

**THIRD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**JANUARY 26, 2020**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation of the Lord**

*Malachi 3:1-4*

Malachi prepares the way for today's feast: the Lord will enter his Temple.

*Hebrews 2:14-18*

Jesus has come to confront the powers of evil.

*Luke 2:22-40*

Joseph & Mary fulfill the requirements of the Law and present Jesus in the Temple.

It provides an opportunity for two aged people who have remained attentive to

God to speak prophetically about this child as the salvation of all the nations.

**WEEKDAY MASSES January 28 - 31**

Tues: 5:00 pm +Gerry Waltz

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Jack Bisenius

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Dorothy Jakoubek Family

Fri: 10:15 am **Maple Manor** Living & Deceased Members of Bob & EdiAnn Otto

**WEEKEND MASSES February 1 & 2**

**Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma +Betty Laternus**

**7:30 pm St. Alphonsus** +John Wild  
**Reader:** Nancy Kram  
**EMHC:** Bernadette Fetsch  
**Servers:** Muhs Family  
**Musicians:**

**Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus** +Rose Lorenz  
**Reader:** Darlene Brooks  
**EMHC:** Bill Brooks  
**Servers:** Volunteer  
**Musicians:** Bob & Choir

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

**10:30 am St. Alphonsus** Living & Deceased Members of Marvin &  
**Reader:** Terian Chaput Bernadine Mikkelsen Family  
**EMHC:** Diane Schill  
**Servers:** Sean Gette  
**Musicians:** Bob & Choir

**Fellowship Hall Host:** LaVern & Margaret Chaput

**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 19, 2020:** This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$4,316.00
Intentional Givers	\$3,013.67
Plate	\$209.00
Fuel	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,563.67</b>

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The scriptures use the contrast between darkness and light to describe our relationship with God. "The people that walked in darkness" were the people of Israel, who, on account of their infidelity to God, found themselves in exile in Babylon, longing to return to their own land, their homes and their religious practices. They could see no end to their predicament. The future was dark for them until the prophet Isaiah started to shine the light of hope. Their exile did come to an end. They did return to their own land. Their Temple was rebuilt and religious practice was restored, but they were still in the dark. After the oppression of Babylon, they were still in the power of a succession of foreign invaders from Persia, Greece and Rome. By the time of Jesus, it was the Romans keeping the Jewish people as a subject nation, and they did so with the collaboration of the puppet king, Herod, and greedy, self-serving tax collectors. People still longed for real freedom, which they understood to be the light promised by Isaiah seven hundred years earlier.

St. Matthew, in his Gospel, describes the coming of Jesus in these same prophetic terms, "The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light." But the light that Jesus reveals is not a political dispensation. The darkness is not merely the darkness of oppression. It is not just the people of Israel who have been subjected to a foreign power: it is the whole of humanity. Jesus is the light of the world that exposes the true darkness that is sin, which is preventing all human beings from fulfilling their true destiny as sons and daughters of a loving Father in the everlasting kingdom of heaven.

The revolutionary project that Jesus starts is far from a political revolt. It involves a real change of heart and it starts with faith: faith in God, but, first of all, faith in ourselves. Do I really believe that God loves me and has called me into a relationship of love? This is the project of Jesus, to change the world by changing one person at a time, enabling everyone to believe that they are beloved sons or daughters of the one Father, God in heaven. And so, in today's Gospel, we see Jesus at the beginning of his project to bring this new light, this new revelation, into the world. He calls the fishermen, Peter and Andrew, James and John, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." With this small group, which gradually increases to twelve, Jesus goes around proclaiming the Good News, teaching and healing. Their mission is to capture the hearts and minds of people, opening up to them the promise of eternal life.

Taken from The Living Word

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." MATTHEW 4:22*

Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. Everything from our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

**CD of the Week: Why Almsgiving? – Dr. Michael Barber** – Advent, the season in which we prepare for Christmas, is a penitential season. One of the key acts of penance that the Church recommends is almsgiving. But why? Citing the Old and New Testaments, the Catechism, and his own engaging personal stories, professor and author Dr. Michael Barber explains the "inner logic" of almsgiving, and how this often-misunderstood aspect of our faith is a critically good work, related to our own redemption in Jesus Christ. **Thank you for your continued support of 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](http://HelpOurMarriage.com) or contact us at (701) 356-7962 or via email at [RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org](mailto:RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org).

## **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**

Thank you to all the women and men who bravely helped deliver bars and serve lunch for the funeral last Saturday in the blizzard. Well done!

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

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

St. Alphonsus School Spaghetti Supper & Bingo on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. Supper 5:00 – 7:00pm; Silent Auction 5:00 – 6:45pm; Bingo 7:00pm start. Everyone Welcome!

Wales Fire Department Super Bowl Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00am – 1:00pm at St. Michael's Parish Hall (Wales) serving Hickory Hut Sausage, Pancakes and Scrambled Eggs. Free will donation

**Altar Society Dues are now due – special cash and retired members only.** Dues may be paid by sending them to Candace Bimler, 10028 103<sup>rd</sup> 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** – 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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2LGIGW48TR6E0?ref_=wl_share)