

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

AUGUST 16, 2020

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for August 23rd 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 22:19-23

How worthily are you fulfilling your “office” in life?
How well do you respect the authority of our national leaders?

Romans 11:33-36

In what problem do you need wisdom or counsel from God?
Pray for the gift of wisdom in our church and national leaders.

Matthew 16:13-20

Make Peter’s act of faith, confessing your love and dedication to Christ?
Pray for our Pope, leaders and church, for a solid foundation in Christ.

WEEKDAY MASSES August 18 - 21

Tues: 5:00 pm +Mary Shankar

Wed: 8:40 am Living & Deceased Members of Hans & Klara Sten Family

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Gerald & Marge Mikkelsen

Fri: 10:30 am **Maple Manor** +Kathryn Shablow (**No Public is Allowed**)

WEEKEND MASSES August 22 - 23

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward’s - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Ella Kram
Reader: Colin Fetsch
EMHC: Holly Lyons
Servers: Regner Family
Musicians:

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Donald Girodat
Reader: Jackie Thom
EMHC: Daryl Kempel
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

St. Michael’s – Wales **NO MASS AT WALES TODAY**

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Francis & Loran Illerbrunn
Reader: George Podhradsky
EMHC: Bev Otto
Servers: Volunteer
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

Fellowship Hall Host: Dorothy Sauer

Fr. Michael Hickin’s cell phone: 701-891-1238

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

**Confessions: Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or
by appointment**

Weekly Reflection for August 9, 2020: This week’s reflection of the
parishioner’s relationship with God and with the parish

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|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adult Envelopes | \$2,595.00 |
| Intentional Givers | \$3,206.67 |
| Plate | \$151.00 |
| Total | \$5,952.67 |

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's Gospel, Jesus has left Gennesaret, where he had been healing anyone presented to him and doing it in a manner which seemed effortless and indiscriminate. He has also challenged the religious authorities who criticized his followers for not observing some of the traditional rules of the Jewish faith concerning the washing of hands.

In the encounter that Matthew tells us about today, Jesus gets into a lively verbal exchange with a Canaanite woman. He initially seems to treat the foreign woman like an outcast who is not worthy of his attention; and his followers, rather like the shoppers in the supermarket, just want the noise to stop so that they can get on with their day. At first Jesus appears to treat the woman as an unwelcome outsider, suggesting that he is only there for the insiders – “the House of Israel” – but he then engages in a dramatic debate with the woman. She pleads with him, “Lord... help me.” This is the point at which everything changes. She acknowledges him as Lord, more so than the figures who have authority within his own religious community, who have not realized that he is indeed Lord of all. Rather than teaching a lesson classroom-style, Jesus helps to enact a drama where the story unfolds before a fascinated audience and eventually reaches a very happy ending. The daughter is healed and the mother's persistence is vindicated.

It could reasonably be asked, “Why put such a story into the Gospel in the first place.” At the time Matthew was writing his account, the followers of Jesus were still wrestling with what we might call the terms and conditions for entry into the community of believers. Who could be in and who must be excluded? In answering this question, Matthew shows that in withdrawing to the region of Tyre and Sidon, Jesus deliberately puts himself in foreign territory to demonstrate what inclusion really means. He deftly sets the scene for his encounter with the excluded woman. And there Matthew answers the question about inclusion and exclusion, reminding the fledgling Church what Jesus actually did for people who were excluded and regarded as outsiders, and so teaching that his followers, both then and now, should do the same. Taken from The Living Word

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.” - ROMANS 11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone.

Tuesday Evening, September 1st at 7:00pm, meeting in the church about Eucharistic Adoration. This would be for those currently engaged and those considering. With the return to Mass after the COVID lockdown, Bishop Folda has lifted the Sunday obligation. It's understandable many still feel unsure about returning to church. For those not attending, it's also understandable that *you're missing Jesus*. Ideally, we'd like 2 people per hour of Adoration. Join someone already on the schedule or gather some friends and share a weekly Holy Hour with them and Jesus. It's a time to be creative. Join us & see.

