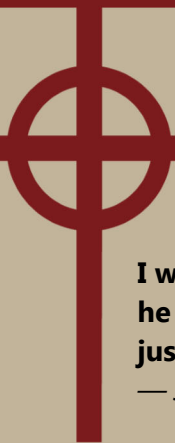


Saint Cletus Parish Canticle



**I will raise up for David a just shoot;
he shall do what is right and
just in the land.**
— *Jeremiah 33:15*



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



- DECEMBER 2 7:45 am - 12:30 pm Ho Ho Holiday Breakfast with Santa
5:00 p.m. Taizé Prayer Service
- DECEMBER 3-11 7:00 p.m. Spanish Ministry Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena
- DECEMBER 4 6:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. LTHS Fanfares and Carols Concert
- DECEMBER 7 7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- DECEMBER 8 8:00 a.m. Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass
7:00 p.m. Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass (Spanish)
8:00 p.m. Reception for Bishop Alberto Rojas will follow Mass

(Full listing of Advent Worship Opportunities can be found on page 8.)



- 2 Mass Intentions and Important Notes
- 3 Pastor's Note
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- 13 Stewardship Report Week at a Glance
- 14 Parish Information

Prepare the Way
with HOPE
with PEACE
with JOY
with LOVE

Prepare the Way ...with HOPE
Please be sure to take a ribbon from our Prayer Ribbon Tree each Sunday of Advent.
A Prayer for Hope can be found on page 9.

Mass Intentions for the Week of December 3 - 9, 2018

Day	Presider <small>(subject to change)</small>	Time	Intentions
Monday	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention - Virginia Gebka
Tuesday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Special Intention - Virginia Gebka
Wednesday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Virginia Rachford, Walter Johnston, Leanette Martoccio, Bertha Zeno, William Chadwick
Thursday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Joseph Vieceli
Friday	Fr. Clark	8:00 a.m.	Frank Wojcik, Rosemary Hatzell
Saturday	Fr. Gamboa	8:00 a.m.	Sam Scopelliti, John Walsh
	Fr. Clark	5:00 p.m.	George Kusman, Vincent Passardi, Fernando Cabral, Ken Kakareka, Eugene Richler, Dr. Jerry Loftus, Frank Skrip Sr.
Sunday	Fr. Gamboa	7:00 a.m.	John & Frances Kennedy, Patrick Mahoney, George Duda, Paul Lawler
	Fr. Baker	8:00 a.m.	Stacy Baker, Alice Beaghley, Ricciardone & Calandriello Families
	Fr. Baker	9:30 a.m.	St. Cletus Parishioners
	Fr. Clark	11:00 a.m.	Nancy Candela, Gene Kennedy, Ray Stroiber, Gabriel Deely, John Wesche
	Fr. Gamboa	12:30 p.m.	Juan Jose Lara

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.

November - Charles Fiipek, Virginia Gebka, Yesenia Guzman, Sharon Smilanich, Jean Weekley

October - Kimberly & Tony Fox, Susan Grace, John Duda, Dave Sipek, Laura Biesadecki, Frank Colonna

September - Lee Ascencio, Mary Benka, Paul DeRivera, Nikki Howell, Ada Medina, Leo Rivera, Bill Tortorello, Joan Clark, Rosario Martinez, Frank Niwa, Laura Terrazino, Rachael Schopp, Nicole Will Montemagni, Bonnie Boerste, Helen Brennan, Dr. Larry Bernstein, Christine DeMaria, Daniella DeRivera, Gerda E. Dorso, Dan Gibbons, Tom Hansen, George Hess, Kathryn McCord, Rosa Nilles, Ayanna Kucera O’Neill, Frank Pastrana, Patricia Rodey, Kathleen Russell, Lucy Schoenecker, Carol Witkowski

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

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.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Please note the mass schedule for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception:

Friday, Dec. 7 at 7:00pm (Vigil)

Saturday, Dec. 8 at 8:00 am and 7:00 pm (Spanish)

COLLECTIONS

CCHD Collection

Thank you for your generous support last week to the collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development! Your donations support those on the margins who are living in poverty in the United States. If you missed the collection, it’s not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections, and click on “How to Give” on the left.

Retirement Fund for Religious



Next weekend there will be second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Please give to next week’s collection.

Notes from Fr. Bob...

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2018

Today Jeremiah is surrounded by the experiences of defeat, disaster and destruction. The city of Jerusalem is sacked, the Temple is pulled down, and people are taken away into exile. But this 'seer', this man of far-seeing eyes, can foresee a time of hope and promise, a time when God will restore life and land and liturgy to his people, a time to rejoice. Lamentation will become laughter, and tears of sorrow will become tears of joy.

