

The theme of the First Reading and the Gospel is that of **inclusiveness**. At the time Isaiah was writing there were lots of foreigners in Israel. The question arose as to whether or not the benefits of salvation should be extended to them. Isaiah gave a clear and positive answer: “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the peoples,” says the Lord.’

The early Church faced a similar problem with regard to the Gentiles. Matthew sees Jesus as having broken down the barrier between Jew and Gentile. Even though his own mission was restricted to Israel, Jesus did reach out to individual Gentiles such as the Canaanite woman. Hence, after the resurrection of Jesus, the early Church extended its mission to the Gentiles.



The repairs are finally complete and the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bookstore is now open for business. Please see the front of the bulletin for a listing of days and times in which the Bookstore is open. We thank you for your patience and understanding.



An Altar Server Training is scheduled for Saturday, September 9th from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. with lunch being served afterwards in the KC 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 meeting.



The Family and Youth Ministry will join parishioners to present a fundraiser for the Youth Ministry on Saturday, September 16th at the Parish Life Center/KC Hall from 6:00 - 9:00 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 9:00 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 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 September 9th at St. Joseph Parish, Gulfport and September 16th at St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Ocean Springs. 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.



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

Pray for Vocations

For information, go to www.biloxidiocese.org



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 Ello, 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, Mary Kelley, Audrey King, Ann Eleeece 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, Karen Skrmetta Smith, Elba Smolcich, Joe Souza, Edna Spell, Lorraine St. Onge, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Stan Stanton, Katie Swanson, Gertie Templett, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, and Jane Walker.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

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| MONDAY | AUGUST 21 |
| Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22 | |
| 6:30 am | Mr. R.J. Domingue |
| 8:15 am | Mr. Peter Kuluz, Sr. |
| TUESDAY | AUGUST 22 |
| Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30 | |
| 6:30 am | Ms. Molly Edwards |
| 8:15 am | Mr. Danny Seymour |
| WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 23 |
| Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16 | |
| 6:30 am | Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr. |
| 8:15 am | Dr. Henry N. Pitre |
| THURSDAY | AUGUST 24 |
| Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51 | |
| 6:30 am | Mr. & Mrs. Wm (Joyce) A. Staehle, Jr. |
| 8:15 am | Mr. Dick Daniels Ms. Lisa Daniels |
| FRIDAY | AUGUST 25 |
| Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40 | |
| 6:30 am | Special Intention |
| 8:15 am | Mr. Waldermar Arroyo Santiago |
| SATURDAY | AUGUST 26 |
| Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12 | |
| 8:15 am | Mr. Henry Endt, Sr. Int. Ms. Jackie Endt Mr. Harry Leaghty Holy Souls in Purgatory Mass of Thanksgiving |
| 4:00 pm | Mr. Alson Young |
| SUNDAY | AUGUST 27 |
| Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20 | |
| 7:30 am | Congregation |
| 9:00 am | Int. Mr. George Wavra |
| 11:30 am | Ms. Christine Webb |
| 5:30 pm | Ms. Nonie Mohler |

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$12,559.84
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....\$ 1,765.46
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan and Betty Lou Callegari

Altar Society Members for next week:
Kay Brochard and Norma Williams



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Msgr. Francis Farrell, a retired priest with the Diocese of Biloxi, who passed away August 12th.

We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.

Religious Education News

Pat Cronin – 872-2652; pcronin@cablone.net; 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 8th grade. If interested, please call Pat Cronin at 209-0464.

Religious Education Registration will take place after all Masses this Sunday (August 20th) 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 27th at 10:10 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.

RCIA Classes will begin on September 7th 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.

If you have always wanted to read the Bible BUT haven't been able to finish it, don't understand it, or if it just didn't seem to be the right time – Then you are invited to join the Adult Study Class on Sunday mornings beginning September 10th at 10:10 a.m. (after the 9:00 a.m. Mass). By using the Bible Timeline DVD Series presented by Jeff Cavins, we will read the bible with understanding. Any questions, call Rich or Sue Mihal 601-573-0020.

Family and Youth Calendar

Jane Sema 228-217-1392 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 16th, 17th, and 18th. 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 (9th – 12th grades) and are interested in participating, please contact Jane Sema.



Upon this Rock Scripture Study is beginning registration for the Bible study “Luke: The Gospel of 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 13th and will meet each Wednesday morning through April 4th 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 21st 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.



You are invited to the 12th Annual Katrina Prayer Service to be held at St. Michael Catholic Church in Biloxi on August 27th at 3:00 p.m.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Aug 25: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Aug 23: Junior/Senior Parent Financial Aid Night 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Aug 24: School Pictures 8:30 a.m.

Class Ring Presentation Juniors 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

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

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 24th 2017
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
LOCAL ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Call 228-334-4408 for more information
www.svdphomegiveaway.com

Willwoods Married Couples Retreat: August 26th – 27th:

Would you like to break away with your spouse and spend quality time together enriching your marriage? Then join us on our August 26th and 27th 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. Suggested donation of \$275 is requested but not required.

A Message from Lois Leaghty-Ravera: In December of 2015 I won a contest to go to Haiti with a like-minded group to serve the poor. Our group, along with the generosity of many caring souls, have raised over \$70,000 to help build a new housing village for those we visited who were living in a dumpsite. There are now 15 families in new homes. (Pictures are available by emailing me at Lois.Ravera@gmail.com. You can also call me at 228-324-3304 if you have any questions.)

The purpose of this message is that I will again be embarking on a return trip to Haiti with the Food For the Poor this coming December and hope to bring the necessities of life. The following is a list of needed items. Cash is also accepted and appreciated too.

- School supplies, coloring books, craft supplies such as construction paper, stickers.
- Hygiene items such as deodorant, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair accessories.
- Children's underwear, pillow case dresses for girls, boy's t-shirts and shorts.
- Soccer balls (deflated) with pump, jump ropes, small stuffed toys or dolls, matchbox cars
- Christmas stocking stuffers

Offerings can be left in the Vestibule of the Church in the box labeled for Haiti. To make it for the December trip, I must have all donations in and shipped by October 1st.

Thank you so very much and God Bless You - Lois