

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

Deciding to travel the challenging road of forgiveness is choosing a journey toward greater freedom. Resentment, anger, and clinging to past hurts not only keep open wounds that long for healing but bring us down paths that are eventually self-destructive. Harboring grudges and withholding forgiveness not only shut down relationships with others, but with God and myself as well. To choose to forgive another person, regardless of how grave the wrong, is a choice to be released from bondage to past wounds and scars and to pursue the gift of life and love again. Who among us has not wrong or sinned against another? We certainly would want God to understand, forgive, and show mercy upon us. It is hypocritical of us to not extend that same grace to our neighbor. ©LPi

SCRIPTURE NOTE

Today's Gospel raises the question of sin between brothers and sisters, that is, fellow-Christians. The psalm talks about the greatness of God's forgiveness, (which contrasts with our miserly forgiveness). Anyone who is forgiven has an obligation to forgive. If we cannot bring ourselves to do this, it is an indication that we really haven't experienced God's forgiveness. The position of the servant in Jesus' story was absolutely hopeless. He owed the king so much money that even if he worked forever, he would not be able to repay him. This is our situation before God. We can't win God's forgiveness. All we can do is plead for his mercy.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Monday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



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) this coming week (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 this 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.



An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16th at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.



OUR LADY OF SORROWS: You are invited to come and join us for the 8:15 Mass followed by the recitation of the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows (a rosary of repentance) on the third Saturday of each month. (i.e. September 19th). The purpose of our coming together is threefold: 1) To pray for all victims of sexual abuse 2) To pray, in reparation for all the vile sins committed against the Body of Christ, and 3) To pray for the graces of repentance, healing, conversion and salvation of ALL SOULS!



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Carmen Gaethe, wife of Gordon Gaethe MD of this parish, who passed away September 3rd.

Patricia Olier, aunt of Jonathan (Whitney) Olier of this parish, who passed away September 3rd.

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



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Ryan and Betty Lou Callegari

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 14
Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Malcolm Latour, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Leo Noble
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 15
1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 27-31a; John 19:25-27	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Dr. Michael Finan
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Patrick Williams
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 16
1 Corinthians 12:31—13:13; Luke 7:31-35	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Maria Theodore
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 17
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 7:36-50	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Edna Spell
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Susie Jurich
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 18
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 8:1-3	
6:30 a.m.	Int. James A. Foushee
8:15 a.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 19
1 Corinthians 15:35-37, 42-49; Luke 8:4-15	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. George Wavra
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Anna Mitchell
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 20
Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16a	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Irma White
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Glenn Ryan
5:30 p.m.	Int. Mr. Jordan Odom

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$11,188.48
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$5,805.00
Poor Collection.....	\$2,520.00
Online Poor Collection.....	\$ 895.00
Hurricane Laura Relief Collection.....	\$3,418.00

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, 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 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.

Altar Society Members for next week
Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart & Mark Aultman

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

All Religious Education classes begin this Sunday (September 13th)
 Please go to the link below to fill in/download/print registration form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oLkTMmk2CqSBso5X_EtUBDwvf_Ka3FGjla0xbZcExAE/edit
Kindergarten – 5th Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Confirmation Class: 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.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.

Sept 17: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
 Please go to the link below to fill in/download/print registration form:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cn92HMOQ4P1Yd8Hj01KVvqGPrANy5mToVCsleBMHHik/edit>

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.

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 16: Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.
Sept 17: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK3, K, 2, 4
Sept 18: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK4, 1, 3, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Sept 17: Mass 9:40 a.m.
Sept 18: Progress Reports



HURRICANE LAURA RELIEF EFFORT
 St. Alphonsus Parish Family Members – thank you!!
 Our help was needed, and St. Alphonsus parishioners rallied quickly and generously to provide relief supplies, financial assistance and hope for many in southwestern Louisiana impacted by Hurricane Laura.
 The supplies we collected were enough to fill three pickup trucks, one 16-foot trailer, and the trunks of three additional vehicles. These supplies, along with the donations from other parishes in our diocese, were delivered to St. Raphael Catholic Church in Iowa, Louisiana on Saturday September 5th. It was clear that these donations were going to provide much needed relief to a lot of people. Thank you for sharing your generosity and kindness with those in need in Louisiana!



A national and diocesan collection will be taken up next weekend for the International Seamen Center. The International Seamen Center ministers to international merchant seamen who come to the Port of Gulfport almost daily. They serve them in very practical ways, and address their spiritual needs as well and also strive to serve truckers, port staff, longshoremen and others. No special envelope will be available, so please mark your donation for the Seamen Center.



2020 WEDDING ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION:
 We've all adjusted our lives since the onset of COVID-19 and are doing things a lot differently than we ever did before. The Wedding Anniversary recognition is one such thing. We will not celebrate together at the Cathedral as usual, but, we definitely want to remember the special wedding anniversaries being celebrated in 2020. If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary (25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 etc), please complete the form (available in the rectory office) and mail it in by October 23, 2020. Couples will receive a certificate signed by Bishop Kihneman, a Renewal of Vows Ceremony that can be celebrated with family or friends and a commemorative program listing all the 2020 couples. Bishop Kihneman will also offer a Mass at the Cathedral for the celebrating couples.



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!

REFLECTION

Forgiveness

When we forgive we free ourselves of the burden of bitterness, and we free the other person of the burden of guilt. But our forgiveness must come from the heart, which means it must be true, sincere, and warm. A cold forgiveness is not much use. Forgiveness should start now. Putting it off only deepens the wound, prolongs bitterness, and postpones happiness. Life is short, time is fleeting. Today is the day to forgive. Lord, deliver us from the poison of bitterness, and give us the grace to forgive from the heart those who have offended us. Then we will know the warmth of your forgiveness.

Pray for Vocations