So too, Jesus today, in his final messages before his own trial and torment, speaks of the dark days to come on his own people, and on all mankind, but at the same time, he tells his followers not to be afraid. Instead, let your lives be honest and honorable, even then you will have no reason to fear, and every reason to stand with confidence at God's coming. God's coming spells liberation, freedom. Only those whose lives are evil need fear the coming of the Holy One.

How, then, shall we live in this "meantime" between the days of Jesus on earth and the final coming of the Son of Man? Saint Paul today gives us the example and the teaching. He points to the need for us to make progress in virtue. Never live a self-satisfied life, nor think of yourself as 'fine just as you are'. There is so much more to do, so much more of the journey of life for us to travel until we reach the end of our days; so much more in loving others, and in loving "the whole world." If you arrive at that stage of life, then you will have really travelled!

We have no reason to be complacent about the condition of this world, with all its struggles for justice, peace, alleviation of hunger and poverty. In the same way we have no reason to be complacent about our own human relationships and our capacity for good and ill in the lives of others.

Our life is not a private journey to individual perfection, but a common endeavor to share in the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears of our fellow travelers and companions in this world. We need to remember that we are all pilgrims together in joy and in hope.

Blessed Advent Season,



Fr. Bob, Pastor



TAIZÉ PRAYER DEC. 2ND AT 5PM

No fighting for a place in line or haggling over a price or circling the parking lot for a vacant opening. Join us Sunday, Dec. 2nd for 45 minutes of peace and calm-filled moments to renew your heart for the miracle of Christmas at our Taizé Prayer Service in the Church.

Ample parking - beautiful music - words of hope and joyful anticipation of Emmanuel-God-with-us. Come alone, with a friend, or with your family (children are welcome).

WHAT IS TAIZE? Ecumenical services "in the spirit of Taizé" are held around the world. As the Taizé community explain the service: "This is meditative common prayer. Gathered in the presence of Christ, we sing uncomplicated repetitive songs, uncluttered by too many words, allowing the mystery of God to become tangible through the beauty of simplicity."



Parish School



ST. CLETUS SCHOOL DATES TO NOTE

December 3 Queen of Hearts Raffle
 December 24-January 4 Christmas Break
 March 30 Spring Auction

FOR INFORMATION OR TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

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

ST. CLETUS
Queen of Hearts
RAFFLE

BUY TICKETS DAILY AT KENNY'S IRISH PUB.

DRAWINGS MONDAYS AT 7PM AT KENNY'S.



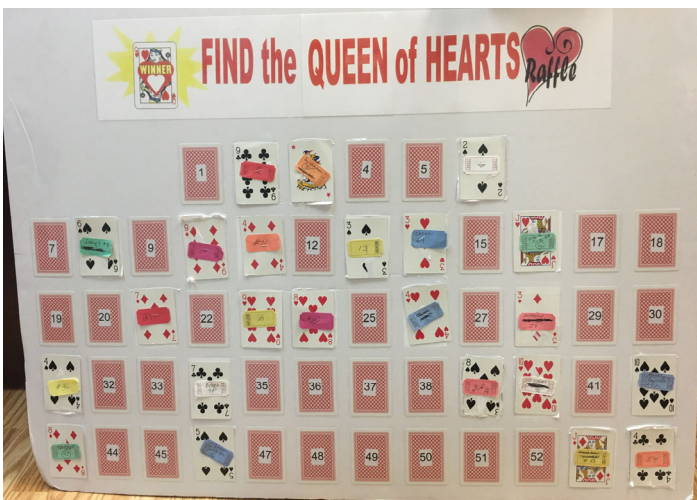
ST. CLETUS SCHOOL QUEEN OF HEARTS

The St. Cletus Queen of Hearts 50/50 Raffle continues with the roll over pot sitting at over **\$23,000!**

Visit Kenny's Irish Pub and buy your tickets today for the next drawing which will be 7pm on Monday, Dec. 3rd.

Raffle Details: In cooperation with Kenny's Irish Pub, St. Cletus is running a 50/50 raffle to benefit St. Cletus School. Tickets can be purchased at Kenny's Irish Pub on 55th Street in Countryside for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The raffle draw will take place every Monday night at Kenny's until the Queen of Hearts is found. The tickets do not roll over week to week, but the Pot DOES!

Come on over to Kenny's any time during their normal business hours to purchase tickets (winner need not be present to win).



