St. Cletus Catholic Church
Welcoming Christ in the Face of Others
April 2, 2023

PLEASE FIND OUR EXTENSIONS BELOW AFTER DIALING THE MAIN NUMBER OF: 636-946-6327

PASTORAL TEAM:
Rev. Jim Benz, Pastor: jbenz@saintcletus.org or ext. 1711
Rev. Mark Whitman, Associate Pastor: mwhitman@saintcletus.org or ext. 1727
Deacon Mark McCarthy, Pastoral Associate: mmccarthy@saintcletus.org or ext. 1712
Deacon Frank Olmsted: folmsted@saintcletus.org
Deacon Walt LaBozzetta: wlabozzetta@saintcletus.org
Mary Reich or Cindy Clegg, Parish Secretary: secretary@saintcletus.org or ext. 1710

Dr. Marc Strathman, Director of Liturgical Music: mstrathman@saintcletus.org or ext. 1718
Ms. Rosann Doherty, School Principal: rdoherty@saintcletus.org or ext. 1730
Mrs. Laura Henderson, Religious Education Coordinator: lhenderson@saintcletus.org or ext. 1717
Mr. Bob Hamer, Director of Youth Ministry: bhamer@saintcletus.org or ext. 1716

Parish and School Website: www.saintcletus.org
School: 636-946-7756
St. Vincent de Paul Society: 636-255-1750
Stephen Ministry: 636-255-1739
www.facebook.com/StCletus

PALM SUNDAY
OF THE PASSION
OF THE LORD

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord."
-Mt 21:9

Liturgical Schedule and
Mass Intentions for the week

Mon., April 3, Monday of Holy Week
7:00am † Berta Barrios
Presider: Fr. Benz
8:00am † Communion Service
Presider: Deacon Mark

Tues., April 4, Tuesday of Holy Week
7:00am † Dennis Frye
Presider: Fr. Mark Whitman
8:00am † Jeanette & Leo Echele
Presider: Fr. Benz

Wed., April 5, Wednesday of Holy Week
7:00am † Beverly Kaiman
Presider: Fr. Mark Whitman
8:00am † Loretta Kaiman
Presider: Fr. Benz

Thur., April 6, HOLY THURSDAY
8:00am Morning Prayer
7:00pm † Anna Stankovich
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Frank Olmsted & Walt LaBozzetta

Fri., April 7, GOOD FRIDAY
8:00am Morning Prayer
1:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Passion of the Lord-Veneration of the Cross
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Mark McCarthy & Walt LaBozzetta

Sat., April 8, HOLY SATURDAY
8:00am Morning Prayer

Sat., April 8, HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL
8:00pm † Mike Sepe
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Frank Olmsted & Walt LaBozzetta

Sun., April 9, EASTER SUNDAY
7:30am † Betty Butler
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
Servers: Adult Servers
(B. McCauley, R. Marquard)
9:30am † Our Parish Family
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: K. Ayers, M. Ayers
11:30am † Jerry Egggering & Bob Hofer
Presider: Fr. Mark Whitman
Deacon: Mark McCarthy
Servers: A. Ermeling, R. Maples

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:
† Denny Haislip, husband of Janet, father of Keith and Kent
May his soul rest in our Lord’s eternal embrace.

To keep current with our sick list above, please let us know when we need to add or remove anyone.
Thank you!
Today is Palm Sunday and the beginning of the holiest of Christian weeks. Let us pray for the grace to take up our own cross and to follow Jesus through death to new life.

Thank you for your continued support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we help the poor as they carry their cross of suffering and pain.

PARISH COLLECTION March 19, 2023
Regular Offertory ............... $ 17,852.50
Online Offertory .................. $ 9,503.00
Matching ......................... $  1,935.00
Catholic Relief Services ......... $ 2,744.00

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 7:30 (live streamed), 9:30, and 11:30 a.m.
WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday and 8:00 a.m. Saturday (live streamed)
COMMUNION SERVICE: Monday at 8:00 a.m.
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Monday 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Saturday 4:00 - 4:55 p.m. or by appointment
BAPTISMS: Please contact Deacon Mark McCarthy to arrange for date and time.
MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made six months in advance. Contact Deacon Mark McCarthy
SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: By appointment
HOMILIES: Sunday homilies can be found at:
www.saintcletus.org
OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Thursday: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday: 8:30am - 1:00pm
BULLETIN DEADLINE: 10 Days Prior to date
In writing or email to: secretary@saintcletus.org

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ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, APRIL 3
9:15AM CORNERSTONE HALL/DUCHESNE/CALLAHAN
10:00AM LIVING JOY GROUP MTG CLETUS
5:00PM MEN’S BIBLE STUDY CLETUS
6:15PM PSR CLASSES SCHOOL

