

ST. ALPHONSUS - ST. CLEMENT PARISH

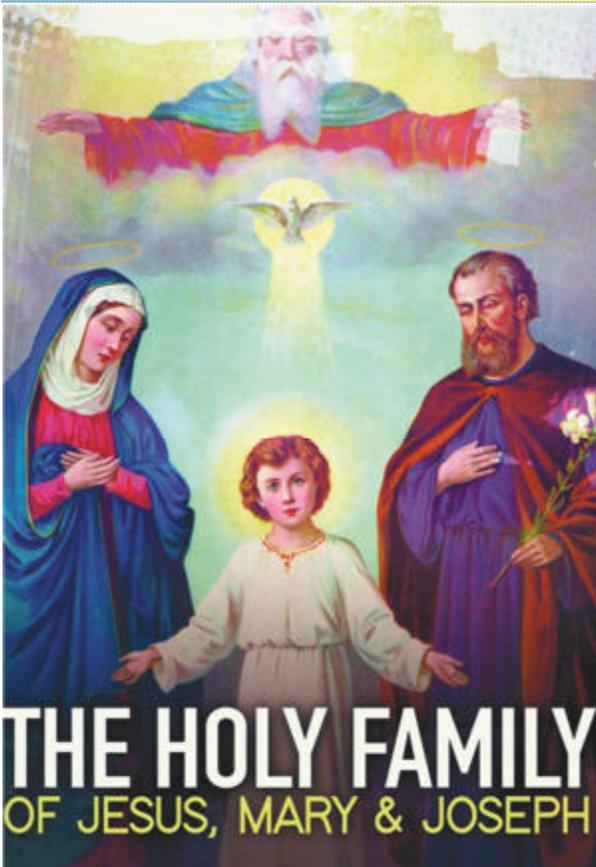
Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Alphonsus - St. Clement, are called by Jesus Christ to know Him and celebrate His Word. Sustained by the sacramental life rooted in the Eucharist, we reach out in service to all through faith, love, and fellowship.

Fr. Linus Kinyua, Pastor

Fr. Gregory Deters, Associate Pastor

DECEMBER 27, 2020



Tragedy and disappointment are inevitable. What sees you through this? There will be challenges, changes, unexpected circumstances, interrupted plans, hurts, and injustices experienced by every human being at some point in their lives. We will be asked to adjust our plans, change course, and even encounter suffering and death. Where do we learn all of the lessons we need to live life well? Some of them we learn along the way but much of what we bring to life, positive and negative, comes from our early beginnings, our families. This is our early world and provides the blueprint for how we see the bigger, more inclusive world, which unfolds before us.

Our families of origin can be sources of grace, heartache or a combination of both. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication, and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. They can also determine whether we have an accessible and healthy relationship with God. Many of life's challenges can literally bring us to our knees and require that we possess a strength of character that resides well beyond the superficialities of our world. At some point we will all need three coping gifts that can be given to us only by God: faith, hope, and love. Our families help us learn that we are not the ones responsible for their creation, but God!

Our experience of early family life colors all of our relationships and what we expect to achieve from life in general. Resolving conflicts, dealing with difficulty and suffering, celebrating accomplishments, prioritizing our needs, listening to God's

call, understanding relationships, understanding disappointment, learning about the virtues and living a centered focused life are all lessons our families either succeed in teaching or do not. To succeed, as God has designed and ordered our world, is to discover his presence and then trust that Presence. The Holy Family can teach even the most dysfunctional family how to best use God's gifts of faith, hope, and love to find him and do his will. Their simple humble example is always before us, showing us the way.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

Mary Mother of God Mass Schedule—NOTE: NO 8:30 am Mass Dec. 31 and Jan. 1

Dec. 31 Morning Mass 9:00 am (No 8:30 am Mass)
Mary Mother of God Vigil 7:00 pm

Jan. 1* Mary Mother of God 9:00 am HFV, 9:00 & 11:00 am St. Alphonsus-
*January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation St. Clement Church

Mass Intentions for the Week**Saturday, Dec. 26** 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+Tom Santocke by Wife
 +Charlie Makaroff by David Parrello
 +Madeline Ballard by Madeline Prokop
 +Deacon Steve & Carol Bussa
 Spec. Int. Sr. Margaret Urban

