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
One of the questions that I am in the habit of asking our young ones is “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Now it depends on how old the person is when I ask this question and the response that I get. If it is a very young child they may say they want to be superman. But if it is a high school senior they may know what they want to do with the rest of their lives. It is very interesting to hear the answers of those who are so young. They may already know what they want to do with their lives for the next 50 years.

People will ask me “Father when did you know you wanted to be a priest?” I tell them that I felt the call to be a priest when I was in the 7th grade, about 13 years old. I went to high school seminary when I was 14. By the grace of God it all worked out for me. In those seminary years I learned a lot about God and my calling to the priesthood and to the religious life of the Redemptorists. These are really 2 separate calls, but I was blessed by God from a very early age to know what I wanted to do with my life. I am grateful to God for my calling to the priesthood and his help along the way.

This past week I was given some information from our Redemptorist Vocation Office to pass along to those who might be discerning a vocation to the Redemptorist way of life. As you know, the response to the call to the priesthood and religious life has really fallen off these past 50 years. 50 years ago in our province, we had over 300 men in active ministry, now we have less than 75. This is an alarming figure. We have had to leave many places where we had been because we just did not have the personnel to staff them. Is God still calling people to the Redemptorist way of life? Where are all the vocations?

When I ask young people what they want to be in life, I never hear anyone say they want to be a priest or a brother or a sister. Why not? Do parents encourage their young children to think about this way of life? We had so many priests years ago. Were people holier in those days? Part of the reality of so many vocations was the fact that the men and women were coming out of the Depression and World War II. Parents sent their kids off to the seminary because it was a better way of life than what they were going to get at home where there was little money. Are vocations then just based on the culture of the society we live in? I don’t know, but when I see young people now I just cannot imagine any of them being called to the priesthood or religious life. Our young people are so consumed with the affairs of life they have no time for God. It is very alarming, but with prayer some may still take up the challenge. This week we are passing out prayer cards for all to pray for vocations, particularly to the Redemptorist way of life. “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.” (Mt. 9:37)
Lwanga Center’s Bible Study group has resumed, please join us on Thursday’s at 1:00 p.m. We are located at, 4746 Carter Ave., St. Louis, MO 63115.

We are praying with and exploring the Book of Psalms. Please bring a Bible. New American Edition is preferred. There is no charge for the sessions. Free will offerings are always welcome.

Call the Center for more information if needed at (314) 367-7929.

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. Joseph’s Altar. The Ladders will remain up through November 29th.

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

Pray for the Deceased

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Josephine Elizabeth Foster Massey, mother of Lorna Turner-James and aunt of Dr. Jade James

Pray for the repose of the soul of †Martin Ebegbodi, brother of Samuel Ebegbodi

SHUT-IN’s

Atherton, Andrew
Bohannon, Ida
Brack, Dorothy
Clay, Irving
Lee, Rosemary

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

The Word Was Made Flesh and Dwell Among Us

Advent Reflection 2019

North City Deanery—Sunday, December 1st
3:00—5:00 p.m.

Presenter: Fr. Don Wester

Sts. Teresa and Bridget Church
2401 N. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63106
314 381-1190

For more dates, times and locations or to register, visit www.catholicfaithstl.com/catholic-faith-stl-adults.
**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.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Plan your Christmas shopping early!
St. Mary Magdalen’s (city) 28th Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair will be Saturday, November 23, 2019 from 9:00am-3:00pm in the former St. Mary Magdalen school building at 4924 Bancroft.

This is one of the oldest and best craft fairs in the city. Approximately 40 juried crafters will present hand crafted items. A quilt raffle and baked goods will also be available. BBQ dinners will be served from 11am-3pm. For more information please call Cookie @ (314) 832-4531 or Eileen @ (314) 898-8896.

Fall Festival/Card Party
12pm until 4pm
TODAY!!

Can I deal you in?
Prizes
Food
Attendance Prizes
Silent Auction/Live Auction

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

November 28, 2019
Parish Office Closed
Thanksgiving Day
Mass 10:00 a.m.

November 29, 2019
Parish Office Closed

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WINNER’S CIRCLE
CLUB MEMBERS
Your Buttons are Here!!!
Get yours from the Gift/Debit Card Sellers on Sunday

If You’re Not a Member, it’s Not too Late to Join Registration Forms and Rules are with the Gift/Debit Card Sellers, every Sunday

**GRILL TO GLORY**
BRINGING LOVE TO A WOUNDED WORLD
11:00—1:00 p.m.

Join Us For Fun,
Exercise, Games, and Food...
In the Parish Gym
Rain or Shine! Free!!

#1 holiday hack:
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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.

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Financial Corner...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Fund Actual Contributions Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OCT / NOV</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loose Donations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Target Amount</td>
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<tr>
<td>Under/Over Weekly Target</td>
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Stewardship Prayer…
That just as God shows mercy on us, we show mercy with each other.

“May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word.” (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

There are two important lessons here. First, we are called to be generous with our encouragement and hope. As God shows us mercy, we must be merciful to others. Second, joy is contagious! The joy we receive from doing good works not only strengthens us, it encourages others as well. Share the joy of living your faith whenever you can.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – The Resurrection

The most stunning aspect of believing in the Resurrection is that we believe in the Resurrection of the body. We believe that Jesus truly is the “firstborn of the dead” in that He rose body and soul just like we will at the final judgment. Sometimes we might not connect the dots between the immediacy of death, when body and soul separate, and the beauty of resurrection, when body and soul are united. What will our risen, glorified, body-souls be like?

(CCC 686, 908-1019)

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!

Move to the Right is coming!

You will hear more about this in the coming weeks

In preparation for our stewardship campaign we ask that you reflect on the following:

Prayer for Generosity

Lord Jesus,
Teach me to be generous;
Teach me to serve you as you deserve,
To give and not to count the cost,
To fight and not to heed the wounds,
To toil and not to seek for rest,
To labor and not to seek reward,
Except that of knowing that I do your will.

Amen
THIRTY—SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 10, 2019

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, Barbara McCaleb
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 — Angela Thames — Linda Kamp
President — Vice President — Secretary
Linda Brown Reed — Ben Phillips
Wanda Caldwell — Angela Thames
Joy Camp — Travis Threats
Mike Coffman — Eric Thurman
Rhonda Graham — Kevin Triggs

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.