TUESDAY, APRIL 4
8:30AM SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS HALL
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING CLETUS
6:00PM ROSARY FOR HOPE & HEALING CHAPEL
6:30PM TRIDUUM REHEARSAL FOR HOLY CHURCH
THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5
8:30AM QUILTERS HALL
10:00AM WALKING WITH PURPOSE CALLAHAN LEADERSHIP TEAM
10:00AM BIBLE STUDY W/FR. MARK DUCHESNE
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING CLETUS
6:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE CHURCH
7:00PM STEPHEN MINISTRY MTG DUCHESNE

THURSDAY, APRIL 6 HOLY THURSDAY
8:30AM SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS HALL
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING CLETUS
FRIDAY, APRIL 7 GOOD FRIDAY
9:00AM WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP DUCHESNE
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING CLETUS
1:00PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS CHURCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 HOLY SATURDAY
8:00AM RCIA CHAPEL/CHURCH/DUCHESNE
12:30PM TRIDUUM REHEARSAL CHURCH

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 EASTER SUNDAY
A Beautiful Thought as We Begin to Observe Holy Week:

The name of St. Aelred will probably not be as familiar to many of us as a Francis or Teresa of Avila or John of the Cross, but this English Cistercian abbot who was born in 1110 and passed from this world in 1167, offers us a tremendous reflection for Holy Week titled “The Mirror of Love.” As you will find below, Saint Aelred offers Jesus to us as the model of brotherly love:

The perfection of brotherly love lies in the love of one’s enemies. We can find no greater inspiration for this than grateful remembrance of the wonderful patience of Christ. He who is more fair than all the sons of men offered his fair face to be spat upon by sinful men; he allowed those eyes that rule the universe to be blindfolded by wicked men; he bared his back to the scourges; he submitted that head which strikes terror in principalities and powers to the sharpness of the thorns; he gave himself up to be mocked and reviled, and at the end endured the cross, the nails, the lance, the gall, the vinegar, remaining always gentle, meek and full of peace.

In short, “he was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and like a lamb before the shearsers he kept silent, and did not open his mouth.”

Who could listen to that wonderful prayer, so full of warmth, of love, of unshakeable serenity—“Father, forgive them”—and hesitate to embrace his enemies with overflowing love? Father, he says, forgive them. Is any gentleness, any love, lacking in this prayer?

Yet he put into it something more. It was not enough to pray for them: he wanted also to make excuses for them. “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” They are great sinners, yes, but they have little judgment; therefore, Father, forgive them. They are nailing me to the cross, but they do not know who it is that they are nailing to the cross: “if they had known, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory”; therefore, “Father, forgive them.” They think it is a lawbreaker, an impostor claiming to be God, a seducer of the people. I have hidden my face from them, and they do not recognize my glory; therefore, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

If someone wishes to love himself he must not allow himself to be corrupted by indulging his sinful nature. If he wishes to resist the promptings of his sinful nature he must enlarge the whole horizon of his love to contemplate the loving gentleness of the humanity of the Lord. Further, if he wishes to savor the joy of brotherly love with greater perfection and delight, he must extend even to his enemies the embrace of true love.

But if he wishes to prevent this fire of divine love from growing cold because of injuries received, let him keep the eyes of his soul always fixed on the serene patience of his beloved Lord and Savior.

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16: Please notice elsewhere in today’s bulletin information about this Divine Mercy celebration taking place at St. Joseph’s in Cottleville with the doors opening at 2:30 PM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:40 PM, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy prayed at 3:00 PM followed by the Rosary, and the Eucharist celebrated at 4:30 PM. This observance is an opportunity for us to experience the same divine love and mercy which St. Aelred describes above!

Chris Stefanick’s “Living Joy” Series: As announced previously with regard to this wonderful book, having completed the first four chapters (“rules”) leading toward joy, we are taking a two week break for last week’s Parish Mission as well as this week’s observance of Holy Week. We will resume after Easter with the other five “rules.” However, this “break” gives us the opportunity to review those first four “rule” and to see how well we are living them. Remember Rule 1: Give Thanks Rule 2: Practice Silence Rule 3: Love Yourself Rule 4: Have Fun Again, I hope that you are making great strides in attaining the joy God wants for us all!!
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 16, 2023
St. Joseph Catholic Church
(1355 Motherhead Road, Cottleville MO)

Doors open at 2:30 pm
Early arrivals please remain in your car as baptisms won’t conclude until 2:30

Confessions and Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament will begin at 2:40 pm
Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3:00 pm followed by the Holy Rosary

Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered at 4:30 p.m.
Divine Mercy Novena Begins On Good Friday

“I demand the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of the Image which is painted. By means of this Image I shall grant many graces to souls.” (742)
“I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory.” (Diary 48)

Lenten Confession will be sufficient to obtain Plenary Indulgence when other conditions of Holy Mass, Holy Communion, Spiritual or Corporal Works of Mercy, detachment from all sin, and prayers offered for the Holy Father’s intentions are met. For more information, please contact: Ann Yeager 636-734-7663
March 28, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The annual Archbishop’s Collection for Retired Priests will be taken up in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023.

