

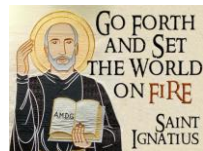
The First Reading presents a vision of all peoples coming to Jerusalem to share in the blessings God has conferred on Israel. This prepares us for the universalist note (typical of Luke) which we find in the Gospel. God wills that all people should be saved. People will come from all over the world to share in the messianic kingdom, and the Jews will have no advantage over the Gentiles. Jesus refuses to get into the numbers game, or to speculate about matters that are best left to the wisdom and mercy of God. The main thing is: the kingdom is present and the door open. But the door is not so wide that people can saunter casually in at their own convenience; it is a narrow opening through which they must thrust themselves with determination. Besides, the door will not be open indefinitely.

The message was originally intended for the Jews, but Luke now intends it as a warning to the disciples of Jesus. There were those who thought they could enter the kingdom simply because they had a superficial acquaintance with the Master, but whose commitment was limited to words. There are those who even did evil, and who still expected to get in. It's a warning against presumption. Salvation depends on the favor of God and the honest struggle to follow his ways.



“The more we give ourselves up in the worship of God, the more our personality is deepened and enriched. The more we concentrate on ourselves and our own status, however, the more we grow poor, shallow, and dull...”
---Jutta Burggraf

Who wants to be poor, shallow, and dull? Experience the beauty of God's enriching influence on your life by spending time in His Holy Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Focus on God...Jesus came to give us LIFE!
“Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him”. --St. Teresa of Calcutta

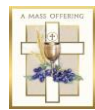


Lord, Teach Me to Pray Part 2: “My 19th Annotation” for Women only starts this Monday (August 26th) from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. in the St. Alphonsus School Library. Praying “My 19th Annotation” will introduce you to praying the full Ignatian exercises enabling you to experience the

scriptures through your imagination or life experiences and receiving the full impact of being in the presence of God, thereby developing a deep trust in God. This 27-week program (13 weeks, 4 week break, 14 weeks) is facilitated in a group setting and requires 30-45 minutes of daily prayer on assigned scriptures. The cost is \$20 and Part 1 – Praying Christian Virtues is a prerequisite. For more information, contact Rachel Deroche at 228-324-4431 or Toni Gunkel at 228-365-3547.



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 (August 26th - 30th). 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.



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



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Angela Trosclair, niece of Margaret & Roland Broussard and cousin of Aline & Ronald Balius of this parish, who passed away July 22nd in Dulac, Louisiana.

Lucille “Lou” Young, mother of Linda (Joel) Gregory and Charles Young of this parish, who passed away August 16th.

We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.



The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of Courtney and Sean Collier and in Memory of Alan, Lou and Alson Young

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	AUGUST 26
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 8b-10; Matthew 23:13-22	
6:30 am	Int. Fr. Mike Snyder
8:15 am	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
TUESDAY	AUGUST 27
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 23:23-26	
6:30 am	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 am	Mr. Matt Pitalo
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 28
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 am	Mr. Anthony Goretski
THURSDAY	AUGUST 29
1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Mark 6:17-29	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
FRIDAY	AUGUST 30
1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 25:1-13	
6:30 am	Ms. Joan Ryan
8:15 am	Elvin Asher Family
SATURDAY	AUGUST 31
1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30	
8:15 am	Ms. Charlotte Lamar
4:00 pm	Ms. Esther Marsh
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 1
Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a; Luke 14:1, 7-14	
7:30 am	Ms. Linda Mayer
9:00 am	Mr. Hunter Grantham
11:30 am	Ms. Doris Ladnier
5:30 pm	Congregation

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$10,848.81
Children's Collection.....	\$ 68.69
Holy Day – Assumption Collection.....	\$ 1,535.56
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, Bob & Ruth Boney, 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, Barbara Langan, 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, Carter James Sanders, David Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spicuzza, Sylvia Spratley, Nell Stanton, Ron Stump, Mary Terry, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Larry Tucei, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, and Thane Williams.

