

**The world and all it contains is like a grain of sand compared with the greatness of God.** Yet God loves all that he has created, and overlooks people's sins so that they can repent (First Reading). The Gospel gives us an example of this in the way Jesus seeks out the tax-collector, Zacchaeus, and calls him to repentance.

At that time tax-collectors were put in the same category as thieves, murderers and prostitutes. Furthermore, because they worked for the Romans, they were regarded as traitors, and treated as outcasts. We can understand, then, how the good people of Jericho were offended when Jesus went to the house of Zacchaeus. But Jesus justified his action by saying that Zacchaeus too was a son of Abraham, and therefore entitled to the mercy of God as any other Israelite. And he declared that it was to seek out and save people like Zacchaeus that he had come.

Touched by the kindness of Jesus, Zacchaeus saw the error of his ways and resolved to change. In this episode we again see Luke's concern for the proper use of wealth – it should be distributed to the poor.



**“When Christ is the center of our lives, unambiguously, without competition – the rest of our lives tend to fall into harmony around that center.” --Bishop Robert Barron**

Your life is not about you...it's about your participation in this divine adventure. Spending time alone with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament can help you take the steps in making Christ the center of your life. Imagine where a life in harmony with Jesus would bring us and the world?

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



**A Baptism Class** will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Any parent with a child for baptism must attend this class prior to scheduling a baptism date. Godparents are also encouraged to attend.

Godparents who are not registered /active members of St. Alphonsus must present a letter from their pastor giving them permission to be a godparent. A godparent must be a Catholic in good standing with the church, receiving the sacraments on a regular basis. Class lasts a little over one hour. Baptisms are scheduled each month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.

When parents have their children baptized they indicate their desire to have their children grow up and live as children of God and brothers or sisters of Jesus, and be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Through birth a child is given to parents; through baptism a child is given to God. At baptism the parents acknowledge that their parenthood is a participation in God's parenthood that all fatherhood and motherhood comes from God. Thus baptism frees the parents from a sense of owning their children. Children belong to God and are given to the parents to love and care for in God's name. It is the parents' vocation to welcome their children as honored guests in their home and bring them to the physical, emotional, and spiritual freedom that enables them to leave the home and become parents themselves. Baptism reminds parents of this vocation and sets children on the path of freedom.



**Deacon Jim is planning a Pot Luck Celebration** on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the KC Hall. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend. Bring your favorite dish to share: homemade or picked up!



Questions? Call Beth McMackin at 228-324-4188.



**On Friday, February 14, 2020, all St. Alphonsus parishioners who have been married 50+ years will be honored with a sit down meal by the Knights of Columbus in the KC Hall.** A binder has been placed in the back of the church and we ask that you please fill out the requested information. Please put the time you would like the dinner to take place and we will go with the majority. We would also like your information even if you are not able to come so that we will be able to recognize you.



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of The Mayfield, Burkhardt & Seymour Families**

## MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY NOVEMBER 4

Romans 11:29-36; Luke 14:12-14

6:30 am Mr. John Rivera

8:15 am Poor Souls

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5

Romans 12:5-16b; Luke 14:15-24

6:30 am Ms. Mollie Davidson

8:15 am Poor Souls

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6

Romans 13:8-10; Luke 14:25-33

6:30 am Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.

8:15 am Poor Souls

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7

Romans 14:7-12; Luke 15:1-10

6:30 am Poor Souls

8:15 am Mr. Henry R. Burkhardt

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8

Romans 15:14-21; Luke 16:1-8

6:30 am Poor Souls

8:15 am Int. Louis and Irma Stiglet

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9

Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; John 2:13-22

8:15 am Poor Souls

4:00 pm Mr. Alfred Seymour

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10

2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14, 2 Thess 2:16—3:5; Luke 20:27-38

7:30 am Mr. Nolan Halat

9:00 am Congregation

11:30 am Poor Souls

5:30 pm Special Intention

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$8,981.36

Children's Collection.....\$ 60.45

Divine Mercy Province HGN Collection .....\$ 5,772.06

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, Walter Bolton, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene

Burns, 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, , Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Jacob Latil, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Bob Mayer, Cheryl Megie, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Roger Parker, Michael Punziano, Sarah Robinson, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spicuzza, Sylvia Spratley, Nell Stanton, Ron Stump, Eunice Tamdah, 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  
Janell Alliston, Deni Helms and Pat Zuber**

## 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 - Lifeteen: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Nov 7: RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room

Nov 12: Potluck Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. in KC Hall

Nov 10: Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)

Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m.; Jesus & the Jewish Roots of Mary

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

Confirmation Class, 4:00-5:15 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

**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 extend our congratulations to Barry and Patricia Zuber.** Barry and Patricia are this year's

recipient of the "Lumen Christi" award which was presented as part of the 4:00 p.m. Liturgy this past Saturday at Nativity BVM. Cathedral. Each diocese nominates one candidate/couple as their recipient for this annual award which is presented to those who have been outstanding in their service to their parish.



