

Genesis has two accounts of the institution of marriage. The first (1:26-28) sees marriage as a means of procreation. The second (our First Reading 2:18-24) sees marriage as meeting the human need for companionship and equality.

On the basis of Deuteronomy 24:1-4, the Pharisees allowed a husband to divorce his wife because of 'an indecency in her'. Appealing to Genesis 1:27; 2:24, Jesus stressed the unity created by marriage, which would forbid breaking the marriage bond, so that remarriage after a divorce would constitute adultery. Jesus leaves no doubt as to what the ideal marriage ought to be. But this does not mean he was not aware of, and sympathetic towards, the problems that can arise in living out that ideal. The Gospel also shows Jesus' love for the little ones, and tells us that we must receive the kingdom the way children receive a gift. From today until the Thirty-Third Sunday inclusive, the Second Reading is taken from the Letter to the Hebrews. Hebrews presents Christ as the Perfect Priest.



God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; Courage to change the things I can; And the wisdom to know the difference.

Gather the courage to change something you can. Spend one hour of every week with Jesus in The Blessed Sacrament. Wisdom will follow.

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



During the month of October, the ushers will do a head count of all in attendance at all weekend Masses (men, women and children). The Diocese requests all parishes to do this for the entire month of October.



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 (October 8th - 12th). 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 (Rosary and Message Reading - no Mass) on Thursday, October 11th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room at the Villa Maria. All are invited.



We wish to congratulate Gail and Barney Banks on their 50th Wedding Anniversary. May you have many more happy years together!



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Regina Papania Bell, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sybil Burchinal, Carol Lee Cantin, Sally Fero

Conklin, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Marshall Fayard, Ron Fournier, Carmen Gaethe, Walter Gary, Sandra Grantham, Doris Haynes, Mary Jo & Ron Hoogstra, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Melissa James, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daise Laborde, Jacob Latil, Nathaniel LaSalle, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Maurice Michaud, Edna Miguez, Leonard Necaise, Peggy and Edward Necaise, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley & Travis Norman, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Judy Penton, Joyleen Seymour, Stan Stanton, Ann Tootle, Randy Trahan, Dolores Trenouth, Angela Trosclair, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker and Cooper Williams.



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.

Pray for Vocations

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY OCTOBER 8

Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10:25-37
6:30 am Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 am Ms. JoAnn Wavra

TUESDAY OCTOBER 9

Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42
6:30 am Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 am Ms. Linda Mayer

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 10

Galatians 2:1-2, 7-14; Luke 11:1-4
6:30 am Ms. Emogene Pierre
8:15 am Ms. Mariane Anderson

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11

Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 11:5-13
6:30 am Special Intention
8:15 am Dr. Rodger Williams

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12

Galatians 3:7-14; Luke 11:15-26
6:30 am Msgr. Gregory Kennedy
8:15 am Ms. Molly Edwards

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13

Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28
8:15 am Ms. Laurie Vanderford

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14

Wisdom 7:7-11; Hebrews 4:12-13; Mark 10:17-30
7:30 am Mr. Richard "Dick" Porterfield
9:00 am Int. Mr. Jonathan McLendon
11:30 am Mr. Alson Young
5:30 pm Congregation

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$9,026.57
Tropical Storm/Hurricane Florence Collection....\$2,658.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of The Mayfield, Burkhardt & Seymour Families



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Tommy Jones, brother of Dianne Bellon of this parish who passed away September 29th.

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

**Altar Society Members for next week
Janell Alliston, Deni Helms and Pat Zuber**



Hospital Stays: Because of privacy concerns, it is increasingly difficult to find out who is in the hospital. Many parishioners can be there for an entire week (or more), yet their names never appear on the "Clergy List" that we get to see. This seems to happen especially to those who are admitted through the Emergency Room. Consequently we are reminding you that if you or a family member is going to be in the hospital and wish to be visited or receive communion while there, please call the Rectory at your earliest convenience.

Religious Education News

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

Janie Sema – 228-217-1392; jsema@osstalphonus.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.

Oct 11: RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.

Oct 14: Adult Study Class 10:15 a.m. "Lost Gospels or FALSE Gospels"
Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds
Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)



The Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled for Sunday, October 28th at 2:00 p.m. at Nativity BVM Cathedral. Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 etc. years of marriage are welcome to attend this event. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office and may be picked up during regular business hours. **The deadline for registration by mail is October 12th.** Registration by phone, fax or email is not accepted.



