

St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Catholic Church

1118 North Grand Blvd. St Louis, MO 63106

314-533-0304 (ph) 314-533-4260 (fax) parish130@archstl.org (e-mail)

www.stalphonsusrock.org (website)

or Like us on Facebook at St Alphonsus "Rock" Liguori Catholic Church

Rev. Stephen Benden, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Rev. Rodney Olive, C.Ss.R., Associate Pastor



Mission

"To Joyfully Preach, Teach, and Live the Word of God"

Theme

"Praising God For All He Will Continue To Do In 2022"



PASTORAL STAFF

Sharon Cooney-Smith, Dir. Religious Education
Roberta George, Secretary
Deborah Grant, Clerical Support
Angela Harris, Bulletin Editor

SUPPORT STAFF

Bro. Steve Fruge, Pastoral Staff
Terrance Gipson, Maintenance
Terri Schneider, Dir. Hardin Food Pantry
Athletic Office: 314 533-0304
Teen Ministry: 314 533-0304

MUSIC MINISTRY

Malcolm Speed
Danny duMaine

REDEMPTORISTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Peter Schavitz, C.Ss.R.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Call for Appointment)

SUNDAY MASSES:

10:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES:

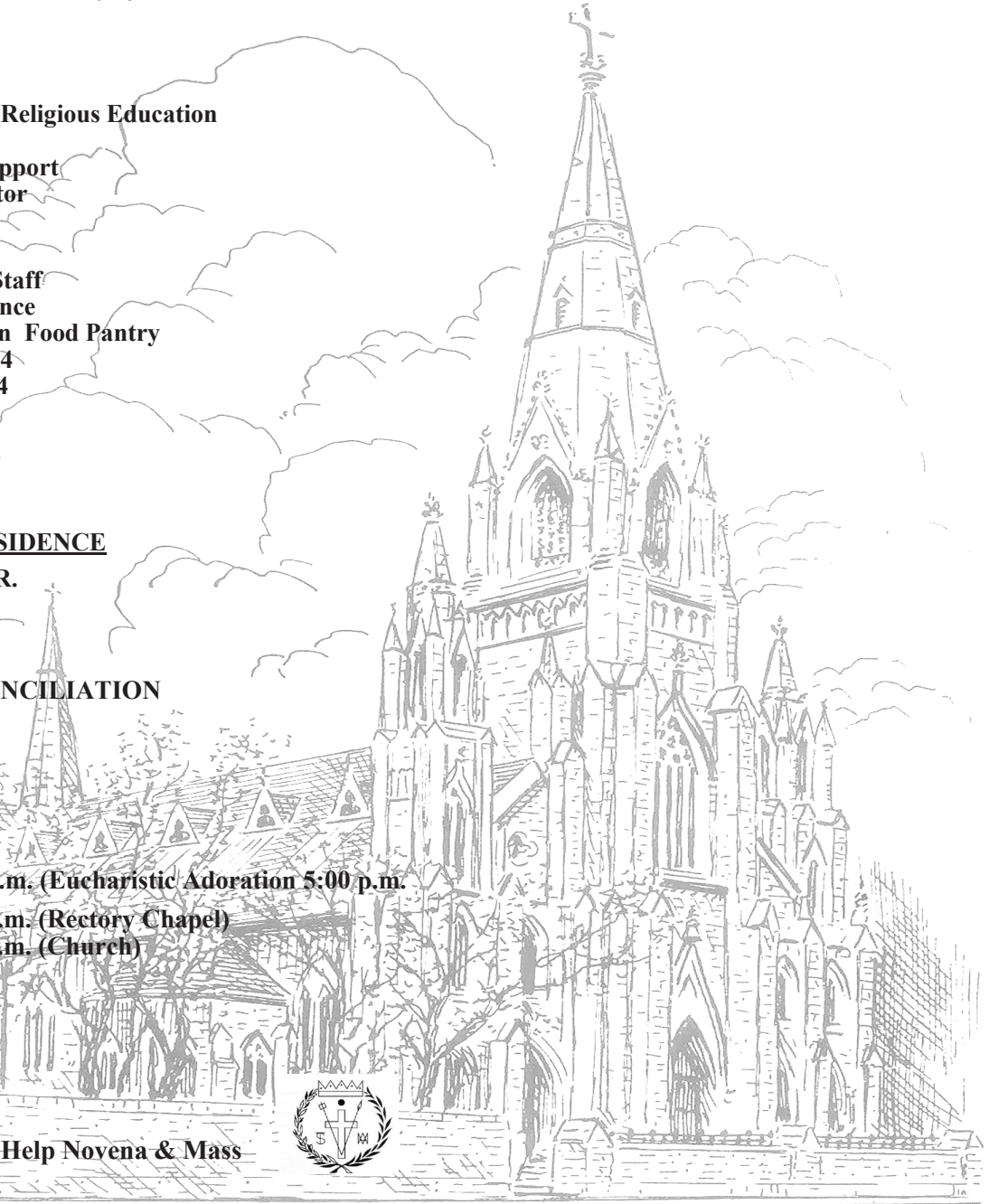
Monday 5:30 p.m. (Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 p.m.)
(W, Th & F) 11:30 a.m. (Rectory Chapel)
Saturdays: 9:30 a.m. (Church)

