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.)
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
When I was 19 years old my cousin and I had a painting business together. He was 3 years older than me so he was more of the boss of the business. We painted houses during the summer while we were home on vacation from seminary. In those days we worked hard, many times outside in the summer heat, I was making $5 an hour. Actually, I was happy with this amount of money, my family did not have a lot of money and so making $40 a day was a lot of money to me. I have a certain amount of charity in me, but I do not think I would have wanted to work 8 hours every day for nothing. I felt that if I put in the hard work, I was entitled to be paid for my services, even if it was only $5 an hour. It only seemed just.

In the gospel today, Jesus says that when we work for him, we really should not expect, nor are we entitled to, any compensation in return. This may not always make sense to us, especially here in America where we are taught to make something of our lives and be successful. We measure success a lot of times by the fruits of our labors. In other words, we expect a return for the hard work we put in. But with God, we do not earn our salvation, it is a gift given to us by God. Hopefully, by working hard, we open ourselves more to receive the gift God is giving us, but we don’t earn it and we don’t deserve it. Jesus tells us “we are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.” Yes, we are servants of God who should expect nothing in return except the knowledge that God loves us and wants us to live with Him forever in heaven, that’s it. This may be a harsh reality to us, we want to be paid for all of the hard work we put in. Although it may make sense to us in this world that we live in, it does not make sense in the next life. We will be repaid by God in His time.

Nevertheless, I am grateful for all of the hard work that many have put in over the years here at the Rock. Today we are celebrating our African heritage in a special way with our Spirituals concert. The choirs that will be performing this afternoon, have worked hard to get ready for this particular event. I am sure it will be a resounding success, most importantly because we are doing it for God Himself. The Spirituals have a resonance that appeals to all, because they come from a deep faith of the people who originally wrote and sang them. It resonates with us still today because we all realize that God is the only answer to many of the feelings we have in life, especially when we are overwhelmed. God indeed is there to comfort us, lead us, and guide us. Today, as we listen to the deep emotion poured forth in song, let us rejoice to know that God is walking with us every step of our lives.
INTENTIONS 09/24/19
Cummings, Alice
George, Roberta
Gipson, Bobby & Family
Schneider, Terri

INTENTIONS 10/01/19
Ambus, Ruby
Candies, Aeryn
Cloyd, Cori
Cloyd, Kalonda
Combs, Faye
Dye, Ayrielle
George, Darrion
Hardy, Pier Angela
Jackson, Tamica
Parran, Kristin
Pickett, DaShaun
Quain, Pat
Reedy, Judy
Reedy, Sid
Smith, Paulette
Valle, Dorothy

SICKNESS 09/24/19
Atherton, Andrew
Atherton, Vertibe
Banks, Anita
Calhoun, Debi
Caprese, Brittany
Chapman, Bonnie
Cummings, Cleophes
Gathright, Alice
Hood, Rosalind
Howard, Yvonne
LaBerta, Steve
Lane, Joan
Latham, Jean
Mccalebb, Barbara
Moore, Brenda
Pointer, Patti
Remsberg, Cory Sgt.
Schneider, Roy
Schnelle, Laverne
Smith, Melba
Thompson, Mary Ann
Weaver, Stephen
Williamson, Michael
Vet, Alphonso

SICKNESS 10/01/19
Ambus, Larry
Branch, Vanessa
Downs, Roger
Fisher, Kyle Fr.
Greer, Lois
Jammer-Webb, Laura
Luster, Juanita
Mosby, Jerry
Mozee, Karen
Muldrow, Stephanie
Ortwerth, Gloria
Parran, Rodrick
Reedy, Christian
Sams, Mary
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Voss, Greg
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)
Wilson, Barbara

HOSPITAL 09/24/19
Dye, Shirley

HOSPITAL 10/01/19
Watson, Brittney

SHUT-IN’s
Barnes, Lillian
Bohannon, Ida
Brack, Dorothy
Lee, Rosemary
McCoy, Bernice
McCoy, Carolyn
Peters, Mae
Stein, Irma
Thomas, Bernice
Turner, Hortense

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

Upcoming Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation
The Lwanga Center is in the process of accepting candidates for its Living the Life Program, in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Candidates must be in grades 7th-12th and at least 12 years of age at the time of the administration of the Sacrament on May 5, 2020. Usually scheduled for two sessions per month, they are on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. during the months of October 2019 to May 2020.

