

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

JULY 18, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for July 25th 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kings 4:42-44

When have you been afraid you would not have enough food?

What other times of need have called for you to trust there would be enough?

Ephesians 4:1-6

What recent experiences have tested our humility, meekness, patience?

Call upon the Holy Spirit for unity and peace in your family, church, world.

John 6:1-15

Bring to Jesus in prayer, something you know you cannot do by yourself.

Thank him for the miracle of loaves and fish, for the gift of Eucharist.

WEEKDAY MASSES July 20 - 23

Tues: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

Wed: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

Thurs: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

Fri: **NO MASS TODAY – FR. IS OUT OF TOWN**

WEEKEND MASSES July 24 - 25

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

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Kathy Kram

Reader: Colin Fetsch

EMHC: Holly Lyons

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Jack Bisenius

Reader: Darlene Brooks

EMHC: Darlene Brooks

Musicians: Bob & Choir

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

10:30 am St. Alphonsus Living & Deceased Members of the Zeis Family

Reader: Dennis Horpestad

EMHC: Darlene Rutledge

Musicians: Bob & Choir

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 July 11, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$3,690.77
Intentional Givers	\$0.00
Plate	\$330.00
Children	\$24.00
Improvements	\$5.00
Total	\$4,049.77

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the first chapter of Mark's Gospel, the people respond to Jesus because he teaches with authority. The basis for their appreciation is that he has just shown them how he can cure sick people. In other words he backs up his words with actions. In today's Gospel Jesus welcomes back his disciples, who have been displaying the same gifts in their first mission by themselves. The Gospel understanding of authority is identical with the idea of authenticity. You cannot just make statements and declarations. You have to give evidence to back up your arguments. The Gospel of Jesus is one of repentance, of the need to change our lives. The change of life is in itself a getting rid of any darkness in our lives, whether it be physical or spiritual. Jesus has the power to enable us to make this change and he uses that power.

In much of this section of Mark's Gospel Jesus is in conflict with those who think and behave differently from him. Quite often it is the scribes and the Pharisees, but today's Gospel follows the story of the death of John the Baptist, in which we are faced with the conflict between the ruling forces and the message of truth. It is a forewarning of what will happen to Jesus himself. We remember that the first readers of Mark's Gospel were Christians who themselves were having to deal with persecution and the opposition of both family and former friends. Jesus himself is no stranger to such conflicts. Taken from The Living Word

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." ~ MARK 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.

ST. JOHN HENRY NEWMAN - Last week, I offered a snip-it of his words on how we're each destined to play a role in God's plan. Here is the complete text for your deeper meditation (something for your fridge or prayer book):

1. God was all-complete in Himself, but it was His will to create a world for His glory. It has been His will to bring about His purposes by the beings He has created. We are all created to His glory--we are created to do His will. I am created to do something or to be something for which no one else is created; I have a place in God's counsels which no one else has; whether I be rich or poor, despised or esteemed by man, God knows me and calls me by my name.

2. God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission--I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. Somehow I am necessary for His purposes--if indeed, I fail, He can raise another, as He could make the stones children of Abraham. Yet I have a part in this great work: I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work; I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my calling.

3. Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be thrown away. If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him; in perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him; if I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him. My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be necessary causes of some great end, which is quite beyond us. He does nothing in vain; He may prolong my life, He may shorten it. He may take my friends, He may throw me among strangers, He may make me feel desolate, hide the future from me--still He knows what He is about.

4. O my God, I give myself to You. I trust You wholly. You are wiser than I—more loving to me than I myself. Deign to fulfill Your high purposes in me whatever they be; work in and through me. I am born to serve You, to be Yours, to be Your instrument. Let me be Your blind instrument. I ask not to see, I ask not to know—I ask simply to be used.

