



St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

From the Parish Office:



The Advent daily reflection book, including six-minute daily reflections for the Advent and Christmas Season is now available at the entrance of the church. Any donations toward the cost of these books would be appreciated.

Communal Penance

Saturday, November 27

at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, November 29

at 6:30 p.m.

Right to Life Rosary for the Unborn

The Right to Life will be saying the Rosary at St. Clement on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday, December 5
after the 10:30 a.m.
Mass



Wreath Sale

Religious Education will be selling Christmas wreaths for \$25 each. If you would like to order one, please contact a Religious Ed student or call 752-9561.



Sharing Tree Gifts Due Next Sunday

If you are willing to volunteer with the sorting and distribution on December 6 at 9:30 a.m. of the Sharing Tree gifts, please contact Denise at 586-372-3576 or denise@stclementromeo.com. A light breakfast will be served as we work together to make Christmas beautiful for so many.

Help Decorating the Church

We need help decorating the church for Christmas. If you are interested, please call the Parish Office at 752-9611.



Immaculate Conception Mass

Wednesday, December 8
6:30 p. m.

Oplatki Wafers

Oplatki Wafers are available in the Parish Office for a small donation.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass

Sunday, December 12
at 1:00 p.m.
All are Welcome!



THIS ADVENT, WHAT DO YOU NEED?

By Deacon Kurt Godfryd

In the Gospel of Mark (13:33), it is though Jesus is in charge of a great lighthouse and reminds us to: Be Watchful! Be Alert! His words immediately follow a private conversation with Peter, James, John, and Andrew regarding events that would precede His return at the end of time. And so, Jesus stresses that we should be ready.

But should we be fearful? Not according to St. Paul. For in his Letter to the Corinthians (1 Cor 1:3 -9), the Apostle exhorts that "in Him, we have been enriched in every way and that we are not lacking in any spiritual gift as we wait for the revelation of Our Lord Jesus Christ." Continued on page 4.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve

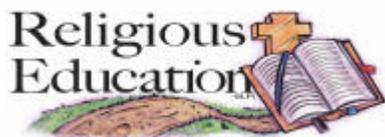
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m.
(Spanish) and 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 25

Christmas Day

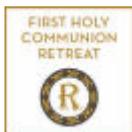
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
(No 5:00 p.m. Mass)

We of St. Clement of Rome Parish, with the Power of the Spirit, welcome, embrace and unite all the many faces of Christ who worship with us. As a family, we deepen our faith and seek God in the community, through prayer and good works.



Religious Education

November 28 - Preschool classes held
 November 29 - 30 - Classes held
 December 5 - Preschool classes Held
 December 6 - 7 - Classes held
 December 12 - Preschool classes Held
 December 13 - 14 - Classes held



Family Eucharist Retreat

Saturday, Dec. 4
 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

A Family Perspective.....



At this time of the year we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others. ~ Bud Ozar



Family Christmas Scavenger Hunt

Friday, December 10
 6:30 p.m.

Follow the K of C on Facebook
www.facebook.com/Knights7018



Bambinelli Sunday

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 11 & 12. Please feel free to bring your own baby Jesus to be blessed, or we will provide you with one.

Religious Education Office Hours
Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday - closed

The office is closed daily from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. for lunch



Memorial Flowers For Christmas

Would you like to have a poinsettia plant placed in the church for the Christmas season in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone dear to you?

The poinsettia plants are available for \$25.00. You may bring your donation to the parish office weekdays, or put it in the collection basket marked with the name of your loved one. **The deadline is December 20th.** All names will be printed in the parish paper in the Christmas issue. This is a beautiful way to remember family, friends, and deceased loved ones at Christmas.

In Honor _____ In Memory _____

Name _____

From _____



Communion for the Homebound

Did you know that we have parishioners who will bring Holy Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass? If you have a family member or a neighbor who is homebound, **please contact the Parish Office at 752-9611.** Arrangements will be made for a visit.

Preparing the Manger

Where do you fall in the "Christmas-songs-in-November" debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There's no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It's hard to miss that point — Lent doesn't even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

It's harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — "advent" — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, "so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap."

