FIFTH Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 5, 2023

“Your light must shine before others,
that they may see your good deeds
and glorify your heavenly Father.”
Matthew 5:16

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 LaBozetta: wlabozetta@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
Liturgic Schedule and Mass Intentions for the week

Mon., February 6, Saint Paul Miki and Companions
7:00am † Marcella White
Presider: Fr. Benz
8:00am † Communion Service
Presider: Deacon Mark

Tues., February 7, Weekday
7:00am † Gerry Schoene
Presider: Fr. Whitman
8:00am † Janet Simon
Presider: Fr. Benz

Wed., February 8, Weekday
7:00am † Msgr. Jerome Billing
Presider: Fr. Whitman
8:00am † Roy Thoele  (level mass)
Presider: Fr. Benz

Thur., February 9, Weekday
7:00am † Sue Wehde
Presider: Fr. Whitman
8:00am † Molly Searl
Presider: Fr. Benz

Fri., February 10, Saint Scholastica
7:00am † Bonnie Mohapp
Presider: Fr. Whitman
8:00am † Special Intention  (level mass)
Presider: Fr. Benz

Sat., February 11, Weekday
8:00am † Dorothy Herd
Presider: Fr. Whitman

Sat., February 11, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm † Our Parish Family
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
Servers: C. Anderson and M. Warren

Sun., February 12, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30am † Barb Minor  (living)
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Walt LaBozzetta
Servers: M. Furlong, and E. Poulter
9:30am † Anna Rothermich
Presider: Fr. Benz
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: E. Conway and T. Conway
11:30am † Ben, Rose and Christine Kunes
Presider: Fr. Whitman
Deacon: Frank Olmsted
Servers: L. Pezold and M. Sheils

To keep current with our sick list above, please let us know when we need to add or remove anyone. Thank you!

In the Gospel today, Jesus says, “You are the light of the world,” he is calling us to live our Christian vocation in words and deeds. Be a “light” to those living in poverty and in a world of darkness by donating to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
PARISH COLLECTION January 8, 2022
Regular Offertory $ 13,578.50
Online Offertory $  6,231.00
Matching $     435.00

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)
8:00 a.m. Tuesday thru Friday in the weekday chapel

COMMUNION SERVICE:
Monday at 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Monday 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

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

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:
† Dorothea Roberts-Wallace, mother of Matt
  Roberts and grandmother of Christiana,
  Elizabeth, Isabel and Adalyn
† Michael Bell, son of Deanna Streit
† Jean Zipp, mother of Carol Callahan and
  Mary Finklang

May their souls rest in our Lord’s eternal embrace

ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS THIS WEEK

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6
9:15AM CORNERSTONE               HALL
10:00AM WWP MEETING               CLETUS
5:00PM MEN’S BIBLE STUDY          CLETUS
6:15PM PSR CLASSES                SCHOOL

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
8:30AM SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS      HALL
10:30AM WWP                       HALL/CLETUS/DUCHESNE
11:00AM PASTORAL TEAM MTG         CALLAHAN
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING           CLETUS
7:00PM WWP                       HALL/CLETUS/DUCHESNE

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8
8:30AM QUILTERS                   HALL
8:30AM MORNING SOCIAL AFTER 8 MASS HALL
10:00AM FR.MARK BIBLE STUDY       DUCHESNE
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING           CLETUS
6:00PM CHOIR PRACTICE             CHURCH
6:30PM MEN’S CLUB GEN MTG         CHOLEL CAFETERIA

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9
8:30AM SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS      HALL
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING           CLETUS
5:00PM COME TO THE FEAST          HALL
6:00PM COME TO THE FEAST (BABYSITTING) CLETUS
6:30PM LEGION OF MARY             DAY CHAPEL
7:00PM RCIA                       DUCHESNE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10
9:00AM WOMEN’S PRAYER GROUP       DUCHESNE
12:00PM PRIVATE MEETING           CLETUS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11
1:00PM PRIVATE EVENT              HALL