WINTER ATHLETICS

Winter sports are off to a great start at St. Cletus. The 8th Grade Boys were runners up in the Mt. Carmel Border Classic. 5th, 6th and 7th Grade Boys are looking forward to a great season. And the 7th and 8th Grade Girls started their volleyball season off looking strong. "No cut" athletics offer students the opportunity to learn teamwork, build friendships, and have fun.

SHOP WITH SCRIP **Gift Cards for Education**

SHOP WITH SCRIP CASH AND CARRY EVENT

Date: Sunday, 12/2/2018
Time: 7:30am - 12:30pm
Where: Parish Center

The Shop with Scrip committee will be selling gift cards just in time for the holiday season! We will have a variety of popular vendors (e.g. AMC Theater, McDonalds, Starbucks, Amazon, Dunkin n Donuts, etc.)

Please stop by our table for your gift giving needs (we accept cash or check only).

The school purchases gift cards at a discount from the Shop with Scrip program. You still receive the full value of the gift card, but for every gift card purchased, a percentage goes directly to our parish school.



WELCOME TO THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

As we begin this new liturgical year, we will be hearing the Gospel of Matthew.

Each of the gospels is unique and in some of its content. Each gospel is shaped by the needs, the problems, and the trials and challenges of the community for which the gospel was written. Matthew's gospel was written for the Jewish followers of Jesus who had continued to attend the synagogue regularly. Matthew presents Jesus as the new Moses by having him do "Moses-like" things: he gives the people new rules of behavior—the Beatitudes; he has miraculous powers (healing, curing, forgiving); brought hope to many people. The main theme of his gospel is that "the kingdom of God is like..." a reign of peace and love, of harmony and serenity, of forgiveness and mercy.

THE JESSE TREE

This passage is the basis for the Jesse Tree, which has become a symbol of Christ's heritage, or roots, and God's covenant with the Jewish people. The stump symbolizes the family of the Jews; the shoot, Mary; and the branch, Jesus.

In the Old Testament, Jesse, the son of Obed, was a poor farmer in Bethlehem. He had 8 sons, the youngest of whom was David. As a boy, David was anointed by Samuel to succeed Saul as king of the Israelites. Christ was to be born of the house of David in Bethlehem.

Today the Jesse Tree is used to trace God's promise of the Savior and Christ's ancestry. There are some variations of the symbols but primarily the same intent.

Our Jesse Tree is near the ambo. Each day, simple paper ornaments will be added with a symbol on one side and Scripture passage on the other side. Please come up and take a look.

- Dec. 1 – Adam and Eve
- 2 – God saves Noah and the animals
- 3 – God's promise to Noah
- 4 – God's agreement with Abraham
- 5 – Abraham's sacrifice to God
- 6 – Jacob's dream
- 7 – Joseph's coat of many colors
- 8 – God calls Moses

"A SHOOT SHALL COME OUT FROM THE STUMP OF JESSE, AND A BRANCH SHALL GROW OUT OF HIS ROOTS."

- ISAIAH 11:1

HEARTFELT

Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others.

—St. Peter Julian Eymard

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalms — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

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

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
- Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
- Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: First Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins
- Monday: St. Francis Xavier
- Tuesday: St. John Damascene
- Thursday: St. Nicholas
- Friday: St. Ambrose; First Friday
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Saturday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Social Concerns Ministry



ST. CLETUS FOOD PANTRY

Most needed at this time:

- Dry Pinto Beans (1-3 lb bags)
- Baby food and formula
- Boxed sides (Rice a Roni, Knorr's flavored rice/noodles, instant potatoes, Hamburger Helper, etc.)
- Coffee, tea, hot chocolate
- Oatmeal
- Baking items
- Cereal

Donations can be dropped off before or after Masses or anytime daily between 7:45am-4pm in Food Pantry bins in the Narthex (at the back of church).

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 THANK YOU

Thanks to our neighbors at Jewel-Osco, all those who donated to the Turkey Bucks program, and our volunteers for helping bring Thanksgiving meals to our lucky Turkey Giveaway winners!

The 3rd graders at St. Cletus School helped decorate boxes and organize a food drive for the pantry at the Thanksgiving Prayer Service.

The Holy Name Society donated 49 turkeys to the food pantry! A record!

We continue to see high numbers at the food pantry. On 11/15 we served 119 households, in one evening, a new record for us. Thank you all so much for your generous support! We could not do this work without you.

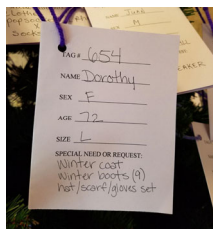
GIVING TREE

Don't forget that EVERYTHING is due back next weekend! That includes all gifts (purple tags), food pantry items (green tags) and grocery gift cards (white envelopes).

