



St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 10, 2024

From the Parish Office: .Catholic Services Appeal 2024

 So far 221 individuals/families have responded. Please continue to give thoughtful prayer to your CSA contributions for the coming year.

Farewell Celebration for Russ Morgan

Please join us after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on March 17 in the Social Hall, as we wish Russ Morgan well. He is leaving after Easter to begin a new chapter in his life. We have appreciated his dedicated service to St. Clement for many years. He will truly be missed!



Easter Egg Hunt

Hop on in to our annual Easter Egg

Hunt! It will be held on Saturday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the St. Clement picnic area. There will be fun games in the parking lot as the children arrive, followed by the Easter Egg Hunt. Please arrive promptly!



Helping Local Families with Easter

This year our parish has committed to helping some local families with Easter dinner and Easter baskets. If you are able to donate a ham, please contact Denise Kehren at 586-372-3576 to make arrangements. Your assistance is much appreciated!



Come Join the Comfort Makers

We are the Comfort Makers who make fleece blankets for our Veterans. Our ministry is one of thankfulness and honor to our Veteran Patriots. Everyone is welcome! Just bring your lunch and scissors, and together we will cut, knot, smile, laugh, plan and share. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 12 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Please bring your own lunch. For more information please call Nan Kyllonen at 752-2712.



Throughout the Lenten season of reflection and meditation, you are invited to write your prayer requests on the back of the little purple crosses and pin them to the cross in the sanctuary.



Knights of Columbus Scholarships



For many years the Knights of Columbus at St. Clement have offered financial assistance to our parishes students attending Catholic K-12 educational institutions and colleges. The application period is now open. All submissions are due March 15th. Applications without the essay will not be considered. Please see our website for more information or to download the application. Copies of the application are also available in the parish office. More information on our website www.romeoknights.com or contact Joe Suminski at 586-337-5776.



Come join us for a St. Patty's themed Euchre Party

on Saturday, March 16 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social hall

\$15 a person plus

BRING \$5 in quarters for the Euchre pot

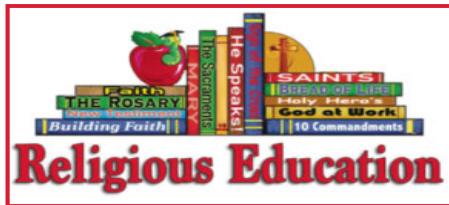
Includes food, beverages & prizes
Wear Green! Call the office to sign up 586-752-9611

Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m.

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.



March 11/12 - classes
March 14 - First Reconciliation 6:00 p.m. (Family service)
 (all families are invited to attend)
March 18/19 - Last week of Classes
May 2 - First Eucharist Meeting/Rehearsal -6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
May 4 - First Eucharist @ 5:00 p.m.
May 5 - First Eucharist @ 10:30 a.m.
June 17-21 - VBS 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



**VBS 2024!
SAVE THE DATE!**

VBS will be June 17-21

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Volunteers Needed! Please contact the Religious Education office for more information.



A Family Perspective...

Today's gospel speaks of light and darkness. Often a parent is deliberately "left in the dark". Darkness can be comforting for it makes no demands on us. Light can be disturbing for it forces us to take action. Parents walk a delicate balance of when to "sit in the dark" and when to "turn on the lights". ~ Bud Ozar

Contemporary Stations of the Cross

St. Isidore Parish Church
 Friday March 15 at 7:00 p.m. and
 Friday, March 22 at 3:30 p.m.

The Uncomfortable Life in The Light

If you have ever been a woman over the age of 30 who stayed in a budget motel, you know the horror of awakening in a dark room, switching on the bathroom lights and screaming at the shriveled-up she-witch you find hiding there.

And you know the feeling of disappointment that blooms in the pit of your stomach as you realize the shriveled-up she-witch is your own reflection staring back at you beneath the merciless glare of overhead fluorescent lighting.

