

**The First Reading tells how, three years after his conversion, Paul went up to Jerusalem.** In spite of being introduced by Barnabas, such was the hostility he encountered that he had to be smuggled out of the city. The fact that Paul took all these trials in stride shows the depth of his faith in Jesus.

In the Gospel we have the lovely image of the vine and the branches. Here Jesus stresses the unity that exists between him and his disciples. Vine and branches need each other. The vine cannot bear fruit without the branches. And the branches can have no life if separated from the vine. The branches need to be pruned (by trials) in order to be fruitful. (Paul is a good example).

The Second Reading tells us what we have to do in order to be at rights with God. We have to believe in his Son, Jesus, and love one another as he told us. Active charity is what distinguishes true Christians from those who are such in name only. (This is what makes them fruitful branches of Christ, the true vine).



**The Knights of Columbus and the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Alphonsus Catholic Church wish to thank the parishioners, sponsors, and all other supporters with their Dinner and Drawdown Fundraiser on April 21<sup>st</sup>.** It was a huge success and those in attendance had a wonderful time. Many prizes were given away to people whose tickets were pulled early and fun was had by all. After paying the four winners, the Knights raised \$9,706. These funds will be distributed to the needy of our community over the next several months in the form of utility bills, rent, and other emergency needs.

Our congratulations to the winners of the drawdown: Mr. Jerry Bourgeois, Bill & Ann Kortman, Mr. Rob Malloch, and Dr. Sonny & Lucy Selman.



**Ocean Springs will observe the 67<sup>th</sup> annual National Day of Prayer from 12 Noon to 1:00 pm. on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, in front of City Hall on Porter Avenue.** You are encouraged to attend and participate in this annual city-wide event. This year's national theme is "Unity: Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:3." Your presence and prayers will make a difference. In case of inclement weather, the observance will be held across the street at First Baptist Church.



**Congratulations to the final winners of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week Drawing:** \$100 – Paul Cirbus, pulled by Nolan Halat; \$200 – Darlene Murphy, pulled by Amelie Million; \$500 – Skip Murphy, pulled by Fr. Mark. Thanks to all who supported this fundraiser. They were able to give \$1,700 to the Seminarian Education Fund.



**"Silence is not something that you can impose from the outside; it is something that is inside and it must grow and be concentrated. Without it, you cannot achieve holiness, because you cannot hear God; and neither can you speak to Him."** – Mother Angelica Experience Jesus in the silence of the Adoration Chapel. He is there waiting.  
"Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him".  
--St. Teresa of Calcutta

**Altar Society Members for next week  
Mary Ann Bounds and Lois Ravera**



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Joan "Nanabel" Belson,** mother of Denise Wilson of this parish, who passed away April 19<sup>th</sup>.

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



**The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of William & Dot Collins, William G. Collins, Evelyn Collins And Jane Buck Collins**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY APRIL 30

Acts 14:5-18; John 14:21-26

6:30 am Mr. Joe Prejean

8:15 am Ms. Margaret LaCroix

TUESDAY MAY 1

Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a

6:30 am Ms. Melissa Roberts Lee

8:15 am Ms. Alice Hire

WEDNESDAY MAY 2

Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8

6:30 am Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.

8:15 am Int. Ms. Tallulah Severino

THURSDAY MAY 3

1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14

6:30 am Mr. Eddie Hire

8:15 am Int. Ms. Jackie Endt

FRIDAY MAY 4

Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17

6:30 am Mr. Tyler Green

8:15 am Ms. Linda Mayer

SATURDAY MAY 5

Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21

8:15 am Mr. George Pitalo, Sr.

Mr. Gregory Hebert

Russ, Carley and Brittany Jordan

4:00 pm Ms. Joan Kelly

SUNDAY MAY 6

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

7:30 am Ms. Mary Skaar

9:00 am Int. Bob and Sue Manley

11:30 am Congregation

5:30 pm Ms. Brandy Lesso Hebert

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,702.23

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Evelyn Bond, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Quinn Boudreaux, Carole Bourgeois, Gregory Brou, Valerie Brou, Clarence Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Sally Fero Conklin, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Betty Dugan, Tyler Eldridge, Jackie Endt, Jeremy Forehand, Loretta Foster, Nora Foster, Joey Fountain, Ron Fournier, Carmen Gaethe, Walter Gary, Hunter Grantham, Doris Haynes, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Margaret Betty Horton, Lucia Hourihan, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Earline Huster, Tommy Jones, Theresa Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Kyle Vaughn Kerbow, Audrey King, Ann Eleece Kouns, Jeff Kouns, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, John Langan, Nathaniel LaSalle, Catherine Lawrence, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Mary Mendenhall, Edna Miguez, Eunice Misko, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Chandra Nicholson, Travis Norman, Charley Noel, Luke Nudson, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Anna Raley, Jimmy Senac, Joyleen Seymour, Larry Sladler, Karen Skrmetta Smith, Edna Spell, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Dennis Stamps, Stan Stanton, Gertie Templet, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers and Jane Walker.

