

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

AUGUST 22, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for August 29th 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

What commandments has our nation subtracted?

How do our statutes compare with God's law in wisdom?

James 1:17-27

What worthwhile gifts have you received from God?

How have you shown God's care for others lately?

Mark 7:1-8, 14-23

What evils are still coming forth from within you?

Are there any teachings you profess to believe but don't practice?

WEEKDAY MASSES August 24 - 27

Tues: 5:00 pm +Joe J. & Jerry Kram & +Dorothy Schneider

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass Living & Deceased Members of St. Alphonsus School & +Richard Lorenz**

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Dorothy & Larry Schroeder & +Robert, Judy & Robbie Howell

Fri: 10:30 am **Maple Manor** +Jack Bisenius & +Bill & Kathleen Delvo **(No Public is Allowed)**

WEEKEND MASSES August 28 - 29

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

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus

+Helen Allen & Deceased Members of Tony Kram

Reader:

Nancy Kram

Family

EMHC:

Carol Hoffarth

Sun:

8:30 am St. Alphonsus

+Wayne Gendreau

Reader:

Carleen Schill

EMHC:

Alan Schill

Musicians:

Bob & Choir

St. Michael's - Wales

NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus

+Mauris Chaput

Reader:

Dennis Horpestad

EMHC:

Carla Horpestad

Musicians:

Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Wil & Sue Schill

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 August 15, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$3,146.00
Intentional Givers	\$2,663.67
Plate	\$349.00
Children	\$20.00
Total	\$6,178.67

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

One of the most poignant events in the Old Testament is when old Joshua assembled God's people at Shechem, just before he died. He wanted to hear them make a decision an irrevocable decision, either to serve or to desert God: to make their decision and then to stand by it for life. And to his joy he heard them echo his own vow, "We have no intention of deserting the Lord... We too will serve the Lord, for is our God."

One of the most poignant events in the New Testament is towards the end of the sermon Jesus preached about the bread of life, when he declared that, "Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world." Some of his followers said, "This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?" And many of them left him. Then came that most heart-breaking moment when Jesus turned to the twelve apostles: "What about you, do you want to go away too?" Like Joshua he calls for a decision. And Peter spoke for them all, "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God."

Many Catholic today find some Catholic teaching difficult. St. Paul, in the second reading, instructs wives to obey their husbands. That will strike some as "intolerable language", and indeed in Catholic marriage vows brides have never promised to obey their husbands. But before we get too annoyed with St. Paul, let us notice his next words: "Husbands should love their wives just a Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her." Jesus never made unreasonable demands on the Church, nor must husbands make unreasonable demands on their wives. Rather must a husband sacrifice himself for love of her. And they form one body. This was breakthrough teaching on the status of women and marriage.

Taken from the Living Word

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If it does not please you to serve the Lord, decide today whom you will serve...As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." ~ JOSHUA 24:15

When we commit to serve the Lord, we must be willing to become a disciple in the work of the Lord. A disciple is a person who spends time in prayer every day, joyfully participates in charitable works and generously supports their local parish and Church mission. If we say we serve God, we must actually do something and not merely talk about it!

THE BREAD OF LIFE - As we finish listening to John chap 6, we end our 5-Part Series on The Mass.

Section Two, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, part three *Communion and Dismissal*.

Following the Great Amen of the Eucharistic Prayer, we enter the **Communion Rite**. It begins when the priest introduces the *Our Father* and we all pray these solemn words together. Crafted by Jesus himself, this prayer holds pride of place in the rich treasury of prayer passed down through the ages. Each week, against the background of your life, the familiar phrases can take on new light and meaning. Afterwards, a special prayer of deliverance follows continuing the last line of the *Lord's Prayer*.

We then enter the *Sign of Peace*. The priest recalls Jesus' farewell gift of peace to the Apostles, "Peace I leave you, my peace I give you." Then I always look up when I beg God, "look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church..." We are not a perfect people, but we are here together gathered around this most marvelous Sacrament. We want to reach out to one another with pure hearts, nothing against anybody. The Sign of Peace is a sign of the oneness we prayed the Holy Spirit to accomplish during the Eucharistic Prayer. This fraternal bond of peace is an excellent way to prepare for receiving Jesus in Holy Communion.

