



Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, December 11	8:15 AM
<i>(Saint Damasus I, Pope)</i>	
† Elmer Fenzau	
Tuesday, December 12	8:15 AM
<i>(Our Lady of Guadalupe)</i>	
Suffering Mothers	
5:15 PM	
† Kenneth & Lucille Tracy	
Wednesday, December 13.	8:15 AM
<i>(Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr)</i>	
† Ray and Jay Carey	
Thursday, December 14	8:15 AM
<i>(Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church)</i>	
Descendants of Walter & Elizabeth Weber	
5:15 PM	
† Mike Miles	
Friday, December 15.	8:15 AM
† Vivian Wiest	
Saturday, December 16.	8:15 AM
Descendants of Barney and Elizabeth Richgels	
5:00 PM	
† Bill Noble	
Sunday, December 17.	7:30 AM
People of Our Parish	
9:30 AM	
† Irvin & Elaine Reuter	

RECONCILIATION

(in the confessional closest to the rectory)

Mon. thru Sat. Before Mass

Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM

Saturday at 4:00 PM

Face-to-face reconciliation by appointment only.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 1, 3 & 4

Church Support Envelopes . . .	\$5,989.00
Offertory Cash	\$589.00
Children's Offertory	\$72.00
Weekly Electronic Giving	\$978.00
1st of Month Electronic Giving	\$1,025.00
Total	\$8,653.00

Budgeted Offertory for Dec	\$51,742
Offertory Received in Dec	\$8,653
Budgeted Amount Still Needed..	\$43,089

Monthly Offertory Comparison

Nov. 2016	\$29,077.00
Nov. 2017	\$32,558.00

From Our Pastor:

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus Christ's birthday, He invites us once again through His Holy Word to truly live our Catholic Christian faith (Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8). When we only appear to live our faith, we're like the Pharisees and Sadducees who came to be baptized by John in the Jordan River (Mark 1:1-8). They were Israel's religious and social leaders. They knew their prayers and what to do at Synagogue – they appeared to be models of religion. That's why Saint John the Baptist warns them that simply appearing to be a believer wasn't enough, that they needed to repent of their sins and to let their faith change their hearts.

To live our Catholic Christian faith, we need to let it change our hearts. As disciples of Jesus Christ, this means that we have a personal friendship with Jesus, that we not only know *about* Him, but that we know, love and serve God now so that by His grace we will be eternally happy with Him in Heaven. Going to Mass is foundational to living our faith, yet even at Mass we can get casual about living our faith and not really pray the Mass. Many have become so casual and indifferent that they've stopped going to Mass – fewer than half of all Catholics and Protestants go to church on Sundays (nationwide, many students in religious education and in Catholic schools do not attend Sunday Mass; for various reasons, they neglect going to Mass, which is the best "class" for knowing, loving and serving Jesus). Let's keep praying for and inviting families, friends and others to truly live the faith.

When we truly live our faith, we do so in word and deed, for we are baptized in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, called to prepare the Way of the Lord (Isaiah 40; Mark 1; Matthew 7:21-28 and 25:1-46). So, we spend time with God in His Word (not just at Mass); pray; frequent the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession; proclaim and defend the Truth with love about God's gift of life and marriage; and we bear the fruits of His Spirit, fruit that will last, such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness (Galatians 5; John 15:16) – indeed, God does not call us to be indifferent or apathetic like artificial plants, which look nice but bear no fruit. He calls us to live the faith and realize that every moment matters, because Jesus Christ is Present at every moment (Matthew 28:16-20). When we forget this, we tend to sin – and then we need to repent, seeking God's forgiveness and mercy, striving to live holy lives, conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion (Mark 1; 2 Peter 3:8-14).

As we strive to live our Catholic Christian faith, let us remember to be aware of God's Presence at every moment, living the virtues of faith, hope and love in our words and deeds, and praying each day. By doing so, we can repel the devil and discouragement, develop a personal relationship with Jesus, prepare the Way of the Lord in our hearts and daily life, and bring the light and love of Jesus Christ to every moment. As we prepare to celebrate Jesus Christ's birthday, may we ask the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Clement and all the saints to help us prepare with an awareness of God's Presence at every moment, allowing Him to sanctify those moments, living the virtues of faith, hope and love, bearing the fruits of the Spirit, praying to the Father, through the Son and in the Spirit, more and more conformed to the heart of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, as He leads us and guides us to life everlasting in Heaven. Amen.

