## 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!"



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)

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





Fr. Rodney

# *A Lifestyle of Being Blessed* 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday OT, 26 January 2025

Our God is a great God. The greatest of God enables us to

From The Desk Of experience and know that "We are blessed."

The 2025 new year presents us with opportunities for

The 2025 new year presents us with opportunities for new possibilities. The Lord gives us a brand new year, a beautiful blank page for you and I to create something beautiful for God. Why? Simple, "We are Blessed."

The prophet Nehemiah calls the exiles returning from Babylon and each of us to renew our covenant with God. We need to bathe ourselves in the power of God's redeeming love. This is a time for rejoicing, we have gone through a challenging year. We have experienced the power of God as a Rock Church family. We experience an anointing by the Holy Spirit, which brings a change in all our lives, as well as a change in our lifestyle.

As Christians in this Catholic Church, we belong to the body of Christ. Just as there are many parts to our body, there are many parts to the body of Christ. Many parts, but just one body. Like the many parts of the body, the Holy Spirit provides a diversity of gifts, ultimately pointing to the unity of the whole body. We must deeply appreciate and cherish this diversity of gifts should cause us to rejoice and praise Jesus all that much more. Remember it is Jesus who commands us to "love one another, as I have loved you." We must embrace a lifestyle of love, of uncompromising truth, and faithfulness to living the Word of God.

The baptism of Jesus shows us what being filled with the Holy Spirit means. We realize with Jesus, we share a mission; we will seek to heal the brokenhearted, and release prisoners. We are to go out to our community and be the Lord's good news to our people. We stand side by side with our brothers and sisters and join the struggle to bring liberty to people in bondage. 2025 must be a year for the Rock Family to translate the words of the Holy Scriptures, making it a living reality in all our lives.

Parochial Administrator

fr Godflline Ss R

#### WEEKLY READINGS...

#### Sunday:

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/1 Cor 12: 12-30 or 12:12-14, 27 Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

#### Monday:

Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

#### Tuesday:

Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35

#### Wednesday:

Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/ Mk 4:1-20

#### Thursday:

Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25

#### Friday:

Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

#### Saturday:

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

#### Sunday:

Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

# SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

#### Sunday:

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

#### Monday:

St. Angela Merici, Virgin

#### Tuesday:

St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

#### Friday:

St. John Bosco, Priest

#### Sunday:

The Presentation of the Lord World Day for Consecrated Life



#### INTENTIONS 01/14/25 Potts, Pamela

Bell, Gilbert Blanton, Linda Brasher, Paula Catchings-Smith, Deborah Charleston, Dorothy Clark, Louis Cooney, Michael Crafton, Steve Crawford, Alexis Dulaney, Linda Gandaho, Tamar George Family Goldston, Natalie Henry, Janet Hill, Xavier Hollins, Albert G. Hood, Gregg Humphrey, Shelia Hunt, JoAnn Kirksey, Jasmine Jarvis, Michael Jones, Ethel Judge, Larry Kemp, Monterio Lee, Pearl Etta Lesueur, JaVaughn Manuel, Keshon Martin, Michael Miller, Jr., Antonio Monroe, Dionne Monroe, Reginald Page, Connie

Page, Mike

Patton, William Joshua

Pena, Emelyn de la

Reed, Tory Robinson, Darby Sheperd, Dorothy Smith, June Sullivan, Jeremiah Thames, Michael Thompson, Louisa Thomas-Crumbley, Mary Valle, Dorothy Wallace, Delanca Wallace, Travia Weston, Dorothy Woolfork, Virginia

#### **INTENTIONS 01/21/25**

Benden, C.SsR, Steve 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 Meeks, Kim Meeks, Taniyah Boyd-Merrill, Wanda Merritt, Tamala Miller Jr., Antonio

Monroe, Sam Monroe, Tanya Pinard, Viviana Radley, Bryan Ransome, Gregory Sammons, Bernie Scott, Devon Scott, Dorothea Sher, Lois Sullivan, Noah Thomas, April Walker, Deneen Walker, Jasmine Williams, Linda Williams, Norman

#### **SICKNESS 01/14/25**

Andrews, Sarah Anthony, Jean Brown, Travis, Ofcr. Brownlee, Paul Buck, Victoria Boyd, Wanda Butler, Thomas Crump, Flo Darden, Veronica Davis, Stephanie Dulaney, John George, Donna Goldston, Natalie Guevara, Shannon Harris, Bob Henry, Clem Hodges, Carolyn Hubbard, Patricia Hutson, Jacquelyn

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

#### **SICKNESS 01/21/25**

Barnett, Jewel Blake, Maria 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 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. Remsberg, Cory Sgt. Roberts, Nounita Robinson, William, Jr. Rodgers, Erby Lee Salter, Debi

Sheppard, Joyce Sigari, Alexandria Simpson, Lisa Simpson, Ronald Smith, Melba Sonnenschein, Joseph Sparkman, Judah Stayton, Michael Strong, Betty Townsend, Bob Venverloh, Karen Washington, Lewis

#### HOSPITAL 01/22/2025

Farr, Synthia

#### **SHUT-INs**

Atherton, Andrew Brack, Dorothy Darris, Martha Hughes, Irene Lee, Hazel McCoy, Carolyn McGinnis, Kathy Moore, Brenda Skinner, Joanna Whitfield, Edna (Mother)

#### 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

#### **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



#### Fulfilled in Your Hearing:

The Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy describes the fourfold presence of Christ in the person of the minister, the eucharistic species, the proclamation of the Word, and the gathered assembly.

