

On the face of it, it might seem from today's Gospel that Jesus taught in parables in order to prevent his hearers from understanding. But such a purpose is completely alien to the character of Jesus. Jesus used parables as an effective way of teaching. Those who were open to him received more. Those who had closed their minds against him received less. The fault lay not with Jesus but with the receiver.

The early Church adapted the parables to the new situation in which they found themselves. The shorter form is most likely the original form of the parable. The explanation reflects the missionary experience of the early Church. It accounts for the relative failure of the message of Jesus. The shallow mind, the hard heart, worldly preoccupations, persecution – these are precisely the obstacles that have frustrated the growth of faith. As the First Reading suggests, the rain always produces positive results; eventually somewhere the earth responds and becomes fruitful. So God persists with his word until he gets a response.

**New Wine Deadlines Extended:** Those interested in being part of the New Wine group that begins in the fall of 2017 have new extended deadlines. This program provides education and formation for adults interested in being involved in lay ministry. **The deadline for submitting names and email addresses is Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> and the deadline for submitting completed applications is Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup>.** If you have any questions about the program, or if you need an application, please call Leo Trahan at the Office of Religious Education (228) 702-2131.

**An Altar Server Training** is scheduled for Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon with lunch being served afterwards in the Parish Hall. All altar servers, and anyone wishing to become an altar server (must have already made First Holy Communion), are asked to please attend this training. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served for lunch - we ask that you call or email the Rectory Office (875-5419 / [stals@cablone.net](mailto:stals@cablone.net)) if your child plans on staying for lunch and let us know which food choice your child would like.

**Important Notice** We will continue to only have one Mass during the weekday at least through the end of July. Listed below is the schedule for daily Mass

(The Mass schedule for Saturday and Sunday will remain the same)

**Monday and Tuesday**  
There will only be a 6:30 a.m. Mass

**Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday**  
There will only be an 8:15 a.m. Mass

**To date 157 pledges (out of 1008 registered families) have been made which total \$63,441.00. This gives the Parish an average of \$2,444.00 on our parish goal of \$60,997.00.**

If you have not yet given to this year's Catholic Sharing Appeal, you can still make a contribution. Remember – all funds raised over our goal are returned to the parish for our use. We thank those who have responded to help the less fortunate in our community.

**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Clarence Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Sally Fero Conklin, Gina Dasher, Betty Dugan, Marthann Eilo, Jackie Endt, Loretta Foster, Nora Foster, Joey Fountain, Carmen Gaethe, Doris Haynes, Ron Hoogstra, Margaret Betty Horton, Lucia Hourihan, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Earline Huster, Tommy Jones, Theresa Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Audrey King, Ann Eleece Kouns, Jeff Kouns, Daisie Laborde, John Langan, Nathaniel LaSalle, Catherine Lawrence, Bob Mayer, Bernie McGinley, Phyllis McGinley, Mary Mendenhall, Patricia Merlau, Edna Miguez, Deacon Greg Miller, Eunice Misko, Robert M. Mitchell, Margaret Murray, Sophia Myers, Patricia Liscoe Nance, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Chandra Nicholson, Edwin O'Connor, III, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Hayden Pilgrim, Nony Raether, Anna Raley, Elba Smolcich, Edna Spell, Lorraine St. Onge, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Katie Swanson, Gertie Templet, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, Jane Walker and Barry Zuber.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JULY 17</b>
Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Matthew 10:34—11:1	
6:30 am	Miss Catherine Luminais
8:15 am	No Mass
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 18</b>
Exodus 2:1-15a; Matthew 11:20-24	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 am	No Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 19</b>
Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Matthew 11:25-27	
6:30 am	No Mass
8:15 am	Ms. Karen Mary Pisarich Mr. Randy Pisarich
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JULY 20</b>
Exodus 3:13-20; Matthew 11:28-30	
6:30 am	No Mass
8:15 am	Mr. Bill Eckert
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JULY 21</b>
Exodus 11:10—12:14; Matthew 12:1-8	
6:30 am	No Mass
8:15 am	Ms. Irene Nelson Powers
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JULY 22</b>
Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18	
8:15 am	Ms. Jeanette Larson Lawrence T. and Joan Kelly Mr. Jay Holtorf Mr. Harry Leaghty Ms. Joyce Brune Ms. Anita Grace White
4:00 pm	Ms. Marguerite Mihojevich
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JULY 23</b>
Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43	
7:30 am	Congregation
9:00 am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
11:30 am	Ms. Berthe Mangin
5:30 pm	Ms. Ligaya Camagong

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$13,783.52  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.

