

**For Matthew, the story of the Magi becomes an anticipation of the fate of the Good News of salvation, a fate that he knew in the aftermath of the resurrection.** God revealed himself to the Jews through the Scriptures, and to the Gentiles through nature. Hence, Matthew shows the Magi (who were Gentiles) receiving a revelation through astrology. The story highlights the paradox: the Jews who have the Scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come, and with the help of the Scriptures, find and adore him.

There is nothing to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from and what exactly the star was. The star was only the means by which a great mystery was revealed – the revelation of Christ as the Savior of the Gentiles too.

The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of today's feast: God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.



**The annual Mass for Deceased Irish Priest** will take place on January 8, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 720 East Beach Blvd. Bishop Roger Morin will be the principal celebrant. The homilist will be former St. Thomas pastor Fr. Louis Lohan, who is retired and living on his farm in Ireland. A reception will follow in the community center. All are invited.



**You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass** on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Rosary, Message reading, Consecration, Mass



**An Altar Society Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.



**All are invited to come join us as we Pray for the Sick** on Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Church. This will be an hour of Adoration, Rosary, Prayer and Music. Confession will be available if needed.



**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. Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>). 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!



**An Anointing of the Sick** will take place on Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. (before the 4:00 p.m. Mass) in the Church. This is for all elderly parishioners, anyone with an illness, or parishioners with elderly or homebound family members that may wish to receive this Sacrament.



**An Altar Server Training** is scheduled for Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. in the Church with lunch being served afterwards in the KC Hall. All altar servers, and anyone wishing to become an altar server (must have already made First Holy Communion), are asked to please attend this training. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served for lunch - we ask that you call or email the Rectory Office (875-5419 / [stals@cablone.net](mailto:stals@cablone.net)) if your child plans on staying for lunch.



**Tax Statements for yearly contributions are available upon request.** These statements only reflect contributions made through the regular church collections and the special second collections if they have been made in an identifiable fashion (church envelope or loose check). Any loose cash contribution cannot be credited. Contributions to the Catholic Sharing Appeal will be acknowledged from the Diocese. Please email or call the rectory office if you need a tax statement ([stals@cablone.net](mailto:stals@cablone.net) or 875-5419). Statements will be mailed by the end of the month.

**Pray for Vocations**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 7</b>
1 John 3:22—4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25	
6:30 am	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 am	Special Intention
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 8</b>
1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44	
6:30 am	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
8:15 am	Ms. Ruby Dale
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 9</b>
1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 am	Mr. Hunter Grantham
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 10</b>
1 John 4:19—5:4; Luke 4:14-22a	
6:30 am	Mr. Richard “Dick” Smith
8:15 am	Ms. Irene Nelson Powers
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 11</b>
1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16	
6:30 am	Ms. Anna Marie Holiefield
8:15 am	Ms. Mary Wronko
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 12</b>
1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30	
8:15 am	Mr. George Wavra
	4:00 pm Henry and Bitsy Bonney
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 13</b>
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22	
7:30 am	Ms. Melissa Roberts Lee
9:00 am	Int. Ms. Kelsey Gunkel
11:30 am	Dr. & Mrs. Leon (Orpha) F. Striegel
5:30 pm	Congregation

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$8,364.48  
 New Year's Day Collection.....\$5,709.81  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



**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, Mary Jo and Ron Hoogstra, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Melissa James, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Jacob Latil, Erik Marcussen, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Marie Meyers, Maurice Michaud, Edna Miguez, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Judy Penton, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spiczuka, Ron Stump, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Randy Trahan, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Angela Troclair, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, Cooper Williams and Sonny Wynn.

