



SAINT CLEMENT CATHOLIC PARISH

135 South Washington Street - Lancaster, Wisconsin 53813 Founded in 1859

Diocese of Madison, Bishop Donald J. Hying

Fr. William Vernon, Pastor 723-4990 Josh Jensen, Principal 723-7474
Bill Manthe, Parish Associate 723-4990 Nick Crosby, CRE 7-12 723-4990
Katherine Bernhardt, Parish Secretary 723-4990 Rebecca Dean & Melissa Wiest, CREs K-6 723-7474

Website: www.saintclementparish.com Email: st_clement@tds.net (Parish Office)

For Parish Membership, Baptisms, Weddings, Communion Calls or any other pastoral need, contact the respective parish office. Bulletin Announcements: Deadline is Monday at Noon to the St. Clement Parish Office or to st_clement@tds.net



Weekly Mass Schedule

Scheonte
Tuesday, May 23 8:15 a.m. †Donald Bauer
Wednesday, May 24 8:15 a.m. 6th Grade Graduates
Thursday, May 25
Friday, May 26
Saturday, May 27
Sunday, May 28

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: Tuesday – Friday: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

RECONCILIATION

Before Daily & Sunday Masses; Saturdays, 4:00 p.m.

Face-to-face reconciliation by appointment only.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

May 13 & 14
Church Support Envelopes \$3,835.00
Offertory Cash\$629.00
Children's Collection \$74.00
Weekly Electronic Giving \$1,205.00
Total\$5,743.00
May Budgeted Offertory \$39,500.00
May Offertory Received \$15,013.00
Monthly Offertory Comparison
April 2023 (5 weekends) \$49,191.00
April 2022 (4 weekends) \$37,244.00



RECENTLY BAPTIZED FELICITY IRENE

Daughter of Tyler & Morgan Streif

From Our Pastor:

As we prepare for the Solemnity of Pentecost, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (Ascension Thursday was May 18th, the 40th day after Easter Sunday – however, in the Diocese of Madison and other dioceses the celebration is transferred to the following Sunday, May 21st this year). Reflecting on the Ascension, Pope Saint Leo the Great (400-461 A.D.) said: "Today we are not only made possessors of Paradise, but with Jesus Christ we have ascended, mystically but also really, to Heaven, and have won through Christ a grace more wonderful than the one we had lost." Jesus' Ascension strengthens and nourishes our hope of attaining Heaven – it invites us to always *lift up our hearts*, as we state in the Eucharistic preface of the Mass, and *seek the things that are above*, to have great hope because Jesus Christ has prepared an eternal dwelling place of love, peace and joy for us (John 14:1-6; Luke 24:46-53); indeed, we go to Heaven to the extent that we go to Jesus Christ and enter into communion with Him (Pope Benedict XVI).

Jesus is in Heaven in His glorified Body, with the signs of His redemptive sacrifice, the marks of His Passion (Revelation 5:6) – marks that Thomas could see and touch, marks that have brought about our salvation (Fr. Francis Fernandez, In Conversation with God). Jesus Christ has conquered sin and death, and made Heaven our purpose in life, for we are "citizens of Heaven" (Philippians 3:20). Therefore, we're not just citizens of this earth in the midst of personal difficulties, challenges and sorrows, and unprecedented crises caused by evil-doing elected and non-elected officials, but also in the midst of faith, hope, love, joy and peace that come from knowing that we are beloved sons and daughters of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, made in His image, and that by His Passion, Death and Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven, He has redeemed and rescued us and wrought Heaven for us. By His grace, may we respond to His love by loving and following Him – in our love for God and neighbor, let us always seek the consoling help of Jesus' Mother, as the Apostles did, for they returned to Jerusalem and prayed with one mind, together with Mary, the Mother of Jesus (Acts 1-2; Saint Josemaría Escrivá, Christ is Passing By, #126).

The hope of Heaven should fill our days with joy! Therefore, attending Mass should fill our hearts with joy since it gives us a glimpse into Heaven! Jesus ascends and He also remains close to each of us (Matthew 28:16-20) in: prayer; His Church, Word and Sacraments; the communion of saints; our baptism, as the Holy Trinity dwells in us; the Holy Eucharist, as Jesus is substantially present at Mass and in every Catholic parish tabernacle (may our 19 children who received their First Holy Communion three weeks ago and our 10 young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this past week, grow stronger every day in the virtues of faith, hope and love). May we go to Jesus Christ by going to Mass, praying every day, being conscious of His presence at home, school and work, asking Him to help us and to sanctify our daily duties. By witnessing in our words and actions to God's love, peace, joy, mercy and life-affirming teachings, may we make Him known to others as we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (May 28th this year), united in prayer to God, together with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saint Clement and all the saints, striving by God's grace, by the strength of the Holy Spirit, to fervently live the virtues of faith, hope and love, with great joy. Amen. Alleluia!

With prayers and peace in Jesus Christ,

Fr. William

SAVE THE DATE!

Father William's farewell gathering will be held on Sunday, June 25, after the 9:30 Mass in the dining hall.



