

**The First Reading and the Gospel are hospitality stories.** Hospitality was an esteemed virtue in the ancient world. It is still a highly regarded and very necessary virtue.

In the First Reading we see how, when three strangers (the Lord and two heavenly companions) suddenly appeared to Abraham, he reacted with instinctive hospitality, and how the Lord rewarded his hospitality.

This sets the scene for Martha and Mary who welcome Jesus to their home. We see the contrast between Martha's activity and Mary's quiet devotion to the Lord. It is not that what Martha does is unimportant. It is just that Mary has chosen something even more important. Her priority is to listen to the word of Jesus.

The story of Martha and Mary can be seen as a parable in action. Whereas the parable of the Good Samaritan stressed the importance of action, or practical love, in the life of a disciple, this story stresses the importance of contemplation. Both are necessary, and have to be integrated into the life of a Christian. Martha is the patron saint of waiters and waitresses.



**If any of you needs wisdom, you should ask God for it. James 1:5**

**“Thomas came with doubts. Did Christ turn him away? Moses had his reservations. Did God tell him to go home? Job had his struggles. Did God avoid him? Paul had his hard times. Did God abandon him? No. God never turns away the sincere heart. Tough questions don't stump God. He invites our probing. Mark it down. God never turns away the honest seeker. Go to God with your questions. You may not find all the answers, but in finding God, you know the One who does.”** --- Max Lucado, **Walking with the Savior**  
Through Jesus, God has given us the incredible way of knowing Him. Make time to regularly visit the Adoration Chapel. Get to know God. “Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him”. --St. Teresa of Calcutta

### St. Alphonsus Parish Special Pro-Life Initiative



## Choose Life PRAY PRAY PRAY

The Pro-Life Billboard Initiative began in January 2019 in order to raise funds for billboards, which promote the Right to Life and remind people to pray. Currently there are two billboards installed on I-10 eastbound near the Cowan Road exit and westbound near the Menge Avenue exit. There are plans for an additional three billboards – two on Highway 90 and one on Highway 603 in Bay St. Louis. There will be a Special Collection taken up next weekend at the end of Mass to support this initiative. Please be generous in your support.



**Next Sunday, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, we will show a 25-30 minute video on Comunità Cenacolo America.**

**Comunità Cenacolo America** is part of the international **Comunità Cenacolo (Community of the Cenacle)** founded in Italy in 1983 by a dynamic, vibrant, and faith-filled religious sister named Elvira Petrozzi. **Mother Elvira** felt certain that God was calling her to serve the poor of the modern world: disillusioned young men and women who live in desperation and hopelessness, convinced that life has no meaning or value. Unable to find peace or joy in their lives, they seek to fill the emptiness with the illusory pleasures of the world, only to find themselves steeped in an intense interior isolation. With unwavering trust in the direction of the Holy Spirit, Mother Elvira proclaims to all those who live in darkness that only Jesus Christ can heal and transform their shattered lives, changing despair into hope, sadness into joy, hatred into forgiveness, and death into life.



**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.

### Altar Society Members for next week

**Kay Brochard, Sue Garlotte and Norma Williams**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JULY 22</b>
Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18	
6:30 am	Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 23</b>
Exodus 14:21—15:1; Matthew 12:46-50	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Elvin Asher Family
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 24</b>
Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Matthew 13:1-9	
6:30 am	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 am	Ms. Sandra Darien
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JULY 25</b>
2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Matthew 20:20-28	
6:30 am	Ms. Robin Beaugez Polk
8:15 am	Special Intention
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JULY 26</b>
Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 13:18-23	
6:30 am	Deceased Members Alt & Marie Beech Family
8:15 am	Mr. Matt Pitalo
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JULY 27</b>
Exodus 24:3-8; Matthew 13:24-30	
8:15 am	Mr. Glen Skelton
4:00 pm	Mr. Anthony Goretski
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JULY 28</b>
Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:12-14; Luke 11:1-13	
7:30 am	Congregation
9:00 am	Special Intention
11:30 am	Mr. Hunter Grantham
5:30 pm	Ms. Joan Ryan

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$13,291.44  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



### The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of The Collins Family



**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, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, Loretta Foster, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Melissa James, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Jacob Latil, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Bob Mayer, Cheryl Megie, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, David McKenna, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Roger Parker, Michael Punziano, Barbara Rangan, Carter James Sanders, David Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spicuzza, Sylvia Spratley, Nell Stanton, Ron Stump, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Angela Trosclair, Larry Tucei, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, and Thane Williams.