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12
9:30PM 4TH GR FAMILY MASS         CHURCH
10:30AM DONUTS AFTER FAMILY MASS   HALL
12:30PM BAPTISM                   CHURCH
1:00PM PRIVATE EVENT              HALL
7:00PM LIFE TEEN NIGHT            HALL
St. Louis hosted the SEEK23 Conference at the Convention Center the week of January 2, 2023. The conference is sponsored by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS). Over 17,000 people from around the world were in attendance! The conference was attended by thousands and thousands of college students; hundreds of priests, seminarians and religious ordered men and women; dozens of bishops; and hundreds of Catholic men and women. The days are filled with morning Mass, workshops, dynamic speakers, sacramental and worship opportunities, and entertainment - all to encourage an encounter with Jesus. It is a week packed with fun, fellowship and faith. Here are some of the workshop highlights:

**Making Missionary Disciples** (www.focus.org/missionarydisciples) Jesus invested in twelve men and asked them to share their faith with others. In making disciples our focus should be not on the total number of disciples made but on the intensity of the flame within the disciples. The hotter the flame, the deeper the relationship with God and others. Our standard of success should be not be based on how many people came to be fed, but how many people are going out to help feed others. This is from 2 Timothy 2:2 – “entrust to faithful people who will have the ability to teach others as well.” The model is based on Jesus’ model. WIN – lead souls to encounter Jesus. BUILD – personally invest in people and accompany them on their faith journey. SEND – each of us is called to “go and make disciples.”

**Marriage** – Dr. Edward Sri (www.edwardsri.com) retold the following story by Pope Benedict regarding his insight into the Wedding at Cana. The first wine served at the wedding was great. This is similar to marriage, our initial love is great, but after some time, it may fade. The second wine, the wine made by Jesus, is far superior to the first. Similar to marriage, when Jesus is part of our marriage, the union is stronger and deeper. Jesus transforms our love and makes it grow; just as He transformed water into wine. Dr. Sri added that in marriage one of the best things we can do is to be grateful for our spouse and always assume a positive intent from our spouse. When our spouse stumbles, how do we respond? Do I love more or do I withdraw my love? God brings our imperfections to the surface so that they can be healed.

**Parenting** – Mike and Alicia Hernon (www.messyfamilyproject.org) talked about building a path of holiness for your family. The breakdown of the family over the decades has helped lead to the decline of the Church. To rebuild the Church, we need to rebuild the family. Parents need God’s mercy to help raise their kids. Parenting exposes our weaknesses and shows our need for God. If you want to be a great parent, you have to be a great spouse first. Make sure your marriage is right for the sake of your children. Every child needs to be loved individually and passionately. Create a family culture that will positively impact your children.

**Spiritual Warfare** – Jessica Navin gave insights into spiritual warfare. Spiritual warfare is an everyday occurrence, however, it usually goes unnoticed because this is a battle primarily for your mind. Evil spirits can’t directly affect your actions but they can tempt you through your imagination, memories, emotions and reasoning. The devil does not want us united to God and will give us subtle obstacles to prayer. One of the devil’s major tools is discouragement – making people feel powerless and losing hope. How do we fight back? Live a holy life – know your weaknesses and ask God for help, go to Confession regularly, and conform your mind to the mind of Jesus by reading the Bible. The biggest highlight, though, was celebrating daily Mass with 17,000 joyous Catholics. It was an incredible experience. It’s hard to sing some of the songs when your eyes are welled up in tears and you are too choked up with joy that the words can’t come out.

If you missed this year’s conference, there is good news! FOCUS will sponsor SEEK24 in St. Louis again next year from January 1 – 5. Put it on your calendar to attend and invite some of your friends to join you.
God wants you to experience the JOY he created you for. So do we. Here’s how. It all starts by following 9 simple rules.

Every success in life is meaningless without joy. Joy is God’s dream for you. Heaven is called a “wedding banquet.” And Jesus’ whole mission was to share that joy with you. He said it himself. “I’ve told you these things so my joy may be in you.” Think about that. The joy of GOD IN YOU. The experience of that joy eternal starts now. And it doesn’t start with a change in your circumstances but a change in you.

Chris Stefanik’s book “Living Joy” is intended to help us find the joy for which God has created us.

His nine rules are:
#1 Give Thanks
#2 Practice Silence
#3 Love Yourself
#4 Have Fun
#5 Engage Your Body in the Battle for Joy
#6 Make Friends
#7 Rest
#8 Serve
#9 Frame Your Mind with Faith

Plus Chris has created two short accompanying videos for each rule.

