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
This past June the St. Louis Blues finally won the Stanley Cup. It had been 52 years of trying. The city, and especially its hockey fans, rejoiced. It was a long time in coming. This particular team of players had a mantra of “Whatever it takes.” The coach drummed into them this same theme and the team responded. The team, although talented, was relentless in their pursuit of the championship.

Game after game after game they outworked the other team. They were relentless and the other team eventually gave up. This is how the Blues won the championship. They were talented, yes, but more importantly they did not give up. Game after game after game they were relentless, never giving up. The other team would give up, but not the Blues, and this is how they won.

This same theme is echoed in the gospel this week. Jesus calls it persistence. The woman in the parable is constantly coming to the judge in order to win his favor. She comes so often that she wears him out. He does not want to see her face again, and so he finally gives her what she wants. It is by her persistence that she gets what she wants.

She is relentless, and she finally gets what she wants.

This parable shows the kind of spirit we can have in our pursuit of God, and his gifts. The parable points out that even with God we can wear him out. If we want something badly enough, he will give it to us simply because we keep coming back. This really is an admirable quality to have. The Lord is praising those who keep coming back to him until he finally relents. This is what St. Monica did praying for so many years for her son Augustine, until he finally converted and became a great saint. It is not always the most talented people that succeed, sometimes it is those who just are so persistent and never give up that succeed in life. Don’t give up! Don’t ever give up! The Lord will reward your persistence.

This past Wednesday we celebrated the feast of St. Gerard Majella. He was a Redemptorist saint who died at the young age of 29. He was a brother who is known as the patron saint of expectant mothers. I encourage all expectant mothers to pray to St. Gerard and implore his help during their pregnancy. It is always good to have another person in heaven asking the Lord’s help in their lives.
INTENTIONS 10/08/19
Cummings, Alice
Downs, Gwendolyn & Family
George, Roberta
Jackson, Jeanette & Family
Lee, Hazel & Family
Schneider, Terri
Taylor, Gloria & Family

INTENTIONS 10/15/19
Adams, Latonya
Ambus, Ruby
Cloyd, Cori
Cloyd, Kalonda
Dyle, Ayrielle
George, Darrion
Hardy, Pier Angela
Jackson, Tamica
Parran, Kristin
Pickett, DaShaun
Reedy, Judy
Reedy, Sid
Smith, Paulette
Weaver Family
Woolfork, Virginia

SICKNESS 10/08/19
Atherton, Vertibe
Banks, Anita
Calhoun, Debi
Caprese, Brittany
Chapman, Bonnie
Cummings, Cleophes
Harris, Tobey
Hood, Rosalind
Howard, Yvonne

SICKNESS 10/15/19
Ambus, Larry
Fisher, Kyle Fr.
Greer, Lois
Jones, Imani
Luster, Juanita
Mosby, Jerry
Ortwerth, Gloria
Parran, Rodrick
Reedy, Christian
Sams, Mary
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Vaughn, Lodie
Voss, Greg
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)

HOSPITAL 10/15/19
Herron, David
Martin, Maxine

SHUT-IN’s
Atherton, Andrew
Bohannon, Ida
Brack, Dorothy
Clay, Irving
Lee, Rosemary

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

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Lillian Barnes, aunt of Gloria L. Taylor, Cynthia & Damon Clay, and Stephanie & Paul Muldrow

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Irma Steen, sister of Hazel Lee, aunt of Andra Lee

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Roger Downs, husband of Gwendolyn Downs

NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Roger Downs, husband of Gwendolyn Downs

ST. ALPHONSUS ROCK CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fall Festival / Card Party 2019
November 10, 2019

Parishioners, please help our ad sellers by purchasing your ad. Your ad and payments in full must be received in the church office no later than October 25, 2019.

Official ad forms must accompany the ad and payment in order to be counted.

Ladders of Remembrance

Once again, we will remember our departed loved ones by placing their pictures on our Ladders of Remembrance during the month of November.

Please place your pictures in the basket near St. Josephs Altar. The Ladders will remain up from November 1st through November 29th.

Please put your name and phone number on the reverse of your picture so we can return it to you.

Please attend the All Saints Liturgy on Friday 11/1/19 at 6pm as we bless the ladders and honor and pray for our loved ones and all the Saints of God.

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.
LITURGY NOTES...

Descriptions of prayer are abundant throughout Christian history. “True prayer,” wrote St. Augustine, “is nothing but love.” Prayer should arise from the heart. “Prayer,” said St. John Vianney, “is the inner bath of love into which the soul plunges itself.” “Everyone of us needs half an hour of prayer each day,” remarked St. Francis de Sales, "except when we are busy—then we need an hour." Definitions of prayer are important, but insufficient. There is a huge difference between knowing about prayer and praying. On this issue, the Rule of St. Benedict is clear, "If a man wants to pray, let him go and pray."

St. John Damascene gave a classic definition of prayer: "Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God." "Were you to ask what are the means of overcoming temptations, I would answer: The first means is prayer; the second is prayer; the third is prayer; and you should ask me a thousand times, I would repeat the same," said St. Alphonsus Liguori.

