



# ST. ALPHONSUS - ST. CLEMENT PARISH

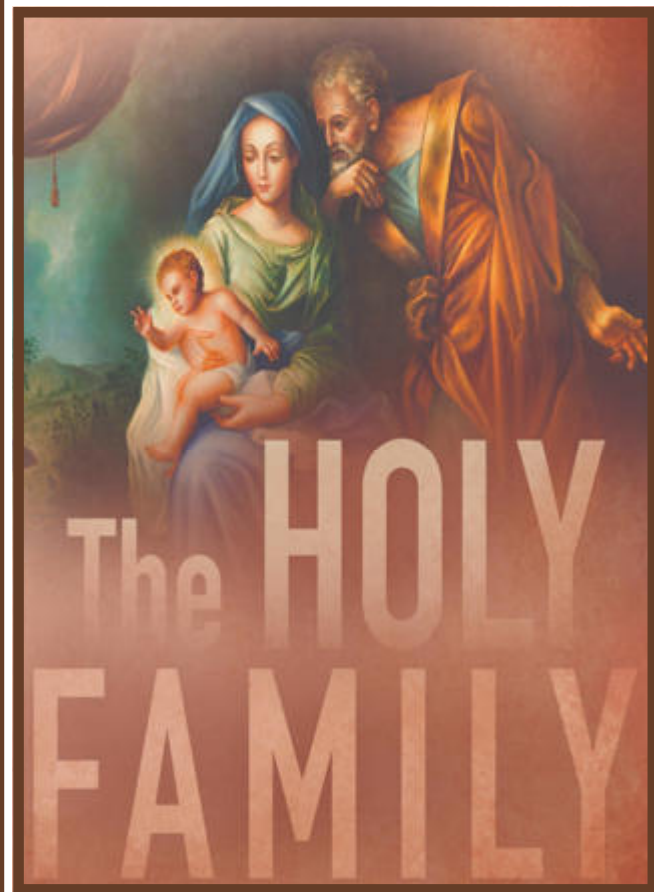
## Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Alphonse - 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

DECEMBER 26, 2021



Families can be very difficult things to negotiate. This is true not only of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our Church, our society, and our global family as well. Everything human can be found in family stories. Those stories speak of wonderful life-giving successes as well as painful spirit-robbing abuses. Our greatest joys and our greatest wounds are usually connected with the experience of family. Our needs, experiences, and unresolved baggage often color what we bring to our familiar relationships. They contribute to our level of defensiveness, how guarded and protected we become, and what prejudices we believe.

In order to break the cycle of dysfunction we have to remember that it is not only by human effort that we negotiate the difficult and challenging events of our lives. There is a Divine Effort at work as well. For sure, the human effort can create quite a mess and easily destroy lives. This is true of any family with which we are associated. Today's Feast of the Holy Family serves to help us understand that there is a Divine Story being told as well. It is a story of perseverance in the face of hardship, determination in the face of despair, healing when we see nothing but wounds, and light where there is darkness.

Do we believe that God is always working, guiding, restoring, and leading? Unless we do, we will never be free from the imperfections and wounds that bind us and never be able to understand what it really means to forgive. Pope Francis tells us that the "light which comes from the Holy Family encourages us to offer human

warmth to other families." While this is most certainly true, we can only really begin to do this when we realize that we are still works in progress, not anchored to the wounds and sins of our past, and still a leading star in God's continually unfolding story of love. The Holy Family persevered and radiated warmth because they knew they were not alone. We can too.

## New Year's Mass Schedule

Dec. 31 Mary, Mother of God 8:30 am at St. Alphonse-St. Clement & 9:30 am at the Village

Jan. 1 is not a Holy Day of Obligation—Regular Mass Times Resume

Parish office is closed Dec. 31 and will reopen on Jan. 3 at 9:00 am



Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, Dec. 25****9:00 am (Village Chapel)**

Fr. Linus

Living &amp; Deceased Parishioners of Allegría Villiage

**9:00 am**

Fr. Greg

+Kathleen Bitonti by Eileen Bridenstine  
 +Dr. & Mrs. Andrew Gusfa by Gusfa Family

