



Better Together

Volume 3, No. 2

QUARTERLY PARISH NEWSLETTER
ST. CLEMENT • ST. JOSEPH • MARY QUEEN OF PEACE

July 2026

Welcome to Fr. Anthony Onyeihe

Bishop O'Donnell has appointed Fr. Anthony Onyeihe as pastor of St. Clement, St. Joseph, and Mary, Queen of Peace effective July 1. At this time, Fr. Onyeihe remains in Nigeria awaiting approval of his R-1 Visa and will not arrive as scheduled.

In the interim, effective July 1, Fr. Walter Kispotta will serve as Parochial Administrator, residing at St. Clement and assisting all three parishes. Deacon Wayne Korte will serve as Administrator of Temporal Goods for St. Clement; Deacon Mark Dobelmann as Administrator of Temporal Goods for St. Joseph and Mary, Queen of Peace, to assist with the day-to-day needs of the parishes.

Fr. Tony (as he wishes to be called) shared this brief autobiography:

My name is Fr. Anthony Nwachukwu Onyeihe. I hail from Uturu, Abia State Nigeria. I was born on the 21st of July 1986. I hail from a family of four, two boys and two girls.

I studied Philosophy and Theology in preparation for priestly ordination at Bigard Memorial Seminary Enugu. My priestly ordination took place at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Okigwe on September 27, 2014. Ever since my ordination, I served at some parishes in Nigeria as Associate Pastor and equally taught at our Minor Seminary High School. I served as the Principal of a secondary in Nigeria before coming over to the US in 2021.

On arrival to the US, I first served as Associate Pastor of Immaculate Conception, Jefferson City. Thereafter, I served as Parochial Administrator of Holy Cross Church Cuba, St. Michael Steelville and St. Francis Bourbon. I also served in the same capacity at St. Theresa Church, Dixon and St. Cornelius Church, Crocker. My current assignment brings me to St. Clement Church in St. Clement, St. Joseph Church in Louisiana, and Mary, Queen of Peace in Clarksville.

While in school and equally as a priest, I have belonged to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, Divine Mercy Prayer Group, Legion of Mary and St. Anthony of Padua. I equally have a deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

My hobbies include: reading, playing tennis and watching soccer. My favorite color is blue. I love to pray, to read the scripture and other spiritual writings.

Update on Flocknote Implementation

We are very excited about Flocknote, a new communications tool for our Parish, as this is really going to simplify communications and increase engagement in our Parish.

In addition to better communication, Flocknote will also be used by the Parish Office to track donations. An individual donor is able to view their donations throughout the year and print their own end-of-year statements. Since we've been having some hiccups with the company that sends out the donation envelopes, this is a great time to switch to online giving. Once in your profile, just select the Giving tab and then click the "Make a Donation" button. You will be able to designate what fund you want to donate towards, whether it be a general donation, debt reduction, Cares Fund, and so on. PSR families will be able to register online and pay their fee through Flocknote. We are hoping it will work out to make reservations for the dinner/auction next year using Flocknote.

To date, we have had 259 households register. We are still missing a lot of you. If you submitted a Census form last Fall, you are already registered. You just need to sign in, click "My Profile" and sign up for groups that you want to receive communication from. If newly registering, connect using your browser at: stclementmo.flocknote.com or text STCLEMENTMO to 84576. Once logged in, enter your phone, email, address and add your family members. If married, be sure and include your wedding anniversary. We want to acknowledge your milestone anniversaries.

Once you've logged into your device - either your mobile device or computer - you don't need to log in again - there are no passwords. **This is not an App.** Just "Bookmark" the website address or on your mobile device, save the Icon to your home screen.

Giving online is easier than ever before!

Visit the website below or scan the QR code to donate securely from your phone!

GIVE ONLINE TODAY AT:

StClementMo.flocknote.com/give/52246

OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO DONATE SECURELY FROM YOUR PHONE



Thank you for your generosity!

