

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)

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)





**From The Desk Of
Fr. Rodney**

Our Journey of Renewal
1st Sunday of Lent

There is a time and season when we must stop and recall the story of the journey of faith. The spirits of our ancestors remind us of God’s presence in their lives and our present lives. The Lenten journey is a time and season for us to realize God’s abiding presence in our daily lives. A God who is always there with us.

Our story is a living story that continues to reveal a God who is an intimate part of this ongoing living story. The moments of our joy and victory, God is there. The moments of our sorrow and defeat, God is there. In the dark moments of our lives, God is there to shine the light of hope. How do we know? The stories of our ancestors remind us of how God was there in the same moments of their lives.

Like our ancestors who cried out to the Lord, as they went through the dark times of oppression and misery. It was the Lord who heard their cries and delivered them with his mighty hand and outstretched arm, with signs and wonders. The Lord who did these things for our ancestors then, does this for us today, in our present reality. It is entering into the story that we are intimately bound to our ancestors and God.

St. Paul reminds us that a person seeking salvation must acknowledge **“Jesus is Lord.”** Our faith story helps to recall that Jesus is the **“Rock on Which We Stand.”** The fire of faith that fuels hope in our lives empowers us to call on the name of the Lord knowing that we experience the saving power of his love. Jesus demonstrates this in Luke’s gospel when the devil tempted Jesus in the desert. There is power in love of Jesus.

The power of Jesus’ love enables us to renew ourselves and remain faithful to this journey of salvation. Jesus’ victory over temptation is an important teaching for our way to God. We can remain faithful, knowing we cannot be bought, controlled, or manipulated. Let us stop, renewing ourselves through the story of God’s presence and the power of his love in our lives.

Parochial Administrator

WEEKLY READINGS...

Sunday:

Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11
12-13, 14-15 (see 5b)
Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9
10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17
18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13
18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-
2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4
5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

Saturday:

Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8
Mt 5:43-48

Sunday:

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8
8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17—4:1 or
3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL
OBSERVANCES**

Sunday:

1st Sunday of Lent
Daylight Saving Time begins



Sunday:

2nd Sunday of Lent

Monday

March 17, 2025





REMEMBER
in your prayers

INTENTIONS 03/04/25

Carr, Jeff
Diaz, Evie
Duclerne, Joseph
Duncan, Kara
Eaves, Douglas
Enberg, Carol
Golden, Sherrill A.
Golden, James L.
Golden, Patricia
Guiu, Dumitru
Guiu, Viorica
Hatchett, Sharon
Johnson, Billie Ms.
Johnson, Markiea
Martin, Michael
Meeks, Kim
Meeks, Taniyah
Merritt, Tamala
Miller Jr., Antonio
Monroe, Sam
Monroe, Tanya
Pinard, Viviana
Radley, Bryan
Ransome, Gregory
Sammons, Bernie
Scott, Devon
Scott, Dorothea
Sher, Lois
Smith, Paulette
Sullivan, Noah
Walker, Deneen
Walker, Jasmine
Williams, Linda
Williams, Norman

SICKNESS 03/04/25

Barnett, Jewel
Baumstack, Liza
Blake, Maria
Brown, Joyce
Brownlee, Ethel
Buckley, Darrell
Busy, Brittney
Carter, Alfred
Cole, Barbara
Conner, Jack
Cox, Jonathan Jr.
DeClue, Rosalynn
Delaney, J.
Dye, Margaret
George, Betty
George, Christine
Gilliand, John
Gurley, Earline
Jones, Keiarra
Harris, Latanya
Leong, Desmond
Lewis, Joi
Locke, Wilma
Harris, Tobey
Harris, Willie
Hart, Edgar
Hayes, Regina
Hollins, Albert Rev.
Jammer-Webb, Jallah
Latham, Jean
Lehmkuhl, Karen
Littleton, Ginny
Magnus, Sonette
Moore, Wilbert
O'Brien, Nancy
Officer, Marion E. Jr.

Oldani, Shirley
Payne, Lonnie
Pointer, Nelson
Polek, Dave Fr.
Remsburg, 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
Venverloh, Karen
Williams, Kioko

SHUT-IN

Atherton, Andrew
Brack Dorothy
Cloyd, Selena
Darris, Martha
Farr, Synthia
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.

LITURGY NOTES

Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

"Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ." The collect for the First Sunday of Lent provides a framework for thinking about the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: we aren't doing these things for God, but it is God who desires to do something for us through these practices.

