

THE PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS...

DIFFICULT TIMES

Happy Trinity Sunday, beloved Rock Church, and our welcome visitors!! We have celebrated the Resurrection of the Son through the whole Easter season. We have celebrated the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the great feast of Pentecost. We now bring everything together on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. We celebrate the fullness of God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and the life that we live in God. It is a great mystery, but one that I am not going to write about in this article. We have another important matter to discuss.

As most of you know, we list the amount of the collections each week and the amount needed to make our budget in our "Financial Corner" in the bulletin. If you have been paying attention, you will see that we rarely make our budget for the week. In fact, on average, we fall almost \$3,000 short each week. This leaves us with a deficit of over \$140,000 for the year. We cannot continue this deficit without bankrupting the parish.

Please understand my point here; I am NOT trying to make you feel guilty so that you give more money. The economy is in recession. Many people have lost jobs. Gas prices are rising again. I know that many of our parishioners are stretched, and some are even facing financial ruin. This reflection is not to scare you or make you give more. I only want you to be aware of the challenges that the parish faces. It is a tough economic time for many of us, including the parish.

I tell you all of this because our situation is forcing us to cut our expenses. Since we cannot expect the collection to increase greatly in these difficult times, we have to start cutting our

spending. This means that some ministries will not be able to provide the same services they have in the past. Our budget is going to be cut across the board. We simply cannot continue to spend more than we receive.

**From The Desk Of
Fr. Matthew S. Bonk**



I have met with the very capable people in our Finance and Administration Commission. We have analyzed the budget and proposed some major reductions in spending. This will affect all of our ministries, cause some changes, and may even affect when the office is open. We have worked hard to make sure the cuts are as fair and reasonable as we can make them. The cuts will not have major effects on many parishioners, but some ministries will struggle to do with less. We will also have to have more than one major fundraiser (the Card Party) each year. We hope our brick campaign will help.

My brothers and sisters, we all know what it is like to live within a budget. Sometimes we have to do without things we would like, because we cannot afford them. I know many people that have shut off their cable TV, lost their internet DSL, or gotten their car repaired instead of getting a new one because of economic needs. We have several members of our parish that are struggling at an ever deeper level, cutting back on food and medical care. It is a terrible time when the economy is so weak. I am afraid that even our parish has to make some cuts and sacrifices to get through these lean times. Let us all pray for a quick recovery and for each other in these difficult times.

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

Mass Schedule...

SATURDAY MASS:
5:00 p.m.

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:
(M.W. Th. & F.) 5:30 p.m.
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

Weekly Readings...



*Readings for the Week
May 31 through June 7, 2009*

Sunday:
Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1ab,24ac,29bc-30,31,34 1 Cor 12:3b-7,12-13 Jn 20:19-23

