

## SCRIPTURE NOTE

The first half of Mark's Gospel (1:1-8:26) describes Jesus' ministry of healing and preaching in Galilee.

Jesus begins his preaching by calling on people to repent and embrace the Good News. For Mark, 'believe in the Gospel' meant 'believe in the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.'

Repentance is one of the main themes of the readings. The First Reading relates how the preaching of Jonah met with an immediate response in the pagan city of Nineveh. The story shows the possibility of a heathen city repenting and turning to God. It also shows the mercy and forgiveness of God.

If the Ninevites responded so fully to the preaching of Jonah, how much more fully should we respond to the preaching of Jesus? The Gospel shows the prompt response of the first disciples to his call to follow him.

Even though we can't share Paul's belief that the Second Coming of Christ is imminent, he still has an important message for us, namely, that this world is not the be-all and the end-all. We are destined for the next world. This should profoundly affect the way we live in this world.



**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.



**A national and diocesan collection for Churches in Latin America** will be collected this 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.



If you appreciate the ease of online banking and bill pay, you will be happy to know that you can easily offer a regular tithe with support to the Church through Direct Debit through our bank, Hancock Whitney (forms may be printed off on our website under "Forms and Applications" or by calling the Rectory Office) or by making one-time or recurring gifts directly on our parish website by clicking the "Online Donation" box. Stop worrying about weekly envelopes – you can turn your tithe into an automatic gift that gives when and how often you would like. Have questions? Call the Rectory Office during regular business hours and we will be happy to help you in any way.



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of Joe and Janet Miller**

**Altar Society Members for next week  
Joan Burren and Juliana Skelton**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 25</b>
Acts 22:3-16; Mark 16:15-18	
6:30 a.m.	Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 a.m.	Miss Catherine Luminais
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 26</b>
2 Timothy 1:1-8; Mark 3:31-35	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Doug Brisbin
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 27</b>
Hebrews 10:11-18; Mark 4:1-20	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Katherine Walker Hanning
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 28</b>
Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 4:21-25	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Jordan William Odom
8:15 a.m.	Mr. George Halstead
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 29</b>
Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. William Boney
8:15 a.m.	Int. Dr. Michael Finan
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 30</b>
Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Mark 4:35-41	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Chandra Nicholson
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Ligaya Camagong
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 31</b>
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Ms. Gayle DeBruge
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Marie Weidner
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Joyce Barrios



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Rita Allen, Beckett Bassenger, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Virginia Bigelow, 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, 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 Miguez, Iva Misko, Lee Molbert, Donna Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Edward Necaize, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, 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.....\$7,789.53  
Weekly Online Collection.....\$1,095.00  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

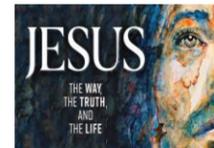
**Pray for Vocations**

## 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 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**  
**Confirmation Class: 4:00 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.**

**Jan 28:** RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
**Jan 30:** SEARCH Retreat, St. Thomas, Hattiesburg (11-12 grade)  
**Jan 31:** Youth Religious Education Class (times above)



**Jeff Cavins/Edward Sri: Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life:** For a great Lenten experience, join us online Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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.



**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.**

**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](http://myparishapp.com)  
Or text App to 88202

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Jan 28:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4  
**Jan 29:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6  
**Jan 31-Feb 6:** Catholic Schools Week

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Jan 28:** Mass, 9:40 a.m.  
**Jan 31-Feb 6:** Catholic Schools Week

### Life Begins At Conception

It is an error to claim, "It's not a human, it's a fetus." or, "It's not a human, it's an infant," or, "It's not a human, it's an adolescent." These are category fallacies.

The proper answer to these assertions would be, "Sure it's a fetus, sure it's an infant, and sure it's an adolescent. It's a *human* fetus, a *human* infant, and a *human* adolescent." These are simply stages of development in the human life cycle.

A human starts as an embryo, becomes a fetus, is born an infant, develops into a child, grows into an adolescent, matures into adulthood, and eventually dies.

Scientifically and philosophically, there is no good reason to believe a human being is created at birth, because *nothing* is created at birth. At birth, a fetus simply changes location and changes its mode of acquiring food and dispensing waste, but at no point does the child become something entirely new or different.

Life begins at conception and proceeds through its stages until death. From the moment of conception, the unborn are human beings.  
By Pro-Life Articles Author

### REFLECTION

#### Good news for sinners

Today we are in danger of being drowned in bad news. Jesus began his ministry by announcing good news. What was this good news? That the kingdom of heaven had come. The kingdom stands for the fulfillment of the promises, the fullness of God's blessings, in short, the new order of things. Forgiveness is available. Recovery is possible. God's love is unconditional and is available to us in Christ. All we have to do is recognize our need, and seek his help with humility and sincerity. Unless we repent we can't hear the good news.



**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](http://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!