



Weekly Mass Schedule

Monday, January 8 8:15 AM
(The Baptism of the Lord)
 † Diane Heinrichs and Marie Olson

Tuesday, January 9 8:15 AM
 † Lona, Lynn & Darrall Leighton

Wednesday, January 10. 8:15 AM
 † Joyce Klaas

Thursday, January 11 8:15 AM
 † Don & Florence Pluemer and Leonard & Virginia Schmitz

Friday, January 12. 8:15 AM
 † Hannahmarie Horsfall

Saturday, January 13 8:15 AM
(St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Blessed Virgin Mary)
 Bishop Robert Morlino
5:00 PM
 † Vincent & Germaine Mumm

Sunday, January 14 **7:30 AM**
 † Don & Florence Pluemer and Leonard & Virginia Schmitz
9:30 AM
 People of Our Parish

RECONCILIATION

(in the confessional closest to the rectory)

Mon. thru Sat. Before Mass

Saturday at 4:00 PM

Face-to-face reconciliation by appointment only.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

December 30 & 31

Church Support Envelopes . . . \$9,181.00
 Offertory Cash \$989.00
 Children's Offertory \$48.00
 Year-End Giving \$5,500.00
Total \$15,718.00

Budgeted Offertory for Dec . . \$51,742.00
 Offertory Received in Dec . . \$56,175.00
Budgeted Amount Exceeded . . \$4,433.00

Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Monthly Offertory Comparison

Dec. 2016 (4 weekends) \$39,292.00
 Dec. 2017 (5 weekends) \$56,175.00



Pope Francis' January Intention for Evangelization: That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.

From Our Pastor:

This Sunday, January 7, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ, also titled "the manifestation of the Lord." During this Christmas Season (which concludes with the Baptism of the Lord, January 8 this year), we recall on the Epiphany when God's eternal plan of Salvation was revealed to the whole world (represented by the three Magi visiting the manger). As we seek God's mercy and forgiveness and listen to His Word during Mass, let us join the Magi who came before the Lord bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2:1-12) – that we would be more conscious of praising, thanking, loving and adoring God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, not so much with material goods, but with our very life, in faith, hope and love, centered in His gift of the Holy Eucharist.

When the King of Heaven was born, a very prideful and earthly king named Herod was alarmed. Pope Saint Gregory the Great (540-604 AD) has said that earthly pride is undoubtedly alarmed when heavenly eminence is made manifest. In fact, to this day, we often see leaders of nations attack Christianity and Christians because they see them as a threat to their power – such earthly leaders remain hard of heart. No such earthly ruler guided the Magi or the shepherds – rather, God guided them with one of His stars and angels. Nevertheless, with all the signs from God, manifested from our Lord's birth to His death and Resurrection, many people to this day remain hard of heart. They refuse to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. "In truth, all the elements bore witness that their Creator had come," says Pope Saint Gregory the Great. "Indeed, to speak of them in a human way, the heavens knew that He was God because they immediately sent forth a star; the sea knew Him because it allowed Him to walk upon it; the earth knew Him because it trembled when He died; the sun knew Him because it hid the rays of its light; the stones and walls of houses knew Him because they were broken at the time of His death; the lower world recognized Him because it gave up the dead it was holding; and yet some hearts remained full of unbelief, and did not know that He was God, although all the dumb elements perceived Him as Lord!"

As brothers and sisters in Christ, may our hearts and minds always be filled with faith. May we be always open to the grace of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to live His virtues of faith, hope and love. May we be His witnesses in the world, instruments of His love and mercy for all whom we encounter and so as to lead them to Jesus Christ. The Epiphany begs belief from us so that we, like the Magi, will be led home by another way, the Way of Love, from the wood of the Crib to the wood of the Cross, the Way of Our Lord Jesus Christ, crucified and risen from the dead, the Only Savior of the world.

With peace and prayers for a blessed and joyous New Year in Christ,
Fr. William

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PRAYER

Bishop Robert C. Morlino wrote a personal letter to the priests of the diocese and to all people in the diocese in a recent *Catholic Herald* article in which he addressed the evil that plagues the world. In part he said, "Given the troubles of our age, I believe we are certainly called, not only to redouble our efforts in spreading Christ's plan for the redemption of Creation, but also in our struggle against the evil one and his works. For these reasons, and after consulting with and receiving the support of the Presbyteral Council, I have determined that as a diocesan Church we will begin to insert one or more 'Prayers for the Triumph of Good and the Overcoming of Evil,' and a call for the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel at the end of the General Intercessions."

