

# ST. ALPHONSUS - ST. CLEMENT PARISH

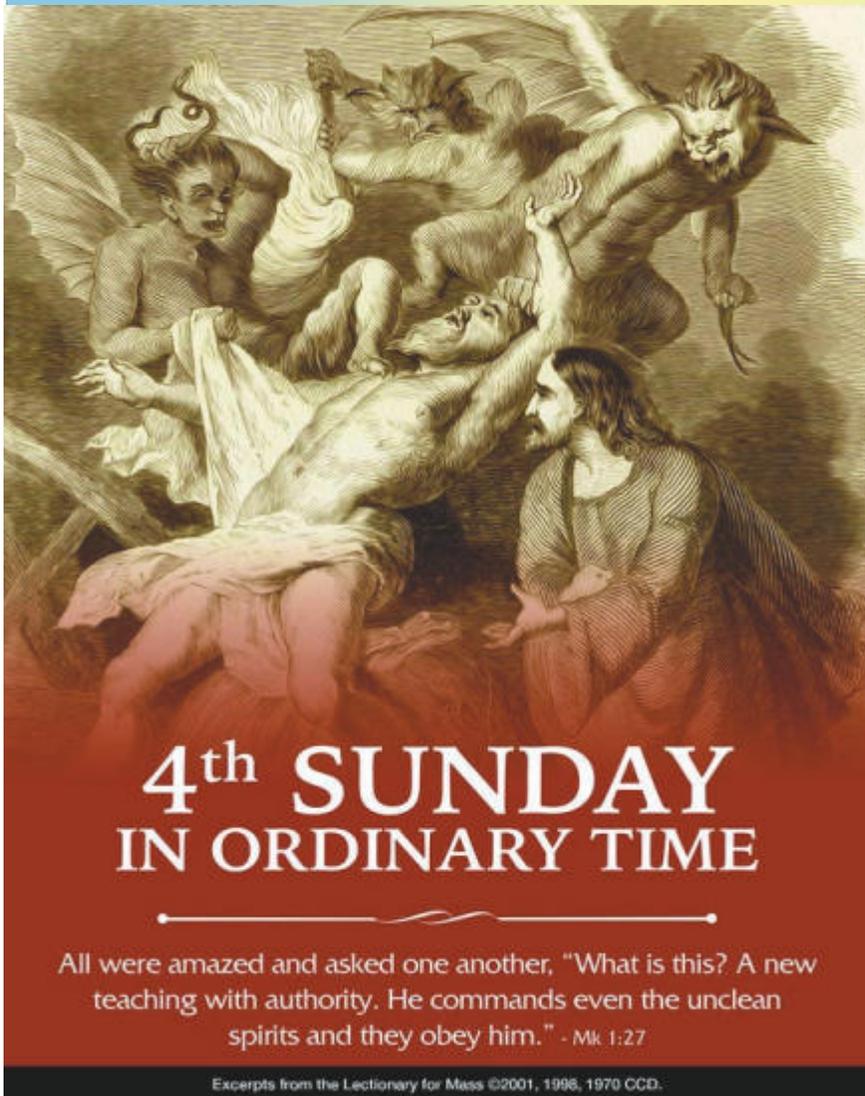
## Mission Statement

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 31, 2021



## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

All were amazed and asked one another, "What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him." - Mk 1:27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD.

Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope and an example of holy living.

We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause,

write books or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended Mt Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.



Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, Jan. 30** 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+Khalil Batayeh by Julie Rohr & Ken Jodouin  
 +Steve & Carol Bussa by David & Celeste Gilmartin  
 +John Gleeson by David & Celeste Gilmartin  
 +Catherine Millon (ann) by Daughter  
 Spec. Int. Margot Millon by Pat Durham

**Sunday, Jan. 31**

9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Greg  
 Living & Deceased HFV Community

9:00 am Fr. Linus  
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

11:00 am Fr. Linus  
 Living & Deceased Parishioners

**Monday, Feb. 1** 8:30 am Fr. Linus  
 +Ashli Babbitt by Friends

**Tuesday, Feb. 2** 8:30 am Fr. Greg  
 +Helen Skiba

**Thursday, Feb. 4** 8:30 am Fr. Greg  
 +George Azzopardi

**Friday, Feb. 5** 8:30 am Fr. Greg  
 +Sylvia Kumor by Family

**Saturday, Feb. 6** 4:00 pm Fr. Linus  
 +Barbara Rudnicki by Cathy Reuter  
 +Tom Santocke by Wife  
 +Michael & Jessie Kogut by Family  
 +Bernard & Leo Ruddy by Family

**Sunday, Feb. 7** 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus  
 +Henry Wenzel by Wife

9:00 am Fr. Greg  
 +Stanley Ziarnik by Wife  
 +Chester & Helen Pietraz by Family  
 +Joseph J. Bobowski by Family  
 +Sophie Hudinski by Family  
 Spec. Int. Rosemary Zobeck by Family

11:00 am Fr. Greg  
 +Norman & Shirley Burger by Family  
 Living & Deceased Members of Frank & Anne Ferris  
 Health & Healing Vincenza Arrigone by Bonanno Family



In the Gospel today we read that because Jesus spoke with authority his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into actions by helping the poor and suffering.

**Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?**

**WHY DO WE DO THAT?  
 CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED**

**Question:** I get annoyed with myself when I am distracted while I pray. Is it a sin? How can I be more attentive?

**Answer:** The mind is a marvelous and complex thing, producing amazing thoughts, images, wisdom and inspiration. Yet at times it is like a two-year-old: it does not follow directions, does what it wants and loves to tell us "no!" This is probably the oldest and most common problem in the spiritual life-dealing with distraction. It comes in all forms: good intentions forgotten, wandering thoughts at Mass, daydreaming, etc. A little poem says it all: When the soul begins to pray, the brain always wants to play!

There are many ways to handle distractions. If we are distracted by thoughts about our families or friends, we should pray for them. If we lose our focus, we need just "re-collect" ourselves. If some worry or concern just won't leave our mind, then we deal with it and come back to prayer or make it part of our prayer. And when words just won't come, the only prayer we might offer is our presence, our suffering, and our desire to be close to the Lord. Most importantly, we need to be patient with ourselves. These things are not sinful, but reminders of our human frailty. Our weaknesses and good efforts are all acceptable to God, who reads the love in our hearts and the good intentions of our minds.



**Online Mass from  
 St. Alphonsus – St. Clement**

Every weekend mass is now available online from St. Alphonsus-St. Clement. In this way those who are unable to attend mass in person during the pandemic can remain connected with our parish family by participating in the mass online.

The 4:00 PM Saturday masses are being streamed live and are available for viewing on our YouTube channel. The mass is also being recorded and can be viewed anytime afterwards. Click on the link for the mass on the homepage of the parish website

[www.stals-stclem.org](http://www.stals-stclem.org)



### 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.**

Bill Arelka, Luigi Aronne, Eugene Bernard, Kathleen Bitonti, Louis & Giorgina Cascardo, Maria Cercone, Catherine Cody, Jerry Coogan, Theresa Dean, Barb Delgado, Evelyn Derengowski, Betty Fisher, Marco Frattarelli, Betty Fucinari, Mary Furioso, Peggy Goodart, Geri Haddad, Thomas Horvath, Jeranne Jackson, Margaret Javor, Angela Jones, Virginia Karvelis, Madeline Keller, Marie Kobane, Becky, Kohaen, 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, Martha Stott, Marcy Tarlow, Tina Threedy, Albert Toccaceli, Joshua Yeager, The Parishioners of HFV Assisted Living and Health Care.



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



**Right to Life -  
LIFESPAN**

### ***A Pro-Life Template, Part II***

Specifically focusing on the right to life, the trump Administration should indisputably form an international policy and messaging template for future pro-life platforms and Administrations. President Trump was the first president ever to speak at the March for Life and Vice President Pence was an annual fixture at the March. The Administration defunded the UN Population Fund, restored the Mexico City policy to prevent U.S. foreign aid from funding abortion and signed the Geneva Consensus Declaration with 32 other UN member states. This declaration stated that there is no international right to abortion and no international obligation to fund abortion. Serve the pro-life cause globally by becoming a member of LIFESPAN locally by calling 734-422-6230.



### **St. Agatha—Feast Day February 5**

As in the case of Agnes, another virgin-martyr of the early Church, almost nothing is historically certain about this saint except that she was martyred in Sicily during the persecution of Emperor Decius in 251.

Legend has it that Agatha, like Agnes, was arrested as a Christian, tortured, and sent to a house of prostitution to be mistreated. She was preserved from being violated, and was later put to death.

She is claimed as the patroness of both Palermo and Catania. The year after her death, the stilling of an eruption of Mt. Etna was attributed to her intercession. As a result, apparently, people continued to ask her prayers for protection against fire.

**Reflection**—The scientific modern mind winces at the thought of a volcano's might being contained by God because of the prayers of a Sicilian girl. Still less welcome, probably, is the notion of that saint being the patroness of such varied professions as those of foundry workers, nurses, miners and Alpine guides. Yet, in our historical precision, have we lost an essential human quality of wonder and poetry, and even our belief that we come to God by helping each other, both in action and prayer?