So let us not forget — our master's advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger? — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Mass Times on the Road... Traveling? Need the nearest Catholic Church and Mass times? www.masstimes.org



Please Pray for the Sick

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Florence Bauer | Bob Mickelson |
| Gary Bianchi | Andrew Miller |
| Thomas Breen | Ashleigh |
| Mike Brosowski | Motoligin |
| Steve Bullock | Ellen Myers |
| Claudette Buria | Cody Nichols |
| Maureen Burns | Rocky O'Berry |
| Adam Cole | Theresa |
| Connie Davis | O'Connor |
| Elizabeth | Joe Olson |
| Decker | Peter Osantowski |
| Nancy Degnan | Muriel Paquette |
| Lisa Elliot | Paul Paquette |
| Christine Gamrat | Christine Pettineo |
| Thomas Gamrat | Judy Polakowski |
| David Gonczar | Edmund |
| Jacob Gordon | Radzilowski |
| Peter | Jim Raska |
| Grygorcewicz | Richard Redd |
| Martha Gutowski | David Reed |
| Henry Hainer | Glenda Roberts |
| Amelia Hale | Karen |
| Donna John | Rothenhauser |
| Ethan Kammer | Paul Ruggirello |
| Jennifer Kelts | Laura Staller |
| John F. Kern | Robert Szuba |
| Glen Knoblock | Terri Turner |
| Daniel Knoche | Jack Tytlawany |
| Matthew Knoche | Carla Wicklund |
| Tom Krafft | Bubba Dan Wirick |
| Sharon Lark | Michaela Wolford |
| Bettie Lester | Christine Yonkos |
| Jim Libs | Aldona Zynda |
| Nancy Lukowski | |
| Domenico Maletti | |
| Sara Maletti | |
| Bob McFall | |

And those who care for them...

Newly Added to the Sick List

Joe Olson



Remember, the pain will pass. Your brokenness will heal. The sun will rise again in your soul. Peace will come. You will survive. You are not alone.... Ever. God walks with you. God holds you tenderly and close. God's grace will sustain you. You are loved. May you be blessed by God, God's Son, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Wedding Feast & Epiphany

Question: How are the feasts of the baptism of Jesus and the account of the wedding feast of Cana related to the Epiphany celebration?

Answer: The Epiphany season focuses on revealing Jesus to the world. Following the Christmas celebration, the liturgical year lays out a series of manifestation points in which Jesus is made publicly known. From its very beginning, the Christian community highlighted three events in the life of Jesus. These are the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord and the wedding feast at Cana.

The Epiphany discloses Jesus to the world of the Gentiles, represented by the magi from the East. The accounts of Jesus' baptism reveal his identity and mission, along with exposing him to those to whom he was sent to minister. The miracle of turning water to wine at the wedding feast of Cana, unique to John's Gospel, is the first public sign that Jesus performs, thus manifesting his public identity and his powers.

Today in the Roman Church, these are usually celebrated on three successive Sundays: Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord which is usually the next Sunday, and the wedding feast of Cana, which is proclaimed on the 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time in lectionary year C.

These feasts connect around the concept of epiphany, public manifestation of Jesus to the world. They help us get to know more intimately who Jesus is and what he is about. Spend some time delving more deeply into your understanding of who Jesus is. Continue to cultivate these "epiphany" moments in your life.



Please Pray for the Members Serving Our Country

- Cpt. Nicole Adenomas
- MSG Omar Ambriz
- CTM2 Jonathan Behm
- Spc. William Boeve
- Pvt. Dakota Burdo
- Capt. John L. Fellows
- Sr./AMN Michael P. Fellows
- A1C Andrew Fons
- Pfc. Brian Gaines
- SSGT Adam S. Girardot
- Sgt. James Griffie
- Spc. Mark A. Lipinski
- SSGT Ian McLaughlin
- SSG. Brian Niebel
- Maj. Catherine Peuterbaugh
- Spc. Zacari Pytleski
- MC1 Jeff Richardson
- 2nd Lt. Stephen Rutherford
- Chief Jacob Shey
- E5 Rebecca Sovereign
- Spc. Michael Stobak
- Maj. David Stys
- Pfc. Bill Thompson
- Spc. Thomas Vani
- Pfc. Evan Vanouwer
- Sgt. Bradley Wing
- L/Cpl. Robert Wing

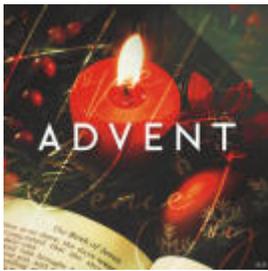
Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

IHM Sister' Raffle

Tickets are available in the parish office for the IHM Sister's Raffle. Tickets are \$25 each and with each ticket there are 144 opportunities to win. All proceeds make it possible for IHM to provide quality and compassionate care to their retired sisters.



THIS ADVENT, WHAT DO YOU NEED? By Deacon Kurt Godfry Continued from page 1

And so, we are blessed.

The liturgies during the Advent and Christmas seasons remind us of the many ways we've been blessed through the Incarnation: that God loves us so much that He sent His only Son into the world to live among us and provide for our every need. During this time, many of us remember Christmases past and particularly our loved ones who've passed on and now, we pray, live with God in His heavenly kingdom. Whether they be our mothers, fathers, husbands, wives, sisters, brothers, or close friends, our hearts forever store the stories of how they cared and nurtured and loved and blessed us.

