

The theme of all three readings is that of God's mercy towards sinners. In the First Reading we see that the people had abandoned God and fallen back into idolatry. God's reaction seems to portray him as an angry, jealous God, who will resort to the most terrible punishments when his law is disobeyed. But that's not the message of the story. The message is that God pardons the sin of his people in response to the prayer of Moses.

The fact that Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them was a cause of scandal to the Pharisees. They, the 'separated ones', avoided all contact with sinners. They assumed that God has no dealing with sinners either. But Jesus shows them a very different kind of God. By means of three parables he justifies his concern for sinners. All three parables stress God's concern for the lost one, and his joy when a lost one is found.

The parable of the Prodigal Son occurred earlier this year (Fourth Sunday of Lent), and is dealt with there. Here we might concentrate on the other two.

The Second Reading also fits in with the theme. Paul's conversion is proof of the fact that Christ came into the world to save sinners.



**"The essence of prayer is RELATIONSHIP. It's not primarily about doing something, but about getting to know someone."** – Fr. John Batunek, The Quiet Place

Haven't you ever felt like calling someone you care about or going by to see them just because you love them and want to check in, catch up, share news, or simply tell them you love them...or maybe all of the above? That's how we treat people we have a relationship with. Prayer and adoration are how we do that with Jesus. Give Him some of your time. Get to know Him better. Let him know how much you love Him.

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



**An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.**



**A Wednesday Morning Study Group** will begin on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Sue Mihal. The class will begin by finishing the Epic Series (2) and then start the study of the Gospel of Matthew by Dr. Brant Pitre. Refreshments and coffee will be provided. All are welcome. Please call 601-573-0020 for directions.



**The St Vincent de Paul Society is holding their annual "Friends of the Poor Walk"** on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. at the Ocean Springs-Biloxi Bridge. Our St. Alphonsus Conference, along with other Diocesan Conferences, will be walking/running again this year. We are asking fellow parishioners, families and friends to ask sponsors/donors to support the walk and/or come join us at the Bridge! If interested you can register and/or donate on line at [www.fopwalk.org/event/2345](http://www.fopwalk.org/event/2345) or you may call the rectory or ask a member for more information on registering. If you would like to donate only - you may drop your donation in the collection basket (marked "Walk for the Poor") or bring to the rectory during normal business hours. SEE YOU AT THE BRIDGE!!



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Edna Spell**, mother of Lucy (Mike) Catchot of this parish, who passed away September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Charles Meaut**, son of Laura Meaut of this parish, who passed away September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Susan "Sue" Cone**, sister of Tammy (David) Morano of this parish, who passed away September 9<sup>th</sup>.

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



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of All Catechist and in Memory of Deacon Greg Miller**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16

1 Timothy 2:1-8; Luke 7:1-10

6:30 am Dr. Malcolm Latour

8:15 am Int. Ms. Olivia Karp

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17

1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 7:11-17

6:30 am Mr. Werner Hartenstein

8:15 am Ms. Angelina Esquibel

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18

1 Timothy 3:14-16; Luke 7:31-35

6:30 am Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick

8:15 am Leo, Tommy and David Jr. Noble

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19

1 Timothy 4:12-16; Luke 7:36-50

6:30 am Special Intention

8:15 am Mr. M.C. Peters

Mr. Juan Peters

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20

1 Timothy 6:2c-12; Luke 8:1-3

6:30 am Int. Holy Spirit

8:15 am The Juraszek Family

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13

8:15 am Int. Mr. Edward Jim Freeman

4:00 pm Mr. Eddie Hire

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2-1-8; Luke 16:1-13

7:30 am Congregation

9:00 am Mr. Charles Wnukowski

11:30 am The Collins Family

5:30 pm Ms. Lucille "Lou" Young

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$12,298.71

Catholic University Collection.....\$ 1,005.00

Children's Collection.....\$ 29.00

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, Vicki

Carter, 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, Harold (Jimmy) Seller, Jr., 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.

Pray for Vocations

## Religious Education News

Chris Molino 228-860-8884; [cmolino@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:cmolino@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 - Lifteen: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Sept 19: RCIA, Divine Revelation, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Sept 22: Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)

Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m.; Jesus and the End Times: A Catholic View of the Last Days by Dr. Brant Pitre. All are welcome.

