

ST. ALPHONSUS - ST. CLEMENT PARISH

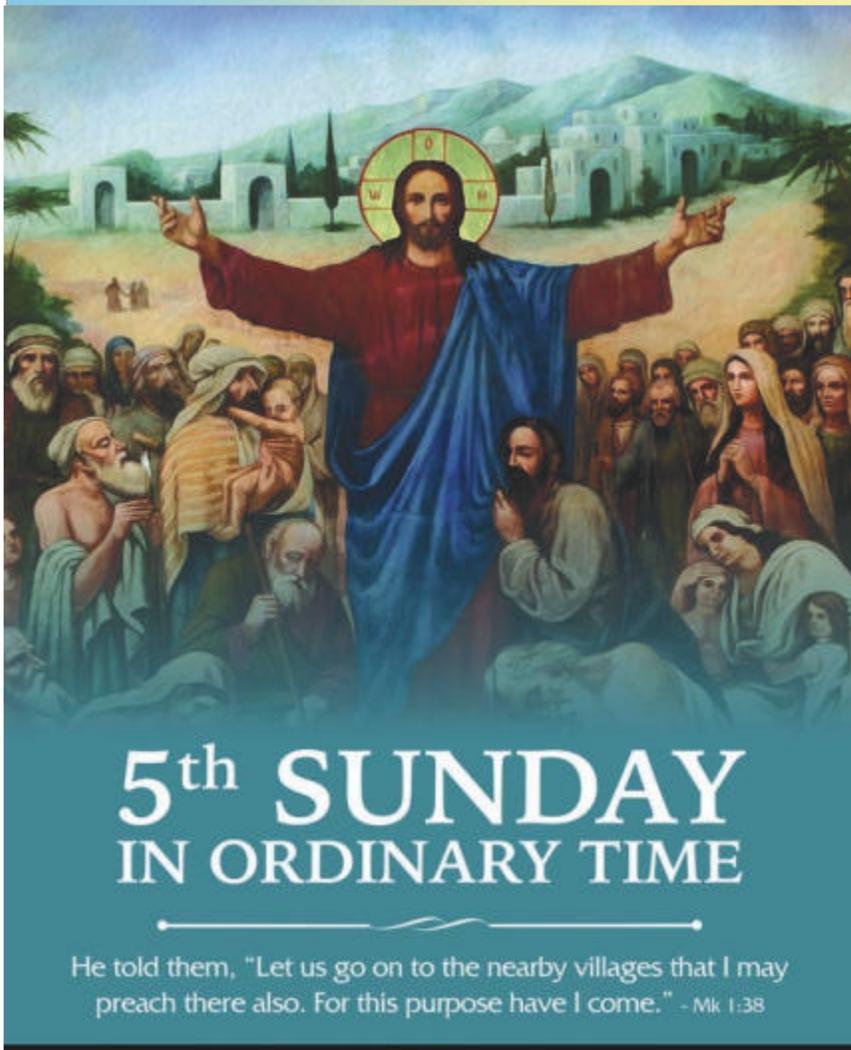
Mission Statement

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

FEBRUARY 7, 2021



If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ill life

can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.


Saturday, Feb. 6 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+Barbara Rudnicki by Cathy Reuter
 +Tom Santocke by Wife
 +Michael & Jessie Kogut by Family
 +Bernard & Leo Ruddy by Family
 +Grazia Mancini by Family
 +Khalil Batayeh (6 month ann) by Family

Sunday, Feb. 7 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Greg

+Henry Wenzel by Wife
 +Kathleen Mary Corrigan (ann) by Mary Eileen Hogan

9:00 am Fr. Linus

+Stanley Ziarnik by Wife
 +Chester & Helen Pietraz by Family
 +Joseph J. Bobowski by Family
 +Sophie Hudinski by Family
 +Steve Tellish, Sr. by Family
 Spec. Int. Rosemary Zobeck by Family

11:00 am Fr. Linus

+Norman & Shirley Burger by Family
 Living & Deceased Members of Frank & Anne Ferris
 Health & Healing Vincenza Arrigone by Bonanno Family

Monday, Feb. 8 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Decd. Members of Porco & DeLuca Family Members

