



Church of ST. CLEMENT

Sunday, December 22, 2024

PARISH MINISTRIES

Marriage Preparation Church Office 566-3616, ext 111
Baptism Preparation Church Office 566-3616, ext. 111
Religious Education Tom Sweeney, 566-3616
Adult Catechesis Tom Sweeney, 566-3616
Lector Coordinator Cathy Boland 290-1338
Eucharistic Ministers Jim Starace 732-566-3616
Music Director Daniel Bucko 908-902-5736
Rite of Christian Initiation Tom Sweeney 732-566-3616
Altar Servers Jim Starace 732-566-3616
Ushers Ron Johnson 732-290-1371
Liturgy Committee Bill Fiorelli 732-566-3616
Liturgical Environment
Debbly Popplewell 732-772-9890

SERVICES

Athletic Director Phyllis Besso, 970-4487
Clement House Louise Peddel 299-9503
Safe Environment Coordinators
Amy Colen 908-267-0161
Bob Tully 848-468-6554

ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Rosary Society Marie Canonico 970-8261
Holy Name Ron Johnson 290-1371
Knights of Columbus Joseph Pittorino 566-3616
Senior Citizens Maryann O'Brien 566-0962
Hospitality Denyse Galasso 908-794-2007
Ellen Vaccaro 732-762-8129

REV. THOMAS VALA, PASTOR

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 9AM-3PM,
Church Office 566-3616

Admin@stclementmatawan.org

Church Fax 566-9275

CCD Office 566-3616

In case of a pastoral emergency 732-858-5187

Reception Center 591-8180

www.TheReceptionCenter.com

Parish Trustees Bruce Quinn & Linda Shirvanian

Parish Religious Education Program PREP

www.stclementreligious.org

St. Clement Athletic Association

www.stclementsports.com

Sacrament of Baptism

By appointment only—732-566-3616

Sacrament Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30PM-4:15PM

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements should be made one year prior.
Pre-Cana Conference required.

Mass Schedule: Saturday: 5:00PM | Sunday 8:00, & 11:00AM **Daily Mass:** Mon, Tues, Wed., Fri 8:00AM



Mass Intentions for the Week

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2024

5PM PHYLLIS ZULIN & THE ONDAR FAMILY
by her children
EVA ANTES by her family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024

8AM AL PARADISE by his wife Joan & sister in law
Barbara
ROSE MULLANEY by St. Clement Seniors
11AM PAUL FITZGERALD by his wife & family
ROBERT HOLMES by Sharon & Bill O'Hare
MICHELLE ATIEH DEBLASI
by Barbara, Stephen & Sarah Moser

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2024

8AM PHILOMENA MORRISEY by
the Gabriel family

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

5PM GEORGE FARRELL by his wife Ruth &
family
PHYLLIS ZULIN & THE ONDAR FAMILY
by her children
FRED DOYLE by Kathy & Erin
11PM LILLY NORBUT by her husband & family
BARBARA "BOBBIE" BIAINO by the
Savarese family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2024

8AM BILL & ALEX GALLO by his wife & family
JOHN LUCHESE by his family
JOHN CONSENTINO by family
9:30AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11AM EVA BLUMSTEIN by her family
MARIA SALVIA by the Kowalewski family
MARIA ZAMORA by the Baldassare family

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2024

8AM JOSEPHINE CORONA by Lucille Cilento

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2024

8AM BARBARA MURRAY by Springhill Assisted
Living & Rehab

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2024

5PM ANTOINETTA BARONE by the Buro Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

8AM MANDY RODRIGUES by Charles Dunn
11AM JOHN FALCO by Patti & Vern Ralph
WILLIAM KELLY by Karen & Sean
McNamara

COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 2024

\$8,091.00

ONLINE COLLECTION FOR SUNDAY, DEC. 8th, 2024

\$3,523.00

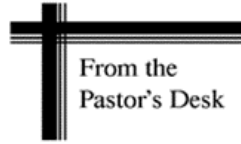
COLLECTION FOR IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

\$1,063.00



Born the King of Israel

*The Sanctuary light is dedicated this week in memory of
George Farrell by Ruth & Family*



From the
Pastor's Desk

Greetings everyone, we celebrate the Fourth Week of Advent this weekend. At the same time, we also begin our celebration of Christmas. Christmas turns our focus to the birth of Jesus and the

gift of salvation that he brings to us. In the joy of the season, the coordinators of the Giving Tree program and I want to thank all of you for your donations to this year's collection. All the gifts have either been delivered to or picked up by the organizations that requested them. As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Along with the joy of our Savior's birth, your love and willingness to give to those in need is also cause for rejoicing. I pray you will know the Lord's love and presence in your lives as we prepare for and celebrate His birth this coming Wednesday.

