

St. Cletus Catholic Church
Welcoming Christ in the Face of Others
December 17, 2023



**3rd SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

A man named John
was sent from God. He
came for testimony, to
testify to the light, so
that all might believe
through him.
- Jn 1:6-7

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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

PASTORAL TEAM:

Rev. Chris Holtmann, Pastor: frchris@saintcletus.org
or ext. 1711

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

Twitter: [@saintcletus](https://twitter.com/saintcletus)

Liturgy Schedule and Mass Intentions for the week

Mon., December 18,

7:00am † *Communion Service*
Presider: Deacon Mark

Tues., December 19,

7:00am † *Marco Barrios*
† *Joe Peluso*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Wed., December 20,

7:00am † *Harold Buescher*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
8:00am † *Paul Smith (all school)*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Thur., December 21,

7:00am † *John Droste*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Fri., December 22,

7:00am † *Sr. Sharon Remp*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Sat., December 23,

8:00am † *Communion Service*
Presider: Deacon Walt

Sat., December 23, Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:00pm † *Roy & Madonna Thoele*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Mark McCarthy
Servers:

Sun., December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30am † *Our Parish Priests*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers:

9:30am † *Our Parish Family*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers:

11:30am † *Tom Small*
Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
Servers:

Sun., December 24, Christmas Eve

4:00pm † *Our Parish Family*
10:30pm † *Mike Sepe*

Mon., December 25, Christmas Day

9:30am † *Jean Schaeffer*



Tina Adams
Angie Arnold
Pete Balotti
Patrick Beckman
Jerry Belew
Jim Boyle
Marnie Boyle
Sue Brockelmeyer
Carol Buerman
Charlene Carson
Kim Choinka
Peaches Conoyer
Jeff Cook
Gene Dallas
Dorothy Davis
Susan Dauten
Jim Doyle
Fred Dyer
Charlene Edler
Charli Elliston
Emelia Emke
Carole Ermeling
Deacon Tony Falbo
Therese Flanagan
Joe Flood
Margie Fortman
Shari Gardocki - 3
Mary Gillespie
Patricia Glennon - 3
Randy Gravemann
Katherine Green
Ron Haas
Al Hagedorn
Bella Herman
Jason Hoag
Erin Hogan
Kathleen Hogarty
August Hughes
Kelly Sanders-Hughes
Kelly Hurley
Mary Ellen Jones
Jack Kaiman

Chuck Lammert
Marilyn Lawless
Lorraine Lind
C J Lindner
Ellen Loos - 3
Joyce Lumetta
Joe Marzaloes
Lisa Masek
Barb Merriman
Rich Meyer
John Miller
Norma Miller
Ron Niffen
Keith R. Noah
Barb Oliver
Louise Orf
Sandra Perry
Eric Peter
Jim Pini
Rita Prinster
Dave Raley
Jerry Reese
Jim Reeves
Laura Rehagen
Eric Reinholz
Kenneth Robinson
Barbara Roth
Ed Scaglione
Elise Scheu
Tim Schneider - 1
Mark Schoene
Jim Schoonover
Suellen Shuey
Andy Stoltman, Sr.
Samantha T
Debbie Teson
Linda Tocco
Doris Trupiano
Barbara Tuma
Dave Vail
Mark Valenzuela
Tom Walsh
Dorothea Wallace
Michelle Weinrich
Richard Wieck
Shelly Wilfong
Fred Wilkinson
Mason Wlodarski

As a fresh start and since so many of the names above have been on the "Pray for the Sick" list for a long time, we will remove all names that don't have a number behind them on January 1. Then going forward, to help keep the list current, names will be removed after one month which will be one week after there is a 4 after their name.



PARISH COLLECTION December 3, 2023	
Regular Offertory.....	\$25,878.50
Online Offertory.....	\$ 9,498.73
Matching.....	\$ 435.00



ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER

11:00AM	CORNERSTONE MASS	CHURCH
12:00PM	CORNESTONE LUNCHEON	HALL
2:00PM	SCHOOL ADORATION/BENEDICTION	SCHOOL
5:00PM	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY	BENZ
6:15PM	SCHOOL BOARD MEETING	CALLAHAN
6:15PM	PSR CLASSES	SCHOOL

TUESDAY, DECEMBER

8:30AM	SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS	HALL
10:30AM	ADVENT WWP GROUP	BENZ
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
7:00PM	RCIA	RECTORY BASEMENT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER

8:30AM	QUILTERS	HALL
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
3:00PM	DAISY GIRL SCOUT MEETING	DUCHESNE
6:00PM	CHOIR PRACTICE	CHURCH
6:30PM	MEN'S CLUB GEN MTG	SCHOOL CAFETERIA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER

8:30AM	SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS	HALL
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
6:00PM	LEGION OF MARY	DAY CHAPEL
7:30PM	ADULT FAITH FORMATION	DUCHESNE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER

9:00AM	WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP	DUCHESNE
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ

SATURDAY, DECEMBER

9:00AM	KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP	DUCHESNE
2:00PM	PRIVATE EVENT	HALL
5:00PM	RCIA	DAY CHAPEL
5:30PM	ECCLESIA DOMESTICA	BENZ/DUCHESNE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER

9:30AM	RCIA	DAY CHAPEL
7:00PM	LIFE TEEN NIGHT	HALL

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING AVAILABLE

LISTEN
TECHNOLOGIES

"PLEASE SEE AN USHER OR DEACON TO OBTAIN A DEVICE"



Pastor's Message



Joy

This third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete. Gaudete means rejoice. To celebrate joy. In the second reading, Paul tells the Thessalonians to rejoice always.

I have been having some fun in the sacrament of reconciliation. Have you learned some of my secrets that I do in reconciliation? Being a season of joy I give out penances of joy. I actually tell people for their penance to do something to celebrate God's love and forgiveness, to do something fun that is healthy. Connect with friend, read a good book, see a good movie or play, whatever is fun and healthy. Often we look at penance as punishment, but penance is about heading in a new direction. The punishment of sin is the sin itself. We look at other people and say that they are getting away with sin. No sin isolates us from real love. The antidote to sin is real love. At times it means making amends to others and other times it's making amends with ourselves. And so often that starts with a healthy love of self.

Most of Advent we look forward to Christmas, but today we look to the past to remind us what we have to look forward to in the future. We remember all the good things God has done for us. The many joys God has given us. Remember the many exoduses we have lived through. How God has brought us out of lands of misery to places of joy. Maybe our life is barren right now, but try to remember in the past some of the good things God has done for us. What things you might ask? Can we remember some of those wonderful mountain top experiences in our lives, maybe even this year? Can we remember a time when a friend was especially there for us? Can we give thanks for a friend who is a part of our life right now?

Do something fun everyday as part of something to look forward to in your day for there will be times when we will be busy. Bad times come, but a friend told me, "enjoy the bad days, they won't last forever."

Today is a day to remember some of the joy that has been in our lives. We remember the joys in the past and we remember God's promise to bring us greater joy in the future.

God bless,
Fr. Chris



COME AND BE REFRESHED

DISCOVERING CHRIST

THURSDAYS AT 6:00-8:30 PM FROM February 8 to March 21, 2024

Join us for Discovering Christ

Enjoy a free dinner, listen to a dynamic teaching, and join in a small group discussion about the meaning of life in Jesus Christ. This is a seven-week series that will begin Thursday, February 8, in the St. Cletus Parish Hall. Also mark your calendars for a life-changing retreat on Saturday, March 9.

Seating will be limited to the first 125 participants, 18 and older.

Look for more information in future bulletins

Discovering Christ Prayer

Please pray for the success of this event.

Heavenly Father, today we pray for the Discovering Christ retreat that is being planned in our parish. Many plans regarding the logistics and details surrounding this event have been made, but we know that only You can determine our steps. If it is in accordance with Your will, we pray that You make this a successful event. Moreover, we pray that we honor You in the planning process. Please give those planning this event, patience, peace, and contentment as we prepare. We pray that You bless this event. May everything happen according to Your will. Help us to rest in knowing that You are the Great Provider, and You know our exact needs and desires. You already know everything that is to happen at this event. We know that You will provide and so we pray that this event will glorify You in the end. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.