Vocations Updates

Bryce Smith

A blessed ordinary time to all at St. Clement Parish. This summer I am assigned to the parishes of St. Lawrence and St. Anthony to receive pastoral experience under the direction of their pastor, Fr. Aubuchon. This has been a great experience. I am looking forward to attending a Steubenville conference in July with participants from this parish, and I ask for your prayers for a safe journey and a spiritually-enriching experience for those attending.

Thank you to everyone at St. Clement Parish for your prayers and support. Know of my prayers for you, and I ask that you continue to keep me in your prayers as I continue to discern God's will. PAX

Ad Jesum per Mariam

Bryce Smith

Mackenzie Scherder

On Friday May 8th, Mackenzie Scherder officially joined the Poor Clare Colettines at Annunciation Monastery as a Novice. A Solemn Investiture Ceremony was celebrated with friends and family as she publicly laid aside her worldly life to become a Bride of Christ. She received her full habit, veil, and a new religious name and title. She is now known as Sister Marie Margarita, of the Blessed Mother, Cause of Our Joy, Mediatrix of All Graces.

Sr. Marie Margarita is doing very well and enjoying her community life.

St. Clement Ladies Sodality News

The St. Clement Ladies Sodality has been busy this year! We are excited to welcome three new members since the beginning of the year and look forward to continuing to grow our organization.

This spring, we were honored to host the St. Clement 8th Grade Graduation Party and the Confirmation Celebration. We also had the privilege of providing the meal for Father Ussher's farewell reception, serving approximately 150 parishioners, family, and friends.

In addition to providing catering services at the Knights of Columbus Hall, the Ladies Sodality now offer tablecloth rentals in both black and white. If you're planning an event and would like more information, please contact Shirley Touchette.

As we look ahead to the fall, we will begin accepting nominations for Ladies Sodality officers. If you or someone you know would be interested in serving in a leadership role, please reach out to Shirley Touchette.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall. If you've ever been curious about joining the Ladies Sodality, we invite you to attend! We'd love to answer your questions, share what we're all about, and welcome you to our wonderful group.

St. Clement Fiesta for Faith Dinner/Auction



SOLD OUT!

We are incredibly grateful and truly blessed to announce that all tables for the St. Clement Fiesta For Faith 2026 Auction have been spoken for!

The support from our parish, community, and sponsors has been overwhelming, and we can't thank you enough.

If you were unable to reserve a table, don't worry – we have started a waiting list in case any tables become available. Please reach out if you would like to have your name added - Chelsey Touchette 618-202-0895 or Nichi Orf 573-470-3971

We are looking forward to an amazing evening of great food, exciting auctions, and wonderful memories as we come together to support St. Clement Parish.

Mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, August 22, 2026, at 5:00 PM. We can't wait to celebrate with all of you! Thank you for your continued support and generosity. See you in August!

St. Clement K of C Picnic News

The Knights of Columbus will hold their 105th annual picnic on July 18 on the K of C grounds. Delicious fried chicken dinners will be served from 12 to 7 pm.

We warmly invite all parishioners to volunteer to work at the picnic and bring two desserts to make the picnic a success. Your participation makes a significant difference in the success of the event. Volunteers are especially needed during the peak serving times between 3:30 - 7:30 pm, in the serving line and in the dining room. Volunteers are also needed for setting up and cleaning afterward.

St. Clement K of C Picnic Saturday, July 18, 2026

Fried Chicken Meal - All You Can Eat
Serving Noon - 7 pm
Adults: \$15 • Children 6-12: \$7
Age 5 and under Free
Games for All Ages • Quilt Raffles
Beer Garden • Live Music

If any parishioner is not currently assigned to a committee and would like to help contact:
Shirley Touchette 618-719-3461 (ladies) or
KC Grand Knight Justin Caldwell 573-795-3619

St. Joseph and Mary Queen of Peace Parish News

The St. Joseph/MQP Parish Council is still asking for people to fill three positions. The Council is made up of eight members. The shortage is due to a vacancy replacement and two term limits ending. Current (voting) members include President Jean Burkemper (MQP); Vice-President Dana Barker (MQP); Secretary Sandy Orf (term limit); Terry Stark (term limit); Frank Schwendemann; Pat Johnson; Kathy Dobelmann; and the one vacancy. The Council also includes Father Ussher and Deacon Mark (neither of whom have voting privileges). The Council is an advisory group for parish interests to the Priest.