You can hear Chris describe this book and its process learning more about them by going to: https://coaching.reallifecatholic.com/living-joy

While this book and its accompanying videos will be beneficial to anyone who reads it and uses the videos, our parish’s Adult Faith Formation Committee would like to invite you to consider using this book and its videos in a more impactful way by doing so in small groups.

You can form your own small group comprised of your friends and/or family members (we will provide you with a small group guide which you can use). However, we would also invite you to become a member of one of our parish’s small groups. Our parish small groups are intended to be a part of our observance of the Season of Lent (the first four rules) as well as our observance of the Season of Easter (the last five rules). Our parish’s small groups will either be in-person or by a Zoom meeting. If you wish to be a member of one of our parish’s small groups, we ask you to complete the following form and return it to our office by Feb. 1:

Name(s): ____________________________________________

Phone number: ______________________________________

E-mail address if you have one: _________________________

I would like to participate in an in-person small group: ____

I would like to participate in a Zoom small group: ____

I am willing to be a small group leader via Zoom: _____ in-person: ____
This Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 pm, Paul and Cheryl Borgsmiller will present "The Sacrament of Matrimony". Come and join the RCIA group and other interested Catholics in the Duchesne Room for this opportunity to reflect on this sacrament where two become one in Christ.

Today, our parish will take up the 139th annual National Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support of this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ! You can help meet unmet needs with a generous contribution today. Thank you for your support!

St. Cletus Open House
We would like to welcome families interested in St. Cletus Preschool and Elementary School to attend the upcoming Open House.
Please join us Sunday, March 5, from 10:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Individual tours are available upon request.
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!!

Old Palms
Please bring your old palms to church when you come to Mass next weekend and place them in the baskets at the door to be burned for Ash Wednesday. If you will be unable, the appropriate disposal of a sacramental, like palm, is by burying it or its ashes in the ground.

You’re Invited:
Come to the Feast - The Eucharist as a Meal
Date: February 9
Time: 6:00-9:00 pm
Place: St. Cletus Parish Hall
Please join us for food, fun, & fellowship with Father Mark Whitman sharing how the Mass feeds our souls
Babysitting is available on request
Register via signup genius on the parish website: www.saintcletus.org
Or text/call 314-808-4513
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054DA4AE2DA0FE3-come1
Looking for a Valentine Present – Look no further! St. Cletus will be hosting a three-night “date night” and marriage enrichment on Friday, February 17 – March 3– March 17. It will be held in the Parish Hall from 6:00 – 8:30pm. The cost is $30 per couple for all three nights. Babysitting will be available and there will be wine, beer and snacks at the event. Each night will be a stand-alone subject from communication/conflict to sex/parenting to money/faith. If you can't make all three, each night will still be awesome! Additional resources for the perfect marriage will also be available as well as meeting other couples striving for the best marriage they can create. Make time for your spouse this year on more than just Valentine's Day. This program is hosted by Tim & Nancy Grimmet (creators of Date your Mate) and will be something that brings renewed passion, energy and love to your marriage. Please join us!! Call or email Mike or Julie Boschert at 636-795-6076 or boschfam@sbcglobal.net with any questions and/or to enroll.

EXPERIENCE A CURSILLO WEEKEND
What if you could spend a weekend that helps you experience your Catholic faith more fully and encourages you to engage in a spiritual life filled with love, joy and enthusiasm? You can by participating in a Cursillo Weekend. The St. Louis Archdiocese Cursillo will host the following upcoming weekends: Women’s Spring Weekend from February 23-26, 2023, and Men’s Spring Weekend from March 2-5, 2023. The weekends are held at the Manresa Retreat Center near the campus of St. Louis University. Take advantage of a powerful experience that will enhance your relationship with God and others. Any questions? Please contact Fr. Jim Benz at jbenz@saintcletus.org or Diane Viscomi at diane.viscomi@gmail.com for more information about the St. Louis Cursillo and for a Weekend Application.

