17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”
- Mt 13:44

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

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

From Death to New Life

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:
† Tom Schnelt, brother of Ann Ficken
† Jean Adams, mother of Bob
May their souls rest in our Lord’s eternal embrace.
In the Gospel, we find that the demand of daily Christian living is to spend our life primarily searching for the kingdom of God. Through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is able to assist families with rent, food, utilities, and other bills. Thank You!

A THOUGHT FOR TODAY:
The most valuable possession you can own is an open heart. The most powerful weapon you can be is an instrument of peace.

- Carlos Santana, musician (b. 20 Jul 1947)
(From Lloyd Newell in the 2/26/23 “Music & the Spoken Word” broadcast from Salt Lake City)

For generations, people who want to live in harmony with others have been guided by a well-loved saying: “In essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; in all things, charity.” St. Augustine of Hippo (354 – 430) It’s not hard to agree with such eloquent wisdom. What’s hard is separating the essentials from the nonessentials. But there are at least a few essentials that seem beyond question. Every person you meet—everyone who lives on this beautiful planet with you—is worthy of respect and compassion. We are all children of God, and because of that we each have inherent worth. It follows, then, that one of the essentials is the need to be unified in loving one another. As human beings, we are more alike than we are different.

As to nonessentials, we could think of many: tastes in food or music, preferences in activities and personalities. Although we value our similarities, it’s our differences that give richness and depth to our relationships. If we were all the same, there would be nothing to learn from each other. This is why we cherish individuality and honor the God-given liberty to choose. And lastly, in all things and at all times, we need charity. After all, what good are unity and liberty if people don’t love one another? Unity would be hollow, and liberty would become selfishness.

The Apostle Paul put it this way: “Though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; … is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; … “Bear eth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.Charity never faileth” (1 Corinthians 13:2–8).

Unity happens when people interact charitably with each other. And liberty works best when inspired by charity. In other words, if we want unity in essentials and liberty in nonessentials, then we need, in all things, charity.
ALL THINGS NEW TOUCHES ST. CLETUS

Even though St. Cletus will remain as a stand-alone entity, we are still an integral part and not a separate, isolated part of the Catholic Church. As such, like our brothers and sisters in Christ, we will be experiencing change. For the past 6 years and even longer we have had the gift of 2 priests available to minister to us. As most already know beginning August 1, we will only have 1 priest. This change will, in the months ahead, affect many aspects of our lives and routines as we settle into a new way of doing things. The most immediate will be the Mass schedule.

The number and times for the Weekend Masses will remain unchanged for the immediate future. Saturday @ 5:00 PM, Sunday @ 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 AM.

In the case of the weekday schedule, because the attendance at the 7:00AM Mass is 2 to 3 times greater than that of 8:00AM and because it is strongly encouraged that a priest follows the guidelines of celebrating only one Mass per day (except for Sundays, weddings, and funerals), beginning on Monday, August 7, there will no longer be an 8:00 AM Mass Monday through Saturday. Please note that there will be both a 7:00 and 8:00AM Mass when there is a school Mass, and it will be included in the weekly Mass schedule in the bulletin.

Also, because Communion Services are only supposed to take place when a priest is not available, beginning on Monday, August 7, there will be a Communion Service on Mondays @ 7:00AM and Saturdays @ 8:00AM.

The Liturgy of the Hours, Morning Prayer, will continue to be in the Day Chapel Monday through Saturday mornings beginning 15 minutes prior to the morning Liturgy in the Church.

Since having the opportunity to attend Mass and receive the Eucharist is critically important and valuable, please note the listing of Masses at our neighboring churches in the City of St. Charles.

For us and all Catholics our greatest challenge is to remain:
Steadfast in Faith/Forward in Hope/United in Love

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**Mass Times Locations for St. Charles City as of 8-1-23**

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<th>St. Cletus</th>
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* Spanish Mass

*** Lindenwood University Newman Center: Sunday @ 5:00 PM **
A Grateful Message from Father Mark

I am filled with much gratitude for the wonderful celebration you had for me, celebrating my ministry here at St. Cletus and my 28 years of Priesthood. The cards, messages and gifts have lifted me up, especially during a time of difficulty and personal loss.

