

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

Secular problems require savvy secular solutions. We are trained to solve problems, be successful and productive, and find our way through all that life presents to us. Corporations value those who can decipher the best avenue to take in order to resolve an issue. How do you train and renew your mind? Facts, figures, scientific tools, analytical processes, best practices, and models of varying kinds are at our disposal. If we don't know the full and proper course of action, we can easily find it. But there is a knowledge that goes far beyond all these things that makes a direct claim on the essence of our being. It satisfies a deeper thirst and hunger that keeps us restless until it is satisfied. Our minds, hearts, and souls cannot only be nurtured purely by secular and temporal things. We must seek the enlightenment that comes from God. This allows us to see the value of suffering in order to achieve a greater good and the losing of our very self in the service of something greater. Faith only makes sense if it can bring us to this heightened awareness. ©LPi

SCRIPTURE NOTE

In the First Reading we see Jeremiah's faithfulness to his God-given mission, and what that faithfulness cost him. In the Gospel we see the faithfulness of Jesus, and the kind of faithfulness that is demanded of those who would follow him. Peter gladly received the revelation of Jesus as Messiah and Son of God. But he rejected out of hand the revelation of a suffering Messiah. In this he represents the typical Christian, caught between faith and doubt, for whom the cross is a stumbling block.



The monthly collection for the Poor will be collected next weekend (Sept 5/6). If you do not receive church envelopes, please make sure you mark your donation accordingly.



The deadline for New Wine applications has been extended to Wednesday, September 9th.



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.



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, individual listings of coming events as well as watch Mass online. You will still be able to visit the website or phone app to view the bulletin and coming events.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Stephen "Stevie" Williams, brother of Harry Williams of this parish, who passed away August 20th.

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 JR Williams and Esquibel Families and in Honor of Ben and Kathleen Esquibel on their Wedding Anniversary



Altar Society Members for next week Mary Ann Bounds, Linda Denehie and Lois Ravera

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	AUGUST 31
1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Luke 4:16-30	
6:30 a.m.	Mathilde and Fernand Latour
8:15 a.m.	Elvin Asher Family
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 1
1 Corinthians 2:10b-16; Luke 4:31-37	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Lucille "Lou" Young
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Hunter Grantham
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 2
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Luke 4:38-44	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Robert Sema
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 3
1 Corinthians 3:18-23; Luke 5:1-11	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Juanita Evans Ducarpe
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Genevieve Shack
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 4
1 Corinthians 4:1-5; Luke 5:33-39	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Margaret and Wolfgang Traylor
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Natalie Hightower
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 5
1 Corinthians 4:6b-15; Luke 6:1-5	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. George Pitalo, Sr.
	Mr. Gregory Hebert
	Russ, Carley and Brittany Jordan
	4:00 p.m.
	Ms. Ligaya Camagong
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 6
Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Dorothy McKinnon
9:00 a.m.	Int. Lynda and Bhaktan Krishnan
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	Int. Mr. Michael Gatschet

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$5,825.85
Weekly Online Collection.....\$1,665.00
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, 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, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaise, Leonard Necaise, Peggy and Edward Necaise, 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

Religious Education News

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

RCIA classes will begin Thursday, September 10th from 6 – 7:30 p.m. Please go to the link below to fill in/download/print registration form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cn92HMQQ4P1Yd8Hj01KVvqGPrANy5mToVCsleBMHHik/edit>

All Religious Education classes will begin Sunday, September 13th Please go to the link below to fill in/download/print registration form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oLkTMmk2CqSBso5X_EtUBDwvf_Ka3FGjlaobZcExAE/edit

Kindergarten – 5th Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
6th – 8th Grade – Edge: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
9th – 12th Grade – Lifeteen: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

There will be a three level approach to Religious Education and RCIA classes this year.

Level 1: If possible, all classes will take place as normal.
Level 2: Classes will take place in small groups/mask/social distancing and provide an online streaming presence. (This is the one we will start the year off with)
Level 3: Classes will rely solely with an online streaming presence.

Parish Religious Education and RCIA COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic and is extremely contagious. As a result, in order to resume in person parish religious education and RCIA programs, social distancing and other essential safety measures have been established by St. Alphonsus Parish. The parish has put in place reasonable preventative measures and standards of behavior to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at in person parish religious education and RCIA activities. Students, RCIA participants, staff and volunteers must stay home for any one of the following criteria:

1. Positive test for COVID-19
2. Individual or any member of the household experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 whether they have a positive test or not
3. Known close contact (within the last 14 days) with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is defined as within 6 feet for a period of over 15 minutes.

Student and RCIA participant absences for the above reasons will be counted as excused.

If a religious education student develops symptoms or suspected symptoms of COVID-19, the parent/guardian will be contacted by parish staff and will make immediate preparations to have student picked up from school. In the event of a medical emergency, parish staff may call 9-1-1 and have student transported to a hospital or healthcare facility.

If a staff member, volunteer, religious education student, or RCIA participant suspects or knows they had COVID-19, and had symptoms, they may return to in person parish religious education or RCIA after:

1. 14 days past the onset of symptoms (or test if no symptoms)
2. Symptoms improve, and
3. Fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication.

In the case of a staff member, volunteer, religious education student, or RCIA participant who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19. The individual may not return to in person parish religious education or RCIA until the individual has completed the same three step criteria listed above.

If the staff member, volunteer, religious education student, or RCIA participant has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to in person religious education or RCIA before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or receive two separate confirmation at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via testing at an approved COVID-19 testing location.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Sept 3: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK3, K, 2, 4
Sept 4: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK4, 1, 3, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Sept 2: Junior Ring Order
Sept 3: Mass 9:40 a.m.



A Baptism Class will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, September 2nd 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 4th Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.



You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction on Friday, September 4th beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).



You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, September 5th 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.



You are invited to watch or listen to Jeff Cavins (ascensionpress.com) Study of Revelation on Thursday's, September 10th – November 12th, 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. For more information, please contact Wanda Freeland at: Cell 228-355-0156; Home 875-3951; wfreeland@bellsouth.net.



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 September 14th – 18th. 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.



Walgreens will be offering Flu shots in the KC Hall on Tuesday, September 15th from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. on a first come / first serve basis – no preregistration is required. No cash will be accepted, so please bring your insurance card or Medicare card with you. The Senior dose will be available.

REFLECTION

Gaining and losing

There is a way of losing by gaining. You can win an argument but lose a friend. Through competition and promotion I may advance in my profession, but in terms of relationships I am impoverished. My energies are so focused on efficiency and success that I haven't time to grow emotionally and to develop my capacity for relationships. In one's drive to attain power, a person may sacrifice friendship and loyalty, so much so that one ends up alone. Lord, let me never forget your haunting words: "What good will it do you to gain the whole world if you lose your soul?"