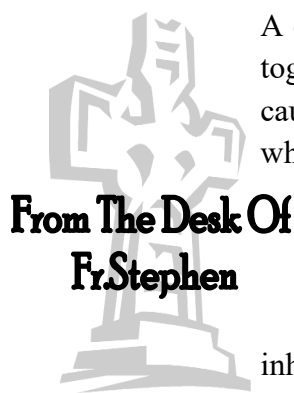
MONDAY:

Eucharistic Adoration
5:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS:

Exposition & Benediction:
11:30 a.m. Our Perpetual Help Novena & Mass





A couple of years ago, the New York Times magazine put together a series of articles called the 1619 Project. It caused serious talk around the country, especially among white people, about how accurate this information is and whether this history should be taught in schools around the country. For some, the 1619 Project changes the history of America. Some serious blame is placed upon our Founding Fathers about how this country was inhabited. Fr. Rodney sent me a digital copy of the magazine, and so over the past few days, I have read about 2/3 of the material. In reading the set of articles, I have found little to nothing that has been objectionable to me. I know I am in an African American parish where many wonderful people have mentored me; however, the articles paint a pretty fair picture of what has happened here in our country over the past 400 years. One article was on the history of bringing the black person, as a slave, to work the fields of the south. Another article explained how the slaves were treated in graphic detail if they did not make the production quota in the field that day. For the plantation owner, it was all about making money, and if the slave was not productive enough, they were beaten or killed. A third article was about the health care system in America and that black people do not get the same health care as white people, even today. It is all sobering to read about how far we still need to go in establishing equality here in our nation. It reminds me of a quote from LeBron James, the professional basketball player who once after he had won the NBA championship, had his house vandalized with racist material. James was quoted saying, "It does not matter how much money I have or how good a basketball player I am, I am still a black man living in America." How sad it is that this is still so true. I recommend reading the Times magazine for yourself.

In the gospel this week, Jesus talks with those who have suffered many things in their lives. He calls them BLESSED. He then talks about those who have had so many good things happen to them in their lives, and he calls them CURSED. I believe the lesson learned from this is that this life is not the life to store up our riches. It is more important to put away the things of this world to prepare ourselves for the riches to come. Even though we have suffered much, we are blessed in the eyes of the Lord. I think this is very important to remember. Ultimately, Jesus' opinion is the only one that counts.

May God's blessings be on you this week.

Weekly Readings...

