

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

MAY 1, 2021



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

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

"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that "feelings" have become a "new

god" and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 1 4:00 pm Fr. Linus

+Tom Santocke by Wife
Spec. Int. Sandy Jankowski & Penny Thomas by Madeline Prokop
Spec. Int. Joe & Judy Betro (Wed ann) by Madeline Prokop
Health & Healing Jimmie & Julie Long by M. Filip

Sunday, May 2 9:00 am (HFV Chapel) Fr. Linus

+Henry Wenzel by Wife
+Jerome M. Mominee by Family & Friends

9:00 am Fr. Greg

+Anthony Rizzo, Sr. (ann) by Family
+James & Margaret Blair by Family
+Joseph Bobowski by Family
+Sam Phillips by Family

11:00 am Fr. Greg

+Adam & Mary Szura by Family
+Nicu Fratila by Wife
+Tony Polo by Joseph Sullivan
+Casimer Draus by Joseph Sullivan
Health John Lodwig by Louie & Giorgina Cascardo & Family

Monday, May 3 8:30 am Fr. Linus

+Virginia Mann by Kathy Heimiller
+Tony Polo by Friend

Tuesday, May 4 8:30 am Fr. Linus

Health & Healing Louie & Giorgina Cascardo by Bonanno Family

Thursday, May 6 8:30 am Fr. Linus

Health John Lodwig by Marilyn Filip

Friday, May 7 8:30 am Fr. Linus

+Sylvia Kumor by Family

Saturday, May 8 4:00 pm Fr. Greg

+Tom Santocke by Wife
+Caterina Gallizzi by Family
+Santina Bonanno by Family
+Irene Gusfa by Daughter, Carmella
+Greg Schimizzi by Bonanno Family
+Tony Polo by Friend

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

+Mary McNeely-Taylor by Family

9:00 am Fr. Linus

+Irene Tellish by Family
+Chester & Helen Pietraz by Family
+Deceased. Members of Rizzo & Cipolla Families

11:00 am Fr. Linus

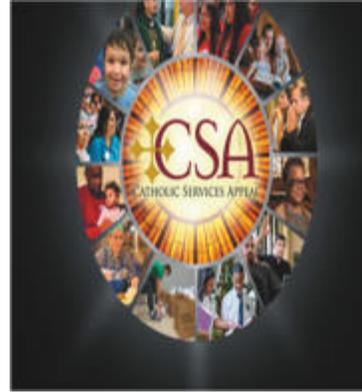
+Shirley Burger by Family
+Anne Kurowski by Ron Kurowski
+Salvatore & Rosa Policicchio by Family
+David Policicchio by Family



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.



Each year we have the opportunity to unleash the Gospel through our Catholic Services Appeal. The valuable ministries, programs and services our CSA funds benefit so many in our parish and across the Archdiocese of Detroit and

beyond. When we support the CSA, together we Fuel the Mission to unleash the Gospel.

St. Alphonsus-St. Clement will take up the Catholic Services Appeal during Masses on CSA Weekend. You will soon, if you haven't already, receive information about the CSA from Archbishop to join him in supporting the CSA-funded ministries, programs and services. We invite all parishioners to reflect on God's blessing in their lives and make a pledge to our 2021 CSA as Christ's disciples.



Wishing a colorful, fun and festive Cinco de Mayo to our Mexican-American Parishioners.



Born into Eternal Life

Irene Rains, whose funeral was April 24

May she share in Christ's eternal glory with the Blessed Mother and all the Saints. We ask God to grant His peace and consolation to her family and friends.



The Sanctuary Lamp is burning this week in memory of Anthony Rizzo, Sr.

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, Theresa Dean, Barb Delgado, Evelyn Derengowski, Betty Fisher, Marco Frattarelli, Betty Fucinari, Mary Furioso, Peggy Goodart, Tom Graf, 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 Palmieri, Maria Nino, Henry Perle, Jennifer Przepiora, Diane Raymond, Serafina Romano, Pearly Ruffin, Dana Slepky, 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.

Recognize God In Your Ordinary

Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be

"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch. Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too.

It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree. ~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK—Anyone familiar with gardening knows that proper and timely pruning is essential. The health of the plant depends upon it. An unpruned tree can quickly produce suckers that zap many of the essential nutrients from its body. Pruning requires patience and vision. Studies reveal that plants often respond defensively to being pruned, displaying reactions that are similar to hurt or discomfort. Pruning is not easy but necessary. A hard lesson for us to learn is that we also need to be pruned. We become far healthier when we allow God to stretch, refine, and form us into the best version of ourselves. The fruit that then comes from our vines will be more abundant, nutritious, and robust. Left to our own devices we can easily find ourselves running amuck and spiraling out of control. Without a proper vision and trust in the Master Pruner, we will never find the contentment we desperately desire. Nor will the work of the Gospel stand a chance of succeeding.

Saint Joseph— Man of the Year
Dec. 8, 20-Dec. 8, 21
Symbols of St. Joseph



Carpenter's Square or Tools—In the few descriptions the Bible gives us about St Joseph, we do learn that he is a carpenter by trade. In his life raising Jesus, Joseph also teaches Jesus his craft to use to earn a living. Even though the saw is often used, it's doubtful it was his primary tool since most of their work was with stones at the time and place. His work was closer to what we would associate with a mason.