In my own life, Christmas day marks my father's passing. In thinking about this, I have been remembering the years when I became a father. From time to time, they were years in which I would sometimes need an extra dollar or two in my wallet until the next payday. And that is where my dad would come to the rescue.

On those occasions, I recall calling my dad to ask if I could see him regarding a "special" request. And so, after talk of the prior night's sports results, he would ask the question: "So, what do you need?" And after telling him, we would continue the ritual of cash given in exchange for a post-dated check destined for deposit in a week or two or three. And always, true to form, he would call me the next morning to ask whether my check would be honored. Looking back, I miss those days of hearing my father say to me, "So, what do you need?"

On November 18, 2017, Capuchin Fr. Solanus Casey was beatified at Ford Field in Detroit. I feel blessed to have attended and participated in a small way. At the Mass was a woman from Panama named Paula Medina Zarate who received the miracle attributed to Fr. Solanus that was investigated by medical professionals. At home, Paula was known for being a kind soul, a religion teacher and catechist for school children who spoke out for the poor and suffering, all the while dealing with ichthyosis vulgaris, a disease that caused her skin to turn into scales and bleed. A genetic condition, there is no known cure for the disorder.

Because of her condition, she was required to leave her profession early, a "forced" decision that caused her personal distress. In September 2012, however, her sorrow would be transformed into joy. While visiting the United States, she traveled to St. Bonaventure Monastery in Detroit with Fr. Joe Timmers, O.F.M. Cap., a priest she knew from his work with the Capuchin mission in Chepo, Panama.

After arriving there, she stayed overnight. The next day, Paula made her way to Fr. Solanus' tomb, knelt down, and wrote her intentions on 14 pieces of paper. Despite the many stresses of her disease, Paula wrote intentions for her mother, brothers, students, and those from her hometown. But upon rising from her knees before the tomb, she heard a voice: "And you, what do you need?"

After this, she recalls..."falling down on her knees, seeing the cross and thinking about Christ's Passion and all the pardons granted, and remembering that she didn't ask anything for herself." And so, she asked God for her legs and arms to be healed. After doing so, she began to feel a current of heat in her body and recalling that she felt dizzy, as though she was in a dream. After a long time, she rose and began wondering what was happening. She recalled: "I was afraid, my legs were so hot. My doctors warned me that my skin might crack open and bleed. I touched my skin, and the scales began to fall off, with no blood." But soon, she saw a rose-like color of flesh appear where the scales had been. For the next day or so, more and more of the scales began to fall off. She gathered the scales into a piece of paper to show what was happening." Later, after telling Fr. Timmers what had happened, "she spent the whole afternoon in her room crying, giving thanks to God." (Adapted from an article published in *The Michigan Catholic*, November 14, 2017)

As we begin the Advent season, our culture is set to full throttle. With lights and music and advertising capturing our senses, we ask ourselves: "Is this what Christmas is all about?" Or is it about something more?

This Advent, amidst the hustle-and-bustle, may we imagine ourselves on a journey to that holy crib in Bethlehem. With each step, we come that much closer. What thoughts fill our minds? What thoughts flood our hearts? If we could speak to the Christ child, what would we say?

But more importantly, if we could hear Jesus ask us what we need, just what would that be?

Family Photos at Church

We are looking for any family photos you may have from Mass and parish activities/ministries. We will scan the picture(s) in the parish office. You can send digital pictures to kandi@stclementromeo.com Call the parish office with any questions.

St. Clement of Rome

343 S. Main Street
 Romeo, Michigan 48065
 Phone: 586-752-9611
 Fax 586-752-1601

Website: www.stclementromeo.org

PASTOR

Rev. Stephen C. Reckker

Weekend Assistant

Fr. Jim Andres, OFM CAP
 Fr. Art Baranowski
 Fr. Biju Parakkalayil

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Kurt J. Godfryd

Mass in Spanish

Fr. Michael Sullivan

Vicariate Hispanic Pastoral Minister

(North Macomb Vicariate)

Sr. Valerie Knoche, I.H.M. 810-656-3282

Adult Education Coordinator

Mr. Russ Morgan 752-6984

Building Manager

Mr. Peter Bernadich 752-9611

Minister of Music

Mr. Bert Lord 752-9611

Religious Education Director

Mrs. Debbie Knoblock 752-6591

Middle School Youth Group

752-9611

Agape Center

336-6842

Pregnancy, Counseling and Adoption

Catholic Family Services 416-2300

Knights of Columbus

Mark DiPaola 586-292-5284

Email: GK7018@mikofc.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday - 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.
 Spanish - 1:00 p.m.

Holyday and Weekday Masses

As announced

Reconciliation (Confession)

By appointment

Baptism: Prior arrangements must be made.

Call the parish office.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at

least six months in advance of the marriage

date.

Care of the Sick: Call the parish office at

any time to make arrangements for

Anointing, Communion calls or Visitations.

