

The First Reading carries a message of joyful hope for the exiles in Babylon. The Lord will save what's left of his people and bring them back from exile. Even the most helpless will share in the joy of this great event.

In Mark's mind Jesus is the one who brings salvation to Israel. His healings are a sign of the coming of the kingdom (Gospel).

The story of Bartimaeus is as much a call story as a healing story. The expression 'followed him along the way' doesn't simple mean that he joined the crowd on the road to Jerusalem. There can be no doubt what Mark intends: Bartimaeus followed Jesus on the way of Christian discipleship. He is presented as a model of faith.

It seems that the story was used in the early Church as a model of encouragement to believers and would-be believers.

Bartimaeus serves as a model for those who are spiritually blind and whose lives lack direction. Through faith they can have purpose, energy and direction in their lives. An enthusiastic following of Jesus results in a happy and fulfilled life.



For the month of November we offer one Mass daily throughout the month in memory of all our deceased loved ones. Envelopes are available either in your monthly contribution package or at the exits of the Church. Please include the names of your loved ones along with your contribution and return it prior to November 1st if possible. These envelopes will remain on the Altar for the duration of the month of November.



You are invited to join us after the 9:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday (October 31st) for coffee and donuts in the Parish Hall. The St. Alphonsus 5th Grade will also have their annual Saints Walk after this Mass. This would be a great time for fellowship as well as learning about the Saints.



A Men's Cursillo will be held November 4 – 7, 2021 at the William J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis. Registration forms are located in the back of the Church. For more information email Max Gianelloni at maxgusmc@aol.com (use subject line "Cursillo") or call Skip Carroll at 228-547-6562.



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) the week of November 8th – 12th.

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.

**Altar Society Members for next week
Joan Burres, Darlene Nichols and Juliana Skelton**



**The Flowers on the Altar
are in Memory of
Bobby Beagez**

REFLECTION

The gift of sight

Helen Keller, who went blind and deaf at nineteen months, said: 'One day I asked a friend of mine who had just returned from a long walk in the woods what she had seen. She replied, "Nothing in particular." "How was this possible?" I asked myself, "when I, who cannot hear or see, find hundreds of things to interest me through mere touch. I feel the delicate shape and design of a leaf. I pass my hands lovingly over the rough bark of a pine tree. Occasionally, I place my hand quietly on a small tree, and if I'm lucky, feel the happy quiver of a bird in full song. "The greatest calamity that can befall people, is not that they should be born blind, but that they should have eyes, yet fail to see.'

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	OCTOBER 25
Romans 8:12-17; Luke 13:10-17	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Henry Humphrey
TUESDAY	OCTOBER 26
Romans 8:18-25; Luke 13:18-21	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Gerard "Gerry" McInerney
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Robin Cannon
WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 27
Romans 8:26-30; Luke 13:22-30	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	The McCanna Family
THURSDAY	OCTOBER 28
Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 6:12-16	
6:30 a.m.	Holy Souls
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Kathleen Shirer
FRIDAY	OCTOBER 29
Romans 9:1-5; Luke 14:1-6	
6:30 a.m.	Ann and Cecil Wolf
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Daniel Richardson
SATURDAY	OCTOBER 30
Romans 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29; Luke 14:1, 7-11	
8:15 a.m.	Mass of Thanksgiving for Favors Received
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Ligaya Camagong
SUNDAY	OCTOBER 31
Deuteronomy 6:2-6; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 12:28b-34	
7:30 a.m.	Special Intention
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Laura Meaut
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Maria Graciela Lorente

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$9,070.98
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$1,785.00
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, C.L. Ates, Kevin Barry, Beckett Bassenger, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Julie P. Bond, Bob Boney, Abby Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Shelle Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Elena Broussard, Don Burchette, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Carolyn Castleman, Peggy Cox, Pat Cronin, Lisa Cabbage, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Wendy Decker, Oscar DeMauro, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Margret Hebert, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Betty Horton, Catherine Jackson, Melissa James, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, Dianne Kuljis, Daise Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Judy and Randy Lesso, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Melissa Menard, EJ McIntyre, Cheryl Megie, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Edward Necaie, Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Roger Parker, The Petitjean Family, Richard Potash, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Jan Roberts, Margaret Rucinski, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Eunice Tamdah, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Ashley Vickers, and Thane Williams.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

FAITH FORMATION

Kindergarten - 5th Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Contact Jane Sema at jsema@osstalphonsus.org

Edge (6th – 8th Grade): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Life Teen (9th – 12th Gr): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Contact Patience Clasen at pclasen@osstalphonsus.org

Confirmation (11th Gr): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)

RCIA: Thursday, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Contact Chris Molino at cmolino@osstalphonsus.org

Oct 28: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

Oct 31: No Faith Formation Classes

Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., Explaining The Faith...

Parish Hall Meeting Room. All are welcome to attend.



Parish Festival! We are excited to announce we will host a family-friendly Parish Festival on Saturday, November 6th here at St. Alphonsus. We have also partnered with Downtown Cart Rentals and will be raffling off a golf cart on Sunday, November 7th. Raffle tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Proceeds from the festival and raffle will support the ministries of St. Alphonsus Parish.