Please remember, each tag represents a real person. When you took a tag from the tree, you made a commitment to that person, and to returning your gift(s) on time.

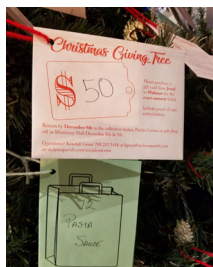
Gifts/Envelopes will be returned to Morrissey Hall using the convenient drop off lane on Stone Ave.!

Volunteers will help unload your car! Please DO NOT drop gifts off at the Church.



PURPLE TAGS (gifts): Choose the gifts you wish to purchase, keeping in mind that the items listed on the tag are part of a "wish list." You need not purchase every item on the list. **Gifts are to be returned before/after Masses the weekend of December 8-9.**

• Be sure the gift tag is securely attached to the packages. If you have more than one package for the same person, please attach a gift tag on each package indicating his/her name and family number, to make sure all gifts go to the correct person. If you have more than one package for Family Request, please mark 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc.



WHITE ENVELOPES (grocery gift cards): These can be dropped in the collection basket, at the Parish Center or using the Stone Ave. drop off lane December 8-9 when delivering gifts. **Envelopes are to be returned by Sunday, December 9.**

GREEN TAGS (food pantry donations): please drop these off in the food pantry bins in the Church Narthex by **Sunday, December 9.**

We invite you to stop in the narthex this weekend to take a tag or two from one of the Giving Trees. We are thankful for your past generosity in purchasing many gifts for the individual(s) you choose. Thank you! Your generosity will provide hope and make a difference in someone's life. God bless you on your Advent Journey!

Answers to frequently asked questions can be found on the parish website: www.stcletusparish.com/socialconcerns.

For further details, you can also contact: Kendall Grant, (708)215-5418, kgrant@stcletusparish.com

GIVING TREE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FOR ALL GIVING TREE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES PLEASE USE THE SIGN UP GENUIS LINK AT: <http://stcletusparish.com/ministries/social-concerns/>

Friday, December 7th 3:15-5:15pm

Help set up Morrissey Hall.

Saturday, December 8th shifts between 3:30-6:30pm

Help direct traffic, carry in donations from donor's cars, sort and organize gifts in Morrissey Hall.

Sunday, December 9th shifts between 6:30am-2:30pm

Help with hospitality, direct traffic, carry in donations from donor's cars, sort and organize gifts in Morrissey Hall, load gifts to bring to St. Agatha's.

Sunday, December 16th shifts between 8:30am-4:30pm

Help with hospitality, directing traffic, distributing gifts, assisting clients to their vehicles, clean up, etc.

Please use the Sign Up Genius to volunteer and read the notes on age requirements. Contact Kendall Grant with any questions. Thanks!

RESPECT LIFE

Women's Care Center Collection: Thanks to all of your generous donations we raised \$3,121 for the Women's Care Center. If you would still like to make a donation, checks can be sent directly to them at 136 N La Grange Rd, La Grange, IL 60525.

WORD OF LIFE

"Every life is a good and perfect gift. Many know this on an intellectual level, but those who love someone with a disability see it in their loved one's face in a particular way. Our love for our children has nothing to do with their abilities. We love them simply because of who they are, and understanding this teaches us how to truly love everyone."



USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"A Perfect Gift," www.usccb.org/perfect-gift

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OUTREACH
— ARCHDIOCESE of CHICAGO —
AWARENESS - SERVICES - PREVENTION

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

COMMUNITY BULLETIN



On December 14, 2018
Catholic Citizens of Illinois
Forum Luncheon Series Presents
"Dating Project" Author and Producer
Catherine Fowler Sample on:
"RESTORING THE LOST ART OF
DATING AND ROMANCE"

Social mores, collapsed. The swipe left/ swipe right "hookup" culture, ubiquitous. The result: a tsunami of hurt, disappointed and disillusioned young singles, lost in the thickets of the new "rules." Is restoring the lost art of dating and romance the answer? Absolutely, says writer and producer of the provocative film "The Dating Project," Catherine Fowler Sample. On Friday, December 14, 2018 help us to welcome Catherine Fowler Sample speaking on "RESTORING THE LOST ART OF DATING AND ROMANCE."

