St. Cletus Catholic Church
Welcoming Christ in the Face of Others
July 16, 2023

“THE SEED SOWN ON RICH SOIL IS THE ONE WHO HEARS THE WORD AND UNDERSTANDS IT.”
—MT 13:23

15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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
Twitter: @saintcletus
To keep current with our sick list above, please let us know when we need to add or remove anyone. Thank you!
In today’s Gospel, we hear the story of the sower and we know that “some seed fell on rich soil, and produce fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirty fold.” This week by putting a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box (located at the rear of the church in the main aisle), know that together they will produce fruit a hundred-fold.
WITH US HAVING CELEBRATED OUR INDEPENDENCE DAY LAST WEEK, AGAIN A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO REMEMBER AND TO PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:

(From the History Channel, continued from last week) 46 Surprising Facts about our 46 Presidents: Each commander in chief brims with uniqueness. Read facts about every president, in order of their service, from a 19th-century hotshot with a taste for dueling to a 20th-century veteran who nearly died after being hit by anti-aircraft fire in World War II.

23. Benjamin Harrison (1889-1893): Harrison was the first president to hire a female White House staffer.
25. William McKinley (1897-1901): McKinley’s likeness appears on the $500 bill, which was discontinued in 1969.
26. Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909): Roosevelt was the youngest president, taking office at age 42.
27. William Howard Taft (1909-1913): Famous for his corpulence, Taft was the first president to hurl the ceremonial first pitch at a Major League Baseball game.
28. Woodrow Wilson (1913-1921): In a 1914 proclamation, Wilson officially established the second Sunday in May as Mother’s Day.
29. Warren G. Harding (1921-1923): Prior to taking office, Harding wrote a series of lurid love letters to his mistress, the wife of one of his best friends.
30. Calvin Coolidge (1923-1929): A quiet man, Coolidge purportedly replied, “You lose,” to a visitor who bet she could get at least three words out of him.
31. Herbert Hoover (1929-1933): An Iowa native who spent part of his boyhood in Oregon, Hoover was the first president to hail from west of the Mississippi River.
32. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1933-1945): The longest-serving commander-in-chief claimed to be distantly related to 11 other presidents, including his fifth cousin Theodore Roosevelt.
33. Harry S. Truman (1945-1953): The “S” in Harry S. Truman was just an initial; it didn’t stand for anything. (The “S” in Ulysses S. Grant didn’t stand for anything either.)
34. Dwight D. Eisenhower (1953-1961): World War II hero “Ike” was the first president to ride in a helicopter.
35. John F. Kennedy (1961-1963): After being injured and honorably discharged in World War II, Kennedy was briefly employed as a journalist during the waning weeks of the war.
36. Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1969): Johnson’s first career was a teacher. He worked at a school near the U.S.-Mexico border for four years before launching a career in politics.
37. Richard M. Nixon (1969-1974): Nixon became such a skillful poker player while stationed in the Solomon Islands during World War II that his winnings helped launch his political career upon his return to the United States.
41. George Bush (1989-1993): While a student at Yale University, Bush was captain of the baseball team and a member of Skull and Bones, an elite secret student society.
42. Bill Clinton (1993-2001): Clinton played the saxophone and famously performed on the Arsenio Hall Show when he was a candidate for president.
44. Barack Obama (2009-2017): Prior to becoming the first African American president, Obama won two Grammy Awards for “Best Spoken Word Album.” His wife, Michelle, has likewise won a Grammy.
45. Donald J. Trump (2017-2021): Before becoming president, Trump was a real estate developer, entrepreneur and host of the NBC reality show, "The Apprentice."
46. Joe Biden (2021-present): Biden overcame a debilitating childhood stutter after enduring bullying over the condition in grade school.
ALL MINISTRY HEADS, PLEASE NOTE:
June 30 was the last day of our most recent activity year which ran from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. This means that it is time for me to assemble information about it for our Stewardship Report for 2023. With Fr. Chris Holtmann just starting his time of service here at St. Cletus, I volunteered to compose that report for this past year; however, Fr. Chris will write the cover letter for it. If you are the head of one of our parish ministries or if you have any spectacular photos taken this past year or if you have some great highlights or insights to share about this recently passed year, please send me whatever you may have so I may possibly include it. Please send it ASAP to jbenz@saintcletus.org. Thanks! Father Jim Benz

HELP WANTED

The Parish School of Religion is looking for teachers in multiple grades for the 2023-2024 school year. No experience necessary-just a love for your faith and children.

Contact Laura Henderson at 636-255-1717 or lhenderson@saintcletus.org.

God doesn’t call the qualified, he qualifies the called.
From the President ~

While June 24, 2023—the first anniversary of the United States Supreme Court’s Dobbs decision to overturn Roe v. Wade approached, I reflected on the events of the past year.

First, it was jubilation, YES! We had a victory on a national scale. If felt good. It validated what all of us knew—Roe was a horrible decision. There is some justice after all.

Shortly after the euphoria, reality set in. Now what? The abortion industry was, and is, livid that killing innocent children was being challenged. And they went to work, utilizing our sympathetic social media, a willing press and mega donors to demonize pro-life people and our values as extreme. They said women will die. Freedoms will be lost. Democracy is at stake. They lied. But their lies and the millions of dollars behind them convinced voters in half a dozen states to defeat pro-life initiatives and promote abortion. These defeats took my breath away.

