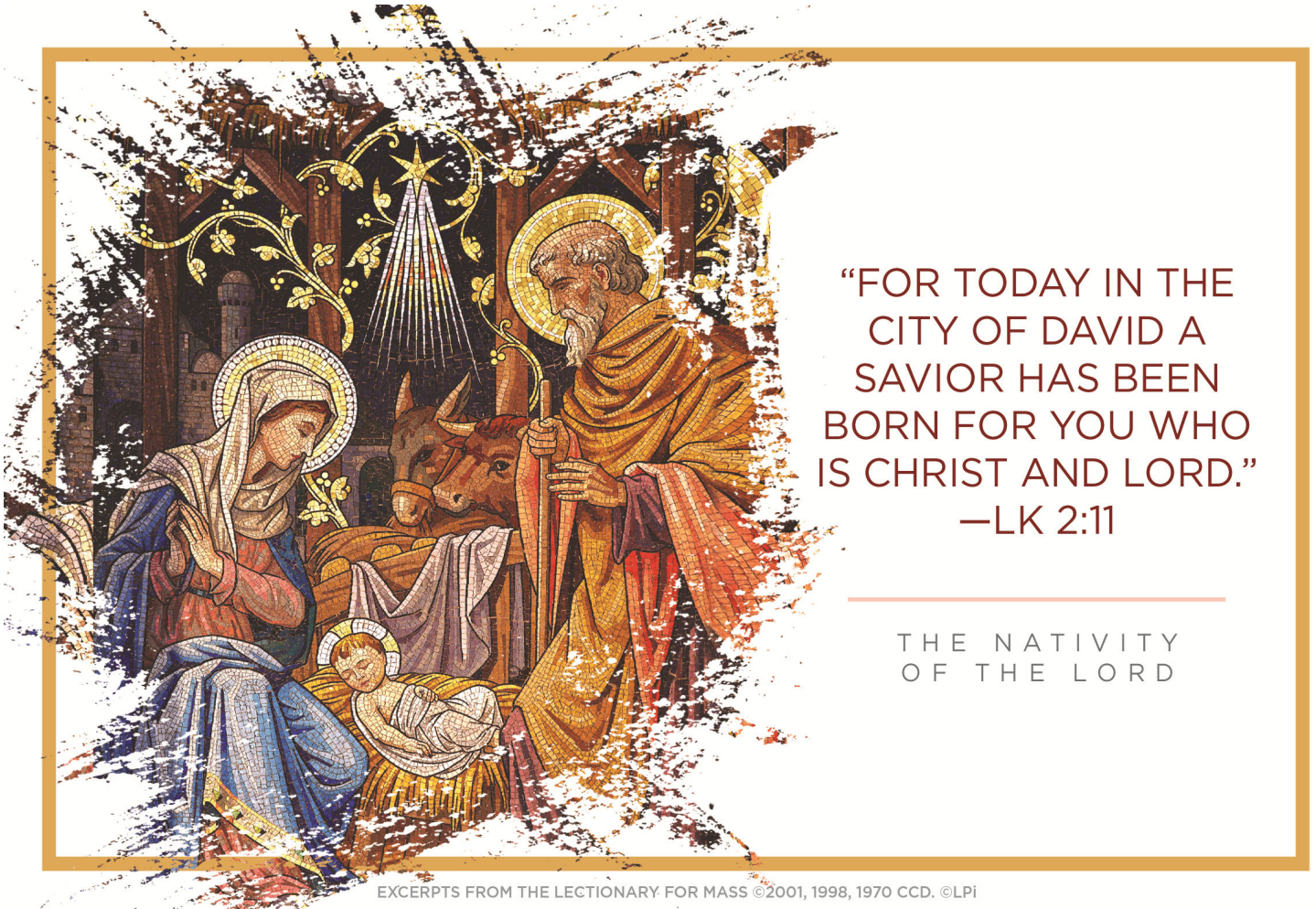


St. Cletus Catholic Church
Welcoming Christ in the Face of Others
December 24, 2023



“FOR TODAY IN THE
CITY OF DAVID A
SAVIOR HAS BEEN
BORN FOR YOU WHO
IS CHRIST AND LORD.”
—LK 2:11

THE NATIVITY
OF THE LORD

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

**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:
rdoherly@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 25, The Nativity of the Lord, (Christmas Day)

9:30am † *Jean Schaeffer*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: S. Blaha and K. Yanez

Tues., December 26, Saint Stephen

7:00am † *Lillian Foley*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Wed., December 27, Saint John

7:00am † *Robert Ledinsky*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Thur., December 28, The Holy Innocents

7:00am † *Juliette, Casper, Manuel, Aidan, Elias, and Nicholas*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Fri., December 29, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:00am † *Edward Colloton*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Sat., December 30, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

8:00am † *Communion Service*

Presider: Deacon Mark

Sat., December 30, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

5:00pm † *Charlie Witte*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Mark McCarthy
Servers: K. Ayers and M. Ayers

Sun., December 31, The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30am † *Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Mark McCarthy
Servers: A. Poulter and E. Poulter

9:30am † *Greg Viscomi*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: M. Furlong and L. Henderson