Monday:
Tb 1:3;2:1a-8 Ps 112:1-6 Mk 12:1-12

Tuesday:
Tb 2:9-14 Ps 112:1-2,7-9 Mk 12:13-17

Wednesday:
Tb 3:1-11a,16-17 Ps 25:2-9 Mk 12:18-27

Thursday:
Tb 6:10-11;7:1bcde,9-17;8:4-9a Ps 128:1-5 Mk 12:28-34

Friday:
Tb 11:5-17 Ps 146:2,7-10 Mk 12:35-37

Saturday:
Tb 12:1,5-15,20 (Ps) Tb 13:2,6-8 Mk 12:38-44

Sunday:
Dt 4:32-34,39-40 Ps 33:4-6,9,18-20,22
Rom 8:14-17 Mt 28:16-20

SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

PRAYER CORNER

SUNDAY, JUNE 7TH

ALTAR SERVERS

8:15: A. Wright
J. Wright

11:00: R. Clayton
J. Pou

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

8:15: J. Latham
S. Lyons
J. Nashville
B. Moore
A. Mullen

P. Quain
Host: M. Smith
Host: J. Taylor

ELDERS

8:15: Nina Hughes
11:00: Georgette

Gregory

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

11:00: A. Thames
J. Anthony
A. Banks
D. Brack
H. Brown
J. Camp

Host: E. Whitfield

Host: N. Britts

INCENSE BEARERS

8:15: A. Ellermann
11:00: O. Foster

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR

8:15: R. Jones-L
J. Crawford-C

11:00: B. Cox-L
R. Buckley-C

PASTORAL AIDES

8:15: T. Conte
11:00: S. Branch

USHERS-Group 1

8:15: Linda Kamp -Leader
11:00: Lisa Bouie -Perry-Leader

SUNDAY, JUNE 14TH

ALTAR SERVERS

8:15: T. Conte
R. Crawford
C. Moore

11:00: S. Williams
V. Williams

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

8:15: D. Terry
J. Thompson
N. Williams
J. Crawford
M. Darris

A. Ellermann
Host: A. Atherton
Host: A. Conte

ELDERS

8:15: Ester Darris
11:00: Willie Goss

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

11:00: R. Buckley
C. Clayton
S. Cooney-Smith

Host: D. Grant

Host: P. Harris

D. Lane
R. Lane
P. Leong

INCENSE BEARERS

8:15: L. P. Crymes
11:00: A. Jordan

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR

8:15: A. Mullen-L
C. Henderson-Powell-C

11:00: D. Grant-L
B. Cornute-C

PASTORAL AIDES

8:15: M. Davis
11:00: R. Tyler

USHERS—Group 2

8:15: Glenn & Deborah Miller -Leader
11:00: Lillian Cooney-Leader



“FOR THOSE STANDING IN THE NEED OF PRAYER”

“O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of our souls and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.” To include someone in our Prayer Corner, please call the office Monday through Tuesday 9:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

(We are saying Special Prayers for persons and families living with HIV/AIDS.)

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

SICKNESS

Anderson, Teresa
Beirne, Chris
Bell, Gilbert
Benson, Valerie
Bernard, Patrick
Brame, Reginald
Bragg, Nellie
Brent, Cinda
Chambers, Alberta
Cheaney, Laura
Clayton, Rhianna
Coleman, Bernice
Coleman, Ken
Cohn, Brenda L.
Davey, Martha
Davis, Arthur
DeBlaze, Tom
Dougherty, Herbert
Dumaine, William
Fernandez, MaryAnn
Fierce, Patricia
Foster, Ossie
French, Ann
Gales, Mary Ann
Gillespie, Marjorie
Gillespie, Virgie
Givens, Keith
George, Betty
Hanks, Amber
Hardin, Mel
Harris, April
Hollie, Cameron
Howard, Stella
Hughes, Irene
Huff, Virginia
Irving, Delphine
Jamison, Vera
Johnson, Ida
Johnson, Jessie
Johnson, Les (Deacon)
Jones, Harriett
Jones, Ruth
Kyles, Mary
Keene, JoAnn
Keller, Helene
Kleba, Gerald Fr.
LaBerta, Steve
Lemelle, Cecelia
Latchinson, Ruth
Little, Sarah
Luckey, Judge
Luster, Juanita
Martin, Sharon
McCoy, Bernice

Meadors, Donald
Moses, Edith
Burt-Mosley, Anthony
Presley, Amy
Ringo, Maggie
Reedy, Judith
Reedy, Sid
Sailor, Clarice
Smith, Glenn
Smith, Jessie
Smith, Melba
Smith-Goss, Patricia
Smith, Steve
Talbert, Savannah
Thedford, Dello
Turner, Thelma
Watts, Barbara
Weekly, Ollie
Weekly, Rashawn
Weekly, Willie
Williams, Janice
Williams, Joe Rev.
Williams, Marty
Wright, William
Young, Eddie

HOSPITAL

Bayer, MaryEllen
Bell Gilbert
Covahlin, Jim
Cavahlin, Tom
Garnier, Jocie
Hughes Goyia
Samuels, Nancy
Shelly, Kathy

