

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

Think for a moment about the most special person in your life. Why do you love them? Many people will answer that question noting character traits they admire about the person, pointing to an indescribable compatibility that exists and describing a deep sense of connection and intimacy or even a sense of rightness about the relationship. In relationships that are authentic and true, rarely are the personal benefits gained from the relationship noted as motivating factors for its pursuit. If we truly love someone we do so simply because it is right and good to do so and not for some other self-serving reason. Why do you love God? The sense of happiness and the gift of mercy that come from that relationship are God's to give, regardless of when in life we come to Him. God's ways are different than ours. ©LPi

SCRIPTURE NOTE

The First Reading states, "God's ways are not our ways, God's thoughts are not our thoughts". Just how vast is the difference between God's ways and our ways, between God's thoughts and our thoughts, is illustrated in the Gospel. God's generosity utterly transcends human generosity.

The parable of the workers in the vineyard was aimed at the Pharisees. These legalistically minded men were critical of Jesus because he befriended sinners and outcasts. In the parable Jesus faces up to his critics and shows them what God is like: God is generous and full of compassion for the poor and the outcast. In that respect the parable is similar to that of the prodigal son.

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 or by printing off the parish website under Forms & Applications) 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.

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.

Altar Society Members for next week
Kay Brochard, Sue Garlotte and Norma Williams



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Louise Ann Eagan, Rosalie Guerrera, and Dorothy Chadbourn

Pray for Vocations

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 21
Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13; Matthew 9:9-13	
6:30 a.m.	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Chandra Nicholson
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 22
Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. R.J. Murrach
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Mike Yarbrough
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 23
Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Louise Ann Eagan
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 24
Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Brenda Soares
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Jean Mealy
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 25
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Frank Galle
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Tim Foor
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 26
Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8; Luke 9:43b-45	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
4:00 p.m.	Thompson and Cox Families
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 27
Ezekiel 18:25-28; Philippians 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Dick Porterfield
9:00 a.m.	Int. Ms. Carolyn Wright
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Lajuan Fowler

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$8,064.84
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$1,800.00
Holy Land Collection.....	\$ 300.00
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 Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odum, 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.
 If someone in your family is in need of prayer, please contact the parish office to have their name placed on the list. We will keep the name on for at least two months unless otherwise notified.

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

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 24: 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/1cn92HMQO4P1Yd8Hj01KVvqGPrANy5mToVCsleBMHHik/edit>
Sept 27: Youth Religious Education Class (times above)
 Please go to the link below to fill in/download/print registration form:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1oLkTMmk2CqSBs05X_EtUBDwvf_Ka3FGjla0xbZcExAE/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 24: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK3,K, 2, 3, 4
Sept 25: Children's Mass for Students/Faculty, 9:15 a.m. PK4, 1, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Sept 23: PTO Meeting, 8:00 a.m.

It's Time for a Spiritual Audit! In virtually every aspect of Life, corporate, athletic, education etc., there is a constant evaluation process to measure growth and improvement. Now it is a good time to assess our spiritual progress. Have we made a difference? If God were totally our "faith in action" would He be pleased with what we have done (or failed to do)?

Evils plague our society, such as abortion, pornography "comprehensive sex" education, tax funding of Planned Parenthood, and other anti-God, anti-life and anti-family issues. As Christians, we know that the Bible commands us to be active in serving God. Service is an action word, so we know that we cannot serve God by sitting on the sidelines, or being a "fence sitter". Are we as Catholics influencing our world, or is today's relativism and secularism influencing us much more?

Are we setting an example to the next generation to protect marriage and to defend life, from conception until natural death, or are we just "passively" pro-life? Do we speak up when in a position to defend innocent life? Do we hold our elected representatives accountable? Obviously, we cannot do it all, but we can certainly do something! Literally, thousands of lives are at stake each and every day. If we do nothing we collude with the pro-aborts, the purveyor of pornography and those that wish to remove God from society. By doing nothing, we reap what they sow!

"Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins" James 4:17
 By Pro-Life Articles Author



Bethesda Free Clinic is currently serving patients' needs via a telemedicine system. Anyone needing prescription refills or other basic needs can call the Clinic at 228-818-9191. If no one is available, you may leave your name and number and someone will return your call as soon as possible.



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!

Websites that may be good for people with problems, addictions, etc:
www.americanaddictioncenters.org; www.narcononcolorado.org;
www.al-anon.org; www.catholicsdivorce.com;
www.cancersupportcommunity.org; www.rachelsvineyard.org;
www.catholicmenconquerporn.com; www.yourbrainonporn.com

PRAYER / REFLECTION

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are my ways your ways. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts," says the Lord. How small our thoughts can be, and how poor our ways of seeing and judging. We think miserly thoughts, and act in miserly ways. Why? Because we have small minds and small hearts. Lord, open our minds and enlarge our hearts, so that we think more like you, and act more like you. Let us not begrudge your goodness to others, knowing that we too are undeserving of your favors, and stand more in need of your mercy than of your justice. Amen.