

**THE SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

JANUARY 17, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for January 24th Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

What message would you give to today's great cities?

What sacrifice are you doing in reparation of your sins?

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Couples: How have you already lived "as if you were not married?"

Consumers: How have you "acted as if you owned nothing?"

Mark 1:14-20

What do you need to leave behind in order to better follow Jesus?

How can you be a better disciples in your everyday work?

WEEKDAY MASSES January 19 - 22

Tues: 5:00 pm +Paul Kram

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Maggie Kappes

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Dorothy Kroetsch

Fri: 12:05 am +Rallan Beck

WEEKEND MASSES January 23 – 24

Sat: St. Edward's - Nekoma NO MASS AT NEKOMA TODAY

5:00 pm St. Alphonsus +Gert Wild
Reader: Nancy Kram
EMHC: Carol Hoffarth

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Sally Stremick & People of the Parishes
Reader: Greg Fetsch
EMHC: Harvey Metzger
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

St. Michael's – Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Gerry Tholkes
Reader: Jenny Chaput
EMHC: Bev Otto
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

Fellowship Hall Host: LaVern & Margaret Chaput

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 January 10, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$6,410.00
Intentional Givers	\$2,483.67
Plate	\$131.27
Children's	\$40.00
Total	\$9,064.94

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's readings are about the importance of hearing properly, about listening with the heart. The boy Samuel mishears as he is lying on his bed. When the Lord calls him, he mistakenly believes it is his guardian Eli calling him. Only after the third call does Eli finally understand that what Samuel is really hearing is the call of God. Samuel's response – "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening" – indicates the prerequisite for the perfect disciple: a commitment to listening to the voice of God and carrying it out. In fact, we are told that not only was the Lord with Samuel, but that the Lord let no word of Samuel's "fall to the ground" - an indication that Samuel was so in tune with the Lord's voice, with the Lord's mind and intentions, that everything Samuel spoke rang true and came to pass. Authentic hearing results in authentic speaking and acting.

In the Gospel, the two disciples of John the Baptist are also in listening mode. They have committed to following John in response to an inner call from God. And yet now John, in effect, sends them away to listen to the voice of another – Jesus, "the lamb of God". It's not that they have been mishearing by listening to John. But John knows that a deeper listening is now needed, that there is someone better to listen to, someone – as John would go on to say – more powerful than he, someone filled with God's Holy Spirit. The two disciples go home with Jesus at about 4 p.m. and spend the rest of the day with him, listening to him. And Jesus' words, like Samuel's, are effective: in those few hours, they transform Andrew so dramatically that he is able to say to his brother Peter: "We have found the Messiah." They have found what their inner voice had called them to look for.

Taken from The Living Word

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, 'What are you looking for?'" - JOHN 1:38

What are you looking for? Are you wasting your time looking for the material comforts of the world? Or, is your heart longing for something deeper that can only be found by spending time with God? Take time, each day, in silence and ask the Lord what it is that He wants you to do.

Giving Hearts Day: St. Alphonsus School will participate in its first Giving Hearts Day in February. Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour fundraising event for non-profits in North Dakota and northwest Minnesota. Since the first event in 2008, generous donors have given more than \$90 million – 100% of which goes directly to participating charities.

Wanted! Match donors. We are looking for up to 7 donors for our \$7,000 match pool, please contact Carrie at 256-2354 or email at carrie.hope@k12.nd.us.

Wanted! Giving Hearts Day donors! Donate online any time on Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021 at givingheartsday.org. Checks are also welcome on the day of the event, they must be dated February 11 and can be dropped off at our school. We will reserve special parking spots in front of our school for Giving Hearts Day donors who wish to donate in person.

100th Anniversary Celebration Planning Committee: We are starting a committee to plan our big 100th celebration weekend in July of 2021. We know that plans can change, but we want to be prepared to welcome alumni home if we are able to do so. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Carrie at 256-2354 or email at carrie.hope@k12.nd.us.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for January – 16 - Becky Overby & Pam Paulson,
23- RuthAnn Olson & Lori Benoit, 30 - Brooke Downs & Gael Balsdon

Redeemed Women's Conference Cancelled - Due to the ongoing concerns regarding the current pandemic, the Redeemed Trusted Sisters Women's Conference that was scheduled for February 19-20, 2021 has been cancelled. We look forward to bringing you more Redeemed conferences in the future.