Father Tom

THANK YOU!

The Altar Rosary Society would like to thank everyone who supported them for their Tricky Tray on December 7th. It was a successful day! Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for setting up & breaking down tables for the event with Richie. A big thank you goes to Richie for also being there the whole day- making the coffee, taking care of maintenance issues, etc. We'd also like to thank Officer Jack from the Matawan Police Department for being at our event. Lauri & Donna in the parish office were wonderful in helping people fill out the forms for tickets & gathering all the tricky tray requests. Thank you both!!

We appreciate the support from the parish & the community in attending the event, especially since it was our first Tricky Tray!

And, of course, thank you to Father Tom for supporting our group in our fundraising endeavors.

Debby Popplewell

CHILDREN'S HOMILY

Just a reminder that St. Clement will have a Children's Homily at our 11AM Mass on the first and third Sunday of each month. All children are invited to attend.

SUPER 50/50

The Altar Rosary Super 50/50 was a great success! Thank you to all who participated.

The total amount collected this year was \$31,300.00

The five prizes going to the winners are:

1st Prize - \$6,260.00,

2nd & 3rd prizes - \$3,130.00

4th & 5th prizes were - \$1,565.00

The church will receive - \$15,650.00 to go toward improvements needed.



Fourth Week of Advent

0677 St Clement

PARISH POLICIES

Parish Registration... In order to be recognized as a practicing member of the Parish, it is necessary to be registered and show your presence and support by attendance at Mass, and also through the regular use of Church offertory envelopes.

If you are new to the area and have any questions regarding Parish Registration, please call the Parish Office (732-566-3616). We are committed to serving the pastoral and spiritual needs of our parish, and we ask your prayers, and your commitment, to help meet this goal.

Weddings...Please call the Parish Office one year in advance of desired wedding date, BEFORE completing any other arrangements (reception hall, etc.). Weddings are celebrated only for members who have been registered with St. Clement for at least one year.

The Wedding Liturgy should be planned with care and interest. On that day you celebrate the beginning of your life together, united to each other and Christ in the Sacrament of Matrimony. This Sacrament is very important and should be given the central focus on this very special day. The following practices are not done at St. Clement: the lighting of the Unity Candle, and the presenting of flowers...this is not part of the Roman Rite. We also ask that flower girls and ring bearers be no younger than 6 yrs.

Baptisms...The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the third and fourth Sundays of each month (except during the season of Lent) at 12:30PM. Arrangements must be made in advance.

Prior to the birth of your first child, attendance at the Baptism Preparation Class is mandatory for parents; sponsors/godparents also are encouraged to attend. Classes are held in the Church at 7:30 P.M. For more information, call the Parish Office.

Sponsorship...In order to be a sponsor/godparent for Baptism or Confirmation, a person must have received all Sacraments through Confirmation; be at least 16 years of age; be married in the Catholic Church; attend Mass faithfully...also be a registered, actively participating parishioner for a minimum of six months.

Safe Environment: All parish volunteers working with minors or vulnerable adults in a direct or administrative capacity and all parish employees must follow the policies set forth by the Diocesan Office of Youth and Child Protection. This includes submitting to a criminal background check through fingerprint analysis and attending the required VIRTUS Awareness Training Program. To begin this process, please create an account at virtus.org and contact Amy Colen (908-267-0161). Virtus website registration instructions can be found at dioceseoftrenton.org/policies-forms.

PLEASE LET THE PARISH KNOW IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR PHONE NO.

BEFORE MASS BEGINS, PLEASE TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF.

ST. CLEMENT OFFERS PARISH GIVING, an On-line Electronic Funds Transfer GIVING PROGRAM. VISIT www.ParishGiving.org



Located behind St. Clement Church
Catering for Weddings, Sweet 16's, Communion, Baptisms,
Repasses & More
Exclusively by Mayer Catering
(732)-591-8180
www.TheReceptionCenter.com

If you would like to bring up the gifts at Mass, please speak to an Usher before Mass begins.

Ushers are needed at Mass. If you can help, please see one of the ushers. Your help is appreciated.

RCIA ...Do you or a loved one wish to deepen your relationship with God? Are you interested in receiving your Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation? Would you like to find out more? Come and see us or give us a call! Cathy Boland (732)290-1338 or Roni Vezeris (732) 591-8658.

