

## SCRIPTURE NOTE

In his account of Jesus' baptism, Mark's main concern is with Jesus' identity. The heavenly voice. 'You are my beloved Son,' echoes Psalm 2:7, a psalm used for the coronation of the kings from the house of David, and thus points to Jesus as the Messiah. The words 'with you I am well pleased,' echo Isaiah 42:1, pointing to Jesus as the Isaian Servant who is to bear the infirmities of many. Thus Mark reveals Jesus as royal Messiah and Suffering Servant.



**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 Diocesan Collection will be collected this weekend (January 9/10, 2021) for The Aged and Infirm Priests.** At this time of year we're asked to remember the priests who have offered their lives in the service to the Church.

Through their pastoral service and sacramental ministry, our priests have mediated Christ's presence to us and our world. In parish communities, schools, and institutions, they've served so that we might experience the enduring kindness of our God. Many retired priests continue to help parishes with their pastoral ministry. Others, due to advanced age and declining health, have had to withdraw from active ministry. These priests now need care themselves. Your financial support is urgently requested at this time of their life. This annual collection is an opportunity for the faithful to express their gratitude for the many blessings received through the lives of these good priests. No special envelope will be available, so please mark you donation for The Aged and Infirm Priests.



**The Altar Society will take down the Christmas Decorations** in the Church on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup> after the 8:15 a.m. Mass. Anyone wishing to help is asked to please meet in the Church.



**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 (January 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>). 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.



**You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration**



**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. January 16<sup>th</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!

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Your prayers are requested for the deceased priests who have ministered in the diocese, especially those who have died around this time of year:

Reverend Patrick Tierney, January 9, 1991  
Reverend Peter F. Mockler, January 30, 2014  
Bishop Joseph L. Howze, January 9, 2019  
Reverend John Izral, January 20, 2020

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 11</b>
Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Eileen Murtough
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 12</b>
Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Claude Bourgeois
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Dannie Eugene Arnold
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 13</b>
Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Chad Michaud
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Joicelyn Mayfield
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 14</b>
Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Armida Ruiz
8:15 a.m.	Mr. William Staehle, Sr.
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 15</b>
Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Maralou Guice Richards
8:15 a.m.	Arthur and Mabel Mansfield
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 16</b>
Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Annie Jane Morgan
	Ms. Anita Grace White
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Betty Jean Nutt
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JANUARY 17</b>
1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Hunter Grantham
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Warren Strayham
5:30 p.m.	Mr. Nolan Fremin



**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.....	\$9,865.71
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$2,360.00
New Year's Day Collection.....	\$2,219.00

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

## Pray for Vocations

## 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.**

**Jan 14:** RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
**Jan 17:** 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](http://ascensionpress.com)



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



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

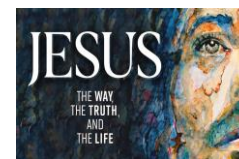
**How about a New Year's resolution?** Give one hour of your time a month to help the Altar Society, male or female. No special talent – just a desire to HELP. Call Rose Skelton at 228-697-2892 for more information or to sign up.



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



**A national and diocesan collection for Churches in Latin America** will be taken up the weekend of January 23/24, 2021. 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 you donation for Church in Latin America.



**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)

## 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 11:** Early Dismissal, 12:00 Noon / Conferences  
**Jan 12:** PTO Virtual Meetings, 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
**Jan 14:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4  
**Jan 15:** Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Jan 13:** PTO Meeting, 8:00 a.m.  
**Jan 14:** Mass, 9:40 a.m.

## Willwoods Faith and Marriage Married Couples Retreat

Attention All Married Couples: You are invited to attend an upcoming married couples retreat January 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful St Joseph Abbey in Covington, La.

You and your spouse will spend time listening to inspiring talks, enjoy private couple time and individual prayer time, adoring the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, and celebrating the Sacraments. Through God's grace, you will walk away with a renewed strength and a deeper commitment to each other and to God. (What a great way to start 2021!) The retreat starts with dinner on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday. To register for your relaxing and rejuvenating retreat, visit [www.FaithandMarriage.org](http://www.FaithandMarriage.org).

A suggested donation of \$350 for the couple is requested but not required. Cost should never be a reason why a couple cannot make a weekend! Scholarships are available! If you have any questions, please call (504) 830-3716. Limited spaces available.



**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.



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Hubert Easterling, son-in-law of Rose Skelton of this parish, who passed away December 30<sup>th</sup>.**

We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.

## REFLECTION

### Finding one's work

I think it is a great blessing when people find their work. I often feel that I am as rich as Croesus, not in money, but rich because I have found my work. In that work I have something to which I can devote myself heart and soul, and which gives meaning and inspiration to my life. Even though I have lots of difficulties, and there are many gloomy days in my life, I count myself among the fortunate. This is not the road on which one perishes. This is a powerful stream that will bear me safely to port.

– Vincent Van Gogh

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