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 a 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 March 5 – 7 in Fargo. For more information visit HelpOurMarriage.com or contact us at 701-356-7962 or via email at RedRiverRetrouvaille@fargodiocese.org.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Catholic Daughters meeting on Monday, February 1st at 7:00pm in the KC Room.

The Business Office is looking for a medium sized safe. If anyone has one they would donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Just a reminder there is a **parent meeting** for the First Eucharist & Confirmation kids on Wednesday, January 20th at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall.

RETRIEVE FAMILY XMAS TREE BULBS, otherwise, at the end of the month, they will be packed up until next year. Thank you! It is good to see this beautiful display of our families 'hanging together'—especially when COVID has us so often separated.

SLEEPING JOSEPH - Pope Francis has been speaking about his personal devotion to St Joseph for years. Pope Francis has had a statue of a sleeping St. Joseph on his desk for decades. He brought the statue from Argentina to the Vatican when he was elected pope.

At the world meeting of families in the Philippines, Jan 2015, he told how he places slips of paper under his statue of a sleeping St. Joseph when he has a special problem. I was actually there at St. Peter's when Pope Francis celebrated the inaugural Mass of his pontificate on March 19, the feast of St. Joseph.

The Pope reminds us, "The child Jesus slept with the protection of Joseph. Even when he is asleep, Joseph is taking care of the Church! Yes! We know that he can do that. So when I have a problem, a difficulty, I write a little note and I put it underneath St. Joseph, so that he can dream about it!" Francis encourages everyone to rest in prayer and dream.

In rest, God revealed his will to Joseph. When we take a break or lay down for the night, God is also speaking to us. Precisely what we hear in the first reading this weekend about Samuel.

Joseph is a model father and a diligent worker. We are especially blessed to celebrate this year in his honor (Dec 8, 2020 – Dec 8, 2021) as we move ahead with our church restoration project.

Our Sleeping Joseph will remain in place until the Feast of Candlemas, February 2.

For your fridge or wallet:

O Saint Joseph, the Angel of the Lord appeared to you in dreams. As you slept, you received warnings and guidance about how to care for the Holy Family. Silent and strong, loyal and courageous, you protected what was entrusted to you.

As you rest in the Lord, I entrust to you my dreams and cares _____ . Help me to listen. Give me a share in your great confidence in the Lord's power and goodness. With your help, I arise to undertake my responsibilities with love for the praise of God. Amen.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Parish Council meets this Tuesday evening. Tucker Regner, our youth rep on the Council, has put together a Power Point presentation so that we can view and discuss what different Council members have learned by traveling the area and checking out a wide variety of churches. Once our imaginations are sufficiently stirred, we will begin narrowing down what works for us. By late Febr, we hope to be close to having a solid proposal we can lay before the eyes of the Parish.

THE VOCATION OFFICE of the Diocese of Fargo is sponsoring a Discernment Weekend at Maryvale Convent in Valley City for guys 16 and older who are open to a vocation to the priesthood. The weekend will bring together young men to pray about their vocations, and join with several priests and seminarians to hear about their call and how they discerned the Lord's will. This weekend will shed light upon what is often a difficult decision. No cost for the weekend, but pre-registration is required at www.fargodiocese.org/vdw.

St. Alphonsus School is collecting Box Tops, Our Family Brand UPC codes, loaves4learning UPC codes on the Dakota Heart products, used printer ink cartridges and Coca-Cola bottle and box lids. The Coca-Cola box codes are on the little flap that you pull off the top. The codes consist of lots of number and letters. All these items can be dropped off at the entrance of the school and church and at the Bread Pan Bakery. We turn in these items to get money for our school. Thank you for your continued support.