

In his address to slaves (see Second Reading), Peter urged them to bear their unjust sufferings with patience as Christ, the Good Shepherd, bore his sufferings for love of us. Slavery was a fact of life in New Testament times. The New Testament writers do not, as might have been expected, lead a campaign against it. Even if they had wanted to do so, they must have been aware that such a stance could only be judged subversive and would imperil the tenuous foothold Christianity was gaining in the world of the day. Peter's words have a wider application. He singled out slaves only because their burden of suffering was heavier than that of others.

St. Alphonsus Parish Family: Last weekend we sent a mail out to all parishioners letting you know that we have finally setup electronic giving as one way to donate to the support of the Church. Please note that if you wish to continue using your weekly envelope for your offering – that is certainly fine. Once we return to church we will be still taking up the collection during Mass.

If for some reason you did not receive this mail out – you are able to go to the Parish App (if you do not already have – text App to 88202 to download on your android/iPhone and select our Parish after opening) and click on the “Giving” button or the Parish Website (osstalphonsus.org) and click on the 3 vertical lines and go to the “Online Donations” tab or you can scroll down and click on the “Online Donations” box. We are also offering Direct Debit through our bank, Hancock-Whitney. These forms are available for download on the Website by clicking on the 3 vertical lines, selecting “Forms & Applications” and then clicking on Direct Debit Online Giving Forms. If you have any questions, please call the office during regular business hours at 875-5419.



Fr. Mike Snyder and Fr. Tomasz Golab will hear Confessions on Saturday's in front of the Church from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. or on request by calling the Rectory Office (875-5419) and making an appointment.



You are invited to join in Daily Prayer from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The link to join is: <https://zoom.us/j/609870868>. First time users will need to download the Zoom app. Once you have downloaded the Zoom app – enter the ID: 609-870-868.

2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal: Please remember to support the Catholic Sharing Appeal. This program supports the ministries of our Church and provides for many individuals in need each year.

Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Please make all checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese. Our parish CSA goal for this year is \$59,603.

We thank those who have already responded to help the less fortunate in our community.

The National and Diocesan Catholic Home Missions Appeal Collection is due now. If you wish to donate to this collection, you may either send a check to the Church Office or donate online on the App or Website under “Diocesan Second Collection”. To learn more about Catholic Home Missions funding and current grantees, please visit www.usccb.org/home-missions.

LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

When you wake up in the morning, whose voice is the first one you listen to? Your own? Someone else's? Or God? We all listen to someone and follow some sort of guidelines and principles. If it is a secular voice that propels us to get up in the morning and take up the task of the day's agenda, then we may find ourselves off track. The advice found in the Acts of the Apostles was as true then as it is now, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” Most of what we listen to in secular voices is off the axis of truth and distorted. It may sound attractive, but it is deceptive at best. Many have gone astray like sheep and need to return to the Good Shepherd. Only Jesus can offer us the gate of life, and only Jesus as the Good Shepherd can really motivate us to take on the challenges of life. If we don't recognize his voice, we can risk facing destruction.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MAY 4
Acts 11:1-18; John 10:11-18	
Private Mass	Int. Ms. Jackie Endt
Private Mass	Bob and Linda Mayer
TUESDAY	MAY 5
Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30	
Private Mass	Mr. Carlton Latour
Private Mass	Ms. Mary Edna King
WEDNESDAY	MAY 6
Acts 12:24—13:5a; John 12:44-50	
Private Mass	Mr. Tim Foor
Private Mass	Mr. Randy Trahan
THURSDAY	MAY 7
Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20	
Private Mass	Mr. Frank Galle
Private Mass	Mr. Edward Wilson
FRIDAY	MAY 8
Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6	
Private Mass	Mr. Dick Porterfield
Private Mass	Ms. Gayle DeBruege
SATURDAY	MAY 9
Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14	
Private Mass	Int. Ms. Deborah Galle Foushee
	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
	Msgr. Gregory Kennedy
Private Mass	Daughters and Daughter-In-Laws
	Of Della Sonnier
SUNDAY	MAY 10
Acts 6:1-7; 1 Peter 2:4-9; John 14:1-12	
Private Mass	Congregation
Private Mass	Mrs. Judy Soares
Private Mass	Mr. & Mrs. William (Joyce) Staehle, Jr.
Private Mass	Mr. Milton Roe

