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:
10:00 a.m.

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

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

TUESDAYS:
Exposition & Benediction:
10:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m. (1st—Tuesday) followed
by our Perpetual Help Novena & Mass
Today we celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi, the Body, and Blood of Jesus the Lord. I have always looked forward to this feast day because of the marvelous gift that Jesus has given us in the Eucharist. Every time we come to Church, whether it is for sacred mass or just to pop in for a visit, we are in the presence of the Son of God. St. Teresa of Avila says that the saints and angels in heaven and the people still living on earth are in the presence of the same God. I do think some forget this reality, or we need to pray to God to strengthen our faith to BELIEVE in his presence TRULY.

When we gather today at Church, we gather as the Body of Christ. We are His Mystical Body, who are charged to spread the Good News of the risen Christ. As the Body of Christ, we cannot idly sit back and watch this Body be broken apart by hatred and violence. St. Paul reminds us today that we are One Body, and we cannot allow this Body to become infected. In the same way that a human body can become diseased and die, the Body of Christ can become diseased. We cannot allow this to happen – we must root out everything that does not stand in the name of Jesus Christ.

Last Sunday afternoon, Fr. Rodney and I went to the corner of Lucas and Hunt and Natural Bridge. We joined about 200 other people in a protest march down to the campus of UMSL. It was a very hot day, and there were not many spectators, but I think the march was effective. Some people spoke before the march about the need for change. There are probably a lot of things that need to change, but one of the things that was brought up several times was the need to get out and vote. Voting is one area where we can do a lot better. No one can take away this right, and we need to learn to exercise it more. As the Body of Christ, we have a voice. Our voice is one of the essential parts of the Body, the right to speak out against anything that is not of Christ. We need to continue to gather our members together and organize ourselves so things can change.

In Monday’s Post Dispatch, there was a photograph of some children lying on the ground in protest about a police officer in Florissant who struck a black man with his SUV. I was heartened to see this because young people are the answer to the problem. Each parent/guardian need to teach their children about God creating each person in the world in His image; because of that, all people need to be loved. God creates each person as He sees fit, and we have no right to do damage to anything God has created with so much love.
SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST  JUNE 14, 2020

NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks

INTENTIONS 06/02/20
Britts, Sam, Pam & Family
George, Darrion
Goss, Michael
Jackson, Tamica
Pickett, DaShaun
Reedy, Judy
Reedy, Sid

INTENTIONS 06/09/20
Dyle, Ayrielle
Fite, Maudelle
Garnett, Pat
George, Roberta
Hearns, Zeysean
Perry, Kameron
White, Evan

SICKNESS 06/02/20
Bell, Gilbert
Cunningham, Rodrick
Dampier, Angel
Duncan, Kara
Duplantier, Tyrond Sr.
George, Betty
Haine, William (Bill)
Hatsett, Sylvia
Jones, Josephine
King, Calvin
Luster, Juanita
Lyons, Sharon
Martin, Maxine
McGinnis, Theresa
Mozee, Sylvester
Parran, Rodrick
Reedy, Christian
Serio, Jessica
Stamps, Arlecia
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Voss, Greg
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)
Whitfield, Edna (Mother)

SICKNESS 06/09/20
Atherton, Andrew
Atherton, Vertibe
Caprese, Brittany
Chapman, Bonnie
Hart, Edgar
Hood, Rosalind
Howard, Yvonne
LaBerta, Steve
Latham, Jean
Moore, Brenda
Remsberg, Cory Sgt.
Schnelle, Laverne
Smith, Donald
Smith, Melba
Smith, Paulette
Strode, Fred
Strong, Betty
Thompson, Mary Ann
Weaver, Stephen
Vet, Alphonso

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

Prayer For Renewed Strength
O Lord, my God,
Please give those listed above the grace to
maintain their hope in You
Through all of life’s changes
and to taste and see Your goodness.
Amen

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE
The term The Spiritual Life is a phrase that calls to mind our relationship with God. Most people I know are not aware that God is inviting them into a deeper and more profound sense of who He is every day. God is trying to communicate with us in varying ways, but I am not sure that most people are aware of this at all and so consequently experience little or no growth in Spirit.

Many can rattle off statistics about countless things or about what this or that person said about whatever topic, but so few can talk about their faith in any depth. Weekly attendance at Sunday mass is about all they are willing to do to enhance their spiritual life; this is unfortunate because all of us are called to a deeper relationship with God. This is not going to happen on its own. Like anything else worth pursuing, we have to take ownership of it.

I am not sure how people are spending their days now that we are asked to stay home. Because there isn’t as much activity in most of our lives, it offers us an opportunity to delve deeper into our relationship with the Lord.

St. Alphonsus developed a process called Alphonsian Meditation, where a person sits in God’s presence. That person offers themselves over to God for a few minutes. That person then will read a story from scripture. It could be the daily mass readings, and meditate and ponder what you have read. After a few minutes, he invites the person to focus on one area of their life they would like God to help them make a change, being more patient, for instance. A person is then called to offer God some petitions for whatever they want God to do for them. The person is then called to make a resolution as to how they are going to better follow God in the future. Finally, they make a profession of faith, hope and charity to God. This whole process, at least at the beginning, would take 15 minutes. After you become accustomed to it, it might be half an hour; this is an excellent way to make daily progress on your spiritual journey. This practice, along with the rosary, spiritual reading, the Divine Mercy chaplet, can make a difference in our spiritual life.

