

The purpose of Advent is to help us prepare for Christmas. One can't understand the message of Christmas unless we are familiar with at least the broad outlines of the history of salvation. The Advent liturgy relives in a microcosmic way the history of Israel, viewing it through the eyes of Christian faith. It shows that all of that history was pointing and leading towards Jesus. He was the one who fulfilled the messianic prophecies.

Advent takes us back in time so that we may appreciate the greatness of what we are heirs to. We are the heirs to the promises God made to the prophets. Advent helps us to appreciate the great blessings God has given us in Christ.

Today's First Reading points to the first coming of Christ. It says that the Messiah will be descended from the stock of David, and his reign will be marked by wisdom, justice and integrity.

The Gospel deals with the Second Coming of Christ. The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. The disciples are urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

How to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ is also the topic of the Second Reading.



John Hardwick with Diocesan (our bulletin provider) will be contacting all businesses and/or individuals who presently have ads in our bulletin regarding the renewal of your advertisement for the coming year.

If you would like to consider advertising in our weekly bulletin, you may contact John at jhardwick@diocesan.com or by calling 512-422-3949.

We thank all those business owners and/or parishioners who presently support us in this way and in doing so make the bulletin available at no cost to the parish. Please support these parishioners and businesses.



A Baptism Class will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, December 1st at 7:00 p.m. Any parent with a child for baptism must attend this class prior to scheduling a baptism date. Godparents are also encouraged to attend. Godparents who are not registered / active members of St. Alphonsus must present a

letter from their pastor giving them permission to be a godparent. A godparent must be a Catholic in good standing with the church, receiving the sacraments on a regular basis. Class lasts a little over one hour. Baptisms are scheduled each month on the 4th Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.



You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction on Friday, December 3rd beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).



You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, December 4th at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass) with Devotion, Consecration, Rosary and Benediction. Confession will also be available.



The Knights of Columbus will begin serving breakfast again on Sunday, December 5th from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the KC Hall for \$7.00 a plate. Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice. Come and enjoy the great food and fellowship.



Wednesday, December 8th, is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Vigil Mass will be Tuesday, December 7th at 6:00 p.m. Masses on Wednesday will be at 6:30 a.m.; 8:15 a.m., and 6:00 p.m.



The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus will raffle off a Henry "Golden Boy" Lever Action Rifle 22 Caliber S/L/LR on Sunday, December 19th.

Tickets are \$10 each. For more information or to purchase a ticket, please call Chuck Nannery at 875-0267.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	NOVEMBER 29
Isaiah 2:1-5; Matthew 8:5-11	
6:30 a.m.	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls
TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 30
Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22;	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Dan Wronko
8:15 a.m.	Poor Souls
WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 1
Isaiah 25:6-10a; Matthew 15:29-37	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Roland J. Hymel, Jr.
THURSDAY	DECEMBER 2
Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21, 24-27	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Mara Lou Guice Richards
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Monica Goretski
FRIDAY	DECEMBER 3
Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Deborah G. Foushee
8:15 a.m.	Dr. Andy McCanna
SATURDAY	DECEMBER 4
Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8	
8:15 a.m.	The Pitalo Family
	The Jordan Family
	Mr. Ron Fournier
	Mr. John Baltar
4:00 p.m.	DECEMBER 5
SUNDAY	
Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Turner Straight, Sr.
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Neil Gryder
	Mr. William "Bill" Gryder, IV
11:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Edme Baird
5:30 p.m.	Congregation

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$7,691.25
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$1,850.00
Catholic Campaign Human Development Collection..	\$ 957.00
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, 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, Oscar DeMauro, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Margret Hebert, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Betty Horton, Catherine Jackson, Melissa James, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, Dianne Kuljis, Daisie 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., Jerry Schneider, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers, and Thane Williams.

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

Dec 2: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Dec 5: Faith Formation Classes, Times Listed Above
Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., Explaining The Faith...
Parish Hall Meeting Room. All are welcome to attend.