Sunday:

Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6
[40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20
Lk 6:17, 20-26

Monday:

Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71,
72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday:

Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15,
18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday:

Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab,
5/Mk 8:22-26

Thursday:

Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7
Mk 8:27-33

Friday:

Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4,
5-6/Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday:

Jas 3:1-10/Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8
Mk 9:2-13

Sunday:

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]
1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Marriage Day

Monday:

Sts. Cyril, Monk, and
Methodius, Bishop
Valentine's Day



Thursday:

The Seven Holy Founders of
the Servite Order

Sunday:

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time



NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks

INTENTIONS 02/01/22

Bowens, Pat
Collins, Tamika
Cooney, Sylvia
George, Roberta
Goode, OFM, Jim Fr.
Hearns, Zeysean
Hearns, DeShaun
Hinton, Jonathon
Hinton, Mary Ann
LeSeur, Ja Vaughn
Martin, Michael
Perry Kameron
Smith, Paulette
Valle, Dot

Latham, Jean
Moore, Brenda
Moore, Joyce
O'Brien, Nancy
Oldani, Shirley
Pointer, Nelson
Reedy, Judith
Remsberg, Cory Sgt.
Skinner, Joanna
Smith, Melba
Strong, Betty
Thompson, Mary Ann
Townsend, Bob
Townsend, Sue
Vet, Alphonso
Weaver, Stephen

INTENTIONS 02/08/22

Burke, Terry Bro.
Gipson, Ronald & Family
Jackson, Pat
Jackson, Tamica
McCoy, Michael & Family
Poindexter, Veronica & Family
Polek, David Fr.
Wilson, Dorothy & Family

SICKNESS 02/08/22

Anthony, Jean
Dougherty, Herbert
Gathright, Alice
George, Betty
Mahr, Brenda
Massingale, Bryan Fr.
Mozee, Sylvester
Parran, Rodrick
Potts, Rick Fr.
Thames, Lamar
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)
Whitfield, Edna (Mother)

SICKNESS 02/01/22

Anderson, Peggy
Atherton, Andrew
Bolden, Roderick
Burks, Teri
De Paula, Maria
Gathright, Alice
George, Betty
Hart, Edgar
Howard, Yvonne

HOSPITAL 02/01/22

Jones, Evelyn

SHUT-IN's

Atherton, Andrew	McCoy, Carolyn
Bohannon, Ida	Peters, Mae
Brack, Dorothy	Thomas, Bernice
Clay, Irving	



Pray for the Deceased



Pray for the repose of the soul of †Alfreida Keeling, mother of Veronica Poindexter (Lorenzo)

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION...

BAPTISM GUIDELINES:

Newborn – 6 years old. A parent or legal guardian and godparent(s) must attend a Baptism preparation class, instruction materials are provided.

Ages 7 – 10: The child must attend special Baptism preparation classes and the parent(s) or legal guardian and godparent(s) must attend a Baptism preparation session prior to the ceremony.

Ages 11 – 17: The young person must enroll in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children (RCIC) program.

Age 18 and Older: The Candidate must enroll in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) program.

MATRIMONY – Engaged couples, seeking to be married at the Rock Church, must meet with the Pastor before setting a date.

RCIA/RCIC – ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a group to learn more about the Catholic Faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of the Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. There are separate sessions for children and youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

For information on requesting any of the above Sacraments and/or to register for classes, please contact the Director of Religious Education, Sharon Cooney-Smith at 314-533-0304 ext. 1001, or via e-mail @ scooneysmith@stalphonsusrock.org.

LITURGY NOTES...



In 1848, **Susie King Taylor** was born as Susan Ann Baker, the first of nine children. Her parents were enslaved on the Grest plantation in Liberty County, Georgia. When she was seven, the Grests allowed Susie and her brother to go to Savannah, Georgia, to live with their grandmother, a freed woman. At that time, it was illegal to educate black children, but their grandmother was determined to educate her grandchildren and sent them to a neighbor who conducted a secret school in her home. They and other students had to hide their books and go in and out of the house one by one to avoid suspicion. Later, Susie was instructed by a Mrs. Mary Beasley and then by a white playmate. All of this was done in secret. Her last teacher was the white son of her grandmother's landlord. He taught her until the Civil War started, and he was sent to war and she returned to live with her mother.