INTENTIONS

Alexander, Henry D
Alexandre, Rosemary
Ambus, Ruby
Anderson, Meredith
Anderson, Sonja
Atkins, James
Ballard, Rakeem & Nigel
Ballard-LaMell, Tonya
Beard, Shirley & Family
Bennett, Dorothy
Brack, Dorothy
Brown, Eric
Burrell, Evette
Cannon, Maseline
Christopher, Ron
Conly, Annie & Family

Cunningham, Willie
Darris, Esther & Family
Davis, Denise
Ellison, Ruth
Fisher, Kyle Fr.
Futrell, Vernita
Fox, Tamara
George, Roberta & Family
Gettinger, Robert Fr.
Grady, Michael
Grant, Bernice
Gregory, Carla
Gregory, Georgette
Hardin, Wilhelmina
Howard, Yvonne
James, Jade
Kerr, Raymond
Kilgore, Yetta
King, Michael
King, Patrick
Kirtsey, Jasmine
LaMell, Stephen & Helen
Lovett, Byron
Lucas, Blondell
Martin, Gabriel
McCoy, Bernice
McClure, Eleen
Mills, Minnie
Mitchell, Elizabeth
Mitchell, Rachel
Moore, Carolyn
Moore, Donald Anthony
Moore, LaTasha & Family
Moore, Trisha
Mosby, Paulette
Jones, Mother Julia
Oliver, Catherine
Ortwerth, Anne
Prince, Henry & Family
Raiford, Cheryl, TSgt.
Reedy, Cara
Smith, David & Julia
Smith, Kara
Smith, Queen Allen
Stokes, Antoine
Taylor, Jeffrey
Thames, Garnetta
Thompson, Mary Ann
Troupe, Deon
Tyler, Monica & Family
Valle-Jammer, Laura
Ward-LaMell, Tiffany
Williams, Brandon
Williams, Rashad

Parish Announcements...

CALLING ALL COMMISSIONS!

It's that time once again!

We are in the process of initiating "Rock" Church's 2009 Pictorial Directory. As we move forward with the gathering of necessary photos of Commissions and Committees, liturgy and event data for the directory, we will need the help of each Commission to coordinate a day and time for their members to take a group picture for the directory.

Since 2009 is the reopening for "Rock" Church, we are going to make this a special edition directory commemorating the reopening of our beloved "Rock" Church.

Please gather together your Commission & Committee members and coordinate an agreeable time and day we can take their picture. Then call the office to schedule your time.

Please call the office for an appointment time to have the picture taken of your Commissions and Committees in a group photo. For more information call the parish office at 314-533-0304.

JUNE 28-CREDO DINNER/TALK WITH REV BRIAN HARRISON

**Credo of the Catholic Laity
is proud to present**

**Rev. Brian Harrison
Speaking on**

"Living with the Smoke of Satan in the Church"

Fr. Harrison is a well known speaker and writer having had many articles published in Catholic magazines and journals. He is the author of two books; one is on the issue on contraception, and the other reviews the teaching of Paul VI on Sacred Scripture. He has given many presentations both here and abroad. Don't miss this opportunity to hear this outstanding priest.

Sunday, June 28, 6:00 pm

Crowne Plaza Hotel

7750 Carondelet

Clayton, MO

(Free inside parking at 7777 Bonhomme)

Cost is \$25 per person.

Please make check payable to Credo of the Catholic Laity. For more information, please call 314-894-6003.

LITURGY NOTES

THE MASS EXPLAINED



Collect

While the priest says the Collect, he stands with hands upraised. This raising of the arms heavenwards is a fitting accompaniment to the prayer that rises to Him who dwells in heaven (You will notice that the priest does this many times during the Mass – prayer over the offerings, preface, Canon, Our Father and the Post-communion prayer). All these prayers have been his since the early days of the Church, and he says them on behalf of the whole congregation as the one who presides. Everybody stands during these prayers. This was the normal posture for prayer among ancient peoples, as a means of honoring a higher being. It was only very gradually that kneeling came in for certain parts of the Mass, and was only general from the thirteenth century. It developed from the bowing of the head which had been customary for certain prayers.

In this prayer the priest "collects" the spiritual needs of the community and presents them to the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit.