With peace and prayers in Christ,
Fr. William

In addition to the daily and Saturday Confession schedule, Fr. William will be offering Confessions from 6:30 – 8:00 PM every Tuesday during Advent, December 12 and 19.

Area Communal Penance Schedule:

- **Wednesday, Dec. 13, St. Mary, Bloomington, 7:30 pm**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 19, St. Charles Borromeo, Cassville, 7:30 pm**



FORMED: HANDING ON THE FAITH IN A NEW AGE!

We hope you have already registered on FORMED and become familiar a bit with its content and hopefully even taken advantage of watching a video or listening to one of the speakers. **If not...FORMED** offers opportunities for faith formation and enrichment any time, anywhere.

To get connected to FORMED, go to www.FORMED.org. Scroll down the page and on the right side you will see the word "Register." Click on that and it will ask you for your email address and for the parish code. Our parish code is **DHYNXC**.

You will also be asked to create a password, which along with your email address, you will use when you log into FORMED in the future. Once you are into the FORMED site, you will begin to see the many possibilities that FORMED offers. In the upper right hand corner of the page, you will see your initials and an >. Click on that to see the "profile" and "sign out" buttons of FORMED.

At the FORMED Home Page, you will see the reflection for Sunday's readings at the top. Below that, you will see other video offerings. **If you scroll further down, you will see some custom content that we have suggested.** This content area will change frequently as we suggest current topics, saints and the liturgical seasons for viewing and study. For example, if you go to FORMED this week, you will see that most of the suggested content consists of Advent related topics. The custom content area of the FORMED Home Page is a great place to go to get acquainted with FORMED and what it has to offer individuals and families.

Remember, when you go to the FORMED website for the first time, you will need to REGISTER to create your profile. After that you will use the log-in icon. As we move into the Advent and Christmas Seasons, there are many videos and studies available for you to view that will enrich this sacred time. Don't miss out and get signed up for FORMED! Please contact the parish office if you have any questions.

ADULT EDUCATION OFFERING

This Tuesday, December 12th, is The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It was on this day, December 12, in the year 1531, that the Blessed Mother last appeared to St. Juan Diego near what is now Mexico City. Learn more about the story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Juan Diego, and the tilma that bears her image, by attending one of the video presentations that we will be offering. On December 12th there will be two opportunities to view the documentary, "Our Lady of Guadalupe", one at 9:15 AM and the second at 6:30 PM. Each viewing will last about an hour and a half, and will be held in the parish office basement meeting room.



FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

As some of you already know, the family that Family Promise has been helping for the past several months is now in their own home! To say that this is a wonderful and joyful time for them would be an understatement. As their daughter said, "Our new house is going to be like Christmas!" Know that all that you did for this family has been greatly appreciated by them. Their independence could not have happened without the support of the volunteers from our parish, as well as the other ten host churches and support churches from around the county. So on their behalf, thank you! As of this writing, there is not a family in the program, but that can change on any given day. Our next week to host families is the week of January 7th, 2018.

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way in the \$10 GRAND IN YOUR HAND fundraiser. It was a huge success! One of our own parishioners, Joe Friederick, was one of the four lucky BIG winners of the evening. It couldn't happen to a nicer gentleman! Congratulations Joe!

CLARITY CLINIC OF SW WISCONSIN "THANK YOU"

"Thank you all for investing in the next generation through your support of Clarity Clinic of SW Wisconsin's Baby Bottle Fundraiser. All donations support our community education, medical services and post-loss support.

We continue to see exponential growth in demand for every aspect of our services, and because of God's grace and the generosity of our financial supporters, we can continue to educate, equip and empower youth and clients with values-based education related to reproductive health and emotional well-being.

The St Clement Church family raised \$1,275.04 for Clarity Clinic of SW Wisconsin! We appreciate your generosity and are thankful for your support. Let us know how we can pray for you, or support you in any way."

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

Christmas is just two weeks away! We are once again offering the opportunity to remember your deceased loved ones through Christmas memorial donations. The money we collect will go toward decorating our parish church during Advent and throughout the Christmas Season. Please put your donation in an envelope marked with your name and the name(s) of those you wish to remember, and drop the envelope in the offertory basket or at the Parish Office. All checks should be payable to St. Clement Parish, and be turned in no later than **December 17** (Sunday). The memorial listing will be published in the Dec. 23/24 bulletin. Thank you!

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS FOR GRADES K TO 6

December 13: Class, 6:00-7:00pm

Children's Choir for students in grades 3-6, 5:15-6:00pm, in the choir loft.