**Altar Society Members for next week
Joan Burres and Juliana Skelton**

Religious Education News

**Deacon Jim Gunkel 228-297-5212; dcjim@osstalphonusus.org
Janie Sema 228-217-1392; jsema@osstalphonusus.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 - Lifteen: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Aug 25: Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds
Elementary Parent Meeting, 10:15 a.m., Parish Hall.

Registration forms are available on our website. Please have forms filled out prior to registration. Copies of both the Birth Certificate and Baptismal Certificate will be required for each child. If you have not already done so, please bring these with you to registration.

Registration fee is \$35 per family.

Aug 29: Edge, Lifteen, Confirmation Parent Mtg, 6:00 pm, Parish Hall
Sept 5: RCIA sessions begin, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Sept 8: All Religious Education classes begin. See above for times.



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 5, 2019** and will be held weekly each Thursday night at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room. To register or for more information, please contact Deacon Jim at dcjim@osstalphonusus.org or by calling 297-5212.

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



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@osstalphonusus.org.

A Mass for People with Special Needs will be held this Sunday (August 25th) at 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church (12290 Depew Rd) in Gulfport. People with special needs resulting from physical, emotional, mental or cognitive conditions are all around us in society, at school, at work, and in our families. It can be challenging for these important members of our society to participate in church due to physical and social barriers – or even family member anxiety. Celebrating a Mass for People with Special Needs can be the first of many steps toward integrating them into regular weekly or even daily Mass – and more deeply into all of the sacraments and other aspects of parish life. Holding this Mass sends the message that all of God's children are welcome under the parish roof and that every person is an integral part of the parish family. If you have special needs and don't ordinarily attend Mass, or, if you would like to bring a friend or relative with special needs to this Mass, please know that you are invited and encouraged to join. For more information, contact, Bari Matherne at 228-209-2336.



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.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Aug 27: Open House and PTO Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Aug 30: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Aug 27: Junior Ring Orders, 11:45 a.m.

Aug 28: PTO Meeting, 7:45 a.m.

Aug 29: Mass / Cross Country Ring Ceremony, 9:40 a.m.



St. Peter Catholic Church in Bassfield is selling tickets for their 24th Annual 800 Club monthly drawing for \$50 each and are available in the St. Alphonsus Rectory Office (during regular business hours). All proceeds from this fundraiser are used to help the rejuvenation and up-keep of the parish facilities of St. Peter where Fr. Chinnappa Mark is pastor. Each month, beginning September 1, 2019 and ending August 30, 2020, four tickets will be drawn, \$500 for first ticket and \$100 for remaining three, and all winners are eligible to win again as the ticket will be put back in the ‘barrel’. They thank you for your support.



Catholic Charities is organized to directly assist immigrant families. You can donate to support this humanitarian cause at:

<https://catholiccharitiesjackson.org/> and go to “August 7 ICE Raids” at the top right of the website.

We are grateful to all who are reaching out to help.



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? 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. May it allow you an experience of our faith, just a fingertip away - Catholic life every day.



Parishioner Registration: When planning a baptism, marriage, or to obtain subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must be able to demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you do attend Mass.

It is the Church, not just this parish, which insists that signs of good faith commitment be present on these occasions. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of contributions and Mass attendance. Parish registration forms may be obtained in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.

REFLECTION

The two roads

Jesus said that there are two roads we can follow. The first is wide and easy to travel. It is downhill most of the way. It is the way of comfort and ease, pleasure and self-seeking. Many are fooled and travel down this road. But in the long run it leads them nowhere. They die in the desert. The second road is narrow and difficult. It is uphill a lot of the way. It is the way of struggle and sacrifice. Few take this road. But they are the lucky ones. This road leads to the Promised Land.

The Four Last Things

1. Death
2. Judgment
3. Hell
4. Heaven