Advent
Giving
Tree



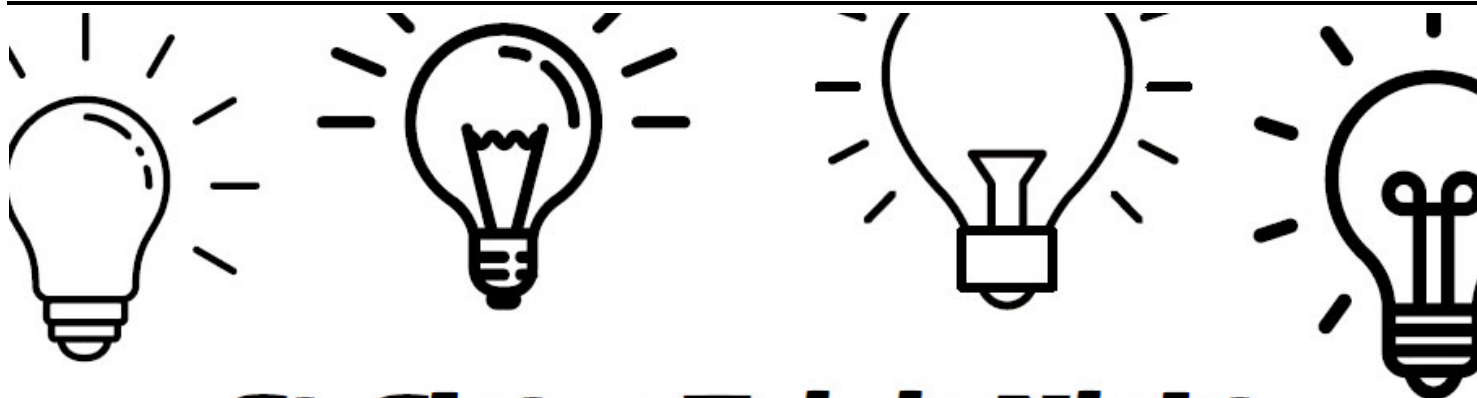
2023 Giving Tree

Birthright St. Charles, F.A.S.T., and Our Lady of Guadalupe School look forward to this ministry each year, due to your overwhelming generosity during their times of great need. Please take any ornaments/envelopes you wish and return the gifts (**with ornaments**) under the tree at any Mass. Please consider using the **STP Program** gift cards to make your purchases or buy them as gifts on our ornaments. Our volunteers will gather, sort and deliver the gifts to their appropriate destination.

Please call Nancy Riordan 636-634-1757 with questions.

Spread joy by giving to those in need this Christmas!!

**PLEASE DO NOT WRAP YOUR GIFTS!!
AND RETURN ALL GIFTS BY 12:30 ON DEC. 17**



St. Cletus Trivia Night

DATE- January 27, 2024

Doors open at 6PM

TIME- Trivia Starts 6:30 PM

PRICE- \$200 for a table of 8

WANT MULLIGANS? 12 for \$12

FREE BEER & SODA

50/50, RAFFLE & WINE BINGO

REGISTER

Complete online form (scan QR code):



Sponsor a round for \$100

DONATIONS NEEDED

Wine bottles & gift cards, and round sponsors

Drop off in the school office

email: saintcletustrivia@gmail.com with questions



St. Cletus Trivia Night – Help Needed

Earn volunteer credits on your time by helping with gift cards and raffle baskets!

Scan the QR code to sign up now.



Or fill in the form below and return to the school office:

Collect 10 Gift Cards: _____

Organize & donate 2 raffle baskets: _____

Don't want to commit to the above, but have items to donate? We'll take them! We need gift cards, raffle items, wine, and liquor bottles.

All donations should be turned into the school office by 1/19/24.



K of C Chicken Dinner

Tuesday, December 19, 6 - 7 pm.
\$12. Dine-in or carry out.
Please call 636-949-0222 and leave
a message for reservations.






Sunday School Volunteers Needed

We are starting Sunday School for 3 years old- 5 years old (who haven't started kindergarten) during the 9:30 a.m. mass. Volunteers will teach our young friends about Jesus and do activities with them.

Contact Laura Henderson at lhenderson@saintcletus.org or 636-255-1717 if you are interested.




"Suppers 8 is my favorite!! I'm so glad we joined. It's a fantastic way to meet parishioners and I love trying everyone's recipes. We've had some really meaningful moments with people we've met through Suppers 8." - Sarah Hagen, Suppers 8 participant since 2018

Join us for Suppers 8, where food and fellowship come together. In small groups of 8 (singles welcome!), we enjoy casual dinners in our homes, where the main dish is provided by the host and guests contribute sides or desserts. Each date and location is determined by the group and hosts rotate each session. It's a relaxed setting, perfect for making meaningful connections.

Every four months, we plan and start a new rotation. It's all about community, not formality.

Ready to join us for the next round in January? Sign up [here](https://forms.gle/4M8tpF4RJroTQY3o9): (<https://forms.gle/4M8tpF4RJroTQY3o9>) or contact the Parish Office by December 22. For more info, email Steve & Sue Schutz at suppers8stcletus@gmail.com or call 314-973-8707.



Come to the Cradle

What: Free Nativity Display with over 1000 nativities
Children's activities available

Where: Spring Hills Presbyterian Church
6247 Upper Byrnes Mill Road
Byrnes Mill, MO 63051

When: Friday, December 22, 2023,
11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday, December 23, 2023,
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, December 24, 2023,
4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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. Tuesday thru Friday

ADORATION: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday

COMMUNION SERVICE: Monday at 7:00 a.m. and Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Thursday 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 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

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

“In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.”
(Thank you Albert Schweitzer)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/
Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a,
5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab,
5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7,
8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9,
10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

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: _____