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: MAY 27 & 28



5:00 p.m. Lector: Mary Seiler

5:00 p.m. Servers: Will & Abel Kratochvill, Adeline Helmke

7:30 a.m. Lector: Rita Schmitz

7:30 a.m. Servers: Oliviah & Elliott Webster

9:30 a.m. Lector: Josy Hoerth

9:30 a.m. Servers: Vivian & Eleanor Bernhardt, Seth Mendis

LETTER FROM FATHER MARK

I'm Fr. Mark Miller, and I'll be part of the pastoral team in Grant County beginning July 1. I've been a priest for eleven years, and I'm 43 years old. I grew up in Blanchardville, Wisconsin, a town of 800, just shy of an hour southwest of Madison. I grew up in town but worked on a farm in high school, and it's made every job I've had since seem easy by comparison. My folks have retired and live in Cross Plains. My younger brother Scott and his wife live in California. I went to UW-Madison for Materials Science Engineering, and worked briefly for the Kohler company in their brass foundry. While I grew up Lutheran – my Dad was a Lutheran pastor – I had something of a conversion of heart in college that led to a lot of questions, and eventually, after graduating, to the Catholic Church. I will tell you more about that eventually – I promise. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all, building each other up in the Gospel, and making Grant County home.

Christ's Peace, Fr. Mark

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers Marie E. Stelpflug, one of our very dear parishioners, who died peacefully at home on Tuesday, May 9, and whose Funeral Mass was offered on Saturday, May 13. Marie was 96 when the Lord called her gently home to be with Him. It was a call that she longed for and looked forward to in faith and trust. Marie was born and grew up in Dubuque and was trained as a Registered Nurse. She moved to rural Lancaster when she married her beloved husband Harold in 1953. Together, they made a beautiful team, raising nine children: Jim, Bill, Cindi, Janet, Mike, Joan, Sharon, Greg & Christine. Marie was a woman of great faith and devotion. She had a great love for the Lord, the Blessed Mother and her family. She was deeply devoted to prayer, especially the Rosary. It was fitting that her funeral took place on the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. Marie so looked forward to the large family gatherings at her home – they brought her so much joy! Marie was a very holy, humble woman of faith. May this good and faithful servant now rest in the perfect peace and joy of Heaven. And may the Lord pour out His consolation and comfort upon her family and friends in this time of sorrow.

"Eternal rest grant unto Maríe, O Lord, and let perpetual light shíne upon her. May she rest in peace. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

Our next host week for Family Promise begins on the eve of Father's Day, June 18. Volunteer sign-up forms are on a table at the entrance of the church. Contact Bill Manthe at 723-4990 or Peg Jonas at 723-2051 if you have questions.

SAVE THE DATES

Photography for our new Parish Directory is quickly approaching: June 1-3 and June 6-10. The sign-up link for scheduling your session is: www.ucdir.com. Click on "Photography Appointment Scheduling Login." Our Church Code is: WI243 and our Password is: photos. Sign up soon! **Please Note**: When you are signing up on-line, if your family size is 6 or more, you need to schedule 2 consecutive times! On most weekends we are also scheduling photography appointments at the entrance of the church after Mass. Look for us near the SCRIP table!

*** We will need a number of volunteers to assist during our photography days to check people in. Contact Bill Manthe to donate a few hours of your time. Thank you!

NATIONAL COMBINED COLLECTION

This weekend the National Combined Collection will be conducted in our parish, combining the following individual collections: Black & Indian Missions, Catholic Promotion of Authentic Human Development, Catholic Communications Campaign, Catholic Home Missions, Catholic University of America, Archdiocese for the Military Services, and Retirement Fund for Religious. There are brochures explaining all of the individual collections and envelopes for your donations (if you do not receive envelopes) at our church entrances. Your donations may be dropped off in the offertory basket or parish office. Thank you for your support in these worthy causes supporting mission and ministry here in our country. With your help and that of others, we can assist many of our brothers and sisters in need within the United States.

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL!

MADISON DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

The Diocese of Madison will hold it's first-ever Eucharistic Congress at St. John the Baptist Church in Waunakee, September 29-October 1. The Congress will blend devotion, prayer, Mass, keynote talks, breakout sessions, Adoration and more. People from throughout the diocese will gather to encounter Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and to celebrate His redeeming Presence. There is no cost to attend. To register and to get more information: www. blessedbrokenandgiven.com.

SAINT CLEMENT SCHOOL

THANK YOU PARENTS!!!

The success of our wonderful Saint Clement Parish School is directly related to the support of so many dedicated people in our parish, our community, and beyond. One of the most valuable of these assets to our school and to our students is, and always has been, our amazing parents. On Wednesday, May 24th, we will proudly graduate 9 of our finest sixth grade students during our annual Sixth Grade Graduation Mass. Unfortunately, we are also graduating three very dedicated school families. Therefore, we would like to take a moment to extend one more big "THANK YOU" to the following families and their children that have attended Saint Clement School:

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