There are also Committee Chairpersons who are not voting members, but give current reports on the various interests of the Council and parishioners. Those include Knights of Columbus, Mike O'Neill or Frank Schwendemann; Child & Adult Education, Terry Stark; Church Environment-Interior, Connie Garrett; Nursing Homes Communion, Deacon Mark Dobelmann; MQP Buildings & Grounds, Randy Lovell; Rectory, Denise Gschwender; StJ/MQP Sodality, Terry Stark & Dana Barker; StJ Buildings & Grounds - Exterior, Joe Schuckenbrock; and Seton Parish Center - Interior, Don Brewster.

The Council requests parishioners from both parishes to please consider taking a turn at a two-year term, only four meetings per YEAR (unless a special meeting has to be called). Will you step up? If so, text Deacon Mark at his phone listed in the bulletins or PC Secretary Sandy Orf at 573-470-3470. It should be noted that members of St. Clement are more than welcome to assist with "ministry" duties, but are not eligible for the Council. We always like seeing St. Clement people at St. Joseph's and/or Mary Queen of Peace any time!

The St. Joseph Ladies Altar Sodality elected the following new officers at their June 7 meeting at Seton Parish Center: Edith "Edie" Gatzmeyer, President; Tami Pursifull, Vice President; Terry Stark, Secretary; and Dorothy Brewster, Treasurer. Congratulations and thanks go out to these ladies for saying YES!!

We were sad to see Father Ussher leave for Marceline and Father Dominic head over to Columbia. We gave a big send-off along with our best wishes in their new positions!

And, as time marches on.....we're looking forward to meeting and greeting Father Anthony Onyeihe as soon as he returns from Nigeria. In the meantime, we'll be welcoming another Pastor to shepherd our flocks until that return. Father Anthony was previously assigned to Dixon, MO.

The Louisiana Knights of Columbus have a couple more Fish Fry Evenings at Seton Parish Center. Save the dates for July 17th and August 21st. Sodality ladies provide the desserts for the evenings!

And, last but not least, St. Joseph's will be receiving a new set of front entry doors around the end of July. The old doors have served well since the late 1800's, and time has taken its toll--it's time (about 150 years) to put them to rest.

Stewardship Council News

Parishioners are being encouraged to register and enter their information into the new Flocknotes parish information system. Marie Korte has been busy providing tutorials for various groups on how to use the system. Some additional organizations/administrators will need tutorials as well.

Birthdays and Anniversaries – based on the information generated by the Flocknotes database, the parish will begin honoring wedding anniversaries. The current plan is to honor every 5 years and every year over 50 years in the bulletin. If you are not registered in Flocknote and include your wedding anniversary, we will miss honoring you.

We have been able to compile a listing of our parishioners that have reached the honorable age of 90 and over. The Flame of Love group has volunteered to send cards on behalf of the parish to our age 90 and over parishioners and also to milestone anniversaries.

The Sunday 10:30 am Greeter program is going well. We would like to expand the program to include Saturday 5:30 pm Mass if we can get enough volunteers. If you feel called to serve as a Mass Greeter, contact Katie Kessler at 319-520-8322. You may be surprised at how many new faces you may see! This initiative enhances our parish's hospitality by offering a friendly welcome to all parishioners, particularly those who are new or visiting.

We have begun a review of the Stewardship Ministry Guide and will have an updated version available this fall.

Camp Lolek

Our local young parishioners had a great time at the Jefferson City Diocesan Camp Lolek held in Shelbina, MO. Camp Lolek is a four-day camp for junior high students.

Pictured below (left to right): Bailey Delgman, Callie Scherder, Nina Seedorf, Caelyn Hearn and Avila Kent (in back). Emilie Orf and Malia Kent were Counselors.