Sunday, Dec. 27

9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Greg

+Deacon Steve & Carol Bussa

9:00 am Fr. Linus

+Linda Villeneuve (ann) by Pat Durham
 +Walter Wiacek by Wife
 +Deacon Steve & Carol Bussa

11:00 am Fr. Linus

+Sr. Mary Willard by LIFT
 +Rick Anthony Ventura by Mom
 +Nicu Fratilla by Wife
 +Eduardo Yglesias by Family
 +Deacon Steve Bussa
 Living & Deceased Members of LIFT

Monday, Dec. 28 8:30 am Fr. Greg

+Ruth Belli by Neighbor

Tuesday, Dec. 29 8:30 am Fr. Linus

Health & Healing Bill Arella

Thursday, Dec. 31 9:00 am Fr. Greg

+Stanley Ziarniak by Wife

7:00 pm Fr. Linus

Living & Deceased Parishioners

Friday, January 1

9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus

Living & Deceased Residents of Henry Ford Village

9:00 am Fr. Greg

+Sylvia Kumor by Family
 Spec. Int. David Parrello by Friend

11:00 am Fr. Greg

Living & Deceased Parishioners

Saturday, Jan 2 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+John R. Zak by Family
 +Richard, Stella & Frank Rzepka by Family
 +Judith Kilian by M. Filip
 +Irene Jakubiak by Norma Ziarnik
 +Deacon Steve & Carol Bussa
 Spec. Int. Voran Family

Sunday, Jan. 3

9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Greg

+Henry Wenzel by Wife
 +Deacon Steve & Carol Bussa

9:00 am Fr. Linus

+Mary McNeely-Taylor by Family
 +Dorothy Davis by Norma Ziarnik
 +James & Margaret Blair by Family

11:00 am Fr. Linus

+Charlie Ruffin by Wife, Grace
 Spec. Int. Natalie Genevieve Ochmanek by Papa



Please join us each Monday at 6:30 pm to recite the Rosary and pray for our world. We meet in Fr. Yagley Hall.

**New Year Holiday Office Hours**

Office will be **CLOSED December 31 and January 1** and will reopen January 4 at 9:00 am. May the peace, joy and love of Christ reign in your hearts now and in the coming year. A blessed 2021 to all!

One

One tree can start a forest; One smile can begin a friendship, One hand can lift a soul; One word can frame a goal; One candle can wipe out darkness; One laugh can conquer gloom; One hope can raise your spirits; One touch can show you care; One life can make the difference, be that One today.



Please remember in your prayers the souls of **Deacon Steve Bussa, Alvin Addison and Filiberto D'Agostino.**

May they be wrapped in the loving arms of our heavenly Father and may God grant His peace and consolation to their families and friends.

Monetary Christmas Gifts

All donations marked as "Christmas" are not assessed the 7% Archdiocesan tax. Your gift remains with the parish 100%. Your gift will be recorded on your family donor statement for the year it was received.

Acts of Spiritual Communion



It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving

Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sin that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

May God grant you peace and health during this time of great and unprecedented need. I pray you find comfort in knowing that God will never leave nor forsake you.

Pray for the Sick of the Parish. St. Joseph, help of the sick, pray for them.

Luigi Aronne, Eugene Bernard, Kathleen Bitonti, Louis & Giorgina Cascardo, Maria Cercone, Catherine Cody, Jerry Coogan, Barb Delgado, Evelyn Derengowski, Betty Fisher, Betty Fucinari, Mary Furioso, Peggy Goodart, Geri Haddad, Thomas Horvath, Jeranne Jackson, Margaret Javor, Virginia Karvelis, Marie Kobane, Kimberly Kucel, Walter Kucel, Jan Lawrence, Robert Lijaj, Jan Majewski, Tony Mardarski, Phyllis Marek, Bernadine Mistor, Mary Mitchell, Lois Mueller Kavanaugh, Theresa Mullen, Frank Palmeri, Maria Nino, Henry Perle, Jennifer Przepiora, Diane Raymond, Serafina Romano, Pearly Ruffin, Dana Slepsky, Margaret Smith, Rosario Aleta So, Judith Stafford, Greg Stawara, Chuck Stevens, Martha Stott, Marcy Tarlow, Albert Toccaceli, Joshua Yeager, Christine Zemke, The Parishioners of HFV Assisted Living and Health Care.