You may also know the relief of visiting a nice restaurant after dark and catching sight of yourself in the mirror. You lean forward, mesmerized by how different — how matte! How smooth! — the contours of your face look in what we call "forgiving light." But this turn of phrase is simply not correct. It is not light, and it does not forgive. It is darkness, and it merely conceals.

But it feels so much better, doesn't it? Salvation can feel like condemnation, when being lost is all you know. Sometimes it is so much more comfortable to live lost in the shadows.

It is possible to yearn for darkness. Darkness gives cover to so many things. The light has a harshness that can almost seem demanding, exposing. Light can bleach. Light can burn. "Is this really me?" you think in that budget hotel bathroom, examining acne scars you never saw before and crow's feet that seem to have developed overnight. The answer is yes. Yes, that is really you, all of it, every inch. There's nothing to be afraid of, just step into the light and own it.

"And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil." — John 3:19

Prayer Chair Yoga

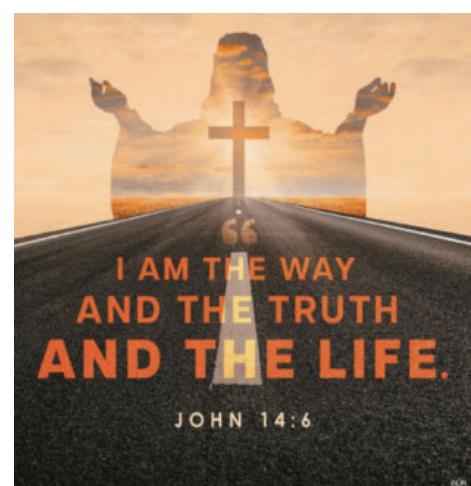
Come join us as we pray, stretch & relax together doing chair stretching/yoga. No experience is needed. This exercise is safe for everyone. Do as much as you feel comfortable. It is wonderful for your body and soul. Invite a friend. Fridays in April and May at 1:00 p.m. in the social hall. \$5 donation. Tea served afterwards.

IHM Sisters' Raffle

Through your generous support of the IHM Sisters' Raffle, you make it possible for us to provide quality and compassionate care to our retired sisters. \$25 raffle tickets are sold in the parish office.

Bus Trip to Assumption Grotto

The Knights of Columbus are looking to organize a bus trip to Assumption Grotto Parish to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption on August 15, 2024. We are looking for volunteers to help organize or anyone interested in going. Please contact John Swan at jfswankofc@gmail.com.



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.



Please Pray for the Sick

Natalie Abraham Peter Osantowski
 Chuck Anglewicz Victoria Parise
 Florence Bauer Stephanie Petoniak
 Brenda Bova Michele Piatt
 Kathy Bova Joyce Piotonski
 Thomas Breen Judy Polakowski
 Jan Caloia Edmund
 Adam Cole Radzilowski
 Denise Daniel Izabel Randazzo
 Greg Daniel Mary (Vagi)
 Ken Donius Richardson
 Carol Elwart Margaret
 Jeff Fennelly Sobanski
 Christine Gammer Nathan Statly
 Juli Graser Barbara Stevens
 Gregory Haines Robert Szuba
 Raymond Hatfield Fernando
 Glen Knoblock Marques-Urioste
 Steven Kowalski Mark Vagi
 Robert Lotan John VanBuhler
 Nancy Lukowski Andre
 Natalie Vandevelde
 Maldonado Dylan Wade
 Patty McShane Carla Wicklund
 Karen Meneghin Bubba Dan
 Ashleigh Wirick
 Motoligin Ted Zamojski
 Anne Ohren
And those who care for them...

Newly Added to the Sick List

Gregory Haines
 Carla Wicklund

Healing Prayer

Heavenly Father, we pray that You will lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick. We beg You to have compassion on all those who are suffering so that they may be delivered from their pitiful circumstances. In Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Help us keep our sick list current. Please notify the parish office at 752-9611 when changes occur. We enjoy hearing the good news of recovery and extend our deepest sympathy for those who have departed.