CatholicCitizens.org
Catholic Citizens of Illinois



For more information, and to make your reservation (\$35, or \$20 with student ID) call Maureen at 708 352 5834. Our luncheons commence at 11:45 a.m., at the Union League Club, 65 W. Jackson, Chicago, IL. Note that the Union League Club requires business attire.
For more information please go to: CatholicCitizens.org.

God calls us to seek perfection not in appearance or abilities, but in love.

usccb.org/perfect-gift

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**P R E P A R E T H E
W A Y**

Celebrating Advent

PLEASE JOIN US THIS ADVENT FOR THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

DAILY	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass (Except Dec. 24)
SATURDAYS	4:15 p.m.	Confessions
DECEMBER 2	5:00 p.m.	Taizé Prayer Service
DECEMBER 3-11	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena
DECEMBER 4	6:30 & 8:00 p.m.	LTHS Fanfares and Carols Concert
DECEMBER 7	7:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception
DECEMBER 8	8:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass (Spanish) a reception for Bishop Alberto Rojas will follow Mass
DECEMBER 12	5:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration "Mañanitas" (morning greetings) Mass - Reception to follow in Parish Center
DECEMBER 13	7:00 p.m.	St. Cletus School Christmas Play
DECEMBER 16-23	7:00 p.m.	Spanish Ministry Christmas Novena
DECEMBER 17	7:00 p.m.	Advent Parish Reconciliation Service
DECEMBER 18	9:00 a.m.	Eucharistic Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Holy Hour at 6:00 p.m.

Advent

December 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent

Prepare the Way ...with HOPE

The word Advent comes from Latin “adventus” which means coming. During Advent we remember Jesus’ first coming into the world as we prepare for a new coming.

The season gives us the opportunity to honor the gifts of past, present and future, by remembering Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem (past); anticipate his coming in glory (future); and celebrating his coming to us in word and sacrament (present).

However, this time of year is such a busy time, we can easily fail to center our attention on what is the most important gift of Christmas: the presence of God in our lives.

The shopping, the concerts, the parties, the traffic, the lines of people, the decorating and gift-wrapping consume our lives for weeks as we prepare for Christmas. Everything is done, or is it? We are exhausted, stressed, impatient, frustrated, financially drained and generally disconnected from the “reason for the season”. Have we missed opportunities to be loving, joyful, forgiving, hope-filled and peace-making? Have the only gifts we pursued been purchased on-line, or at Macy’s or Target - or have they been discovered in shared moments of tenderness and forgiveness, in generosity and gratitude for one another? Have we made time to remember and rejoice in all of the gifts that Jesus brings to us through his life, death and resurrection?

To help us prepare for Christ’s coming through joyful waiting and hopeful expectation, we have placed an **Advent Ribbon Tree** in the narthex with colorful ribbons focusing each week on one of the themes of Advent. We invite you to take a ribbon and place it on your tree or table. We include a prayer below and action suggestions as reminders to prepare for Jesus: with HOPE (week 1), with PEACE (week 2), with JOY (week 3), and with LOVE (week 4).

Advent Ribbon Tree

Week 1 - Hope

ADVENT PRAYER

Loving God, like the faithful men and women of long ago, we wait for you with joyful hope as you enter our lives in new ways. Help us to remember always that you come to us each day in the people we meet. Help us to be persons of forgiveness. Help us to make our homes and work and school - places where everyone is treated with kindness and respect. Help us to be grateful for each day and be willing to share our gifts with one another. We trust in you who is always with us. Help us to be a people of hope in our world.

Amen.

ADVENT ACTIONS

- Set-up Advent Wreath
- Mark calendar w/time to pray together each day
- Thank God for gift of light
- Make a list of something you will do for others during Advent

Prepare the Way

with HOPE

with PEACE

with JOY

with LOVE

Advent

Prepare the Way

with HOPE

with PEACE

with JOY

with LOVE

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Advent begins the new liturgical year for the Church. The liturgical year revolves around the 3 synoptical Gospel writers : Matthew, Mark and Luke. (Synoptical meaning the gospels are similar.) The cycles are referred to as Years A, B & C. John's Gospel which is used sporadically throughout the year, but especially in the Easter season, is written with a different outline and approach. This is Year C and the Gospel of Luke is the focus.

It is believed he also wrote the Acts of the Apostles and his audience was largely made up of Gentile (non-Jewish) Christians.

Advent prepares us through joyful waiting and hopeful expectation for Christ's coming – not as a baby but as the resurrected Christ. Part of waiting for the Lord's coming includes being ready. We wait with hope for the second coming of Christ and we wait with joy for the celebration of Christmas. The Gospel tells us to "Stay Awake". Our faith is not an hour on Sunday – a switch we turn on and off or a check mark on our "to do" list. Our lives are expected to be transformed by and reflections of the Gospel. The best way to be ready for God's coming is to live the message of the Gospel every moment.

