

**.The First Reading describes the persecution of the prophet Jeremiah.** Having tried in vain to save his people, Jeremiah was now abandoned to his enemies. Christians have always seen him as a figure of Christ. His sufferings remind us of the sufferings of Jesus, and his rescue from the pit reminds us of Jesus' resurrection from the tomb.

The Gospel contains two sayings about the nature of Jesus' mission. His coming marks a time for making decisions. His followers will have to make crucial choices; they will have to choose to be for him or against him. Choosing for him may divide them from family members. In the early Church, conversion was likely to cause a family row. The convert was rejected by the family, and had therefore to make a choice between Christ and the family.



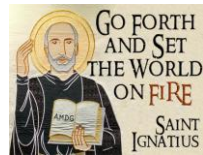
**Pope John Paul II said, "Anyone who prays to our Saviour (in the Blessed Sacrament) draws the whole world with him and raises it to God...Through adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world" (Letter to the Bishop of Liege, 1996).**

There is no greater time than now that we need God's Divine Mercy, Love, and Guidance. Spend time before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration and prayer. Join Jesus in healing and changing hearts...and ultimately the world.

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



**We wish to thank Bill Gunkel**, father of Deacon Jim, for building and donating the children's donation box to St. Alphonsus. All children are invited to come up during the collection and place their gift in the "Church".



**Lord, Teach Me to Pray Part 2:** "My 19<sup>th</sup> Annotation" for Women only starts Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:15 – 8:15 p.m. in the St. Alphonsus School Library. Praying "My 19<sup>th</sup> 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 week of August 26<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>.

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.

**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 prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of John Charles Freeman**, son of Christina Freeman of this parish, who passed away August 4<sup>th</sup>.

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**

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



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

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY AUGUST 19

Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22

6:30 am Mr. R.J. Domingue

8:15 am Ms. Judy Catchot

TUESDAY AUGUST 20

Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30

6:30 am Special Intention

8:15 am Mr. Ron Fournier

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21

Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16

6:30 am Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick

8:15 am Mr. & Mrs. Neely Powers

THURSDAY AUGUST 22

Judges 11:29-39a; Matthew 22:1-14

6:30 am Int. Holy Spirit

8:15 am Mr. Henry Danny Seymour

FRIDAY AUGUST 23

Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40

6:30 am Deceased Members Alt & Marie Beech Family

8:15 am Ms. Julia Mejia

SATURDAY AUGUST 24

Revelation 21:9b-14; John 1:45-51

8:15 am Ms. Marion Bedard

4:00 pm Ms. Oral Mae Senseney

SUNDAY AUGUST 25

Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

7:30 am Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan

Ms. Betty Lou Ryan Callegari

9:00 am Int. Mr. Bob Mayer

11:30 am Congregation

5:30 pm Mr. Randy Trahan

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,900.60

Children's Collection.....\$ 91.87

Extension Society Collection.....\$ 1,136.00

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 Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, 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, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Larry Tucei, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, Thane Williams and Lou Young.

**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)

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, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

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

Aug 18: Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds

Aug 18, 25: Registration for all grades held after each Mass in the 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 25: Elementary Parent Meeting, 10:15 a.m., Parish Hall.

Aug 29: Edge, Lifeteen, 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@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonsus.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.alphonsus.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@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:youth@osstalphonsus.org).

**A Mass for People with Special Needs** will be held on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church (12290 Depew Rd) in Gulfport. This Mass is sponsored by Father Harry Wade Council 7910.

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.

**The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy**

1. Counsel the doubtful.
2. Instruct the ignorant.
3. Admonish sinners.
4. Comfort the afflicted.
5. Forgive offenses.
6. Bear wrongs patiently.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Aug 21: Fall Pictures / 2:00 p.m. Early Dismissal

Aug 22: Fall Pictures

Aug 23: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Aug 19: Women's Soccer Parent Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Aug 21: Meet the Teacher Night, 6:00 p.m.

Aug 22: Make-Up Pictures, 8:30 a.m. / Mass, 9:40 a.m.

### UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

**Upon This Rock Scripture Study's Fall 2019/Spring 2020 Bible study program will be *Matthew: The King and His Kingdom*** by Ascension Press. Jeff Cavins presents the 24-week study lesson in the DVD presentation. It focuses on Jesus as the fulfillment of the promises of the Old Testament and His establishment of the Church as the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. The Bible study will begin Wednesday, September 11, 2019 and will meet each Wednesday morning through March 25, 2020 from 9:15 – 11:15 a.m. at St. Mary Parish in Murry Hall on Woolmarket Road in Biloxi. The fee is \$39 and includes the study set book and DVD presentation. Payment by August 19<sup>th</sup> will ensure that you receive your materials on September 11<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to register, call Sharon Jones at 228-591-1069.

**Jeff Cavins Story of Salvation Bible Study (Online):** Want to learn more about the Bible? Beginning Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm, you are invited to attend a 23 week online study group. Each session includes an informative, easy-to-understand and well delivered DVD presentation of 12 color-coded periods of the Bible. You will learn how to read and understand the Bible in a way that will transform your life! Even if you miss a session, you will be able to access online materials to stay current. For more information and to register, contact Wanda Freeland [w2jf2@att.net](mailto:w2jf2@att.net) OR visit [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com) to view materials.

Sacred Heart Church in D'Iberville will offer a **24 week study on the Book of Matthew** with Jeff Cavins (DVD) followed by open discussions. The study will begin Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:15 am – 11:15 am in the Knights of Columbus room in the Church Office building. Jeff Cavins has a way of making the Bible come alive and offers insightful knowledge that helps us understand and learn to apply God's word in our world today. Come join us for a morning that will profoundly change your understanding of the Bible and our Catholic faith. For more information and to register, contact Wanda Freeland at [w2jf2@att.net](mailto:w2jf2@att.net) All are welcomed and the coffee is always hot! Come join us!



**St. Peter Catholic Church in Bassfield is selling tickets for their 24<sup>th</sup> 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.

### REFLECTION

#### True and false peace

A swamp may look nice on the surface, but its depths are full of rotten things. Peace that is based on injustice is like that. It is a false peace and Jesus came to disrupt it. But then there is true peace – a peace in which all of God's children have their basic rights respected, and are able to live in freedom and dignity. This is the peace Jesus came to bring. But peace like this doesn't happen; it has to be made. Sometimes the peacemakers will be branded troublemakers. But Jesus had another name for them: he called them 'children of God'.