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)

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
“One Hundred Fifty Years of Standing on the Rock”

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
8:15—Malcolm Speed
11:00—Danny duMaine

REDEMPTORISTS IN RESIDENCE
Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Dave Polek, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Peter Schavitz, C.Ss.R.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
(Call for Appointment)

SUNDAY MASSES:
8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES:
Monday: 5:30 p.m.
(W, Th & F.) 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays: 11:30 a.m.
Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.

MONDAY:
Eucharistic Adoration
4:30 p.m.—5:15 p.m.

TUESDAYS:
Exposition & Benediction:
10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. (1st Tuesday) followed by our Perpetual Help Novena & Mass
Welcome to the glorious feast of the Resurrection. Jesus rises body and soul from the dead. Unlike the three people Jesus raises in the gospels, Jairus daughter, the widow's son, and Lazarus, Jesus raises himself. And not only that, but the other three people were resuscitated rather than being raised. I say this because when Jesus is raised, he has an entirely new body; this is important because it is also something that is promised to us as believers.

As some of you might know, I got sick a couple of weeks ago. I do not know if I had the virus or not, but I self-quarantined anyway; this has not been easy. We are social people, and it is not easy to be off in a room by yourself so that you don't infect anyone else. Well, my quarantine is over now, and I feel liberated, or resurrected from my tomb, my room. It is nice to be among the living again.

I am sure we are all feeling like this to some degree. To an extent, all have been quarantined. We have all been asked to stay at home and practice social distancing; many are feeling lonely, depressed, and frightened. It doesn't look like an end in sight. It is essential at this time to once again remind ourselves that God is with us at this time. In the same way, Jesus gave himself as a ransom for many on the cross; he gives his very life to us also.

As we celebrate this feast of Easter, we are reminded of our Resurrection. As followers of Jesus, we have been promised the same Resurrection as the Lord. We will be completely transformed. Our bodies will be new and perfect. One of the things I am looking forward to in heaven is the fact that there will be no more suffering and death. In heaven, there will no longer be any fear of getting the COVID-19 virus. There will be no more sickness. Jesus's Resurrection also reminds us that in heaven, there will no longer be any need to fear another person. I am looking forward to that. In heaven, there will not be any greed, anger, lust, hatred, envy, or jealousy. All of these things will vanish. We will be surrounded by other people who love God and each other. All of these things are implied with the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead. And so, although this is not part of our world today, it is something we can all look forward to. This virus will change the world we are living in, but there is no reason to fear. The Lord Jesus is with us at this time, and he brings us the Resurrection. Have a good week.

**Weekly Readings…**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 [24]/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Mt 28:8-15</td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22 [5b]/Jn 20:11-18</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [3b]/Lk 24:13-35</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/Lk 24:35-48</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21 [21a]/Mk 16:9-15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31</td>
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**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Observances</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Monday within the Octave of Easter</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>2nd Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday</td>
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EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 12, 2020

Click the link(s) below to donate:

General Offertory

The General Offertory is used for the day-to-day operation of the parish. You may set up a one-time or recurring donation to our parish.

Harden Food Pantry

Thank you for your generosity with assisting the poor. We are grateful for your willingness to share your gifts.

Benevolence

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NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks

REMEMBER in your prayers

INTENTIONS 03/31/20
Bowers, Lynette
Cloyd, Cori
Cloyd, Kalonda
George, Darrion
Henry, Aliyah
Jackson, Tamica
Perry, Cameron
Pickett, DaShaun
Reedy, Judy
Reedy, Sid

INTENTIONS 04/07/20
Cummings, Alice
Farr, Synthia
Fite, Maudelle
Garnett, Pat
George, Roberta
Hearns, Zeysean
Miller, Jr., Antonio
Schneider, Terri

SICKNESS 03/31/20
Bell, Gilbert
Collins, Tamika
Duplantier, Tyrond Sr.
Fisher, Kyle Fr.
George, Betty
Greer, Lois
Hatchett, Sylvia
Luster, Juanita
Lyons, Sharon
Martin, Maxine
McGinnis, Theresa
Mozee, Sylvester
Parran, Rodrick
Reedy, Christian
Stamps, Arlecia
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)

