

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. 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

"Praising God For All He Will Continue To Do In 2022"

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

Malcolm Speed
Danny duMaine

REDEMPTORISTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Peter Schavitz, C.Ss.R.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Call for Appointment)

SUNDAY MASSES:

10:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES:

Monday 5:30 p.m. (Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 p.m.)

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

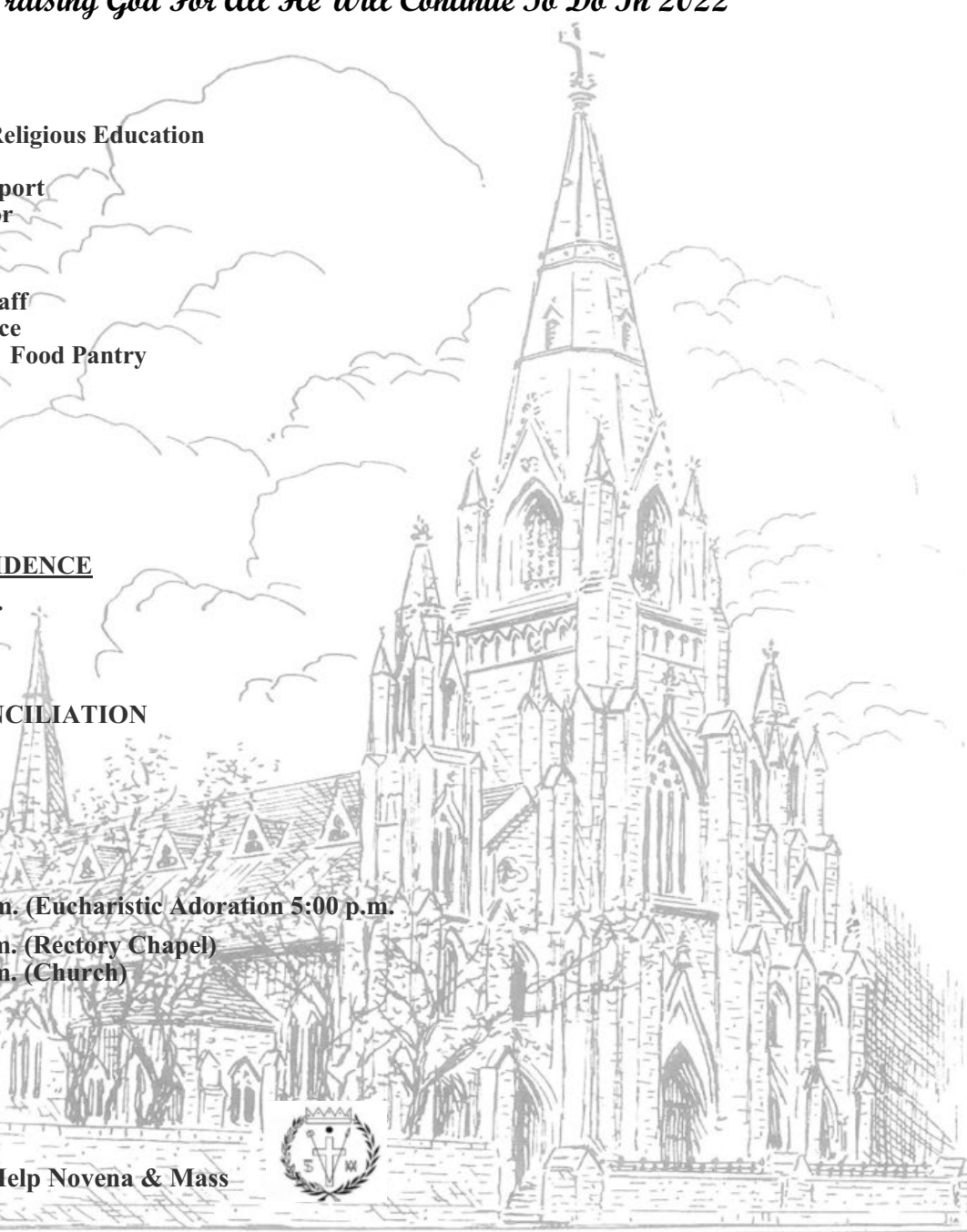
Saturdays: 9:30 a.m. (Church)

MONDAY:

**Eucharistic Adoration
5:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m.**

TUESDAYS:

**Exposition & Benediction:
11:30 a.m. Our Perpetual Help Novena & Mass**





**From The Desk Of
Fr. Stephen**

St. Alphonsus Liguori founded the Redemptorists in 1732 to work with the poor and most abandoned. Alphonsus was born in Naples, Italy, where there were a lot of priests who lived in the city. Most of these priests did not have a lot to do, so Alphonsus, a very hard working, brilliant man, decided to preach to the people who lived in the country where there were few priests. His ministry inspired other men to follow him, and thus the Redemptorist Congregation was formed.

