

# *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. 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

*"Fill us up with your wisdom and guidance as we strive to do more in 2024!"*



### PASTORAL STAFF

Sharon Cooney-Smith, Dir. Religious Education

Roberta George, 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)



*Jesus teaches that whoever is not against him is for him.*

Today we continue to read from the Gospel of Mark. Recall that last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who serve the least ones. In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others.

Today the demon possession described in the Gospels might be seen as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine. Some people had the power to heal the symptoms of possession. One of the strategies used was to invoke the name of a person or figure who was believed to have the power to heal.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He also teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. The Greek word used here for sin also connotes "stumbling" or "causing scandal." In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith.

(Source:Loyolapress)

**WEEKLY READINGS...****Sunday:**

Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13  
14 (9a)/Jas 5:1-6  
Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

**Monday:**

Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7  
Lk 9:46-50

**Tuesday:**

Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3  
4-5, 6, 7-8/Lk 9:51-56

**Wednesday:**

Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11  
12-13, 14-15/Mt 18:1-5, 10

**Thursday:**

Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc  
13-14/Lk 10:1-12

**Friday:**

Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3  
7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16

**Saturday:**

Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66,  
71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24

**Sunday:**

Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6  
(see 5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or  
10:2-12

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL  
OBSERVANCES****Sunday:**

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Priesthood Sunday

**Monday:**

St. Jerome, Priest and  
Doctor of the Church

**Tuesday:**

St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus  
Virgin and Doctor of the Church

**Wednesday:**

The Holy Guardian Angels

**Friday:**

St. Francis of Assisi

**Saturday:**

Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin  
Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest

**Sunday:**

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Respect Life Sunday



REMEMBER  
*in your prayers*

*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

**INTENTIONS 09/17/24**

Benden, C.SsR, Steve  
Carr, Jeff  
Diaz, Evie  
Dorge Family  
Duclerne, Joseph  
Duncan, Kara  
Eaves, Douglas  
Golden, Sherrill A.  
Golden, James L.  
Guiu, Dumitru  
Guiu, Viorica  
Hatchett, Sharon  
Hinton Family  
Johnson, Billie Ms.  
Johnson, Markiea  
McClain, Kenneth  
Meeks, Kim  
Meeks, Taniyah  
Boyd-Merrill, Wanda  
Merritt, Tamala  
Miller Jr., Antonio  
Monroe, Dionne  
Monroe, Reggie  
Monroe, Sam  
Monroe, Tanya  
Pinard, Viviana  
Radley, Bryan  
Rauch, Gerry  
Reed, Jan & Family  
Sammons, Bernie  
Scott, Dorothea  
Sher, Lois  
Sullivan, Noah  
Thomas, April

Walker, Deneen  
Walker, Jasmine  
Williams, Linda  
Williams, Norman

**INTENTIONS 09/24/24**

Bell, Gilbert  
Blanton, Linda  
Brasher, Paula  
Catchings-Smith, Deborah  
Charleston, Dorothy  
Clark, Louis  
Cooney, Michael  
Crafton, Steve  
Crawford, Alexis  
Dulaney, Linda  
Gandaho, Tamar  
Gilbert Family  
Goldston, Natalie  
Hill, Xavier  
Hood, Gregg  
Humphrey, Shelia  
Hunt, JoAnn  
Kirksey, Jasmine  
Jarvis, Michael  
Jones, Ethel  
Judge, Larry  
Kemp, Monterio  
Lesueur, JaVaughn  
Martin, Michael  
Miller, Jr., Antonio  
Monroe, Dionne  
Monroe, Reginald  
Page, Connie  
Page, Mike  
Pena, Emelyn de la

Potts, Pamela  
Reed, Tory  
Sheperd, Dorothy  
Smith, June  
Sullivan, Jeremiah  
Thames, Michael  
Thompson, Louisa  
Thomas-Crumbley, Mary  
Valle, Dorothy  
Weston, Dorothy  
Woolfork, Virginia  
Williams, Linda

