wonderful summer and enjoying every minute!

We are having a July D4D at the Buona Beef in Countryside (right down the road from school).

The event is from open to close on July 15th, for both takeout and drive thru and St. Cletus School receives 20% of the sales!

Please note offer not valid on web/online orders\*



# BUONA

THE ORIGINAL ITALIAN BEEF

## July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021

20% of sales will benefit your organization

Take-out and Drive-thru  
From open til close

\*Not valid on Web/Online orders\*

(MUST mention your group when ordering)

## St. Cletus School

Countryside  
20 W. Planfield Rd, 60525  
708-236-0379



Interested in setting up a Buona Benefit Night? Email us at [fundraising@buona.com](mailto:fundraising@buona.com)!

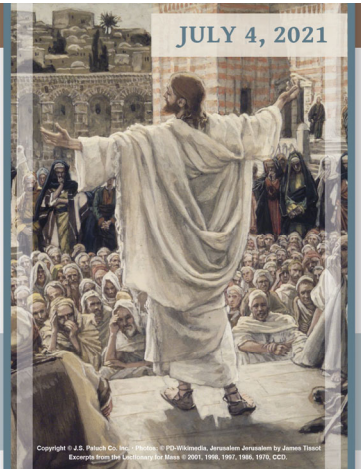


## Sunday Notes

When the Sabbath came,  
Jesus began to teach  
in the synagogue,  
and many who  
heard him  
were astonished.

Mark 6:2

FOURTEENTH  
SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME



### NO BAD NEWS

There are many times when we say, “Tell me what I want to hear, and don’t confuse me with facts.” And we don’t take kindly to someone who might be bold enough to snuff out our expectations.

The biggest problem with such an attitude is not that we miss out on the truth or the facts, but that we miss out on the new and surprising gifts others can give us. Like the townspeople in today’s Gospel story, we too often refuse to allow others to display the talents that can be good news for us.

Today’s readings call for hospitality and faith and discernment. Hospitality opens the doors of our hearts and minds to the “stranger” among us, no matter how familiar he or she may seem to be. Faith enables us to accept the gifts of others, no matter how alarming or “strange” they may seem to be. Discernment helps us discover the prophets in our midst, no matter how amazing they may seem to be. Hospitality, faith, and discernment—cultivate these. Then, nobody can bring bad news.

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### TODAY’S READINGS

**First Reading** — They shall know that a prophet has been among them (Ezekiel 2:2-5).

**Psalm** — Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy (Psalm 123).

**Second Reading** — I am content with weaknesses and hardships for the sake of Christ (2 Corinthians 12:7-10).

**Gospel** — “Where did this man get all this? Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary?” (Mark 6:1-6a).

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.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a; Ps 91:1-4, 14-15ab; Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33; Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b, 15; Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a; Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19; Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5; Ps 105:16-21; Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a; Ps 105:1-4, 6-7; Mt 10:24-33

Sunday: Am 7:12-15; Ps 85:9-14; Eph 1:3-14 [1:3-10]; Mk 6:7-13

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Independence Day

Monday: St. Anthony Zaccaria; St. Elizabeth of Portugal

Tuesday: St. Maria Goretti

Friday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

### FEAST OF FAITH

#### Little Mysteries

Two small rites—or, as one liturgist has called them, “little mysteries”—accompany the preparation of the gifts. The priest or deacon takes a small cruet of water from the server and adds a drop of water to the wine. Then, after the elevation of the chalice (and the incensation, if incense is used), the priest washes his hands. Both of these actions were at first practical, matter-of-fact realities: in the ancient world the wine was usually quite thick, and was generally mixed with water before it was drunk. And in the early church, when the faithful brought forward a great variety of gifts at this time, there was a definite need for the presider to wash his hands!

But now these rites serve a purely symbolic function. The mingling of the water and wine is accompanied by a prayer that speaks of the wonderful exchange of the Mass, the mingling of Christ’s divinity and our humanity. And as the priest washes his hands, he prays words of supplication from Psalm 51, acknowledging his own sinfulness in the presence of the assembly before he dares to approach the altar for this most sacred action.

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

### THE SHAPE OF THINGS

We cannot help conforming ourselves to what we love.

—St. Francis de Sales

### WAITING

Our Lord prefers to wait for the sinner for years rather than keep the sinner waiting one instant.

—St. Peter Julian Eymard

### IDLENESS

Idleness is the enemy of the soul.

—St. Benedict

## Ministry News

### BOOK DISCUSSION



For the next book discussion, we are reading **The Light Between Oceans** by M L Stedman. We will meet on August 10, 2021 at 7 PM.

