

St. Cletus Catholic Church
Welcoming Christ in the Face of Others
February 18, 2024



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., February 19, Lenten Weekday
 7:00am † *Communion Service*
 Presider: Deacon Mark

Tues., February 20, Lenten Weekday
 7:00am † *John Sinclair*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Wed., February 21, Lenten Weekday
 7:00am † *Jack Sammelmann*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Thur., February 22, The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle
 7:00am † *Liz McCarthy*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Fri., February 23, Lenten Weekday
 7:00am † *Joe & Georgie Horvatin*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
 8:00am † *Tom Hamer (all school)*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann

Sat., February 24, Lenten Weekday
 8:00am † *Communion Service*
 Presider: Deacon Walt

Sat., February 24, Second Sunday of Lent
 5:00pm † *Our Parish Family*
 Presider: Fr. Jim Mitulski
 Deacon: Frank Olmsted
 Servers: L. Pezold and K. Yanez

Sun., February 25, Second Sunday of Lent
 7:30am † *Stephen Ellison*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
 Deacon: Frank Olmsted
 Servers: M. Lemkemann and C. Schneider

9:30am † *Ken Peters*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
 Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
 Servers: K. Ayers and M. Ayers

11:30am † *Claud Howard*
 Presider: Fr. Chris Holtmann
 Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
 Servers: M. Martin and X. Martin



From Death to New Life

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

- † **Ron Franks**, husband of Bonnie
 - † **Barbara Roth**, sister of Karen Marquard
- May their souls rest in our Lord's eternal embrace.



Pray For The Sick

Individual's name will be included for one month. Please contact us if you wish to have the time extended.

- Maxwell Dutt
- Jack Kaiman
- Lorraine Lind
- Joe Marzaloes
- Mary Fran Oldani
- Louise Orf
- Jim Pini
- Eric Reinholz
- Daniel Travers

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





PARISH COLLECTION February 4, 2023	
Regular Offertory.....	\$ 20,052.53
Online Offertory.....	\$ 11,950.73
Matching.....	\$ 335.00
LifeLine Coalition.....	\$ 1,057.00

February

ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

OFFICE CLOSED (PRESIDENT'S DAY)

9:00AM	CORNERSTONE	HALL/CALLAHAN/DUCHESNE
5:00PM	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY	BENZ
6:15PM	PSR CLASSES	SCHOOL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:30AM	SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS	HALL
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
6:30PM	MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS	DAY CHAPEL
7:00PM	LEGION OF MARY	DAY CHAPEL
7:00PM	SVDP MEETING	HALL
7:00PM	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	CALLAHAN
7:00PM	RCIA	RECTORY BASEMENT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

8:30AM	QUILTERS	HALL
10:30AM	SENIOR CLETES MEETING	DUCHESNE
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
3:00PM	DAISY GIRL SCOUT MEETING	DUCHESNE
6:00PM	CHOIR PRACTICE	CHURCH
6:30PM	SVDP HOMELESS MEETING	HALL
6:30PM	RESPECT LIFE MEETING	BENZ
7:00PM	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	CALLAHAN
7:00PM	STEPHEN MINISTRY MEETING	DUCHESNE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

8:30AM	SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS	HALL
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
6:00PM	DISCOVERING CHRIST PROGRAM	HALL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

9:00AM	WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP	DUCHESNE
12:00PM	PRIVATE MEETING	BENZ
4:00PM	FISH FRY	SCHOOL


SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9:00AM	KNITTING/CROCHETING GROUP	DUCHESNE
10:00AM	WAKE	DAY CHAPEL
11:00AM	FUNERAL	CHURCH
6:30PM	FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE	HALL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES AFTER ALL MASSES

9:30AM	RCIA (RITE OF SENDING)	CHURCH
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In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power, and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Over a twelve-month period, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to distribute \$100,969 to 158 families, providing assistance with rent, utilities, food and other expenses. God Bless You!



Consult not your fears but your hopes and dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do.