Missouri Right to Life was instrumental in making Missouri the first state in the union to ban abortion after Roe was overturned. That also angered the abortion industry. They recently filed Initiative Petitions in Missouri to enshrine abortion into our state constitution. Reading these petitions makes your blood run cold.

If passed, our ban would fall. Abortions, with no restrictions, would not only be legal up to the moment of birth, but YOU, the taxpayers of Missouri, would pay for them. If that’s not enough, anyone could perform abortions. Anyone! And abortionists would not be held liable for maiming, and even killing, the mother. Is that how the abortion industry defines “women’s health care”?

Missouri Right to Life has been preparing for over a year to fight this battle. Our “Keep Missouri Pro-Life” committee has been doing polling, research, education, fundraising, and much more to meet this threat head-on. We’re organizing a coalition of pro-life organizations and people across our state. It will take all of us to win this fight.

What can you do? First, and most importantly, pray. Pray fervently. Get with your local Missouri Right to Life Chapter, or contact our state office at 573-635-5110, and offer to help. And, ask your family and friends to join you.

Together we will defeat this evil. Thanks for all that you do for Life and God bless!

Steve Rupp
MRL President

THE CHOSEN

Please remember that we will be showing the third year of "The Chosen" on Wednesday evenings beginning July 26 and running through September 13. We will be doing so in the Duchesne Room in the Church’s lower level at 7:00 PM. While maybe you have viewed Year Three previously on your own, it is most interesting to hear what scenes, words, comments, and insights the other viewers have, gems that you would miss if you only view it on your own. Just come. No reservations or registrations are necessary. All are welcome!
Saint Cletus Men’s White House
Retreat 2023

Do you find it difficult to find time to truly relax, quiet your mind and talk to God? A retreat at White House, (A beautiful 80-acre campus high on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River) is the perfect opportunity to find the peace, quiet and inspiration your soul is looking for. It’s like a 3-day vacation with God! Join the men of our parish on our annual retreat from 17 August 2023 to 20 August 2023. Retreats at White House are silent, guided retreats based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. All of your meals are provided and everyone receives their own private accommodations. There is no set fee to attend; White House operates on a free-will offering basis. To register or to receive more information, call Rich Marquard at 314-791-2330 or email him at rickymarq55@gmail.com. You can also visit www.whretreat.org to find additional information.

The Legion of Mary
Saint Cletus Morning Star Praesidium

The First Saturday devotion is a Catholic devotion of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which was requested by the Virgin Mary in an apparition at Pontevedra, Spain, in 1925. It is associated with the private revelations of Our Lady of Fatima in 1917. It involves going to Confession, receiving Holy Communion, saying five decades of the Rosary, and meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary for 15 minutes on the first Saturday of any five consecutive months.

Please join us the first Saturday of every month at 8am for Mass, followed by praying of the Rosary.

For more information on First Saturday devotions, go to
Fatima.org/first-Saturday-devotion

For information about the legion or to submit Rosary requests please email us at legionofmary@saintcletus.org
We will once again be having our St. Cletus Night at the Cardinals Game. This game will be on Thursday, August 17, at 7:15 p.m. The tickets will be sold for $25 a piece and will be available at the church office and the school office. One bonus... we will also be leading the fans in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."
All-U-Can Eat Breakfast

Sunday, July 30, 2023
8:00am - 11:30am

St. Robert Bellarmine Church
1424 First Capitol Drive, South
St. Charles

Adults - $12.00
Children (6 to 11) - $6.00
Children (5 & under) - Free

Includes: Made to order Omelets, Pancakes, Sausages, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuits & Gravy, Juice, Milk, Coffee

"Family And Friends
Make Everyday Special"

Sponsored by the St. Robert Bellarmine Knights of Columbus (Council #12037)

Senior Citizen Luncheon

Every 1st Wednesday of the Month...10:30am-2:00pm
(No Luncheon in January & July)

Come and be our guest at:

St. Robert Bellarmine Church Hall
1424 First Capitol Drive, South
St. Charles, MO 63303

COST: $10.00 per person
Men and Women 55 and up
Delicious meal provided
Prizes
Doors open at 10:30am
Lunch served 11:30am-12:30pm
Bingo/Activities 12:30pm-2:00pm
Reservations required by the Friday prior to the Luncheon
We want to reserve your place at this special luncheon....
We know you will enjoy it!

Please call us today at (636) 946-6799 and leave a message with:
Your name & phone number and names & phone numbers of all those attending.
(Please spell all the names)

YOU ARE INVITED TO A YOUNG ADULT BARBECUE

1PM-7PM (EATING @5)

Sunday, July 23rd
Des Peres Park Pavilion
12325 Manchester Rd.

CONTACT INFO:
JACEZIAC600@GMAIL.COM
EKBECKGMAIL.COM

RSVP TO OUR FACEBOOK EVENT: "YOUNG ADULT BBQ"

MORE INFO:
Bring your picnic blanket and sunscreen! Lemonade, hot dogs, and sides provided.
"NO ALCOHOL PERMITTED"
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/ Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Next Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a)/Rom 8:26-27/ Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30