



ST. ALPHONSUS - ST. CLEMENT PARISH

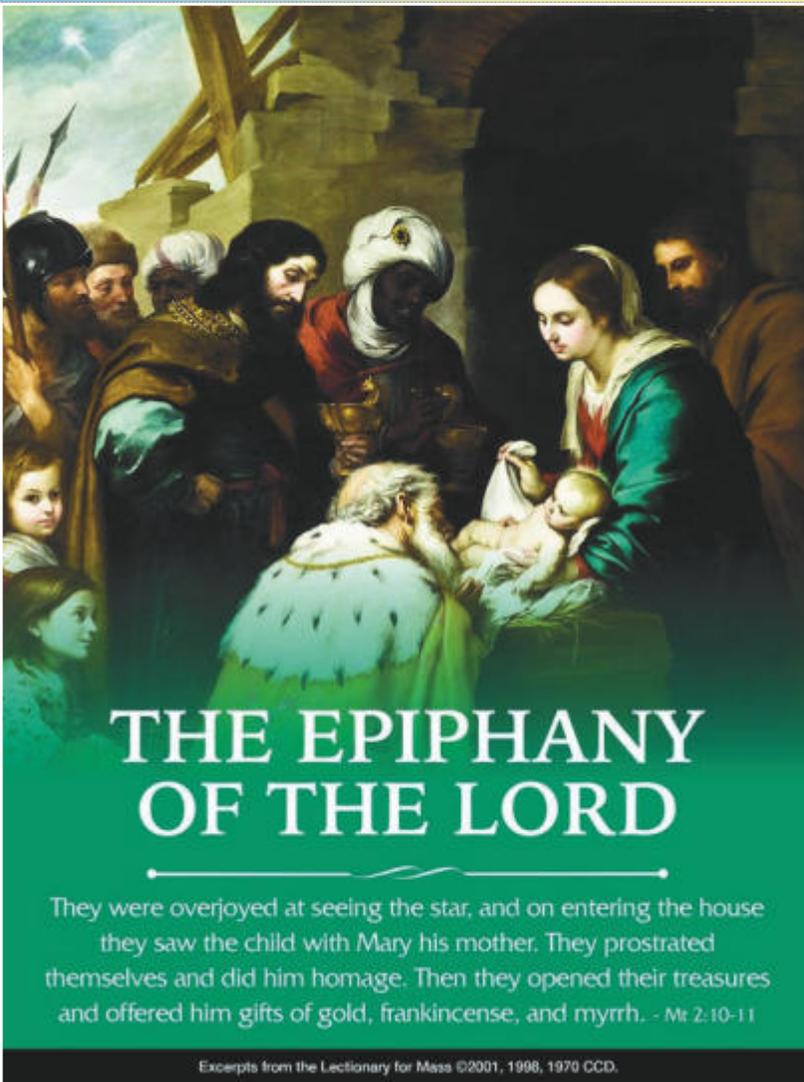
Mission Statement

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

JANUARY 3, 2021



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

“Where is that thing?” mumbled Bob as he searched frantically on his dimly lit desk for the current electric bill. “I know I put it right on top of these papers this morning!” Growing in frustration and bordering on anger, he flies stuff around, moves books and opines why simple tasks need to be so hard. Enter his wife, who calmly says, “Maybe it would help if you put the light on, dear.” The desk light goes on and lo and behold, there is the electric bill right where Bob left it earlier. All it took was a little light!

We stubbornly refuse to turn on the lights! Either we are distracted, determined, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Or perhaps, we fail to do the obvious. We would rather live our lives with the dimmest of lights or even in total darkness. Why are we afraid to do something so that we can actually see? It might help us to find quicker and better answers to problems, the meaning of life, relationships, happiness, and what is ultimate truth. Yet, we stumble along, moving things from one side to the other, getting angry, feeling cheated, being unsettled, resigning ourselves to the agony of defeat once again.

