

SCRIPTURE NOTE

Even though this is the year of Mark, we begin with a reading from John. The Second Sunday of Ordinary Time respects an old liturgical theme of celebrating different epiphanies or manifestations of Jesus. John shows us a gradual recognition of who Jesus is – through the testimony of John the Baptist and the confession of the first disciples. Here John the Baptist calls Jesus ‘the Lamb of God,’ and Andrew calls him ‘the Messiah’. The main theme of the readings, however, is that of call and response. In the First Reading we have the call of Samuel, who played a big part in the building up of Israel. His call marked the beginning of a new era. It was through him that Israel got its first kings. This paves the way for the Gospel story of the call of the first disciples – Andrew, John and Peter. The call of Peter is highlighted because of the important role he played in the first community. In the two readings we are dealing with a unique and specific call, what is more commonly called a vocation.



Tax Statements for yearly contributions are available upon request. These statements only reflect contributions made through the regular church collections and the special second collections if they have been made in an identifiable fashion (church envelope or loose check). Any loose cash contribution cannot be credited. Contributions to the Catholic Sharing Appeal will be acknowledged from the Diocese. Please email or call the rectory office if you need a tax statement (stals@cableone.net or 875-5419). Statements will be mailed by the end of the month.



The Rectory Office will be closed on Monday, January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.



An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.

How about a New Year’s resolution? Give one hour of your time a month to help the Altar Society, male or female. No special talent – just a desire to HELP. Call Rose Skelton at 228-697-2892 for more information or to sign up.



A Mass for the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus Council 5654 will be held in the Church on Wednesday, January 20th at 6:00 p.m.



A national and diocesan collection for Churches in Latin America will be collected next weekend (January 23/24). The Collection for the Church in Latin America has a long history of supporting formation and translations of Bibles and catechetical materials into indigenous languages throughout Latin America. No special envelopes are available, so please mark your donation for Churches in Latin America.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Elizabeth Byrd, a member of our parish community, who passed away January 4th.

David Mohler, husband of Theresa Mohler of this parish, who passed away January 12th.

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 Msgr. James Hannon

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JANUARY 18
Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:18-22	
6:30 a.m.	Mathilde and Fernand Latour
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ryan Scott Odom
TUESDAY	JANUARY 19
Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Leroy Manuel
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Joseph Balius
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 20
Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17; Mark 3:1-6	
6:30 a.m.	Ann and Cecil Wolf
8:15 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Morris (Anna) Rabe, Jr.
THURSDAY	JANUARY 21
Hebrews 7:25—8:6; Mark 3:7-12	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. George Wavra
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Louise Halstead
FRIDAY	JANUARY 22
Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Glenn Ryan
8:15 a.m.	Int. Dr. Randy Roth
SATURDAY	JANUARY 23
Hebrews 9:2-3, 11-14; Mark 3:20-21	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Roland Trebotich
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Anna Mitchell
SUNDAY	JANUARY 24
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Joey Fountain
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Neil Gryder
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Walter “Buzzy” Bolton
5:30 p.m.	Congregation



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Beckett Bassenger, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, 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, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Lee Molbert, Donna Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Edward Necaie, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Warren Strayham, Eunice Tamdah, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch, Janette Williams and Thane Williams.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$9,098.72
Weekly / Monthly Online Collection.....	\$5,685.00
Monthly Poor Collection.....	\$1,927.00
Aged & Infirm Collection.....	\$1,538.00

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

Pray for Vocations

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

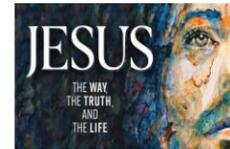
Kindergarten – 5th Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Confirmation Class: 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.;
6th – 8th Grade – Edge: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
9th – 12th Grade – Lifeteen: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Jan 21: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Jan 24: Youth Religious Education Class (times above)



It’s not too late to begin a GREAT 2021 New Year Resolution!!! Grow spiritually and more intimately with our Lord by reading His Holy Word this year.

If you have ever tried to read the Bible and had difficulty understanding and gave up, your help is right here...Sign up for the Bible in a Year podcast from Ascension Press, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins – and based on the Bible Timeline Study developed by Jeff Cavins. Listen to and/or read along as Fr. Schmitz reads the Bible readings and then offers a brief prayer/reflection/teaching in a 20-25 minute daily podcast for 365 days. It is FREE and available at: ascensionpress.com



Jeff Cavins/Edward Sri: Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life: For a great Lenten experience, join us online Thursday, February 4th at 10:00 a.m. for the Ascension Press study of Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, this encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life on Him as you come to know and love Him in an ever-deeper and more intimate way. To register and more info or to receive recorded session to view later, contact: wanda.biblestudies@gmail.com



Parishioner Registration: When planning a baptism, marriage, or to obtain subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must be able to demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you do attend Mass.

It is the Church, not just this parish, which insists that signs of good faith commitment be present on these occasions. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of contributions and Mass attendance. Parish registration forms may be obtained in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.



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.

What can you do with the Parish App?

- See upcoming events
- View the bulletin
- Listen to an audio of the Rosary
- Read the daily Scripture Readings
- And much more...
- Download our parish app at myparishapp.com
- Or text App to **88202**

Altar Society Members for next week
Sue Garlotte and Norma Williams

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Jan 18: No School – MLK Holiday
Jan 20: Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.
Jan 21: Children’s Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4
Jan 22: Children’s Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Jan 18: No School – MLK Holiday
Jan 20: PTO Meeting, 8:00 a.m.
Jan 21: Mass, 9:40 a.m.; Golf Parent / Player Meeting, 5:30 p.m.

Raising Pro-Life Children

It often takes many decades to correct social injustices and human rights' problems. For example, it took many decades to abolish slavery. Our generation might not see an end to the injustice of abortion. However, the younger generation is becoming increasingly pro-life and it is vitally important that we raise pro-life children. If so, they will one day see our nation becoming one of liberty and justice not just for some, but for all human beings.

A baby and, indeed, life itself, is nothing short of a miracle. As faithful Catholics, we should be teaching our children ---at every opportunity--- that all human beings, at all stages of development, should be cherished, respected, loved and protected at all times.

Also, we need to teach children that being pro-life does not only mean opposing abortion. Sometimes, children are born with disease, Down syndrome or some other problem---and these children are nevertheless all precious gifts from God and are extremely valuable, no matter what.

Teaching children to have a pro-life attitude is the indispensable antidote to today's selfish, "me-first" society, with many people more concerned about pleasure or money than the inherent value and dignity of every human life.

"A person's a person, no matter how small." Horton Hears a Who!
Dr. Seuss.

REFLECTION

God’s call

God’s call is mysterious; it comes in the darkness of faith. It is so fine, so subtle, that it is only with the deepest silence within us that we can hear it. And yet nothing is surer or stronger, nothing is so decisive and overpowering, as that call. This call is uninterrupted: God is always calling us.



A Special Parish Prayer Book is located on the south side of the Vestibule of the Church (front entrance). Anyone desiring prayers for any intention is requested to enter their intention on the Parish Prayer Book and they will be remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful at all weekend Masses.



Radio Maria - a Catholic Radio right here in Ocean Springs! You can listen to it on your radio at FM 88.1; livestream it on your computer at radiomaria.us; download the free app onto your smartphone; or by calling 1-631-359-8743.

There are many good programs from inspirational Catholic speakers, programs about history, prayer, care giving, finding a job, Marian apparitions, conversion stories, and many others! Plus there is great music. Let us be grateful to God for this sublime gift to us, for His mercies endure forever! Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. (Romans 12:12)



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!