Funeral Luncheon Ministry: Please call

the parish office.

Registrations: New parishioners should

register at the parish office. Those moving

should notify the parish office.

Parish Council

Administration Commission

Charles Anglewicz.....752-9435

Christian Service Commission

Denise Kehren. 586-372-3576

Social Commission

Dorothy Kida752-9611

Rev. 11-18-21

**WEEKLY EVENTS FOR
 November 29 - December 5**

Monday, November 29

9:00 a.m. - Forgotten Harvest

Tuesday, November 30

Wednesday, December 1

9:00 a.m. - Sp. Int. Delfina

Berishaj req by family

12:00 noon - Threshold Bible

Study

6:30 p.m. - Catechists Christmas

party

Thursday, December 2

9:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. St.

Clement Parishioners

6:30 p.m. - Social Hall usage

Friday, December 3

9:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. St.

Clement Parishioners

Saturday, December 4

12:00 noon - Hispanic Baptisms

3:30 p.m. - Family Eucharist

Retreat - Church/Social Hall

5:00 p.m. - MASS - Int. Diana

Sitek req by Debbie Knoblock

Int. The Porretta family req by

the Porretta family

Sunday, December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

Sharing Tree Gifts Due

Breakfast with Santa

7:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. Holy

Souls in Purgatory req by Gail

Nemshick

9:00 a.m. - Baptism Class

10:30 a.m. - MASS - Int. Gordon

Logan req by Jean Jackson

Sp. Int. Matt Geric req by Tom

& Arlene

11:30 a.m. - Breakfast with Santa

1:00 p.m. - MASS (Spanish) -

Int. St. Clement Parishioners



**PB&J Ministry Needs
 Volunteers**

Every Sunday individuals or families from St. Clement make 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless and deliver them to Trinity Lutheran Church in Utica. All supplies will be given to you. If you would like to volunteer for our PB&J Ministry, please call 752-9611.

Support Our Featured Advertiser!

As You Like it Hair Salon
 586-336-9790

**Weekly Soup for the
 Homebound**

Do you know anyone who is elderly and home bound, anyone who has undergone a recent surgery, or anyone who is struggling with health issues and would appreciate a weekly visit to drop off some soup? If so, contact Christian Services 586-651-0734 and we will add them to our SOS ministry. We are currently deliver soup weekly to 24 households. The SOS (serving others soup) ministry delivers soup that is donated from the Romeo Family Restaurant to individuals who are going through rough times. The warmth of a smiling face, a caring ear and a delicious bowl of soup can do wonders!



Liturgical Appointments for December 4/5

	Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Sunday 7:00 a.m.	Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Presider	Fr. Jim	Fr. Art	Fr. Steve
Lector	Rose Stewart	Diane Barr	Tom Offer



Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished.

We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love.

Forgotten Harvest

The Forgotten Harvest pop-up pantry will be in our parish's parking lot! Volunteers from Forgotten Harvest will be distributing food on **Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m**

Readings for the Week of November 29, 2021



Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps

122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

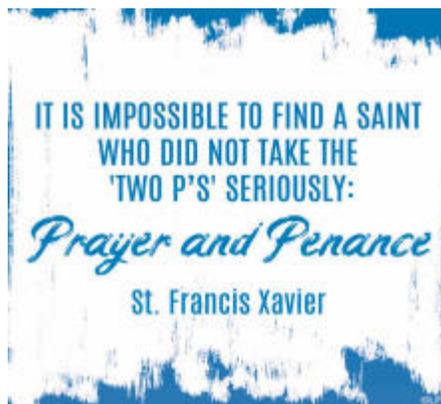
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday, December 5: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

Are you a snow bird? Are you moving?

Please let the parish office know if you are moving, changing addresses or will not be at your current address for 3 weeks or more. St. Clement sends out mailings/envelopes multiple times a year. Making these changes will save money on return postage. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.



Walking In The Gym...

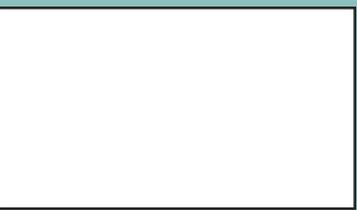
The gym is available for walkers Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. **Please remember to wear your gym shoes.**

JOAN HENDERSON
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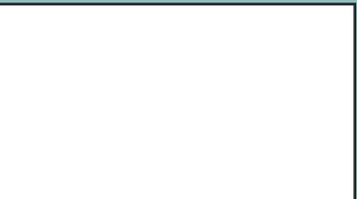
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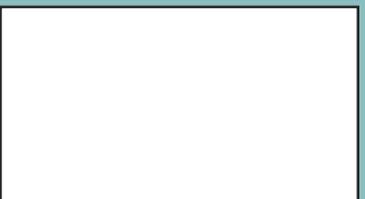
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