WOMEN'S MAGNIFICAT PRAYER BREAKFAST

Coming up fast! Please get your reservations in soon, ladies, for a wonderful breakfast experience with Patti Schneier from Catholic radio as our speaker. The breakfast is being held Saturday, June 20, 9-noon, at the Cardinal Rigali Centre, in the Fleur de Lis Room, 20 Archbishop May Drive, Shrewsbury. Registration is required and is \$15.00. You may call Mary Ann Daub at 314-479-1749 or email janeguenther@archstl.org for reservations. "Glorify the Lord with me. Let us together extol His name." (Psalm 34:4)

electronic  offertory

Is Now Available!

www.stalphonsusrock.org

Parish Announcements...

IT'S HERE! 2009 CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Be a part of your Church's new Pictorial Directory!

Today after both Masses we will be set up outside, (*if weather permits*) at the parking lot entrance, with signup sheets for available time-slots to have you and/or your families portrait taken.

This Pictorial Directory will mark the Re-opening of our newly reconstructed church restored in all its glory and splendor, better than before the fire.

Remember that time slots will fill up quickly, and available times are first pick—first served. Please stop by the table, and sign up for your desired time slots.

To help insure that our directory information will be accurate, please call the office if you have moved, and update your information, as current address information is used for the directory.

Every family who takes a photograph will receive an 8X10 free signature portrait and a free church directory.

CENTRAL CATHOLIC ST. NICHOLAS PRE-SCHOOL OPENINGS

Central Catholic St. Nicholas Pre-School is now taking applications for our two new classrooms for children ages 25-36 months. Call 314-231-6118 or stop by to pick up an application at 1806 Lucas Ave. St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

We accept families who receive child care assistance.

16 children per classroom pupil/teacher ratio 1:8.

THE VILLAGE ACADEMY

Now accepting summer program

applications

for school-age students

(ages 5-12).

Enrolling Now! Ages 2½-5 years

for our daily programs.

Hours 6a.m.– 6 p.m.

Please visit our website and see how we can make a difference in the life of your child.

www.thevillageacademy.org or call 314-533-3900.

"ROCK" CHURCH MEN'S GROUP CORNER

Wednesday, June 10th

Theme: "I Forgive You"

Topic: Forgiveness

Scripture references: Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15-17, 21-35

Catechism reference: 982; 2842-2844

JUSTFAITH WORKSHOP

"Love your neighbor as yourself" is the great commandment. But, in my busy life, who really is my neighbor, and what does my faith say I should do for my neighbor? JustFaith is a program that helps answer these questions through reflection, study, prayer and community. Come learn more on Saturday June 20, at St. Francis Xavier (College) Church. See www.ccstl.org for details or contact Pat Dougherty at 314.504.3669 or pdougherty@ccstl.org.

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is also known as the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which translates from Latin to "Body of Christ." This feast originated in France in the mid-thirteenth century and was extended to the whole Church by Pope Urban IV in 1264. This feast is celebrated on the Thursday following the Trinity Sunday or, as in the USA, on the Sunday following that feast.

This feast calls us to focus on two manifestations of the Body of Christ, the Holy Eucharist and the Church. The primary purpose of this feast is to focus our attention on the Eucharist. The opening prayer at Mass calls our attention to Jesus' suffering and death and our worship of Him, especially in the Eucharist. At every Mass our attention is called to the Eucharist and the Real Presence of Christ in it. The secondary focus of this feast upon the Body of Christ as it is present in the Church. The Church called the Body of Christ because of the intimate communion which Jesus shares with his disciples. He expresses this in the gospels by using the metaphor of a body where He is the head. This image helps keep in focus both the unity and the diversity of the Church.

The Feast of Corpus Christi is commonly used as an opportunity for public Eucharistic processions, which serve as a sign of common faith and adoration. Our worship of Jesus in His Body and Blood calls us to offer to God our Father a pledge of undivided love and an offering of ourselves to the service of others.

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THANK YOU!