What are You Thankful For?

There are so many things that we can say that we are thankful for: food, shelter, water, family, friends, employment, etc. Do we ever sit down in prayer and tell God that we are thankful for Him, for His Son, for His mother, Mary? Do we sit down in prayer to tell Him thank you for all of the blessings we have received? Do we ever take the time to sit in front of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the Blessed Sacrament to say thank you for the ultimate sacrifice He made for us? This Thanksgiving week, come and visit our chapel and spend some time in thanksgiving with our Lord.

Please remember to sign in upon arriving at the chapel, whether it is for your weekly hour or if you are just visiting. Sign out by tapping on your name before leaving.

If you are leaving the chapel and no one is there to relieve you, close the monstrance doors while reciting:

*O Sacrament Most Holy
O Sacrament Divine
All Praise and all Thanksgiving
Be Every Moment Thine*

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

Through adoration, the Christian mysteriously contributes to the radical transformation of the world and to the sowing of the Gospel. Anyone who prays to the Savior draws the whole world with him and raises it to God. Those who stand before the Lord are therefore fulfilling an eminent service. They are presenting to Christ all those who do not know him or are far from him: they keep watch in his presence on their behalf. – Pope John Paul II

REFLECTION

Life is fleeting

The hill flowers fade, but will bloom again next year. But we never get back our youth. Life is a fragile gift which we enjoy only briefly; our life is like the warming of oneself in the sun. We live in a flash of light; before we know it, evening comes and night falls. But the very fleetingness of life makes it all the more precious. Lord, may your gentle and sure light guide us on the unfolding road, so that we may walk with confidence towards the light that never fades and the life that never ends.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Nov 30: Christmas Tree Lighting
Dec 3: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.
Dec 4: Breakfast with Santa
Dec 5: Student Mass, 11:30 a.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Nov 30: Junior Retreat
Dec 1: Sr Retreat; PTO Mtg, 8:15 am; Volleyball Banquet 7pm
Dec 2: Mass, 9:40 a.m.
Dec 4: ACT Tips & Strategies for Success, 9:00 a.m.
Drama Guild Night on One-Act Plays, 7:00 p.m.



Envelopes will be in the pews next weekend for anyone wishing to make a donation to the decorating of the Church for Christmas in Honor Of or in Memory Of a loved one. When complete, envelopes may be placed in the collection basket or

brought to the Rectory. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY ON THE ENVELOPE.** Donations will be accepted through December 19th.



The Irish Priests Reunion will be celebrated at Most Holy Trinity in Pass Christian (9062 Kiln DeLisle Rd) on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Bishop Paul Dempsey of Achonry, Ireland, will be here in Mississippi with us during the reunion and will be the main celebrant at the Mass honoring all deceased Irish priests. All priests, religious, deacons, and laity are invited to attend and a lovely reception and meal will be provided after.



The Ocean Springs St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store thanks those generous parishioners who've donated. They have ended the year well and your generosity has enabled them to help over three-dozen people in-need during the first 6 months. Your kind donations continue to enable them to do more. Besides shopping, they would like to invite you to donate your talents and time. The holidays are just around the corner and they run specials during the holidays. They now have dollar bins and have also added new Restoration Sleep mattresses and box springs. They invite you to come shop and volunteer with them. To volunteer call Sally at (228) 334-5222.



Hospital Stays: Please be sure to be added to the "Catholic" list when you are admitted to the hospital. The Priest Chaplains will not know if you are in the hospital unless you are on the list. If you or a family member is going to be in the hospital and wish to be visited or receive communion while there, please call the Rectory at your earliest convenience.

UPCOMING PILGRIMAGES

February 14-23, 2022: The Holy Land with Fr. Mike Austin. For more information email PilgrimageToTheHolyLand@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.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Delia Schillinger, wife of Fred Schillinger of this parish, who passed away November 22nd. We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant her eternal peace.

Altar Society Members for next week
Mary Ann Bounds, Barbara Fournier, Lois Ravera