Please notify the Parish office for changes to our prayer list.



Thank you to all who donated flowers that decorated the Church throughout this Christmas season. For those of you who sent in names of loved ones to be remembered/honored, know that they are indeed remembered in our prayers

throughout this Christmas season and will be specifically remembered at the Masses on January 9-10. We are sincerely grateful for helping to make our church beautiful for the **Coming of our Savior, Jesus.**

We would like to take this opportunity also to thank each of you who helped with the many preparations required for our Christmas celebration. Thank you for the wonderful gifts, cards and prayers generously given to use here at St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Parish.

We would be remiss if we did not thank St. Vincent de Paul volunteers who so generously gave of their time to make the Giving Tree outreach a success. Thanks to our Parish community who so generously gave gift cards and cash to purchase gift cards for the less fortunate. Your care and concern for those in need came through and sharing your blessing made the lives of so many a little brighter during this Christmas Season!

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK—While families come in all shapes and sizes and no two are the same, they all need a common focus and grounding. Families are intended to be pivotal in providing us with a proper social structure and understanding, a support system, lessons about relationships and communication and the unconditional acceptance and love we so desperately crave. In addition to all of these things, the axis of every family has to be centered on faith. It is here that we can learn about the virtues and discover the windows to God Himself in His gifts of faith, hope, and love. We can learn, modeling our experience after the Holy Family, how to use these as anchors in our lives so that we can live out the other virtues with greater integrity. Because our human families struggle with weakness and sin, we have to come back to the Holy Family often for inspiration and guidance. In the bond of love that they shared, they clung to the anchor of God Himself and endured challenges far greater than many we will ever face.



We have received a communication from Archbishop Vigneron regarding the dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass. The dispensation is extended until **February 17, 2021**.

We encourage you to come and join your parish family in celebrating Mass on Sunday. Sunday Mass and keeping the Lord's Day holy, is still an obligation for all. Those who are in compromising health conditions i.e. immune compromised, the elderly, recent travel out of state, not feeling well, heart or lung disease, diabetes are asked to still stay home. However, healthy individuals, will be required to keep the Sunday obligation. What does that mean?

If you do not attend Mass you still have an obligation to watch Sunday Mass by live-stream, television or other means, to keep holy the Lord's Day. Many folks are now transitioning from being isolated in their homes to becoming involved in more public activities following all of the protocols necessary to be safe and healthy. **Catholics who engage in other activities that would present a similar or greater risk of contamination** (eating out at restaurants, traveling, non-essential shopping, widening one's circle of contacts, engaging in sports activities as a participant or observer etc.) **should begin to return to Sunday Mass as they are able.** "How can I repay the LORD for all of His goodness..." (Psalm 116:12).

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Parish, has been following all of the safety and health protocols established by the state, i.e. requirement of wearing a mask, social distancing, disinfecting the church after each service. Therefore, one should feel safe returning to Mass on Sunday. Currently, we are still required to allow only 25% capacity for public worship. We have not reached attendance capacity at the scheduled Masses.

We continue to worship at the usual Mass times, **Saturday 4:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** If for some reason you still do not feel comfortable attending the Sunday Mass, there are still opportunities to attend **daily Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 8:30 am.** Confessions are held on Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

We ask you continue to use common sense, stay healthy and safe, and "repay the Lord for all of His goodness! Fr. Greg and I Miss YOU!

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these times a decade from now? As time goes by, our impressions of this past year will certainly change. How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all. I would assume that most of us right now are also holding those we love a little closer and hugging them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has given us so much, great and small, profound and common. One of the greatest gifts that all have received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes and some look very different than others. For some, family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song from many years ago, "people need people." When God gave the world His only Son, the Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if having a family wasn't important God would have still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your stewardship many days begins and ends with the people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even to His only begotten Son.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~



Feast of Mary, Mother of God...January 1

This Feast helps us focus on Mary as the Mother of God. The readings tell us at least three things about Mary as a mother. First, Mary is described as a reflective person, keeping the reports of the shepherds in her heart. Second, we are reminded of how obedient Mary was to God when she named the baby Jesus as the angel Gabriel had directed. Third, this reading shows Mary

and Joseph faithfully observing their Jewish tradition by having Jesus circumcised.