Praying the Rosary... On the 4th Sunday of every month in the Chapel starting at 10:00 a.m.



Easter Flowers

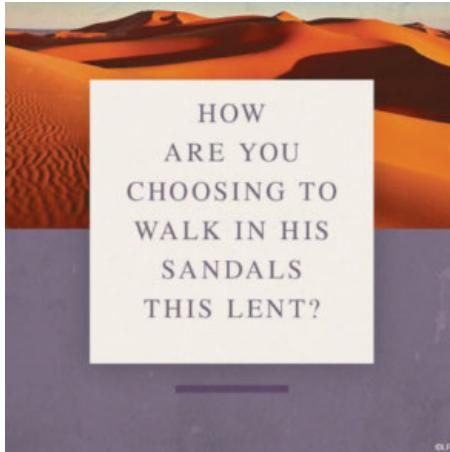
It is our custom at St. Clement to make an offering for the decoration of the worship space for the Easter Season, in the names of friends and family - living or deceased. The flower donation is \$30.00. The names will be published in the Easter bulletin.

**Deadline - Sunday, March 24
 (Please Print)**

In Memory: _____

In Thanksgiving: _____

Given by: _____



Homebound Communion

If you have a family member or a neighbor who is homebound and would like to receive communion, please contact the Parish Office at 752-9611. Arrangements will be made for a visit.

Weekly Soup for the Homebound

If you know someone that could use this help, please contact Christian Services 586-651-0734 and we will add them to our SOS Ministry. We currently deliver soup weekly to over 42 households.



Please Pray for the Members Serving Our Country

Cpt. Nicole Adenomas
 MSG Omar Ambriz
 Spc. William Boeve
 Pvt. Dakota Burdo
 Maj. John L. Fellows
 SSG Andrew Fons
 Pfc. Brian Gaines
 Sgt. James Griffie
 Parker Haines
 Spc. Mark A. Lipinski
 SSGT Ian McLaughlin
 SSG. Brian Niebel
 Maj. Catherine Peuterbaugh
 Spc. Zacari Pytleski
 Chief Jeff Richardson
 2nd Lt. Stephen Rutherford
 Chief Jacob Shey
 E5 Rebecca Sovereign
 Spc. Michael Stobak
 Maj. David Stys
 Pfc. Bill Thompson
 Pfc. Evan Vanouver
 SMSG Janet Westcott
 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

Portugal, Spain & France



MARIAN SHRINES & APPARITIONS



Join Deacon Kurt Godfrey & Father Vito Martinez of St Clement of Rome Catholic Church on a pilgrimage!

October 5th - 17th, 2024

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 Contact Eddie Abuafra at
 eddie@trinitytourtravels.com
 or 800.687.0306. To learn more
 and register.

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OUR TRUE HOME By Deacon Kurt Godfryd

There was a couple that had been married for more than 50 years when one day, unexpectedly, the husband passed away. A few days after the funeral, their pastor visited the widow and found that even though she was grieving, she was filled with peace and joy. "Mrs. Winslow, I'm glad to see you're holding up so well. But even so, I'm sure you must miss your husband terribly." The widow responded: "Oh, yes, I miss him more than ever. But I think of it this way. For years, I would wait all day for him to come home from his job. I'd keep busy here with work around the house and look forward to the time he'd walk through our front door. I'd always have dinner ready and, each evening, we would enjoy our time together. All these years, I was the one waiting for him to come home. But now, he's waiting for me." (adapted from Roy B. Zuck, *The Speaker's Quote Book*, p. 102)

In each of our lives, there is one certainty: we will all experience death. Perhaps it will be the death of our parents, after which we will feel as though we are orphans. Perhaps it will be the death of our spouse, after which we will feel abandoned and alone. Perhaps it will be the death of our friends, after which we will feel the need to reflect and ask: "Am I next?" Or, worst of all, perhaps it will be the death of a child. For those of us who have experienced this tragedy, myself included, we know how we have cried out to the Lord: "Lord, why my child? Why couldn't it have been me?"