I give you that background, which most of you already know because the Redemptorists have inspired millions of people worldwide to a higher relationship with Jesus Christ. The Redemptorists came to America in 1832 and to St. Louis in 1867. During this time, we have done excellent work. Many people have sat in the pews of the “Rock” and have been empowered to commit themselves to Christ. Many would say that we Redemptorists speak and act differently from other priests and brothers. We are at home being with people on a common level and consequently endear ourselves to them. As a general rule, we do not lord ourselves over others but try to speak to people in a kind, straightforward manner. Because of this, the laity has committed themselves to helping us in our efforts. The Rock has had parishioners in the past who have helped us, especially in bringing Jesus to others. We are still doing this today.

Recently, in the Redemptorist Congregation across the world, we have invited lay folks to help us in our ministry. There is a particular emphasis whereby the laity are invited to learn about our charism and help us in our work. About six months ago, Fr. Greg May invited lay people to listen to a series of talks on the internet about the Redemptorist life and spirituality and gather together via ZOOM to talk about what they had heard and learned. Richard Buckley and Joyce Jones took part and have already enriched others with their wisdom. They have become what we Redemptorists are now calling “Partners in Mission.” Today at mass, we are going to install them as Partners officially. I think this is a blessing to us all. And it is not only them but also people from across the globe who are also taking up this challenge.

In their ZOOM experience, if I can call it that, they met other lay people from around North America. In this way, we can see that this is not just a local “Rock” thing. It is important to keep in mind the other laypeople coming forth to help us from across North America. It gives me a lot of energy just thinking about the possibilities. These classes will be offered again in the future, and I hope we have others from our parish and beyond, that are willing to “Partner with us.

Weekly Readings...

Sunday:

Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10
[3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

Monday:

1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday:

1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22
27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51
Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday:

1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3
9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday:

1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday:

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27
Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21

Sunday:

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

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday:

Martin Luther King Day
St. Anthony, Abbot

Tuesday:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Thursday:

St. Fabian, Pope, and Martyr
St. Sebastian, Martyr

Friday:

St. Agnes, Virgin, and Martyr

Saturday:

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Sunday:

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr
St. Marianne
Cope, Virgin



NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks

INTENTIONS 01/04/22

Bowens, Pat
Bowman, Dorothy & Family
Collins, Tamika
Cooney, Sylvia
George, Roberta
Hinton, Jonathon
Hinton, Mary Ann
Jackson, Pat
Kakre, Cydney & Family
Smith, Paulette
Valle, Dot
Woolfork, Virginia

INTENTIONS 01/11/21

Burke, Terry Bro.
Jackson, Tamica
Polek, David Fr.

SICKNESS 01/04/22

Bolden, Roderick
Burks, Teri
Cameron, Keyuana
Davis, Roycelyn
Haymore, Aleah
Howard, Yvonne
Latham, Jean
Littleton, Ginny
Moore, Brenda
Moore, Joyce
Reedy, Judith

Skinner, Joanna
Smith, Melba
Strong, Betty
Vet, Alphonso
Weaver, Stephen

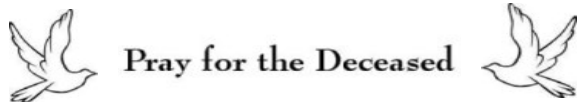
SICKNESS 01/11/21

Anthony, Jean
Cooper, Karen
Gathright, Alice
George, Betty
Hebron, Sylvester
Jones, Lavell
Mahr, Brenda
Massingale, Bryan Fr.
Mitchell, Debra
Monroe, Tanya
Moore, Joyce
Mozee, Sylvester
Jones, Orianna
Parran, Rodrick
Perkins, Stephen
Potts, Rick Fr.
Valle, Jr., Robert (Bobby)
Watkins, Darnell (Chef D)
Whitfield, Edna (Mother)

SHUT-IN's

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

McCoy, Carolyn
Peters, Mae
Thomas, Bernice



Pray for the repose of the soul of †Barbara Harris, mother of Elmira, Nadene, and Anthony

*Eternal rest, grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed
through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION...

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.