SICKNESS 04/07/20
Atherton, Andrew
Atherton, Vertibe
Calhoun, Debi
Caprese, Brittany
Chapman, Bonnie
Clancy, Jimmy
Cummings, Cleophas
Danter, Mary
Gunn, Tasha
Herron, David
Hood, Rosalind
Howard, Yvonne
LaBerta, Steve
Latham, Jean
Leong, Pam
Lund, Grace
Moore, Brenda
Petropulos, Bill
Pointer, Patti
Remsberg, Cory Sgt.
Schneider, Jeanne
Schneider, Roy
Schnelle, Laverne
Serio, Jessica
Sheets, Jean
Smith, Melba
Smith, Paulette
Strong, Betty
Thomas, Nigel
Thompson, Mary Ann
Turner, Hortense
Weaver, Stephen
Vet, Alphonso

SHUT-IN’s
Atherton, Andrew
Bohannon, Ida
Brack, Dorothy
Clay, Irving
McCoy, Bernice

McCoy, Carolyn
Peters, Mae
Thomas, Bernice
Turner, Hortense

Pray for the Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Rosemary Lee, a long time parishioner, she was 103 years old.

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
Easter also called Pascha (Greek, Latin) or Resurrection Sunday, is a festival and holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, described in the New Testament as having occurred on the third day after his burial following his crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary c.30 AD. It is the culmination of the Passion of Jesus, preceded by Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and penance.

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery. The single celebration of the Triduum marks the end of the Lenten season, and leads to the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord at the Easter Vigil. The liturgical services that take place during the Triduum are: Mass of the Lord's Supper; Good Friday of the Lord's Passion; and the Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord.

Easter and the holidays that are related to it are moveable feasts which do not fall on a fixed date in the Gregorian or Julian calendars which follow only the cycle of the Sun; rather, its date is offset from the date of Passover and is therefore calculated based on a lunisolar calendar similar to the Hebrew calendar. The First Council of Nicaea (352) established two rules, independence of the Jewish calendar and worldwide uniformity, which were the only rules for Easter explicitly laid down by the council. No details for the computation were specified; these were worked out in practice, a process that took centuries and generated a number of controversies. It has come to be the first Sunday after the ecclesiastical full moon that occurs on or soonest after 21 March. Even if calculated on the basis of the more accurate Gregorian calendar, the date of that full moon sometimes differs from that of the astronomical first full moon after the March equinox. In Western Christianity, Eastertide, or the Easter Season, begins on Easter Sunday and lasts seven weeks, ending with the coming of the 50th day, Pentecost Sunday.

Easter is linked to the Jewish Passover by much of its symbolism, as well as by its position in the calendar. Easter customs vary across the Christian world, and include sunrise services, and decorating Easter eggs (symbols of the empty tomb). The Easter lily, a symbol of the resurrection, traditionally decorates areas of churches on this day and for the rest of Eastertide. Additional customs that have become associated with Easter and are observed by both Christians and some non-Christians include egg hunting, the Easter Bunny, and Easter parades.

The New Testament states that the resurrection of Jesus, which Easter celebrates, is one of the chief tenets of the Christian faith. The resurrection established Jesus as the Son of God and is cited as proof that God will righteously judge the world. For those who trust in Jesus' death and resurrection, "death is swallowed up in victory." Any person who chooses to follow Jesus receives "a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead". Through faith in the working of God those who follow Jesus are spiritually resurrected with him so that they may walk in a new way of life and receive eternal salvation, being physically resurrected to dwell in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Easter is linked to Passover and the Exodus from Egypt recorded in the Old Testament through the Last Supper, sufferings, and crucifixion of Jesus that preceded the resurrection. According to the New Testament, Jesus gave the Passover meal a new meaning, as in the upper room during the Last Supper he prepared himself and his disciples for his death. He identified the matzah and cup of wine as his body soon to be sacrificed and his blood soon to be shed. Paul states, "Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed"; this refers to the Passover requirement to have no yeast in the house and to the allegory of Jesus as the Paschal lamb.
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
APRIL 12, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sr. Mary Antona Ebo
Chapel/Prayer Room
Located in the Parish Hall
(Room 110)

This prayer room is designed for you to unwind, relax, and enter into the presence of God. Bring your Bible and your prayer requests. In this room, you can pray and let Jesus minister to you heart-to-heart. The prayer room is open and available whenever the office is open. Pick up the key from the office staff and return it when you are ready to leave.

The room is also available after office hours to commissions and prayer groups who need a place to begin their meetings with praise and worship.

"Come and experience your one on one quiet time with Jesus and receive your blessings."

Listening to Catholic radio in your car or your home will help smooth out any rough edges in your day and keep you on the right path during this season of Lent.

