

**The prophet Baruch delivers a comforting message to Sion (First Reading).** Her sorrows are ended and her children will be restored to her from exile. God will level a highway to facilitate their return, and bring about a great restoration. Even though the actual return from exile fell far short of the picture painted here, it did point the way to the messianic era.

This leads into the Gospel where Luke introduces us to the Messiah and his herald, John the Baptist. To underline the universality of salvation, Luke sets the event within the framework of world history. In the manner of an Old Testament prophet, John undertakes to prepare the people for the coming of the Savior by calling them to repentance.

The Second Reading deals with the final coming of Christ. In his love for his fellow Christians, Paul urges them to prepare for the Second Coming by pure and blameless lives.



**Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a Holy Day of Obligation.** Our Vigil Mass will be Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 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 Rectory Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.**



**Our Penance Service for Advent will be held in the Church on Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** A number of local priests will be in attendance that night to expedite the waiting time. Please make the reception of the Sacrament part of your spiritual preparation for Christmas.

**Other local Penance Service schedules:**

Sacred Heart, D'Iberville – Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
Our Lady of Fatima, Biloxi – Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
St. Elizabeth Seton – Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 p.m.



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



**The Altar Society will decorate the Church for Christmas on Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> after the 8:15 a.m. Mass.** Anyone wishing to help is asked to please meet in the church.



**Envelopes are in the pews 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 19<sup>th</sup>.

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

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



**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](mailto: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.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 6</b>
Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Carlton Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Randy Trahan
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 7</b>
Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14;	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Robert H. Foushee
8:15 a.m.	Family Souls in Purgatory
	6:00 p.m.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 8</b>
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Matre Gospodinovich
6:00 p.m.	Mr. Daniel Richardson
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 9</b>
Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Reva Hopkins
8:15 a.m.	Msgr. Lavalle C. Watson
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 10</b>
Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Glenn Ryan
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Lee Adler
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 11</b>
Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Gerard McInerney
	4:00 p.m.
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>DECEMBER 12</b>
Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Carlus E. Chapman
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Nell Stanton
5:30 p.m.	Mr. Bruce Kinard

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$13,556.53  
Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 2,145.00  
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 Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Edward Necaize, Susan Newman, 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.

## PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

## FAITH FORMATION

**Kindergarten - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
Contact Jane Sema at [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)

**Edge (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade):** Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)  
**Life Teen (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Gr):** Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)  
Contact Patience Clasen at [pclasen@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:pclasen@osstalphonsus.org)

**Confirmation (11<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cmolino@osstalphonsus.org)

**Dec 9:** RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room  
**Dec 12:** 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.



### Advent and Adoration

Have you begun preparing for the coming of Jesus?

The hustle and bustle of the Christmas season is here. Our homes and businesses are adorned with twinkling lights and ornament clad Christmas trees. Holiday parties fill our calendars. Parents scramble to find the last few toys on their children's list. It feels like a mad dash toward the finish line. Our preparations are never ending,

but are we preparing our hearts for the birth of Jesus? Are we taking time out to sit quietly in prayer and thanksgiving before our Lord? If you do not already have a regular hour of adoration each week, why not make Advent the time to begin spending a weekly hour with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament? It's a free gift that Jesus is waiting to give to you. Will you accept this gift from Him?

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](http://stalphonsus.weadorehim.com/signup)**

### With silent adoration, we get to know the Lord

"One cannot know the Lord without this habit of adoring, of adoring in silence. I believe, if I am not mistaken, this prayer of adoration is the prayer least known by us, it is the one we do the least", as if it were a "waste of time before the Lord, before the mystery of Jesus Christ". Instead, we should rediscover "the silence of Adoration: he is the Lord and I adore him". –Pope John Paul II

*Pope Francis, Morning meditation, 20th October 2016*

### REFLECTION

#### A lesson from the trees

Not long ago the trees were loaded with golden leaves. Though pretty to look at, they robbed me of the world beyond. But now that the leaves have fallen I am able to look through the skeletal branches to the deep blue sky beyond. Teach us, Good Lord, how to take care of our material needs without neglecting our spiritual needs; how to take care of ourselves without neglecting others; and how to live joyfully in this world without losing sight of the world to come.

## ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Dec 8:** Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.

**Dec 10:** PreK/K Christmas Program, 9:00 a.m.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Dec 8:** Mass, 9:40 am / Junior High Football Banquet, 5:00 pm

Band + Choir Concert, 6:00 pm / Cross Country Banquet 7pm

**Dec 12:** Science Honor Society Blood Drive, 1:00-5:00 pm



**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.



**Our Parish App is one great way to help make the liturgical season more present in your daily life.**

Helpful reflections will aid you in reflecting on the Mass readings each day. Also – under FORMED, you will be able to stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers and is available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. **Don't have the App or FORMED yet?** If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone you can download the App by texting App to phone number 88202, or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com). To gain access to FORMED – go to the website at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and enter our Parish Code f1f5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password.

**Parish Website:** To view a copy of the weekly Church bulletin on our website just type in "St. Alphonsus Parish Ocean Springs, MS 39564". It will contain a copy of the weekly Church bulletin.



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Mary Holt,** a member of our parish community, who passed away November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

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

## Commentary on the Doctrine of the Most Holy Eucharist

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

### I. The Eucharistic Sacrifice

The institution of the Eucharist is recounted in the First Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Corinthians, which was written around the year 55 after Christ's birth; it is likewise found in the Synoptic Gospels (Mk 14:22-25; Mt 26:26-29; Lk 22:14-20). The words taken from the First Epistle to the Corinthians are these:

"For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes" (1 Cor 11:23-26).

**Altar Society Members for next week  
Janell Alliston, Deni Helms, Pat Zuber**