

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

When a merchant finally finds a priceless, perfect pearl, he sells all he has and buys it. He does this because that pearl matters to him. It has significance and brings a depth of joy like none other. What matters and is of importance to you? When what matters to us has something to do with the kingdom of God, God is delighted. His exuberant happiness is hard to contain because He knows that we are happy stumbling upon this beautiful wisdom. Ask God to help you discover this pearl of great price. There are many things competing for our attention every day. But not all of these things are important. We focus too much energy on the unimportant, superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really make a difference and have the greatest impact. Things all too easily become more significant than people, and our agendas become more essential than God's. We do not have to empty our bank accounts and totally detach from everything we have in order to serve God. But, we are asked to prioritize our lives and make what matters to God what matters most to us. In doing so, when we rise each day, we will be able to see what really needs our attention and embrace it with great joy!

SCRIPTURE NOTE

The parables of the treasure and the pearl have the same message: The kingdom of heaven is worth investing everything we have to acquire it. But we need the wisdom that comes from God to see this. The parable of the net has the same message as that of the wheat and the weeds. In its present stage the kingdom contains both good and bad things. Only at the final judgement will they be separated.



You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, August 1st at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass) with Devotion, Consecration, Rosary and Benediction. Confession will also be available.



A national and diocesan collection will be taken up the weekend of August 8th and 9th for the Extension Society. This organization supports and strengthens poor mission dioceses across the United States. They provide funding and resources to dioceses and parishes through programs and services investing in people, infrastructure and ministries. No special envelopes will be available for this collection, so please make sure you mark your donation for the Extension Society.



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) the week of August 10th - 14th. 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.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Hung Nguyen, husband of Ha Thi Trinh and father of Mary Nguyen of this parish, who passed away July 21st.

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



The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of our Bulletin Advertisers

Altar Society Members for next week
Joan Bures and Juliana Skelton

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JULY 27
Jeremiah 13:1-11; Matthew 13:31-35	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. RJ Domingue
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Tommy Brochard
TUESDAY	JULY 28
Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43	
6:30 a.m.	Elvin Asher Family
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
WEDNESDAY	JULY 29
Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; John 11:19-27	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. James W. Wilson
THURSDAY	JULY 30
Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Elaine Derteen
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Charlotte Lamar
FRIDAY	JULY 31
Jeremiah 26:1-9; Matthew 13:54-58	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Waide J. Galle
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention - RG
SATURDAY	AUGUST 1
Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Matthew 14:1-12	
8:15 a.m.	Russ, Carley and Brittany Jordan
	Ms. Anita Grace White
	4:00 p.m.
	Mr. James B. Johnson
SUNDAY	AUGUST 2
Isaiah 55:1-3; Romans 8:35, 37-39; Matthew 14:13-21	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Lisa Branam
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Hunter Grantham
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Juanita Evans Ducarpe

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$6,109.80
Online Collection.....\$1,415.00
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, Walter Bolton, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sarah Broussard, Ellen Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Nettie Cirlot, Pat Cronin, Fred Dale, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Blake Donald, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Henry & Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, Loretta Foster, Carmen Gaethe, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, 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, Della Faye Odom, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Nancy Riedinger, Sarah Robinson, Jamie Sablich, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch and Thane Williams.

Pray for Vocations

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.

ST. ALPHONUS SCHOOL

July 29: Final Registration, 8 am – 4 pm; in Library



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.



Attention Graduating Seniors: There are two \$500 Scholarships available from The Chris Nielsen Scholarship Fund to be given away by the Knights of Columbus. If interested in applying for this scholarship, please email Brian Sanderson at bsanderson@cardinalgroupllc.com to receive the requirements and registration form. **Deadline: August 15, 2020**



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



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!



St. Peter Catholic Church in Bassfield is selling tickets for their 25th Annual 800 Club monthly drawing for \$50 each and will be 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. The first Sunday of each month, beginning September 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

At the end of the day

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a net cast into the sea which catches all kinds of fish. When it is full, the fisherman hauls it ashore. Then he sits down and sorts out the good fish from the bad. The good he keeps, the worthless he throws away. In a sense, all of us are fishers. Each day we cast our net into the sea of life. And at the end of the day we have a catch, sometimes small, sometimes large. May we take time to sift through that catch. And may you, Lord, give us the wisdom to know what to keep and what to throw away.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A single mother who has a child with special needs works two jobs and sacrifices much of her own pleasures in order to be available for her son. Being the best mother possible is important to her and brings her joy. We are willing to make great and often heroic sacrifices for those people and things that matter most to us. Unless there is something of obvious importance to us in our immediate path, we can easily approach life in a more haphazard and chaotic way. We jump from one thing to another, responding to whatever it is that is competing for our attention at that moment. When everything is important, nothing is important.

If we do not wear the right pair of glasses, we can get all too easily caught up in the superficial stuff and neglect paying attention to the things that really matter. The kingdom of God is like the pearl of great price that is worth selling everything for so that it can be obtained. Based on where I invest my time and energy each day, I really wonder whether I am serving God's kingdom or my own. Have you ever considered tracking how you spend your time? You may be surprised! We allow our agendas to set the clock of our lives. We forget that joy and a true sense of purpose are not going to be found in following that timepiece. Joy is the expression of the happiness that is discovered when living in the kingdom of God. When our agenda matches God, not only do we leap for joy but God leaps with delight as well. Our well-being is what matters most to God.

Can you imagine God delighting in you? It is easy to deaden our senses to the whole reality of God and the joy that living the Gospel can bring. The demands of secular life and the agendas competing for our attention can quickly do that. We can get tired and spiritually apathetic. But if we can see our way through all of the conflicting voices and hear the voice of God, we can rediscover our zeal and passion and redirect our efforts. When we begin to see as God sees, we can rise each day and notice what really needs our attention and embrace it with exuberance. Be careful, though. It may not be what we originally had on our list. Responding to it, however, will be worth putting everything else aside.



If you appreciate the ease of online banking and bill pay, you will be happy to know that you can easily offer a regular tithe with support to the Church through Direct Debit through our bank, Hancock Whitney (forms may be printed off on our website under "Forms and Applications" or by calling the Rectory Office) or by making one-time or recurring gifts directly on our parish website by clicking the "Online Donation" box. Stop worrying about weekly envelopes – you can turn your tithe into an automatic gift that gives when and how often you would like. Have questions? Call the Rectory Office during regular business hours and we will be happy to help you in any way.



Our Parish App is one great way to help make the liturgical season more present in your daily life. Helpful reflections will aid you in reflecting on the Mass readings each day. Also – under FORMED, you will be able to stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers and is available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. **Don't have the App or FORMED 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. To gain access to FORMED – go to the website at www.formed.org and enter our Parish Code **f1f5a9** (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password.