**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Jerry Burdine, Sr.** father of Suzanne Riviere of this parish, who passed away July 7<sup>th</sup>. **Your prayers are also requested for the repose of the soul of Verona "Nonie" Mohler,** mother of David (Theresa) Mohler of this parish, who passed away July 8<sup>th</sup>. We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

**Altar Society Members for next week:  
Jean Michaud and Joicelyn Mayfield**



**The Flowers in front of the Altar  
are in Memory of Ann Gordon**

## Religious Education News

Pat Cronin – 872-2652; [pcronin@cablone.net](mailto:pcronin@cablone.net); [www.stal.cc](http://www.stal.cc)

**Anyone who wishes their child(ren) to be in the St. Alphonsus Religious Education Program this coming fall** should start to accumulate the necessary documents for registration. Copies of **both** the Birth Certificate **and** Baptismal Certificate will be required for each child. This is especially true of Second Grade and Eleventh Grade.

**RCIA Classes will begin on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.** Anyone interested in being a part of this group is asked to call the Religious Education Office and give your name, phone number and e-mail so we might appraise you of coming events. Who should consider coming to RCIA? Anyone interested in knowing more about the Roman Catholic Church and faith; those wishing to just know more about the Church; those wishing for membership in the Church; those wanting a refresher course in the Church and faith; those wishing for the fullness of Confirmation if not received. It is an interesting way to learn more about the Catholic Church from a well-informed team of parishioners.

### Family and Youth Calendar

Jane Sema 228-217-1392 [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)

**National Catholic Youth Convention (NCYC):** The Diocese will be taking a bus to Indianapolis, Indiana for NCYC November 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the trip is \$550 and includes: registration, travel by bus, some meals, hotel, a t-shirt and give-a-ways at the Convention. If you are between the ages of 15-19 (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades) and are interested in participating, please contact Jane Sema.



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bookstore is closed for summer break and will reopen on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

## BUY A TICKET

**St. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

**THANKSGIVING HOME GIVEAWAY**

15021 Dismuke Drive  
Biloxi Mississippi 39532

Single Family Residence  
2,110 Sq Ft Living Space  
240 Sq Ft Porch  
Central Heat & AC  
All Appliances Included  
Elevator, Custom Cabinets  
Granite Countertops & More!

DRAWING TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> 2017  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
**LOCAL St. VINCENT DE PAUL**  
Call 228-334-4408 for more information  
[www.svdphomegiveaway.com](http://www.svdphomegiveaway.com)

**Tickets for the St. Vincent de Paul Society Thanksgiving Home Giveaway are available in the Rectory Office (during regular business hours) for \$100 per ticket\*.** (\*if 2,500 tickets or less are sold, a cash prize of \$100,000 will be awarded to the winner in lieu of the home)

“The Catechism says... [2705] you need to meditate more. You need to take time not just to pray vocal prayer, but to take time to ponder the word of God, to reflect on Scripture every day. Fifteen minutes a day in the morning, thirty minutes a day in the morning, take time to read the word of God every day and meditate on, just ponder, the words. Take a passage of Scripture, take the reading for the day, and reflect on it. Because Jesus says the ‘the good soil is the one who hears the word and understands it.’ And you are never going to understand it unless you meditate, unless you ponder that word, and make it a part of your life, and take it not just into your ears, but into your hearts as well.”  
--Dr. Brant Pitre

## \*\*School Subsidy Policy\*\*

**Registration for the 2017/2018 School Year Going on Now**

St. Alphonsus Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Parish Staff, wishes to reiterate the established policy concerning subsidy of our young people at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School.

In order for students to receive subsidized tuition at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School, the following must be followed:

1. The Family must be registered in St. Alphonsus Parish
2. Contribute to the support of the parish through the regular use of the envelope system or some other agreed upon service.
3. The family MUST attend weekend Mass with the Parish Family at St. Alphonsus.

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**July 25 / 26:** Final Registration, Front Office, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**July 25 / 26:** Final Registration 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**July 27:** Final Registration 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.



**At St. Alphonsus Church we are pursuing opportunities to foster a stronger parish life and better engage the New Evangelization.** As part of these efforts we are happy to announce that St. Alphonsus

Church has its own app for Apple and Android phones.

Our app will allow us to send you useful and important messages throughout the week regarding our parish life and events, and allow you to reply to messages or RSVP for events.

There will be no need for parishioners with smart phones to remember to silence their phones before Mass. The app will send you a reminder to silence your phone 20 minutes before the Mass you select. Many more great features will be a help to all of us, such as daily Mass readings, Catholic news, prayers and prayer reminders, as well as quick access to our weekly bulletin, Church website and FORMED. Download the app by texting [App](http://App) to phone number [88202](tel:88202), or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com).

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You will be able to stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers and is available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. St. Alphonsus has a purchased subscription from Formed.org, which gives St. Alphonsus parishioners' FREE access to high quality Catholic programs, movies, downloadable audios and downloadable e-books. To gain access to the website go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org), enter our Parish Code f1f5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password and start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

 HOME	<b>Timely Featured Content</b> Home screen with curated featured content, updated regularly.	 BROWSE	<b>Simple &amp; Intuitive Browsing</b> Easily browse our vast library of Catholic content.
 SEARCH	<b>Quickly Find What You Seek</b> Search for any resource by title, keyword, author, publisher or presenter.	 	<b>Easy playback of Video &amp; Audio</b> Use the integrated media players to enjoy content any time.