

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

God has entrusted his possessions to us. God's possessions are not earthly, physical things like ours: a home, bank account, personal items, and so forth. God's possessions are far greater and deeper. God's greatest possession is His very Self and it is precisely this pearl of great price that He bestows freely upon us. What are we going to do with it? Nourishing the fruits of wisdom is of the first order in determining how we are going to use what God has given. Understanding that His gift has not been given purely for our self-benefit is another. Wisdom asks us to broaden our horizons to embrace all avenues of human life, including the needs of the poor, the marginalized, and the needy. Manifested primarily in the virtues of faith, hope, and love, what God has entrusted to us can multiply exponentially if we invest His gift wisely and reap the greatest benefits. While it requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work, we will experience tremendous joy when we realize just how much confidence God has in us. Not acting on something out of fear or lack of trust serves no purpose and is of no use to either God or ourselves. ©LPi

## SCRIPTURE NOTE

Paul believed that the second coming of Christ was imminent. Hence, he urges the Thessalonians to be watchful. However, Matthew has accepted that the *parousia* would be delayed. Even so, he too spoke about the necessity of being watchful. In the parable of the talents he spells out what this watchfulness consists in: it consists in carrying out the Lord's instructions to the best of one's God-given ability. The First Reading sets before us the example of a woman who uses her talents to live an industrious and virtuous life.

**An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> 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. November 21<sup>st</sup>).** 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!



**Next weekend a national and diocesan collection will be collected to support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.** Forty million

people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. No special envelopes will be available, so please mark your donation for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.



**Parishioners in need of assistance after Hurricane Zeta -- especially any elderly or disabled parishioners --** St. Alphonsus would like to help with clean up, or other specific needs if possible.

Please call Ruth McPhearson at 228-324-3449. We hope to learn the types of needs our parishioners have, and then assemble a response team and/or work crews depending on the need.

If you are interested in volunteering to help fellow parishioners with clean up, please call 228-324-3449 as well!

**Louisiana Hurricane Relief Update:** Due to the impact of Hurricane Zeta locally, the work crews travelling to Abbeville, LA postponed their trip to the first weekend in December instead. If you can, please consider joining this effort by participating or donating! For more information call 228-324-3449. Thank you!

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 16</b>
Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Luke 18:35-43	
6:30 a.m.	Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 17</b>
Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22; Luke 19:1-10	
6:30 a.m.	Poor Souls
8:15 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim Gunkel
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 18</b>
Revelation 4:1-11; Luke 19:11-28	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 19</b>
Revelation 5:1-10; Luke 19:41-44	
6:30 a.m.	Poor Souls
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Jordan Odom
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 20</b>
Revelation 10:8-11; Luke 19:45-48	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Maralou Guice Richards
8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>NOVEMBER 21</b>
Revelation 11:4-12; Luke 20:27-40	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Lucille "Lou" Young
	Poor Souls
4:00 p.m.	Congregation
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>November 22</b>
Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Matt 25:31-46	
7:30 a.m.	Elvin Asher Family
9:00 a.m.	Ms. Joyce Sims
11:30 a.m.	Freddie and Vera Lusk
5:30 p.m.	Poor Souls

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$8,561.29  
Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....\$5,145.00  
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, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sarah Broussard, Ellen Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, 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, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Edna Migués, Iva Misko, Donna Necaïse, Leonard Necaïse, Peggy and Edward Necaïse, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Nancy Riedinger, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch, Harry Williams and Thane Williams.

**Altar Society Members for next week**  
**Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart and 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**

**Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**  
**Confirmation Class: 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.;**  
**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Edge: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – Lifeteen: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Nov 19:** RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
**Nov 22:** Youth Religious Education Class (times above)



**Come visit the Bookstore and Gift Shop for your Advent needs:** Advent Wreaths, Candles, Nativity sets, decorative Christmas articles for the home and religious Christmas gifts for your family and friends.

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.