Many thanks to parishioners, family and friends for supporting our opportunity for you to relax mind, body, and soul during the recent trip to Hot Springs, Arkansas. The feedback about it has been great.

The Staff of Lwanga Center

Parish Information...

YOUTH CORNER



St. Alphonsus Liguori "Rock" Catholic Church

Financial Corner

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Offerings and Tithes

May 2009	
Date	Amount
3	\$14,556.03
10	\$8,983.97
17	\$11,832.75
24	\$8847.36
31	\$11,398.80
Total	\$55,618.91

Weekly average
\$11,123.78

BRICKS SOLD	
GOAL	1000
SOLD	REMAINING
40	960

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

Remember, \$14,000 is needed weekly for Annual Budget.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

That our summer schedule may include more time to spend with Our God.

"The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ..." - Romans 8:16-17

If we are heirs to the kingdom of God, should we not work to build up that kingdom? Should we not be good stewards of our inheritance, using our time, talent and treasure to care for the Church that God has left to us? Our Church is a treasured heirloom from God. Do we treat it that way?

Boiler Fund:	Cost::	\$52,000
	YTD:	\$45,176
	Balance:	\$6,824
May 31, 2009:		\$429
E-Scrip card YTD		\$656.74
April, 2009 :		\$51.87

Dear Church Family,

Many of our young people are graduating or have graduated recently. Ralph and Lawal, we congratulate you on your high school graduations. We look forward to your continued successes.

Kristin Parran, one of our young adults, recently graduated from Stephen's College. Family, another one has launched from our nest. She will begin to truly test her wings as she begins her next stage.

We are proud of you all and know that God has truly blessed you. Not only does your family love and care about you, so does your church family.

Family, we must pray for our young people especially now. They are competing with adults who have been laid off or let go. I tell my children when you go job searching, look your best, speak your best, and carry yourselves so that you stand apart from the crowd. Be respectful, have good eye contact and a firm handshake: even our ladies need a good handshake. Hold your head high and remember to whom you belong. God did not make junk, and He has given you all that you need to succeed to this point. He will continue to keep you as you remain faithful and obedient.

Family, please support our young people when they call on you for advice or help. If we don't ... make the time and take the time invest it in them now, then when? If we don't... reach out and reach back now, then when? If... we don't encourage them and show them now, then when? If... we don't share our blessings and talents with them now, then why not? God's children take care of God's children.

Being a mentor can include single moment of perfection. A simple act of encouragement can go a long way. A simple act of support can mean the world to a young person. When they call on you, please say yes. Yes I will listen, yes I will offer constructive criticism, yes I will.....

So the carpenter **encouraged** the goldsmith, and he that smootheth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the sodering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved. - Isaiah 41:7

Please send me your good news; our children are doing good and great things. athames@stalphonsusrock.org or 314-533-0304.

Angela Thames, Youth Ministry Coordinator.

PARISH INFORMATION

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Matthew S. Bonk, C.Ss.R., Pastor
 Rev. Th  Joseph Ph m, C.Ss.R., Assoc. Pastor
 Joyce Jones, Business Mgr./Office Mgr.
 Helen A. LaMell, Administrative Assistant
 Geri Mitchell-Robinson, Dir. of Liturgy
 Donna L. Lane, D.R.E.
 (Dir. of Religious Education)
 Angela Thames, Youth Minister Coord.
 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: April Harris
 Member-at-Large II: Eugene Wallace
 Finance Liaison: Jeffrey McDonald
 Lois Scott
 Brenda Moore-Jones
 Christine Bluett
 Garnetta Thames
 Jerilyn M. Bell



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

Birthright (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

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 dur-
 ing the consecration
- Please do not litter the church,
 church yard, parking lot or the
 street

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 some mem-
 bers there to pray with you and for you. Feel a heavy bur-
 den? Need a healing? Have a thankful heart? Worried?

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? Inform one of the priests, and they can anoint you after Mass. Call and leave your hospital information at the office; a priest will visit you.

FRIENDLY REMINDER:

Please remember to contact the Church Office when you change your address or phone number. Thank you.