It is at our baptism that we begin our Christian journey. If we think about it, it is though the words spoken by the priest or deacon set our lives in motion. For, at the anointing after baptism, we hear: "As Christ was anointed priest, prophet, and king, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life." During the clothing with the white garment, we hear: "May we see in this white garment the outward sign of our Christian dignity. With our families and friends to help us by word and example, may we bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." And during the lighting of the Paschal candle, we hear: "May we always walk as children of the light and keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts so that when the Lord comes, we may go out to meet him with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom."

Given all of this, it is important that we remind ourselves of where we are headed—and of what God has promised us. We are headed for glory in the kingdom! We are headed for everlasting life! We are headed for reunion with those we love and continue to love us, who are now in union with all the saints in the heavenly kingdom! The Holy Scriptures remind us of this reality: That the souls of the just are in the hand of God. (*Wisdom 3:1-9*); That the Lord is our Shepherd. (*Psalm 23*); That our hope rests in Christ Jesus, who does not disappoint. (*Romans 5:5-11*); and that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life and shall be raised on the last day. (*John 6:37-40*)

In the year 125 A.D., a pagan author named Publius Aristides attempted to explain why Christianity had been spreading: "If any righteous man among the Christians passes from this world, they rejoice and offer thanks to God, and they escort his body with songs and thanksgiving as if he were setting out from one place to another nearby." (Zuck, p. 106)

Our Christian understanding of death is this: First, that we are journeying from one place to another. And second, that our movements are from a temporary dwelling to an eternal home. In considering death, most of us feel frightened, especially of the unknown. As such, we must always keep our ultimate goal in mind.

Late one evening, as evening drew on, a little girl entered a cemetery which she frequently used as a shortcut after school. An old man walking near the cemetery gate stopped and asked her, "Aren't you afraid to go through the cemetery in the dark?" To which she replied, "Oh, no. For my home is just on the other side." (Zuck, p. 110)

Each day, may we pray for those who have died and for those who are dying. And to borrow words from Blessed Solanus Casey, may all of our prayers "thank God ahead of time." After all, our true home—with Him—is just on the other side.

Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s): Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the St. Francis Retreat Center, in DeWitt, MI (10 miles north of Lansing), on April 5-7, 2024. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$215 for meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.michigan@gmail.com, or call (586) 770-1772 for details.



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. Art Baranowski**Deacon**

Rev. Mr. Kurt J. Godfrey

Pastoral Associate
Russell Morgan**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

Kim Glowicki 752-6591

Middle School Youth Group 752-6984**Agape Center** 336-6737**Pregnancy, Counseling and Adoption****Catholic Family Services** 416-2300**Knights of Columbus**

John Swan 586-557-9979

Email: jfswankofc@gmail.com**Weekend Masses**

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Spanish - 1:00 p.m.

Holiday and Weekday Masses

As announced

Reconciliation (Confession)

3:30 p.m. on Saturday or 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. 10-29-23

WEEKLY EVENTS FOR
March 11 - 17**Monday, March 11**

9:00 a.m. - Forgotten Harvest

6:30 p.m. - OCIA

Tuesday, March 1210:00 a.m. - Comfort Makers -
Social Hall1:00 p.m. - Grieving with Great
Hope - Rm. 2

2:00 p.m. - Book Club - Rm 2

Wednesday, March 139:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. Matthew
McKinnon requested by Mary
Ann McKinnon12:00 noon - Threshold Bible
Study

6:30 p.m. - Bible Study - Matthew

Thursday, March 149:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. Arthur
Tebo req by Romona Meirow6:00 p.m. - Family Reconciliation
Service - Church**Friday, March 15**9:00 a.m. - MASS - Int. Matthew
McKinnon req by Mary Ann
McKinnon

6:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 165:00 p.m. - MASS - Int. Arthur
Tebo req by Romona Meirow
Int. Jerry Rybak req by Wanda
Rybak6:00 p.m. - Euchre Tournament -
Social Hall**Sunday, March 17****Fifth Sunday of Lent****Farwell Party for Russ Morgan**7:00 p.m. - MASS - Int. Matthew
McKinnon req by Mary Ann
McKinnonInt. William Ritchie req by
Kathy Meloche & Family10:30 a.m. - MASS - Int. Frank &
Angela Raffa req by the Raffa
family

Int. James Ellis req by Paolo &

Angie Milana

11:30 a.m. - Baptisms

1:00 p.m. - Spanish MASS - Int.

