

**THE PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS...**

**ALL CREATION GROANS**

Greetings, my beloved Church family! You know, some people ask me if Michigan (where I grew up) is much different than St. Louis. Well, it certainly was cooler up there, but there is another big difference for me. In Michigan we recycle. There is a deposit law that means that no one ever throws away a can or bottle, because you can return it for 10 cents. I remember how guilty I felt the first time I threw a can or bottle in the trash. It makes me wonder why recycling is not more common in our country.

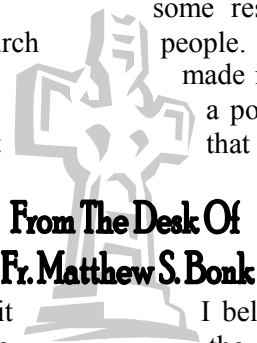
Today St. Paul writes about creation in our second reading. He mentions that while we Christians are eagerly awaiting the Return of Jesus, all of creation suffers with us longing for His Return. God made all living things, and they are mysteriously connected to us as we all are directed toward God. All of creation (including us) has one general purpose, and that is to give glory to God. When we see beauty in nature, it should lead us to praise the One that made it all. We are also to give glory to Him in our words and actions.

In our society, there are some who see nature as resources to be exploited. Since we are the dominant species on our planet, the other animals and living things are here for us to use and consume as we wish. While it is true that God has made us stewards of this planet, that was never meant to be a license to destroy the Earth or to abuse what God has made. Our Scriptures tell us that creation is good and that our heavenly Father loves and takes delight in creation. We should support laws and policies that serve to protect the resources that we have been given.

This is not to suggest that creation is God. We are allowed to build homes,

to eat plants and animals, and to use some resources to improve life for people. After all, human beings are made in God's image in a way that a potato is not. I read an article that many people in Africa are dying of malaria because environmentalists won't allow using pesticides to help kill most of the mosquitoes. I believe that we should care for the environment, but we shouldn't be sacrificing thousands of Africans simply to protect the eggs of certain birds. Creation is good, but people hold a special place in creation. We are allowed to enjoy and use creation; we just shouldn't be destroying it in a selfish and materialistic way. If we love God, and we see His work in creation, we should be gentle to living things and respectful of all creation.

Once I began to understand how creation was given to us to lead us to God, I started to feel more obligation to fight things like pollution and waste. I believe that most of us could do better in conserving energy, lowering our "carbon footprint," and being less wasteful in general. Today's readings don't explicitly tell us to recycle, but they do remind us that creation is good and plays some hidden part in God's plan of salvation. If everyone did a bit more to be friendly to creation, that would make a huge difference. If we are going to see the world as Jesus sees the world, we need to have more respect for creation and the wonder of God's amazing works.



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

**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. & F.) 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesdays: 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Thursdays: 9:00 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...**



**SUNDAY:**  
*Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Is 55:10-11 Ps 65:10-14 Rom 8:18-23  
Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

**MONDAY:**  
Is 1:10-17 Ps 50:8-9,16b-17,21,23 Mt 10:34-11:1

**TUESDAY:**  
Is 7:1-9 Ps 48:2-8 Mt 11:20-24

**WEDNESDAY:**  
Is 10:5-7,13b-16 Ps 94:5-10,14-15 Mt 11:25-27

**THURSDAY:**  
Is 26:7-9,12,16-19 Ps 102:13-14b,15-21  
Mt 11:28-30

**FRIDAY:**  
Is 38:1-6,21-22,7-8 (Ps) Is 38:10-12,16  
Mt 12:1-8

**SATURDAY:**  
Mi 2:1-5 Ps 10:1-4,7-8,14 Mt 12:14-21

**SUNDAY:**  
*Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
Wis 12:13,16-19 Ps 86:5-6,9-10,15-16  
Rom 8:26-27 Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

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

SCHEDULE OF LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

**PRAYER CORNER**

**SUNDAY, JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

ALTAR SERVERS

8:15: C. Moore  
A. Wright  
11:00: T. Combs  
D. George  
T. Butler  
D. Butler

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

8:15: S. LaBerta  
J. Latham  
S. Lyons  
B. Moore  
A. Oransky  
P. Quain  
Host: H. LaBerta  
Host: J. Nashville

