

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

MARCH 14, 2021



Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spir-

itual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift that flows out of God's unconditional Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news.

St. Oscar Romero said that, "a church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?" When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world. There is a widespread misery among the peoples that is all too often allowed to fester with no one coming forward to offer a change or resolution. (Continued in next column)

The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God's good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, "we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the "what is to come." Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin.

Lenten/Easter Schedule

Communal Penance Service with Individual Confession

Mar. 23 St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church 7:00pm
Mar. 24 HFV Chapel 7:00pm

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper

HFV Chapel 2:30 pm
St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church 7:00 pm
With Adoration until 10:00 pm

Good Friday Service

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church—Stations at noon immediately followed by Service
HFV Stations at 2:30 Service at 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Blessing of Easter Food Baskets 11:00 am
St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Easter Vigil 7:30 pm

Easter Sunday Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord

HFV Chapel Mass 9:00 am
St. Alphonsus-St. Clement Church 9:00 am and 11:00 am

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Mar. 13 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+John Zak (ann) by Family
+Tom Santocke by Wife
+Bernard & Leo Ruddy by Family
+Charlie & Doris Makaroff by Kumor Family
+John Pietrandrea by Family

Sunday, Mar. 14 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Greg

+Patricia Henry
+Pete & Esther Souchock by Family

9:00 am Fr. Linus

+Mary Senn by Kathy Reuter
+Stanley Ziarnik by Wife
Spec. Int. Anita Durham by Pat Durham

11:00 am Fr. Linus

+Norman & Shirley Burger by Family
Spec. Int. Families of Adam & Mary Szura
+John Pietrandrea by Family

Monday, Mar. 15 8:30 am Fr. Greg

+Vincenza Arrigone (Bday) by Family

Tuesday, Mar. 16 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Deceased Riccio Family Members

Thursday, Mar. 18 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Health & Healing Mary Salamon by Family

Friday, Mar. 19 8:30 am Fr. Greg

Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

+John Bonanno by Family

Saturday, Mar. 20 4:00 pm Fr. Linus

+Maria Leonetti (Bday) by Family
+Tom Santocke by Wife
+Bernard & Leo Ruddy by Family
+Sr. Willard by Laura Salagan
+Frank & Teresa Fucile by Family

Sunday, Mar. 21 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus

+Frank & Sophie Korejwo by Angie Korejwo

9:00 am Fr. Greg

+James & Margaret Blair by Family
+Irene Kerr by Jackie Johnston

11:00 am Fr. Greg

+Anne Kovach by IHM Girls
Living & Deceased Members of Frank & Anne Ferris

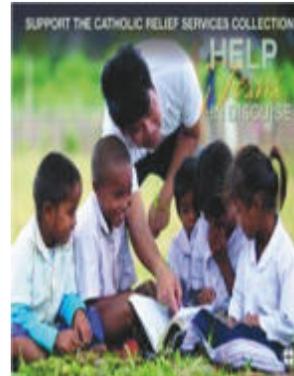
Friday Stations

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.



This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help Jesus in disguise. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around

the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Parish Council Meeting



The Parish Council will meet virtually at 7:00pm on Monday, March 15. Any parishioner wishing to attend the meeting can do so by contacting the Parish Office with your email address. A link to the meeting will be sent to you.

Right to Life—LIFESPAN

32nd Annual LIFESPAN Baby Shower benefiting the Lennon Center, this weekend.

Please consider donating to support mothers and newborns. Donated items for the Baby Shower can be brought to the church. **Please make any checks payable to: The Lennon Center.** Gift suggestions: lightweight sleepers (3, 6, 9 mons), short sleeve onesies (3, 6, 9 mons), socks, receiving blankets, rib sheets, diapers (1 & 2), towels, pacifiers, bottles, bibs, baby lotions and shampoo, gift cards and cash donations.

Stations of the Cross are livestreamed every Friday beginning at 5:30 pm. Click the link for the Stations on the homepage of the parish website.

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 Arella, 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, Tom Graf, Kurt Grozner, Geri Haddad, Thomas Horvath, Jeranne Jackson, Margaret Javor, Virginia Karvelis, Madeline Keller, Marie Kobane, Becky, Kohaen, Kimberly Kucel, Walter Kucel, Jan Lawrence, Robert Lijaj, Jan Majewski, 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.



Saint Patrick's Story

Legends about Patrick abound; but truth is best served by our seeing two solid qualities in him: He was humble and he was courageous. The determination to accept suffering and success with equal indifference guided the life of God's instrument for winning most of Ireland for Christ.

Details of his life are uncertain. Current research places his dates of birth and death a little later than earlier accounts. Patrick may have been born in Dunbarton, Scotland, Cumberland, England, or in northern Wales. He called himself both a Roman and a Briton. At 16, he and a large number of his father's slaves and vassals were captured by Irish raiders and sold as slaves in Ireland. Forced to work as a shepherd, he suffered greatly from hunger and cold.

After six years Patrick escaped, probably to France, and later returned to Britain at the age of 22. His captivity had meant spiritual conversion. He may have studied at Lerins, off the French coast; he spent years at Auxerre, France, and was consecrated bishop at the age of 43. His great desire was to proclaim the good news to the Irish.