The Altar Rosary Society meets the first Tuesday of each month (with the exception of June, July and August) in the Reception Center. 7PM Recitation of the Rosary; 7:30PM meeting. All ladies of the parish are invited. Altar Rosary members attend the First Sunday, 8AM Mass of each month (with the exception of June, July and August).

The Holy Name Society meets the first Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M. in the Church's Cry Room. Men of the parish are cordially invited to attend.

The Knights of Columbus meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7PM in the Reception Center. Men of the parish are cordially invited to attend.

ST. CLEMENT SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB meets every Tuesday morning at 10:30am in the Reception Center. Come and make new friends. There are many activities to enjoy. You need not be a member of St. Clement to join. For more information on our Seniors Club, please call Mary Ann O'Brien at 732-566-0962. The Seniors sponsor a trip to Atlantic City the third Monday of every month. Call Mary Ann O'Brien at 732-566-0962 for more information on these trips.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Please continue to check the Web Page for information regarding Religious Education and Sacraments.

Respect Life Chapter
PRO-LIFE ROSARY

Join us on the second Saturday of every month at 12 Noon to pray the rosary in the church. **The next meeting will be Saturday, January 11, 2025** For more info, please contact Arminda Rubio-Pito at 732-616-2759 or email at prolife.mom.9@gmail.com

Online Prayers

Online prayer requests can be accessed at the following website: www.prayoverus.com.



LONG TERM PRAYER LIST

Please keep in your prayers the following individuals who are dealing with long term health issues: Randy Bishop, Bill

Szabo, James McGowan, Michael Lee Schoniger, Bob Wyshynski, Charles Carley, Shannon, Meredith Cox Yanes, Tina Brungard, Francis Leonard, Mila & Jerry Spiegelman, Joseph Henry Pickel Jr., Dominic Michael Calabrese, Roslyn Frank, Linda Frusci, Theodore D'Alessandro, Pat Hartman, Barbara Broderick, Yvette Salon, Kerrin Duff, Josephine Torri, Courtney Donohue, Ramona Fogelstrom, Rhoda Rubin, Iris Ortiz, Bart Beaudry, Francine Brogen-Alampi, Andrea Reverendo, Dana & Patty Liccone, Andrea Reverdo, Anna Jacobs, William Baker, Bryan Brancaccio, Antoinette Sweeney, Dorothy Holmes, Trystan Gianni Joyce, Roger Katon, Linda & Mike Wisnovsky, Tom Serpi, Ethan Pyle, Dennis Rowic, Gerry Brungard, Michael Liccone, George Coppa, Bill Jones, Edward Imperati, Rosemary & Gene Sandifer, Grace Bloxham, Patrick Hegarty, Lorenzo Cifelli, Darryl Vanderbilt, Donald Shara, Richard Christian Sr., Catherine Salerno, Camille White Yessen, Vinny Amato, Aaron Van Trease, David Pike, The Burke Family, Marita Veronica Burke, Mrs. Carol, Ann McLoughlin, Noel Wittenberg, Billy Coward, Desmond Kelly, Joan Pasquale, Sharon Kosick, Maryann Zarillo, Hilda Marotta, Joan McKenna, Lisa Hooker, Art Ubbins, Rosemary Ravenna, Kate Kikvigze, Jess Mulvihill, Robert Rorke, Angela Laboy, Pat Gallagher, Kristine O'Hara, Maureen Collins-Dougherty, McKenna Kranek, Kevin McNamara, Robert Shuya, Donald DeMartino, Anthony Vergona, James VanDua Vergona, John Beungard, Teddy Connolly, Monica O'Toole, Evan Cristoe, James Dreago, Carl Lundberg, Peter Rooney, Elsie Rooney

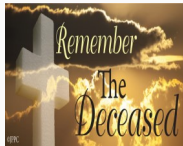
Special Intentions

Thomas Labenski, U.S. Navy
Mark Zeller, LCDR, U.S. Navy
J.P. Maloney, CPO., USMC
Sean Coughlin, Spc., U.S. Army
Michael Chiappone, Spc., U.S. Army
Markus A Garcia, Corporal, USMC
Anthony Principe, US Navy
Frank Conenna Jr., Lt. Commander U.S. Navy
SGR. Thomas O'Friel, NJ Army National Guard
Joseph Shammas, Private, U.S. Marines

