

The First Reading tells of the call and commissioning of the prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah never wanted to be a prophet and was overwhelmed by the sheer burden of it. He stands out as a lonely figure whose mission seemed to have failed. He is the supreme example, until Jesus, of the triumph of failure.

The Gospel is a continuation of last Sunday's reading. We see the reaction to the homily Jesus gave in the synagogue at Nazareth. The people can't believe that the words of Isaiah could apply to him, the humble son of Joseph. On hearing that the benefits they have rejected will be offered to the Gentiles, the people rise up in fury and attempt to do away with Jesus. This foreshadows the ultimate fate of Jesus: but his hour has not yet come. St. Paul has been speaking of gifts and charisms. But here (Second Reading) he stresses the supreme importance of love. Without love all these gifts are useless.



EPIC, the History of the Catholic Church will begin at Sue Mihal's home (13605 Paso Road, Gulf Hills) on Wednesday, February 6th at 9:00 a.m. For more information, call 601-573-0020. All are invited.



A Baptism Class will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, February 6th 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 4th Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.

When parents have their children baptized they indicate their desire to have their children grow up and live as children of God and brothers or sisters of Jesus, and be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Through birth a child is given to parents; through baptism a child is given to God. At baptism the parents acknowledge that their parenthood is a participation in God's parenthood that all fatherhood and motherhood comes from God. Thus baptism frees the parents from a sense of owning their children. Children belong to God and are given to the parents to love and care for in God's name. It is the parents' vocation to welcome their children as honored guests in their home and bring them to the physical, emotional, and spiritual freedom that enables them to leave the home and become parents themselves. Baptism reminds parents of this vocation and sets children on the path of freedom.



Sunday, February 10th all St. Alphonsus parishioners who have been married 50+ years will be honored with a sit down meal at 3:00 p.m. in the KC Hall. A binder has been placed in the back of the church and we ask that you please fill out the requested information (if you have not already done so). We would like your information even if you are not able to come so that we will be able to recognize you.



The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus are now selling tickets for a "10 week" drawing for \$10.00 each. Each week, for nine weeks, a ticket will be drawn for \$50.00. The 'winning' ticket then goes back into the 'barrel' until the last week when a \$500.00, \$200.00, and \$100.00 winner will be pulled. First drawing will be February 17, 2019. For tickets contact Carl Brochard at 228-327-0066. All proceeds will benefit the Seminarian Education Fund.



"Prayer is, as it were, being alone with God...The preparation for prayer is thus the movement of turning to God and away from all that is not God...We begin to pray when we detach ourselves from created objects and raise ourselves up to the Creator."

Dom Augustin Guillerand, The Prayer of the Presence of God

Time spent before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration offers us that quiet place to turn away and detach from things that are 'not God' – a time and place to be alone with God. What a treasure to both parent and child when that one-on-one time together occurs! God is no different. He is our Father, and you are His child.

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY FEBRUARY 4

Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20

6:30 am Mr. Theo Laborde

8:15 am Mr. Jack Brennan

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 5

Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43

6:30 am Int. Mr. Holt Foushee

8:15 am Special Intention R.C.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 6

Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6

6:30 am Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick

8:15 am Mr. Augustus "Stan" Stanton, Sr.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7

Hebrews 12:18-19, 21-24; Mark 6:7-13

6:30 am Special Intention

8:15 am Mr. Hunter Grantham

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 8

Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29

6:30 am Ms. Lorreta Cloyd

8:15 am Mr. Freddie Lusk

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9

Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34

8:15 am Ms. Irene Nelson Powers

4:00 pm Ms. Monica Goretski

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 10

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

7:30 am Ms. Donna Jean Ferguson

9:00 am Ms. Sylvia Marie Cronin

11:30 am Congregation

5:30 pm Mr. Roland Mestayer, Jr.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,873.49

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



The Flowers on the Altar

are in Memory Of

The Mayfield, Burkhardt & Seymour Families

Altar Society Members for next week

Janell Alliston, Deni Helms and Pat Zuber



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, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Walter Gary, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Mary Jo and Ron Hoogstra, Melissa James, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Jacob Latil, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Judy Penton, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spicuzza, Ron Stump, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Angela Troclair, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, Cooper Williams and Sonny Wynn.

