

# St. Cletus Football



## Recap of the 2009 Varsity football season

The 2009 season was a historic year for the Red and Black. The Cardinals were led by a strong eighth grade. A class built on leadership and athletic talent. They were helped by a Seventh Grade team that filled in the holes superbly. Our team did so well because of their depth. This was the first year during my tenure we had a competitive B team. The back up players pushed our starters to Championship caliber.

The Fighting Cardinals started the season with the challenge of three road games against strong opponents. They came back to Bennett Field 2-1. The Boys had a solid victory against St Isaac's 40-0. The Cardinals finished the regular season against cross-town rival, St Francis. It was a hard fought battle that ended with a loss. Our boys dug a hole early and climbed out with a close comeback. Both sides played well during this contest.

The St Francis game was a true testament for our Saint Cletus Cardinals; 1, A TEAM that never quit and always finished strong. 2, a hard hitting team that punished their foes every week. After each game I would go over and talk to the head coach from the other team. Each one of them told me how hard our team hit. That is a compliment to the boys and our coaching staff.

We entered the playoffs with a payback game against the mighty Falcons. It was another hard fought battle, but God and all the Angels and Saints cheered for a CLETUS victory. The victory sent St Cletus to the championship game against a very strong team from Joan of Arc.

The skies were gray at the College of Dupage. The leaves added a beautiful backdrop to this late October game. The winds were slight and a fine mist filled the air in the final moments of the contest. The boys of Cletus played hard and never quit. They lost in overtime. Another reason to cheer these young men, they didn't hold their heads down and pout. The Cardinals acted like the Gentlemen our faith community can be proud of.

Did you notice I never mentioned a player's name? It would be easier to type the name of the player who didn't help this team, because there isn't one. SAINT CLETUS is the name on the jersey and this team wore it well. I am so proud of the young men who worked hard in the Fall of 2009.