ELDERS

8:15: N. Hughes  
11:00: A. Banks

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

11:00: B. Mahr-Douglas  
O. Moore-Weekly  
P. Nwaokokorom  
K. Parran  
M. Shannon  
E. Whitfield  
Host: P. Pou  
Host: A. Thames

INCENSE BEARERS

8:15: A. Ellermann  
11:00: J. Camp

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR

8:15: M. Ellermann -L  
C. Henderson-Powell-C  
11:00: D. Lane-L  
B. Cornute-C

PASTORAL AIDES

8:15: J. Wright  
11:00: L. Parran

USHERS—Group 2

8:15: Loretta Beasley -Leader  
11:00: Lillian Cooney- Leader

**SUNDAY, JULY 20<sup>TH</sup>**

ALTAR SERVERS

8:15: R. Caldwell  
T. Conte  
11:00: M. Robinson  
M. Robinson  
V. Williams  
S. Williams

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

8:15: J. Taylor  
D. Terry  
P. White  
N. Williams  
A. Atherton  
B. Bentley  
Host: M. Smith  
Host: J. Thompson

ELDERS

8:15: Ester Darris  
11:00: Ann Chopin

EUCCHARISTIC MIN.

11:00: J. Anthony  
A. Banks  
D. Brack  
N. Britts  
H. Brown  
J. Camp  
Host: R. Buckley  
Host: S. Cooney-Smith

INCENSE BEARERS

8:15: S. LaBerta  
11:00: R. DeClue

LECTORS /COMMENTATOR

8:15: C. Franklin-L  
J. Thompson-C  
11:00: R. Lane-L  
S. Cooney-Smith-C

PASTORAL AIDES

8:15: M. Davis  
11:00: L. Parran

USHERS-Group 3

8:15: Paulette Mosby-Leader  
11:00: Faye Combs-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

Barnes, John  
Barnett, Carla  
Beard, Delbert  
Beard, Judith  
Beasley, Loretta  
Bell, Gilbert  
Benson, Valerie  
Bernard, Patrick  
Brame, Reginald  
Bragg, Nellie  
Brent, Cinda  
Burns, Charles  
Burns, Luther  
Cheaney, Laura  
Clayton, Rhianna  
Cohn, Brenda L.  
Collins, Amy  
Collins, John  
Davey, Martha  
Dougherty, Herbert  
Fieree, Patricia  
Foster, Ossie  
Givens, Keith  
George, Betty  
Henderson, Kim  
Henderson, Maurice  
Hollie, Cameron  
Irving, Delphine  
Johnson, Ida  
Johnson, Les (Deacon)  
Keene, JoAnn  
Keller, Helene  
Laberta, Steve  
Lebaube, Mike  
Lemelle, Cecelia  
Latchinson, Ruth  
Luster, Juanita  
Martin, Sharon  
McCoy, Bernice  
McGraugh, Judy  
McKenzie, Carolyn  
Moses, Edith  
Burt-Mosley, Anthony

Reedy, Judith  
Ringo, Maggie  
Robinson, Angel  
Scott, Mauri  
Shaw, Vanoriean  
Smith, Jessie  
Smith, Steve  
Sodon, Wanda  
Strong, Nancee  
Taylor, Gloria  
Watkins, Nellie  
Weekly, Ollie  
Weekly, Rashawn  
Weekly, Willie  
Wheelington, Wade  
Williams, Cynthia  
Willis, Harriett  
Wright, William

HOSPITAL

Buckley, June  
Farr, Cynthia  
Frazier, Dorothy  
Gibson, Clarence  
Jackson, James  
Johnson, Dorothy  
Harris, Maxime  
Johnson, Dorothea  
Johnson, Michael  
Valle, Robert

INTENTIONS

Ambus, Ruby  
Anderson, Meredith  
Ballard-LaMell, Tonya  
Barrett, Albertine  
Beavers, Lillie & Family  
Bennett, Dorothy  
Blackwell, Joann & Traci  
Brack, Dorothy  
Brown, Janae  
Collins, Amy  
Collins, Gene  
Cooney, Geoffrey  
Cunningham, Willie  
Ellis, Willie Bishop  
Gales, MaryAnn  
Gardner, Tamara  
George, Roberta & Family  
Grant, Breon