Just a reminder Mass is celebrated in the church Mondays 5:30 p.m., Tuesday—Friday 11:30 a.m., and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass at 5:30 p.m. What a beautiful thing to be able to sit quietly with the Lord.

Mother Of Perpetual Help Devotion and Mass each Tuesday at 11:30 a.m.
**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.

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**LITURGY NOTES...**

The Chi-Rho (pronounced "KEE-roe") is a symbol of Christ, arranged as a monogram, comprising the first two letters, XP, of his name in Greek. First presented publicly in the fifth century, it has been found in catacomb inscriptions of the second century. The P is usually vertically rendered with a single crossbar producing the X, but sometimes an additional transverse cross is used for embellishment and the initials A and Ω are free or attached to the added bar. Emperor Constantine (d. 337) employed it as an emblem on his military standard, the labarum and ancient Welsh and Scottish tomb monuments bear this sacred symbol carved in stone. As a monogram denoting triumph it fell into disuse after the fall of Rome, the Cross supplanting it.

The Chi-Rho is also known as the labarum, which is based on the Latin word laureum, "military standard." This is based on Constantine's application of the Chi-Rho symbol to his military standard after receiving his famous vision before the Battle of the Milvian Bridge in 312.

The church historian Eusebius, who spoke with the emperor about his experience, described the standard: "On the top of the whole was fixed a wreath of gold and precious stones, and within this the symbol of the Saviour's name, two letters indicating the name of Christ by means of the initial letters, the letter X intersection P at the center." The Chi-Rho was used by Christians before Constantine but it became much more widespread after he adopted it.

The Chi-Rho appeared on the coins of Constantine and his Christian successors, sometimes alone and sometimes as part of a military standard as described by Eusebius. It continues to be widely used today.

The Chi-Rho is a symbol of Ordinary Time in the Catholic Church.

(Source: www.religionfacts.com & catholicculture.org)
ANNOUNCEMENTS

We look forward to returning to a more normal schedule of activities and sacramental celebrations, you are invited once again to participate in the Annual Catholic Appeal by making a gift.

If your circumstance permit and your family is blessed with good health and employment, please consider increasing your gift to make up for those who are unable to make a gift at this time.

More information can be found at aca.archstl.org. Your gift will help many who have been impacted by the Covid-19 outbreak in our archdiocese.

Wilhelmina Hardin Center...

The Harden Center Food Pantry is open on Tues. and Thurs. from 10 a.m.—12 noon.

Volunteers are needed to help pack bags and assist in distribution.

Donations needed include peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned chili, ravioli, soup (not tomato). The pantry is asking for toiletries—soap, body wash, toothpaste, mouthwash, lotion, deodorant, etc.

Terri Schneider

REMAIN

“Whoever eats my flesh and drink my blood remains in me and I in him”

John 6:56

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Click the link(s) below to donate:

General Offertory

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

from the Peace and Justice Committee

On August 4th, the issue of Medicaid Expansion will be on the ballot.

The Peace and Justice Committee in conjunction with Catholic Charities of St. Louis, is offering information on the Sundays’ leading up to the election.

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 23% of Missourians with a mental illness are uninsured (the national average is less than 15%). More than one in four Missourians with mental illness report that they are unable to access needed treatment, a rate higher than every other state in the country.

From Amazon.com...

St Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church has been issued a $27,64 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of the AmazonSmile program activity between January 1, 2020 and March 31, 2020.

Donations can increase for our church if supporters go to Smile.Amazon.com to do their Amazon shopping.

The next major shopping holiday is Father’s Day, June 21st.

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...

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<th>General Fund Actual Contributions Received</th>
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<tr>
<td>MAY / JUNE</td>
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<td>Envelopes</td>
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<td>Loose Donations</td>
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<td>Under/Over Weekly Target</td>
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Stewardship Prayer…
That we answer God’s call to build his kingdom on earth and help each other get to Heaven!

“Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.”

(1 Corinthians 10:17)

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to lead holy lives and invite others to join us. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, serves a twofold purpose. One, it helps build God’s kingdom here on earth. Two, it helps us strengthen each other’s relationship with God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. It becomes our road map to Heaven. Let’s help each other get there!

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! –
The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
The Blessed Sacrament

The Solemnity of Corpus Christi is celebrated on the first Sunday after the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This feast began with St. Juliana, a young Belgian nun in the thirteenth century, who received in prayer an inspiration for a feast that would celebrate and promote the gift of the Real Presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. This feast would eventually spread throughout the province, continent, and world. Corpus Christi and its accompanying procession with the Blessed Sacrament, celebrating the sacrament and signifying God’s presence in our world and in our lives and reminding us of our common pilgrimage to Heaven, is a prayerful and edifying act of the entire Church. As a general rule, devotions are not mentioned in the Code of Canon Law. However, because of the importance of this devotion in the life of the Church, canon 944 mentions it: “When it can be done in the judgment of the diocesan bishop, as a public witness of the veneration toward the Most Holy Eucharist, a procession is to be conducted through the public streets, especially on the solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.” On this feast we can express our gratitude for the opportunity to receive our Lord every Sunday in the Eucharist, to adore Him in prayer, and to show Him to the rest of the world in the streets of our archdiocese.

archstl.org/dynamic
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, Dreneans 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 Thomas	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 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.