In 1862, Susie's uncle escaped with his family and Susie to St. Simon's Island where they were liberated behind the Union lines. While there, the Union officers noted Susie's education, and she was asked to form a school for the many liberated enslaved children. She was the first African-American teacher for the newly freed, and taught the children and adults until the island was evacuated in October 1862. While at St. Simon's, Susie met and married Edward King, a black army sergeant who was with the 1st South Carolina Infantry Volunteers that later was called the 33rd Regiment, U.S. Colored Troops. She became a part of the regiment and was given the job as laundress but, because of her education and skills, soon was given many more responsibilities. She traveled with the regiment and in 1863, began nursing the sick and wounded. Susie often went to the hospital for African-American soldiers in Beaumont, South Carolina. While there, she met and worked with Clara Barton, the Civil War nurse who later founded the American Red Cross. For four years and three months, she served without pay of any kind.

When the war was over, Susie and her husband, Edward, moved back to Savannah, Georgia, where she opened a school for the freed children. In September 1866, Edward died suddenly while she was pregnant with their first child. Following this, Susie moved back to Liberty County for a while and then returned to Savannah where she supported herself by teaching. When free schools were established in the 1870s, Susie lost her income from tuition and was forced to take a job as a domestic servant. When her employers moved to Boston, she went with them and lived there for the rest of her life. In 1879, she married Russell Taylor. Even though Susie no longer worked as a nurse, she still loved nursing. She served the war veterans by joining the Women's Relief Corps, eventually becoming president and working for them the rest of her life. In 1902, Susie published her memoirs, becoming the first African-American nurse to write about her wartime experiences. In her memoirs, she expressed her disappointment that there were still injustices toward black people after the war. Susie King Taylor left a legacy of hard work and devotion to duty, no matter what the circumstances.

Susie King Taylor wrote a book about her life, "Reminiscences of My Life in Camp." Her book tells her experiences as an African American nurse during the American Civil War. This book is the only one, ever written, that tells what it was like to be an African American nurse during the Civil War!

SureChe
(Source: Alice Petiprin, Nursing-Theory.org)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Office Closure ...

February 21, 2022

Presidents' Day

**In honor and celebration of
Black History Month 2022,**



Please wear African
attire or some
symbol/representation
thereof during
February.

We're Back!!!!

St. Alphonsus "Rock" Church

LENTEN FISH FRY 2022

Please join us!

11am - 5pm

March 11, 18, 25

April 1 & 8

Volunteers & donations needed

More details to come!!!

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you so much for your generous donations to the food pantry for our Christmas giveaway. Your out pouring of support is greatly appreciated. We blessed almost 200 families this year with food, gift cards, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and paper products. Your contributions meant a lot to our families in need.

May God bless you for your generosity and your continuing support of the food pantry.

**38th Annual Testimonial
Awards Celebration
Sunday, April 24th, 2022**

Currently the event is scheduled for the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel.

For further inquiries, please feel free to contact the Lwanga Center at (314) 367-7929.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*In Celebration of
Black History Month*

*Presents***BECAUSE OF THEM ... I AM!!!**

In celebration of you and your legacy, submit a family photo with a brief explanation, tell why it's an important part of the tapestry of your history and how it inspires you.

We will feature your stories each week during

Black History Month.

**For full details and to submit your
"I AM" email:**

LwangaStL.Extra@gmail.com

**An Invitation from
Mary, Mother of the Church**

We have been invited to participate in a Just Faith course: "Want To Talk: Communication Tools for Divided Times," with folks from Mary, Mother.

These zoom classes are at two times: Monday evenings 6:30--8:30 through March 28; or Friday mornings, 9:30 – 11:30, February 11 – April 1.

You can contact Jeanne Schepers at jschepers0701@gmail.com or contact her at (201) 321-9585.