**SICKNESS 09/17/24**

Barnett, Jewel  
Brown, Joyce  
Brownlee, Ethel  
Buckley, Darrell  
Busy, Brittney  
Cloyd, Selena  
Cole, Barbara  
Conner, Jack  
Cox, Jonathan Jr.  
DeClue, Rosalynn  
Delaney, J.  
Dye, Margaret  
George, Betty  
George, Christine  
Gilliand, John  
Gurley, Earline  
Jones, Keiarra  
Latanya Harris  
Leong, Desmond  
Lewis, Joi  
Harris, Tobey  
Hart, Edgar

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  
Patton, William Joshua  
Payne, Lonnie  
Pointer, Nelson  
Polek, Dave Fr.  
Remsberg, Cory Sgt.  
Roberts, Nounita  
Robinson, William, Jr.  
Rodgers, Erby Lee  
Salter, Debi  
Sheppard, Joyce  
Simpson, Lisa  
Simpson, Ronald  
Smith, Melba  
Sonnenschein, Joseph  
Sparkman, Judah  
Stayton, Michael  
Strong, Betty  
Townsend, Bob  
Venverloh, Karen  
Wright, Rhonda

**SICKNESS 09/24/24**

Andrews, Sarah  
Anthony, Jean  
Brown, Travis, Ofcr.  
Brownlee, Paul

Buck, Victoria  
Boyd, Wanda  
Coleman, Gracie  
Crump, Flo  
Darden, Veronica  
Davis, Stephanie  
Dulaney, John  
George, Donna  
Goldston, Natalie  
Guevara, Shannon  
Harris, Bob  
Hodges, Carolyn  
Hubbard, Patricia  
Johnson, Jennier  
Jones, Ethel  
Lee, Pearletta  
Mahr, Brenda  
McClain, Kenneth  
McClain, Victoria  
McDonnell, Brenda  
Mozee, Sylvester  
Parran, Rodrick  
Price, Wayne  
Rasales, Devon  
Reedy, Sid  
Richardson, Jr., Marshall  
Schneider, Roy  
Shackleford, Joseph  
Smith, Valerie  
Thames, Garnetta  
Thames, Lamar  
Thomas, Aubrey  
Thompson, Henry  
Whitfield, Edna (Mother)  
Townsend, Sue

Valle-Lee, Laura  
Vet, Alphonso  
Westley-Coleman, Denise  
Wallace, Trevia  
Washington, Joanne  
Wester, Tyson

**SHUT-INS**

Atherton, Andrew  
Brack, Dorothy  
Darris, Martha  
Hughes, Irene  
Lee, Hazel  
McCoy, Carolyn  
McGinnis, Kathy  
Moore, Brenda  
Peters, Mae  
Skinner, Joanna  
Thomas, Bernice

**HOSPITAL 09/24/24**

George, Roberta

**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.

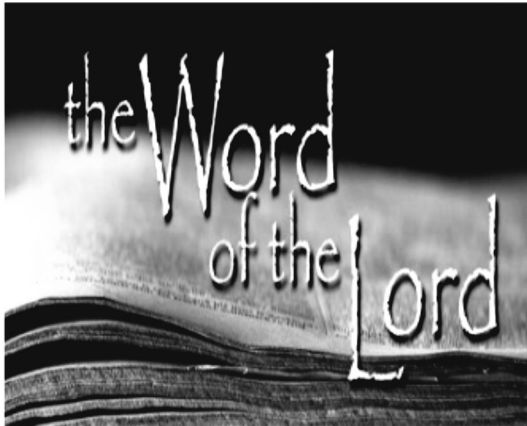
**RCIA/RCIC – ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...**

- 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



We hear these words so frequently that we may risk taking them for granted. The meaning of the phrase “Word of the Lord” is illustrated for us in Genesis 15:1-4. In this passage God is speaking to Abram.