Because of Mary's faithfulness to God, she was able to receive the gift of God's Son and accept her role in God's plan for salvation. By doing so, she models for us the path of discipleship and is also called Mother of the Church.

Readings for the Week of Dec. 27

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Monday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18
Friday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

If you have not done so, we invite you to register in the Parish. Being a member of St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Parish gives you a home. Please complete a registration form located at the exits of the church and drop in the collection basket or call the office 313-581-5218. Thank you.

Check Out Our New Website

Our new and improved parish website contains current parish information. Please visit us at www.stals-stclem.org for the latest details.

Stewardship Report

	<u>w/e 12/13/2020</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$3,068*	\$102,591*
HFV Chapel	\$385	\$14,396
ACTUAL*	\$2,453	\$116,987
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$120,000
Bank Adjustment		
VARIANCE	(\$1,547)	(\$3,013)
Catholic Charities	\$25	SVdP \$125
Christmas	\$12,563	
Capital Improvements	\$2	
Religious Retirement	\$4,813	
Immaculate Conception	\$631	
Christmas Flowers	\$363	

*Includes On-Line Giving Dec. 13 \$870

To give on-line, please register on the Parish Website.

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Parish

Church: 13540 Gould St., Dearborn, MI 48126
 Office: 7469 Calhoun St., Dearborn, MI 48126
 Office Phones: (313) 581-5218 ~ 581-7495
 Fax: (313) 581-4233
 Parish Website: stals-stclem.org
 Email: info@sta-stc.comcastbiz.net

Henry Ford Village Chapel

15101 Ford Rd., Dearborn, MI 48126
 Phone: (313) 846-7712 ext. 1121

Devotions

ROSARY: Monday 6:30 pm (Father Yagley Hall).
PERPETUAL HELP: Tuesday 9:00 am.
HOLY HOUR: 2nd Wednesday 7:00 pm (HFV Chapel)
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: 1st Friday 9:00 am.
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3 pm, or by appointment.
BAPTISM: Registered Parishioners should call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.
MARRIAGE: The couple must make arrangements at least 6 months prior to date of marriage.
WEDDINGS: Fridays preferred; Saturday, prior to 1 pm.

Parish Staff

Pastor: **Rev. Linus Kinyua**
 Associate Pastor: **Rev. Gregory Deters**
 Pastoral Minister: **Sr. Margaret Alandt, IHM**
 Accountant: **Dawn Peters**
 Housekeeper: **Denise Paniccia**
 Maintenance: **Frank Bechard**
 Organist: **Lawrence Zelanka & Adam Morency**
 Secretary: **Marilyn Filip**

Parish Council

John Savage, Chairperson
 Annette Fiedor, Vice-Chairperson
 Jennie Sinatra, Secretary

~ Parish Council Members ~

Barbara Bechard, Colleen Charara,
 Matthew Keller, Karen Krepps
 Chester Lawrence,
 Debra Mrocza and Joseph Sullivan

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9 am until 3 pm;
 Friday: 9 am until Noon.



Whenever your address, phone number or family status changes, please be sure to contact the parish office and update your information with us. It is important that we keep our parish records up to date. Phone 313-581-5218.

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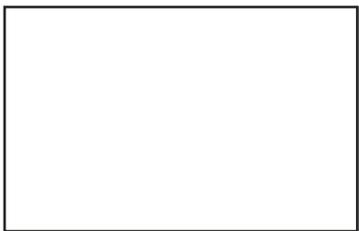
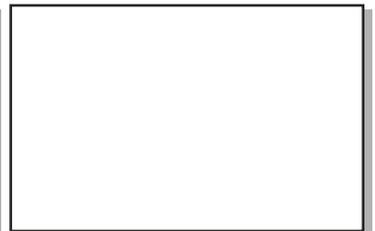

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