You can make a difference. Pay it forward with joining the St. Alphonsus Church 125th Club. The annual dues are \$125.00 due on the feast day of St. Alphonsus, August 1st of each year. The dues are invested in the Pariah Endowment fund that are permanently invested earning continues interest. The interest is dispersed for the operation of the parish which supports the parish budget. Please join. Just fill out this form and return it with your check of \$125.00. You can drop it into the donation boxes or collection basket.

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125th Club - St. Alphonsus Church

2020 Membership due August 1st.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

I have enclosed a check payable to the **St. Alphonsus Parish** for Endowment Fund growth and investment.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OFFICE HOURS: The week starting August 17th - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 8:00am – 12:00pm, Thursday & Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm

Our Sympathy to the families of Ione Gross, Kathryn Shablow and Pat Schuler who were called home last week. May they rest in the love of the Father.

FRIDAY MASSES. Beginning next week (August 21st), we will no longer be having Friday Mass at the church. I will be alternating Mass between Maple Manor and the Osnabrock Living Center. Unfortunately, for the time being, these Masses are only for residents and not open to the public.

SETH AND ERIC. Last Friday evening, Aug 8, I went to Fargo, where Seth Skjervheim was officially received as a candidate for Holy Orders. There was a reception afterwards, where I enjoyed visiting with his family. He left this past Monday to begin his theological studies at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland. On Saturday, Dcn Eric Seitz was ordained a priest; he will be serving at St. John's parish in Wahpeton. Please keep Seth and Fr. Eric in your prayers along with all those young men who are responding to the Spirit's stirring in their souls.

FUNERALS AND DAILY MASS. On days that we celebrate Funeral Masses, we will **NOT** be having the regularly scheduled daily Mass. There will be exceptions along the way. For instance, this Saturday, Aug 15, since it's a special feast of Our Lady and since Fr. William McDermott is presiding at the 2:00pm funeral of Pat Schuler, I still celebrated the Saturday morning Mass. When possible, we will note exceptions in the bulletin.

FIELD STONE. A few folks have dropped off some rocks. Thanks! What gems! We will need quite a bit to accomplish the task ahead. The thing with rocks, you don't want to have to move them more than is necessary. If you are bringing some in, feel free to give me a call. We can discuss where would be the best place to pile them.

Pillow Cleaning will take place on Thursday, August 20th from 7:00am – 3:00pm. Please use door #1 (3rd street) of the Parish Center

Altar Server, Lector, EMHC Schedules are in the sacristy. Please take your copy; they will not be mailed out.

The parish has subscribed to a publication, *The Word Among Us*, for a 3-month period, Sept-Nov. We will be receiving 30 copies. These are intended mostly for Daily Mass attendees so that we can recite together the Antiphons proper to each Mass. The booklets are not to remain in the pews for health reasons. Parishioners are asked to keep *The Word Among Us* and bring it to Mass as an aid to prayer. Enjoy. Any feedback on this booklet is welcomed.

I could use some lawn and garden tools. If there was someone who had an edger and/or a flat spade shovel to either donate or loan to the parish, I could use those. Also need are some tree-trimming tools, especially a small chain saw. I'd like to make some inroads on cleaning up the new yard we acquired before the leaves begin to fall. **THE CATHOLIC**

DAUGHTER GIFT CASE WILL BE ORDERING SOON - - If there is anything you would like ordered please notify Bev Otto or Margaret Chaput. If you would like to make a purchase call one of us, Bev at 256-2646 or Margaret at 256-2901. Thank You.

RESPECT LIFE CONFERENCE: All are welcome to a free event, the Respect Life Conference August 22 from 11:00am to 6:30pm at St. John the Evangelist Church in Grafton. Conference topics include abortion and the right to life, St. Gianna Molla and the ministry in Warsaw, and the effects of pornography. The day includes Mass, lunch, and a presentation by keynote speaker Leah Darrow, who is a former model and contestant on America's Next Top Model and an international Catholic speaker, writer, and host of the popular *Do Something Beautiful* podcast. The day concludes with a Eucharistic procession following the evening Vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Folda. Eucharistic Adoration available. Activities for children during the conference. For more information, call the parish at (701) 352-1648.

