

**The First Reading talks about the sumptuous banquet that Wisdom offers its devotees.** It suggests the great blessings that would coincide with the coming of the Messiah. But Christians will see it as a foreshadowing of the Eucharist, and of the heavenly banquet which the Eucharist anticipates. Thus it prepares us to hear the Gospel.

In the Gospel the theme is exclusively eucharistic. The language shifts to eating and drinking, to flesh and blood. "Flesh and blood" is a Hebrew idiom for the whole person.

In a poetic way John has laid out the basic elements that makes the Christian Eucharistic Celebration nourishing. In the Service of the Word we are fed with divine revelation; in the Service of the Sacrament we are fed with the flesh and blood of Christ.

**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



**All are invited to An Evening of Prayer for the healing of Kris Allen** (wife of Deacon David Allen, principal at St. Alphonsus Elementary School) on Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Church.  
Eucharistic Adoration – Prayer – Music



**Pope John Paul II said that the best, most effective, and the surest way of bringing lasting peace on earth is through the great power of Eucharistic Adoration.** Only Jesus has the power and love to redirect the course of history back to the path of peace, which He promised. The Eucharist brings peace to human hearts. And people with peaceful hearts make a peaceful world.

Bring peace to your heart. Bring peace to your family. Bring peace to your parish, job, school...Bring peace to the world. Visit Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament...often.

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

**REFLECTION**

**The presence of Christ:**

Christ be near at either hand, Christ behind, before me stand.  
Christ with me where e'er I go, Christ around, above, below.  
Christ be in my heart and mind, Christ within my soul enshrined.  
Christ control my wayward heart, Christ abide and ne'er depart.  
Christ my life and only way, Christ my lantern night and day.  
Christ be my unchanging friend, Guide and Shepherd to the end.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY AUGUST 20**

Ezekiel 24:15-24; Matthew 19:16-22

6:30 am Mr. Carlton Latour  
8:15 am Int. Ms. Summer Deal

**TUESDAY AUGUST 21**

Ezekiel 28:1-10; Matthew 19:23-30

6:30 am Special Intention  
8:15 am Mr. John “Boots” Bullock

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 22**

Ezekiel 34:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16

6:30 am Ms. Rose Bourgeois  
8:15 am Mr. Danny Seymour

**THURSDAY AUGUST 23**

Ezekiel 36:23-28; Matthew 22:1-14

6:30 am Mr. Richard David Baker  
8:15 am Ms. Julia Mejia

**FRIDAY AUGUST 24**

Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51

6:30 am Special Intention  
8:15 am Mr. Aaron Sullivan

**SATURDAY AUGUST 25**

Ezekiel 43:1-7ab; Matthew 23:1-12

8:15 am Deceased Members of Wagener Family  
4:00 pm Congregation

**SUNDAY AUGUST 26**

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69

7:30 am Ms. Marguerite Norman  
9:00 am Int. Fr. Mike Snyder  
11:30 am Ms. Cathy Colucchio  
5:30 pm Mr. Ricky Riviere

**WEEKLY OFFERING**

Sunday Collection.....\$12,863.31  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.

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



**The Flowers on the Altar  
are in Memory of JoAnn Wavra**



**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, 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 Necaise, Peggy and Edward Necaise, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley & Travis Norman, Edwin O’Connor III, Teresa O’Connor, Judy Penton, Joyleen Seymour, Stan Stanton, Gertie Temple, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker and Cooper Williams.

**Religious Education News**

**Deacon Jim Gunkel – 872-2652; [dcjim@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonsus.org)**

**Janie Sema – 228-217-1392; [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)**

**Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Edge: Sunday, 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.**

**9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade - High School Youth: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Aug 19:** Registration for all Grades in the Parish Hall.  
Parent Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Parish Hall.

**Aug 23:** Catechist Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall

**Sept 9:** First day of Class for all grades

**We are in need of more volunteers to help with the K-5, Edge and High School Youth Programs.** If interested, a meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Prayerfully consider helping our youth encounter Jesus.



**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@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonsus.org) or by calling the Religious Education Office at 872-2652.



**Would you like to teach our young children about God and our Catholic faith?** Is so - 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](mailto:catherinecomiskeymarsh@gmail.com) or contact the church office and Catherine will give you a call.



**St. Alphonsus Church App - Don’t have the App yet? If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone you can download the app by texting App to phone number 88202, or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com).**

Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications regarding our parish life and an easy-to-access event calendar as well as many more great features such as daily Mass readings, Catholic news, prayers and prayer reminders, **quick access to our weekly bulletin, Church website (osstalphonsus.org) and FORMED.** It is easier than ever for you to enjoy your subscription to FORMED! Just download the FREE FORMED app and start enjoying great video and audio wherever you go (or if you are already signed up – you are able to access through the parish app). 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.

**ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL**

**Aug 22:** Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

**Aug 24:** Children’s Mass 8:15 a.m.

**ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL**

**Aug 22:** Junior Ring Presentation 1:00 p.m.; Meet the Teacher 6:00 p.m.

**Aug 23:** Mass 9:40 a.m.

**Aug 26:** Campus Ministry Retreat 11:00 a.m./NJHS Inductions 1:00 p.m.



**All are invited to a Katrina Prayer Service** at St. Michael Parish in Biloxi on Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Song, Quiet, Praise, Gratitude, Reflection on what we value and have gained.

**Jesus Revealed:** Do you know the Bible has more than a hundred names and titles for Jesus?

St. Mary Church in Gautier will have weekly classes beginning Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Each of these (eighteen) sessions will focus on one of them, along with others that are closely related.

For more information or to register, please call St. Mary’s Parish office at 497-2364 by September 1<sup>st</sup>.



**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:alumni@stpatrickhighschool.net). There is no fee to attend.



**The St Vincent de Paul Society is holding their annual “Friends of the Poor Walk”** on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Ocean Springs-Biloxi Bridge. Our St. Alphonsus Conference, along with other Diocesan Conferences, will be walking/running again this year. We are asking fellow parishioners, families and friends to come join us at the Bridge! If interested you can register/donate on line at [www.fopwalk.org](http://www.fopwalk.org) or you may call the rectory or ask a member for more information on registering. If you would like to donate only - you may drop your donation in the collection basket (marked “Walk for the Poor”) or bring to the rectory during normal business hours. **SEE YOU AT THE BRIDGE!!**



**The Cursillo Movement of South Mississippi is hosting the Fall 2018 Encounter** on October 19-20 in Biloxi. Friday’s event will take place at St. Michael

Church, Biloxi and Saturday’s event will take place at Nativity BVM Sacred Heart Parish Life Center.

Leaders and Cursillistas from the Cursillo Movements in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina gather together for a weekend of food, fellowship, learning, sharing, prayer, Mass, rosary, and mutual support in friendship towards our common endeavor of bringing our friends to Christ in our own dioceses.

Registration is \$40 per person (received by October 9 – early registration fee includes the event and a commemorative t-shirt) and \$40 at the door (must purchase t-shirt separately). Register early to be sure and get a commemorative t-shirt.

For information: email [secretariat@southms-cursillo.org](mailto:secretariat@southms-cursillo.org); Phone 228-382-3215 or visit Region VII website: [www.cursilloregion7.org](http://www.cursilloregion7.org).



**We are in need of volunteers to help in the Bookstore** on Sunday mornings from 8:30 -10:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392 or [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org).

**Altar Society Members for next week  
Kay Brochard, Sue Garlotte & Norma Williams**