“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.” The light has come into the world in the person of Jesus Christ! We no longer have to fumble in the darkness. We have been gifted with the illumination we need to see our way

through things and find what we really are looking for. All these years later, however, so many are still reluctant to accept him. Perhaps they are unconvinced, disinterested, preoccupied, stubborn, apprehensive, or all of the above. Everyone has their own reason for not wanting to turn on the switch.

But there are so many answers to so many of our problems in this humble Child of Nazareth. A simple birth teaches us about God’s tender wedded relationship with humanity. It speaks to the expanse of God’s salvation across the globe, and the incarnate Divine wonders and blessings that are a part of our life moment to moment. It calls us to understand the design of world order God intended as found in the Beatitudes, the sacredness of every human life and all of creation and the meaning of things we struggle with most, like suffering and death. We have a lot of Good News to share, not just with a privileged few but with all the world. All races and creeds can receive God’s healing word. God continues to manifest himself even now!

Use the light to find what you are really looking for!

Mass Intentions for the Week**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

Monday, Jan. 4 8:30 am Fr. Linus

+Decd. Members of Filip Family

Tuesday, Jan. 5 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Decd Members of St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Parish

Thursday, Jan. 7 8:30 am Fr. Greg

+Stanley Ziarniak by Wife

Friday, Jan. 8 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Spec. Int. Gregory Stawara by Family

Saturday, Jan. 9 4:00 pm Fr. Linus

+Charlie Makaroff by Tammy Vitalis
 +Francesco & Florence Parrello by Family
 +Sr. Mary Willard by Madeline Prokop
 +Elio, Naomi & Agnese Puzzuoli by Family
 Hlth & Healing Gary Carroll by Family
 Spec. Int. Those Named on Christmas Flower Donation

Sunday, Jan. 10 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus

Living & Deceased Members of Chapel
 Spec. Int. Those Named on Christmas Flower Donation

9:00 am Fr. Greg

+Adam & Mary Szura by Family
 +Chester & Helen Pietraz by Family
 Spec. Int. Those Named on Christmas Flower Donation

11:00 am Fr. Greg

+Antonio & Adelina Marcantonio by Family
 Living & Deceased Members of Frank & Anna Ferris
 Spec. Int. Those Named on Christmas Flower Donation



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

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

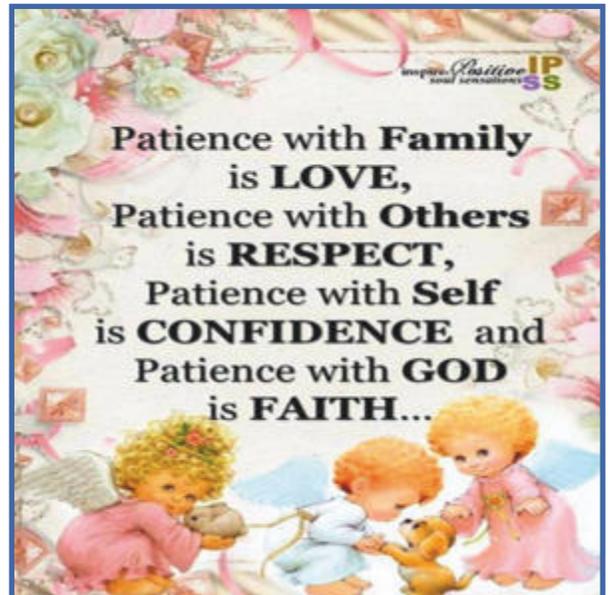
Even the slightest flicker of a light helps to properly orient us when we find ourselves in total darkness. Being in darkness can be unsettling and even a bit unnerving. We lose our focus and struggle to find our bearings and achieve balance. On life's journey we may think we are walking in the light but are really lingering in darkness. We do not see the full picture, either because we are distracted, disinterested, or even apprehensive. Sometimes, we even choose to close our eyes when the light is readily available to illuminate our path. Do we really desire to know the truth of who we are? In Jesus Christ, a light has been given to those who dwell in darkness. God's revelation gives us the light to see where we come from, who we are and where we are going. It also tells us that this Good News is not meant for just a privileged few but is intended to go out to all the world. Is this something we want to see?



