

As Matthew relates it, the incident described in today's Gospel is clearly symbolic. The boat represents the Church; the disciples are beaten by the winds and the waves of persecution. Jesus is not with them physically; he is in heaven, praying to the Father. However, in the hour of need he comes to them, and with his presence calms their fears and brings them peace.

The incident of Peter sinking and being saved by Jesus is probably a reference to Peter's failure during the Passion, and his restoration after the resurrection. The writer would have known this, and almost certainly had it in mind when telling this story.

In any case, Peter represents the typical disciple, caught between faith and doubt. Jesus' rebuke, "Man of little faith! Why did you doubt?" is directed at us, who often start out courageously only to lose heart when faced with a crisis.

The prophet Elijah adopted a very militant, even bloodthirsty, approach in his battle against idolatry. Now on the run for his life, he takes refuge in a cave where he is taught that God's ways are not man's ways. God's approach is as gentle as a breeze.



**Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a Holy Day of Obligation.** Our Vigil Mass will be Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, Masses will be at 6:30 a.m.; 8:15 a.m. (school children will attend), and 6:00 p.m.

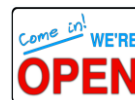


**Novena for our Nation – Praying the 54 day rosary novena for our freedom and faith in America.** Everyone from around the nation is encouraged to join the ranks as, united, we pray the powerful 54 Day Rosary Novena for our country. The novena begins on August 15th, the Feast of the

Assumption, and ends on October 7th, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. The time is now to call upon God through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary, to heal our country and return it to holiness. See the poster at the front of the Church for further details. Also, we encourage you to go to [www.novenaforournation.com](http://www.novenaforournation.com) to get complete information on this nationwide appeal, and to sign up for the daily reflections.



**The Rectory Office will be closed on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**



**The repairs are finally complete and the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bookstore will reopen for business on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. We thank you for your patience and understanding.**

**The Biloxi Diocese has announced plans for a new Formation Class for the Permanent Diaconate** to begin in the fall of 2018. Pre-selection information sessions will be conducted from 8:30 a.m. until 12 Noon on August 19<sup>th</sup> at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Hattiesburg; September 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Joseph Parish, Gulfport; and September 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish. For interested men, attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory, and your wife is required to attend. Please see your pastor, and for further information, call the Office of the Diaconate at 702-2107.



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Clarence Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Joy Cronin, Sally Fero Conklin, Gina Dasher, Betty Dugan, Marthann Elio, Jackie Endt, Jeremy Forehand, 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, June Krohn, 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, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Chandra Nicholson, Travis Norman, Charley Nowel, Edwin O'Connor, III, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Nony Raether, Anna Raley, Elba Smolcick, Joe Souza, Edna Spell, Lorraine St. Onge, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Katie Swanson, Gertie Templett, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, and Jane Walker.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 14</b>
Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Matthew 17:22-27	
6:30 am	Mr. Carlton Latour
8:15 am	Mr. Raymond Beaugez
1 Chron 15:3-4,15-16;16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28	
6:00 pm	Ms. Mary Skaar
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 15</b>
Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Int. Les and Beth McMackin
6:00 pm	The Eagan Family
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 16</b>
Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Matthew 18:15-20	
6:30 am	Ms. Joan Ryan
8:15 am	Freddie and Vera Lusk
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 17</b>
Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Matthew 18:21—19:1	
6:30 am	Mr. Andrew Justin Striegel
8:15 am	Ms. Dorothy Collins
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 18</b>
Joshua 24:1-13; Matthew 19:3-12	
6:30 am	Cyril and Catherine Ryan
8:15 am	Mass of Thanksgiving
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 19</b>
Joshua 24:14-29; Matthew 19:13-15	
8:15 am	Mr. Leland Lewis Adler
	Ms. Jeanette Larson
	Lawrence T. and Joan Kelly
	Mr. Jay Holtorf
	Ms. Joyce Brune
	Mr. Hunter Compton
4:00 pm	Mr. Terry Miller
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 20</b>
Isaiah 56:1, 6-7; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matt 15:21-28	
7:30 am	Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan
	Ms. Betty Lou Callegari
9:00 am	Ms. JoAnn Wavra
11:30 am	Congregation
5:30 pm	Ms. Brandy Lesso Hebert

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$14,091.57  
 Poor Collection.....\$ 4,051.43  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.