Advent is the season of God's love made visible in Jesus, may we make visible our love for him and one another.

Some Advent practices:

- Advent Wreath – 4 candles, 3 purple & 1 pink marking the 4 weeks of Advent around an evergreen wreath symbolizing the continuous love of God and that even in the darkest days of the year, there is life.
- Candles in the window, a sign that all are welcome, and that Christ is the light of the world.
- Blessing the tree and the Crib in your home.
- Do a family activity such as adopt a family for Christmas select gifts together or experience a service activity together.
- Make ornaments.
- Read story of the real 12 Days of Christmas.
- Research the legend of the Candy Cane.
- Observe St. Nicholas Day on December 6th– put a shoe out the night before the feast.
- Pray each night and celebrate the Sunday Eucharist.
- Check the Canticle for special Advent services (Taizé, Adoration, Holy Hour, etc.)

St. Cletus Annual Giving Tree Dates to Remember

- Giving Tree Presents (purple and white tags) returned before or after Masses (Dec. 8-9)
- Food Pantry items (green tags) returned any time before Dec. 9 to the food pantry bins in the narthex
- Gifts distributed Dec. 16

St. Cletus Parish Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE

2:00 p.m.	Church
2:15 p.m.	Parish Center
3:30 p.m.	Church
3:45 p.m.	Parish Center
5:30 p.m.	Church
7:00 p.m.	Church (in Spanish)
10:30 p.m.	Church (10-10:30pm Christmas Carols prior to Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY

7:00 a.m.	Church
8:00 a.m.	Church
9:30 a.m.	Church
11:00 a.m.	Church
12:30 p.m.	Church (Spanish)

Other Ministry Notes

MARY AND MARTHA DONATIONS

We are approaching Holiday Time once again. We hope you have been saving little items for the Briar Place residents Christmas packages. We will be putting our gift bags together in the Parish Center Fr. Gallagher Room on Dec. 18, at 9:00 a.m. Small items e.g. lotions, shampoo, combs, tooth brushes, toothpaste, denture cleaner, deodorant, playing cards, small books, and jewelry are needed. We usually assemble 70 bags. Please drop off your donations at the Parish Center Office. Thank you.

PARISH RECONCILIATION SERVICE



Monday, Dec. 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for an opportunity to be graced by God's peace and extend it to others through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our Parish Forgiveness Service will celebrate the Sacrament of

Reconciliation on Monday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the church. Advent is a time to mend quarrels, to forgive those who have hurt us, and to pray for peace.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Christmas Party - The Annual Usher Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 7th at Salernos in Hodgkins. Ushers, Counters, Greeters and Parish Staff are free. Spouses or Guests are \$20 per person. Cocktail Hour 6-7pm, Dinner at 7pm. Please bring a gift for the Raffle. Sign up sheet in the Usher Room. Thank you and have a great holiday!



KOLBE HOUSE JAIL MINISTRY



THE DEACON'S WIFE IS COLLECTING STAMPS AGAIN!

Once again I'm collecting stamps for the Kolbe House Catholic Jail Ministry. These are to be used for the Christmas Card mailings from Detainees to their families. As many of you know I serve as a Catholic Minister for the Kolbe House Jail Ministry at Cook County. In an effort to keep the detainees connected to their families, Kolbe House is again asking for postage stamps to be used for the detainees Christmas greetings to their families. This annual effort this year is looking to collect 7,000 first class stamps.

If you would like to donate stamps in any denomination

(1 cent up to first class postage) please put them in an envelope and drop them off at the rectory marked "**Kolbe House Stamps - c/o Marlene**". Thank You on behalf of the detainees at Cook and Lake county jails and the staff and ministers of Kolbe House.

-God Bless You all - Marlene

RECEPTION FOR BISHOP ROJAS

Bishop Alberto Rojas will be presiding over the 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass on Saturday, December 8. Please join us for Mass and a reception in the Fr. Gallagher Room of the Parish Center at 8 p.m.



BOOK DISCUSSION



The next book discussion will be at 7 P.M. on December 11th in the Father Gallagher Room in the Parish Center. The book that will be discussed is **The View from Penthouse B** by Elinor Lipman. All are welcome.

Questions – call Denise at 708.712.8294

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.