11:30am † *Our Parish Family*

Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: B. Clem and A. Ermeling



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
Carole Ermeling
Deacon Tony Falbo
Therese Flanagan
Joe Flood
Margie Fortman
Mary Gillespie
Randy Gravemann
Katherine Green
Ron Haas
Al Hagedorn
Bella Herman
Jason Hoag
Erin Hogan
Kathleen Hogarty
August Hughes
Kelly Sanders-Hughes
Kelly Hurley
Jack Kaiman - 1
Chuck Lammert
Marilyn Lawless

Lorraine Lind
C J Lindner
Joyce Lumetta
Joe Marzaloes
Lisa Masek
Barb Merriman - 2
Rich Meyer
John Miller
Norma Miller
Ron Niffen
Dan Noah - 2
Keith R. Noah
Barb Oliver
Louise Orf
Sandra Perry
Eric Peter
Jim Pini - 1
Rita Prinster
Dave Raley
Jerry Reese
Jim Reeves
Laura Rehagen
Eric Reinholz
Kenneth Robinson
Barbara Roth
Ed Scaglione
Elise Scheu
Tim Schneider - 4
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 10, 2023

Regular Offertory.....	\$21,460.81
Online Offertory.....	\$ 8,754.73
Matching.....	\$ 135.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$ 1,418.00



ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
OFFICE CLOSED



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26
OFFICE CLOSED

10:30AM	ADVENT WWP GROUP	BENZ
12:00PM	PRIVATE EVENT	HALL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00AM	QUILTERS	HALL
6:00PM	CHOIR PRACTICE	CHURCH
6:30PM	PEACE & JUSTICE MTG	DUCHESNE
6:30PM	MEN'S CLUB EXEC MTG	SCHOOL CAFETERIA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

6:00PM	LEGION OF MARY	DAY CHAPEL
7:30PM	ADULT FAITH FORMATION	DUCHESNE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00AM	WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP	DUCHESNE
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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

10:00AM	PRIVATE EVENT	HALL
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

NO ACTIVITIES



Imagine how Mary felt at the birth of Jesus: excited, awed, frightened. Deep faith was her light in the darkness, for Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought light into the darkness surrounding the heart of those living in poverty bringing them the real, lasting, and deep joy of Christmas.



From Death to New Life

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

† **Justine Peterson**, mother of Doug Peterson
 † **Caron Story**, daughter-in-law of Joyce Story
May her soul rest in our Lord's eternal embrace.



"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)



A Message from our Pastor

Merry Christmas

I know it's the 4th week of Advent still, but on this Sunday, we will cross the threshold at dusk into Christmas day. In the Jewish tradition the new day began at sunset on the previous day. That is why we celebrate vigil nights (Christmas Eve) for the day of (Christmas). It is now okay to open your presents. As I write this two weeks in advance, I'm not sure what my homily will be on Christmas, but I know it will have a little soul in it.

Do you believe in Christmas? The Jewish people must have thought, "would the savior ever come?" God's time is just so crazy. We celebrate Christmas. We celebrate that God's love is always on time. You might think, "Christmas on time?" Yes there are people who have bad days on Christmas. With the death of a loved one sometimes the whole season is horrible. Celebrating Christmas isn't a singular day or season it's about highlighting that Christmas does come in our life according to God's time. When are those times when Jesus shows up? That when we need a savior he comes to our rescue. As I mentioned it always happens in our problems when we give up and surrender to God. We say, "I can't do it alone." That's when Christmas comes in my life.

How many times have I felt trapped in my life only to realize there is someone I can call that I can get aid from. I am talking about the physical Christ in another person helping me. When I was younger things used to baffle me. I always used to try to do things on my own. Hardly anything baffles me now. I have a savior that is usually just a phone call away. I have an old priest friend who is full of wisdom. I have a business consultant to help me in the business area of my life. I have friends who have wisdom to know the difference of what is possible in my life and what needs to be surrendered. I have a spiritual director who helps me to discern God's voice in my life (you can find a spiritual director on our website). I have people who tell me when I am going off the deep end and how to stay grounded. These are the people I call Church.

I know that it may be a terrible time in your life right now. Pick up the 10,000-pound phone and call someone or call me. Only you can do whatever it is in life, true, but you can't do it alone. I pray that you may experience Christmas.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Chris

CURIOUS ABOUT THE **MEANING** OF YOUR LIFE?

Seek answers at Discovering Christ.



A great (free) dinner



An engaging video message



Conversation about the message

SEVEN THURSDAY NIGHTS
February 8th - March 21st, 2024
6:00-8:30 pm
St. Cletus Parish Hall

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for a special retreat day
to be held on Saturday, March 9, 2024.

To learn more contact Paul Borgsmiller at
636-399-7268 or pborgsy@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION INFORMATION COMING SOON!

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.



THANK
YOU ONCE
AGAIN

From the St. Cletus Respect Life Apostolate

A big Thank You to all who supported Birthright of St. Charles with your purchase of the Christmas Cards. We were able to give Birthright a check for \$855.00 from card sales and donations. Your thoughtfulness will help Birthright's work with mothers and babies in our area.