We certainly live in troubled, violent times, and we often wonder how to respond. One response, in a word, is prayer. United in prayer throughout the diocese, following Bishop Morlino's instruction, we will ask for the Archangel Michael's intercession each Sunday and Holy Day for deliverance from evil. The prayer for St. Michael's intercession can be found inside the back cover of our church hymnal.



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

FORMED: OUR GIFT TO YOU!

We all know that the Magi brought the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Jesus, the newborn King. Jesus is God's gift to humanity, given to redeem and to save us from sin and eternal death. It's always God's desire that we come to greater knowledge of Jesus and the gift of new life He offers us.

Having in mind the importance of knowing, loving and serving Jesus more fully, here's our gift to you. St. Clement Parish recently purchased a parish subscription to **FORMED.org**. **FORMED** is a website that contains hundreds of excellent Catholic movies and studies, podcasts and e-books. **FORMED** uses modern technology that allows individuals, groups and families to grow in faith, knowledge and spiritual enrichment from the comfort of their home, or even using a mobile device.

Here's how to "open your gift." When you go to the **FORMED** website for the first time, you will need to enter our parish code. Click on the box that says, "Enter Code." You will need to enter our Parish Access Code, which is **DHYNXC**. Next, you will be asked for your email address, personal information and a password. In the future when you go to **FORMED**, you will use the login icon using your email and password. Once you are at the **FORMED** site, you will begin to see the variety of learning opportunities that it has to offer both adults and children.

We encourage you to get registered and begin using this wonderful tool for spiritual enrichment for yourself and your family. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or are having trouble getting registered.



FAMILY PROMISE: OUR HOST WEEK IS COMING UP SOON!

As many of you know from Fr. William's announcement last weekend in church, there was a heating system water pipe that froze and broke in the Day Center sometime on the 26th or 27th of December. Because there were no families in the program, and Hannah, the Director of Family Promise of Grant County, was on vacation, the break was not discovered until the 28th. The pipe that broke was one of the pipes that carries hot water for heating the complex. Not only was there a lot of water, it also caused an extensive amount of humidity in the Day Center.

ServiceMaster out of Dubuque was called immediately to begin the process of removing the water and dehumidifying and drying the Day Center. As of today (January 2), that process is about to wrap up. Now begins the replacement of the carpet padding in 3 rooms and part of the main hallway, re-carpeting the room where the water pipe broke, and cleaning a few of the carpets.

What does this mean for our host week? Much will depend upon how quickly the above mentioned work can be completed. It is possible this work could have already been finished by the time you read this. Presently, there are no families in the program. If a family does come into the program, and the work in the Day Center has been completed and is ready to take in families, we would be hosting some time this week. The earliest we would be hosting is Monday, the 8th; however a family could come into the program any time throughout the week so we do need to be ready. As we have done in the past, **we will be calling everyone** who signed up to help as a reminder of what to bring (if we have a family and the Day Center is ready), or to say that food or help is not needed (if there is not a family in the program). You can expect a phone call 2 days prior to the day you signed up to volunteer or to bring in food.

If you have any questions, please give Bill Manthe a call at 723-4990. Thanks!

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD: THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

How quickly the Christmas season passes! Just a few short weeks ago we were celebrating the birth of Jesus, and now we come to the Feast of His Baptism, which begins His public ministry at the age of 30. How quickly kids grow up! The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord also ends our Christmas Season. Normally this feast would occur on the Sunday after the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, but this year the Baptism of Jesus is celebrated on Monday, January 8. This happens whenever Christmas Day falls on Sunday or Monday, as it did this year. Next week, when you come to church, the manger, trees and lights will be taken down and gone, and the sanctuary will look very bare. But as this feast reminds us, the important work still lies ahead. It did for Jesus as He goes forth from the waters and proclaims in word and deed the Kingdom of God, forms His apostles and disciples, and undergoes His passion, death and resurrection. And it is true for us as well as we live out our baptism each and every day. Being a Christian is not a one-hour, once-a-week obligation, but a 24/7, 365-days-a-year vocation to holiness that lasts until the day the Lord calls us from this life. Being baptized demands that we continually "grow up" and become the sons and daughters God desires us to be. On the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus, consider your own baptism, and the ways you can live more fully the new life given to you by God in the waters of baptism.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"They prostrated themselves and did him homage." As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, let us give homage to the presence of God in our marriages by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are Jan. 26-28 in Brookfield, WI; Feb. 16-18 in Geneva, IL or March 16-18 in Madison, WI. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS FOR GRADES K TO 6

January 10: Students return to class, 6:00-7:00pm

We have learned much about Salvation History. This semester, we will learn more about Jesus in our lives, and how He lives in His Church.