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold., frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor

Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

**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.



St. Raymond of Penyafort, Feast Day Jan. 7 Priest, c. 1175–1275

*Patron Saint of canon lawyers and medical record librarians
The law, scripture, the Church, and love work harmoniously together.*

St. Raymond's life shows an admirable synthesis of traditional piety and devotion, service to the Church, obedience to his superiors, love of theology, dedication to his Order, and respect and love for the law. To know, love, and follow the law is not contrary to charity. When kept, the law promotes charity and protects the weak, the poor, and the ignorant from being taken advantage of. It takes very smart and holy people to protect simple people and bad people from themselves. Saint Raymond was smart and holy. He laid his gifts at the altar of God, and God used those gifts splendidly. *St. Raymond, teach us to see the law of God and the law of the Church as one harmonious law meant to foster true communion among men and true communion between God and men. May God's law be our law. And may the law never be an obstacle to true love and devotion.*



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 Wise Men See God in the Simple Things

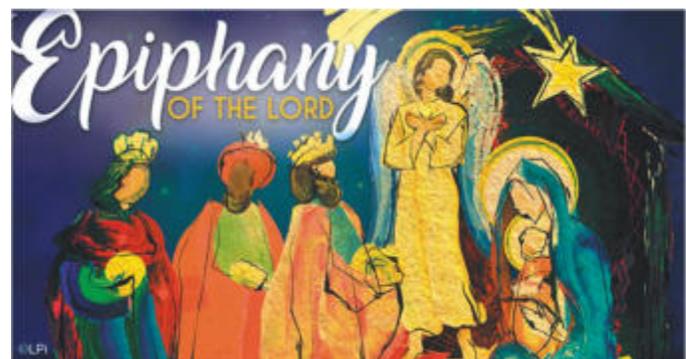
If you're on social media, you have probably seen a meme going around that features this quote: "God has a plan for your life. The enemy has a plan for your life. Be ready for both. Just be wise enough to know which one to battle and which one to embrace."

There were certainly two competing plans for the Magi: God's and Herod's. And, wise as they supposedly were, it wasn't entirely easy for the Magi to discern which was which. After all, Herod posed as a friend. He offered the Magi hospitality and kindness. Though the Gospel doesn't say so, he probably flattered them and appealed to every moral weakness he could observe in them. In his palace, they must have felt great physical comfort — rest and tables of plenty on what was an otherwise long and treacherous journey.

But if the Magi were honest with themselves, I'll bet they would have admitted that, regardless of Herod's charm, they felt a gnawing sense of doubt while in his presence. When they looked upon the Christ Child, born in a stable without any of the comforts of the world or protections of wealth, they probably felt the opposite. They probably felt safe.

The Magi were lucky enough to have the right plan spelled out for them in a dream, but for the rest of us, it's enough to remember this: God's plan is often the one that leads us to places of great simplicity, great humility and great love. Let's have the wisdom to view power with suspicion, and innocence with admiration.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~



Prayer for Epiphany

Dear Jesus, as You led the Three Kings to You by the light of a star, please draw us ever closer to You by the light of Faith. Help us to desire You as ardently as they did. Give us the grace to overcome all the obstacles that keep us far from You. May we, like them, have something to give You when we appear before You. Amen

Readings for the Week of Jan. 3

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
 Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a [8ab]/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:34-44
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Mk 6:45-52
 Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17 [cf. 11]/Lk 4:14-22a
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Lk 5:12-16
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 3:22-30
 Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

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 12/20/2020</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$2,122*	\$105,083*
HFV Chapel	\$30	\$14,426
ACTUAL*	\$2,152	\$119,509
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$125,000
Bank Adjustment		
VARIANCE	(\$2,848)	(\$5,491)
Christmas	\$2,525	
Religious Retirement	\$93	
Christmas Flowers	\$90	

*Does Not Include On-Line Giving

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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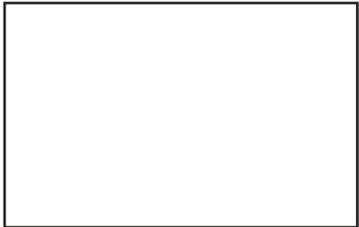

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