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



"Come and See" (John 1:39) It's not too late to join. On Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. we are offering instructional classes on the faith, worship, and life of the Catholic Church. The classes are held in Parish Hall Meeting Room and are open to anyone whether Catholics or non-Catholics. The topic for this week will be Divine Revelation.

For additional information please contact Deacon Jim at 228-297-5212 or Chris Milano at 228-860-8884.

**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).**



The Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast on Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the KC Hall for \$6.00 a plate. Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice.



**The Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass is scheduled for Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Nativity BVM Cathedral.** Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 etc. years of marriage are welcome to attend.

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office and may be picked up during regular business hours. The deadline for registration by mail is October 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration by phone, fax or email is not accepted.



**Rejuvenate Your Workspace With Prayer:**

The busy days of fall are here. We need to take the time to make sure our offices are a sacred space. By doing so we can intentionally bless all those whose names and lives we touch (literally) through our workspace and fingertips: at the door, at our computer, over the phone, or through our writing. It's time to rededicate our work space to be an extension of prayer for each and every one with whom we come in contact, in every moment of every day.

There are several great prayers available in the myParish app for those times you feel moved to offer a specific prayer for one of your parishioners or co-workers. The prayers also come in handy when praying in a large group, each person has access to the same wording and all can actively participate. There is a nice little prayer service from Catholic News Agency with blessings for an office, shop or factory.

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 lead you to an experience of our faith, just a fingertip away. Catholic life every day.

**Altar Society Members for next week  
Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart & Mark Aultman**

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Sept 18: Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.

Sept 20: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Sept 16: Women's Basketball Parent/Player Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

Sept 19: Make-up Pictures, 8:30 a.m. / Mass, 9:40 a.m.

Sept 20: Progress Reports

Sept 21: Alumni Mass and Social, 6:00 p.m.



All are invited to come join us as we Pray for the Sick on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Church. This will be an hour of Adoration, Rosary, Prayer and Music. Confession will be available if needed.



**An Anointing of the Sick** will take place on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</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.



**The Cursillo Movement of South MS** invites you to attend the next Co-Ed Arise #10 Retreat to be held on October 4-6, 2019, at the Kelley Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis, MS.

Arise is designed with the non-Catholic in mind. Arise is designed for groups of people 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 have been away from the church for a while,
  - Those without a current church/religion who are "searching" for a new one or a more meaningful faith experience,
  - Or those taking instruction in the Catholic faith, Arise is for you.
- Applications can be found on the Biloxi Cursillo website at [www.biloxicursillo.org](http://www.biloxicursillo.org). For more information you may contact Charles Walden at (985)285-2997 or Yvonne Husley at (228)697-3196.



**A Life in the Spirit Seminar** will be held at Our Lady of the Gulf in Bay St. Louis on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> beginning with Mass at 7:30 a.m. and continuing until 3:00 p.m. Do you want to receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit? You can! The

Fruit of the Holy Spirit is real! Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). God also has personal gifts for you: encouragement, leadership, writing, teaching, music, healing, etc. The Life in the Spirit Seminar is commonly used by Catholic groups in the context of a personal renewal in faith. It is an instrument for bringing people into a deeper experience of the work of the Holy Spirit. The Seminar offers the basic presentation of the Gospel and the teaching about what gifts the Lord gives to those who come to Him. For more information or to register call Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Office at 228-467-6509.

**The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Counsel
4. Fortitude
5. Knowledge
6. Piety
7. Fear of the Lord

**PRAYER / REFLECTION**

**Prayer for the lost lambs**

Lord Jesus, we pray for all the sheep that are lost, but our hearts go out especially to the lost lambs. Have mercy on the human wolves who steal, exploit, and sometimes kill the lambs of the Father's flock; help them to see the horror of what they are doing. Comfort the grieving parents who in many cases don't even have the consolation of a burial service. In your merciful love grant that those lambs, though lost here, may be found hereafter. Watch over those who are still straying here below. Guide them along paths that are safe. Send shepherds to look for them. And open the eyes of society so that we may cease to regard property as more important than people. Amen.