**There is a job opening in the Finance Department of the Biloxi Diocese for an accounts specialist.** Requirements include a minimum of a 2 year associates accounting degree and 3 years of bookkeeping experience. The position will be working with accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll and general ledger. This position is full time with benefits. Please respond via email to [tdilorenzo@biloxidiocese.org](mailto:tdilorenzo@biloxidiocese.org).



**Ladies ACTS Retreat:** Ladies, please consider treating yourself and spending a weekend with us for an encounter with the Holy Spirit November 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$125.00 and covers food, lodging and transportation. Sponsored by Fatima church. God is calling you to spend some time with Him. It will change your life! Call Chantelle Peters 228-860-6764, Marion Cunningham 601-716-4040 or Renee Klein 228-990-6983.



**You are invited to join Scott Hahn and the St. Paul Center in Hattiesburg** for a two-day event. Don't miss the chance to study Scripture with one of the Church's

most renowned biblical scholars today and learn how to read the Bible from the heart of the Church. Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. This event is sponsored by St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church and Eagle Catholic. No registration is required and a free will offering will be collected. For more information go to: [stpaulcenter.com/Hattiesburg](http://stpaulcenter.com/Hattiesburg); email – [office@stpaulcenter.com](mailto:office@stpaulcenter.com) or call 740-264-9535.



**Attention Catholic Moms:** Would you like to join a group of moms who are seeking God's mercy in self-care? A Mother's Mercy Fall Group is starting up on November 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a whole body wellness journey

for 33 days. ("33 Days of Merciful Love Challenge" based on Fr. Gaitley's book – 33 Days of Merciful Love: Do it Yourself Retreat).

For more information, email Maria Cecilia Escobedo at [catholicfitmomforlife@gmail.com](mailto:catholicfitmomforlife@gmail.com).



**The next Ladies' Cursillo** will be held December 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> at Dedeaux. Anyone interested in attending or requesting information should call Nancy Letort at 228-383-4824.

## ST. ALPHONUS SCHOOL

Nov 3: St. Al Beignet Booth at Peter Anderson Festival, 8am-5pm

Nov 5: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade visits SPHS

Nov 6: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade visits SPHS

Nov 8: Children's Mass with Bishop Kihneman, 8:15 a.m.

Fun on the Lawn, 3:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Nov 15: Night of Neon 1 mile fun run or 5K, to register, go to [stal.org](http://stal.org).

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Nov 3: Open House, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Nov 6: PTO Meeting, 7:45 a.m.; Volleyball Banquet, 5:00 p.m.

Nov 7: Advent Penance Service, 9:00 a.m.

Nov 8: Yearbook Senior Ads Due; Fall Drama Production, 6:30 p.m.

Nov 9: Fall Blood Drive, 9:00 a.m.; Fall Drama Production, 6:30 p.m.

Nov 10: Fall Drama Production, 2:00 p.m.



**You are invited to join Bishop Louis Kihneman and Father Mike Austin on a Pilgrimage to Medjugorje,**

April 14-22, 2020. Space is limited to 40 pilgrims. For details visit [www.catholicjourneys.com/mjdb](http://www.catholicjourneys.com/mjdb) or call Catholic Journeys at 800-715-6670 or Father Austin at 228-452-4686. Cost \$3,195 pp from NOLA based upon double occupancy. \$500 deposit at registration and final payment due January 14, 2020. \$200 discount if paid by November 15, 2019.



**You are invited to join Father Louis Lohan on a Greece and 3 night cruise of the Greek Isles** including the

Missionary travels of St. Paul April 15-25, 2020. For more information, email [Greeceandgreekisles@gmail.com](mailto:Greeceandgreekisles@gmail.com) or call Paula at 228-697-7814. Cost is \$5,045 based on two per room.

## REFLECTION

### Change of heart

It is only with the heart that we can repent rightly. Repentance must involve a change of heart. Anything less won't produce a new being. It will be like decapitating weeds while leaving their roots intact. But if we change our hearts, then we will change our lives too. After his encounter with Jesus, Zacchaeus' heart burst into life like a desert landscape after a rainfall. Fear can't produce a conversion of heart; only an encounter with love can. Zacchaeus' conversion was a conversion to goodness. All of us stand in daily need of such a conversion. We need to move from a closed heart to an open heart, from a heart of stone to a heart of flesh.



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Mary Ellen Douthit,** stepmother of Scott (Deborah)

Weatherford of this parish, who passed away October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**James Patterson,** brother-in-law of Barry and Pat Zuber of this parish, who passed away October 19<sup>th</sup>, in Mandeville, LA.

**Jean Cuccias,** a former parishioner of this parish, who passed away October 25<sup>th</sup> in Mobile, AL.

**André Kaufman,** brother of Al (Iva) Misko, Jr. and Margaret (Dennis) Van Loon of this parish family, who passed away October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Rosalie Trebotich,** sister of Sylvia Chapman of this parish, who passed away October 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Your prayers are requested for the deceased priests who have ministered in the diocese, especially those who have died around this time of year:

Reverend Vincenzo D. DiLalla, November 2, 1990

Reverend Patrick Martin, November 16, 1991

Reverend Michael Leane, November 23, 1987