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS for Grades 7 to 9

CLASS SCHEDULE: December 13

Grades 7, 8 & 9 – class, 7-8:30 pm

YOUTH MINISTRY- ISAIAH 43

**Registration form for Steubenville North Youth Conference is on the Isaiah 43 Youth Ministry table by the holy water font. The forms are due by Friday, December 15, to Katie at the parish office. This is very important as they have changed registration dates this year.*



THIS WEEK AT ST. CLEMENT

Sunday, Dec. 10 St. Clement Men's Group "Be a Man!" ~ 7 pm Social; 7:30 Presentation, Dining Hall

Tuesday, Dec. 12. Individual Confessions, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 13 All School Mass at 8:15 am

. Mass at Orchard Manor, 9:30 am

. Mass at Atrium Post Acute Care, 10:30 am

. RE classes; Grades K-6 (6-7 pm), 7-9 (7-8:30 pm)

Thursday, Dec. 14. Knights of Columbus, 7 pm Rosary, 7:30 pm Meeting

Friday, Dec. 15 Mass at Morningside, 11:15 am

. St. Clement School Christmas Program, 6:30 pm

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE. *Sunday, December 24*

Vigil of Christmas 5:00 PM

Vigil of Christmas 9:00 PM

CHRISTMAS DAY. *Monday, December 25*

Nativity of the Lord 9:30 AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY *Monday, January 1*

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God 9:00 AM

(Not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

GIVING TREE REMINDER

All the items for the Giving Tree were asked to be returned by this Sunday **December 10th**. If you have items to return, please do so AS SOON AS POSSIBLE as they need to be sorted and we need to check for missing items. Gifts and toiletries can be placed by the Christmas tree and the gift cards and cash need to be placed in the wooden podium by the tree. We have "adopted" six families who will be very appreciative of the extra help this Christmas. Thank you for helping others in need.

~Cheryl Raisbeck, Sue McLean, Emily Schildgen, Lynn Crooks and Ashleigh Hampton



TEC RETREAT COMING TO ST. DENNIS IN MADISON

The date is December 28 (starts at noon)- 30 (ends 2:30). TEC (Together Encountering Christ) is an intergenerational movement of the Catholic Church, especially designed to help meet the spiritual needs of Catholic Christians. Although it is an amazing experience for anyone 16 years of age or over, it can be especially rewarding for those who are preparing for or have been recently Confirmed and those presently or recently in the RCIA program. This is also a «shout out» to those of you who have already experienced a TEC retreat and would like to help with this one. Fr. Randy Timmerman will be the Spiritual Director. Applications and more information about TEC can be found at www.kairostec.org. or by calling Shannon Davies, the director, at 608.279.9319. Applications may also be available at your church or parish office.

SAINT CLEMENT SCHOOL

SCRIP WARS

Our Saint Clement School classes are currently competing against one another to win our 2017 SCRIP War Competition. The class that recruits family and friends to purchase the most SCRIP from November 18 - December 24 will be declared the winner. The winning class will then get to present a \$100 donation to Family Promise on their behalf, as we continue to look for ways in which we can live our faith by serving others. In addition, if we reach our goal of selling over \$125,000 worth of SCRIP during this time, all students will be rewarded with a special pajama party. So, please stop by the SCRIP table after Mass to get your Christmas SCRIP and be sure to let us know which student or class you would like to receive the credit towards our SCRIP War Competition. We also have a few smaller denomination SCRIP cards available during the Christmas Season to better meet your gift giving needs. Thank you all once again for your continued support of our wonderful parish school!!!

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We would like to invite you and your family to our annual Saint Clement School Christmas Program this coming Friday, December 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. Mrs. Dreher and the students have been working very hard to prepare for their presentation of "The Legend of the Christmas Tree." Please mark your calendars today and make plans to join us on December 15th!!!

SAINT CLEMENT SCHOOL/HOME & SCHOOL RAFFLE CALENDAR WINNERS:

December

- | | | |
|----|------|------------------------|
| 4 | \$25 | David & Tiffany Helmke |
| 5 | \$25 | Tony Crapp |
| 6 | \$25 | Shirley Winkler |
| 7 | \$25 | Nick & Marisa Alderson |
| 8 | \$25 | Cindy Klaas |
| 9 | \$25 | Tim & Mary Block |
| 10 | \$50 | St. Clement School |





