

This note refers only to the difficult First Reading of the Day Mass. The Book of Revelation describes the ultimate battle between God and evil, represented here by the dragon (the serpent of Genesis). The woman represents the Church, and the child represents Christ (the Messiah). Like the woman in the vision, the Church was undergoing suffering and persecution at the time of the writing of the vision.

The dragon confronts the woman to devour her child. But the child is taken up to God – a reference to the ascension of Jesus. Jesus defeated the dragon and was exalted to God's right hand. The woman (the Church) flees to the desert to escape the persecution. There she is nourished by God, just as were the Israelites of old. The final verse praises the triumph of God and Christ.

The reading was meant to encourage the early Christians by assuring them that God would finally triumph. It should do the same for us. Even though the figure of the woman in the first place represents the Church, it can also be seen as representing Mary. As the mother of Jesus, she was at the heart of the battle between God and the powers of evil. Therefore, it is entirely fitting that (through her Assumption) she would share in the spoils of victory.



Fr. Mark will be here this weekend to promote raffle tickets for St. Peter's Catholic Church in Bassfield, MS for their 26th Annual 800 Club. The tickets are \$50 each -if you buy five tickets, two are free. The first Sunday of each month, beginning

September 2021, four tickets will be drawn. \$500 for first ticket and \$100 for remaining three, and all winners are eligible to win again as the tickets will be put back in the 'barrel'. So you get twelve chances to win \$500 or \$100 each month for one year. All proceeds from this fundraiser are used to defray the maintenance costs of the parish buildings. If you was not able to purchase a ticket and wish to do so you may also call their parish office Monday – Friday between the hours of 8:30 AM and 3:00 PM. (601-943-6688) or (601-543-5939) or Father Chinnappa R. Mark at (601-943-5104). They thank you for your generous support.



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. August 21st). 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!



An Anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday, August 21st at 3:30 p.m. (before the 4:00 p.m. Mass) in the Church. This is for all elderly parishioners, anyone with an illness, or parishioners with elderly or homebound family members that may wish to receive this Sacrament.

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 Morgan Kavanagh, August 6, 1998
- Reverend Ivan Weis, August 7, 2007
- Reverend Patrick C. Grant, August 9, 1991
- Reverend John P. Robinson, August 10, 1977
- Reverend Msgr. Francis Farrell, August 12, 2017
- Reverend Paul Gillis, August 14, 1995



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: **Myra Peresich**, sister in law of Wink Cunningham and aunt of Jeff and Kim Ryan of this parish, who passed away June 12th in Huntsville, Alabama.

Erin Barthes Dean, aunt of F.J. (Sharon) Barthes of this parish, who passed away August 6th in Satellite Beach, Florida.

We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	AUGUST 16
Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Freddie and Vera Lusk
TUESDAY	AUGUST 17
Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30	
6:30 a.m.	Mass of Thanksgiving
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Jocelyn Mayfield
WEDNESDAY	AUGUST 18
Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Matre, Matthew & Rose Gospodinovich Family
THURSDAY	AUGUST 19
Judges 11:29-39a; Matthew 22:1-14	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Gerard "Gerry" McInerney
8:15 a.m.	Robert and Patricia Carter
FRIDAY	AUGUST 20
Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40	
6:30 a.m.	Ann and Cecil Wolf
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Mike Letort
SATURDAY	AUGUST 21
Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Peggy Necaize
4:00 p.m.	Mr. Bobby Beaugez
SUNDAY	AUGUST 22
Joshua 24:1-2a,15-17,18b; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Danny Seymour
9:00 a.m.	Int. Mr. Anthony Belson
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Julia Mejia

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$9,267.59
Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....	\$5,365.00
Monthly Online Poor Collection.....	\$ 855.00
Extension Collection.....	\$1,033.50
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support	



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Kevin Barry, Beckett Bassenger, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Bob Boney, Abby Bosarge, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Elena Broussard, Don Burchette, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Carolyn Castleman, Pat Cronin, Lisa Cabbage, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Wendy Decker, Oscar DeMauro, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Ron and Mary Jo Hoogstra, Betty Horton, Melissa James, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Judy and Randy Lesso, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Melissa Menard, EJ McIntyre, Cheryl Megie, Edna Migues, Iva Misko, Donna Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Edward Necaize, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Roger Parker, The Pettijean Family, Richard Potash, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Jan Roberts, Margaret Rucinski, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Kerry Senseney, Jr., Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch, Charlotte & Gene Williams, Jessie Williams, and Thane Williams.