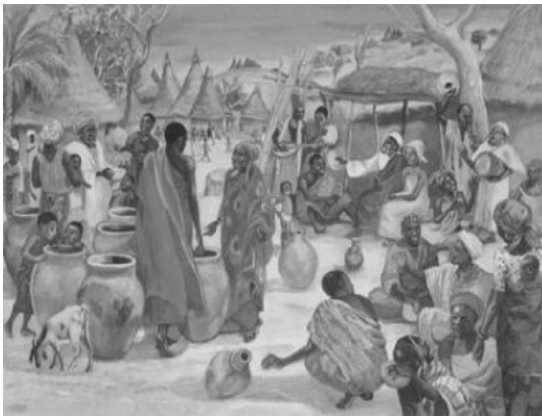
RCIA/RCIC – ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- 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@stalphonususrock.org.

LITURGY NOTES...



Wedding at Cana—The exact location of Cana is still debated by Bible scholars. The name means "place of reeds." In the present day village of Kafr Cana in Israel stands the Greek Orthodox church of St. George, built in 1886. In that church are two stone jars which locals claim are two of the jars used in Jesus' first miracle. Several Bible translations, including the King James Version and English Standard Version, record Jesus addressing his mother as "woman," which some have characterized as brusque. The New International

Version adds the adjective "dear" before woman.

Earlier in the Gospel of John, we are told that Jesus called Nathaniel, who was born in Cana, and "saw" Nathaniel sitting under a fig tree even before they met. The wedding couple's names are not mentioned, but because Cana was a small village, it's likely they had some connection to Nathaniel. This miracle, showing Jesus' supernatural control over physical elements like water, marked the beginning of his public ministry. Like his other miracles, it benefited people in need. John referred to Jesus' miracles as "signs," indicators pointing to Jesus' divinity. Jesus' second sign, also performed in Cana, was the healing at a distance of a government official's son. In that miracle, the man believed through faith in Jesus *before* he saw the results, the attitude Jesus desired.

Some Bible scholars interpret the shortage of wine at Cana as symbolic of the spiritual dryness of Judaism at the time of Jesus. Wine was a common symbol of God's bounty and of spiritual joy. Not only did Jesus produce a large quantity of wine, but the quality of it astonished the banquet master. In the same way, Jesus pours his Spirit into us in abundance, giving us God's best. While it may seem insignificant, there is crucial symbolism in this first miracle of Jesus. It was not a coincidence that the water Jesus transformed came from jars used for ceremonial washing. The water signified the Jewish system of purification, and Jesus replaced it with pure wine, representing his spotless blood that would wash away our sins.

Question for Reflection -- *Running out of wine was hardly a life-or-death situation, nor was anyone in physical pain. Yet Jesus interceded with a miracle to solve the problem. God is interested in every aspect of your life. What matters to you matters to him. Is something troubling you that you have been reluctant to go to Jesus about?*

(Source: Zavada, Jack. "The Wedding at Cana Details Jesus' First Miracle." Learn Religions, Dec. 6, 2021, [learnreligions.com/wedding-at-cana-bible-story-summary-700069](https://www.learnreligions.com/wedding-at-cana-bible-story-summary-700069))

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Inclement Weather
Office Closed When...
STL Public School Is Closed

Parish Office Closure ...

January 17, 2022
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

COVID vaccines available at the "Rock"

Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu 10am—6pm

Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson are being offered

All boosters are provided for those who need one

Vaccinations for children 5-11 years old are available

Bann of Marriage

Vanessa Elizabeth Kamp



William Barclay Berner

Eucharistic Adoration
Mondays at 5:00 p.m.



What a beautiful thing to be able to sit quietly with the Lord. Mass will follow at 5:30 p.m. I hope you can make time for Jesus.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Recommended Readings on the Black Catholic Experience

A Place for My Children: Father Augustus Tolton, America's First Known Black Catholic Priest and His Ancestry

by Sabrina A. Penn

The History of Black Catholics in the United States

by Cyprian Davis

Authentically Black and Truly Catholic: The Rise of Black Catholicism in the Great Migration

by Matthew Cressler

All or Nun: Memoir of a Black Catholic Growing Up

by Hyacinth Andersen

Racial Justice and the Catholic Church

by Bryan N. Massingale

Thea Bowman: In My Own Words

by Maurice Nutt CSSR

Uncommon Faithfulness: The Black Catholic Experience

by LaReine-Marie Mosely

PARISH EVENTS

NOVENA PRAYER TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

ADAPTED TO BE PRAYED IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 SITUATION



Mother of Perpetual Help, with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture to beseech your intercession.

We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the Cross. Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony. But your joy was great when He rose from the dead, victorious over the powers of evil.

Mother of Sorrows, pray for us in this time of trial. Help us not to lose heart. Intercede for your people who are afflicted with Coronavirus.

Comfort your people who are vulnerable and anxious. Protect healthcare workers who put their lives at risk. Inspire our leaders to make good decisions. Change our hearts so that we may act responsibly.