The program cost is $160.00. Please contact the St. Charles Lwanga Center at 314-367-7929 for additional information and to register by September 16, 2019.

How can we identify and prevent racism within our Catholic Church? “PERSISTENCE, RESISTANCE AND TRANSCENDENCE” a Conference on Hope in the Struggle Against Racism, sponsored by The Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative, will help us to find the answers on Saturday, October 26th, 2019, 9:00am -3:30pm, at Fontbonne University.

The keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Brown, S.J., PhD, a Professor in the Africana Studies Department SIU-C. Workshops will address racism in grade school, high school, parishes & religious communities and in preaching. Register at: tinyurl.com/y5rn68e6.
African American Spirituals, usually with a Christian religious theme, were originally monophonic and a cappella and were antecedents of the blues. The terms Negro Spiritual, Black Spiritual, and African-American Spiritual, jubilee, and African-American folk songs are all synonymous. Spirituals sometimes provided comfort and eased the boredom of daily tasks. They were an expression of spiritual devotion and a yearning for freedom from bondage. Sometimes they were a means of releasing pent up emotions and expressing sorrow. Frederick Douglass, a former slave wrote, "I did not, when a slave, fully understand the deep meaning of those rude and apparently incoherent songs. I was, myself, within the circle, so that I could then neither hear nor see as those without might see and hear. They breathed the prayer and complaint of souls overflowing with the bitterest anguish. They depressed my spirits and filled my heart with ineffable sadness...The remark in the olden time was not unfrequently made, that slaves were the most contented and happy laborers in the world, and their dancing and singing were referred to in proof of this alleged fact; but it was a great mistake to suppose them happy because they sometimes made those joyful noises. The songs of the slaves represented their sorrows, rather than their joys. Like tears, they were a relief to aching hearts."

In song, lyrics about the Exodus were a metaphor for freedom from slavery. Songs like "Steal Away (to Jesus)" or "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" raised unexpectedly in a dusty field, or sung softly in the dark of night, signaled that the coast was clear and the time to escape had come. The River Jordan became the Ohio River, or the Mississippi, or another body of water that had to be crossed on the journey to freedom. "Wade in the Water" contained explicit instructions to fugitive slaves on how to avoid capture and the route to take to successfully make their way to freedom. Leaving dry land and taking to the water was a common strategy to throw pursuing bloodhounds off one's trail. "The Gospel Train", and "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" all contained veiled references to the Underground Railroad, and "Follow the Drinking Gourd" contained a coded map to the Underground Railroad. The title itself was an Africanized reference to the Big Dipper, which pointed the way to the North Star and freedom.

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.
Grill to Glory Barbeque
October 12, 2019
Join us for Fun, Exercise, Games and Food!
11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

EVERY SATURDAY
RAIN OR SHINE
FREE!

Contact information for Fr Rick is as follows:
Rev Richard M. Potts, C.Ss.R.
St Alphonsus Church
224 Carrier St, NE
Grand Rapids MI 49505
rpotts@stalphonsusgr.org

from the Peace and Justice Committee
For the fifth year, the Rock Church will be participating in providing a weekly meal at a homeless shelter during the winter months. The new Assisi House will open at 5075 Durant Ave. Rock Sunday Suppers will begin on November 17th. It is a men’s facility—17 men during the winter months; converting to 13 permanent residents after that. Other churches and groups have been amazed at the number of people participating from the Rock Church.

We hope to have even more this year. Please sign the sheets on both ushers’ tables and you will be contacted about when you can provide your dinner.

Also, if you are interested in participating, please join The Peace and Justice Committee at our October meeting – October 7th at 6:00 p.m. in Room 113 – for some food, fellowship, and to learn more about serving a meal at the shelter.

Liturgical Ministers Workshops Fall 2019
October 12th
Altar Servers/Pastoral Aides
10:00 am—12-noon

October 19th
Day of Reflection for Liturgical Ministers
Lectors/Commentators; Sick & Shut-in Eucharistic Ministers; Ushers; Security; Sacristans (Linens)
Mass Coordinators
9:30 am—3:00 pm

October 26th
Incense Bearers/LLIM
10:00 am—2:00 pm

November 2nd
Arts & Environment
9:00 am—3:00 pm

The honor of your presence is being requested to attend the Elders Day Luncheon on October 26th, 2019, in the parish gym.