FAITH FORMATION

Have you been thinking lately about becoming a Catholic? Do you just simply want to know more about the Catholic faith? Were you baptized Catholic but are not in full communion with the Church through First Eucharist and Confirmation? Do you want to convert to Catholicism from another church? If you answered YES to any of these questions, then St. Alphonsus Catholic Church invites you to join our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) program. Classes for RCIA will meet on Thursday's from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. For additional information, contact Christopher Molino at cmolino@osstalphonusus.org.

After each of the Masses next weekend (August 21/22), we will have a Ministry Fair and Registration for Faith Formation in the Parish Hall. Come and enjoy some coffee and explore the opportunities St. Alphonsus has to offer. Registration forms may be printed off our parish website. If you have a child who will be making his/her Communion or Confirmation this coming year – please print and fill out the Communion and Confirmation information sheets also. All classes will begin after Labor Day.

Kindergarten - 5th Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Edge (6th – 8th Grade): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)
Life Teen (9th – 12th Grade): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)
Confirmation (11th Grade): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Fellowship and dinner will be offered each Sunday for those students in 6th – 12th grade. Anyone interested in sponsoring the meal or if you have additional questions, please reach out to Patience Clasen @ pclasen@osstalphonusus.org.

We look forward to seeing you at our Ministry Fair after each of the Masses next weekend!



Our parish is answering the call to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Currently, we have 145 adorers signed up, covering 96 hours. This is amazing BUT we still need a minimum of 73 adorers to become a perpetual chapel. We can do this! The hardest part is making that initial commitment, but once you do, you will be drawn to Him and yearn to be with Him more and more. The graces and blessings bestowed on you will be abundant. For those of you who have committed to an hour and are experiencing His peace, I encourage you to share your feelings with your family and friends. We are called to evangelize and bring people to the feet of Jesus!

The following hours need coverage in the Chapel:

Sunday (18 hours):	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11:00 a.m. 12, 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11:00 p.m.
Monday (7 hours):	12, 1, 2, 3, 4:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Tuesday (9 hours):	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.; 10:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Wednesday (7 hours):	12, 1, 2, 4, 6:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.
Thursday (5 hours):	1, 2, 3, 6:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Friday (10 hours):	3, 4, 6, 9:00 a.m. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11:00 p.m.
Saturday (17 hours):	12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10:00 a.m. 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11:00 p.m.

To view the schedule and sign up, visit: stalphonusus.weadorehim.com/signup

“Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” ~ Jesus

Altar Society Members for next week
Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart & Aline Balus

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

- Aug 17:** School Pictures (uniform)
- Aug 18:** School Pictures (uniform); Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
- Aug 20:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.



St. Alphonsus School is in the process of constructing an Adoration Chapel in the school in honor of Deacon Gregory Miller. For more information, see the flyer at each of the exits. Donations are being accepted. Please consider giving to this blessed cause.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

- Aug 18:** Meet the Teacher Night, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Aug 19:** School Pictures, Mass 9:40 a.m.



The Adoration Chapel will be going through renovations August 23rd – August 27th from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day. Adoration will take place in the Church during these times.



CURSILLO DRAWDOWN IS BACK ON!!! This is their only fundraiser and they need your help to make it a success. The DRAWDOWN and SILENT AUCTION event will take place at Sacred Heart in Pascagoula at 6:00 p.m. on September 11, 2021. There will be 30 drawings of \$100 with the final draw at \$5000.00. Name never goes out of the drawing, so there are many chances to win! Tickets are \$50 each. Please contact Gay Camagong for tickets at (228)424-7722.

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

October 5-13, 2021: Medjugorje with Bishop Louis F. Kihneman. For more information visit www.catholicjourneys.com/special-departures or call 800-715-6670 \$3,295 per person.

February 14-23, 2022: The Holy Land with Fr. Mike Austin. For more information email Pilgrimagetotheholylan@gmail.com or call Paula Spears at 228-697-7814.

September 13-23, 2022: Austria & Germany including the Passion Play of Oberammergau with Fr. Mike Austin. For more information call 203-656-303, email info@nawas.com or visit www.nawas.com.

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

(Articles taken from the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*)

274. What does the Eucharist represent in the life of the Church?
 CCC 1324-1327; 1407

It is the source and summit of all Christian life. In the Eucharist, the sanctifying action of God in our regard and our worship of him reach their high point. It contains the whole spiritual good of the Church, Christ himself, our Pasch. Communion with divine life and the unity of the People of God are both expressed and effected by the Eucharist. Through the eucharistic celebration we are united already with the liturgy of heaven and we have a foretaste of eternal life.



The Flowers on the Altar
Are in Honor of
The Blessed Virgin Mary
Our Mother