**11:00 am**

Fr. Greg

+Rosa Policicchio by Family  
 +Mario & Laura Satani by Family

**NO 4pm Mass****Sunday, Dec. 26****9:00 am (Village Chapel)**

Fr. Linus

Resident of the Village

**9:00 am**

Fr. Greg

+Victor & Antonia D'Agostino by Adrianna & Mark Lypeckj  
 +Irene Dewicki by Madeline Prokop  
 +Departed Kwiecien Family Members by Bernadine & Ron Mistor

**11:00 am**

Fr. Greg

+Casimer & Vera Draus by Family  
 +Lou Nagy by Staff

**Monday, Dec. 27****8:30 am**

Fr. Linus

+Linda Villeneuve (ann) by Pat Durham

**Tuesday, Dec. 28****8:30 am**

Fr. Linus

+Albert Toccaceli by M. Filip;

**9:30 am (Village Chapel)**

Fr. Greg

Living &amp; Deceased Residents of the Village

**Thursday, Dec. 30****8:30 am**

Fr. Linus

+George Johnson by Family

**Friday, Dec. 31****8:30 am**

Fr. Linus

+Richard Rzepka by Family

**9:30 am (Village Chapel)**

Fr. Greg

**Saturday, Jan. 1****4:00 pm**

Fr. Linus

+Tom Santocke by Wife  
 +Albert Toccaceli by Family

**Sunday, Jan. 2****9:00 am (Village Chapel)**

Fr. Greg

+Henry Wenzel by Wife

**9:00 am**

Fr. Linus

+Mary Palmeri by Family  
 +Decd. Michaluk Family by Palmeri Family

**11:00 am**

Fr. Linus

+Rosa Policicchio by Family  
 +Lou Nagy by Staff  
 +Charlie Ruffin by Wife, Grace  
 +Salvatore & Rosa Policicchio by Family

**Maintenance Custodian Needed**

A part-time Parish custodian position is available. The custodian is responsible for maintaining the Parish complex, buildings and grounds. This includes various systems (such as mechanical, electrical, plumbing) repairs, safety requirements, cleanliness and some landscaping/snow removal. The candidate must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily and possess the knowledge, skill and/or ability to do so to ensure the parish buildings and property are maintained on the interior and exterior. If interested, please contact the Parish office at 313-581-5218 or 313-581-7495 for a detailed qualifications and job description before submitting your resume for consideration.

**Monetary Christmas Gifts**

All donations marked as "Christmas" and given now through January 9 or given on 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.

**JESUS IS THE GIFT**  
*that perfectly fits  
 the size of every heart.*



*The Sanctuary Lamp is burning  
 this week in memory of  
 Edward Jarrell*



### Pray for the Sick of the Parish. St. Joseph, help of the sick, pray for them.....

Luigi Aronne, Eugene Bernard, Giorgina Cascardo, Maria Cercone, Catherine Cody, Barb Delgado, Evelyn Derengowski, Betty Fisher, Marco Frattarelli, Sylvia Fregonara, Betty Fucinari, Mary Furioso, Sulhi & Charlotte Gencyuz, Peggy Goodart, 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, Theresa Mullen, Frank Palmeri, Henry Perle, Jennifer Przepiora, Diane Raymond, David Rentschler, Serafina Romano, Pearly Ruffin, Dana Slepsky, Rosario Aleta So, Judith Stafford, Greg Stawara, Martha Stott,

Marcy Tarlow, Tina Threedy, Shirley Viviano, Joshua Yeager, The Parishioners of the Village Assisted Living and Health Care. ***Please notify the Parish office for changes to our prayer list.***



### The Holy Family Prayer

**JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary**, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

**MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother**, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

**JOSEPH, Foster-father** to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

**HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH**, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you.

**Amen.**

### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS Baby Jesus' Wish List

At first glance, we can often find the image of the Blessed Mother, St. Joseph and the Christ Child intimidating — who are we to aspire to that level of discipleship? How could we ever hope to conform ourselves to that mold? Sometimes, it can even be painful — perhaps we hail from a broken family or struggle with a broken relationship within our family, or perhaps we long to be a mother or a father ourselves and that state in life has eluded us.

But the image of the Holy Family is, in reality, a beautiful invitation to us all, no matter our vocation or our state in life, and the example of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is rich with the symbolism of stewardship.

You need not be a biological mother who has carried a child in her womb to be a mother in spirit. Who in your world needs you to love them with the heart of a mother?

The same goes for fatherhood. The Church and the world are crying out for the courageous witness of Christian men like St. Joseph. Who can you love with the steadfast, selfless protection of a father? Who in your life needs you to love them with the faithful, unconditional love of a son? Who needs your gentle and constant love as a daughter?

We are the Body of Christ, friends. Those of us rejoicing in heaven, those of us suffering in purgatory, and those of us struggling here on earth. We are the great family. Let us love each other well.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS~

Consult not your fears, but your hopes and your dreams.

Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential.

Concern not yourself with what you tried and failed in, but what it is still possible to do.

Now is the time to put aside past and present setbacks and failures and look with confidence to the new day called tomorrow. — Pope John XXIII



**Thank You**.....on behalf of the hospitalized veterans, we want to offer our sincere thanks to all who donated items for their Christmas stockings. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are deeply appreciated. The stockings were overflowing. May God bless you all during this Christmas season and throughout the New Year. The LIFT Sodality and all Hospitalized Veterans.



### St. Stephen Feast Day Dec. 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population de-

manded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

Stephen died as Jesus did: falsely accused, brought to unjust condemnation because he spoke the truth fearlessly. He died with his eyes trustfully fixed on God, and with a prayer of forgiveness on his lips. A "happy" death is one that finds us in the same spirit, whether our dying is as quiet as Joseph's or as violent as Stephen's: dying with courage, total trust and forgiving love.



St. Alphonsus-St. Clement parish has reached **100%** of our goal for the 2021 Catholic Services Appeal. Thank you to the **105 parishioners** who have made gifts and pledges totaling \$58,624.29. If you are still prayerfully considering your CSA pledge, please know that our parish will now receive 100% of the gifts we receive.

We will continue to accept CSA donations through April 2022. Any and all CSA donations will be returned tax free to the parish. You may mail your completed pledge card in the pre-addressed envelop that was provided you, which is:

**Archdiocese of Detroit**

**P. O. Box 6047**

**Albert Lea, MN 56007-6647**

Or make your gift to our parish campaign online at [givecsa.org](http://givecsa.org).

**If you misplaced your pledge card, please contact the parish office.**

**Thank you again for helping to Fuel the Mission to witness Christ.**

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 parish website for current information at [www.stals-stclem.org](http://www.stals-stclem.org)

### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

It was the best of times and it was the worst of times. Our families can bring out the best and the worst in us. This is true of our families of origin, the current family of which we are a part, the family of our church, our society, and the like. In all of our family experiences, what stands out as our most challenging memory? Everything human can be found on the pages of family life. But there is also a Divine story to be discovered as well. When life gets difficult and perplexing, today's Feast of the Holy Family stands to remind us that it is not just by human effort that we tread treacherous waters. We have to remember and learn from the Divine effort too. We need this perspective if our love lessons are going to be learned completely and well. We are all works in progress and we all come from homes that are broken by imperfection. In whatever life brings us and in whatever family we find ourselves, may the promptings we feel toward faith and hope lead us to greater love.

**Readings for the Week of Dec. 26**

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/ Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52  
**Monday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18  
**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35  
**Thursday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/ Lk 2:36-40  
**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18  
**Saturday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
**Next 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



The **World Day of Peace**, sometimes unofficially known as **World Peace Day**, is a feast day of the Roman Catholic Church dedicated to

peace, held on 1 January, on the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.**

**Stewardship Report**

	<u>w/e 12/12/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$2,891	\$91,512
Village Chapel	\$323	\$15,491
On-Line Giving	\$200	\$12,866*
<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>\$3,414</b>	<b>\$119,869</b>
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$120,000</b>
<b>Variance</b>	<b>(\$1,586)</b>	<b>(\$131)</b>
Catholic Charities	\$10	Christmas \$3,345
Christmas Flowers	\$297	SVdP \$10
Religious Ret.	\$1,162	Capital Imp. \$25

\* 22% of the Year-to-Date On-Line Giving was from the Village.

**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)

**Village Chapel**

15101 Ford Rd., Dearborn, MI 48126  
 Phone: (313) 846-7712 ext. 1121

**Devotions**

**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.** 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**  
 Bookkeeper: **Dawn Peters**  
 Housekeeper: **Denise Paniccia**  
 Maintenance: **Frank Bechard**  
 Organist: **Lawrence Zelanka**  
 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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