**Saint Agatha is the Patron Saint of:** Diseases of the Breast Nurses



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.**

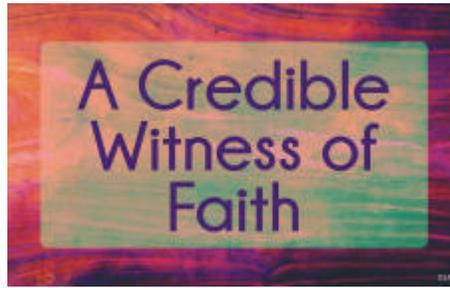
We encourage you to come and join your parish family in celebrating Mass on Sunday. Sunday Mass and keeping the Lord's Day holy, is still an obligation for all. Those who are in compromising health conditions i.e. immune compromised, the elderly, recent travel out of state, not feeling well, heart or 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 Embracing Change in Christ

It's officially one month since we popped the champagne, toasted 2021 and wrote down a

list of resolutions. This is usually the time when we start to take a good, hard look in the mirror to assess what we have done — or have not done — with the first month of this brand-new year.

New years can be scary, can't they? Full of promise, sure, but also full of room for failure. Full of space for our old baggage, old fears and the continuation of old mistakes.

The same can be said of Christ, and the new life he offers us, if we are brave enough to accept it. Opportunities like that can be intimidating. In that moment, we might find ourselves like the man with the unclean spirit crying out: "What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

Jesus is a comforter of the afflicted; he is a consoling figure, but he is also a challenging one. Sometimes we have grown attached to our afflictions. The idea of correcting bad habits or forming new ones is frankly terrifying to us. We have a voice deep inside who sees Christ and his invitation to repentance, and it cries out in fear: "I know who you are!" When we live in the present, disavowing the baggage of the past or fear of the future, we submit ourselves to the promise of redemption. Let us be brave everyday stewards and invite Christ's healing power into our lives. We won't regret it — I'm sure the demoniac never did.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~

### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Most of us are not trail blazers. Throughout history though, there have been many folks who tirelessly and persistently pursued the promptings of their hearts without giving any care to what others thought or trends dictated. Jesus is one of them. St. Teresa of Calcutta and St. Francis of Assisi are examples of others. The rest of us are people who take a more measured look at things, want to test the waters, and take our time choosing what path or person to follow. We need credible witnesses of faith. We need the Moses people in our lives to show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose-driven life looks like. They are the pointers to truth, who even though they struggle themselves, seem to embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and caught the attention of the greatest of skeptics. They were astonished. Even though we need our human prophets we can also be somewhat prophetic ourselves by putting integrity and conviction behind our embrace of the Gospel. Perhaps much to our surprise, we all have the power to be a credible witness. Are you willing to give it a try?"

**Readings for the Week of Jan. 31**

**Sunday:** Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28  
**Monday:** Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24 [25]/Mk 5:1-20  
**Tuesday:** Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32  
**Wednesday:** Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a [cf. 17]/Mk 6:1-6  
**Thursday:** Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11 [cf. 10]/Mk 6:7-13  
**Friday:** Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc [1a]/Mk 6:14-29  
**Saturday:** Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mk 6:30-34  
**Next Sunday:** Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-3

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](http://www.stals-stclem.org) for the latest details.

**Stewardship Report**

	<u>we 1/17/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$2,920*	\$117,891*
HFV Chapel	\$408	\$15,544
<b>ACTUAL*</b>	<b>\$3,328</b>	<b>\$133,435</b>
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$145,000</b>
Bank Adjustment		
<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>(\$1,672)</b>	<b>(\$11,565)</b>
Christmas	\$1,174	
Capital Improvements	\$60	

\*Includes On-Line Giving Jan 17 \$585

**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](http://stals-stclem.org)  
 Email: [info@sta-stc.comcastbiz.net](mailto: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:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 pm (HFV Chapel)  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday 9:00 am.  
**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday 3:00-3:30 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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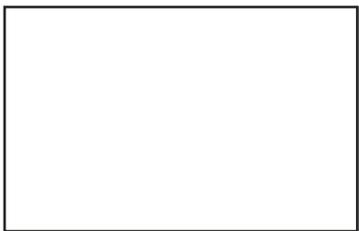
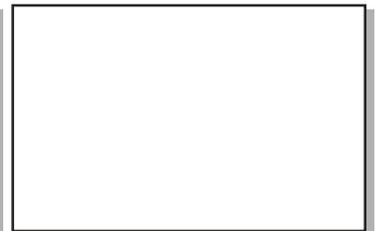
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