Only registered members 62 and over and their spouses may attend.

If you are planning to participate, please call the office to register.

Please no children or friends due to budget constraints!

We will offer the Sacrament of Baptism for children – infant through 6 years old on Sunday, 10/13/19 after 11:00 mass.

Registration forms are on the Usher’s Table – complete and return to the office no later than 10/7/19.

A class for parents and godparents will be held on Saturday, 10/12/13 in the parish hall.

Contact Sharon Cooney-Smith in the office if you have questions or need more information.

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from the Peace and Justice Committee
The next movie in our series with the College Church is IMITATION OF LIFE (1959 version) a drama about race, gender and class.

Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m., movie at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 10th.

Sign-up sheet on the ushers' table
St. Louis University Campus
Tegeler Hall
3550 Lindell Blvd

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Financial Corner...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund Actual Contributions Received</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>September</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loose Donations</td>
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<td>Total Contributions</td>
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<td>Under/Over Weekly Target</td>
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<td>Hurricane Dorian Contribution</td>
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Stewardship Prayer…
That our actions and words reflect our love for God every day.

“For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather of power and love and self-control.” (2 Timothy 1:7)

Many of us compartmentalize our Faith, we bring it out only when we attend Mass or when we attend a parish event. Being a good steward requires discipline and striving to put God first in everything, all the time. The next time you are at a neighborhood party, at work or out shopping, would your actions signal to others that you are a good and faithful servant of our Lord?

Dynamic Catholic, *Alive!* – Incrementality and Intentionality

A little faith can go a long way—sometimes that seemingly-small first step is a giant leap forward toward salvation and eternal life. Think of all the occasions in which Jesus Himself says “your faith has saved you” even after a simple word or gesture that expressed the tiny mustard-seed faith beginning to grow in one of His disciples. Can we take that important first—or next—baby step toward deeper knowledge and love of Christ?

(CCC 186, 2607-2615) archstl.org/dynamic

Congratulations!
Our September 2019 Winner is

James Buford

Elizabeth Boykin                    Kalyn Harris
Virginia Brown                    Sharon Hawthorne
James Buford                      Monica Huddleston
Susan Buford                      Donald & Joyce Jones
James Butler                      Mark & Linda Kamp
Cheryl Carr                       Yetta Kilgore
Anne Marie Clarke                 Helene Laberta
Damon Clay                        C.C. Lee
Mike & Cherina Coffman            Sharon Lyons
Anne Conte                        Brenda Mahr
Esther Darris                     Brenda McDonnell
Janice Englander                  Sylvester & Karen Mozee
Kurt Englander                    Earnest Nashville
Maudelle Fite                     Jean Nashville
Paul & Shirley Foster             Ben & Denise Phillips
Wanda Garner                      Linda Brown Reed
Alonzo Green                      Adlean Thomas
Angela Green                      Jocelyn Woodson-Reed
Carl Harris

St. Patrick Center thanks you for all you do to help end homelessness for individuals and families in our community.

Whether you bake casseroles, donate, volunteer, collect items or participate in our events, you're making a difference for someone in need, as Jesus taught us to do. Thanks for living your faith and being part of our mission. Together, we're improving lives as well as the neighborhoods where we live and work.
**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER MEMORIALS**

Tillie Mae Alexander, Hortense Anderson, Elizabeth Henckler Aton

Mother Dorothy Granberry Bennett, Deacon Morris E. Bohannon, Willie Steve Bowens, Dorothy Brady

Theodore Branch, Jr., Irma King Brown, Kenita Bush, Anna Chopin, Betty Jean Colbert

Charmaine Davenport, Walterene Dougherty, 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, Mother Ruth Jones, Eldwyn Lewis, Leon Zack McClendon

Marshall Mosley, Lucille Palmer, Kathy Lin Cheers Parran, Drenea Sanders, Eugene Sanders

Christine Slaughter, Susan Colbert Threats, Ralph Tyler, Robert Joseph Valle, Juanita West

Marlene Williams, Richard Williams, Clarence Zacher

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**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  
Sheila Grigsby  
Finance & Adm.  
Monica Huddleston  
Liturgy  
Richard Buckley  
Social Life  
Rose Graham  
Youth & Young Adults  
TBD

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

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

**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.

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

**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 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.