POPE SAINT JOHN XXIII





Our Pastor's Message

You are my beloved

In the Gospel, Jesus is driven out into the desert by the Holy Spirit. He remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by the devil. In the other Gospels, they focus on the temptations. In this Gospel, I want to focus on why Jesus was driven into the desert by the Holy Spirit. Was it just to be tempted? We have to remember what happened before he was driven into the desert. What happened before, his baptism. In the Gospel, the Holy Spirit comes down upon him and he hears the Father's voice saying, "you are my beloved son; with you I am well pleased." Imagine hearing those words. How profound that must have been. Jesus has not started his ministry, and without doing anything the Father tells him that he is his beloved Son, and he is well pleased in him, the truth for all ages. Then, the Spirit drives him out into the desert. Reflect on those powerful words.

I believe this to be true in all of us as we were all created in Christ and nothing came to be without him, see the Gospel of John chapter 1. We are all baptized in this truth from the beginning of time of being God's beloved and him being well pleased in his creation. This goes beyond our baptism into our mere birth. I once spent a retreat focusing on just those words, "you are my beloved; with you I am well pleased." What a powerful retreat that was. Have you ever just focused on those words? It is true for you. The primal truth is that you are God's beloved. Furthermore he is well pleased in you. I know that most people have a tendency to reject such a thought. Notice the temptations in the other Gospels, "if you are the Son of God, throw yourself off the parapet," these if-then statements. It is a temptation for Jesus to doubt his identity. The devil wants us to doubt our identity.

Like Jesus, the church is called during these forty days of lent to focus on our true identity. The Good News, we are God's beloved. We are tempted to outright reject our identity claiming a false humility. Real humility is about claiming the truth of who we are. Our shame is dropped. Yes, we sin, but sin never equals our identity in God nor God's forgiveness that is available in every moment because he loves us. Lent is a time to drop all these extraneous distracting things and to just focus on God's love. This is what breaks the chains of sin in our life. Let's live in that love and not in sin. Let's connect to others for support to be free. Alone nothing is possible, but with God all things are possible especially with his Body, the people of the church. Let's let other people know their primal identity. Everyone is God's beloved.

God bless,
Fr. Chris



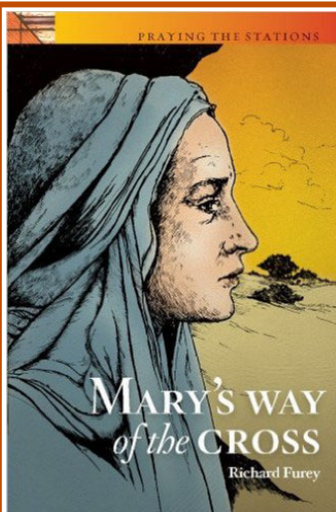
Stations of the Cross

Fridays during Lent at 12:00 p.m. in the Day Chapel
 Good Friday, March 29, at 1:00 p.m. in Church

Do You Want to Fast This Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



Mary's Way of The Cross

It has been a Catholic tradition through the centuries to meditate on the Way of the Cross, so that it becomes our way of life. Mary, the Mother of Jesus, made that first way of the cross. These **stations**, called **Mary's Way of the Cross**, attempt to present that **viewpoint**. In these stations we see through **Mary's eyes** what **Jesus** was going through on the way to Calvary. Then we try to make practical applications to our lives.

Please join us in the Day Chapel to pray this wonderful devotion to our blessed Mother on Tuesday, February 20, March 5, 12, and 19 at 6:30pm.



February is Black History Month



A Time to Celebrate Bravery and Resilience in the Midst of Oppression

At the end of the Civil War, much of the conquered Confederacy lay in ruins: cities such as Atlanta and Richmond were destroyed, the few railroads across the region were torn up, and plantations and farms that had once produced bountiful cash crops for export were burnt to the ground or abandoned. Union troops occupied the land, enforcing the deconstruction of Confederate political structures and the removal of the rebellious Southern elite from government participation. Yet amidst the wreckage the 13th amendment, ratified in 1865, proclaimed the liberation of the black population from almost three centuries of bondage. Then in 1868 and 1870 the 14th and 15th amendments were ratified, granting Blacks the same rights to citizenship, suffrage, and protection under the law as whites enjoyed. Reconstruction, as it was called, gave formerly enslaved Blacks many opportunities to assert their freedom, own land, start businesses and schools, and participate in politics for the first time. With these new rights, and with federal troops stationed across the South to enforce them, Black Americans soon expanded their social and political power, electing the first black US Senator (Hiram Rhodes Revels) in 1870 and establishing the first public schools in the South for African Americans. But what looked like progress from the perspective of African Americans and Northerners was interpreted as anarchy and upheaval by many south of the Mason-Dixon.

