

# *St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Catholic Church*

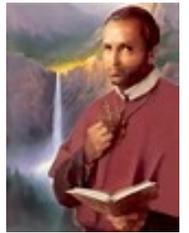
1118 North Grand Blvd. St Louis, MO 63106

314-533-0304 (ph) 314-533-4260 (fax) parish130@archstl.org (e-mail)

[www.stalphonsusrock.org](http://www.stalphonsusrock.org) (website)

or Like us on Facebook at St Alphonsus "Rock" Liguori Catholic Church

Rev. Rodney Olive, C.Ss.R., Parochial Administrator



## Mission

**"To Joyfully Preach, Teach, and Live the Word of God"**

## Theme

**"God is alive, and He will keep us revived in 2025!"**



### PASTORAL STAFF

Sharon Cooney-Smith, Dir. Religious Education

Alicia McClendon, Secretary

Deborah Grant, Clerical Support

Angela Harris, Bulletin Editor

Denise Phillips, Business Manager

### SUPPORT STAFF

Bro. Eugene Patin, Pastoral Staff

Terrance Gipson, Maintenance

Terri Schneider, Dir. Hardin Food Pantry

### MUSIC MINISTRY

Malcolm Speed

Danny duMaine

### REDEMPTORISTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

(Call for Appointment)

### SUNDAY MASS:

10:00 a.m.

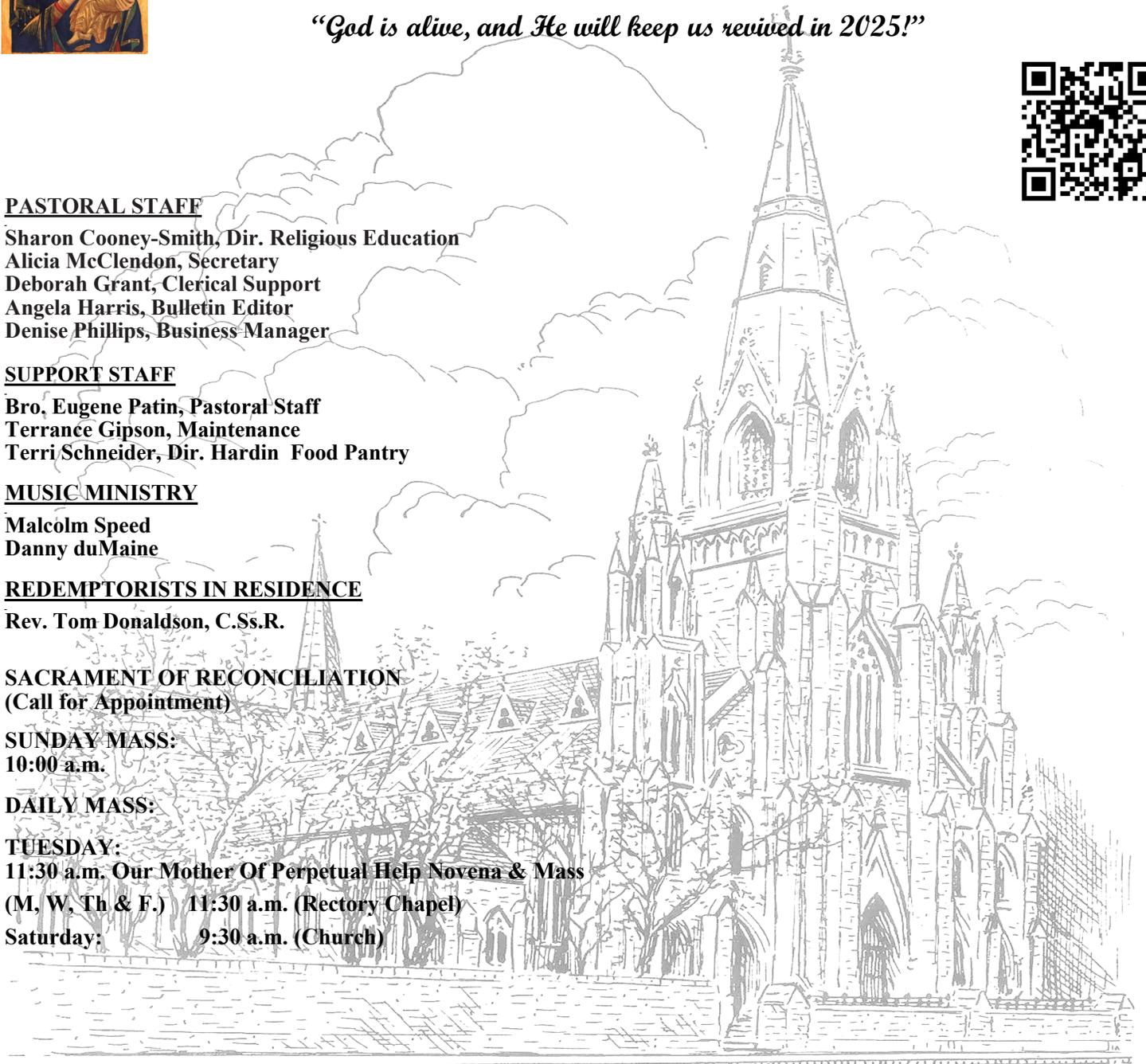
### DAILY MASS:

