

THE PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS...

We Are One Body

Greetings in the precious Name of Jesus, beloved "Rock" family (and to our visitors)!! I hope you have come here today with a sweet testimony, or a word of praise, or even just a burden that must be laid at the cross.

As we gather to honor and exalt the Name of Jesus, it is our great gift to share our praise together. I hope that you find the love and encouragement you need here at Saint Alphonsus Parish. God has called us to sing His praises and worship in this holy place!

Saint Paul continues to speak to us this week about Spiritual Gifts. He wants to share with us two important principles about our life in the Holy Spirit. If we have received the Holy Spirit, and we continue to follow His lead, we will discover these important truths.

The first important message that the Lord has for us is that we are a Body made of many parts. This is important because it teaches us that we cannot follow Jesus in the Spirit by ourselves. If I am a "hand" on the Body, I still need a foot to move and an eye to see. Some people believe that if they have Jesus, they don't need other people. Those who try to follow Jesus without others will always fail, though some will fool themselves into thinking that they are okay. I have met many "lone ranger" Christians and they never really become the disciples that they can be. Christianity was never meant to be done as individuals. We are a community, a Body. We must call upon the gifts of others to help us in the areas where we are weak. We need each other.

The second important message is that the hidden parts of the Body can be as important, or even more important, than the visible ones. This means that the gifts that get lots of attention are not always

the ones that do the most for the Kingdom. For example, a preacher may be the mouth of the Body. The mouth is important, but so is the liver. We hardly ever think about our livers, but we would die without them. Sometimes the most important gifts are unseen, while the flashy visible gifts are impressive but not fruitful.

I had a friend who had a real gift for prayer. He was the most faithful, devoted prayer warrior I had ever met. Even with these gifts, he would sometimes tell me that he was envious of those that had gifts of preaching, teaching, or prophecy. He felt that his gift was not very important, because it got no applause. He did not understand that prayer is the heart of the Body. Nothing else will work, if there is not prayer. Even though it was a gift often overlooked, it was crucial to the Body.

I fear that sometimes we wish that we had the gifts of others. We all want to feel that what we do is important. The world will judge our gifts by appearance or presentation, but the Lord knows the true worth of our gifts. The key is that we be faithful. If each of us shares our gifts with each other, then the whole Body will be stronger. It is a shame that often too few parts try to keep up the whole Body. You are an important part of this parish. What you have to offer is important, even if it is unseen. As a community, we will be stronger and better if your gifts are added to the mix. Please share your gifts with the community, we will all be greater disciples if we work together.

Fr. Matthew S. Bonk
C.S.S.R.

Mass Schedule...

SUNDAY MASSES:

8:15 & 11:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

(before each Mass)

7:30-8:00 a.m. and 10:15-10:45 a.m.

DAILY MASSES: (JAN 18-22)

Tuesdays: 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Saturdays: 9:30 a.m.

TUESDAYS:

Exposition & Benediction: 9:30 am-10:30 am (1st Tuesday) followed by our Perpetual Help Novena & Mass

THERE WILL BE NO M.W.TH. OR F. MASS THE WEEK OF JAN 18-22, 2010.

Weekly Readings...



January 24, 2010 - January 31, 2010

Sunday:

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

Monday:

Acts 22:3-16 Ps 117:1bc,2 Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday:

2 Tm 1:1-8 Ps 96:1-3,7-8a,10 Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday:

2 Sm 7:4-17 Ps 89:4-5,27-30 Mk 4:1-20

Thursday:

2 Sm 7:18-19,24-29 Ps 132:1-5,11-14 Mk 4:21-25

Friday:

2 Sm 11:1-4a,5-10a,13-17 Ps 51:3-7,10-11 Mk 4:26-34

Saturday:

2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17 Ps 51:12-17 Mk 4:35-41

Sunday:

Jer 1:4-5,17-19 Ps 71:1-6,15,17 1 Cor 12:31-13:13

SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**SUNDAY, JANUARY 24th****ALTAR SERVERS**8:15 John Wright
Anastasia Wright**PASTORAL AIDES**

8:15 Robert Caldwell

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.8:15 Jean Latham
Brenda Moore
Angela Mullen
Pat Quain
Melba Smith
Johnnie Taylor

Host: Helene Laberta

Host: Jean Nashville

ELDERS8:15 Ruth Jones
11:00 Ann Ortweith**INCENSE BEARERS**8:15 Jocelyn Woodson-Reed
11:00 Almata Jordan**USHERS - Group 4**8:15 Carol Henderson-Powell
11:00 Lisa McClendon**SUNDAY, JANUARY 31st****ALTAR SERVERS**8:15 Tony Conte
Robert Caldwell**PASTORAL AIDES**

8:15 Mark Kamp

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.8:15 Janet Thompson
Norman Williams
Jacquie Crawford
Martha Darris
Michael Ellermann
Maudelle Fite