If necessary, Mary, Mother of the Church, will pick up the cost for the books and materials.

PARISH EVENTS

**NOVENA PRAYER
TO OUR MOTHER OF
PERPETUAL HELP**

ADAPTED TO BE PRAYED IN
RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19
SITUATION



Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to beseech your intercession.

We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the Cross. Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony. But your joy was great when He rose from the dead, victorious over the powers of evil.

Mother of Sorrows, pray for us in this time of trial. Help us not to lose heart. Intercede for your people who are afflicted with Coronavirus.

Comfort your people who are vulnerable and anxious. Protect healthcare workers who put their lives at risk. Inspire our leaders to make good decisions. Change our hearts so that we may act responsibly.

Teach us to trust in God's love and mercy and to share with you the joy of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of Life. Amen.

General Fund Actual Contributions Received

JANUARY/FEBRUARY	30 th	6 th
Envelopes	\$ 7,160.00	\$ 6,100.00
Loose Donations	\$ 415.00	\$ 732.00
Total Contributions	\$ 7,575.00	\$ 6,832.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$(4,425.00)	\$(5,168.00)

Stewardship Prayer...

That we have the strength and courage to joyfully proclaim our faith, especially in uncomfortable situations

"Blessed are you when people hate you, ...exclude and insult you, and denounce your name ...on account of the Son of Man."
(LUKE 6:22)

All of us have been in situations when someone has made a negative comment or joke about God or our Catholic faith. How did you respond? Did you stay silent or pretend to go along with the crowd because you didn't want to cause waves and then, later, you felt bad? Know that God is with you all the time; the Holy Spirit will put the right words in your mouth. Pray for the strength and courage to proclaim our faith to others, especially during uncomfortable situations.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Trust in Lord

Most of us are concerned and troubled about many things in our lives. Today's readings share a message of trust and hope in the Lord despite our suffering, and sadness. In the Gospel, Jesus provides a foreshadowing of the joy and glory we will experience in heaven. We hear a reminder that we must be vigilant not to trust in the things of this world because that can lead us astray. Jesus reminds us that our main focus and the center of our lives should be Him. In today's culture we are surrounded by the "noise" of this world and it is so easy to get distracted away from our focus. "Jesus, please help us to stay focused on You and help us to truly trust in Your Love and Mercy. Amen."



Dynamic Catholic started with a dream: to help ordinary people discover the genius of Catholicism.

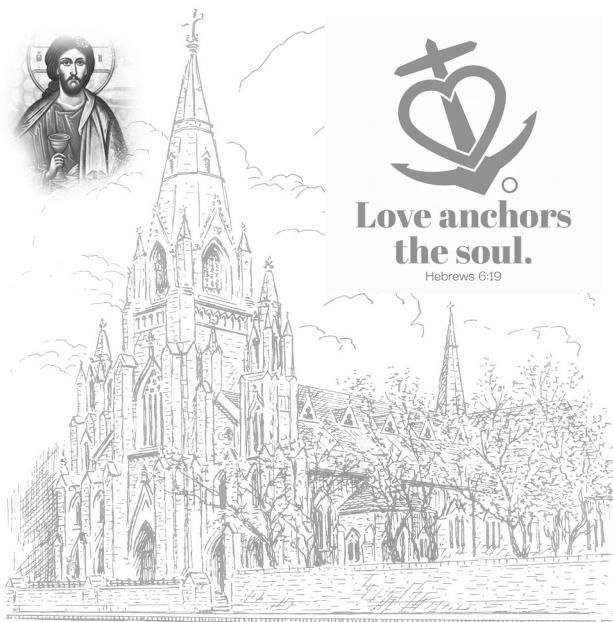
This is an organization where you can go to find many resources for free.

Visit archstl.org/dynamic to view all the resources available to you!