**You are invited to join us each Thursday in the Chapel for the Gethsemane Hour of Adoration and Devotional Prayer to the Precious Blood of Jesus from 11:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.**



**Parishioners of St. Alphonsus invite you to join them in praying a public rosary on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Villa Maria on Washington Avenue.**



**Mr. John Hardwick**, the sales representative from Diocesan (the providers of our weekly bulletin), will be contacting all business who presently have ads on our bulletin. Due to COVID 19, he will be doing by phone instead of personally visiting. For more information or if you are interested in purchasing an ad, you may contact him by calling 1-800-633-1122. We thank all those business owners who presently support us in this way and in doing so make the bulletin available at no cost to the parish. Please support these parishioners and businesses.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

#### Buried In Your Backyard

I remember watching a television show about a high school that dug up a time capsule that students had buried 25 years earlier. They had buried it with the purpose of showing others many years later the trends of the day and how student life was at that time. It was a fun exercise and everyone — the current students as well as those now grown — laughed at the clothing styles, corny photos, and lack of technology from years ago.

I wonder how the former students felt about how they had grown in those 25 years. How many of them realized their high school dreams? Did they find their purpose in this world and feel fulfilled in life? Did they use the talents and gifts God gave them to really make a difference in the world?

We have all been given talents and gifts by God to be cultivated and offered back to Him and those around us for His glory. As time has passed, hopefully we have taken seriously our stewardship of these gifts. But sometimes out of fear, misunderstanding, or even apathy, we have taken one or more of our gifts and buried them, hiding them away from others and stifling all growth. This is no way to honor God and certainly not a path to fulfillment in life. If we have anything buried in our backyard, we might do well to dig it back up, clean it up, and begin building upon it. Like a time capsule, those things will not be buried forever. One day the giver of that gift will ask what you have done with it. When that day comes, I pray you don't need to find a shovel. - Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## Pray for Vocations

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Nov 18:** Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.

**Nov 19:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4

**Nov 20:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Nov 17:** Volleyball Banquet, 5:00 p.m.

**Nov 18:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat

**Nov 19:** Mass, 9:40 a.m.



**Saint Stanislaus Open House:** Potential students and families are invited to an open house on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. You will have the opportunity to attend academic and special interest sessions, meet faculty, administrators, and current students; learn more about academic programs and student life, and tour the campus. To register, go to: [www.ststan.com/openhouse](http://www.ststan.com/openhouse). St. Stanislaus is a Catholic All-Boys Boarding School serving young men in Grades 7-12.



**The Knights of Columbus at St. Michael in Biloxi invites you to a Shrimp Spaghetti Lunch** on Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> with curbside pickup beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Parish Life Center. Plates are \$7.00 each and include shrimp spaghetti, salad and bread.

All proceeds will be given to their St. Vincent de Paul.



**Pray for Our Military:** Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

God gives us the gift of His very self and asks us to invest it. Investing God's greatest gift of Himself wisely, allows God's kingdom to grow and flourish. God trusts us with this pearl of great price in hopes that it will produce abundant fruit. While God's gift of self is realized in the gifts of faith, hope, and love, they are not meant to be solely for personal benefit. They are intended to be shared and are at the heart of Jesus' blueprint for happiness, the Beatitudes.

When we properly invest God's greatest gift, His most treasured possession, we invest in the wellbeing of all of our brothers and sisters and the world in which we live. We take up most seriously our call to be stewards and properly manage, not only our own affairs, but the affairs of those around and before us. God has put tremendous confidence in us. Do we have that same confidence in God?

We often go the extra mile and put in the additional effort when it comes to those concerns closest to us: our families, friends, careers, home and securities. But when it comes to things that are not as close to us, we can become lax and less conscientious. Tending to God's treasure requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work. It demands that I see the bigger picture, God's picture, in which self-sacrifice is a given as we labor for the establishment of God's kingdom, God's vision. Fear and a lack of trust can loom large, however. We are afraid of letting go of what is "mine" and apprehensive of jeopardizing what we have in order to venture into something bigger and more promising.

Fear and a lack of trust serve no purpose in God's kingdom. They benefit neither the person nor God. What is required is a courageous resolve that produces the fortitude necessary to stay the course and do what God is asking. Doing all in our power to cultivate the seeds of faith, hope, and love in our world, working diligently to put all of our relationships in proper order, becoming attentive to systems and ideologies that hurt and oppress people, being mindful of injustice, and laboring on behalf of the poor and the needy are at the core of what each of us is asked to do. It is how we invest God's most precious gift wisely. If persistent, alert and attentive, then life will gradually improve around us, there will be greater peace and we will experience joy. ©LPi



**The Flowers on the Altar**  
**are in Honor of All Veterans**