Host: Andrew Atherton

Host: Ann Conte

ELDERS8:15 Ernest Nashville
11:00 Edna Whitfield**INCENSE BEARERS**8:15 Linda Crimes
11:00 Janis McSpadden**USHERS -**8:15 Youth
11:00 Youth**ALTER SERVERS**11:00 Daedra Wallace
Desiree Wallace**PASTORAL AIDES**

11:00 David Wallace

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.11:00 Angela Thames
Jean Anthony
Dorothy Brack
Joy Camp
Cynthia Clayton
Deborah Grant
Pearlina Harris
Richard Lane

Host: Edna Whitfield

Host: Anita Banks

Host: Henrene Brown

Host: Richard Buckley

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR8:15 Greg Hood
Yvonne Ward
11:00 Donna Lane
Sharon Cooney-Smith**ALTAR SERVERS**11:00 Sidne Williams
Von Williams**PASTORAL AIDES**

11:00 Sandra Branch

EUCCHARISTIC MIN11:00 Pamela Leong
Karen Madison
Mary Middleton
Pat PouJean Anthony
Anita Banks
Dorothy Brack

Host: Blondell Lucas

Host: Nikki Taylor

Host: Angela Thames

Host: Edna Whitfield

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR8:15 Anastasia Wright
John Wright
11:00 Sheonna Cooney
Dorothy Butler**PRAYER CORNER**

We would like to thank the "Rock" parish family for their many prayers for the entire crew of flight #253 on Christmas Day.

We were Blessed.

Ozzie Foster, Dionne Monroe & Family

NOTE: Names will remain listed for 2 weeks unless the office is notified.

INTENTIONS 01/20/10Norfleet (Rhodes), Marsha & Family*
Smith, Ronda & Family
Turner, Craig
Washington, Yvette***SICKNESS 01/13/10**Hatten, Pam*
Remsburg, Corey Sgt.*
Zikovic, Katina***SICKNESS 01/20/10**Barnes, Carolyn
Evans, Jolene**HOSPITAL 01/13/10**Albright, Winston*
Buckley, Darrell***INTENTIONS**Alexandre, Rosemary S.*
Allen-Smith, Queen*
Bell, Gilbert*
Brown, Eric*
Cloyd Jr., Harvey Carroll*
Collins, Amy*
Davis, Denise*
George, Roberta & Family*
Glenn, Lesley*
Glenn, Rae*
Grant, Bernice*
Hatchett, Ann*
Howard, Yvonne*
Hughes, Goyia*
Hughes, Irene*
Jones, Harriett*
Latham, Darrian*
Martin, Linda*
Mosby, Marvin*
Parran, Lauren*
Raiford, Cheryl*
Smith, Amos W.*
Williams, Ethel*
Zacher, Clarence***INTENTIONS 01/13/10**Buckley, Richard & Family
Cunningham, Bessie
Curry, Reynee
Foster, Ossie
Kemp, JoAnn
Monroe, Dionne & Family
Scott, Devon**SICKNESS**Anderson, Daryl*
Coleman, Ken*
Crowley, Tammy*
George, Betty*
Hudson, Edward*
Jones, Harriet*
Luster, Juanita*
McCoy, Steven*
McSpadden, Phillip*
Perkins, Belinda*
Perkins, Charles Sr.*
Rankins, Gloria*
Reedy, Judith*
Reedy, Sidney*
Smith, Sharon*
Worth, Shirley***SHUT-IN**Anderson, Hortense
Brown, Lannie
Camp, Cynthia
Carson, Donetta
Chopin, Dave & Ann
Clay, Irvin & Evelyn
Collins, Lizell
DuMaine, William
Fowler, Queen
Goodlow, Elizabeth
Jackson, Margaret
Johnson, Deacon Les
Joiner, Ruby
Jones, Mother Julia
Kulhman, Ann
McCoy, Carolyn
Riley, Jerry
Rinderer, Barbara
Ringo, Maggie
Roberts, Juanita
Robinson, Vernita
Stevenson, Mary

YOUTH CORNER

CALLING ALL PARENTS:



First Reconciliation and First Eucharist classes will begin on January 30, 2010

Children must be 7 years old and in the 2nd grade. They must attend Catholic School or be enrolled in a PSA (Parish Sponsored Religion) program or our Religious Education Program. Please contact—Donna Lane @ 314-533-0304.

HELP GIVE THE GIFT OF SIGHT

Imagine if you could help a child read. An adult succeed in his job. A senior maintain her independence. And provide a community with more opportunities to grow and thrive.

The St. Alphonsus “Rock” Teen Ministry in cooperation with Lions Club International will collect old prescription eyeglasses from family and friends to be given to people in Africa, Asia and South America. You can drop off your old eyewear in the Lions-sponsored collection box located at the Grand entrance.