**Please consider a gift to the
Annual Catholic Appeal.**

Your generosity will
immerse our communities in
God's unconditional love, which
fills all of our hearts and unites us as
one family. **Brothers and Sisters All.**

**PRAY FOR OUR
COMMUNITY**

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER MEMORIALS

Tillie Mae Alexander, Larry Ambus, Garvin Anderson, Hortense Anderson, Elizabeth Henckler Aton
 Anita Louise Banks, Lillian Barnes, Loretta Beasley, Jean Irene Becker, Herron Beckley,
 Mother Dorothy Granberry Bennett, Deacon Morris E. Bohannon, Willie Steve Bowens, James R. Boykin
 Dorothy Brady, Theodore Branch, Jr., Irma King Brown, James Buford, Kenita Bush, Anna Chopin
 Betty Jean Colbert, Willie Cunningham, Charmaine Davenport, Walterene Dougherty, Roger Downs, Sr.
 Sr. Antona Ebo, FSM, Jerome Fields, Ossie R. Foster, Queen E. Dunlap Fowler, Craig Franklin
 Jermaine Gordon, Willie Goss, Catherine Gregory, Georgette Gregory, Barbara Harris, Ann Marie Hatchett,
 Rosalind Hood, Jamar Huffmon, Cherry Ophelia Jackson, Barbara Hudson Jones, Mark Jones, Nadine Jones
 Mother Ruth Jones, Rev. Fr. Anthony Timothy "Tony" Judge, C.Ss.R., Robin Kyles, Stephen LaBerta
 Rosemary Lee, Eldwyn Lewis, Anice Mahone, Isis Aaliyah Mahr, Barbara McCaleb, Leon Zack McClendon
 Eric L. McKinnie, Louis T. McKinnie, Glenn Miller, Marshall Mosley, Anne Ortwerth, Lucille Palmer
 Kathy Lin Cheers Parran, Alton Pritchard, Christian Reedy, Wendell M. Sams, Drene Sanders, Eugene Sanders,
 Christine Slaughter, Irma Steen, Lorraine Fite Stewart, Shontea Stricklin, Oswald Lee Thomas
 Susan Colbert Threats, Ralph Tyler, Robert Joseph Valle, Sandra Wallace, Ralph Watkins Jr., Juanita West
 Ruby Wicks, Marlene Williams, Richard Williams, Vernie Woolfork, Clarence Zacher

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Sharon Cooney-Smith, DRE
 314-533-0304

RCIA/RCIC

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Baptism

First Reconciliation

First Communion

Confirmation

Matrimony

COMMISSIONS & CHAIRS

Christian Formation	Jean Anthony
Christian Service	TBD
Finance & Adm.	Monica Huddleston
Liturgy	Richard Buckley
Social Life	Rose Graham
Youth & Young Adults	TBD

COMMUNITY HELP

Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry
 Terri Schneider, Dir. of Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry
 (Emergency Aid) (314) 944-2909

St. Charles Lwanga Center (314) 367-7929

Community Health In Partnership Services (C.H.I.P.S.)
 (314) 652-9231

Community Women Against Hardship (CWAH)
 (314) 289-7523

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Angela Thames President	Robert Caldwell Vice President	Linda Kamp Secretary
Richard Buckley	Patricia Pou	
Nicole Colbert-Botchway	Eric Thurman	
Audrey Ellermann	Kevin Triggs	
Rhonda Graham	Jocelyn Woodson-Reed	
Jessica Pou		

ATTENTION

If your telephone number, home address or email address has changed, please contact the office at 533-0304 or email parish130@archstl.org. You may also put your updated information in the locked multipurpose box located on the north-side entrance ushers' table.

Bulletin announcements must be in the office by 12 noon Tuesdays. Please fax items to 314 533-4260 or e-mail to parish130@archstl.org

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & VISITS

"Is anyone sick among you? Call in the priests of the church and they will pray for the sick person and anoint them with oil." (James) This is the sacrament of the sick. ARE YOU SERIOUSLY SICK, GOING TO THE HOSPITAL OR HAVING AN OPERATION? Call and leave your hospital information at the office.