St. Clement Parishioners

4th Sunday of LentCan we see the goodness around
us?Today we have the story of a man
born blind. In Jesus' time, blindness was viewed as a
punishment for sin. Lent is all
about looking inward and rooting
out sinful desires and actions. So
this story of a blind man and Jesus
restoring his sight is a story about
the forgiveness of sin.How often do we hold on to sinful
ways or thoughts? Do we need
Jesus to give us something in our
lives to see again? Or do we need to
concentrate on something we do
well so that our "sight" may be
improved?This week, let us look through
eyes of faith and attempt to see
goodness around us. Also, let us
help each other to remove sin so
that we might see God more
clearly.Stephen Ministry provides Christ-centered
companionship to those who are experiencing
difficulties in their life.Caregivers are trained to support
and to companion those in need
privately and confidentially. If you
or someone you know could benefit
from seeing a Stephen Minister,
Please contact our Parish Office
at (586)752-9611.



Agape Needs

Our current pantry needs are: pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, Hamburger Helper, applesauce, breakfast bars, Manwich, rice/pasta side dishes, flour (5#), sugar (5#), pancake mix, tuna, cookies, crackers, oatmeal, boxed potatoes, laundry detergent and dishwashing liquid. Any of these items may be dropped off during pantry hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM and Thursdays 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Simply call the pantry at 586-336-6737 upon arrival and your donation will be accepted by a volunteer. Financial donations can be made by visiting our website at agapenorthmacomb.org via PayPal, by scanning the PayPal QR code below or by personal check. Our address is 347 S. Main St., Romeo, MI 48065.

The Agape Center is an equal opportunity provider.

suggestions on WHAT SHOULD I GIVE UP FOR LENT?

- Don't buy anything you don't need.
- Throw away 40 things for 40 days.
- 40 days of home organization
- No gossiping
- Work out daily to take care the body God gave you.
- Don't eat after dinner.
- Say 3 nice things to your spouse & kids daily.
- Don't eat out for 40 days.
- Replace 30 minutes of TV or screen time with devotion/prayer time.
- Do not complain or speak negatively.
- Sit down and have a meal as a family or with someone.
- Be silent for 30 minutes.
- Fast on another day instead of just Fridays of lent.
- Arrive 15 minutes earlier to Mass.
- Stay after Mass to help sanitize the church.
- Search and learn about a saint each week of lent.
- Pick one of the 4 Gospels and read a chapter each Sunday.
- Post only positive quotes on your social media.
- Stop worrying about tomorrow but focus on today.
- Volunteer in a ministry that you've always wanted to.

PRAYER | FASTING | ALMSGIVING

LIFE. THE OTHER CHOICE.

How can people of faith promote the sanctity of human life now that abortion is a constitutional choice in Michigan? Right to Life of North Macomb County's "meet-and-greet" on Tuesday, March 19 will offer fellowship and conversation about the prolife movement in our community and state. Join us from 7-8:00 p.m. at the Romeo Graubner District Library, 65821 Van Dyke Ave., Washington, MI 48095. For further info, email NorthMacombRTL@gmail.com or visit www.LifeisaPeach.org.

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Readings for the Week of March 11, 2024



Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53

Sunday, March 17: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Adult Choir Mass Schedule



March 17 - 10:30 a.m. Mass

March 24 Palm Sunday -
10:30 a.m. Mass

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



MATT MAHER

Sponsored by St. Kieran Catholic Church

LIVE ON JULY 30
7:00PM



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www.stkieran.org

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