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$8,120.75
Poor Collection.....	\$ 106.77
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, Sarah Broussard, Sybil

Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Pat Cronin, Fred Dale, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, Loretta Foster, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Ron & Mary Jo Hoogstra, Melissa James, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Shirley and Travis Norman, Michael Punziano, Sarah Robinson, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch and Thane Williams.

****School Subsidy Policy****

Registration for the 2020/2021 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.



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 on the Parish Website, in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.



St. Alphonsus Parish is doing a donation drive and will be collecting the following items for The Lord Is My Help through this Sunday, May 2nd: Gallon size Ziploc bags; TRAVEL SIZE ONLY of: Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Screenshot, Kleenex packs, Socks, and Soap. A box will be on the porch of the Parish Bookstore/Gift Shop and you may drop off your donations anytime through May 2nd. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying ceaselessly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.



Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them, and right now they need your help more than ever. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local during these hard times!

RE/MAX REAL ESTATE PARTNERS KIM WILLIAMS 326-5533	Dermatology Clinic Ashley Emerson 228-372-8559	The Tato-Nut Shop Freshly Brewed Coffee 875-9201	Aunt Jenny's ALL YOU CAN EAT 875-9201	MAGNOLIA MOBILE VETERINARY SERVICES 875-9201	PITULO Auto Paint & Body 875-1261
Guaranteed Plumbing Service 787-2462	GULF HILLS 228-475-1188	THE PEOPLES BANK 875-7329	THE FLOOR TRADER 875-3033	KEITH & VICKI RHODES 875-7791	BRADFORD-O'KEEFE Funeral Homes 875-1266
DAHL'S AUTO PARTS 875-8154	Regional 875-7791	REE FRAZIER REALTY & APPRAISALS 875-1188	MANDALAY INC. 228-814-1474	LEMON MOHLER 875-7777	DAISY A. FERRILL, DMD 228-475-1150
PTI SOLUTIONS 872-6821	FARRAR & FRANCO, PLLC 228-875-3689	LEMON MOHLER 875-7777	LO COCO, LO COCO, & GATEWOOD, PLLC 392-3799	WYNTON'S PEST CONTROL 875-5355	

REFLECTION

Compassion and healing

Compassion is not learned without suffering. Unless we have suffered and wept, we really don't understand what compassion is, nor can we comfort someone who is suffering. Unless we have walked in darkness, we can't help wanderers to find their way. But if we have suffered we become pathfinders for others. And it is by reaching out to others that we ourselves are healed. Jesus bore the marks of our violent world on his body. Those wounds were the proof of his love. They were the mortal wounds the Good Shepherd picked up in caring for his sheep. The wounds of Jesus are a source of consolation, courage, and hope to us in our sufferings. By his wounds we are healed.

Donate your vehicle and other goods: St. Vincent de Paul has a nationwide Vehicle Donation Program. For many, donating a vehicle can be a substantial gift. St. Maximilian Kolbe Conference will use the proceeds from the sale of your vehicle, boat, trailer, motorcycle, or RV towards developing the thrift store to feed, clothe, house, and heal individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn for help. As you clear out your garage or driveway consider donating that vehicle - and all those other goods you're no longer using. We provide convenient, free, pick-up. Your tax deductible donation enables us to serve the poor and provide others with the opportunity to serve our neighbors in need with love and compassion. You can go on-line at <https://svdpos.com> and click on the “giving” tab mid-page. Follow the instructions and click on car in the left column. You could also just simply call Rob Greuling at 228-215-6261.