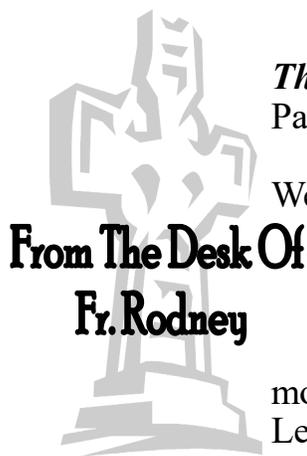
#### TUESDAY:

11:30 a.m. Our Mother Of Perpetual Help Novena & Mass

(M, W, Th & F.) 11:30 a.m. (Rectory Chapel)

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. (Church)





## *Through the Passion to the Resurrection*

Palm Sunday, 13 April 2025

We have journeyed through these many weeks of Lent and come to Palm Sunday. Once again each of us has a choice to make. Do I enter the Passion with Jesus, or do I bow my head and quietly say, “Maybe next time.” Let’s take a moment to look at both choices. Throughout Lent, we have been called to search within ourselves, acknowledging our own weaknesses and sinfulness. We will share in his Resurrection through our participation in the passion of Jesus. We must realize that there is only one path to experience the Resurrection, and that is through the passion. The second choice is to turn down Jesus’ offer of redemption, here and now, and respectfully say next time.

Now is our time to realize that Jesus paid the price for our salvation. He invites us to share in his passion so that we can lay our burdens down, the pain, the hurt, the rejection, the tyrannies of life. We don’t have to carry any of this anymore. Jesus already did it for us. All we have to do is what he told us, “If you would be my disciple, pick up your cross and follow me.” Mt. 16:24 The opportunity to know a renewed freedom is by embracing the redeeming love of Jesus in our lives and within our Rock Church Family.

Jesus confidently enters his death in obedience to the Father, and his plan of salvation. It is important to remember an important fact. Satan’s goal is to stop God’s plan of salvation, which includes us and our renewed salvation right now in our own present time and reality. Jesus is not silent; he has no fantasies about the outcome of his response. Neither should we! Jesus stays true to his testimony. Let us stay true to our testimony, “Jesus is my Lord and Savior, He is our Lord and Savior.” Now we can all look Satan in the face and, with a smile, say, “You Lose!”

Parochial Administrator

### WEEKLY READINGS...

#### *Sunday:*

Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)  
Phil 2:6-11/Lk 22:14—23:56  
or 23:1-49

#### *Monday:*

Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

#### *Tuesday:*

Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

#### *Wednesday:*

Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

#### *Thursday:*

Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18

#### *Friday:*

Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

#### *Saturday:*

Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a  
Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24  
5/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a  
10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11  
(1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2  
3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14  
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)  
Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/  
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9,  
10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a,  
18-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19  
(12a)/Rom 6:3-11/Lk 24:1-12

#### *Sunday:*

Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16  
-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor  
5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Lk 24:1-12

