

**SIXTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

MAY 9, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for May 16th Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Are you willing to receive and use the blessings, gifts of Jesus to promote His mission?

Ephesians 1:17-23

Do you trust the grace of God will be with you at all times?

Mark 16:15-20

Are you willing to say "Jesus is Lord" of your life and live accordingly?

WEEKDAY MASSES May 11 - 14

Tues: 5:00 pm +Tom, Josie, Jean & Garth Downey

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** +Margaret Hiltner

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Ella Kram

Fri: 10:30 am **Osnabrock** +Mary Beth Sexton **(No Public is Allowed)**

WEEKEND MASSES May 15 - 16

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma + Alex & Delina Chaput & People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus Living & Deceased Members of Earl & Leda
Reader: Colin Fetsch Cleary Family
EMHC: Holly Lyons

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus Living & Deceased Members of Lou & Ann
Reader: Gary Metzger Jakoubek Family
EMHC: Daryl Kempel
Musicians: Bob & Cantor

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

10:30 am St. Alphonsus Living & Deceased Members of the Catholic
Reader: Catholic Daughters Daughters
EMHC: Catholic Daughters
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: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or by appointment

Weekly Reflection for May 2, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$4,560.00
Intentional Givers	\$2,876.67
Plate	\$292.00
Children	\$49.00
Total	\$7,777.67

Sixth Sunday of Easter

The laying down of life for life for love is the theme of today's Gospel. In these final weeks of Eastertide we listen once again to the words of Jesus at the Last Supper. Jesus offers himself as the model of love, willing to go so far as to suffer danger and death to express love. The second reading today explains this more fully. John is writing to the early Christian community and tells them, "My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God." And in the first reading we learn that God loves everybody. Peter has been hesitant to go into the home of Cornelius, because he is a Roman soldier, outside the Jewish faith community. But when he does, then suddenly the Holy Spirit is poured forth upon that home. The people receive the Spirit just as the first disciples did after Jesus rose from the dead. Peter says, "they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have".

Loving as Jesus loved will require sacrifice. Love is not just a sentimental, warm, fuzzy feeling: it's a conscious decision to share ourselves with others, to give of ourselves for the sake of another. Taken from The Living Word

6th Sunday of Easter

"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends" - JOHN 15:12-13

Do you love Jesus? Do you consider Him your friend? Jesus says that if we love Him we would be willing to offer whatever we have to Him, not because we want praise and glory, but simply because we love Him. Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

Congratulations

2021 St. Alphonsus Catholic School Eighth Grade Graduates

Shanna Gette and Victor Long

You are invited to the St. Alphonsus Catholic School Eighth Grade Graduation on Tuesday, May 18th at 5:00pm Mass at the church with a reception and slide show to follow in the Parish Center

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for May - 8 - Penny Hoffarth & Janine Witzel; 15 - Darlene Christianson & Heather Horpestad; 22- Jane Hart & Sharon Livingood; 29 - Peggy Gross & Andrea Moser

SUNDAY MASS - "Beginning May 1, 2021," wrote Bishop Folda, "the general obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is reinstated in the Diocese of Fargo." The COVID pandemic changed many things for us. Little by little, we've come to this moment where we can welcome people back to celebrate the gifts of our faith. As we begin down this road of crafting post-pandemic church life, the Responsorial Psalm for this 5th Sunday of Easter rings wonderful: *"I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people."*

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the Eucharist "the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice." As a result, "the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin" (2181).

Hope everyone has had a chance to read bishop's article in the *New Earth*. He noted many exemptions to the obligation. We count on everyone to do what their conscience tells them is best.

ROCKS - It's that time again. Please drop off rocks either behind the rectory or on the property west of the church with the empty green house. I'll find a place for them. If you want me to come out to your farm and clear off some rock piles (not boulders!, but 10-75 lbs), just give me directions and I'll be there.

Catholic Daughter's Gift Case – if you are interested in any of the remaining items that are left in the **Fellowship Hall** please call **Bev Otto 256-2646** or **Margaret Chaput 256-2901**.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Our Sympathy to the family of Richard Lorenz who was called home last week.
May she rest in the love of the Father.

St. Alphonsus 8th graduation will be held on Tuesday, May 18th beginning with the 5:00 Mass. Awards, class speech, and slideshow will be presented following Mass. Reception will follow in the St. Alphonsus fellowship hall honoring our graduates.

St. Alphonsus School Kindergarten Graduation will be on Wednesday, May 26th at the 8:40am Mass.

CATHOLIC RURAL LIFE & ST. ISIDORE - A few months ago, St. Alphonsus became enrolled as participants in Catholic Rural Life. Perhaps you've seen their periodical, a quarterly, available in the vestibule.

Catholic Rural Life (CRL) is a national, Catholic nonprofit organization dedicated to the vitality of the American countryside. Since 1923, we have been promoting Catholic life in rural America.

Headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, CRL is a membership-based organization, comprised of dedicated bishops, laity, and religious who are joined in a common effort to serve the rural Church, rural people, and their communities.

Our vision is thriving families, farms, and parishes – centered on faith, community, and care of creation.

While the issues that affect rural communities have changed over the decades, CRL's commitment to rural America has never wavered. Today, we advance our mission through various priorities including: Thriving in Rural Ministry; Local CRL Chapters; Life in Christ Lay Leadership; And more. For more information contact: info@CatholicRuralLife.org.

One thing CRL promotes is the feast day of Sts Isidore and Maria, patron saints of farmers.

When he was barely old enough to wield a hoe, Isidore entered the service of a wealthy landowner from Madrid. He worked faithfully on his estate for the rest of his life. He married a young woman as simple and upright as himself, Maria de la Cabeza. They had one son, who died as a child.

Isidore had deep religious instincts. He rose early in the morning to go to church and spent many a holiday devoutly visiting the churches of Madrid. All day long, walking behind the plow, he communed with God. His devotion became a problem. Fellow workers complained that he showed up late after lingering in church too long.

He loved the poor and had a great concern for the proper treatment of animals. He died May 15, 1130, and was declared a saint in 1622.

One way Catholics have honored Sts Isidore & Maria is by blessing crosses to be placed in fields and gardens. Would anyone be interested in making a basketful for our parishioners? Call Fr Michael if interested.

FAMILY VISIT - My Mom and Dad together with my sister Cathy will be joining me next weekend for a visit. They tried to come last August, but covid forced them to stay home. They're arriving in the Twin Cities, will stay with my sister Ann Marie and her family in St. Cloud for a few days, then rent a car and drive to Langdon, arriving Saturday, May 15, leaving the following Tuesday. They're great people; hope you enjoy their company.

THANK YOU FROM THE FOOD PANTRY - "Dear Father and St. Alphonsus Church, Thank you for your generous donation. The money will go to help the households we serve in the Cavalier County area. Your willingness to help vulnerable families is ever more critical now that we are in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic. Your generosity provides meals to families. Thank you again! The Food Pantry Board Members" Received around Easter.

LITURGY SPEAKER - Paige Stransky, a Liturgical Design Consultant from Colorado, visited St. Alphonsus a few weeks ago. She is in the diocese working with several area churches. She plans to return at the end of the month to offer us some spiritual and catechetical reflections that will help orient the choices before us. Stay tuned.

St. Edward's Church cleaning for May/June – Joan Viger, Carol Novacek & Geri Newgard