By 1873, many white Southerners were calling for "Redemption" – the return of white supremacy and the removal of rights for blacks – instead of Reconstruction. This political pressure to return to the old order was oftentimes backed up by mob and paramilitary violence, with the Ku Klux Klan, the White League, and the Red Shirts assassinating pro-Reconstruction politicians and lynching and terrorizing Southern blacks. Within a few years, as Northern attentions were consumed by apathy and fatigue, the South slipped back toward many of the patterns of the antebellum era. So dire was the situation that historian W. E. B. DuBois described the period as one where "The slave went free; stood a brief moment in the sun; then moved back again toward slavery."

While most Americans are generally familiar with Reconstruction, the period afterward, sometimes called the "Redemption" era, frequently gets forgotten. As literary scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. puts it in his brilliant book, *Stony the Road*, Redemption was "when the gains of Reconstruction were systematically erased and the country witnessed the rise of a white supremacist ideology that, we might say, went rogue, an ideology that would long outlast the circumstances of its origin." It was a bitter pill for Blacks who had only recently gained their freedom.

This was a challenging time for the Black community as they grappled with the aftermath of slavery, Jim Crow laws and practices, persistent racism, and the tumultuous process of rebuilding the nation. Despite facing immense adversity, Black individuals and communities demonstrated remarkable resilience during this period. They continued to establish institutions, pursuing education, and actively participating in civic life as they sought to carve out a space for themselves in a society still marked by racial prejudice, oppression, and violence.

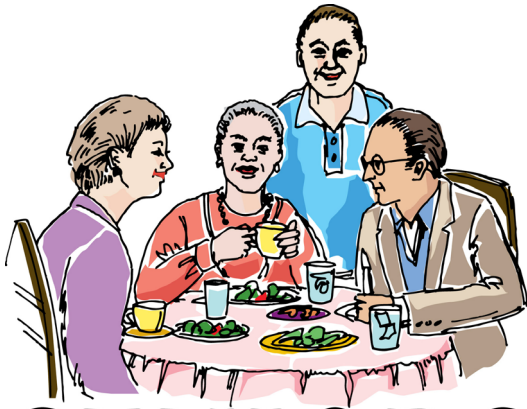
Here are a few examples of Black advancements in many aspects of American life...

- The church became a central pillar of the Black community, providing not only spiritual guidance but also serving as a hub for social, educational, and political activities. The establishment of independent Black churches allowed for the development of leadership within the community and provided a platform for organizing against racial injustice. Figures like Richard Allen, founder of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, and Jarena Lee, a pioneering female preacher, exemplified the

leadership that emerged within Black religious communities, fostering a sense of unity and purpose.

- In the face of segregation and exclusion, Black Americans continued to establish their own schools, churches, and businesses. From one-room shanty grade schools to Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), such as Howard and Fisk University, all provided access to education for Black students who were systematically excluded from mainstream educational institutions. Prominent educators like Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois championed different approaches to education but shared the common goal of uplifting the Black community through intellectual empowerment.
- The establishment of Black-owned businesses and communities was a testament to the determination to create self-sustaining economies. Black entrepreneurs, like Madam C.J. Walker, who became one of the first female self-made millionaires in the United States through her haircare and beauty products business, defied societal expectations and economic limitations, illustrating the potential for economic success within the Black community. The Greenwood District in Tulsa was nationally known as “Black Wall Street” for its vibrant economy. (It was burned to the ground during the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot.)
- Black communities organized mutual aid societies and fraternal organizations to support each other in times of sickness, death, and economic hardship. These organizations not only addressed immediate needs but also fostered a sense of community and solidarity, helping individuals navigate the challenges of systemic racism and discrimination.
- Reconstruction had witnessed the rise of Black political leaders at all levels of local, state, and national politics. Hiram Revels and Blanche K. Bruce, for example, became the first Black senators during Reconstruction, representing Mississippi in the U.S. Senate. While this period of political empowerment for Black Americans was relatively brief, it also taught the resilience needed to navigate the later voter suppression of Black political participation through tactics like literacy tests and poll taxes.
- Writers like Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, and Frances Ellen Watkins Harper used their pens to expose the injustices of the time, advocate for civil rights, and celebrate Black culture and achievements. Douglass's autobiographical narratives and Wells's investigative journalism on lynching were powerful tools demonstrating how Black individuals used their intellectual and creative capacities to resist and overcome adversity.
- The emergence of ragtime and the early roots of jazz reflected the fusion of African and European musical traditions, showcasing the vibrancy and adaptability of Black culture in the face of adversity. The Harlem Renaissance that flourished in the 1920's was a statement of Black pride and resilience in the face of adversity. Harlem became a hub for Black writers, musicians, artists, and intellectuals who challenged racial stereotypes and celebrated Black culture. Artists like Henry Ossawa Tanner and Edmonia Lewis, despite facing discrimination in the art world, achieved international recognition for their work, contributing to the broader narrative of Black excellence.