## Religious Education News

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

**Apr 30:** New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.

**May 3:** RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**May 6:** Religious Education-May Crowning / Adult Study 10:10 a.m. Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds

## Family and Youth Calendar

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



**The Youth Group** will continue the "God's Not Dead" Trilogy with God's Not Dead 2 this Sunday (April 29<sup>th</sup>) at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Anyone in 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades and collage age individuals are welcome to attend. May 6<sup>th</sup> we will go to see God's Not Dead 3 in the theater.

As we build our youth programs we are looking for young adults and parents to help with activities for our youth. If you are interested in helping us build a **DYNAMIC YOUTH PROGRAM** contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392.

### Parent & Child Prayer and Fellowship

Come and join our group as we study The Saints. The group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from September through May, in the Family and Youth office in back of the Parish Hall.

**CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP**  
**JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup>**

Join us for a week of fun as we take a Radical Ride on the Wings of Prayer with Amazing Angels and Super Saints! Don't miss out as we learn about prayer and how to put it into action. Space is limited so please register early. Additional Registration forms are available at the Church office and Bookstore. For more information, contact our Family and Youth Director Jane Sema at [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org).



**A Baptism Class** will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Any parent with a child for baptism must attend this class prior to scheduling a baptism date. Godparents are also encouraged to attend. Class lasts a little over one hour. Baptisms are scheduled each month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.

**Willwoods Married Couples Retreat May 5– 6, 2018:** Would you like to break away with your spouse and spend quality time together enriching your marriage? Then join us on our upcoming Married Couples Retreat at the newly renovated St. Joseph Abbey Christian Life Retreat Center in Covington, LA.

Attending a married couples retreat annually is a wonderful way to nourish and strengthen your love for God and each other! To register or for more info call Jason Angelette at (504) 830-3716 or visit [www.FaithandMarriage.org](http://www.FaithandMarriage.org). Suggested donation of \$275 is requested but not required.

**You are invited to the Second Liners Mardi Gras Club "Woman of Many Hats" Pre-Mother's Day Dinner** on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00–6:00 p.m. at the Dr. Frank Gruich Community Center on Howard Avenue in Biloxi. Food, Fun, Prizes and Entertainment will be provided at the cost of \$20 per person. If you so desire, ladies are asked to wear your Sunday Best hat and gloves. For more information or tickets, please contact Gladys at 228-868-7226.

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

### Registration for the 2018/2019 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

**May 2:** Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

**May 3:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

**May 4:** Field Day

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Apr 29:** Spring Drama Production 2:00 p.m.

**May 1:** Spring Band Concert 6:00 p.m.

**May 3:** Senior Farewell Mass 9:40 a.m.



**The Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.** in the KC Hall for \$6.00 a plate. Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice.



**You are invited to join the Bethesda Free Clinic on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, for "Blame It on The Boogie" Mystery Dinner Theatre.** This Dining, Disco, and Thriller Whodunnit Fundraiser will take place from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Ocean Springs Community Center at 512 Washington Avenue. Tickets are \$75 each and includes dinner, drinks, and entertainment. Costumes are welcome but definitely not required. To purchase tickets or for more information, please call 228-818-9191 or go to their website at BFHCD.com.



**Parishioner Registration:** When planning a baptism, marriage, or to obtain subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must be able to demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you do attend Mass.

It is the Church, not just this parish, which insists that signs of good faith commitment be present on these occasions. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of contributions and Mass attendance. Parish registration forms may be obtained in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.

### A note from Fr. Chinnappa Raj Mark

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,  
I am so glad to greet you all with the peace of Christ through our parish bulletin. I wish to thank you all for your valuable prayers, support and for giving me such a warm welcome.  
I extend my heartfelt thanks to Fr. Mike, the parish administrative team, and to all the associations of our parish who arranged a wonderful gathering to welcome me to the parish.  
In a very special way I thank all our parishioners for accepting me into the family of St. Alphonsus Parish and rendering me great support.  
Thank you for all your wonderful and valuable gifts. I am so glad to be in St. Alphonsus Parish and serve God and His people. Thanks for your great support. May God bless you. I will keep all of you in my daily prayers.  
Once again, I thank you all.  
I remain Fr. Chinnappa Raj Mark

**Pray for Vocations**