



St. Cletus School
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La Grange, IL

The Cardinal Connection



News for St. Cletus School Alumni and Friends

Year-end 2010

School Welcomes New Principal

Everyone wants to “make a splash” when starting a new job—but no one expects to land in a flood.

Just weeks after Terri Langellier became St. Cletus’ new principal, much of the school was flooded by an all-night rain storm that began on Friday, July 23. Early the next morning, she was at the school with the parish facilities staff to help with the cleanup and repair process. Working closely with the facilities team and Father Bob Clark over the next four weeks, the school opened as planned on August 24.

“It was an exciting way to start,” Mrs. Langellier remarked later. A native of Burbank, IL, she aims to build on the successes of Jolene Hillgoth, who retired after five years as our principal. Most recently Terri was Assistant Principal at Sts. Cyril & Methodius School in Lemont. She has taught at Horace Greeley Elementary School in Chicago and has coached volleyball at Moraine Valley



Community College, Mother McAuley High School, and elsewhere. She has a master’s degree in Instructional Leadership from Loyola University Chicago and graduated from Mundelein College with a double major in Education and Psychology/Social Welfare.

Terri and her husband Larry have been married 16 years and have two children, Lexi, age 10, and Kyle, 8. The family enjoys camping and other outdoor activities.

“St. Cletus is a great school and parish to be part of,” she said recently. “The sense of pride is evident in all we do. Everyone has gone out of their way to welcome me into their families. The faculty and staff are hard working and dedicated. The wonderful reputation we have is also due to our outstanding alumni. One of my long-term goals is to have a strong and active alumni association. We need to continue finding new, creative ways to connect with our alumni.”

Your Support Matters!

We are excited to announce our new “Give Five” Alumni Program. This annual appeal asks alumni to donate \$5 for every year since their graduation from St. Cletus. It’s a great way to re-connect with the St. Cletus community and directly support today’s students and faculty.

To keep Catholic education as affordable and accessible as possible for all our school families, St. Cletus historically has charged significantly less for tuition than the real cost of education per student. As a result, there is a gap in income that must be filled. After the parish investment

in the school, our Annual Fund is the primary means of meeting the school’s operating needs each year, and the most fundamental way you can support the mission of St. Cletus School.

On behalf of our students, teachers, and staff, we ask that you **please give as generously as you can** to the 2010-11 campaign. For information on donation opportunities, please see the reply envelope included in this newsletter, or go to stcletusschool.com, find “Support Our Annual Fund” at the bottom of the page, and **click “Learn More.”** Your support of St. Cletus School is sincerely appreciated. St. Cletus is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations and gifts are tax-deductible to the extent of the law. You will receive a confirmation of your gift and recognition in our annual report.



St. Cletus School ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

Alumni, You’re Invited to These Events!

2011	Event	Location
Sun 1/30	School Open House	St. Cletus School
Fri 2/4	St. Cletus Bowling Night	Forest Lanes, Lyons
Sat 2/5	Erin Potts Volleyball Tournament	Morrissey Hall (gym)
Sun 3/6	Confirmation (H.S. sophomores)	St. Cletus Church
Sat 3/19	Cardinal Royale & Spring Auction	Bella Banquets
Sat 4/9	Cardinal Pursuit Trivia Night	Morrissey Hall (gym)
Sat 5/7	First Holy Communion	St. Cletus Church
Sat 5/14	Confirmation (8th and 9th graders)	St. Cletus Church

Alumni Women who Like to Play Volleyball:

We want you to play in a special game to kick off the 2nd annual Erin Potts Invitational!

Friday night, 2/4/11
(Time TBD)

\$20 donation per player includes “EPI” T-shirt. All proceeds to the Sarcoma Foundation

Contact
suerej@sbcglobal.net
or (708) 334-0237

Alumni of **all** ages and abilities welcome!

Questions? Call the school office at (708) 352-4820.

2010 Fall Sports Shine at St. Cletus

Our Cardinal athletes made us proud again this fall. Thank you to all coaches, parents, students, staff, and volunteers who showed what sportsmanship and teamwork mean.

Football: Varsity Head Coach John Shepley and JV Head Coach Ed Farnan both led their squads to records of 4-4 in the Suburban Parochial Football League. The season was highlighted by Varsity wins of 32-8 vs. St. Joan of Arc and 30-13 vs. Our Lady of Peace.



Cross-Country: Coach Ann Okkema's 5th and 6th grade boys repeated as SPL Division A Champions, the 7th grade boys placed 5th out of 26 schools, and eight girls also competed for St. Cletus this year.

