

The First Reading gives us a glimpse into the heart of a prophet, and we see how very human he is. Elijah, the great champion of God, flees into the desert, a broken and dispirited man. But like the Israelites of old, he is fed with 'bread from heaven'. Strengthened by this food he continues his journey to Horeb, the mountain of God.

In the Gospel Jesus declares that he is 'the bread that has come down from heaven.' The bread in question is primarily the revelation given to people by Jesus. Only at a secondary level does it envisage the Eucharist. The fundamental reaction called for is one of 'coming to him', which is a synonym of belief. Even though faith is a gift from God it does demand openness on our part.



The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (no cooking involved) during the coming week (August 13th - 17th). If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times, please call Norma Williams at 875-2636. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Monday, August 13th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Rosary, Message reading, Consecration, Mass



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



The Rectory Office will be closed on Wednesday, August 15th in observance of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle (Rosary and Message Reading - no Mass) on Thursday, August 16th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room at the Villa Maria. All are invited.



We are in need of volunteers to help in the Bookstore on Saturday evenings from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 8:30 -10:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping with either of these days/times, please contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392 or jsema@osstalphonusus.org.



"We all get confused about what really matters from time to time. Prayer helps us keep things in perspective." – Matthew Kelly, Decision Point
Spending time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament can help us put things back on track.

"Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him".
--St. Teresa of Calcutta

REFLECTION

Trust in God: Lord, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself. And the fact that I think I am doing your will, does not mean that I am actually doing it. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you, and I hope that I have this desire. Though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death, I will not fear, for you are with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.
--Thomas Merton



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Alan, Glenn and Eleanor Young
The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of Alson Young

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	AUGUST 13
Ezekiel 1:2-5, 24-28c; Matthew 17:22-27	
6:30 am	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Bob Mayer
TUESDAY	AUGUST 14
Ezekiel 2:8—3:4; Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Mr. Steve Sema
1 Chron 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28	
6:00 pm	Mr. Terry Miller
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 15
Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 am	Ms. Dorothy "Dot" Collins
6:00 pm	Int. Ms. Kris Allen
THURSDAY	AUGUST 16
Ezekiel 12:1-12; Matthew 18:21—19:1	
6:30 am	Ms. Tiffany Timmons
8:15 am	Freddie and Vera Lusk
FRIDAY	AUGUST 17
Ezekiel 16:1-15, 60, 63; Matthew 19:3-12	
6:30 am	Mr. Richard "Dick" Porterfield
8:15 am	Ms. Joan "Nanabel" Belson
SATURDAY	AUGUST 18
Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Matthew 19:13-15	
8:15 am	Ms. Harriet Tuggle
4:00 pm	Ms. Joan Kelly
SUNDAY	AUGUST 19
Proverbs 9:1-6; Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58	
7:30 am	Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan
	Ms. Betty Lou Ryan Callegari
9:00 am	Ms. JoAnn Wavra
11:30 am	Mr. Alson Young
5:30 pm	Congregation

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$13,585.49
Poor Collection.....\$ 4,625.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Rodger Williams, husband of Joan Williams of this parish, who passed away August 1st.

Barbara Fournier, sister-in-law of Carolyn & William Anderson of this parish, who passed away August 2nd.

Kelly Carter, sister-in-law of John & Lori Carter of this parish, who passed away August 3rd.

Althea Thibodeaux, grandmother of Angela (Darrell) Pickich of this parish, who passed away August 5th.

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

Altar Society Members for next week
Judi Anderson, Mark Aultman and Theresa Stuart

Religious Education News

Deacon Jim Gunkel – 872-2652; dcjim@osstalphonusus.org

Kindergarten – 5th Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

6th – 8th Grade – Edge: Sunday, 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

9th – 12th Grade - High School Youth: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Registration for all grades will be held after each Mass on Sunday, August 19th. Registration forms are available on our website. Copies of both the Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate will be required for each child. Please bring these with you to registration.

A Parent Meeting will be held for all grades on Sunday, August 19th at 4:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

All classes will begin on Sunday, September 9th.



Have you ever stopped to think that "There has to be more to life than chasing my 'to do' list." Well, there is. Join a few other people for coffee or tea, bring your questions, and discover how Jesus has a plan for each one of us individually that leads to the fullness of a life well lived. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA is the way by which we help people discover this freedom Jesus offers us. Inquiry sessions are informal and open to Catholics (who want to learn more about their faith) as well as non-Catholics who have an interest in exploring the Catholic faith. The RCIA team will present some basic tenets of the faith, but most of the sessions will be devoted to answering your questions about faith and helping you discern whether God is calling you into full communion with the Catholic Church. Sessions will begin Thursday, September 6, 2018 and will be held weekly each Thursday night from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall. You may register or obtain additional information from Deacon Jim at dcjim@osstalphonusus.org or by calling the Religious Education Office at 872-2652.