The beautiful green vestment I received as a gift from the Parish will always remind me of the strong faith and loving community St. Cletus is. This parish family has shaped me into a better priest and person that will make me even more effective in my next assignment at St. Paul’s.

May God bless each and every one of you!

Faithfully,
Father Mark

Meet & Greet

With our incoming Pastor, Father Chris Holtmann
Saturday, August 5th after 5pm Mass
Light snacks served
&
Sunday, August 6th after every Mass
Donuts served

“Christ’s blood reveals to man that his greatness, and therefore his vocation, consists in the sincere gift of self. ...It is from the blood of Christ that all draw the strength to commit themselves to promoting life. It is precisely this blood that is the most powerful source of hope, indeed it is the foundation of the absolute certitude that in God’s plan life will be victorious.”

LADIES OF ST. CLETUS

THE “WALKING WITH PURPOSE” BIBLE GROUP INVITES YOU TO A MARIAN PRAYER SERVICE ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023

WE WILL HAVE A MORNING SESSION BEGINNING AT 10:30 AM
AND AN EVENING SESSION BEGINNING AT 7:00 PM
BOTH SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH HALL

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NEVER ATTENDED ONE OF OUR BIBLE STUDIES, THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US AND TO GET YOUR NAME ON THE LIST FOR OUR NEXT BIBLE STUDY, STARTING IN SEPTEMBER.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE ATTENDED ONE OF OUR STUDIES, PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE NEXT BIBLE STUDY COMING TO ST. CLETUS IN SEPTEMBER.

“MARY, A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER”

IN THIS STUDY, WE WILL FOLLOW MARY AS A YOUNG GIRL THROUGH HER LIFE AS THE MOTHER OF OUR LORD

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT CHERYL BORGS MILLER AT 636-751-6592 OR CBORG413@YAHOO.COM

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON AUGUST 8!
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

How does it work?

Members meet once a week for prayer, planning, and discussion in the day chapel. Then they do two hours of definite work each week in pairs and under the guidance of our spiritual director.

Who can belong?

The Legion of Mary is open to all Catholics who: Faithfully practice their religion; Are animated by the desire to participate in the Church’s apostolate through membership in the Legion; Are prepared to fulfill each and every duty which active membership in the Legion involves.

How do I start?

The first step is to be a guest at a meeting of the Legion of Mary. Guests are always welcome. Meetings are on Thursday nights 6:30 - 8:00 in the day chapel.

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. against the New York Mets. The tickets will be sold for $25 a piece and will be available at the Parish Office and the School Office. One bonus... we will also be leading the fans in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game." Any questions? Please contact our Director of Liturgical Music at mstrathman@saintcletus.org

"For any parishioner that buys 4 or more tickets, you will be entered into a raffle for a pre-game field visit for 4 members of that winning group. If you buy 6 or more tickets, you will also be included in a raffle for 2 box seats tickets for a game of your choice alongside two pre-game field visit passes. There will also be give-a-ways with t-shirts, bobble heads, and hats available after purchase."

**19th Annual Priests and Religious Appreciation Dinner**

Join us Monday, September 12th at St. Joseph Parish – Cottleville to celebrate vocations to the religious life and show our appreciation to our priests and religious.

Rosary for Vocations at St. Joseph Parish at 4:30PM
Mass for Vocations at St. Joseph Parish at 5 PM (Celebrant Bishop Mark Rivituso)
Banquet at Piazza Messina following Mass
Keynote Speaker: Father Charles Samson
"The Priestly Vocation in and from the Holy Land"
Banquet tickets: $55
Proceeds support our Seminarians and Serra vocation programs.
Call Gerry Deken (636-926-8445) or Geoff Waldron (636-578-7011) for tickets

ALL NEW Volunteers and Employees for St. Cletus School and any children’s programs that hold meetings at St. Cletus Church must attend a Protecting God’s Children Workshop. There is one scheduled here at St. Cletus on Tuesday, August 22, in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm. Please register at https://www.preventandprotectstl.org;
Enter passcode: stlprotect when prompted and then follow their steps.

Plan to attend if you would like to volunteer in ANY school activities or Parish programs for children.
Please email Mary Peters: mpeters@saintcletus.org with any questions.
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 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/ Mt 13:44-46
Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/ Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/ Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9