As we meditate on the beginning of Jesus's public ministry in Luke and his proclamation of the Scriptures, we see once more that the word of God is active and effective. When the Father speaks (for example, in Genesis: "Let there be ... "), the work is immediately accomplished upon the very utterance of the word. Jesus, the Word made flesh, speaks in the same manner: "Be healed." "Your sins are forgiven." "Arise and walk." In today's gospel passage, too, we see his very words bringing about the fulfillment of his work.

Origen of Alexandria reminds us that we don't need to look back on the ancient Jewish congregation from Nazareth and be jealous of their encounter with Christ, as if we are in some way deprived of our own experience of Jesus's proclamation of Scripture and preaching. For indeed, whenever the Scriptures are proclaimed, Christ-the Word-is speaking directly to us.

The Scriptures remind us of our identity as God's chosen family, and they pass on the story of salvation. It is God himself speaking to his people. The Scriptures are fulfilled in our hearing, and God accomplishes his work as his Word falls on open hearts. A greater comprehension of his words and accompanying actions can be fostered when we prepare for the Mass by reading the Scriptures beforehand. As we fix our eyes on that he speaks and allows the seed planted in each one of our hearts to bear abundant fruit. We can be instruments of grace and the very presence of Christ.

#### PROMPTS FOR FAITH-SHARING

I

- ➤ Share a favorite Scripture passage. Why is it meaningful to you? What does it say to you about who God is?
- ➤ Envision yourself in the assembly at Nazareth. How do you respond when Jesus announces that he is the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy?
- ➤ The psalm sings praises to the Lord's commands. Which commands do you find it difficult to follow? How might God be inviting you to receive them as a gift?

(Source:www.Living Liturgy/Litpress.org)

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS



Black History Month Celebration

Feb 28

Fri 7:30pm · Stifel Theatre

Kevin McBeth, conductor Donald Lawrence, vocalist IN UNISON Chorus

Grammy Award®-winning guest artist Donald Lawrence joins the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and the IN UNISON Chorus for this joyful celebration of Black History Month.

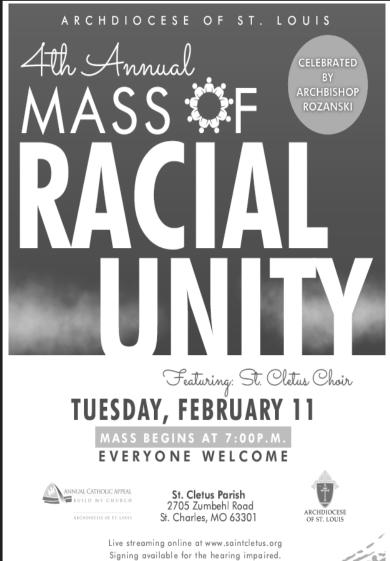
Supported by Bayer Fund



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St. Louis Symphony Orchestra



## February 7-8

# Faith That Does Justice–Living the Call to Racial Justice in Your Parish

College Church is hosting a conference for people who are seeking to grow racial justice in their faith communities. Through presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, this conference will help to deepen understanding of systemic racism and to engage our faith communities in creating pathways to healing, liberation, and hope. All are welcome!

For more information, and to register, go to:

bit.ly/justiceconf

General Fund Actual Contributions Received		
JANUARY	12/03—01/12	19 <sup>th</sup>
Envelopes	\$10,495.00	\$ 7,510.00
Electronic Offering	\$ 6,531.00	\$ 1,978.00
Loose Offering	\$ 154.00	\$ 182.00
Total Offering	\$17,180.00	\$ 9,670.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$ 4,680.00	\$( 2,830.00)

#### Stewardship Prayer...

That we balance our lives by enjoying the gifts we have been given and generously sharing with those in need, without expecting anything in return.

"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared..."

Nehemiah 8:10

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all He has given us and to share our blessings with those in need generously. Here's the hard part: sharing all we have without expecting anything in return.

## Missionary Discipleship - Study

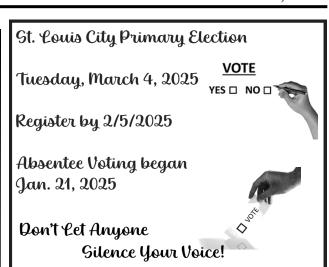
In today's Gospel, we hear from St. Luke, who is writing about Jesus and His teachings so that he can get to know Jesus better and help to share His message. We can't give what we don't have and grow closer in our relationship with Jesus unless we communicate with Him and study His teachings and His life. We can do this through Scripture, the saints, and each other. "Please, Holy Spirit, inspire all of us to hunger for increased knowledge of Christ. Amen."

■ Dynamic Catholic

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!



Join us for Faith, Food, & Friendship

Lunch Club

FREE TO ATTEND

February 7<sup>th</sup>

Mass begins at 11:30 a.m

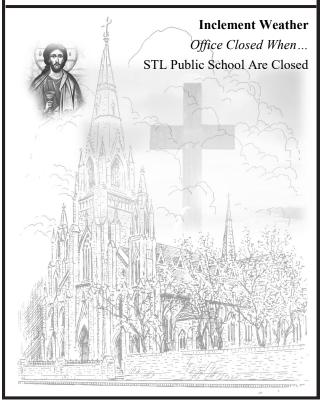
Lunch begins at Noon

Please contact Jackie Boyd To RSVP at (314) 584-6129 or jboyd@mgstl.org



2705 Mullanphy Ln, Florissant, MO 63031 www.marygrovechildren.org

# 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., 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 TRD

Christian Service Hilda Phillips Finance & Adm. **Monica Huddleston** Liturgy **Richard Buckley** Peace & Justice **Kathy McGinnis** Rose Graham Social Life 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 Ronda Smith Branch Hilda Phillips President Vice President 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@stalphonsusrock.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

#### 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 SERIOUSLÝ SICK, GOING TO THE HÖSPITAL OR HAVING AN OPERATION? Call and leave your hospital information at the office.