

**SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

JANUARY 19, 2020

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for Jan. 26th Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

How have you felt gloom and distress this week?

What joy have you experienced this week?

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

With whom are you quarreling? What church factions are forming?

Pray for unity among Christians; among our own Catholics.

Matthew 4:12-23

What aspect of your life needs reform at this time?

Pray for vocations to priesthood, religious life, missionary service.

WEEKDAY MASSES January 21 - 24

Tues: 5:00 pm +Aelred Dettler

Wed: 9:00 am **School Mass** +John Biewer

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Joe Tholkes

Fri: 10:15 am **Maple Manor** +Cal & Rita Crockett

WEEKEND MASSES January 25 & 26

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma +Maury Kappes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Gert Wild
Reader: Michael Neubert
EMHC: Carol Hoffarth
Servers: Regner Family
Musicians:

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Cody Livingood
Reader: Greg Fetsch
EMHC: Dennis Karsky
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Choir

9:00 am St. Michael's – Wales People of the Parishes

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Dorothy Schroeder
Reader: Jenny Chaput
EMHC: Bev Otto
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Dorothy Sauer

Fr. Phil's cell phone: 701-740-7593 and Fr. Will's cell phone: 701-640-2858

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Tuesday after 5:00pm Mass, Wednesday after 8:40am Mass, Thursday after 5:00pm Mass & Saturday at 6:45pm

Weekly Reflection for January 12, 2020: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$6,302.00
Intentional Givers	\$275.00
Plate	\$267.00
Total	\$6,844.00

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

One thing seems clear: as with many a detective story, there is more to this event than meets the eye – or the ear. At this point, it's the scripture scholars who might be described as the detectives in the case. It is they who explain that John the Baptist had a group of faithful and fervent followers, even long after his death. They believed there was no one quite like him, that in fact he was the Messiah whom so many were waiting for. When Jesus appeared on the scene, amazing people by his preaching and his miracles, impressing them deeply by his gentleness and his concern for the outcast, there were still followers of John the Baptist about. They insisted that their master was greater than Jesus. Even when, after an appalling death by crucifixion, Jesus rose again in triumph, some of the Baptist's followers still refused to believe in him. In fact, they were still at work, and causing confusion among Christians, towards the end of the first century and beyond.

In today's Gospel we hear how John (not John the Baptist this time but John the Gospel writer) counters the arguments of the Baptist's followers. He shows how the Baptist himself acknowledged that Jesus ranked before him, because, as he put it, "he existed before me". True, Jesus in his humility had accepted a rite of baptism at the hand of John the Baptist. But what happened on that occasion revealed his true identity: the sight of the Holy Spirit descending upon him in the form of a dove convince the Baptist that Jesus was in fact the Messiah and would one day baptize his followers in the Holy Spirit. So, the Gospel reveals John the Baptist bearing witness to Jesus, proclaiming that he is "the lamb of God" who takes away our sins, he is "the Chosen One of God", he is eternal, he is the Messiah. Later John would sum up his relationship with Jesus in these humble words "He [Jesus] must grow greater, I must grow smaller."

Taken from The Living Word

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb..." ISAIAH 49:5
God has given each of us different gifts. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what? God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and generously share them with others.

CD of the Week: The Roots of the Crisis – Dr. Tim Gray - The clergy sexual abuse scandals have rocked the Catholic Church and caused a crisis of faith (and of evangelization) for many. When facing such a daunting and terrible crisis, it can be difficult to find the right way forward. In this talk, Dr. Tim Gray explains with conviction and insight that to make any real and lasting change, we must keep faith, and look closely at the deep roots behind this crisis. Times of great scandal and corruption in the Church can be followed by times of even greater renewal and revival, if faithful men and women will enter the constructive conflict that truth requires. "Tim offers a voice of reason and hope in the midst of these dire scandals. This talk brings light to the darkness." **Thank you for your generous support of Augustine Institute and Lighthouse Catholic Media!**

Retrouvaille: Help for Hurting Marriages - Retrouvaille is an international, peer-run program that has helped hundreds of thousands of hurting married couples turn the tide, find new hope, and rediscover the love that initially brought them together. Surveys have shown that 3 out of 4 couples who complete the entire program are still married five years later with stronger, healthier marriages. Retrouvaille will be held locally **February 7-9, 2020** in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at (701) 356-7962 or via email at RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org.