## Pray for Vocations

## Religious Education News

Deacon Jim Gunkel 228-297-5212; [dcjim@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonsus.org)  
Janie Sema 228-217-1392; [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)

**We invite you to keep up to date with all things involving the Youth Ministry by following us on Instagram (@st.alphonsus.hsytg) and on Facebook (St. Alphonsus Youth Group).**



**Attention High School Students:** You are invited to join us for a Bible Study this summer on Thursday evenings in the Youth Ministry Office from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. For more information email: [youth@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:youth@osstalphonsus.org)



**We are in need of volunteers to help with our Life Teen (High School) and Edge (Middle School) programs for the coming school year.**

If you are interested in helping with either program or for more information, please email: [youth@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:youth@osstalphonsus.org).



**Children's Liturgy Volunteers are also 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 grandbabies? We'll love to have you as a volunteer for the 2019-2020 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.

### The Five Precepts of the Church

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and remain free from work or activity that could impede the sanctification of such days.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter Season.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by The Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.



**You are invited to join in Prayer time for all who were/are abused** this Sunday (July 21<sup>st</sup>) from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at St. Michael Family Life Center. Come and see in a silent, safe, accepting and affirming environment. Time to be free of secrets, hurt, pain, shame. Confidential and anonymous. The Christ in you, greets the Christ in others to journey, to feel, to experience dignity and respect.



**The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Married Couples Return Weekend,** scheduled for July 26-28, 2019, will be held at the William Kelley Retreat Center at the St. Augustine Seminary in Bay St. Louis. This weekend is open to all married couples provided at least one has experienced a Cursillo (spouse does not have to be Catholic). This retreat is for married couples that would like to celebrate their strengths as a couple and be encouraged to live your marriage in witness of God's love. Reservation forms are available in the Vestibule of the Church. Suggested donation is \$200 per couple. For more information email Diana Suffern at [dianadsuffern@gmail.com](mailto:dianadsuffern@gmail.com) or call 337-278-1610.



**Hospital Stays:** Because of privacy concerns, it is 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.

## \*\*School Subsidy Policy\*\*

### Registration for the 2019/2020 School Year Going on Now

St. Alphonsus Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Parish Staff, wishes to reiterate the established policy concerning subsidy of our young people at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School. In order for students to receive subsidized tuition at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School, the following must be followed:

1. The Family must be registered in St. Alphonsus Parish
2. Contribute to the support of the parish through the regular use of the envelope system or some other agreed upon service.
3. The family **MUST** attend weekend Mass with the Parish Family at St. Alphonsus.

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**July 22-23:** Summer Office Hours, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

**July 24:** Final Registration, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., in Library

**July 25-26:** Summer Office Hours – Call School for times

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Summer Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Our faculty and staff are called to educate scholars, train disciples, and support champions. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, call 702-0500. To apply online or to learn more about the St. Patrick experience, visit the website at [www.stpatrickhighschool.net](http://www.stpatrickhighschool.net).



### Relax, Refresh, and Renew with the Parish App:

It's a time to relax, refresh and renew both personally and spiritually. While you're out at the beach, a lake, in the park or waiting for an appointment, your **myParish app** gives you quick access to many aspects of your Catholic life every day. One touch takes you to the USCCB readings of the day. Another and you will find 49 prayers in the Prayer button. Catching up on the news is a snap by touching the News button. There are interesting articles from the Catholic News Agency. Looking for someone to share a rosary? Push the Rosary button and hear the soothing voice of Fr. John Riccardo. Have a moment for a quick read? Click the Inspire Daily light bulb and find daily blogs from Catholic writers based on the day's readings. Trying to find a church while traveling this summer? Tap the 3 lines in the upper left hand corner while on the myParish app. Then type in the zip code of your destination where it says Find a Parish. In seconds you will see the closest 10 parishes to that location using the app. Don't know the zip code? Touch the Discover Mass button and enter a city name and state.

All these aspects of Catholic life and more can be found in your myParish app. Not on the Parish 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). May it allow you an experience of our faith, just a fingertip away - Catholic life every day.



**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.

### PRAYER / REFLECTION

#### In his presence

Lord, I place myself in your presence. After the strain and turmoil of the day I rest quietly here, as a little boat, which has been tossed by the waves and buffeted by the wind, rests secure in a sheltered harbor. Here my projects lose their power over me. A healing process begins. My fragmented self is reassembled, and I am made whole again. In your presence, I experience my true worth, which consists not in doing but in being. I surrender myself to your hands. I am at peace.