Just think, for less than .08 cents you can provide a pair of recycled eyeglasses and change someone’s life.



LITURGY NOTES

THE BIBLE CHALLENGE

"He came to Nazareth where He had been reared, and entering the synagogue on the Sabbath as He was in the habit of doing, He stood up to do the reading."
—Luke 4:16

Jesus began His public ministry reading and proclaiming God's word. Ezra began a renewal of the Israelite nation by reading and teaching God's word from daybreak to midday (Neh 8:3, 8). We too can begin this year with an extensive time in God's word. Consider committing yourself to read and pray the Bible for an hour a day until the beginning of Lent. If this seems too much, commit yourself to fifteen to thirty minutes of daily Bible reading for the next two weeks.

When we deeply expose ourselves to God's word, we are purified of evil (Eph 5:26) and trimmed of that which limits our growth in the Lord (Jn 15:3). By receiving God's word, we hear the Lord better and grow in faith (Rm 10:17). God's word will help us know ourselves better by judging the thoughts and reflections of our hearts (Heb 4:12). By God's word, we are fed spiritually (Mt 4:4), made joyful, and strengthened (Neh 8:10). God's word will make us "fully competent and equipped for every good work" (2 Tm 3:17).

These are only a few effects of God's word. His word is so living, effective (Heb 4:12), powerful, and rich that this may well be the best year of our lives if we begin it with a deep experience of the word.

Prayer: Father, may I be as eager for Your word as a newborn baby for milk (1 Pt 2:2).

Promise: "If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members share its joy." —1 Cor 12:26

Praise: Praise You, risen and glorified Jesus, the Word-made-flesh! Be exalted and glorified in all the earth. Alleluia!

(2009) *One Bread, One Body Advent/Christmas*. Volume 26, No. 1.
Presentation Ministries, Inc. Cincinnati, OH

SAINT OF THE WEEK...

Feastday: January 28th
 Patron of all Universities and Students

St. Thomas Aquinas, was born toward the end of the year 1226. When he became of age to choose his state of life, St. Thomas renounced the things of this world to enter the Order of St. Dominic. At the age of seventeen, he joined the Dominicans of Naples. St. Thomas persevered in his vocation. As a reward for his fidelity, God conferred upon him the gift of perfect chastity, which has merited for him the title of the "Angelic Doctor".

He studied at Cologne at the age of twenty-two, he was appointed to teach in the same city. At the same time, he began to publish his first works. He was sent to Paris and at the age of thirty-one, he received his doctorate. In 1261, St. Thomas was called to Rome where he was appointed to teach, but he positively declined to accept any ecclesiastical dignity. St. Thomas not only wrote but he preached often and with greatest fruit. Clement IV offered him the archbishopric of Naples which he also refused. He left the great monument of his learning, the "Summa Theologica", unfinished, for on his way to the second Council of Lyons, ordered there by Gregory X, he fell sick and died at the Cistercian monastery of Fossa Nuova in 1274.

St. Thomas was one of the greatest and most influential theologians of all time. He was canonized in 1323 and declared Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius V.

ANNOUNCEMENTS...

FACTS Grant and Aid applications are available to families applying for the Archdiocese of St. Louis financial assistance programs for the 2010-11 school year. The application deadline is April 1, 2010.

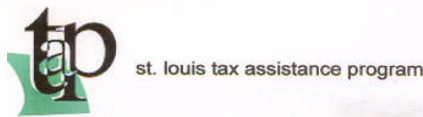
Families must complete the FACTS Grant & Aid applications when applying for the following programs:

Catholic Families Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund (CFTA)

- ✦ **Applicants must be Catholic and must be registered at the parish.**
- ✦ **Students must be Catholic and attend Catholic Parochial Elementary or Archdiocesan, or Parochial High School only.**

Parish Employee Endowment Fund (PEEF)

- ✦ **Applicants must be employed by a Catholic Parish and work 1000 hours or more during a fiscal year.**
- ✦ **Students must attend Catholic Parochial Elementary or Archdiocesan or Parochial High Schools only.**



2010 St. Louis Tax Assistance Program

Flyers are located in the brochure racks at the Grand Ave and Northside vestibule entrances. Please feel free to take one.

LWANGA CENTER HAPPENINGS



BIBLE STUDY!!! at the Lwanga Center on Thursday's:

Jan. 28th
 Feb. 4th.

Fr. Art Cavitt will lead us in "Prophets and Prophecy"

surveying major and minor prophets in the Old Testament. Gathering begins at 1:00 p.m. Please bring a Bible (preferably the New American Edition) and paper to take notes.

No charge. Free will offerings are always welcome. Call for reservations: (314) 367-7929.



St. Charles Lwanga and Companions

Financial Corner...