All parents of second graders meet in the RE office at 6:00pm.

Topic: The Sacrament of Reconciliation

RELIGIOUS ED NEWS for Grades 7 to 9

CLASS SCHEDULE: January 10

Grades 7, & 8 – CLASS, 7-8:30 pm

Grade 9 – DTS, 7-8:30 pm

YOUTH MINISTRY- ISAIAH 43

January 10 – DTS, 7- 8:30 pm

Please turn in your deposit to attend Steubenville North Youth Conference to Katie at the parish office as soon as possible if you haven't paid yet. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. CLEMENT

Sunday, January 7 Family Promise Host Week Begins

Wednesday, January 10 All School Mass, 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); Grades 7-8 (7-8:30 pm)

. DTS, Grades 9-12 (7-8:30 pm)

Thursday, January 11 KC Meeting; 7 pm Rosary,
7:30 pm Meeting

RECENTLY BAPTIZED

LETTIE ANN

Daughter of Brandon & Jennifer (Lolwing) Clark

JENNA ELIZABETH

Daughter of Louis & Sara (Brunton) Freise

KILLIAN RAY

Son of Stephen & Laura (Skaife) Fritz

LUKE MICHAEL

Son of Justin & Katie (Brunton) Grinnell

REUBEN ANTHONY

Son of Joseph & Kelly (Richard) Ihm



CONGRATULATIONS ON CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE IN 2017!

- Jerome Schauf & Kathy Edwards
- Nicholas & Amy (Kasperek) Budworth
- Jonathan & Shannon (Farrey) Jensen
- Raymond & Lynne (Evans) Klaas
- Matthew & Lyndsey (Biddick) Ihm
- Alex & Kelsy (Kelly) Benson

HELP THE DIOCESE OF MADISON PREPARE ENGAGED COUPLES FOR MARRIAGE!

The Diocese of Madison invites you to share your marriage and your faith with newly engaged couples through our Marriage Prep Program. It is an opportunity to share your real-life experiences and the beauty of God's plan for married love with couples preparing for marriage. We need couples that have experienced the trials, struggles, and joys of marital love and are striving to live their Catholic faith within their marriage. Join us for a training session Friday January 19, 2018 from 6:30-9:00pm at Holy Name Heights in Madison. Visit madisondiocese.org/jointhempteam for more information OR Contact Beth Ulaszek at (608) 821-3026 or beth.ulaszek@madisondiocese.org for more information.

MASS INTENTION OPENINGS

We have openings for Mass Intentions in coming weeks and months. Have a Mass offered for your living and/or deceased loved ones, in thanksgiving or for your special intentions. Contact Katie at the parish office (723-4990) or use the envelopes found in the entrances of the church.

SAINT CLEMENT SCHOOL

THANK YOU SAINT CLEMENT QUILTERS!!!

Saint Clement School would like to recognize our Saint Clement Quilters for generously supporting our parish school each and every year. These amazing ladies provide such wonderful examples for our families about how we can all live our faith. They are visible in our church, in our school, and in our community and consistently to use their God-given talents to help others! This Christmas Season, the Quilters donated \$1,000 towards our Tuition Assistance Fund and another \$500 to support our dedicated classroom teachers. And, this is on top of the numerous quilts they make and donate for our fundraising raffles each year. For all of this and so much more, we very humbly say, "Thank you, Quilters!!!"

SAINT CLEMENT RAFFLE CALENDARS

We would like to thank all those who have supported our wonderful parish school over the years through the purchase of our Saint Clement Raffle Calendars. These calendars have brought in over \$13,000 annually to help cover the expenses of our Catholic school. However, these calendars were also becoming increasingly difficult to sell and a burden to some of our school families who were required to sell them. Therefore, we have made the difficult decision to discontinue our Raffle Calendar Fundraiser in favor of an increase in school tuition. The majority of our school families would much rather pay a little more in tuition than have to sell a pack of \$50 calendars to friends and family members who are already overburdened with fundraisers. Again, we thank you for your participation in this fundraiser over the years and encourage you to continue supporting our three main school fundraisers: Pizza Sales, Dinner Auction, and SCRIP... Thank you and God bless!