Sleeping Saint Joseph—There are icons and images of Joseph sleeping. While this may look like an odd action or pose for sacred art, it's deeply rooted in the few things we know for certain about Saint Joseph from Sacred Scripture. In two separate occasions, we see that God speaks to Joseph through an angel in his dreams

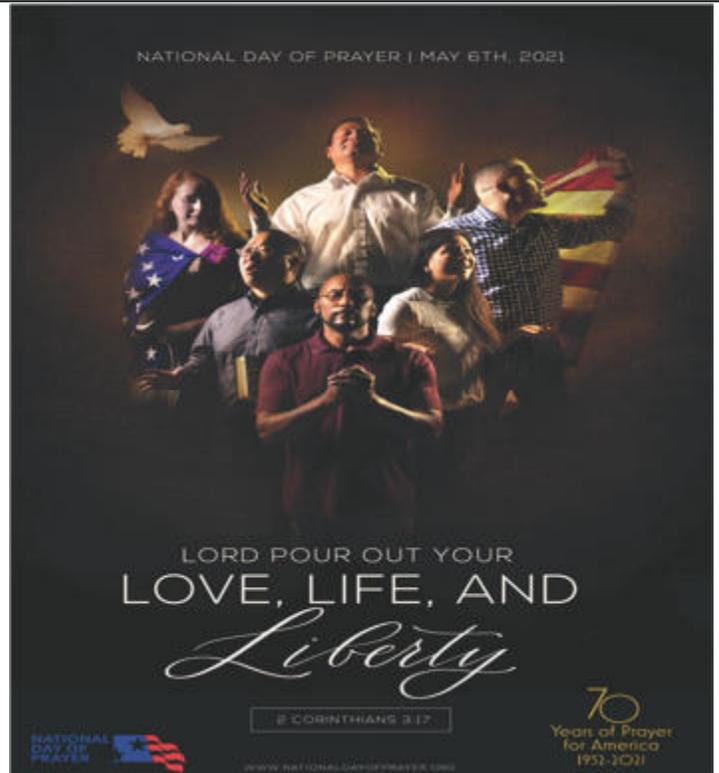
(Matthew 1:24 and Matthew 2:14,21,22). Joseph was a hard worker, and even in his sleep, he works to pursue the will of the Father. Pope Francis made this image more popular recently admitting he often places his requests for St Joseph under the sleeping Saint Joseph for him to hear and act through intercession.

The letter "J"—This is obviously for his name, and it might seem unoriginal at first. It's interesting to note that Jesus name also begins with a J when spelt out in most languages, but it's never used to represent the Lord.

Pair of Turtle Doves—This is a rare symbol for Saint Joseph recalling the pair of turtle doves that Mary and Joseph had to use for their humble sacrifice at the presentation of Jesus (Luke 2:24). This was only used by Jews that were too poor to afford a larger sacrifice, and reminds us that the Holy Family was

not rich in money.

"Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" (Revelation 4:8)



Lord, we look up and see the billions of stars You created, and we praise You. We look around and see the billions of people You created in Your image; uniquely, fearfully, wonderfully, and we thank You. Wrap us in Your Spirit and unite us in Your family, Lord.

Thank You for loving us first. In Your love for the whole world, You sent Your Son to save us.

Jesus, in You alone we have abundant and everlasting life. Thank you for teaching and leading us to love and live, fruitful, and faithful. In Your life, death, resurrection, and ascension You are our Lord, our love, our life, and our liberty. You came to "bind up the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to prisoners." You have freed us from the penalty and shame of our sin; free to live life as You designed and Your destiny for our Nation.

Spirit search us, convict us, as we repent for our sin and the sins of America. Please cleanse, fill, and send us. We rejoice, knowing that Your forgiveness makes us acceptable and effective vessels for Your love, life and liberty in our family, church, education, workplace, military, government, art, entertainment, and media.

We pray that America will be united in love to serve You with all our hearts, all our ways and all of our days. Unite us to pray, love; to live and walk by the Spirit. Conform and transform us as we pray and proclaim, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

We pray this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Readings for the Week of May 2

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



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 exists of the church and drop in the collection basket or call the office 313-581-5218.

Thank you.

Check out our parish website for current information at www.stals-stclem.org

Stewardship Report

	<u>w/e 4/18/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$4,445*	\$178,923*
HFV Chapel	\$707	\$26,126
ACTUAL*	\$5,152	\$205,049
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$210,000
Bank Adjustment		
VARIANCE	\$152	(\$4,951)
Capital Improvement		\$50

*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 3:00-3:30 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. You must be a registered/active parishioner for at least 1 year.

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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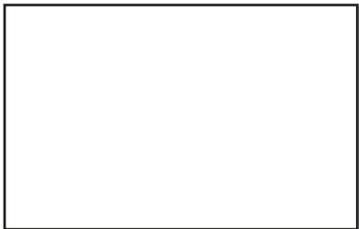
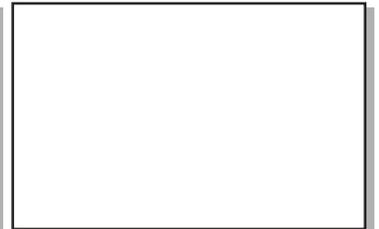

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