

**The Gospel contains the conclusion of Matthew's missionary discourse.** Jesus instructs his apostles on the sacrifices involved, and the priorities they must embrace, in being his envoys to the world. He tells them that they must be ready, if need be, to sacrifice the dearest things in life. In certain (rare) circumstances they might have to choose between him and their own relatives.

The Gospel also stresses the profound dignity and implications of even the smallest act of hospitality to Christ's envoys. To receive a person's envoy is to receive the person himself. The First Reading echoes what the Gospel says about the importance of showing hospitality towards the envoy of God.

--New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, by Flor McCarthy, SDB



**St. Alphonsus Parish and School are grateful and blessed to have your generous support of our Capital Campaign here at St. Alphonsus. We currently have \$1,478,262 pledged of our \$1,500,000 goal!**

The new school roof is in the process of being replaced. Please keep its completion in your prayers. The Building Committee continues to meet monthly with the architect to finalize plans for phase B (Church) and phase C (Chapel). We will continue to provide updates as our campaign projects progress.

**Beginning this coming week, we will email or mail statements showing your pledged amount, frequency of payment, and current balance. If for some reason you have made a pledge but do not receive the statement, please call the rectory office at 875-5419.**

If you are still interested in making a pledge or a one-time gift there is still time! Contact Patience Clasen at (504) 920-5468, [pclasen@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:pclasen@osstalphonsus.org) or the parish office with any questions about the campaign or to make a pledge or donation. Please continue to pray our campaign prayer for the success of our campaign throughout the years to come.



**The Parish Office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day.**



**A Baptism Class** will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.

When parents have their children baptized they indicate their desire to have their children grow up and live as children of God and brothers or sisters of Jesus, and be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Through birth a child is given to parents; through baptism a child is given to God. At baptism the parents acknowledge that their parenthood is a participation in God's parenthood that all fatherhood and motherhood comes from God. Thus baptism frees the parents from a sense of owning their children. Children belong to God and are given to the parents to love and care for in God's name. It is the parents' vocation to welcome their children as honored guests in their home and bring them to the physical, emotional, and spiritual freedom that enables them to leave the home and become parents themselves. Baptism reminds parents of this vocation and sets children on the path of freedom.



**You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction** on Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JULY 3</b>
Ephesians 2:19-22; John 20:24-29	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Trent Hartzog
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 4</b>
Genesis 19:15-29; Matthew 8:23-27	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Dick Porterfield
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Johnny Norman
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 5</b>
Genesis 21:5, 8-20a; Matthew 8:28-34	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>JULY 6</b>
Genesis 22:1b-19; Matthew 9:1-8	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Mangin
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Maria Padula
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>JULY 7</b>
Genesis 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Matthew 9:9-13	
6:30 a.m.	Edward and Marie Weidner, Sr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Nick Thomas
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>JULY 8</b>
Genesis 27:1-5, 15-29; Matthew 9:14-17	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Elena Diaz Broussard
4:00 p.m.	Deceased St. Alphonsus Parishioners
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>JULY 9</b>
Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Matthew 11:25-30	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Jackie Endt
9:00 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim and Toni Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Ann Tootle



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Kevin Barry, Beckett Bassenger, Christopher Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin, Bob Boney, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Jeff Brochard, Roland and Margaret Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Christine Chandler, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Pat Cronin, Billy Cruthirds, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Nija Fountain, Ray Frazier, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Charlie Goff, Sandra Grantham, Trent Hartzog, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Iva Misko, Edward Necaize, Terese Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Thomas Peresich, The Petitjean Family, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Dale Seymour, Bridgett Shepard, Glenn Sigurnjak, Linda Smith, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, and Ashley Vickers.

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$8,592.87  
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,260.00  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**



### Saints Who Promoted Eucharistic Adoration

Saint Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi  
 Caterina de' Pazzi belonged to a noble Florentine family. At ten, she made her First Communion and also a vow of virginity. At seventeen, she joined the Carmelites as Sister

Mary Magdalene. She chose her particular convent because it practiced daily Communion, not then a given.

Her life was filled with mystical experiences, extreme penances, and miracles. But she did not let her mystical experiences puff her up. She praised those who envied her for their ability to keep the faith without such extraordinary graces. She did encourage daily Communion. "Never of your own will deprive yourself of Communion, because you do not know if that Communion might be the very time when God has determined to give you some grace and particular gift."