St. Clement School News

SCS Staff

All SCS teachers and staff are returning this year to our growing school! Pre-K is full once again this year with 20 students with our full-time aide, Missy Dempsey working alongside Miss Kelly in Pre-K!

The Kindergarten class has expanded quite a bit this year! We are currently at 23 students! We are blessed to have our very own Jessi Pazdera, who is the Aftercare Supervisor, as a part-time aide that will be working alongside Mrs. Orf in Kindergarten! We are very excited about the growth of our school and we have faith that it will continue to grow! The aide position was made possible due to the generosity of Barbara Scherder.

Miss Colleen Boswell, SCS Nurse, has resigned to work elsewhere. We wish her the best! We are pleased to welcome Kayla Pfeifer, a SCS parent, as SCS Nurse. Kayla will be a perfect fit as our new SCS Nurse! Welcome Kayla!

Custodian/ Maintenance

Our custodian, Marcin Jacyna, has left us for a position as a Certified Welding Inspector. We will miss him and we wish him all the best! St. Clement School and Parish has hired Keith Turpin as our new custodian. Keith will assume custodial duties for the school and Parish Center and do some maintenance as this will be a part-time position

Generous donations

SCS is blessed with generous donations from Brock and Michele Meyer, SCS Home and School Association (H&S) and Homebank towards making a bit of renovation to the upstairs boys restroom which is much overdue. Removal of old urinals, stalls, flooring and replacing them with new.

QNS (our tech people) will be installing the new server and cameras this summer. The cameras are funded through a Cuivre River Electric Grant that we received as well as a donation from Ellen (Scherder) Stanko. On top of that, we were able to purchase Chromebooks needed for this year's 1st grade class due to the donation of Bruce Hahn.

New reading textbooks were purchased for grades 3-6 due to the generous donation of RE-MAX and H&S's Mardi Gras raffle fundraiser.

SCS is very blessed with all of these generous donations as we keep growing! We presently have 103 students for next year! It takes a village!

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Linda Henderson, Principal

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC)



TEC is a 3-day program for teens age 16 - 21. For anyone interested in attending a TEC, the dates for the rest of the year are: July 25-27; November 7-9. Adult Observers are also welcome to attend. Learn more and register at: greatrivertec.org.

First Communion at Mary Queen of Peace

Abigail Rose Burkemper, daughter of Ted and Kristen Burkemper, received her First Communion on May 31 at Mary Queen of Peace Parish.



Baptisms at St. Clement

May 17, 2026: Dawson Jeffrey Schuckenbrock - son of Devan & Hannah Shuckenbrock

June 7, 2026: Maeve Rose Niemeyer, daughter of Scott & Jen Niemeyer

June 14, 2026: Morgan Stanley McEntee, son of Dakota & Hannah McEntee

June 21, 2026: Lynlee Claire Fosdick, daughter of Brian & Kaitlyn Fosdick

June 21, 2026: Annalisa Jean Maiuro, daughter of Nicholas & Katelynn Maiuro

June 21, 2026: Wyatt Benjamin Wasson, Brian & Kayla Wasson

Queen of Hearts Raffle

ST. CLEMENT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #1928

QUEEN OF HEARTS RAFFLE!

DRAWINGS ON FRIDAYS AT 8:00PM

\$5 EACH OR BUY 5, GET 1 FREE!

St. Clement Knights of Columbus continue selling \$5 tickets in our progressive Queen of Hearts weekly E-Raffle. We sell the raffle tickets and the money from the sales goes towards the Jackpot (like a 50/50). The Jackpot rolls over every week.

Players can view what the jackpot currently is at and also what cards have been pulled on the fundraising website: goraisedough.com/buy/2840. Full details on the rules are available on the site where tickets can be bought.

Tickets are \$5, or BUY 5 Tickets and receive 1 Ticket FREE!

Purchase your online tickets by going to the link: goraisedough.com/buy/2840 or scan the QR code.



Better Together Parish Newsletter

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