

**IN ORDINARY TIME**

**SEPTEMBER 6, 2020**

**SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for September 13<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Sirach 27:30-28:7*

What neighbor have you not forgiven for an injustice against you?  
What anger or vengeance are you still holding tight?

*Romans 14:7-9*

In what area of life have you tried to “be master” without God?  
Have your actions today been “responsible” to God?

*Matthew 18:21-35*

Where do you need to apply the “Golden Rule” in treatment of others?  
For what sins are you still “in debt” to God?

**WEEKDAY MASSES September 8 - 11**

- Tues: 5:00 pm +Dick Perius
- Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Gerald & Marge Mikkelsen
- Thurs: 5:00 pm +Gerry Tholkes
- Fri: 10:30 am **Osnabrock** +Gerry Waltz (No Public is Allowed)

**WEEKEND MASSES September 12 – 13**

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

**7:30 pm St. Alphonsus** +Vivian Crawford & +Rose Mullarkey  
**Reader:** Holly Lyons  
**EMHC:** Holly Lyons  
**Servers:** Muhs Family  
**Musicians:**

**Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus** +Niklos & +Barbara Balbier  
**Reader:** Darlene Brooks  
**EMHC:** Bill Brooks  
**Servers:** Volunteer  
**Musicians:** Bob & Cantor

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

**10:30 am St. Alphonsus** Living & Deceased Members of Marvin &  
**Reader:** George Podhradsky Bernadine Mikkelsen Family  
**EMHC:** Dennis Schill  
**Servers:** Volunteer  
**Musicians:** Bob & Cantor

**Fellowship Hall Host:** Duane & Bev Otto

**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 30, 2020:** This week’s reflection of the parishioner’s relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,458.00
Intentional Givers	\$100.00
Plate	\$246.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,804.00</b>

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we would consider highly irregular any group or organization deciding to bypass the legal system and devise their own legal code. That, however seems to be precisely what is being called for in Jesus' teaching in today's Gospel. To understand this particular development, it is necessary to reflect, not so much on circumstances for disciples during Jesus' life, or immediately after, but rather on the problems faced by the next generations of disciples around the time that Matthew's Gospel was written, which is thought to have been some time after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem and its Temple in AD 70. There is scarcely a more important date for New Testament studies.

When the Temple was destroyed, Judaism changed forever, because, with no Temple, there was no role for priests. So, who was now in charge? This is when the Pharisees gained prominence. They restyled themselves as "rabbis", and declared that they alone were the authentic teachers of the Law of Moses. But another group of Jews proclaimed Jesus of Nazareth as the true teacher and fulfillment of Moses. This led to persecution, excommunication and banishment from synagogues for anyone following "the Nazarene". Understandably, many Jewish Christians began to wonder if they had made a mistake, especially when their former leaders persecuted them. It's against this background that Matthew wrote his Gospel, showing how Jesus was not just the interpreter, but the actual fulfillment of Moses. A practical consequence of all of this was that people who had been expelled from the synagogue, imprisoned and even physically punished for following Jesus were not likely to go to the courts run by the rabbis for justice – hence Jesus' words here on how the community must resolve conflict if authorities won't help. Taken from The Living Word

### 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..." - EZEKIEL 33:7*

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts He has given us, especially the one that means the most to us.

### Fall Dinner/Suppers – see bulletin board for complete details

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph's Catholic Church – Devils Lake 10:30am – 1:30pm

Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Alphonsus – Langdon 3:00 – 6:00pm **will be takeout orders only**

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 needed 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. Fr. Michael

**Fellowship Hall Cleaning for September** - 6-12 Kay Witzel & Connie Stremick, 13-19 Rachel Schaefer & Sara Pritchard, 20-26 Patty Howatt & Kathy Borgen, 27-October 3 Karrie Mikkelsen & Whitney Bachman

Reboot a life-changing event featuring internationally acclaimed speaker, author, and TV host Chris Stefanick on Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 – 9:30pm at Holy Family Catholic Church (1018 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue South) Grand Forks. Tickets \$25.00 for info/purchase tickets call 701-746-1454 or RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot

Fr. Damien Schill has completed the third volume of his trilogy of cookbooks entitled: "Cooking and Eating with Father Damien and Friends." This volume is the desserts volume. They are available from Hurley's Religious Goods in Fargo, their number is: 1-800-437-4338. They are also available from Saint Patrick's Guild in St. Paul, their number is: 1-651-690-1506. There are still some copies of volume two, and the entrees volume, at both locations.

## **PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS**

**OFFICE HOURS: When school is in session Monday – Friday 8:00am – 3:00pm**

**Welcome** Samara LoAnn Erickson, daughter of Nathan & Meranda who was baptized last weekend. May she continue to be filled with grace.

Altar Society meeting on Tuesday, September 8 at 6:00pm at the Fellowship Hall.

Catholic Daughters meeting on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the cafeteria. Members please pay your dues.

**Singing in Church.** In September we will begin singing a bit more. Singing is discouraged because of the droplets released. In order to bring back a little bit of singing, please be attentive to this. Droplets can be avoided if we wear masks, which are still strongly encouraged, and if we sing softly.

We will begin with reintroducing the Mass parts (Gloria; Alleluia; Holy, Holy, Holy; Great Amen; Our Father; Lamb of God). Let's see how that goes first. Thanks to Bob and our exceptional choir for the great work they do to uplift our hearts while we worship.

Religious Ed is in need of a kindergarten teacher, if two parents would like to team up on teaching that would be great. Please let Carla know if you would be willing to teach.

**CALL TO FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP.** Participating in the political process is an important way we live out our Christian calling. Following Jesus overflows into shaping our surroundings with the values of the Gospel. In this weekend's edition of *Our Sunday Visitor*, journalist David Mills tackles a tough subject. You can tell by the title. In case we run out of copies of the OSV newspaper, here's the article online: <https://osvnews.com/2020/08/25/the-church-does-not-tell-us-who-we-can-and-cant-vote-for-and-heres-why/> It's actually a straightforward application of what the Church has held for years. For a quick video summary of the bishops' teaching, see <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/videos-for-faithful-citizenship>.

**CONFESSIONAL - IN** response to a note I received, we've reconfigured the area behind the altar used for Confessions. There is now a screen and the opportunity for anonymity in celebrating Jesus' Mercy.

St. Alphonsus Altar Society **WILL** be having the Fall Supper on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. **We will be doing take outs only, with serving time from 3:00 to 6:30pm. There will be NO cake walk this year. More details to follow.**

**FRIDAY MASSES.** Beginning August 21<sup>st</sup>, 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.

**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. 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.

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

Interested in gardening? Interested in a ministry to help the parish? How about helping out with the upkeep of the landscaping around the Parish Center. We are looking for someone who would like to help out with keeping our landscaping looking nice or someone who would like to be in charge of finding people to help out with that duty. For more details please contact Father Michael or Lisa Howatt at 256-3757