Singing the *Lamb of God*, we beg for that Mercy that does in fact unite us. This is a kind of processional chant, during which the priest retrieves the ciborium full of consecrated Hosts from the tabernacle. At the altar, he breaks the large Host and drops a small piece in the chalice of Precious Blood. This is called the *Fraction Rite*. This mingling symbolizes the union of Jesus' Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. The species (bread and wine) were consecrated separately to symbolize Jesus' Death. They are now reunited to profess his Resurrection.

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

Lector and EMHC Schedule are in the sacristy. Please take your copy.

Mark your calendars - St. Alphonsus Altar Society Fall Supper will be on Sunday, October 17th at the St. Alphonsus Cafeteria. Raffles tickets are being sold.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for August - 21 – Ruth Ann Olson & Janet Hall; 28 – Janet Hall & Kim Schneider

The St Alphonsus Religious Education Department is in need of volunteer teachers for this upcoming year. Classes will be starting on September 22nd. As of right now the program needs 5 teachers. Please contact Carla Horpestad @ 370-0594 for more information. Teachers can pick up the Teacher's Manuals in the RE Office on Wednesday's in September. Thank you and God bless.

SEPTEMBER 15 – PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS. Wednesday evening, September 15, Paige Stransky, a liturgical design consultant from Colorado Springs, CO will present at our parish. Bishop Folda recommended her in the early Spring, and Paige visited St. Alphonsus in April. Building on her observations, she will discuss the spiritual and catechetical foundations of church design.

FOR OUR CHILDREN - At an earlier Parish Council meeting, we discussed the possibility of a special Liturgy of the Word for Children. This would entail leading the children into the Fellowship Hall after we sing the Gloria until after the homily. In the Hall, there would be a simple, concise form of the readings with a craft or appropriate illustration. Of course, this requires some coordination and guidance. If anyone, adult or teen, is interested in this ministry, please contact the parish office or Fr. Michael.

ALTAR SERVERS AND GREETERS - These two ministries have been missing for some time. Stay tuned for further information.

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In ancient times, this mingling of the Host in the chalice was done by a deacon bringing a fragment of the host from the Mass of the bishop, representing the unity of the Church through the college of Apostles and their successors, the bishops.

Then the priest raises the Host above the chalice and shows them to the people. In words taken from the mouth of John the Baptist on the shores of the Jordan River, the priest invites the people to look upon their Lord, “Behold the Lamb of God...” They look upon him who has taken upon himself all the sins of the world. This is a moment of sheer, solemn joy: “Blessed are they who are called to the supper of the Lamb.” The word “blessed” means “happy” in this context. It is a reference to the great joy of those in Heaven as we read in Scripture, “Then the angel said to me, ‘Write this: Blessed are those who have been called to the wedding feast of the Lamb.’ (Rev 19:9).

All respond in the words of the centurion in Mt 8:8, “Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.” By this statement, we intend to receive Jesus as a true friend with a pure heart and healed soul.

The faithful then approach the sanctuary in procession to receive Holy Communion. This is a perfect picture of a pilgrim people, journeying through this life's ups and downs to Jesus who leads this great pilgrimage to the Father.

If there is no Communion Song, the priest prays or leads the people in praying a Communion Antiphon. Often, we try to have a period of silence. Being together in quiet with all focused on the Presence of Jesus within us and binding us together in a great mystery of unspeakable Love is indeed a precious moment. There follows the Prayer after Communion special to each celebration. Here, the priest asks God that the Eucharistic Mystery have an impact on our lives. Thus ends the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

The priest blesses the people and sends them forth to love and serve one another and the Lord. In Latin, the priest says “Ite missa est,” meaning ‘Go, the congregation is sent forth.’ From this word *missa* (related to ‘mission’) we derive our word “Mass,” by which we refer to the whole Eucharistic celebration.

I hope this has been a helpful review.