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

#### *Sunday:*

Palm Sunday of the  
Passion of the Lord

#### *Thursday:*

Holy Thursday

#### *Friday:*

Good Friday

#### *Saturday:*

Holy Saturday

#### *Sunday:*

Easter Sunday



**INTENTIONS 04/08/25 SICKNESS 04/08/25**

Carr, Jeff	Barnett, Jewel
Diaz, Evie	Baumstack, Liza
Duclerne, Joseph	Blake, Maria
Duncan, Kara	Brown, Joyce
Eaves, Douglas	Brownlee, Ethel
Enberg, Carol	Buckley, Darrell
Golden, Sherrill A.	Busy, Brittney
Golden, James L.	Carter, Alfred
Golden, Patricia	Cole, Barbara
Guiu, Dumitru	Conner, Jack
Guiu, Viorica	Cox, Jonathan Jr.
Hinton, Gary	DeClue, Rosalynn
Johnson, Billie Ms.	Delaney, J.
Johnson, Markiea	Dye, Margaret
Martin, Michael	George, Betty
Meeks, Kim	George, Christine
Meeks, Taniyah	Gilliand, John
Merritt, Tamala	Gurley, Earline
Miller Jr., Antonio	Jones, Keiarra
Monroe, Sam	Harris, Latanya
Monroe, Tanya	Leong, Desmond
Perry-Watson, Sydney	Lewis, Joi
Pinard, Viviana	Locke, Wilma
Radley, Bryan	Harris, Tobey
Ransome, Gregory	Harris, Willie
Robison, Amber	Hart, Edgar
Sanders, Sharron	Hayes, Regina
Scott, Devon	Hollins, Albert Rev.
Scott, Dorothea	Jammer-Webb, Jallah
Sher, Lois	Latham, Jean
Sullivan, Noah	Lehmkuhl, Karen
Thames, Angela	Littleton, Ginny
Walker, Deneen	Magnus, Sonette
Walker, Jasmine	Moore, Wilbert
Williams, Linda	O'Brien, Nancy
Williams, Norman	Officer, Marion E. Jr.
	Oldani, Shirley

Payne, Lonnie  
 Piphus, Michelle  
 Pointer, Nelson  
 Polek, Dave Fr.  
 Remsberg, Cory Sgt.  
 Roberts, Nounita  
 Robinson, William, Jr.  
 Rodgers, Erby Lee  
 Salter, Debi  
 Sheppard, Joyce  
 Simpson, Ronald  
 Smith, Paulette  
 Sonnenschein, Joseph  
 Sparkman, Judah  
 Stayton, Michael  
 Strong, Betty  
 Townsend, Bob  
 Ververloh, Karen  
 Williams, Kioko

**SHUT-IN**

Atherton, Andrew  
 Brack Dorothy  
 Cloyd, Selena  
 Darris, Martha  
 Hughes, Irene  
 Kilgore, Yetta  
 Lee, Hazel  
 McCoy, Carolyn  
 McGinnis, Kathy  
 Moore, Brenda  
 Reedy, Sid  
 Skinner, Joanna  
 Smith, Melba  
 Whitfield, Edna

***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

**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***

**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](mailto:scooneysmith@stalphonsusrock.org).***

## LITURGY NOTES

### *Following without Reserve*

Woven into the narrative of Christ's passion, Luke details various responses and reactions from those who came into contact with Jesus on his way to the cross. Jesus, of course, is aware of the dramatic way his life will come to an end, but for the others, Jesus's arrest, trial, public torture, and execution will be an unbelievably sorrowful experience that is unlike anything they can imagine. Even Jesus's closest disciples have no concept of the strength and the depth of love that will be required of them in the days ahead.

Peter's friendship with Jesus is perhaps one of the most tender, detailed, and directive trajectories in Scripture. At the Last Supper, Peter cannot stomach the prophecy of his betrayal and desperately expresses his desire to be at Jesus's side, risking prison or death over denial. It's not as if Peter lies to Jesus about this desire; he simply does not comprehend the cost of his fidelity. Even so, Jesus accepts Peter's claims, even while still foretelling the denial, but also predicts the grace that Peter will provide his brothers-and indeed the entire church-once he turns back. Despite Peter's best attempts, it is not enough. But]Jesus accepts what Peter can give. Of course, it's not just Peter who will abandon Jesus. The same voices in the crowds who acclaimed Jesus with hosannas will inevitably shout for the release of Barabbas (whose name means "*son of the father*").

Each of us desires to respond to Jesus with profound fidelity and bravery, unafraid to be known as his friend and follower. Yet, in that process of wrongly choosing some-thing or someone who is not the Christ, we learn our frailty. Humanity cannot adequately respond to the God who is love itself. But the Lord accepts our efforts. Through it all, we are confronted with the reality that we need a Redeemer, and we more clearly recognize the gift that the Lord wants to give us. If he truly is the Son of God, we must follow him without reserve. Only when he gives us His Spirit will we be able to do so.

### PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

- The passion narrative is full of side characters, their stories playing out alongside Jesus's. Read through the gospel and find a side character whose story says something to you about how you respond to God's surprising, paradigm-shifting work in the world. Share what God is telling you through this story today.
- How can you imitate Jesus's commitment to self-sacrificial love?
- How can you stay mindful of God's presence even in the midst of suffering? How do you remember God through seasons of sorrow or pain?

*(Source:litpress.org/Living Liturgy)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hop on over for our

# EASTER Egg hunt

Join us on

**April 20th at 11:45am**

for some egg-citing fun!