Tuesday, Feb. 9 8:30 am Fr. Linus

+Fr. Stephen Rooney (Bday)
 +Rita Tarnacki by Kumor Family

Thursday, Feb. 11 8:30 am Fr. Linus

Health of Connie Krawczyk by M. Filip

Friday, Feb. 12 8:30 am Fr. Linus

+Patricia Livo

Saturday, Feb. 13 4:00 pm Fr. Linus

+Vincenzo Gallizzi (ann) by Family
 +Jerry Stawara by George, Kathleen Johnson & Family
 +Msgr. John Ballard by Madeline Prokop
 +Ed Reuter by Family
 +Tom Santocke by Wife
 Special Intention by Madeline Prokop

Sunday, Feb. 7 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus

Living & Deceased Members of Henry Ford Community

9:00 am Fr. Greg

+James & Margaret Blair by Family
 +William Millon (Bday) Pat Durham

11:00 am Fr. Greg

+Mary Senn by Shawn & Kathy Roskosky



In the Gospel today, we find that Jesus would rise very early before dawn and go to a deserted place to pray and then he went out to preach and to heal.

Please pray for the poor and suffering, knowing that you are bringing the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Question: Is it ever Ok to leave Mass before it ends?

Answer: This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift — the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament — and that we are to share that gift with others.

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship — and communion in the fullest sense — and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

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

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.



The Presentation of the Lord—Feb. 2

At the end of the fourth century, a woman named Etheria made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Her journal, discovered in 1887, gives an unprecedented glimpse of liturgical life there. Among the celebrations she describes is the Epiphany, the observance of Christ's birth, and the gala procession in honor of his Presentation in the Temple 40 days later. Under the Mosaic Law, a woman was ritually "unclean" for 40 days after childbirth, when she was to present herself to the priests and offer sacrifice—her "purification." Contact with anyone who had brushed against mystery—birth or death—excluded a person from Jewish worship. This feast emphasizes Jesus' first appearance in the Temple more than Mary's purification.

The observance spread throughout the Western Church in the fifth and sixth centuries. Because the Church in the West celebrated Jesus' birth on December 25, the Presentation was moved to February 2, 40 days after Christmas.

At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration, giving the feast its popular name: Candlemas.

Reflection—In Luke's account, Jesus was welcomed in the temple by two elderly people, Simeon and the widow Anna. They embody Israel in their patient expectation; they acknowledge the infant Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah. Early references to the Roman feast dub it the feast of Saint Simeon, the old man who burst into a song of joy which the Church still sings at day's end.

Heavenly Father, we come before You to lay our fear and anxiety at your feet. When we are beset by worries, fears and panic, let us remember Your power and Your grace. Wash us with Your peace as we trust in You and You alone. We thank You for being our strength and our God in whom we trust. In Jesus' name, Amen.



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 Audacity of Holiness**

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~



Lenten Services

ASH WEDNESDAY—FEB. 17

Henry Ford Village Chapel at 9:00 am Service

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church Mass 9:00 am and 7:00 pm

Ashes will be given at all three Services/Masses

Friday Stations

Henry Ford Village Chapel 2:30 pm

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church 5:30 pm

Could you walk a mile in Jesus' shoes?

The Stations of the Cross bring us closer to Christ as we meditate on the great love Jesus showed for us in his most sorrowful Passion! We also seek the compassion of the Lord that we may love sacrificially as he did.



Fast and Abstinence

Catholics, age 14 and older, are required to abstain from meat on **Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.**

On **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**, Catholics, age 18-59 must also fast, limiting themselves to one full meal with the other two not to equal a full meal.

Readings for the Week of Jan. 31

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 1:29-39

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

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 1/31/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$2,376*	\$125,704*
HFV Chapel	\$1,287	\$16,937
ACTUAL*	\$3,663	\$142,641
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$155,000
Bank Adjustment		
VARIANCE	(\$1,337)	(\$12,359)
Eastern Europe	\$30	
Christmas	\$1,100	
Capital Improvements	\$159	
Easter Flowers	\$30	
Catholic Relief Services	\$30	

*Does not include On-Line Giving

To give on-line, please register on the Parish

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 3:00-3:30 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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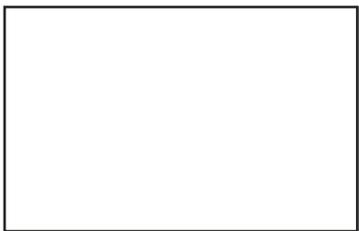
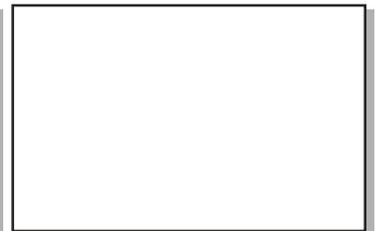

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