Harris, Jerome  
Hardin, Wilhelmina  
Hardway, Norman & Family  
Holt, Christine & Family  
Howard, Yvonne & Family  
Hughes, Irene  
Jackson, Michael  
Jackson, Pat  
James, Jade  
Jenkins, Nicholas  
Jones, Chris  
Kerr, Raymond  
Kilgore, Yetta  
Kirtsey, Jasmine  
LaMell, Stephen & Helen  
Lalsandu, Gianas & Family  
Lee, Marcia  
Lucas, Blondell  
Mahr-Douglas, Brenda  
McCalebb, Barbara  
McKenzie, Carolyn  
Melvin, Tamara  
Mills, Minnie  
Mitchell, Elizabeth  
Mitchell, Rachel  
Moore, LaTasha & Family  
Moore, Trisha  
Mosby, Paulette  
Parran, Herb  
Patrick, Antionette  
Reed, Delores  
Sanders, Sandra  
Smith, Christopher  
Smith, Rosiland  
Smith, Queen Allen  
Taylor, Gloria  
Taylor, Jeffrey  
Thompson, Mary Ann  
Ward-LaMell, Tiffaney  
Watkins, Nellie  
Webb, Paulette & Family  
Willis, Theresa  
Wilson, Barbara

## Parish Announcements...

# YOUTH CORNER CENTRAL CATHOLIC

Dear Church family,

God is good all the time and all the time God is good. Our youth continue to excel. Age is not a limitation. We are never too old or too young to be blessed or to be a blessing. Zionn Pearson, granddaughter of Ossie Foster, will be going to the Junior Olympics. She is not going as an observer; she is going as an athlete! Wow, how exciting is that! As a young person I would have loved to have participated in the Olympics. I still get chills watching the track and field events. Times have changed, and young ladies can move on to more sports opportunities.

Zionn is a member of the St Louis Blues Track Club. She qualified for the AAU National Junior Olympics, to be held in Detroit, Michigan. The event will take place July 28 through August 2, 2008. Zion is asking for help towards her travel and lodging expenses. She welcomes all monetary donations; they are tax deductible. Please make all checks payable to the St Louis Blues Track Club. Please write Zionn's name in the memo line. Tax ID No. 43-1154608.

She would like to thank you for making her first trip to the AAU National Junior Olympics possible! You may mail donations to 826 Cornell Ave, St Louis MO 63119.

Several members of the teen ministry are going to Chicago for World Youth Day. We will leave July 17th and return July 21st. We thank you in advance for your prayers for a safe journey. We will be celebrating at St Hyacinth Church all day Saturday, July 19th. Other events are planned. Joining other Catholics from different communities in the celebration of our Lord can be a moving experience if we are open to it. The joy is immeasurable when you can see the Jesus in others. It catches us and sets our souls on fire. To ignite the love in others and witness transformation is an experience like no other.

Please continue to send me your good news. Our youth continue to shine and reflect God's light. E-mail me at [athames@stalphonsusrock.org](mailto:athames@stalphonsusrock.org) or drop it by the office.



Angela Thames  
Youth Minister Coordinator  
St Alphonsus Rock Church  
(314) 533-0304 ext. 1002 (phone)  
(314) 533-4260 (fax)

**WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY BY FAITH  
AND HARD WORK**

**CCSN – A SCHOOL AND AN ACADEMY SEC-  
OND TO NONE!**

Do you want to share the blessings of our school improvements? Are you grateful for our school becoming a College Prep Academy? God is blessing us with many more educational legacies, like our enhanced math/science program that continues to be an amazing grace.

Invite families to come and see us. Share with them the great blessing God has given to us

- We offer tuition assistance, as needed, for children of all ages.
- We have a new Early Head Start Program at our Lucas and 18<sup>th</sup> Street Campus.
- We have new playground equipment and new tile in the classrooms at our Jefferson Campus.
- We are expanding our sports and arts programs.
- We are upgrading our math and science to be announced at Sigma Aldrich on 9/11.
- We are entering our third year with our 3-semester, extended Middle Grade Academy.
- We have Graduate Support through High School.

**Our opening day is August 25!**

It's coming quickly. We have an enrollment team in place. You can come yourself or send others to take a tour.

You can earn \$50 if you bring someone or if they mention your name. This gift is from ACCESS Academies who will affirm your investment in our school the day the new student begins.