St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Catholic Church  
1118 N Grand Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63106




When questioned about paying taxes, Jesus uttered now famous words. **"Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."** Being a part of a community isn't always easy, and being active members of civil society includes responsibilities we don't always prefer.

When Tax Day comes around, we can suffer through, or we can choose to offer up our frustration as intercession. If you disagree with the decisions of civil leaders, pray for them! If the state and federal government fund causes you support, thank God! While Jesus acknowledges that we "do not belong to the world," we nonetheless are called into it. Through our words, actions, and prayers, we are called to transform the world according to God's plan.

**TO PLAY IN THE DIRT**

The St. Alphonsus Men's Ministry would like to cordially invite you to join us starting April 27, 2025, after mass if weather permits.

We will help prepare the land using a layered method or whichever method is best or preferred. We will be growing the garden in 3 sections. One section will be for the community. That section is intended for ministries that do community outreach through food. The second section will be the church garden. That is for parishioners who don't mind planting in a community area and if arts and environment would like to grow/sustain the plants we have and use. The final section is the family section. That is for those who want their own space. We ask that you bring your own materials if you have certain ways of growing. We may or may not have enough tools for everyone and if you want a raised bed or something particular we, the Men's ministry, can assist. We will provide compost, provide the compost, and some seeds for those without. We are a bit weather dependent, so please be flexible with us.

We hope to see you out there!

**Social Justice Summer Camp**

at  
College Church



The Social Justice Camp sponsored by the College Church Youth Faith Formation program will be held June 23 – 27 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Young people who will be entering grades 6, 7, and 8 in the fall are invited to attend. The week's schedule will include engaging group activities and participation in a variety of community service events. We will explore ways God calls us to build a just society and use our gifts to help others.

Camp fees are \$400 per camper and include all program materials and daily snacks. Campers bring their own lunches. Scholarships are available.

Reserve your spot by registering through this link:

[sfxstl.org/social-justice-camp](https://sfxstl.org/social-justice-camp)

Please contact Julie Kilian [julie@sfxstl.org](mailto:julie@sfxstl.org) for more information.

General Fund Actual Contributions Received		
MARCH / APRIL	30 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
Envelopes	\$ 5,217.00	\$10,267.00
Electronic Offering	\$ 1,428.00	\$ 2,263.00
Loose Offering	\$ 382.00	\$ 274.00
Total Offering	\$ 7,027.00	\$12,804.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$( 5,473.00)	\$ 304.00

**Stewardship Prayer...**

That we have the courage to defend our Catholic faith when the opportunity arises.

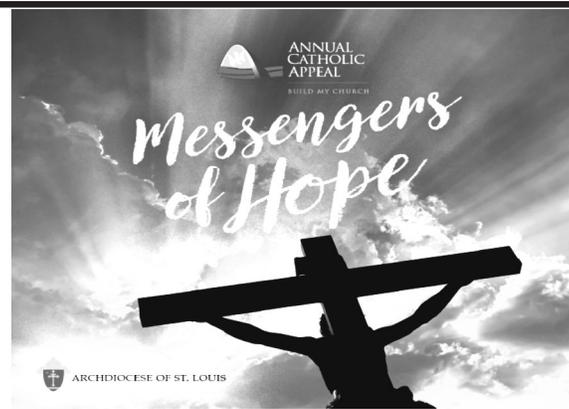
*“...I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me.”*

*(Luke 22:34)*

How many times have you heard someone make a disparaging comment about God or our Catholic faith? How did you react? Do you remain quiet so not to cause a disturbance? Or, because you don't want people to think negatively about you? Or, because you don't think you know enough about the Catholic faith? Pray for the courage to speak up and enter into a respectful conversation when the opportunity to talk about our faith arises. Joyfully share your faith with others.

**Missionary Discipleship – Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion: Praise and glorify the name of Jesus**

In today’s reading from Luke on the Procession with Palms, the crowd, including his disciples, were praising and glorifying the name of Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem. The Pharisees demanded that Jesus reprimand His disciples, but Jesus replied, “I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!” Then, Paul reminds us in his letter to the Philippians that every knee will bend and “every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Unfortunately, we hear in the Passion reading that Jesus’s Apostles became fair-weather friends. One betrayed Jesus, one denied Jesus, none prayed with Him in the garden, and John was the only Apostle with him at the foot of the cross. Can you imagine how Jesus felt about this? Can you put yourself in His place? The good news is that this gives all of us hope because, with Jesus, there is always a resurrection. We all push Jesus aside in our lives and forget to praise and glorify Him to those around us. However, if even his Apostles, now all saints, did this, we have cause for great hope. As we enter Holy Week, we can ask ourselves: “How do I praise and glorify Jesus by my words and actions?”