Religious Education News

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

Janie Sema – 228-217-1392; jsema@osstalphonsus.org

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

6th – 8th Grade – Edge: Sunday, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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

Feb 7: RCIA, Eucharist, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.

Feb 10: Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)

Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., Showing of the Gosnell Movie.

The movie is NOT graphic but it does deal with the topic of abortion at all stages. As Christian Catholics we should be educated on this topic.

Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds



An Altar Society Luncheon will be held on Saturday, February 9th at 12:00 Noon at Phoenicia's in Ocean Springs.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle (Rosary and Message Reading - no Mass) on Tuesday, February 12th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room at the Villa Maria. All are invited.



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



Women's Cursillo February 21-24: When was the last time you did something for yourself? When was the last time you took time to grow in faith, to grow in grace? When was the last time you took time to grow in your responsibilities as a Catholic Woman? Perhaps now is a time to think about making a Cursillo. It is an opportunity to learn more about the faith that we profess. It is an opportunity to learn how to more fully live an authentic Christian life. Consider giving yourself a gift this year! The Cursillo weekend is for Catholics who are looking to deepen their faith and love for Christ. For more information contact Judy Lessa at 228-669-6262.



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 week of February 25th – March 1st. 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.



Co-Ed Arise #9 – Sacred Heart Retreat Center in Dedeaux, Friday, March 29th – Sunday, March 31st: Arise is sponsored by the Cursillo Movement of South MS, another program of the Diocese of Biloxi. Whereas Cursillo is limited to Catholics, Arise is 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've 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 Karly Richardson at (228) 219-2203 or Mike Lingenfelder at (228) 354-8377, or you may visit the website at www.biloxicursillo.org for an application or more information.



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.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL



*****Now Collecting Box Tops!*****

All funds to benefit St. Alphonsus Catholic School!

Thank you for your contribution! You are asked to please place your box top clippings in a Ziploc bag,/ make sure none have expired and drop them off at the school office or you may also drop in the church collection basket. **Deadline: February 15, 2019**

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

Feb 9: Sweetheart Dance, Gym, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

St. Alphonsus School is having a **Disney Raffle Fundraiser.** The grand prize is a \$4,000 Disney gift card plus \$1,000 cash. The runner-up will receive a \$400 Disney gift card plus \$100 cash. Tickets are \$50 each and only 500 tickets will be sold. All proceeds will be used to help fund new classroom curriculum and resource needs. The drawing will be held on Wednesday, February 27th. For more information, please contact the school office at 875-5329.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

St. Patrick registration open online

Feb 6: Baseball Parent Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Feb 7: Mass 9:40 a.m.

Feb 8: Progress Reports

Feb 9: ACT, 8:00 a.m.



The Knights of Columbus are continuing their collection drive for the Morning Star Pregnancy Center through February. They are collecting diapers, formula, bottles, new or gently used clothing for babies under 2 years old, and other baby items. There will be a basket for Donations at the front entrance of the church."



Fr. Henry at Our Lady of Fatima in Biloxi is leading a group to Ireland, leaving on June 2nd, 2019 and returning on June 13 (11 days.) This trip will cover primarily Northern Ireland and the West, including the Titanic Museum, Giant's Causeway, Belleek China factory, Knock Shrine, Galway, Cliffs of Moher and to some places no tour bus has ever gone before in Co. Clare. A valid passport is required and cost is \$3,999.00 per person, sharing. If interested please call Fr. Henry at 388-3887 or go online, <https://caragrouptour.com/fr-henry-tour-of-ireland-june-2019/> for application form and all the details.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Gladys Schmierer, a member of our parish family, who passed away January 24th.

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

REFLECTION

A loving person

Jesus fulfilled the ideal of love Paul speaks about. He was never in a hurry, and was always kindness itself. He never envied anybody, and never boasted about himself. He was never snobbish, or rude, or selfish. He did not take offence easily, nor did he keep on talking about the wrong things other people did. He preferred to remember the good things and to rejoice in them. He was tough – he could face anything. And he never lost trust in God, or in people. He never lost hope; he never gave in. He never stopped loving.

Pray for Vocations