8th Girls Basketball, led by Coach Bill Boyle, worked hard all season and had their best game against St. Isaac Jogues at the SPL Tournament.

7th Girls Basketball: Coach Dave Sipek's team

made it to the SPL Tournament semifinal and ended the season with an overall record of 8-8. One of their best games was vs. George Washington JHS in the Hodgkins tourney.

6th Girls Volleyball: Coached by Sue Rejdowski, both squads finished in the middle of their leagues' standings. All players had a lot of fun while improving their skills.

5th Girls Volleyball: Coach Michelle Mitchell's 15 girls had a winning season and improved greatly. They also served as "ball girls" at a DePaul women's volleyball match.

Cheerleading: Coach Kelly Ryan's team, with nearly 30 girls from the 8th and 7th grades, kept spirits high on the Cardinal side at St. Cletus football games this fall. Their cheers and routines were the heart of the all-school pep rally on Homecoming Friday.

Intramural Soccer: Organized by Lukasz Majewski and Brian Kapusta, students in grades K-4 got a kick out of their afterschool games, refereed by our older students.

60 Acts of Kindness for Anniversary

On Sunday, January 30, St. Cletus School begins "60 Acts of Kindness," a program of service projects in honor of the 60th anniversary of St. Cletus Parish.

Our "60 Acts" will continue throughout 2011, and asks all 20 of our classrooms to plan and implement about three service projects each, and to participate in a few all-school projects as well.

By calling on students to brainstorm their own project ideas, we hope to give them a sense of ownership that will encourage their compassion and creativity. All projects will be tracked and many will be featured in school publications. Alumni and friends who would like to help with the "60 Acts" program should contact Heather Alpe via e-mail (heather@thealpes.net). We look forward to celebrating St. Cletus with 60 kind acts!

Survey Shows Interest in Upgrading School

This fall's parish survey confirmed that the St. Cletus community sees the need to improve our school facilities.

More than 96% of the 585 completed surveys came from registered parishoners, two-thirds of whom are or have been affiliated with our school or the parish religious-education program.

58% of respondents 'agree' or 'strongly agree' that our campus needs improving. 30% of the surveys cited upgrading the education building as the most compelling need, while 26% opted for the gym and other athletic facilities as the top need. 23% see better meeting space(s) as the most urgent need.

A feasibility study and project prioritization is now under way, and will be followed by focus groups. More updates on the school's facility plans are coming soon.

A FUN NIGHT
OF GAMES,
AUCTIONS,
MUSIC &
FOOD!



Play Texas Hold 'Em, Roulette, and other exciting casino games!

SC School Families: You could win the equivalent of a full school year's worth of tuition for one child!

Live Jazz music by Outcast!

TO BENEFIT ST. CLETUS SCHOOL
SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011
BELLA BANQUETS, COUNTRYSIDE
7:00 PM TO MIDNIGHT

RSVP, become a Sponsor,
or Donate Auction Items:
www.stcletusschool.com/auction
or: auction@stcletusparish.com

Please tell your friends and neighbors who have school-age children:

Sunday, Jan. 30: School Open House, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Teacher Marion Powers Remembered

Mrs. Marion Powers, a St. Cletus teacher for approximately 30 years, died March 8, 2010. Her son David wrote to us saying, "I believe she began at St. Cletus in 1961 as a third-grade teacher, and later taught junior-high history, social studies, and religion. She had a special passion for teaching Chicago history and culture, and led many field trips to the 'ethnic neighborhoods' of Chicago, where students got to explore the city life, culture and restaurants.

"Her students have fond memories of how fun-loving she was on their graduation trips to Six Flags in St. Louis. On one trip she and Deacon Cedric were thrown into a swimming pool by 8th grade boys. My current dentist was a student of hers and loves to remind me of the clothes she would wear on those trips: the quintessential '70s pants suit and her 'foxy lady' T-shirt."

David also notes that several St. Cletus alumni and teachers have shared stories of Marion on legacy.com, and he invites others to do the same.

Cardinals of All Ages Flock to Community Events

St. Cletus School families love coming together for big, fun events. So it's no surprise that despite some rain, Cardinal students, parents and staff marched proudly in the June 5 Pet Parade in La Grange (left).



And on October 2, some 600 party-goers enjoyed our third annual Oktoberfest, featuring German food, drinks, music and a *kinderplatz* for children (right). The more than \$30,000 raised will go to our early-childhood education program, new math books, updated language-arts curriculum, school technology, teacher training, and more. **Thank you to all** who attended or volunteered. Please join us in October 2011 for our next Oktoberfest celebration at St. Cletus!