St. Mary in Gautier will be celebrating its 50 year Dedication on Sunday, October 14th after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Bishop Kihneman will be joining to celebrate Mass and will attend a picnic lunch after in the Activity Center. Past and Present Parishioners are invited to attend. Please bring a side dish of potato salad, beans or mac & cheese. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided by the Church.



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



OUR LADY OF SORROWS: Please come and join us for the 8:15 Mass followed by the recitation of the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows (a rosary of repentance) on the third Saturday of each month. (i.e. Oct. 20th). The purpose of our coming together is threefold: 1) To pray for all victims of sexual abuse 2) To pray, in reparation for all the vile sins committed against the Body of Christ, and 3) To pray for the graces of repentance, healing, conversion and salvation of ALL SOULS!

Thinking Priesthood? Want to have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about discerning a priestly vocation? The Vocations Office is hosting an event titled VOCARE on Saturday, October 20th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Center located behind the Nativity BVM Cathedral in Biloxi. This event is for all young men, 13-18, interested in learning more about priesthood and gaining practical tips on how to discern a priestly vocation. It will include a free breakfast, prayer, fraternity, and more! There will be time for all present to ask questions to priests of the diocese to help better understand what priesthood is and how to discern a vocation. Parents are also welcome to attend. There will be a breakout session for them and will include time for questions as well as tips to help support and encourage their son in his discernment. There is no cost for the event. Please register at <https://biloxiodocese.org/vocations>

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Oct 10: Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

Oct 12: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

St. Alphonsus Fall Family Fun Weekend November 2nd – 4th Nov 2: 4th Annual Night of Neon 5k and 1 mile Fun Run/Walk
A fun night for the whole family including a Split the Pot drawing, Spaghetti Dinner, bounce houses, photo booth, prizes and more. Race registration forms and split the pot tickets can be found on the school's website (www.stal.org) or at the School Office.
If interested in becoming a sponsor for one of the events or if you have questions, please contact Jennifer Jones at stalsnightofneon@gmail.com.

Nov 3-4: Beignet Booth at Peter Anderson Festival

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Oct 8: No School Fall Holiday

Oct 10: Boys Basketball Parent Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Oct 11: Mass 9:40 a.m.

Oct 12: Report Cards

Oct 13: Junior High Dance / Parent Social 6:00 p.m.

Co-Ed Arise #8 Friday, October 26th – Sunday, October 28th, at the Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis. Arise is sponsored by the Cursillo Movement South Mississippi, another program of the Diocese of Biloxi. Whereas Cursillo is limited to Catholics, Arise is actually designed with the non-Catholic in mind. Arise is designed primarily for these groups of persons who would like to receive additional information about the Catholic faith in a short period of time (one weekend): Non-Catholic spouses of practicing Catholics; Catholics who have been away from the church for a while; Those without a current church/religion who are "searching" for a new one or more meaningful faith experience; Those taking instruction in the Catholic faith. For more information, contact Joseph Parker at [\(985\)705-6963](tel:9857056963) or Abby Crosby at [\(601\)466-1007](tel:6014661007), or you may visit the website at www.biloxicursillo.org.



February 10, 2019 has tentatively been set to honor our St. Alphonsus parishioners who have been married 50+ years.
A binder has been placed in the back of the church and we ask that you please fill out the requested information. We would like your information even if you are not able to come so that we will be able to recognize you.



Would you like to have Catholic Radio right here in Ocean Springs? Well believe it or not, it is already here! Tune your radio into FM 88.1 or find it on your computer at radiomaria.us. There are many good programs from inspirational Catholic speakers, programs about history, prayer, care giving, finding a job, Marian apparitions, conversion stories, and many others! Plus there is great music. Let us be grateful to God for this sublime gift to us, for His mercies endure forever! Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. (Romans 12:12)

REFLECTION

Youth and age

Youth is not a time of life, it is a state of mind. Nobody grows old merely by living a number of years; people grow old only by deserting their ideals. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair, these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust. You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your hope, as old as your despair. So long as your heart receives messages of beauty, cheer, courage, grandeur and power from the earth, from man, from the infinite, so long are you young. When the heart is covered with the snow of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then I am grown old indeed, and may you, Lord, have mercy on my soul. –General Douglas MacArthur



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.