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



**The Poinsettias on the Altar are in Memory of or in Honor Of the following:** The Lopez Family, The Sauls Family, George C. Fero, Thomas G. Fero, George W. and Veronica Fero, Thomas F. and Marie Mathieu, The Auger Family, The Bedard Family & Friends, Monica Goretski, The O'Connor Family, The Shebanek Family, Frances and Curtis Tootle, Donald Tiblier, Peyton Kostmayer, Paul Brant, Taylor Cook, Ligaya Camagong, Tam Bao, Leonor Tam, Bart Camagong, Maria Camagong, The Cole Family, The Hosey Family, Alma and Nick Garlick, Alice Hire, Theresa Davidson, Eddie Hire, Oris Danise, Mae Danise, Mary Inez Danise, Baby Girl Timmons, Tiffany Timmons, Kim Roe, Katherine Gordy, The Oehler Family (James, Edna, Jimmy, Jeffy), The Catinat Family, Jonathan Catinat, Doty Fournier Sr., Rosalie Fournier, Barbara Fournier, Kenny Fournier, Shirley Helm, Walter and Sissy Anderson, Dennis Belson, Joan Belson, Mark Thornton Riviere, Nancy Thornton Riviere, Bob and Helma Denehie, Bill Hosey Jr., The J.R. & Celeste Williams Family, Cosme and Angelina Esquibel & Family, Joey Williams, Edward Coker, Rose Williams, Walter Sokira, Bill and Ramonda Becker, Deceased Family Members of Ronald and Barbara Fournier, My Family, Charles Bellman Sr., The Kortman Family, The Thompson Family, The Robson Family, The Cox Family, Honor of Mrs. Anna Mitchell, Mr. M.B. Mitchell Sr., Mr. & Mrs. Robert M. Mitchell, Mr. Andrew Clayton, The Schwab Family, The McCabe Family, The Selman Family, Shirod Miller Sr., Mae Miller, Jerry Miller, Herschel Vail, The Webber Family, The Raether Family, The Oakes Family, Miller Relatives, The Fremin Family, Glenn Brune, Sophia Mohler, Alan Young, Alson Young, Gay Young, The Brou Family, Dennis and Alta Mae Higginbotham, Hubby Nelson, John and Ida Olsen, Buddy Martin, Dexter Martin, Deceased Members of the Wagener Family, Nettie Beaugez Jones, Linda Mayer, Thomas (Frank) and Marie Mathieu, Emmet Catchot, Sky Jenkins, Wm. Lomax, Maureen Lomax, The Skelton Family, The Perry Family, Mrs. Jean Ferguson, Thom Murphy, Melba Lindner, James Sprawls, Mary Saunders, Menno Saunders, Lavon Saunders, James D. Stuart, Mary and Oscar Mitchell, Laura and Fred Howell, Arnold and Bert Pffifner, Jean Lambert, Norman and Mildred Eckert, Roland and Mildred Hymel, Linda and Helen Eckert, Edward Eckert, William Eckert, Robert Bellman, Edward Bellman, Christopher Bellman, Glenn “Skinny” Brune, Mr. & Mrs. Joe Brune Sr., Edwin and Esther Broussard, Joe and Lucille Ross, Ronald A. Balias Sr., Melba O. Balias, Ottis Conway, Floyd Balias, Edward and Regina Disbury, William Disbury, Tony Rich, Camille B. Durkin, Raymond Chandler, William Ray, Robert Nelson, Leonard E. Gavins, The Carl Koellner Family, Oleus and Della Sonnier, The Sonnier Family, The Mitchell Family, The Kittle Family, Barbara McCarhey, Lisa Grace Westbrook, Cyril and Catherine Ryan Family, Glenn (Joan) Ryan Family, The Kehoe Family, Wilma and Leslie Trauth, Eleanor and Glenn Young Sr., George Young, Gay Lorne Young, Richard Porterfield, The Porterfield Family, The Mills Family, Dot McKinnon, Robbin McKinnon, Jeff Dees, Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan, Ms. Betty Lou Ryan Callegari, The Salik Family, The Gianelloni Family, The Bennett Family, Russ Jordan, Carley Jordan, Brittany Jordan, George Pitalo Sr., Gregory Hebert, Martin and Eileen Muzslay, Linda Mayer, Becky Quiter, George Quiter, Chuck Quiter, The Leon Seymour Family, The Arnot Smith Family, Bobby and Mary Bosarge, Bart Brewer, Mr. & Mrs. James Salters, Mike Mitchell Sr., Richard Salters, Jimmy Salters, Bertie Varnado, Bernadette Schultz, Mr. & Mrs. Bob Mitchell, Curtis Marsh, Andrew Clayton, Shannon Beverin, Pat Jones, Tommy Jones, Sue Lepoma, Lester Thompson, Donald Beneuz, Bob and Maryann Ederer, Jack Seymour Sr., Margaret Seymour, Sherry Seymour, Jack Seymour Jr., Steve Castleman, Judy Fremin, The Frammersberger Family, The Collins Family, The C.A. Banks Family, The Joseph Holder Family, Louis Trebotich, Joey Trebotich, Joe and Tina Trebotich, Pat Trebotich, Ernie and Madeline Keenan, Henry and Sylvia Diaz, My Unborn Child, Toney and Margie Terretta, Kyle and Bea Vance, George Cannette Sr., Chic Anderson, Beatrice Roper, James O'Toole, W.R. and Patsy Prouse, Grace and Frank K. Mobley, Marion Eagan O'Brien, Susan Littleton of Boise Idaho, The Riviere Family, The Burdine Family, Joan Batia, Calvin Koenig, Dick and Agnes Sebastian, Ray Hayes, Lowell and Joycelen Webb, Guy Dubuisson, David J. Munger, Marshall and Stella Dishong, Larry Dishong, Waldemar Arroyo, Anna Mae Montgomery, Cecil Montgomery, Bergeron, Rubin, Dolive, and Patice, The King Family, The Mayfield Family, The Burkhardt Family, The Seymour Family, Diocesan Bishops, Priests, Deacons and Nuns, The

Josephite Priest, Sisters of Blessed Sacrament, A.L. “Stan” Stanton, The Clack Family, James Howard Clack, The Jewell Family, The Kees Family and Special Intention.

## Religious Education News

**Deacon Jim Gunkel – 872-2652; [dcjim@osstalphonesus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonesus.org)  
**Janie Sema – 228-217-1392; [jsema@osstalphonesus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonesus.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.**

**Jan 10:** RCIA, Beatitudes, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.  
**Jan 13:** Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)  
 Adult Study Class 10:15 a.m., CHRIST 101  
 Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Jan 9:** Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m. / Report Cards  
**Jan 11:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Jan 9:** March for Life Parent Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
 Varsity Football Banquet 6:00 p.m.  
**Jan 10:** Mass 9:40 a.m.  
**Jan 11:** Report Cards



**EWTN television will air this Sunday** (January 6<sup>th</sup>) at 2:30 p.m. a full-length feature movie about the activities of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The St. Vincent de Paul Society is very active at many parishes in the Diocese of Biloxi.

**Surviving Divorce Class:** Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. This program is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It helps to find answers to questions, restore hope, and begin authentic healing. The twelve-week Surviving Divorce program begins on **January 17, 2019 at 7:00 pm at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Fannon Hall.** The cost of the program for participants is \$25 and includes the Surviving Divorce Personal Guide and all program materials. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic Church teachings. Call Amy at the church office at 228-875-0654, Gina Cazaubon at 228-326-4419, or visit [www.stelseton.com](http://www.stelseton.com) to register for the session.



**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.



**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.



**A lovely flower arrangement on the altar area of the church on weekends is a beautiful way to honor a deceased loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.** If you would like to donate for a specific weekend, please call the Rectory at 875-5419. Donation amount is \$35.00.