Prayer is simply conversation with God. We listen to him and discern where he is leading us. We respond with utter vulnerability, and we share our honest reactions and deepest longings. When we are in love, we tend to do what makes our partner happy and avoid doing things that make them unhappy. So it is with God. Out of love, we recognize that communion with him in prayer will transform our minds and our hearts, leading us to think differently about ourselves, others, and the world.

Fasting, too, is a tool that can conform us to Christ. Whether it be "giving up" particular foods, drinks, or behaviors, going without creates a space for us to sit with our deepest appetites. What is it that I truly crave? Companionship? Understanding? What is holding me back from surrendering all to Christ? In the end, we recognize that fasting is not about a diet plan so much as it is about becoming more like Jesus by creating intentional space for the Lord to dwell.

The last of three Lenten practices is a complement to fasting: **Almsgiving**. Lent is not simply a season to give things up; we also share what we have with others. From God's abundance, we have received, and in a spirit of charity, we generously show the same mercy and love to our brothers and sisters. What is of most value to me? Do I generously share what God has given me with others (time, talent, treasure)?

Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are all remedies for sin. Like the Spirit that leads Christ into the desert, we, too, mindful of our own baptism, are drawn into these spiritual practices and a time of intentional reflection so that we might live for God alone. He desires to accomplish his work in us.

PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

- God's word plays a prominent role in this Gospel. How do you pray with Scripture? How could you find ways to spend more time with it?
- When has Scripture offered you strength and encouragement during a difficult time?

(Source: litpress.org/Living Liturgy)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lenten Revival
March 10, 11, 12
7pm

Prayer! Praise!
Preaching!

Rev. Ako Walker, C.Ss.R.
 Revival Preacher
 Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish
 Baltimore, MD



St. Alphonsus Liguori 'Rock' Church
 1118 North Grand Blvd.
 St. Louis, MO 63106

Rev. Rodney Olive, C.Ss.R., Parochial Administrator
 314-533-0304

www.stalphonsusrock.org
SECURE PARKING



Jessica Pou

St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Catholic Church, praise God, as we celebrate our sister, Jessica Pou. Jessica has been selected as the 2025 first recipient of the Leon Henderson Young Adult Award, by the St. Charles Lwanga Center.

Our "Rock" Church family congratulates our sister, Jessica, for her faith and service to God.

Fr. Rodney Olive, CSsR

The St. Charles Lwanga Center has moved!

Sat, Mar 29 | St. Charles Lwanga Center

8240 Washington STREET
 St Louis, MO 63114

Join us for a Prayer Service & New Site Blessing.

The Center promotes Catholic teaching, Catholic spiritual formation and leadership development, including advocacy for justice and racial equity concerns within the Black Catholic Community and for all who collaborate with them, in accord with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church.

ST ALPHONSUS "ROCK" PRESENTS

FISH FRY
 FUNDRAISER

EACH FRIDAY THROUGH APRIL 11TH, 2025
 SOUL FOOD FRIDAY MARCH 21ST AND APRIL 4TH, 2025

MENU

CATFISH FILLET, JACK (WHOLE), AND COD DINNER \$17 (INCLUDES SPAGHETTI, COLE SLAW, AND SMALL DESSERT)
 SANDWICHES \$12 (EXTRA FISH \$5) SIDES \$3
 DESSERTS \$3 BEVERAGE \$1 (WATER AND SODA VARIETY)



LOCATION
 1118 N GRAND BLVD
 ST. LOUIS, MO 63106

Time:
 11^{am} to 5^{pm}

CALL IN ORDERS BEFORE 3PM THURSDAY PHONE 314-533-0304

In Loving Memory of Glenn Miller, Roberta George, and Alonzo Green



The Glenn Miller Foundation

LENTEN FISH FRY DONATION REQUEST

- Spaghetti | Chucky Tomato Sauce
- Andy's Red Breading
- 3 Compartment Food Containers
- Case of Water | Soda | Pound Loaf/Sliced Cake
- Store Bought Packaged Desserts
- Frozen Cheese Cake (Sam's)
- Sweet Stripe Soft Peppermint

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



General Fund Actual Contributions Received		
FEBRUARY / MARCH	23 rd	02 nd
Envelopes	\$ 8,763.00	\$ 8,434.00
Electronic Offering	\$ 888.00	\$ 3,513.00
Loose Offering	\$ 176.00	\$ 160.00
Total Offering	\$ 9,827.00	\$12,107.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$(2,673.00)	\$(393.00)

Stewardship Prayer...

That we give God the “first fruits” of our gifts – our first and best time in prayer, charitable works in ministry participation and financial support of our parish mission and community outreach.