SUPPORT ST. CLETUS WITH AMAZON SMILE



Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We hope you will choose St. Cletus Church. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

Community Bulletin Board

LTHS FANFARES & CAROLS CONCERT



Join us on December 4th for the Annual LTHS Fanfares and Carols Concert at St. Cletus Church. There are 2 concerts, 6:30pm and 8:00pm. Be sure to arrive early as these concerts have completely filled the church in past years. This free concert is part of the 2018-19 Season of the Ed Ward Fine Arts Series at St. Cletus.

TOWNSHIP OF LYONS

SAVE THE DATE! The Township of Lyons at 6404 Joliet Rd Countryside Board of Trustees & AARP will present **Defensive Driving for those 50 & Over** on Wednesday, December 5 and Thursday, December 6, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Cost: AARP member \$15, non-member \$20. Two day Class Completion earns auto insurance discount! Class size limited to 25. Sign up with George Pach, Deputy Clerk 708-482-8300 x 221. Join us for coffee &....

ADOLF FUNERAL HOME

You are cordially invited to our Holiday Memorial Candle Lighting Service on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 2:00p.m.

Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Ltd.
2921 S. Harlem Ave. Berwyn, IL 60402

RSVP to Donna: 630-325-2300.

DECEMBER NOVENA TO ST. RITA OF CASCIA

The St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel (7740 S. Western Ave. - Chicago, IL 60620) will be celebrating its December St. Rita of Cascia Novena Mass on Thursday, December 6th at 7:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered starting at 6:00 p.m. December's celebrant will be Fr. Bernie Scianna, O.S.A. Ample, secure parking is available. For more info please contact Josh at (773) 925-6600 or shrine@stritahs.com.

THE WELL SPIRITUALITY CENTER



The Well Spirituality Center, 1515 Ogden Avenue, LaGrange Park, IL. To register online and see complete list of programs: www.csjthewell.org or call 708-482-5048

Christmas Concert & Yuletide Cheer Featuring: Village Vocal Chords - Sunday, December 9, 3 – 4 PM Concert, Refreshments (with Santa) to follow. Join us for festive Christmas music with a 34-member award-winning women's barbershop chorus. Great for all ages. Cost: \$10 (adults) \$5 (kids).

48TH ANNUAL INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES "TOOTSIE ROLL" DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus La Grange Council 6483 thanks St. Cletus volunteers, donors and well wishers for their generous support of the Intellectual Disabilities Drive on September 21-23. This successful fundraising event is the largest Knight of Columbus fundraiser of the year. Also known as the "Tootsie Roll Drive," Knights, family, friends and many volunteers donned bright yellow vests to collect any funds offered into special collection cans. Seen on many street corners and at supportive local businesses, signature Tootsie Rolls were handed out. Over \$14,000 was collected for local organizations who help people and families coping with intellectual disabilities. Recipients are Helping Hands, Aspire, Special Olympics, and SPRED educational programs at local churches like St. Cletus. Additionally, 10% of proceeds went to similar charities in other parts of Illinois without local support of Knights of Columbus councils.

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. Please note that there are earlier deadlines during holidays.

5th Annual Fall Fest - St. Cletus Parish Preferred Providers

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



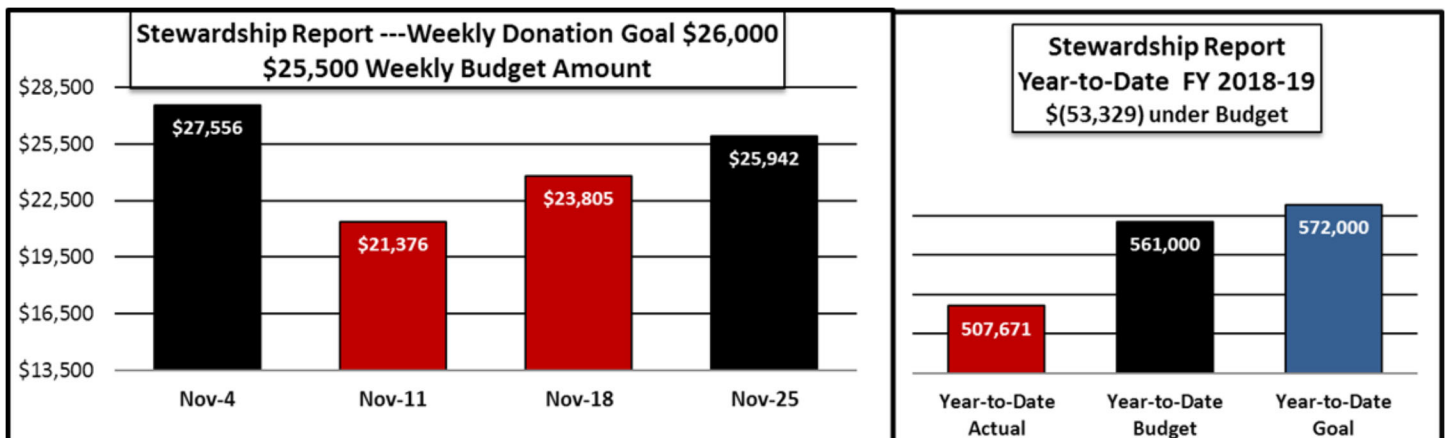
Thank you to all of our 2018 Fall Fest Sponsors!