THE PARISH WEBSITE IS ACTIVE AND UPDATED REGULARLY. www.stclementmatawan.org To include a church activity on our Web Site, email Mr. Quinn at admin@stclementmatawan.org

ELECTRONIC GIVING – PARISH GIVING

Contributions for 2023 have been updated and we welcome you to log in to www.parishgiving.org to review and enter contributions for the New Year. **PLEASE NOTE:** Only recurring contributions (such as Sunday offering, Building Fund, etc.) will be carried forward. All special (including Christmas and the Holy days) and second collections must be re-entered for the new calendar year. Please also note that you can download a report detailing your contributions for the past year by simply entering the dates in the search field on the contribution history tab (ex 01/01/23-12/31/23). Then click on the pdf icon (on the right hand side of the page) to generate the report.



PRAYERS-FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Prayers for the dead is one of the greatest acts of charity we can perform. The following is a list of the names of members of St. Clement that have recently departed:
12/06/24 Joan Fenske.



As part of the Annual Catholic Appeal, funds are returned to the parishes for local needs. Some parishes use these funds to provide necessary maintenance to the church or parish buildings. Others direct the money to their social outreach and ministerial support. **PLUS... 15% of the collected goal amount goes back to the parish and 50% of the overage is also returned for repair/restoration projects, new areas of growth or ministry development, as well as other needs. The goal this year for St. Clement is \$60,000.00. To date we have received \$60,450.77 which is 101% of our goal.**

CLEMENT HOUSE

Clement House, a free-standing house on the grounds of St. Clement Church, provides one family in crisis with a rent-free home for up to 24 months. It provides a safe haven while families get back on their feet. Clement House also provides an umbrella of opportunities for building skills and self-esteem, including parenting assistance and budgeting skills.

Clement House is currently taking applications for the next family to take advantage of this service. Anyone interested in applying can contact Louise Peddell at 732-299-9503 or at lpeddell87@gmail.com to discuss occupancy requirements and receive an application. Let us be that bridge to independence for a family in need.



SVdP provides spiritual, food distribution, emergency financial and other services to those in need. The pantry currently is in need of pancake mix, soup and turkeys for holiday food baskets. Donations may be dropped at the church office. Please call their help line at 732-290-1878 if you need assistance. SVdP also needs sponsors for their Adopt-A-Family Program where sponsors buy children Christmas gifts for a family in need.

OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT



The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors.

If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.





CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

5:00PM Mass

11:00PM Solemn Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00AM Mass

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

5:00PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY - SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

8:00AM & 11:00AM Mass

Offerings at Francis House of Prayer
Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House
84 Walnford Road • Allentown, NJ 08501
609-877-0509 or FHOP@verizon.net

Please check www.FHOP.org for dates, registration, directions and for our other offerings!
All programs will be offered online and in-person unless otherwise indicated.

THE END OF THE YEAR RETREAT

Tuesday, December 31 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Since God gives us life and time and is Lord over all, it seems appropriate to end the year in prayer. Francis House offers time, space and quiet for naming the graces of 2024 and expressing gratitude to God. The day will focus on our goals, hopes and desires for 2025. We reverently say farewell to 2024 and cordially welcome 2025 as a gift from God. Please bring your lunch. Donation: Love Offering

**EVENING ZOOM ONLY
OFF TO A PRAYERFUL START
FOCUSING THE NEW YEAR**

Thursday, January 2 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Start out 2025 with an evening zoom retreat to set the direction for the year. “Well begun is half done,” they say, and establishing a direction is essential for the journey. Where am I going in 2025? What is the desire of my heart, and God’s as we begin this year together? Donation: \$15, includes materials.

SETTING THE DIRECTION FOR 2025

Friday, January 3 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM

A new year is born! The first task at any new birth is to name the baby! We will give 2025 a name and choose a goal or practice for each month to assure it is true to its name! Does that sound appealing, grace-filled, and helpful to you? Donation: \$25, includes lunch. Zoom: \$20

**ZOOM ONLY
FIRST BELONG TO GOD
A RETREAT WITH POPE FRANCIS**

9 Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:30 PM or 7:00 – 8:30 PM

**January 22 & 29 March 12 & 26
February 12 & 26 April 9 & 23**

May 7

If your soul needs light and peace and hope this program is for you. The time commitment is well worth it and to make it easier for you we are offering it both in the afternoon and the evening. Pope Francis’ writings give witness to the depth of his understanding of world issues and Ignatian Spirituality for today. We will use *First Belong to God* by Austen Ivereigh. Donation: \$150