Decora ~ Discover Your Feminine Genius ~ Mind-Body-Spirit a day for high school and college age women Saturday, February 29th, 8:00am-4:00pm at Sts. Anne and Joachim Church, Fargo, ND. Come and enjoy inspiring speakers, fun breakouts, delicious food, fashion show, time for personal prayer/reflection, and a guy panel! Free for students. \$35 for non-students (Includes meals and materials) Information and registration -- bisoncatholic.org (Click on the banner.) Registration deadline February 23. Questions: decorafargo@gmail.com Note: High school women are encouraged, but not required, to share this special day with their mom or female mentor.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Congratulations to Nicholas Lundquist and Alexa Roy who were married last weekend. May they continue to grow in God's grace.

Our Sympathy to the family of Joy Koropatnicki and Beatrice Delvo who were called home last week. May they rest in the love of the Father.

No Faith Formation Classes and No CYO on January 29th because of the Annual Spaghetti Supper.

Nekoma and Wales: Confessions will be offered 1/2 hour before Mass next weekend.

Cavalier County Friends for Life - it is time to pay your annual membership dues or you can become a member.

If you would like to send a card to Seth Skjervheim his address is St Gregory the Great Seminary, 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, NE 68434.

Thank you to Nancy Downs who volunteered to be co-chair for the Altar Society

Save the Date: The Annual Mass and Eucharistic Procession at Mount Carmel Church will be held at 10:00am, Sunday, July 19th.

Altar Society Dues are now due – special cash and retired members only. Dues may be paid by sending them to Candace Bimler, 10028 103rd Ave. NE, Wales, ND 58281 or put it in an envelope marked "Altar Society" (be sure to include your name) and drop in the weekend collection baskets. Thank you.

Catholic Schools' Week is coming up soon. The spaghetti supper will be Wednesday, January 29. St. Alphonsus School Foundation will be helping out the School Committee by sponsoring the Silent Auction. If you would like to help by donating a basket, please call Holly Lyons, 256-2613 or 256-3717. Thank you.

CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL RAFFLE: St. Alphonsus students and staff will be selling the raffle tickets to support the HOT LUNCH PROGRAM. 100% of the ticket income stays with the school. Catholic United Financial pays for all the prizes. Grand Prize is a 2020 Buick Encore or \$20,000.00. Plus, a lot of other prizes. Your generous support of this fund raiser will be greatly appreciated.

Our Parish Mission: will be held February 15-18 here at St Alphonsus Church. Fr Brian Gross of Watford City, ND is our spiritual director. He will preach at the weekend Masses (Feb 15-16). Mission Talks will be given on Sunday, Feb 16 at 2:00 PM; Monday and Tuesday, Feb 17 & 18 at 7:00 PM. Please mark your calendars!

Fellowship Hall cleaning for January – 17 – Lori Roy & Mauri Roy; 24 – Sally Kram & Marie Mack; 31 – Vicki Samuelson & Diane Schill

Suicide the Ripple Effect – A film and a movement for hope and healing. Wednesday, February 12th at 6:30pm at the Roxy Theater in Langdon. Who should attend: Adults and older teens? Younger teens are recommended to be accompanied by an adult. Free Event! Pop and Popcorn provide by Choice Financial. For more info contact: Cavalier County Health District at 256-2402.

Women's Care Center

As we continue to grow and serve the women and families of the Lake Region, we will be transitioning our Largest Baby Shower to the Women's Care Center Gift Card Drive. Many of you have been so generous throughout the past years and we are very blessed by your continued support! This change will allow us to better stock our store (Crib Club) as we are in need of specific items and allows us to purchase big items that we are unable to store. Walmart and Amazon gift cards are what we are currently in need of. An Amazon wish list has also been created with a few items that we are in need of, in addition to gift cards. Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the women and families we serve! Drop off locations are St. Joseph Parish Center, Bethel E Free, River of Life, First United Methodist and Women's Care Center.

Amazon list: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LGIGW48TR6E0?ref_=wl_share