Between 1870 and 1920, the Black community in the United States exhibited remarkable bravery and resilience in the face of significant adversity. From the establishment of independent religious institutions and educational initiatives to economic entrepreneurship, political engagement, and cultural expressions, Black individuals and communities demonstrated their ability to overcome systemic challenges. The legacy of this resilience laid the foundation for the continued struggle for civil rights and equality in the decades to come, shaping the trajectory of Black history and the broader narrative of American progress.



Senior Clete's — Vintage 2024

Please mark your calendars for Wednesday, February 21. A restart meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. in the Duchesne Room.

This will be a short meet and greet. Discussion topics will be how we want to go forward. Items such as what day of the week and what time to meet. Suggest what kind of activities would be included so that we can enjoy time with parishioners and mutual interests.

God Bless us all, and see you on the 21st.

Jack Kaiman

SENIORS

GET-TOGETHER



**GIVE BLOOD.
SAVE LIVES.**

**MARCH
1 THROUGH 31**
CHOICE OF GIFT CARD,
TREES PLANTED IN A
US FOREST, OR BONUS
POINTS TO STORE!

St. Cletus Catholic Church

Sunday, March 3 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Church Hall 2705 Zumbahl Road

Please join us & help to save lives in our community!

Appointments required.

To schedule an appointment, **scan QR code**
call ImpactLife at 800.747.5401

or go to bloodcenter.org/group, grp #10052



ADORER NEEDED

We are in need of a full time adorer on Wednesday's from 5:00-6:00pm.

Please contact Jan DuBray at 636-947-4654 if you can fill this opening.



St. Cletus Open House

We would like to welcome families interested in St. Cletus Preschool and Elementary School to attend our upcoming Open House. There are two more opportunities to visit an Open House:

- Sunday, February 25, from 10:30AM – 1:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 5, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Please join us if you have questions regarding the school program or call Rosann Doherty at 636-946-7756.

We look forward to seeing you there!!



Functional Fitness Exercise and Fellowship 4 Seniors

The new session of our exercise class, a 7- week session, is starting **February 20, 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

RETROUVAILLE ST LOUIS WEEKEND March 15 - 17, 2024



Do you need RETROUVAILLE?
Has your romance failed?
Do you argue without reaching resolution?
Are you more like roommates than soulmates?
Have you grown apart?
Retrouvaille can help you.

Register now - 800-470-2230 (24-hour confidential hotline) or visit: helpourmarriage.org
Questions? Tom & Kerry 314.753.2022



Back in Time to

1989



*Calling all Comets who attended St. Cletus
in 1989 As well as currently*

Join us on February 22, at 1:45 PM
On February 24, 1989, the students of St. Cletus
buried a Time Capsule.

We are looking forward to seeing what the students of St. Cletus
placed in their time capsule 35 years ago.

We will then place items in a new Time Capsule so future
St. Cletus Families will see what St. Cletus was like in the year 2024.

*Join us as we look back into the past
as well as to the future of St. Cletus.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17,
18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13,
18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/
Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a,
7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/
Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

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: _____