The Catechism clearly defines prayer as a "vital and personal relationship with the living and true God." Prayer is Christian "insofar as it is communion with Christ," and a "covenant relationship between God and man in Christ."

It is important to remember that we understand prayer through our celebration of the Sacraments and in the Liturgy of the Hours. The word liturgy comes from a Greek term meaning "public work or work done on behalf of the people."

A work, then, done by an individual or a group was a liturgy on behalf of the larger community. All the worshipers are expected to participate actively in each liturgy, for this is holy "work," not entertainment or a spectator event. Every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the High Priest and of his Mystical Body, which is the Church. It therefore requires the participation of the People of God in the work of God.

Liturgy is centered on the Holy Trinity. At every liturgy the action of worship is directed to the Father, from whom all blessings come, through the Son in the unity of the Holy Spirit. We praise the Father who first called us to be his people by sending us his Son as our Redeemer and giving us the Holy Spirit so that we can continue to gather, to remember what God has done for us, and to share in the blessings of salvation.

From the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

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.
Parish Events

October 20, 2019
Friendship Club Birthday Celebration after 11:00 a.m. Mass

October 26, 2019
Elders Day Luncheon Parish Gym 11:30—3:00 p.m.

November 1, 2019
All Saints Liturgy 6:00 p.m.

November 10, 2019
Annual Card Party One Mass 10:00 a.m.

Liturgical Ministers Workshops Fall 2019
October 26th Incense Bearers/LLIM 10:00 am—2:00 pm
November 7th Arts & Environment 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Community Women Against Hardship 31st Annual Circle Of Support Gala
November 3, 2019 Sheldon Concert Hall
Aretha Franklin Portrait of a Queen Starring CeCe Teneal

CeCe Teneal sings with the same authority and royalty as the Queen herself. CeCe Teneal deserves to perform the music of Aretha Franklin! She’s that good. Darryl Bey Producer—BlueBird Productions.

Call 314 289-7523 for information or email communitywomenstl@yahoo.com www.cwah.org

Protecting God’s Children Meeting Dates:
October 20th, after 11:00 a.m. Mass &
October 21st, after 11:00 a.m. Mass
Parish Hall, Room113

Eucharistic Adoration
Mondays’ 4:30 p.m.—5:15 p.m.
What a beautiful thing to be able to sit quietly with the Lord. This will be followed by mass at 5:30 p.m.. I hope you can make time for Jesus.

Please use the entrance off the parking lot to enter the Church.
Financial Corner...

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<th>General Fund Actual Contributions Received</th>
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<td>Envelopes</td>
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<td>Weekly Target Amount</td>
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<td>Under/Over Weekly Target</td>
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Stewardship Prayer...

That we may be persistent in our stewardship, even when it is not convenient or comfortable.

“...proclaim the word, be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient...”

(2Timothy 4:2)

It is not always convenient to be a good steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn’t call us to be comfortable. He called us to be faithful.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Pray Always

There’s really only one way to learn to “pray always”: first we must learn to “pray today”! Instead of spending our waking moments talking only to “ourselves,” let our thoughts begin to stretch, reaching out so that we’re talking to God instead! After all, at Baptism, the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within us—why not spend some quality time in conversation with our closest Guest? Pray today—a simple but essential step on the path toward God. (CCC 2659-2660) archstl.org/dynamic

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ROCK Church
Winners Club

Current Members
New Season

September 2019—August 2020

Jean Anthony
Elizabeth Boykin
Virginia Brown
James Buford
Susan Buford
James Butler
Cheryl Carr
Anne Marie Clarke
Damon Clay
Mike & Cherina Coffman
Anne Conte
Willie & Bessie Cunningham
Esther Darris
Janice Engleander
Kurt Engleander
Maudelle Fite
Paul & Shirley Foster
Wanda Garner
Alonzo Green
Angela Harris
Carl Harris
Kalyn Harris
Sharon Hawthorne

Monica Huddleston
Pat Jackson
Donald and Joyce Jones
Mark & Linda Kamp
Yetta Kilgore
Helene Laberta
C.C. Lee
Pamela Leong
Sharon Lyons
Brenda Mahr
Brenda McDonnell
Sylvester & Karen Mozee
Earnest Nashville
Jean Nashville
Leo & Linda Peoples
Ben & Denise Phillips
Linda Brown Reed
Adlean Thomas
Monica Tyler
Monica Tyler
Eugene Wallace
Jocelyn Woodson-Reed

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From the Card Party Committee...

We Need:

Attendance Prizes
(new, valued at $20 minimum)

And

Silent / Live Auction
(new, valued at $25 or more)

Bring these items to the church by early Saturday, November 9th. We ALL have a role to play to make the Nov. 10th largest fundraiser of the year a success for our beloved “ROCK” church.
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER
MEMORIALS

Tillie Mae Alexander, Hortense Anderson, Elizabeth Henckler Aton, Lillian Barnes
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, 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, Mother Ruth Jones, Eldwyn Lewis, Leon Zack McClendon
Marshall Mosley, Lucille Palmer, Kathy Lin Cheers Parran, 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
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

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.