National Marriage Week — February 7-14, 2023
The upcoming observances of National Marriage Week and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 12, 2023) are opportunities to focus on building a culture of life and love within each individual marriage and by supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Do you want to strengthen your marriage and to grow together in your relationship with Christ through the Eucharist? Then together participate in “At Home Marriage Retreat 2023.” No need to drive somewhere or get a babysitter. Do it in the comfort of your home. Each day focuses on one of the seven habits for strengthening your marital union and strengthening your union with Christ in the Eucharist. Go to: www.usccb.org/resources/home-marriage-retreat-nationasl-marriage-week-2023
St. Cletus cordially invites you to attend the 6th annual Father Daughter Bows & Boots Dance

**Saturday, February 25, 6:30pm - 9:00pm**

St. Cletus Church Parish Hall

Tickets—$20 per couple / $5.00 each additional child

Attendees should be Pre-K through 8th grade

DJ, photo booth, balloon animals, snacks and desserts will make this an event you won’t want to miss! Grab your finest western attire and be ready for a line dance or two!

If you would like to help decorate, please arrive at the Parish Hall at 9:00am, Saturday, February 25. If you have any questions, please contact Kortney Morton (314-368-2095) or Lauren Colyer (636-357-2025)

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Yes, I would like to attend the Father Daughter Bows & Boots Dance!

Please complete this section of the form and send to the St. Cletus school office along with payment by Friday, February 18

Attendees Names:_________________________________________________

# Attending:____________                        Total $____________

(Please make checks payable to St. Cletus PTO)
February Is Black History Month
***Highlighting Maya Angelou***

**Maya Angelou** (1928—2014) was so many things—poet, dancer, singer, actress, scholar, author, activist. She was born (Marguerite Ann Johnson) here in St. Louis. At an early age, she moved to Stamps, Arkansas to live with her grandmother. Her nickname “Maya” came from her older brother, Bailey. When she returned briefly to her mother’s care at the age of seven, she was sexually assaulted by her mother’s boyfriend. He was later jailed and then killed when he was released from jail. Maya believed her confession about the rape had a hand in his death, and she became mute for six years. She again lived with her grandmother into her teens.

Maya’s achievements throughout her life are legendary—from being the first African American woman to work as a streetcar conductor in San Francisco to enormous sales of her autobiography, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*; from the volumes of her poetry to delivery of her poem “On the Pulse of Morning” at President Clinton’s inauguration; from a professorship at Wake Forest to the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama. And these are only a few of her achievements. Here is one of her best-known quotes: “I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

**READING FOR THE FAMILY**

**Still I Rise: The Biography of Maya Angelou**: Jeff Biggers; 2014. (12—18 years) (Available on Amazon) This biography describes how Maya outgrew her troubled childhood and how she was influenced by Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Maya Angelou: Little People, Big Dreams (Vol. 4)** Lisbeth Kaiser (author), Leire Salaberria (illustrator). (4—6 years) This book describes how Maya worked to overcome adversity and what she accomplished.

**The Complete Poetry.** Maya Angelou. Random House. 2015. This book of Maya’s poetry is a must for adults and young readers alike.

**VIDEOS/FILMS**

**American Masters: Maya Angelou - And Still I Rise.** Available on You Tube Movies. This film weaves her own words with events in her life in a way that presents the viewers with a compelling picture.

This information was provided by St. Cletus Peace & Justice Ministry, through the courtesy of the Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative (catholicracialjusticestl.org)

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**St. Vincent DePaul GIFT CARD DRIVE**

Lighten your wallet if you are holding gift cards that you may not use! (Or cards may also be purchased through STP in the gathering space)

We give these cards to our Neighbors in Need when we meet with them during our home visits. We especially like to give restaurant, fast food, and cards for Doozles. They are always grateful, and it is a special treat for them!

All cards will be given to Families within our parish boundaries. Any amount or type of cards are appreciated. Thank you for all you do for our St. Vincent DePaul Society!

Please place your gift cards in the collection basket during any Mass in Jan. or Feb.
World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated in parishes this weekend, February 4-5, 2023. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

The Legion of Mary
February 11 is the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, one of the most famous apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary that took place in southern France. On this day in 1858 a young, poor girl named Bernadette Soubirous was out collecting firewood with her sister and another friend near a grotto when she saw a vision of a lovely lady.

In the words of St. Bernadette,
"I raised my head and looked towards the grotto. I saw a Lady dressed in white, wearing a white dress, a blue girdle and a yellow rose on each foot, the same color as the chain of her Rosary."

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 call 636-946-6327 Ext.1733

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: ____________________________________

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30
Friday: Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday: Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]