In a dream vision it seemed "all the children of Ireland from their mothers' wombs were stretching out their hands" to him. He understood the vision to be a call to do mission work in pagan Ireland. Despite opposition from those who felt his education had been defective, he was sent to carry out the task. He went to the west and north—where the faith had never been preached—obtained the protection of local kings, and made numerous converts.

Because of the island's pagan background, Patrick was emphatic in encouraging widows to remain chaste and young women to consecrate their virginity to Christ. He ordained many priests, divided the country into dioceses, held Church councils, founded several monasteries and continually urged his people to greater holiness in Christ.

He suffered much opposition from pagan druids and was criticized in both England and Ireland for the way he conducted his mission. In a relatively short time, the island had experienced deeply the Christian spirit, and was prepared to send out missionaries whose efforts were greatly responsible for Christianizing Europe.

Patrick was a man of action, with little inclination toward learning. He had a rock-like belief in his vocation, in the cause he had espoused. One of the few certainly authentic writings is his *Confessio*, above all an act of homage to God for having called Patrick, unworthy sinner, to the apostolate. There is hope rather than irony in the fact that his burial place is said to be in County Down in Northern Ireland, long the scene of strife and violence.



Saint Joseph March 19

Saint Joseph is important because of the role he played in the lives of Jesus and Mary—and ours. Like so many saints, we don't need a lot of data to realize the significance of his life.

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a “just” man. The quality meant

a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God “justifying” someone, it means that God, the all-holy or “righteous” one, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really “right” for God to love him or her. In other words, God is not playing games, acting as if we were lovable when we are not.

By saying Joseph was “just,” the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God.

The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he wooed and won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage.

It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he decided to divorce Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this “quietly” because he was “a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame” (Matthew 1:19). The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage.

Reflection

The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple (Luke 2:41–51). Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus' mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn't believe that he came from such humble beginnings: “Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary...?” (Matthew 13:55a). It was almost as indignant as “Can anything good come from Nazareth?” (John 1:46b).

Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments Awake, O Sleeper!

This morning came a little earlier than I would have liked — Daylight Savings Time always does. Sometimes that morning sunlight seems more intrusive than illuminating. You're still half-lost in sleep, and that sun is demanding of you a lot more than you're ready to give. I've said it, and I'm sure you've said it, too. “Just five more minutes.” You hit the “snooze” button on your iPhone once (maybe twice? Show of hands?) and turn away from the window.

So many kings of the Old Testament were steadfast in their sleepy ways, rejecting the light their God tried to share with them. Likewise, John tells us that, though Light — Christ — was sent into the world, the world preferred darkness.

Sometimes it seems, when reading through Scripture, that all throughout salvation history, God has been trying to pull back the curtains, to rouse us from our defiant slumber. And we resist Him. Time and time again, we resist Him.

Light brings a certain responsibility with it. It seems to compel productivity. Furthermore, there's no hiding in the light. Any photographer worth his salt knows how to manipulate it, highlighting the good and casting some merciful shade on the bad.

As we enter into the fourth week of Lent, we're getting so close to the main event. Can we handle the light that will come on Easter morning, bursting into the tomb as the stone is rolled away? Can we keep ourselves from hitting the “snooze” button on our souls, and sit up to face the dawn of a new day? ~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~



One March 7,
**Harper
Eloise White**
was welcome
to the family of
God.

May God protect you all the days of your life with the Helmet of Salvation, the Sword of the Spirit, the Shield of Faith, the Breastplate of Righteousness, the Belt of Truth and the Shoes of the Gospel of Peace.

Readings for the Week of March 14

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/
Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or
9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and
13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18
[8a]/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
[37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/
Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/
Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
[12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or
Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/
Jn 11:1-45 or

Stewardship Report

	<u>w/e 2/28/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$3,940*	\$143,745*
HFV Chapel	\$1,527	\$19,963
ACTUAL*	\$5,467	\$163,708
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$175,000
Bank Adjustment		
VARIANCE	\$467	(\$11,292)
Church in Eastern Europe		\$164
Capital Improvements		\$2,064
CRS		\$24
Easter Flowers		\$49
2020 Christmas		
Actual	\$73,157	
Budget	\$70,000	
Surplus	\$3,157	
2020 CSA		
Paid	\$66,931	
Goal	\$37,343	
Anticipated Refund	\$29,588	
Families 507		
Pledges 138		
Average Pledge	\$505.47	
Thank you for your generosity!		

*Includes On-Line Giving Feb. 28 \$465

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 3:00-3:30 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 Mroczka 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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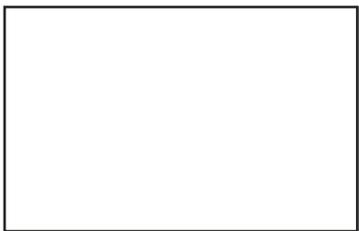
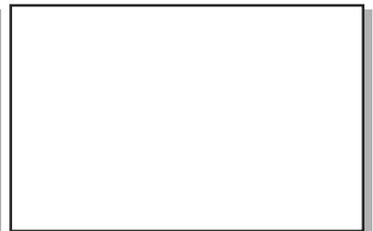

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