CATECHIST RETREAT: Friday, August 27, Maryvale, Valley City or Saturday, August 28, Lake Metigoshe Ministries, Bottineau. Come away for a day of retreat at Maryvale, Valley City or Lake Metigoshe Ministries, Bottineau, where Fr. Andrew Jasinski will direct a retreat with a series of talks reflecting on the words, "Go to Joseph". These retreats are primarily for those involved in catechesis, however, all are welcome. The day will begin at 9:00am and end at 4:00pm. Deadline to register for these retreats is Thursday, August 19. Please register on-line at www.fargodiocese.org/catechistretreat. Any questions please contact mary.hanbury@fargodiocese.org. 701-356-7909.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OFFICE HOURS: The week starting July 19th Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am – 12:00pm

Our Sympathy to the families of Gloria Johnson & Mary Loff who were called home recently. May they rest in the love of the Father.

There will do NO daily Mass July 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29 & 30th - Fr. is out of town

The St. Alphonsus School will hold its 5th Annual Rummage Sale in the Parish Center on **Wednesday, July 28th** from 12:00-6:00 and on **Thursday, July 29th** from 9:00-12:00. If you wish to donate items for this event, items can be dropped off on Tuesday, July 27th from 12:00-4:00. Please **DO NOT DONATE** the following items: exercise equipment, electronics, clothing, Tupperware, or damaged goods. If you have any questions about the sale, please contact Carol Girodat @ 370-8527, Sue Bata @ 370-1458, or Carrie Hope @ 370-9848.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL CENTENNIAL - We are very pleased to welcome Bishop Folda this Saturday, July 17, to celebrate Mass for us at 4:00pm.

What a remarkable occasion to celebrate a whole century of passing on the Catholic Faith and offering our students an environment rich in humanity and love of Jesus Christ.

We salute our teachers-students-staff, living and deceased, who have poured their life's energies into this great work. We thank the Holy Spirit for the fountain of grace that has enabled this community to keep this vision alive and all the sacrifices it has required. We thank the St. Alphonsus School Foundation for underwriting this event and their decades of service in support of the mission of Catholic education. A special welcome and thanks to all our alumni gathered this weekend.

As we proudly look to our past and celebrate an impressive milestone, we set our sights on the century ahead full of promise and challenges. May all who share our joy this weekend continue to walk and work with us. The foundations once laid must continue to form young adults. The world needs young people beaming with courage and conviction derived from the wisdom of our Catholic tradition. God has a place for each of them.

Keep us in your prayers. Support us as you are able.

The mission of St. Alphonsus School is to inspire student achievement by teaching the total person and fostering the following of Christ in an environment guided by the Gospel spirit, as taught by the Catholic Church.

St. A's School stands proudly on a noble past and launches boldly into a second century full of purpose. *O love the Lord all you his Saints!* Psalm 31:23

MY NIECE'S WEDDING This Sunday afternoon, I leave for Ohio to witness the wedding of my niece Genevieve Hickin to Alex. I'm flying out of Bismarck, visiting a family whose marriage I witnessed 15 years ago, and also visit a former parishioner from Harvey recently hospitalized there.

I return late on Thursday, July 29. During my absence, I regret that I could find no area priests to take our daily Masses. Next weekend, we will be welcoming Fr. James Quinlan who will speak to the community on behalf of the poor. Please give him a good listen and a warm welcome.

GLACIER BACKPACKING - Once returned from Ohio for 3 days, I'm off again to be chaplain for a group of young adults hiking in Glacier National Park, returning the following Saturday.

ANONYMOUS LETTER BUSINESS - Many have reached out in response to the news about letters being sent to Bishop asking for my removal. Thank You! Part of what's happening is some people are scared about the upcoming interior renovations. To put everyone's hearts at ease, we will not be doing anything without the full collaboration of the Parish Council and Bishop Folda's permission. There is no reason to fear the pastor is going to do some sudden unwelcome make-over. The way forward will unfold along a path of broad consensus. Let's be patient. We'll get there.

St. Edward's Church cleaning for July/August – Cheryl Wilhelmi & Judy Hammer