We are open throughout the summer from 9 AM to 3 PM. Call Sr. Gail and set a time to visit.

*Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R. – President  
Sr. Gail Trippett, CSJ – Principal*

## Parish Announcements...

### "Rock" Church Construction Corner



#### "What's Happening" (THE ROOF)

I can honestly say that if it was not for Mark Kamp, Brother Terry (after he returned from Detroit, because the day of the fire, he was just beginning his vacation) and I would have been standing outside of the church, probably with the Yellow Pages in our hands, staring at the terrible destruction of the church and wondering to ourselves, "Where do we begin and what do we do?"

Mark was there, as the church burned; his mind was already racing a mile a minute and he was making phone calls.

As the church burned, something very interesting and edifying was happening across the street in the alley and our parking lot. As the news of the fire spread like fire in the parish, parishioners and friends of the "Rock" began to gather there and watch. They knew that all they could do was watch, but then they realized they could do something, something very important. They began to say the rosary. They were praying that our church would not be destroyed totally and for the safety of the firemen. Their prayers were answered. So, for all of you who were praying then and there, we say THANK YOU.

Another little story I would like to share with you that also was happening behind the scenes. Later I was talking to fire Chief Ken Smith, who was in command of the fire. As he and other firemen survey the situation, they realized that if the flames were to reach the towers of the church, the towers would act like a flue in a fire place and if that happened, we would have said good-bye to the church. So, as four pumper trucks were fighting the fire in the back of the church, many, many pumper trucks were parked on Grand Blvd. They pumped copious amounts of water, as Chief Smith said, onto the towers to prevent flames from getting to the towers and then, literally, flames would have engulfed the church. So, thank you Chief Smith for making that church-saving decision.

After those two very interesting distractions, let us get back to the story. Very early the next morning, I discover what Mark was doing on the phone that night. He was calling some of his workers to be at the church very early the next morning.

ten of his workers arrived very early the next morning along with a truck full of plywood. Mark told me that there were two very important tasks that had to be done very quickly. The first was that we had to board up the windows and the doors of the church very quickly to prevent any kind of vandalism of the church and also to protect the windows from possible falling debris after the fire.

Also the next day, many parishioners arrived, also very early, to volunteer in anyway was possible. As the workers began cutting the plywood to put on the windows, the parishioners began carrying out the contents of the church, chalices, vestments, choir robes, books, altar clothes and the list could go on. But, where would we store them? Again, Mark came to our rescue, and very soon two large containers arrived and that is where we began to store the church items. One of them still remains on our upper parking lot.

The fire was on August 16th, and the work to begin the restoration of our church began on August 17th. As we all know, the work has not stopped and will continue for many months to come into the year 2009.

The second very important task that had to be done was to somehow cover the roof temporarily to protect the interior of the church and its contents from any further damage from the weather. That will be the subject of my next article because two terms/words began to be used, words which were very important to the restoration. The words are TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT. Those two words/terms were applied to not only the roof, but also to the electricity that was needed to run the power tools the workers needed.

But, the next article will be on the temporary and the permanent roof and how Mark and his workers, using their skills and knowledge, came to that decision, a decision that one of the insurance adjusters said could not be done. However they did it. Wait for the next installment on the saga of the TEMPORARY ROOF AND THE PERMANENT ROOF. challenge

*Fr. Kyle Fisher, C.Ss.R.*

## Parish Announcements...

### CONGRATULATIONS 2008 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

"Rock" Church proudly announces the recipients of the Twelfth Annual St. Alphonsus "Rock" Scholarship Awards.

Thank you to all applicants and congratulations to the 2008 awardees.

#### 2008 AWARDEES

KARRY PARRAN – PASTOR'S AWARD  
 BIANCA ANDREWS – FR. MAURICE AWARD  
 SANDRA BRANCH  
 JASMINE KEY  
 DANIEL STREETER

#### CONTINUING AWARDEES

THEODORE BRANCH  
 NICOLE DUMAINE  
 DORIAN GRADY  
 JESSICA GRIFFIN  
 TIONA MILLER  
 KRISTIN PARRAN  
 LAUREN PARRAN  
 CHRISTIN ROBY  
 ERICA THURMAN

### CATHOLIC TELEVISION ETERNAL WORD TELEVISION NETWORK (EWTN)

I will be appearing on Eternal Word Television Network's (EWTN) "The Journey Home" program with Marcus Grodi on Monday July 28, 2008 at 7pm Central. (Charter Cable 25). Please tune in for the LIVE broadcast at 7pm (rebroadcast at 11pm). Please spread the word.