Would you like to help make the parish festival a success and don't know what you could do? There are actually several ways you can help.

If you are able to volunteer your time please go to the link below. This will show you what is available and give you the ability to sign up:

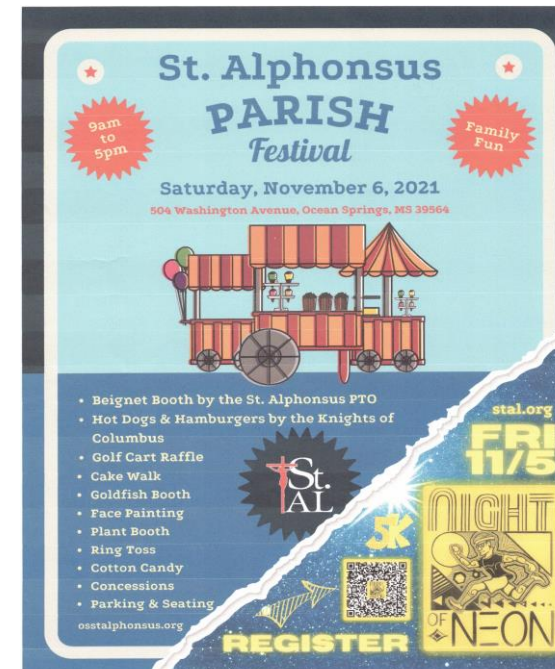
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0B4CABAA23A7F58-stalphonsus>

We are also in need of donated items. For your convenience, we have listed some of the items we are in need of. They are: Plants (various sizes), Seed Packets, 2-liter Bottles of Drinks, Bags of Candy, Dum Dum Lollipops, Trinket Toys, Prize Toys, Stuffed Animals, Arts and Crafts Supplies, Styrofoam Cups, Individual Bags of Goldfish Crackers, Cakes, Cupcakes, Sweets (whole and individually wrapped and not dropped off until the Friday before the festival), Paper Towels, Napkins and Disinfecting Wipes.

We also invite all parishioners to take a book of raffle tickets to buy or to sell.

Remember – all proceeds from the festival and raffle will support all the ministries here at St. Alphonsus Parish.

For more information, please contact Patience Clasen (pclasen@osstalphonsus.org).



ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Oct 29: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

Trunk or Treat in Church back Parking Lot, 5:30 pm

Oct 31: Student Mass, 9 am / 5th Gr Saints Walk after 9 am Mass

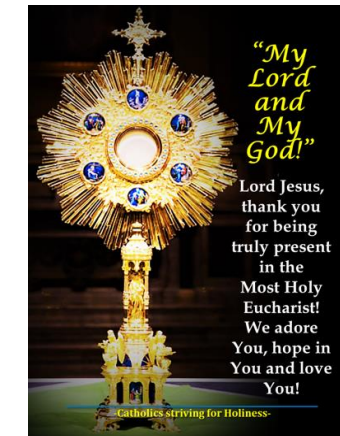
ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Oct 26: 8th Grade Boys Retreat

Oct 27: 8th Grade Girls Retreat

Oct 28: Mass, 9:40 a.m. / Flu Shots, 3:00 p.m.

Oct 29: Yearbook Senior Ads Due



Listening for His Voice

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know Him. (Ephesians 1:17)

As we fix our eyes on Jesus in this way, something marvelous begins to happen. The Holy Spirit begins to open our minds and fill us with spiritual wisdom and understanding (Colossians 1:9). We begin to grasp more about Jesus: what He did for us, how much He loves us, how merciful He is, and how much He rejoices with us and suffers with us.

Words from scripture that previously had little or no meaning begin to come alive. They enlighten our minds and urge us to be holy. They convince us that we have God's strength to help us and to make us more fruitful for Jesus.

Then comes the best part. Whatever we learn and understand moves us to love Jesus more. When we grasp who He is and what He has done for us, our only response is to say, "Jesus, I love you." We fall in love with Him all over again, and His love in turn calms our fears, heals our wounds, and energizes us with hope and confidence. Some who find this intimacy have even felt Jesus putting His arms around them and holding them close to His heart.

(Excerpt taken from Encountering Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration by The Word Among Us)

"Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration with exposition needs a great push. People ask me: 'What will convert America and save the world?' My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in holy hours of prayer."

~St. Teresa of Calcutta

To sign up for an hour of Eucharistic Adoration visit our website stalphonsus.weadorehim.com/signup

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

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

287. Why is the Holy Eucharist the paschal banquet?

CCC 1382 – 1384; 1391 – 1396

The Holy Eucharist is the paschal banquet in as much as Christ sacramentally makes present his Passover and gives us his Body and Blood, offered as food and drink, uniting us to himself and to one another in his sacrifice.

288. What is the meaning of the altar? CCC 1383; 1410

The *altar* is the symbol of Christ himself who is present both as sacrificial victim (the altar of the sacrifice) and as food from heaven which is given to us (the table of the Lord).