Children's Liturgy Volunteers needed for next school year: Would you like to teach our young children about God and our Catholic faith? Are you a grandmother who may miss seeing grand babies? Well we would love to have you as a volunteer for the 2018-2019 Children's Liturgy program. It involves about 20 minutes of your time every six or so weeks spent teaching and having a fun time with our 3-6 year olds in the chapel during Liturgy of the Word at the 11:30 am Sunday mass. Please email Catherine Marsh at catherinecomiskeymarsh@gmail.com or contact the church office and Catherine will give you a call.



The Knights of Columbus wish to THANK everyone for their support in making the benefit breakfast for Breanne Dalton a huge success. They were able to give her \$1,565 to put towards her medical bills. Thanks again for all your help and support.



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Regina Papania Bell, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Henry Bonney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sybil Burchinal, Sally Fero Conklin, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Marshall Fayard, Nora Foster, Ron Fournier, Carmen Gaethe, Walter Gary, Hunter and Sandra Grantham, Doris Haynes, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Melissa James, Tommy Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Nathaniel LaSalle, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Edna Miguez, Eunice Misko, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley & Travis Norman, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Judy Penton, Joyleen Seymour, Stan Stanton, Gertie Templet, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker and Cooper Williams. If someone in your family is in need of prayer, please contact the parish office to have their name placed on the list. We will keep the name on for at least two months unless otherwise notified.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

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

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Aug 14: Girls Basketball Parent Meeting

Aug 15: School Pictures / Mass 9:40 a.m.

Aug 16: PTO Meeting 7:45 a.m.

Aug 18: Back to School Dance 7:00 p.m.



We invite you to join us as we celebrate the retirement of Pat Cronin next Sunday (August 19th) from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the KC Hall. Pat has been the Director of Religious Education here at St. Alphonsus for the past eleven years. Please come and help us thank him for his years of service to St. Alphonsus and the St. Alphonsus Family. Pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice will be served.

A Note From Pat Cronin:

To St. Alphonsus Parishioners: I have been honored, privileged, and blessed in my life but none more so than participating with the Catholic Christians of Ocean Springs, St. Alphonsus parish for the past 11 years after 37 years in Catholic Education. I know and pray the Religious Education Program at St. Alphonsus will grow and gain strength under the able leadership of Deacon Jim and Mrs. Sema. I have been honored by working with two outstanding pastors – Fr. Henry and Fr. Mike and four wonderful Vicars - Fr. White, Fr. Ryan, Fr. Peter and Fr. Mark. Truly all are en Persona Christi. St. Alphonsus has responded with strong and talented, willing and able volunteers who have worked with the Religious Education Program as catechist doing Sunday Religious Education (aka CCD), RCIA team, Catholic Kids Camp, children's church, etc. I take no credit for the success of any of these programs, it is the catechist, and accept any responsibility for failures. It was the Priesthood of the Faithful with the support of our priest that makes it work. Think about it, I was allowed to participate in the great sacraments given by Jesus of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, Marriage, and Confirmation and full entrance to the Catholic Church of so many children and adults. What could be greater or how could I have been better blessed? There are too many folks to mention individually but you know who you are - I thank you from the bottom of my heart and know that St. Alphonsus will forever be on my mind, in my heart and in my prayers. One last thing, please participate often and fully in God's greatest gift to us – the Mass, the Eucharist. Thanks ever so much – Pat Cronin

Our judicial vicar, Fr Charles Nutter, will give one more talk on the Annulment Process at Our Lady of Fatima in Biloxi on Thursday, August 16th at 6:00 p.m. People entering RCIA this fall are strongly encouraged to attend. Fr. Charles will discuss how to apply and what is involved in the process and have a Q&A at the end of each talk.



Calling all graduates of Notre Dame, Sacred Heart, Mercy Cross, St. John and St. Patrick: You are invited to celebrate and unite the Legacies on Saturday, September 8th with Mass beginning at 7:00 p.m. and a social to immediately follow with food and drinks. Family and friends are welcome to attend, and childcare will be provided. This event is sponsored by the SPCHS Alumni Association and is open to all alumni, even those who are not currently members of the Association. Please RSVP to alumni@stpatrickhighschool.net. There is no fee to attend.



The St. Alphonsus Bookstore and Gift Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., after the Saturday Vigil Mass, and after all English Masses on Sunday.



Mass for Family and Friends: You can have Masses offered for the Intention of family and friends as well as for the deceased. Mass cards are available at the Parish Office during regular business hours. The donation for each Mass is \$10.00.