Functional Fitness Exercise and Fellowship 4 Seniors

The new session of our exercise class, a 7-week session, is starting **January 2, 2024**, Tuesday and Thursday mornings 8:30—9:30am, \$35 for the session. For more information contact: Marianne Belcke, MHS, OTR/L, 314-265-5231 sbelcke@gmail.com; or Judy Voss, Certified Personal Trainer, 314-330-5831 judvoss@sbcglobal.net

Seeking English Teacher

Sister Francine is looking for someone to meet weekly with a lady from Mexico who wishes to improve her English. No Spanish is required. Sister can meet with you for orientation to see if you are interested. Please contact her with any questions at 417-231-5914 or francinessnd@gmail.com.



Catholic Social Teaching: OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE: The church calls on all of us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. A fundamental measure of our society is how we care for and stand with our brothers & sisters in need.



BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

Collecting: Socks • Beanies • Gloves • Rain Ponchos

Bring Donations: Dec 30-31

Blessing Bags serve **those without shelter** by providing them with **comfort items** to be kept in your car and handed to an unhoused person on the street. The items we are collecting can help make life on the street just a **bit less challenging, especially during Winter**. Last year Peace & Justice underwrote the entire cost of the **Blessing Bag supplies**. This year due to cost increases and budget restrictions we could **use your help** by purchasing some of the items above.

Sign-ups: Dec 30-31, Jan 6-7

Distribution of Blessing Bags: Jan 13-14

Due to fantastic support from our parishioners last year, **Peace & Justice**, in a joint project with **PSR** and **Stitches for Life**, is once again sponsoring Blessing Bags. Our PSR students will fill the bags with the items you donate including **Socks, Beanies, Gloves and Rain Ponchos**

Please consider signing for a Blessing Bag to hand to a person in need. **Signups** are the weekends of **Dec 30-31** and **Jan 6-7**. Our **goal is to have 100 bags** for distribution. We invite you to **make a difference** for the unhoused and **see Christ in the face of others**.



PLEASE JOIN US IN HELPING THE HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY!

sharing our **+**table of plenty



St. Cletus Peace & Justice Ministry
 Bill Weisrock 636-284-0451
 Jim LaVictoire 314-308-8462



The Legion of Mary

Saint Cletus Morning Star Praesidium

The legion of Mary and the Parish Council have placed a book shelf in the gathering space. Please feel free to take or borrow any of the books you find there. You may also bring in any Catholic appropriate books you may want to share.

Please join us in the day Chapel to pray the Rosary for peace in the world, 30 minutes prior to the 7:30 and 9:30 Mass times on Sunday mornings.


For information about the legion or to submit Rosary requests, please Email us at legionofmary@saintcletus.org or call 636-946-6327 ext. 1733



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 intersted.



ONLINE GIVING

As we enter the new Church year, we ask that everyone consider increasing their weekly offertory gift. If you do not already do so, please consider electronic giving. This helps the parish with the budget process each year, and is an easy and convenient way for you to ensure your gift is received.

Instructions on how to donate with OSV

- Go to WWW.saintcletus.org
- Select Giving (this will take you to the OSV webpage)
-
- **First Online Donation:**

Follow the following steps.

- Select which fund you want to donate to by clicking on the Give Now spot on the fund you want to donate to.
 - Example: Weekly Contributions
- Click on the (v) for additional options.
- Enter your gift amount
(Example: \$20.00, \$30.00, etc.)
- Gift Type (either **One Time or Recurring**)
- Frequency (Choose from Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly, etc.)
- State Date you want donations to start.
- Click Continue
- Enter your Information
- Enter payment information (Choose either Checking Account or Credit Card)
- Enter Payment Address
- Click on save my payment
- Enter **your new password**
(It will be needed every time you log in)
- Click on submit gift.
- Click back to Fund List to donate to other funds or Log Out.

Editing your weekly gift:

- Log in to the OSV using your email and password. If you have forgotten your password, press "Forgot Password" and follow the instructions.
- Select your current contribution
- Edit the amount
- Save your changes

If you have problems signing on to the OSV Online giving website, please call OSV at 1-800-348-2886.

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

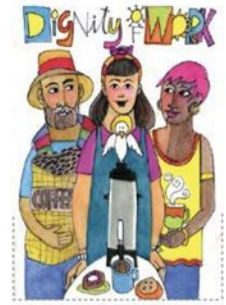
SACRAMENT OF THE SICK:
By appointment

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

THANK YOU, PARISHIONERS!!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND THE PETITION TO PLACE THE MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE QUESTION ON THE NOVEMBER 2024 BALLOT!



Over the last two week-ends we collected almost 450 signatures for the petition! We are so grateful for your support in this effort to provide a living wage for hourly workers as well as paid sick leave.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/
Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 1-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/ Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/ Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/ Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



All young adults (aged 20-39) are welcome to join the St. Charles Young Adults for fun and

games at Rec Hall on January 11. Meet there at 7:00 pm. \$5/person. Food and drinks for purchase. Giant pong, air bowling, cornhole, jenga, ping pong and more!

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: _____