

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

As much as some folks may not want to admit it, we all want to be healed. Human beings suffer physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. There are many wounds. Of all of the maladies that can afflict us, the ones that require the greatest attention are of a spiritual nature. What can happen if we are healed inwardly, brought back to center, and restored in our relationships, especially in our relationship with God? We will find the courage, strength, conviction, and hope needed to deal with the more tangible struggles that may not find an easy remedy. Inner strength, gained by persistent faith, is what allows strong, determined, and courageous people to overcome incredible challenges and hurdles. Be persistent in your faith, and seek the inner spiritual healing that you so desperately desire and need.

SCRIPTURE NOTE

The theme of the First Reading and the Gospel is that of inclusiveness. At the time Isaiah was writing there were lots of foreigners in Israel. The question arose as to whether or not the benefits of salvation should be extended to them. Isaiah gave a clear and positive answer: “My House shall be called a house of prayer for all the peoples,” says the Lord.’ The early Church faced a similar problem with regard to the Gentiles. Matthew sees Jesus as having broken down the barrier between Jew and Gentile. Even though his own mission was restricted to Israel, Jesus did reach out to individual Gentiles such as the Canaanite woman. Hence, after the resurrection of Jesus, the early Church extended its mission to the Gentiles.



We are happy to inform you of another way in which to stay up-to-date on what is going on at St. Alphonsus Church. You are now able to go to Facebook (St. Alphonsus Catholic Church-Ocean Springs) and see the weekly bulletin as well as individual listings of coming events. You will still able to visit the website or phone app and view these items as well.



The deadline for New Wine applications has been extended to Friday, August 21st.



Men, could God be calling you to the diaconate? If so, the Biloxi Diocese plans to begin a new Formation Class for the diaconate in 2021. Pre-selection information sessions will be conducted from 8:30-Noon on the following days: Sept 19th at St. Clare, Waveland; Sept 26th at Sacred Heart, Hattiesburg; and Oct 3rd at St. Mary, Gautier. For interested men who think you may have a calling, attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory with your wife. Please see your pastor, or call Deacon Mike Saxer, (228) 216-8060 or Deacon Mike Harris, (228) 342-1536.

Altar Society Members for next week

Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart & Mark Aultman



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Robert “RJ” Murrh, a longtime parishioner of this parish, who passed away August 9th.

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 Memory of Deceased Altar Society Members

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY Ezekiel 24:15-23; Matthew 19:16-23 6:30 a.m. 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 17 Mr. Joe Prejean Ms. Virginia Thompson
TUESDAY Ezekiel 28:1-10; Matthew 19:23-30 6:30 a.m. 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 18 Mr. Dick Porterfield Mr. Greg Mohler
WEDNESDAY Ezekiel 34:1-11; Matthew 20:1-16 6:30 a.m. 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 19 Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick Special Intention
THURSDAY Ezekiel 36:23-28; Matthew 22:1-14 6:30 a.m. 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 20 Ms. Stacey Wilson Mr. Tim Foor
FRIDAY Ezekiel 37:1-14; Matthew 22:34-40 6:30 a.m. 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 21 Int. Marge K. Galle Ms. Sabrina Crain
SATURDAY Ezekiel 43:1-7ab; Matthew 23:1-12 8:15 a.m.	AUGUST 22 Mr. Henry “Danny” Seymour
SUNDAY Isaiah 56:1,6-7; Romans 11:13-15,29-32; Matthew 15:21-28 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	AUGUST 23 Ms. Betty Lou Callegari Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan Mr. William “Bill” Gryder, IV Congregation Ms. Julia Mejia

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$7,871.25
Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....	\$4,320.00
Monthly Online Poor Collection.....	\$ 965.00
Extension Society Collection.....	\$ 236.00

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 Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, 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 Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, 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.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Aug 19: Children’s Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK3, K, 2, 4 Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.
Aug 21: Children’s Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK4, 1, 3, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Aug 19: Meet the Teacher Night, 6:00 p.m.
Aug 20: Mass 9:40 a.m.
Aug 22: Back to School Dance, Grades 9-12; 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Religious Education News

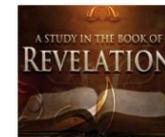
Chris Molino 228-860-8884; cmolino@osstalphonusus.org
Rachel Weatherford 228-327-6183; youth@osstalphonusus.org
Janie Sema 228-217-1392; jsema@osstalphonusus.org

Religious Education Classes and RCIA will be starting the second week of September. You will be able to download registration forms online soon and fees will be collected at registration. More details to come.



To stave off violence and impending civil unrest, you are invited to join the nation-wide 54-Day Rosary Miracle Novena for God’s peace and blessing surrounding the coming election.

Say ONE ROSARY each day from August 15th through October 7th. Pray the Joyful, Sorrowful, then Glorious mysteries, and repeat. Optionally, on Thursdays, you may also pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary for a personal intention. From August 15 – September 10, beg the Lord for the intention of peace and blessings around the November election. From September 11 – October 7, thank the Lord in faith, believing the favor was already granted. To print a calendar to keep track of the Rosaries prayed each day or for more information, go to www.queenofpeacemedia.com.



You are invited to watch or listen to Jeff Cavins (ascensionpress.com) Study of Revelation beginning Thursday, September 10th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. To attend via PC audio/video or use any phone/ipad for audio only, contact wanda.biblestudies@gmail.com. You must register to receive the access codes and the script for the video presentation. Presenter Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the “end of times.” Hope you can join and invite your friends and family. If there is enough interest, will also begin the Bible Timeline in October.



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.

The Challenge of Stewardship

Every day we are called by Christ to respond in some way. The more practice we have at giving of ourselves freely and living in His presence, the easier it is to discern that call. Once we hear the call, the choice is ours: will we respond with yes or no? We could say that we are not required to say yes because God has given us free will. However, our response speaks much to where we are in our maturity of faith. When we were children, the word “no” used to be one of our favorites. If we continue to say that as we get older, well, that says something about where we are in our walk with the Lord. If we truly are disciples of Jesus Christ and are serious about growing in our faith, we will say “yes.” We are not required to say yes, but we say yes because that is who we have become. This is the challenge of a stewardship way of life. Have we matured enough to say yes when God calls, regardless of how much our answer may cost us? What matters more to us: what it will cost us or our relationship with Jesus? Some days we will easily be able to say yes. The grace and love he gives us will be plenty to see us through whatever situation in which we find ourselves. However, we are imperfect beings and there will be days when we are more into ourselves than him. It is on those days that we find ourselves at a true crossroads of a challenge. The choice is always ours. Hopefully, our faith will be strong enough. His call is never for his own sake. He calls us because the world he created and the Church he instituted need us. They wait just as he does for our response. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



If you appreciate the ease of online banking and bill pay, you will be happy to know that you can easily offer a regular tithing 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.

REFLECTION

An Irish wish

God be good to you in all your days,
God be kind to you in all your ways,
God give strength to you when crosses lean,
God send light to you, the clouds between.
God give peace to you in times of strife,
God bless everything that fills your life.
God send joy to you when grief is o’er,
God make way for you at Heaven’s door. *(Brian O’Higgins)*



The Bookstore and Gift Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and after all weekend Masses. They are now set up to take credit cards.