Her focus on Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament was so intense that she would go into ecstasy as she prepared for Communion. Once, when she had been baking for the convent, she appeared in the Communion line covered with flour; she had been so eager to receive the Lord that she lost awareness of her appearance. She was even known to "cut" in line, for the Eucharist drew her like a magnet. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi died at forty-one and was canonized within seventy years.

*Eucharistic Lord, though the prayers of your servant Saint Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, make straight our paths to fervent daily Communion.*

Taken from Magnificat June 2023, Vol. 25, No. 4

If you are signed up on the website for an adoration hour and are not going anymore, please return to adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. He waits for us to keep Him company! If you are absolutely unable to fulfill your commitment, please remove yourself from the schedule.

Whether you are visiting the chapel for 10 minutes or 2 hours, please sign in using the IPAD. Also, be sure to sign out when you leave. This requires a simple tap on your name.

To view the adoration schedule and sign up for an hour you have 3 options:

1. Go to the adoration website at [stalphonsus.weadorehim.com](http://stalphonsus.weadorehim.com)
2. Scan the QR code



3. Click on the My Parish app, click the button 'Parish Info' and you will find 'We Adore Him Adoration Sign Up'

If you have questions or difficulty using this website, please reach out and call 228-282-0984. We are happy to help you navigate!



### Have you seen the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store?

It's full of many wonderful bargains. To add to those bargains, on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, all furniture and clothing will be 1/2 off. DVD's and discs will be 4/\$1.00. Your shopping with them helps to help others who are in need. The store will be closed Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup>.



**A Special Second Collection will be taken up next weekend (July 8/9) to assist those affected by the recent tornado in Moss Point.**



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Mary E. Wilson**, sister of Diane (Al) Higginbotham of this parish, who passed away June 26<sup>th</sup>.

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



### Eucharistic Revival

The Eucharist is God's response to the deepest hunger of the human heart, the hunger for authentic life, for in the Eucharist, Christ Himself is truly in our midst, to

nourish, console and sustain us on our journey. Sadly nowadays, there are those among the Catholic faithful who believe that the Eucharist is more a symbol than the reality of the Lord's presence and love. It is more than a symbol; it is the real and loving presence of the Lord. It is my hope, then, that the Eucharistic Congress will inspire Catholics throughout the country to discover anew the sense of wonder and awe at the Lord's great gift of Himself and to spend time with Him in the celebration of the Holy Mass and in personal prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. I believe that we have lost the sense of adoration in our day. We must rediscover the sense of adoration in silence. It is a form of prayer that we have lost. Too few people know what it is. Dear friends, the National Eucharistic Congress marks a significant moment in the life of the Church in the United States. May all that you are doing be an occasion of grace for each of you and may it bear fruit in guiding men and women throughout your nation to the Lord, who, by His presence among us, rekindles hope and renews life."

~Pope Francis' address to the National Eucharistic Congress team in Rome on June 19, 2023

For more information on the National Eucharistic Revival log on [@ eucharisticrevival.org](http://eucharisticrevival.org).



**The Bookstore and Gift Shop** will be closed for inventory and repairs through Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.



**The Lord Is My Help** needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. (no cooking involved) the week of July 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>.

If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times, please call Jamie Lloyd at 713-818-6071. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



**Catholic Charities of South Mississippi is offering a divorce recovery support group titled "Surviving Divorce".** The group will meet at Catholic Charities of South MS, 1450 North Street

Gulfport beginning Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> and will meet weekly through September 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. For more information call Michelle Eleuterius at 228-701-0555. To register online go to: [catholiccharitiesofsouthms.org](http://catholiccharitiesofsouthms.org) and click on the 'counseling' tab or email: [meleuterius@biloxidiocese.org](mailto:meleuterius@biloxidiocese.org).



**Our Lady of the Gulf is offering a two day seminar on rekindling the joys of marriage and learning to relate to your spouse in a new way** on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is not

your typical marriage seminar! Do you have a good marriage but wonder if it could be better? Do you miss the excitement of when you were dating, but not sure how to get that spark back? Then it's time for a tune-up! Find out what God says about your marriage and about your spouse. Registration is required. To register, visit [trinitywellnesscenterms.com](http://trinitywellnesscenterms.com). Meals and refreshments will be provided.

**Altar Society Members for this week**  
**Mary Alice, Mary Ann, Lois, Barbara, Darlene, Jan**



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Johnny Norman**