WEEKEND LITURGICAL SCHEDULE



JANUARY 13 & 14

5 PM Lectors: Bill Manthe & Emil Everix

5 PM Servers: Mason & Avery Crooks, Brianna Kirsch

7:30 AM Lector: Rita Schmitz

7:30 AM Servers: Volunteers!

9:30 AM Lectors: Kitty Mumm & Jenny/Gracie Winter

9:30 AM Servers: Cole Zenz, Alaina Stader, Mallory Olmstead

JANUARY 20 & 21

5 PM Lectors: Peg Jonas & Tom Schaefer

5 PM Servers: Zach Mendis, Madeline Reukauf & Owen Fritz

7:30 AM Lector: Shayne LaBudda

7:30 AM Servers: Bill Manthe

9:30 AM Lectors: Sam Jonas & Josh Jensen

9:30 AM Servers: Katie & Abbi Martin, Haley Hampton

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

**SERVERS: Your new schedules are ready
and can be picked up in the sacristy.**

YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the Liturgical Calendar, we return to Ordinary Time, those weeks outside of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter. Life assumes an ordinary rhythm, day-to-day work schedules, children going off to school and coming home, clearing the sidewalks of snow, decorations in the church returning to the regular displays.

But there is nothing ordinary in God's time on any day. Ordinary Time is not a time to give in to mundane attitudes, even though the lights will come down and many decorations will go in a box for the basement. We prove the fulfillment of God's promises by living them with love each day. "Do not think that love, in order to be genuine, has to be extraordinary. What we need is to love without getting tired," says Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Tireless love is extraordinary. God's Love created, sustains, and redeemed us. When we love God and neighbor, we create homes and parishes, we fulfill our vocations, and we help direct young people to theirs. Ordinary Time it is, but, out of love for the Savior, it is extraordinary loving we do.

"Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful,
and kindle in them the fire of your love."

HELP AND HEALING FOR POST-ABORTION

No matter how much time has passed, recent or long ago. *Project Rachel* and *Rachel's Vineyard* retreats offer compassionate and individual care for anyone hurting from abortion. To talk with someone, contact Mary 608-221-9593 or rachel@straphael.org Confidentiality assured. www.madisondiocese.org/projectrachel

EPIPHANY AND BLESSING OF HOMES

Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Traditionally this occurs on January 6, but its observance has been moved to Sunday because of its importance. The word "epiphany" means to "show" or "manifest". Throughout Jesus' life there were many showings or manifestations of Jesus being the Son of God. Today we have one of the first of His epiphanies, that of the coming of the Magi to adore Him. Israel had long awaited the Messiah, but with the coming of the Magi, God shows forth that Jesus has been born to be Redeemer of the whole world. The three gifts the Magi bring represent who Jesus is-- gold, that He is the King of Kings; frankincense, that He is the Great High Priest who offers sacrifice and intercedes for us; and myrrh, that like many of the prophets, He will suffer and die, and will offer Himself as the eternal sacrifice to the Father out of love for all humanity.

A custom on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord is the blessing of homes. This custom goes back many centuries and many people and families continue it today. The blessing is very easy and all that is needed is a piece of chalk. The blessing of homes, usually done by a priest, involves marking the upper door frame of the house with the year and the names of the three magi - Casper, Melchior and Balthasar. Taking chalk, mark the door frame like this: 20+C+M+B+18. The + signs are not addition symbols, but crosses. When blessing the home, a prayer of blessing may be added. Use one you know or use the following.

On this day, dear Savior,
Your light shines brightly in our midst.
You are the light of the world, the light in our darkness,
ever with us, showing us the way.
On this great feast of Light,
when the Magi came guided by a star,
like them, may we offer you gifts that symbolize
our love for You.
May we offer You the gold of our faith,
the myrrh of our repentance
and the frankincense of our devotion.
We bow before You, Holy Savior,
as did the Magi, with great and abiding joy.
On this day, may we too stand in Your light
and give glory to God
for the gift God gives us in You, Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