Those at the \$2,500 level and above will be featured in the St. Cletus Canticle as Preferred Providers.

Week at a Glance


DAY/DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Sunday, December 2	7:45am 5:00pm	Parish Center Church	Ho Ho Holiday Breakfast with Santa Taizé Prayer Service
Monday, December 3	4:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	School Music Room Church Parish Center Gym	Junior Choir Rehearsal Spanish Novena Men's Basketball
Tuesday, December 4	6:30pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Church PC Meeting Room Rectory School Rm 201 Church	LTHS Fanfares and Carols Spanish Novena RCIA Cardinal College Speaker LTHS Fanfares and Carols
Wednesday, December 5	7:00pm 8:00pm	Church PC Gym	Spanish Novena Boys Church League
Thursday, December 6	5:00pm 7:30pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	School Music Room School Music Room Church PC Gym	Children's Choir Rehearsal Chancel Choir Rehearsal Spanish Novena Boys Church League
Friday, December 7	7:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Church PC Meeting Room Off Campus	Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception Spanish Novena Holy Name Society Christmas Party
Saturday, December 8	6:30am 8:00am 5:00pm 6:15pm 7:00pm 8:00pm	Church Church Morrissey Hall Church Church Parish Center	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass Return Giving Tree Gifts Spanish Novena Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass (Spanish) Reception for Bishop Alberto Rojas
Sunday, December 9	7:00am 1:00pm 7:00pm	Morrissey Hall PC Meeting Room Church	Return Giving Tree Gifts Fresh/Soph Retreat Leader Meeting Spanish Novena

Stewardship Report



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 the parish offices have moved to our new location in the parish center. All deliveries and inquiries should be made to the new office. Food pantry will remain in the rectory.

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

MASSES

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

CONFESSIONS

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

1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 11:00 a.m.

Parents must be registered parishioners and attend the Baptism Preparation class. Please make arrangements by calling the Rectory office.

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

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.

STAFF

PARISH STAFF

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

PASTORAL STAFF

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

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

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

Tom Chinske, Principal
Christy Schaefer, Assistant Principal
Mary Lee Krieger, Administrative Assistant
Jeannie Scalzitti, Receptionist/Office Assistant

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF (708) 352-2383

Barb Campbell, Director of Religious Education
Deborah Pusinelli, Assistant
Paulette Bolton, Director of Adult Faith Formation
and Assistant Director of Worship

PARISH OFFICE STAFF (708) 352-6209

Bobbie Kallal, Human Resources/Records
Mary Zwolinski, Parish Accounting
Elizabeth Goellner-McLean, Bulletin Editor
Carol Scatena, Parish Assistant

Email addresses are first letter of first name, last name @stcletusparish.com

ST. CLETUS SCHOOL BOARD

Pastor Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Ron Skrip
 Vice Chairperson Patrick O'Toole
 Secretary

Members

Eileen Dorchinecz	Colleen Mhley
Bob Havelka	Valerie Sosne
Kevin Hogan	Paula Struwing
Shanta McGahey	Patrick Townsend
Nicholas McKeehan	Bob Wasik

Liaisons

FSA President.....Guadalupe McKeehan
 Athletic Association President.....Brendan Foley

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastor..... Fr. Bob Clark
 Chairperson Mary Ann Doornbos
 Vice-Chairperson Chuck Luna
 Recording Secretary Maggie Kensek
 School Representative Tom Chinske
 Director of Parish Catechesis Paulette Bolton
 Staff RepresentativeDebbie Lestarczyk

Members

Susan Hurley	Jack Fisherkeller
Robbie O'Shea	Helen McMahon
	Henry Morlock

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

708-352-6209

CONTACT PERSON

Elizabeth Goellner/
Debbie Lestarczyk (Bus Mgr)

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2003
Adobe Acrobat 7.0
Windows XP Professional

PRINTER

HP Laserjet 1022

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

December 2, 2018

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 through 15

Wednesday 3pm

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS