



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 2, 2022

Epiphany of the Lord

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis references a thought from Pope Benedict XVI: "Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction." Today we celebrate an encounter with the Person of Jesus Christ! This simple but holy event in time dramatically changes human life, pointing it toward a new horizon and giving it a decisive direction. This is a message and truth that is not meant to be shared with only a select few who qualify but with the entire world. Pope Francis continues saying, "Thanks solely to this encounter or renewed encounter with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being."

Look around at people. Where is life heading for them? What gives them direction? Even we who are people of faith can get distracted and lose our focus. God, in all of His fullness, is revealed in Jesus Christ and we can encounter Him! God is tangible, real, vulnerable, poor, and full of wonders, surprises, and opportunities. For those who are struggling and lost, today is a day of great joy. All they have to do is reach out and touch the truth of Christ. This presence is revealed in the poor, exploited, and vulnerable ones who cry out for compassion and



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

love. But it is also found in the faithful ones who see in the Epiphany of God a liberation from structures and systems that hurt us, a narrowness of mind and heart that constricts us, and an absorption in our self-agenda that prevents us from seeing anything other than ourselves as important.

We have been given the charge of preaching this Good News. If only we could find a way to be more effective, it might stand a chance of doing what God intended it to do. There is always tomorrow and our memory of that bright new light that shone so brilliantly that Bethlehem night pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Jan. 1

4:00 pm

Fr. Linus

+Tom Santocke by Wife
 +Albert Toccaceli by Family
 Health Derrick Goldie by Frances Horvath

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

Monday, Jan 3

8:30 am

Fr. Greg

+Marlene Powell by Stodo Family

Tuesday, Jan 4

8:30 am

Fr. Greg

Living & Deceased Members of Parrello Family

9:30 am (Village Chapel)

Fr. Linus

Living & Deceased Residents of the Village

Thursday, Jan 6

8:30 am

Fr. Greg

+Joe Sorrenti by Cousins

Friday, Jan 7

8:30 am

Fr. Greg

Health of Greg Stawara by Family

Saturday, Jan. 8

4:00 pm

Fr. Linus

+Elio Puzzuoli by Madeline Prokop
 +Naomi & Agnese Puzzuoli by Family
 +Richard, Stella & Frank Rzepka by Family
 +Valere (Larry) Salagan (ann) by Family
For All Named on Christmas Flower Donation Envelopes

Sunday, Jan. 9

9:00 am (Village Chapel)

Fr. Linus

For All Named on Christmas Flower Donation Envelopes

9:00 am

Fr. Greg

+Kathleen Bitonti by Eileen Bridenstine
 +Joe Sorrenti (Bday) by Cousins
For All Named on Christmas Flower Donation Envelopes

11:00 am

Fr. Greg

+Francesco & Florence Parrello by Family
 +Aldo & Remo Mastroianni by Family
 +Jeannine Hamilton by Jackie Manick
 +Sue Baker by Jackie Manick
For All Named on Christmas Flower Donation Envelopes



Thank you to all who donated flowers that decorated the Church throughout this Christmas season.

For those of you who sent in names of loved ones to be remembered,

know that they are, indeed, remembered in our prayers throughout the Christmas season and will be specifically remembered at the Masses on January 8 and 9.

**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.

Good Bye for Fr. Linus

All are invited to a reception for Fr. Linus, on January 8 after the 4:00 pm Mass in Fr. Yagley Hall.

Fr. Linus has been called back to Kenya, by his bishop, in the diocese of Meru prior to coming to Michigan. We are asking for finger food donations, which can be dropped off at the Hall prior to Mass.

The parish wants to recognize, with gratitude and thanks to God the ministry Fr. Linus has shared with us. Our sadness in bidding Fr. Linus farewell reminds us that pastors are called to serve as God leads.

Thank you Fr. Linus for all you have done for each and everyone of your parishioners. **You will be missed greatly!**





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 Co-dy, 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, Joshua Yeager, The Parishioners of the Village Assisted Living and Health Care. ***Please notify the Parish office for changes to our prayer list.***



The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Feast Day Jan. 3

Although St. Paul might claim credit for promoting devotion to the Holy Name because Paul wrote in Philippians that God the Father gave Christ Jesus “that name that is above every name” (see 2:9), this devotion became popular because of 12th-century Cistercian monks and nuns but especially through the preaching of St. Bernardine of Siena, a 15th-century Franciscan.

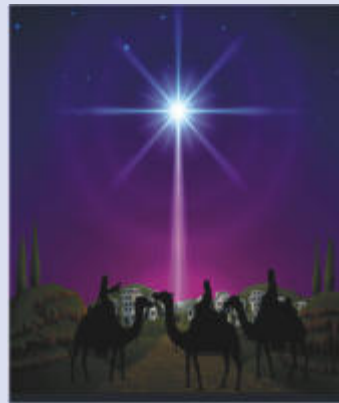
Bernardine used devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus as a way of overcoming bitter and often bloody class struggles and family rivalries or vendettas in Italian city-states. The devotion grew, partly because of Franciscan and Dominican preachers. It spread even more widely after the Jesuits began promoting it in the 16th century.

In 1530, Pope Clement V approved an Office of the Holy Name for the Franciscans. In 1721, Pope Innocent XIII extended this feast to the entire Church.

Reflection

Jesus died and rose for the sake of all people. No one can trademark or copyright Jesus' name. Jesus is the Son of God and son of Mary. Everything that exists was created in and through the Son of God (see Colossians 1:15-20). The name of Jesus is debased if any Christian uses it as justification for berating non-Christians. Jesus reminds us that because we are all related to him we are, therefore, all related to one another.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS The Light of the Moon



If you own a television that has been turned on at any point in the last month or so, chances are you've caught at least a scene or two of the 1946 classic film “It's a Wonderful Life.”

If you're not familiar with the movie, it follows the life of George Bailey from childhood through adulthood. A dreamer by nature, George has big plans for himself that involve world exploration and adventure — but family and community obligations keep him tethered to the same spot on the map, leading an altogether ordinary life.

One of the most memorable scenes from that movie is of George dancing with his sweetheart Mary while they sing “Buffalo Gals — Won't you come out tonight/And dance by the light of the moon?”

That lyric always catches my ear. Of course, the moon doesn't have any light of its own. All the moon has is the ability to reflect the light that shines upon it.

The same holds for us, doesn't it? Our stewardship is purely a reflection of the grace granted to us by another. “Upon you the LORD shines,” writes Isaiah, “and over you appears his glory.” Every good action we will ever take begins in the mind of God. The fact that we have the honor of carrying it out on His behalf is a beautiful gift. It is God that makes our ordinary lives extraordinary.

In the end of the movie, George Bailey realizes that he had a far greater life because, instead of being the hero of his own story, he allowed himself to reflect goodness onto others. Remember — the magi didn't chart their own course. **They merely followed the star.**

Saint André Bessette — Feast Day Jan 6



Brother André expressed a saint's faith by a lifelong devotion to Saint Joseph. Sickness and weakness dogged André from birth. He was the eighth of 12 children born to a French Canadian couple near Mon-

treal. Adopted at 12, when both parents had died, he became a farmhand. Various trades followed: shoemaker, baker, blacksmith—all failures. He was a factory worker in the United States during the boom times of the Civil War.

At 25, André applied for entrance into the Congregation of Holy Cross. After a year's novitiate, he was not admitted because of his weak health. But with an extension and the urging of Bishop Bourget, he was finally received. He was given the humble job of doorkeeper at Notre Dame College in Montreal, with additional duties as sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. "When I joined this community, the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years," he said.

In his little room near the door, he spent much of the night on his knees. On his windowsill, facing Mount Royal, was a small statue of Saint Joseph, to whom he had been devoted since childhood. When asked about it he said, "Some day, Saint Joseph is going to be honored in a very special way on Mount Royal!"

When he heard someone was ill, he visited to bring cheer and to pray with the sick person. He would rub the sick person lightly with oil taken from a lamp burning in the college chapel. Word of healing powers began to spread. When an epidemic broke out at a nearby college, André volunteered to nurse. Not one person died. The trickle of sick people to his door became a flood. His superiors were uneasy; diocesan authorities were suspicious; doctors called him a quack. "I do not cure," he said again and again. "Saint Joseph cures." In the end he needed four secretaries to handle the 80,000 letters he received each year.

For many years the Holy Cross authorities had tried to buy land on Mount Royal. Brother André and others climbed the steep hill and planted medals of Saint Joseph. Suddenly, the owners yielded. André collected \$200 to build a small chapel and began receiving visitors there—smiling through long hours of listening, applying Saint Joseph's oil. Some were cured, some not. The pile of crutches, canes and braces grew.

The chapel also grew. By 1931, there were gleaming walls, but money ran out. "Put a statue of Saint Joseph in the middle. If he wants a roof over his head, he'll get it." The magnificent Oratory on Mount Royal took 50 years to build. The sickly boy who could not hold a job died at 92. He is buried at the Oratory. He was beatified in 1982 and canonized in 2010. At his canonization in October 2010, Pope Benedict XVI said that Saint Andre "lived the beatitude of the pure of heart."



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.

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

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Human beings easily get bored. Life's routines can become so predictable that there is often little time for excitement or freshness. Today is all about the new and the wonderful. In celebrating the beauty and simplicity of the Epiphany, we see in tangible ways God's creative, redemptive, and restorative power. This refreshment and revitalization is offered not only to a select few but to everyone throughout the world. There is nothing routine or static about God. Surprises, wonders, miracles, opportunities, healings, and joy without measure are available to those who believe. There are never any endings, just beginnings. And, when darkness, boredom, and gloom seem to be the order of the day, a bright new light now shines pointing us to truth and reminding us that we are loved.

Readings for the Week of Jan. 2

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

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22



The wise still seek Him

Stewardship Report

	<u>w/e 12/19/2021</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Church	\$2,681	\$94,193
Village Chapel	\$671	\$16,162
On-Line Giving		\$12,866*
ACTUAL	\$3,352	\$123,221
BUDGET	\$5,000	\$125,000
Variance	(\$1,648)	(\$1,779)
Catholic Charities	\$5	Christmas \$5,055
Christmas Flowers	\$58	Capital Imp. \$150
Religious Ret.	\$825	

* 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

Email: 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: 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**

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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