For those who like to look ahead, on October 12 we will discuss **On The Brink of Everything** by Parker Palmer.

As always, all are welcome.

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

### FALL FEST WILL RETURN IN 2022



We are excited to announce that the St. Cletus Parish Fall Fest and carnival will return September 8-11, 2022. We will not host a carnival this year, but we do still plan to run the Grand Raffle again this Fall.

### GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Golden Wedding Anniversary 2021

The Archdiocese of Chicago Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary this year are invited to participate. Please note, this Mass is planned as a live event with participants attending on site. With the uncertainty of the how the COVID-19 virus will be this Fall, this Mass may need to be moved to an online liturgy due to ongoing mitigation efforts associated with the pandemic.

More details on the Mass, including location and relevant COVID-19 precautions, will be available in early summer 2021 at <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding>.

Please contact [familyministries@archchicago.org](mailto:familyministries@archchicago.org) with any questions.

### THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER



Please register for programs at The Well Spirituality Center online: [www.csjthewell.org](http://www.csjthewell.org) or call 708-482-5048. All programs are on Zoom unless noted otherwise, during this time of COVID-19.

**Forest Bathing, Salt Creek Nature Preserve, Saturday, July 17, 9-10:30 AM - *in person*** - We will walk slowly, take deep breaths, and mindfully move through the landscape to cultivate presence and open the senses. Forest Bathing helps people remember that we are a part of nature, not separate from it, while spending time intentionally outdoors has scientifically proven health benefits that endure 7-30 days after a walk.

**Boundless Compassion Virtual Retreat, Sunday, July 18 – Friday, July 23 – *on Zoom*** - Compassion can change a heart, change a life, and change a world. Discover the seeds of compassion planted across the spectrum of faith traditions in this 5 day retreat with Mary Dean Pfahler, SND.

### THEOLOGY ON TAP

The Archdiocese of Chicago is excited to announce another virtual series of Theology on Tap for Summer 2021! The theme of the 2021 Theology on Tap series is St. Joseph, which is inspired by the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St. Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. It is also in honor of the Year of St. Joseph. Throughout this series, we will explore St. Joseph's patronage and how the city of Chicago is living by his example today. For more information about Theology on Tap, please visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoTOT/>.

### ENROLL IN ELECTRONIC GIVING



**Do you want to transition away from writing checks and contribute electronically?** Visit [stcletusparish.com](http://stcletusparish.com) and click the "DONATE" BUTTON.

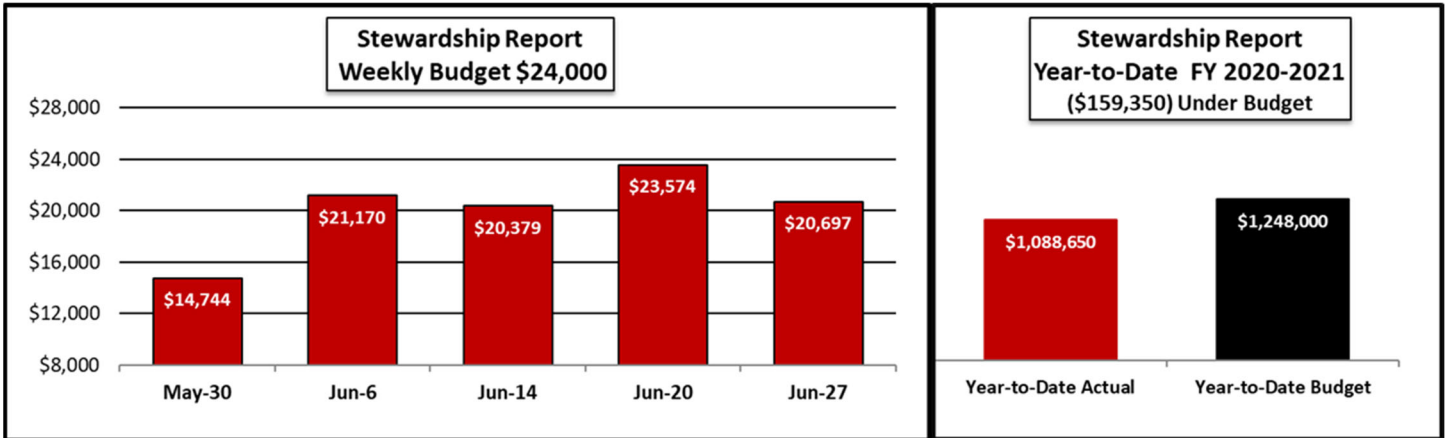
Then click Sunday donations. If you have questions, call Mary Zwolinski at 708-352-6209.