Teach us to trust in God's love and mercy and to share with you the joy of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of Life. Amen.

General Fund Actual Contributions Received

JANUARY	2 nd	9 th
Envelopes	\$ 7,685.00	\$ 7,987.00
Loose Donations	\$ 1,842.00	\$ 759.00
Total Contributions	\$ 9,527.00	\$ 8,746.00
Weekly Target Amount	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Under/Over Weekly Target	\$(2,473.00)	\$(3,254.00)

Stewardship Prayer...

That we open our hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to work through us the way God intended.

“To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.”

(1 CORINTHIANS 12:7)

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God’s plan? How are you helping to build God’s kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don’t do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Generosity

For many of us, generosity is a by-product of gratitude. When we receive a gift we are grateful. Our first reaction is that we want to share the gift with someone; we want to be generous! Why? Because that’s the way God made us. Remember, He made us in His image and likeness. God has been generous to each of us in so many ways, and He expects each of us to be generous with our time, treasure, and talent as well. “Give to the LORD, you families of nations, give to the LORD glory and praise; give to the LORD the glory due His name!” In what ways can we be generous with all of our gifts this week and give glory to God?



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 STILL SELL GIFT CARDS!

Don't forget that our church receives needed funds from the sale of gift cards. Gift cards cost to you only their face value, nothing more. We accept cash or checks from registered parishioners. These cards are not just to use as gifts, but daily at stores or restaurants.

We are counting on you to purchase the cards so the church can get anywhere from 2% to as much as 13% of the value of each sold, at no additional cost to you.

Thank you for supporting this fundraising effort!

Wilhelmina Hardin Center

The Hardin Center Food Pantry is open on Tues. and Thurs. from 10 a.m.—12 noon.

Volunteers are needed to help pack bags and assist in distribution.

Donations needed include peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, canned chili, ravioli, soup (not tomato). The pantry is asking for toiletries—soap, body wash, toothpaste, mouthwash, lotion, deodorant, etc.

PRAY FOR OUR COMMUNITY



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP PRAYER MEMORIALS

Tillie Mae Alexander, Larry Ambus, Garvin Anderson, Hortense Anderson, Elizabeth Henckler Aton
 Anita Louise Banks, Lillian Barnes, Loretta Beasley, Jean Irene Becker, Herron Beckley,
 Mother Dorothy Granberry Bennett, Deacon Morris E. Bohannon, Willie Steve Bowens, James R. Boykin
 Dorothy Brady, Theodore Branch, Jr., Irma King Brown, James Buford, Kenita Bush, Anna Chopin
 Betty Jean Colbert, Willie Cunningham, Charmaine Davenport, Walterene Dougherty, Roger Downs, Sr.
 Sr. Antona Ebo, FSM, Jerome Fields, Ossie R. Foster, Queen E. Dunlap Fowler, Craig Franklin
 Jermaine Gordon, Willie Goss, Georgette Gregory, Barbara Harris, Ann Marie Hatchett, Rosalind Hood
 Jamar Huffmon, Cherry Ophelia Jackson, Barbara Hudson Jones, Mark Jones, Nadine Jones, Mother Ruth Jones,
 Rev. Fr. Anthony Timothy "Tony" Judge, C.Ss.R., Robin Kyles, Stephen LaBerta, Rosemary Lee
 Eldwyn Lewis, Anice Mahone, Isis Aaliyah Mahr, Barbara McCaleb, Leon Zack McClendon
 Eric L. McKinnie, Louis T. McKinnie, Glenn Miller, Marshall Mosley, Anne Ortwerth, Lucille Palmer
 Kathy Lin Cheers Parran, Alton Pritchard, Christian Reedy, Wendell M. Sams, Drenea Sanders, Eugene Sanders,
 Christine Slaughter, Irma Steen, Lorraine Fite Stewart, Shontea Stricklin, Oswald Lee Thomas
 Susan Colbert Threats, Ralph Tyler, Robert Joseph Valle, Sandra Wallace, Ralph Watkins Jr., Juanita West
 Ruby Wicks, Marlene Williams, Richard Williams, 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	Jean Anthony
Christian Service	TBD
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

Angela Thames President	Robert Caldwell Vice President	Linda Kamp Secretary
Richard Buckley	Patricia Pou	
Nicole Colbert-Bochway	Eric Thurman	
Audrey Ellermann	Kevin Triggs	
Rhonda Graham	Jocelyn Woodson-Reed	
Jessica Pou		

ATTENTION

If your telephone number, home address or email address has changed, please contact the office at 533-0304 or email parish130@archstl.org. 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.

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St Alphonsus Liguori, St Louis, MO

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