As Catholics, our hope comes from Jesus Christ. Our mission as His Church is to joyfully proclaim the Good News of salvation. We are called to be *Messengers of Hope*.

The *Annual Catholic Appeal* is the lifeblood of so much of the vital work of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. Your support allows us to expand our reach, deepen our impact, and build a brighter future together.

Through the *Appeal*, we lead others to Christ; educate our children; form young men to be priests; help religious orders; and bring the love and mercy of Christ to the most vulnerable among us. We also provide hope with our affordable housing fund initiative which helps move individuals and families into stable homes.

**PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY**



## **OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER MEMORIALS**

**Continuous prayer for the “Rock” Saints who have transitioned from labor to reward during the past five years**

Larry Ambus, Garvin Anderson, Hortense Anderson, Anita Louise Banks, Lillian Barnes, Loretta Beasley  
 Jean Irene Becker, Herron Beckley, Ida J. Bohannon, Roderick Bolden, James R. Boykin, James Buford  
 Irving Clay, Willie Cunningham, Judith Dickson-Durham, Kevina A. Doss, Sallie duMaine, Sr. Carolyn Emerson  
 Fr. Kyle Fisher, C.Ss.R., Alice Gathright, Roberta George, Terrance Gipson, Sr., Jermaine Gordon, Alonzo Green  
 Catherine Gregory, Georgette Gregory, Walter T. Gregory, Willie “Clarence” Griffin, Donna Hall, Barbara Harris  
 David Robert Herron, MaryAnn Hinton, Cassandra Hollins, Rosalind Hood, Jamar Huffmon, Willie Huffmon, Barbara Hudson  
 Jones, Nadine Jones, Fr. Anthony “Tony” Judge, C.Ss.R., Robin Kyles, Stephen LaBerta, Rosemary Lee, Mary Ann Lewis  
 Joan Lowe, Juanita Luster, Anice Mahone, Isis Aaliyah Mahr, Kyle Martin, Bernice McCoy, Michael P. McCoy Sr.  
 Eric L. McKinnie, Louis T. McKinnie, Glenn Miller, Roy Miller, Paul J. Naugles, James Joseph O’Brien, Bernice O’Neal  
 Anne Ortwerth, Thelma Paul, Mae Peters, Alton Pritchard, Christian Reedy Judith Reedy, Wendell M. Sams, Pearlie Savoy  
 Catherine Sherman, Robert Smith, Jr. Lorraine Fite Stewart, Shontea Stricklin, Gloria Taylor, Oswald Lee Thomas  
 Mary Ann Thompson, Robert “Bobby” J. Valle, Jr., Sandra Wallace, Ralph Watkins Jr., Ruby Wicks, Jessica Williams  
 Alvin Leon Wilson, Vernie Woolfork, Clarence Zacher

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

Sharon Cooney-Smith, DRE  
 314-533-0304

**RCIA/RCIC**  
 Children’s Liturgy of the Word  
 Baptism  
 First Reconciliation  
 First Communion  
 Confirmation  
 Matrimony

**COMMISSIONS & CHAIRS**

Christian Formation	TBD
Christian Service	Hilda Phillips
Finance & Adm.	Monica Huddleston
Liturgy	Richard Buckley
Peace & Justice	Kathy McGinnis
Social Life	Rose Graham
Youth & Young Adults	Ronda Smith Branch

**COMMUNITY HELP**

Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry  
 Terri Schneider, Dir. of Wilhelmina Hardin Food Pantry  
 (Emergency Aid) (314) 944-2909  
 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

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

<b>Robert Caldwell</b> President	<b>Ronda Smith Branch</b> Vice President	<b>Hilda Phillips</b> Secretary
<b>Theodore Branch</b>	<b>Richard Buckley</b>	<b>David Martin</b>
<b>Audrey Ellermann</b>	<b>Gregory Hood</b>	<b>Jessica Pou</b>
<b>Teresa Hudson</b>	<b>Jocelyn Woodson-Reed</b>	

**ATTENTION**

**If your telephone number, home address or email address has changed, please contact the office at 533-0304 or email [office@stalphonusrock.org](mailto:office@stalphonusrock.org).**

**Bulletin announcements must be in the office for review and approval by 12 noon Tuesdays.**

**Please fax items to 314 533-4260 or e-mail to [parish130@archstl.org](mailto:parish130@archstl.org)**