**WEEKEND
LITURGICAL SCHEDULE**



DECEMBER 16 & 17

- 5 PM Lectors:** Mary Seiler & Emil Everix
5 PM Servers: Paige & Larry Pluemer, Owen Fritz
7:30 AM Lector: Rita Schmitz
7:30 AM Servers: Sam & Grace Schaffer
9:30 AM Lectors: Sheri Ihm & Sam Jonas
9:30 AM Servers: Joey & Carolyn Recker, Findley Hoffman

DECEMBER 23 & 24

- 5 PM Lectors: Tom Schaefer & Peg Jonas
 5 PM Servers: Hunter Abing, Braeden Bausch & Hope Williams
 7:30 AM Lector: Shayne LaBudda
 7:30 AM Servers: Need Volunteers!
 9:30 AM Lectors: Jenny/Gracie Winter & Kitty Mumm
 9:30 AM Servers: Lydia, Aaron & Anna Murphy

*If you are unable to fulfill your scheduled liturgical role,
please find a substitute.*

**We need lectors and servers on December 24 at 5:00 PM and at 9:00 PM for our Christmas Eve Masses. We also need servers and lectors for the Christmas Day Mass at 9:30 AM. Please contact Bill Manthe at the parish office to volunteer.



December 10~ 7 PM Social; 7:30 PM Presentation

*Session 10: Be a Man Who Changes the World

**Last Session until January 2018!*

INVITATION TO CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Madison Diocesan Choir will present its popular *Festival of Lessons and Carols* on Sunday, December 17 at 4 p.m. at Holy Name Heights (the former Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center) in Madison. Bishop Robert Morlino will preside. All are invited and admission is free. Please bring a non-perishable food item to share with the Catholic Multicultural Center food pantry.

The concert will feature Glenn Schuster, Diocesan Choir organist, playing the recently restored and installed Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ, which will be blessed by Bishop Morlino at the beginning of the service.

The Choir also will sing *Epiphany Lessons and Carols* on Saturday, January 6 at 4 p.m. at Holy Name Heights. Scripture and Carols for Christmas and Epiphany will be used and the choir will repeat some choral music from the earlier performance.

YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Thank you to all the St. Clement Children, grades 4K-6, in our school and our Religious Education classes, for your beautiful ornaments that decorated our tree for Lancaster's Festival of Trees. Our St. Clement Children's Tree won the prize for "Favorite Tree." The St. Clement Children's Tree was a lovely expression of evangelization, as each ornament proclaimed the birth of Jesus and the children's desire to follow the Star that leads to Jesus.

We think of gifts and gift wrapping at this time of the year. In the book *Daily Meditation with the Holy Spirit*, Rev. Jude Winkler, OFM, Conv. gives us this holy reminder: "Asking for the gift of the Spirit is not selfish as long as one intends to use the gift for the good of others and the glory of God." Thank you, children, for using your God-given gifts of creativity, charity and joy to share the virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love with others.

BLESS OUR PRIESTS COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Please remember the retired priests of our diocese by making a gift to the "Bless Our Priests" collection. This collection is used to directly support all retired priests' welfare including the rising cost of healthcare, long-term care and medical costs. Please return your gift in the envelopes available at all Masses this weekend. Your generosity supports retired priests from all 11 counties of our Diocese!

HAPPENINGS IN THE AREA...

Fr. Don Lange will offer reflections upon four Christmas carols with group singing in the following nursing homes...

- **Epione Cuba City Nursing Home, December 16, 9:45 am, Cuba City**
- **Manor Care, December 19, 1:30 pm, Platteville**
- **Park Place Assisted Living, December 20, 9:30 am, Platteville**

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN (CCW) NOTES

ALL women of parish are members of the Council of Catholic Women (CCW). The dues of \$5 help us support parish activities, roses for life (on the altar) for two weekends per month, altar bread, Lighthouse Media CD stand etc. Thank you to members who sent in your dues. If you haven't yet, please send it in as soon as you are able. Thank you.

2018 PARISH CALENDARS

If you have not already picked up your 2018 parish calendar, they are available at various places in the entrance of the church, and also outside the parish office. You can also take one or more of the calendars to give to family members, neighbors and others. We wish to extend a big THANK YOU to Greg and Rita Schmitz of Homeward Bound for once again supplying our calendars for us. Thank you Greg and Rita for your generosity!!

Please keep in mind that and plan ahead for all monetary donations you would like posted to your 2017 tax statement must be in the December 30/31 weekend offertory collection or postmarked by Dec. 30. All donations received after these dates will be posted to your 2018 tax statement. Thank you for your generous support of our St. Clement Parish!