Offerings and Tithes

JANUARY 2010	
Date	Amount
3	\$17,415.24
10	\$ 7,145.84
17	\$ 12,611.52
24	\$
31	\$
Total	\$37,172.60
Wkly Avg.	\$12,390.87

BRICKS SOLD	
GOAL	1000
SOLD	168
REMAINING	832

We have to sell 400 bricks before we can start the MOPH Garden

Amount needed each week to meet budget: \$12,000

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

That we may enjoy, appreciate and generously share the gifts that God has given to us.

“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. However, He expects us to share our blessings with those who are in need.

E-Scrip card YTD	\$457.13
December, 2009	\$ 62.48

electronic **†**offertory

Is Now Available!
www.stalphonsusrock.org



Memorial Brick Garden Update



Thanks to all of you who placed brick orders for the ROCK’S “Our Lady of Perpetual Help Garden”, in memory of our beloved former pastor, Fr. Bob Wirth.

The first phase of the garden will be installed in spring 2010. You can still place and pay for your brick order and get it in the first phase. Order forms are on the usher’s table. Place the order form and payment in the locked multipurpose box located on the usher’s table by the north-side door entrance, or send your payment and form to the church office.

SEEKING CATERERS

We are seeking caterers for church events and the Lenten Fish Fry. Interested parties can submit a proposal via email to:

parish130@archstl.org
or via FAX: 314-533-4260.

For more information contact the church office:
314-533-0304.



Please note:

All fundraising activities must be approved by the Fundraising Committee. Request forms can be obtained from the church office, or the brochure rack located in the Grand entrance vestibule.

PARISH INFORMATION

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Matthew S. Bonk, C.Ss.R., Pastor
 Rev. Thé Joseph Phạm, C.Ss.R., Assoc. Pastor
 Joyce Jones, Business Manager
 Donna L. Lane
 (Dir. of Religious Education/Youth Ministry)
 Wilhelmina Hardin, Dir. of M.A.T.
 Social Min.

PASTORAL STAFF

Roberta George, Secretary

SUPPORT STAFF

Bro. Terry Burke, C.Ss.R., Manager
 Terrance Gipson, Maintenance

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Angela Mullen
 Vice Chair: Michael Page
 Secretary: Rosalind Hood
 Assist. Secretary: Alice Cummings
 Member-at-Large I: Eugene Wallace
 Finance Liaison: Jeffrey McDonald
 Lois Scott
 Brenda Moore-Jones
 Christine Bluett
 Garnetta Thames
 Jerilyn M. Bell



COMMISSIONS & CHAIRS

Christian Formation—TBD
 Christian Service - TBD
 Family Life Comm. - TBD
 Finance & Adm. - John Wright
 Liturgy - Richard Buckley
 Social Life - Hilliard Phillips

REDEMPTORISTS IN

RESIDENCE

Rev. Kyle Fisher, C.Ss.R.
 Rev. Dave Polek, C.Ss.R.
 Deacon Rick Fischer, C.Ss.R.

MUSIC MINISTRY

8: 15—Malcolm Speed
 11:00—Danny Dumaine

Athletic Office: 314 533-0304
 Ext. 1002

Teen Ministry: 314 533-0304
 Ext. 1002

Church Etiquette

Before entering Church:

- Please turn all cell phones , electronic toys and pagers off
- Please, no eating or chewing gum in church
- Please do not stand in the aisles around the walls
- Please refrain from moving during the consecration
- Please do not litter the church, church yard, parking lot or the street

OFFICE CLOSING

February 15, Presidents Day

During inclement weather, if the St. Louis Public Schools are closed, the office will be closed.

COMMUNITY HELP

M.A.T. Social Ministry Center
 (Emergency Aid) (314) 531-1040

Community Health In Partnership
 Services (C.H.I.P.S.) (314) 652-9231

Community Women Against Hardship (CWAH)
 (314) 289-7523

HIV/AIDS: 314 531-0304 Ext. 1502

Birthingright (Crisis pregnancy) 314-962-5300 and
 Abortion Recovery Help: 877-HOPE-4-ME.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Religious Ed.: 314- 533-0304 Ext. 1311

Children's Bible Class
 every Sunday: 10:30 - 11:45 am.

Central Catholic/St. Nicholas
 School - (314) 231-6254

Baptismal Preparation (314) 533-0304
 (ask for Donna Lane)

St. Charles Lwanga Center
 (314) 367-7929

ATTENTION

If your telephone number or address has changed since January 2008, please contact the office at 533-0304. 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 Tuesday's. Please fax items to 314 599-4260 or e-mail to parish130@archstl.org

STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER????

St. Alphonsus Rock has prayer ministry after each Mass every Sunday.

Go to the choir area after Mass, and there will be members there to pray with you and for you. Feel a heavy burden? Need a healing? Have a thankful heart? Worried?