### Pray for Vocations

For information, go to [www.biloxidiocese.org](http://www.biloxidiocese.org)



**The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of Marguerite Norman**

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

## Religious Education News

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

**Religious Education is in the process of kicking off a new year and is in need of some volunteer catechist – especially for 8<sup>th</sup> grade. If interested, please call Pat Cronin at 209-0464.**

**Religious Education Registration** will take place after all Masses on Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and baptism certificate with you to registration and be prepared to fill out new registration forms.

**All Catechist are asked to attend an important meeting on Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:10 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.**

**RCIA Classes will begin on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.** All those 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)

**The Family and Youth Ministry will continue the Parent & Child Prayer and Fellowship this year.** The group will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday, September through May, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. If you are a parent looking for a group gathering of other parents and their children for prayer and fellowship, join us in the Family and Youth Office in back of the Parish Hall.

**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.



**You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.** Rosary, Message reading, Consecration, Mass



**Upon this Rock Scripture Study** is beginning registration for the Bible study "Luke: The Gospel of Study Mercy" offered by Catholic Scripture Study International. This study explores the parables of Mercy and how God's Mercy is still active in the world today. The Bible study will begin Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> and will meet each Wednesday morning through April 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:15 – 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary Parish in Murray Hall on Woolmarket Road in Biloxi. The fee is \$47 and includes the study set and a DVD presentation. Payment by August 21<sup>st</sup> will ensure that you receive your materials by the start of the study. For more information and/or to register, please call Sharon Jones at 228-591-1069.

**ATTENTION:** The Gulf Coast Family Counseling (509 Jackson Avenue) allows parishioners to use their parking area on weekends for Mass provided they do not have anything else going on that they would need the area for. Unfortunately a couple of weekends ago they had roped the area off so that it could not be used and somebody took the rope down which resulted in the parking lot being used. We ask that you please only use this parking if it is available so that we may continue to use it. Thank you.

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Aug 15:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

**Aug 16:** Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

To learn more about the St. Patrick experience, visit the website at [www.stpatrickhighschool.net](http://www.stpatrickhighschool.net). For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, call 228-702-0500.

**Aug 15:** Mass 9:40 a.m.

**Aug 16:** Meet the Teacher Night 6:00 p.m.

**Aug 19:** School Dance Grades 9-12 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.



**St. Patrick High School is offering Free Transportation before and after school for the 2017-2018 school year. Morning pickup from St. Alphonsus will be at 7:15 a.m. and afternoon drop-off will be at 3:55 p.m.**

### Willwoods Married Couples Retreat: August 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>:

Would you like to break away with your spouse and spend quality time together enriching your marriage? Then join us on our August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Married Couples Retreat at the beautiful Archdiocese of New Orleans Retreat Center located along Lake Pontchartrain in Metairie. Attending a married couples retreat annually is a wonderful way to deepen your love for God and each other! To register or for more info call Jason Angelette at (504) 830-3716 or visit [Willwoods.org](http://Willwoods.org). Suggested donation of \$275 is requested but not required.

**The Family and Youth Ministry will join parishioners to present a fundraiser for the Youth Ministry on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at the Parish Life Center/KC Hall from 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. for adults 21 or older.** The St. Alphonics, which plays at the 5:30 Sunday Mass, will begin the evening with a Concert at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. and ending the evening with a dance from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tickets for the Concert, Dinner and Dance are available in the Church Office and will be available after all the Masses in front of the church this weekend. Anyone interested in helping decorate and prepare for the event or would like tickets to sell please contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392.



**The Knights of Columbus are collecting items for a Rummage Sale to be held October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Items may be put on the back porch of the KC Hall.**

**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)

**BUY A TICKET**

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

**THANKSGIVING HOME GIVEAWAY**

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 Biloxi Mississippi 39532

Single Family Residence  
 2,110 Sq Ft Living Space  
 240 Sq Ft Porch  
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 All Appliances Included  
 Elevator, Custom Cabinets  
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 ALL PROCEEDS GO TO  
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[www.svdphomegiveaway.com](http://www.svdphomegiveaway.com)