This show is broadcast to over 123 million households, 140 countries and territories and carried on over 4,800 cables stations across the world. For those that might not be familiar with this program, it is one of the most viewed programs on Catholic Television and profiles the journeys of converts to the Catholic Faith. This is an EXTREME honor to have been invited on this program and Donna and I are so very humbled and grateful to our Lord for giving us this opportunity to be witnesses to His Glory.

Donna and I would like to thank everyone at Rock Church for your love, support and especially your prayers. We continue to represent "Rock" Church, in our ministry, Qorban Ministries, wherever we have traveled around the Country. May God continue to bless you REAL GOOD and continue to keep you in His loving arms; this we pray, through Christ Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You Lord, and the Holy Spirit...ONE GOD forever and ever, AMEN, Amen and amen!

*Richard Lane*

# Schnucks

**Innovative....  
 Exciting....  
 New!**

**Support our Group with a  
 Schnucks eScrip Community Card**

**Together, you, Schnucks and eScrip make a  
 daily difference for our community.**

**1. Visit Schnucks and request a Schnucks eScrip  
 Community Card.**

Activate your card by calling **1.800.931.6258** or  
 visit [www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp](http://www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp)

**2. Present your card to the cashier every time  
 you shop at Schnucks.**

You can pay for your groceries any way you choose.  
 Simply swiping your card generates contributions  
 from Schnucks to our school or group.

**3. The more you shop, the higher the contribu-  
 tion to our group.**

For every dollar you spend, Schnucks will contrib-  
 ute up to 3% of your purchase amount.



**eScrip** [www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp](http://www.escrip.com/schnucks.jsp)

**PARISH INFORMATION****PASTORAL TEAM**

Rev. Matthew S. Bonk, C.Ss.R., Pastor  
 Joyce Jones, Business Mgr./Office Mgr.  
 Helen A. LaMell, Administrative Assistant  
 (TBD), 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: Truenessia Combs  
 Secretary: Lois Scott  
 Assist. Secretary: Rosalind Hood  
 Member-at-Large I: April Harris  
 Member-at-Large II: Eugene Wallace  
 Finance Liaison: Jeffrey McDonald

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

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

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

Bible Study/Prayer Group every Tuesday: 6:30 pm.

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

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

St. Charles Lwanga Center  
 (314) 367-7929

**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.

**COMMISSIONS & CHAIRS**

Christian Formation -Jean Anthony  
 Christian Service - Barbara  
 McCaleb  
 Family Life Comm. - Patricia Pou  
 Finance & Adm. - John Wright  
 Liturgy - Richard Buckley  
 Social Life - Hilliard Phillips

**REDEMPTORISTS IN  
 RESIDENCE**

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

**OFFERING AND TITHES**

This is what the Lord has commanded "From what you have, take an offering for the Lord..."

Our offering and tithes to God for the support of our Church and ministries for July 6, 2008.

**Total: \$ 11,607.12**

**"DIVINE LOVE THROUGH ME BLESSES AND MULTIPLIES THIS OFFERING. IT BLESSES THE RECEIVER AND RETURNS TO THE GIVER BLESSED AND MULTIPLIED!"**

May God richly bless you for your generous stewardship of your church! We are asking each member to please prayerfully consider making a decision to tithe. Pray over Malachi 3:10. We remind you to please use your envelopes.

**PLEASE NOTE:** \$14,000 is needed weekly for Annual Budget.

---

Please Remember Your Parish in Your Estate Plan, and Charitable Giving!!!

Make your gift and devises to: Redemptorists of Denver Province

For St. Alphonsus "Rock" Catholic Church In St. Louis, Missouri

*Thank you,  
 "Rock" Legal Ministry*

**HOLY SPIRIT FIRE PRAYER HOUR**

*Come and join the Friday Night prayer time in the back of church. Pray and sing together using the Bible with other brothers and sisters. **Need a lift, have special intentions, need healing ? Come and join. Pray together for the Church family. Where two or three are gathered together, Jesus is in the midst of them.***

**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 members there to pray with you and for you. Feel a heavy burden? 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.