### 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 5:00 p.m. Friday a full week (9 days) before Sunday's publication.



# Stewardship Report



# Religious Education

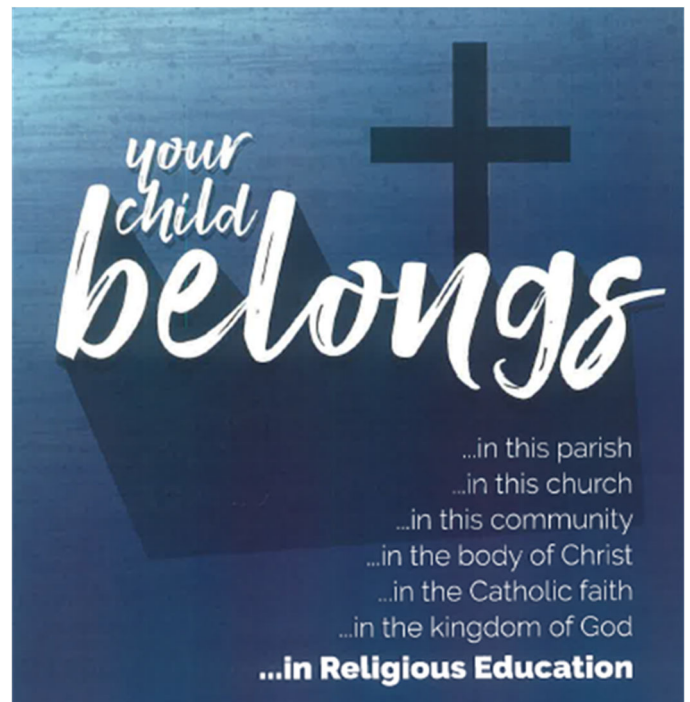
## REJECTION AND BELONGING

Just about every person who has ever lived has at one time or another experienced rejection (not being liked or included). Rejection is an unfortunate part of life, yet it is definitely still a part of life. Some of us have faced rejection on a playground when we were not chosen for a team. Others of us have had friends tell us they no longer wanted to be our friends. And maybe our family has even rejected some of us. In whatever form rejection comes to our lives, we need to know how to handle it. Jesus gives us a wonderful picture of dealing with rejection. Jesus understands rejection. He knows what it is like for us because He has been rejected more than all of us put together. In our Gospel reading today, we hear how Jesus was even rejected by His hometown friends and neighbors. The very people that He grew up around. They didn't like Jesus very much in Nazareth. The Gospel tells us that Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith.

Jesus continues to experience rejection by people to this day. Many people continue to have a lack of faith. When Jesus died on the cross, He handled His rejection by asking God to forgive those who rejected Him. Jesus loved those who rejected Him. He did good to those who treated Him bad. He gave His life for those who were against Him. We can learn some good lessons from Jesus' response to rejection. Did He get mad or want to get even? No. We can take some comfort in knowing that even Jesus was rejected. When we are rejected we should respond as Jesus did, with love and forgiveness. Remember to keep the faith! We belong to the Body of Christ! Jesus will never reject us, and we should always remember that we are deeply loved!


## REGISTER FOR OUR 2021-2022 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Your child belongs in Religious Education for this coming year! Registration forms can be found on our website: [www.stcletusparish.com/re/](http://www.stcletusparish.com/re/) We look forward to a great year of at-home learning mixed with in-person activities that provide encounters with Jesus through prayer, retreats, and service opportunities! We hope you will join us this coming year!



# 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 JUNE/JULY HOURS

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

Monday thru Thursday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
 Friday ..... 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 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..... Mon. thru Fri. 8:00 a.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Confessions First Saturday of the Month 8:30-9:15 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. Elmer Romero, *Pastor*  
 Rev. Kenneth Baker, *Associate Pastor*  
 Rev. Dan Costello, *Associate Pastor*  
 Rev. Robert Clark, *Pastor Emeritus*

### PASTORAL STAFF

Fr. Baker/Palette Bolton, *Worship* .... (708) 215-5422  
 Karen Ziemba, *Music Ministry* ..... (708) 215-5423  
 Kendall Grant, *Social Concerns* ..... (708) 215-5418  
 Debbie Lestarczyk, *Business Manager* (708) 215-5405  
 Christopher Wagner, *Technology* ..... (708) 215-5420

HISPANIC MINISTRY ..... (708) 215-5440

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*  
 Palette 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*

## ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor ..... Fr. Elmer Romero  
 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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