*After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, “Do not fear, Abram, I am a shield to you; Your reward shall be very great.” Abram*

*said, “O Lord GOD, what will You give me, since I am childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “Since You have given no offspring to me, one born in my house is my heir.” Then behold, the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “This man will not be your heir; but one who will come forth from your own body, he shall be your heir.” Genesis 15:1-4.*

We might ask ourselves what goes through our mind when we hear a reader saying “The Word of the Lord”. Do we really believe it? Do we really believe that this is what we have been hearing, and that this Word is calling us to focus more intently on the Lord? Or does it come across as just another phrase, tacked onto the end of the reading? Yes, many readers do read the phrase in a perfunctory way without thinking about what the words actually mean. It’s tremendously helpful to have a significant pause — perhaps as much as 10 seconds or more — between the proclamation of the actual scriptural text and the uttering of that concluding formula. Not only does it allow all of us, reader included, to meditate briefly on the word that we have heard and make it our own, but it gives that concluding formula a chance to come alive instead of going over our heads. Notice that all this does not apply only to the 1st and 2nd Readings: it’s just as true when it comes to the Gospel reading.

When the General Introduction to the Lectionary for Mass recommends “short intervals of silence, suited to the assembly, as an opportunity to take the word of God to heart and to prepare a response to it in prayer”, this is what it is referring to, amongst other things: silence after the proclamation of the scriptural text and before the announcement of the concluding formula. Their commendation of brief meditative silences after the readings is also echoed in General Instruction of the Roman Missal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



EARLY VOTING IN MISSOURI STARTS  
OCTOBER 22<sup>ND</sup>!



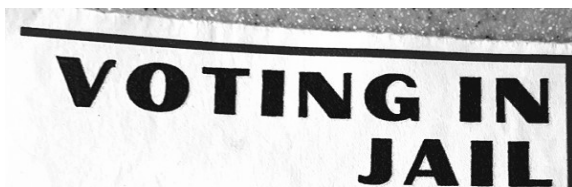
Bingo this year will be right after church from 12p-3p. We will have the same menu as last year. We will have the Grand Raffle, Lotto Trees, Attendance Prizes, and Baskets of Cheer!  
Pre-registration sales for Bingo will be after church starting in October and electronic payments are accepted.

Donations of food, attendance prizes or your talent of time are always welcome.

Our Ad booklet will continue its transition as well. Remember, if you or someone you know has a business they wish to promote, then the ad booklet is a great spot to do so. And again, well wishes are more than welcome.

This year we will again only feature Bingo as our main event. As we continue to transition the Fall Festival into a new event, we will take last year lessons and any challenges of this year into consideration to push both the Card Party and Silent Auction into next year.

If you would like to volunteer and get community service hours or purchase ads, or just have any questions or comments please email [jasiriaskari@gmail.com](mailto:jasiriaskari@gmail.com) or call the parish office at 314 533-0304



If you are in jail awaiting trial and are otherwise eligible to vote, **you have the right to vote.** Some jails may have in-person voting options. Need help with the process? Call the League office at 314-961-6869.



**4 ways to book your appointment...** **Who should attend:**  
 Call 888-814-0466 and use promo code HSCA001  
 Anyone over the age of 40  
 Visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA](http://LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA)  
**Special Member Pricing for \$159**  
 Scan here (with QR code)  
 Text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607  
 ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening  
 ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening  
 ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening  
 ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening  
 ♥ Plus a FREE Hypertension Screening

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

**Where:** St. Alphonsus Rock Church  
1118 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis

**When:** Monday, October 28th

**Rock Seniors In Action**

Next meeting

**Tuesday, October 1, 2024**

In the gym after the PH Devotions

**All Seniors Are Welcome**

**Protecting God's Children**

Training session will be held in the gym after Mass on Sunday

October 20, 2024

Contact H Denise Phillips In The Parish Office To Sign Up

**General Fund Actual Contributions Received**

SEPTEMBER	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Envelopes	\$ 8,549.00	\$ 5,912.00
Electronic Offering	\$ 1,088.00	\$ 1,658.00
Loose Offering	\$ 102.00	\$ 126.00
Total Offering	\$ 9,739.00	\$ 7,696.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$( 2,761.00)	\$( 4,804.00)

**Stewardship Prayer...**

Remembering that we will be judged by what we do for the least among us, may we give generously and joyfully to support all those in need.

“Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.”

MARK 9:41

We are made in God’s image and likeness. We tend to forget this. When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them? When others look at you, do they see the face of Jesus in you? When we realize that all lives matter to God, then gratitude and generously become easier. Why? Because that’s the way we are made! We are one Body of Christ; when one of us is hurting, all of us feel the pain.

**Missionary Discipleship – Generosity**

God, our Creator, is infinitely generous. We’ve all heard the statement that no one can “out-give” God. In one parable, Jesus rebukes the servants who are unsatisfied with receiving the same amount of pay as those who worked significantly less. We should not be envious because the Lord is generous. Rather, we should embrace His generosity and the bounty He has bestowed on us and rejoice in the blessings that others have. The world today suffers much from the sin of envy, and many people cannot rejoice when others receive blessings. “Envy is a capital sin. It refers to the sadness at the sight of another’s goods and the immoderate desire to acquire them for oneself, even unjustly. When it wishes grave harm to a neighbor it is a mortal sin” (CCC 2539). We must be careful with jealousy and reject it. Instead be grateful for all the gifts you and your family and friends have received. Respond by being generous with your God-given gifts.

*To My Rock Church Family  
The Cumbley Family would like to thank the Rock Church Family for all their prayers, thoughts and acts of kindness you gave our family following the tragic loss of our beloved Brother. Please continue to pray for us! Please!  
loves  
Mary Cumbley*

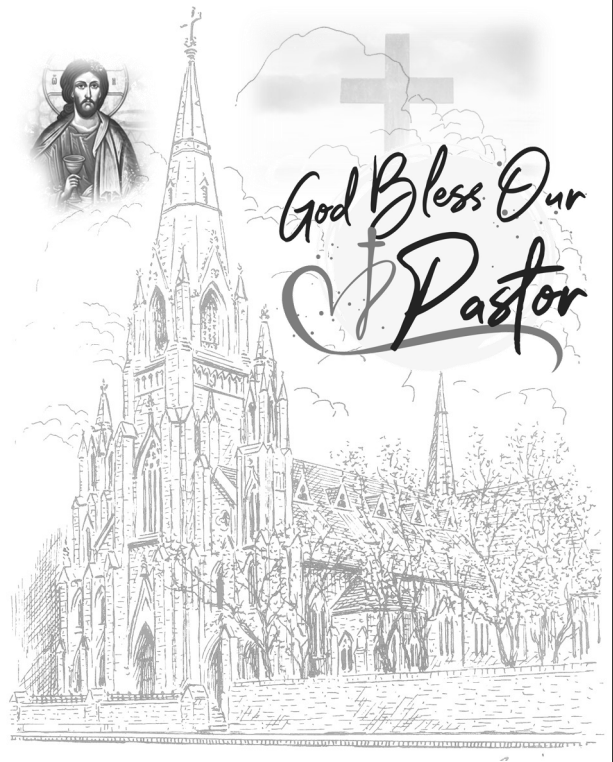


**A Celebration of History: 150th Anniversary of Greenwood Cemetery**

Greenwood Cemetery was established in 1874, serving as the first non-sectarian commercial cemetery for African

Americans in the St. Louis area after the Civil War. Greenwood has faced periods of hardship and neglect, yet through dedication, the cemetery is undergoing a beautiful restoration, reclaiming its rightful place as a cornerstone of our community’s heritage.

Join us in celebrating its rich legacy on Saturday, October 19th, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Missouri History Museum.



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](http://archstl.org/dynamic) to view all the resources available to you!

## 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, 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, Anne Ortwerth, Thelma Paul, 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.

Saundra 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
Social Life	Rose Graham
Youth & Young Adults	TBD

### 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>Teressa Hudson</b>	<b>Patricia Pou</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)

### 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.*