This is a beautiful opportunity to honor the vibrant legacy of priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others and who inspire our current and future priests.

We can count on our parish priests to instruct us in the faith, counsel us in difficult times, help us celebrate joyful moments, and comfort us in our grief. Indeed, many retired priests continue serving in parishes, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, and other Catholic ministries. They celebrate Mass, assist with Reconciliation, visit the sick, and serve as spiritual leaders.

Your gift helps assure our priests receive the essential care they need, including physician services, hospitalization, nursing home care, vision care, and disability. I encourage you to be generous!

Be assured that our retired priests are praying for you and your families. I hope you will pray for them as well.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis
You can capture the joy of the Parish Mission even if you could not be there in person.

View it on the parish website starting this Sunday. Click the “Watch Online” button. Then select YouTube or look on pages 3 and 4 in the “Related Videos” box next to the next scheduled broadcast screen. Because of a technical error, only Monday through Wednesday will be available.

The RCIA group will gather for the beginning of the Sacred Triduum for the Commemoration of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, April 6, at 7:00 pm.

MONTHLY ROSARY FOR HEALING AND HOPE
Please join us in the Daily Chapel, 6:00-6:30 p.m. on the First Tuesday of each month as we come together to pray the Rosary for your special intentions. The next gathering will be April 4.
“Where two or three are gathered, there I am...”
Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord
April 2, 2023

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less that 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parish, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few.

The pandemic hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org.

An overnight guided retreat, "Immersed in the Mystery of God,” led by Danielle Witt, SSND, April 21-22 at Mercy Conference and Retreat Center, St. Louis. $100 commuter; $165 over-night. For information and registration by April 10 see www.mercycenterstl.org.

This retreat is based loosely on the writings of Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM in his book The Universal Christ. We will explore together how theology and science can open new ways of relating to Christ in our personal prayer.

Miss Patti’s Musical Theatre Company
Proudly Presents:

Seussical

Apr 14th 2023, 7:00 PM
Apr 15th 2023, 7:00 PM
Apr 16th 2023, 2:00 PM

TICKET PRICES
$12 Advance Tickets
$14 at the Door

Scan to Get Tickets Today
or Visit onthestage.tickets/show/ grace-beyond-gravity

Assumption School Auditorium
203 West Third Street
O’Fallon, MO 63366
WHAT IS THE CHURCH’S POSITION ON CREMATION?

Attend The Conversation: A Catholic Perspective on Cycle-of-Life Issues to ensure your final plans are aligned with Catholic teaching.

SATURDAY | APRIL 15, 2023
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
Assumption of the B.V.M. (O’Fallon)

To register, visit rcfstl.org/general/the-conversation- spring-2023 or call 314.918.2890

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THE SMALLEST BUT THE STONGEST” PARISH

If you were here for Mass last weekend, you know that I spoke at all the Masses about St. Cletus remaining a “stand alone” parish under the All Things New pastoral plan to be announced on May 28, Pentecost Sunday. I pointed out that, though the smallest parish in population and territory, we are being challenged to become the strongest in our planning area. I then invited us to learn from our Fish Fry experience to commit ourselves to this goal in large ways and small ways. Two of the small ways I encouraged to build up the spirit of our parish would be to wear our parish nametags and to serve as a greeter and/or usher at our weekend Masses. Please use this sheet to sign up for a nametag (if you have lost/can’t find) your original one, but also please use it to sign up to serve as a greeter and/or usher. Thanks!!

Fr. Jim Benz

NAME ______________________________________ PHONE #: ____________________________

(Please circle each appropriate response)
I need a parish name tag: Yes / No    Preferred Name: ____________________________
I want to be a greeter: Yes / No
I want to be an usher: Yes / No

Please return this form to the Parish Office in person, via email, or in the collection basket.
READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 12:1-11
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:1-2, 5 and 7-8/Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/ Ps 116:12-13, 16-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Jn 18:1—19:42
Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gs 1:1-2; 2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/ Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/ Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2/Rom 6:3-11/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/ Mt 28:1-10
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/ Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

Welcome New Parishioners!

To receive a registration form or indicate an address change or move from the parish, please fill out the form below and drop it in the collection basket, or call the Parish Office (636-946-6327).

Names:__________________________________________
Adults_______                 Children________
Address:_________________________________________
Phone:__________________________________________
Email:___________________________________________

Holy Rosary Church in Warrenton, MO is sponsoring their Annual Spring Dinner and Craft Show on Sunday, April 23, 2023. We will be serving Fried Chicken and Kettle Beef from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Adults: $14.00, children ages 6-12: $6.00, children ages 6 and under free in the dining room only. We also offer a drive-thru and carry-out for $14.00. Visit our website for more information holyrosarywm.com