Tune in to AM 1080 WRYT or 92.7 FM, download the free Covenant Network App or listen on OurCatholicRadio.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for the Rock Church
Spring Parish Mission/Revival
“Return! Renew! Revive!”
Sunday, April 26, 2020
4pm
Monday, April 27, 2020
6pm
Tuesday, April 28, 2020
6pm
Preachers:
Rev. Tom Donaldson
Rev. Steve Benden
Rev. Rodney Olive

Reception following service each evening in the Church Gym.

A More Radical Lent

It is ironic that during our season of Lent we find ourselves in quarantine from this virus – no sports, social gatherings, concerts, or conferences, just to name a few of the cancellations. But in fact, this somber silencing of social gathering was actually the norm during the classical Catholic Lent until just 200 years ago.

Now we have an opportunity, albeit not of our choosing, to live a more radical Lent. Not only us Catholics, but it seems that the whole world has been invited to live a more austere Lent. What is the meaning of this? Is there a prophetic sign that we should discern? Does Heaven want the world to practice a more perfect Lenten observance, so to speak? If so, the purpose behind such a more serious Lenten observance would be found in the meaning of Lent itself.

Tim Grey, of Augustine Institute

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.
Financial Corner...

Is Available!
www.stalphonsusrock.org

Stewardship Prayer...
That we put God first in everything and not let earthly possessions become gods to us.

“Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.”
(Philippians 3:2)

Do you put God first in all things? Possessions, money, power, ego can easily become gods to many of us. Do a quick check of what is important to you. Is God at the very top of the list? If not, your priorities need to be re-adjusted. Don’t let earthly things become a god before God. This is also the first commandment – I am the Lord your God, you shall not have any strange gods before me.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! –
Easter Sunday: Resurrection and the Real Presence

Surrexit Dominus Vere, Alleluia! The Lord is truly risen! Share this great news. Not only has the Lord risen, but He also remains present to us in every Catholic church throughout the world. As Pope Paul VI taught, “The Catholic Church has always displayed and still displays this latria that ought to be paid to the Sacrament of the Eucharist, both during Mass and outside of it, by taking the greatest possible care of consecrated Hosts, by exposing them to the solemn veneration of the faithful, and by carrying them about in processions to the joy of great numbers of the people” (Mysterium Fidei 56). We derive great strength from the Risen Christ who is truly present in the Eucharist each Sunday. How privileged we are to receive His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity and also to adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament. Each tabernacle is a throne for the Risen King. We must take advantage of the opportunity to adore our Lord and to pray in His powerful presence. He has given us new life and has raised us to the status of adopted sons and daughters. Embrace this new life! archstl.org/dynamic

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!
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER MEMORIALS
Tillie Mae Alexander, Larry Ambus, Hortense Anderson, Elizabeth Henckler Aton, Anita Louise Banks
Lillian Barnes, Herron Beckley, Mother Dorothy Granberry Bennett, Deacon Morris E. Bohannon
Willie Steve Bowens, Dorothy Brady, Theodore Branch, Jr., Irma King Brown, James Buford, Kenita Bush
Anna Chopin, Betty Jean Colbert, Charmaine Davenport, Walterene Dougherty, Roger Downs, Sr.
Sr. Antona Ebo, FSM, Jerome Fields, Ossie R. Foster, Queen E. Dunlap Fowler, Craig Franklin,
Willie Goss, Ann Marie Hatchett, Cherry Ophelia Jackson, Mark Jones, Nadine Jones, Mother Ruth Jones
Rosemary Lee, Eldwyn Lewis, Anice Mahone, Barbara McCalebb, Leon Zack McClendon, Marshall Mosley
Anne Ortwerth, Lucille Palmer, Kathy Lin Cheers Parran, Alton Pritchard, Drenea Sanders, Eugene Sanders
Christine Slaughter, Irma Steen, Susan Colbert Threats, Ralph Tyler, Robert Joseph Valle
Juanita West, Marlene Williams, Richard Williams, Clarence Zacher

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION
Sharon Cooney-Smith, DRE
314-533-0304 ext. 1001
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

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Kurt Englander       Angela Thames       Linda Kamp
President            Vice President     Secretary
Linda Brown Reed     Ben Phillips
Wanda Caldwell       Travis Threats
Joy Camp             Eric Thurman
Mike Coffman         Kevin Triggs
Rhonda Graham

ATTENTION
If your telephone number or address has changed, please contact the office at 533-0304. You may also put your updated information in the locked multipurpose box located on the north-side entrance ushers’ table.

COMMUNITY HELP
Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry
Terri Schneider, Dir. of Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry
(Emergency Aid) (314) 531-1040
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
HIV/AIDS: 314 531-0304 Ext. 1502

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.