“I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me.”

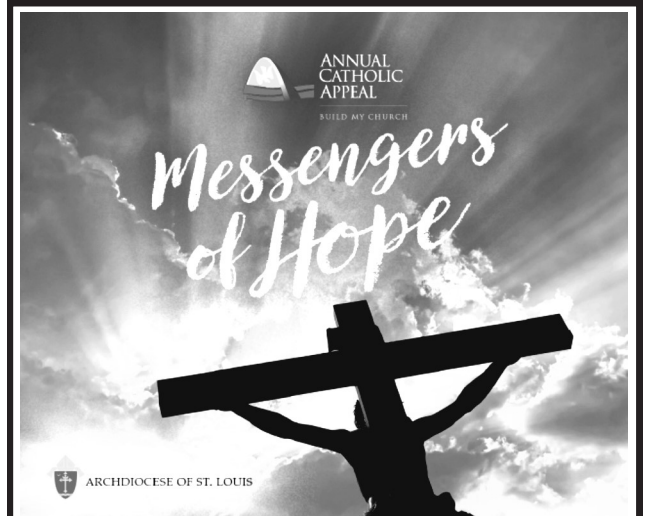
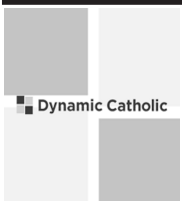
DEUTERONOMY 26:10

This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your “first fruits” - the first and best you have to offer? Or do you give from what you have leftover? Second, do you realize that everything you have and that everything you have been given to you by God? We aren’t owners of anything, we are merely stewards of God’s gifts. Pray for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

Missionary Discipleship – Time to Pray and Fast

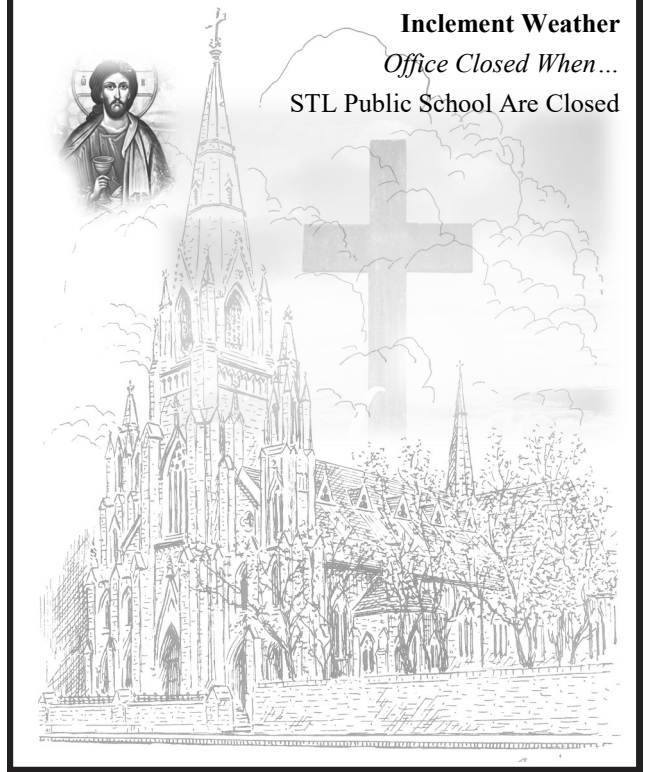
In the Gospel reading today, we hear how Jesus went off alone in the desert for 40 days to pray and fast. This is a perfect opportunity for us to reflect on our busy lives filled with constant noise to determine how we can disconnect and take time alone in conversation with God. As adopted sons and daughters of God, we have been called to give of ourselves in many ways, but when we give, we also have to take time to replenish our spiritual resources. If we don’t do this, we will find ourselves empty. Throughout the Gospels we see many examples of Jesus taking time for silent mental prayer. That is what allowed Him to withstand the temptation of the devil in the desert. That is also what helped Him to endure His great suffering. Jesus stayed in a personal relationship with His Father and He trusted that His Father would be with Him throughout all of His tribulation. We, like Jesus, need to maintain our personal relationship with God and remember as Paul shared in his letter to the Romans, “(God) enriches all who call upon Him.”

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!



We need volunteers to work the Annual ACA, a Stewardship Committee project. This is the Archdiocese fundraising campaign to fund the many organizations in our diocese that provide all kinds of help to so many. Looking forward to your email response to parish130@archstl.org, the ROCK Church email, with your name, email address and phone number.

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

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

ATTENTION

If your telephone number, home address or email address has changed, please contact the office at 533-0304 or email 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