

On the face of it, it might seem from today's Gospel that Jesus taught in parables in order to prevent his hearers from understanding. But such a purpose is completely alien to the character of Jesus. Jesus used parables as an effective way of teaching. Those who were open to him received more. Those who had closed their minds against him received less. The fault lay not with Jesus but with the receiver. The early Church adapted the parables to the new situation in which they found themselves. The shorter form is most likely the original form of the parable. The explanation reflects the missionary experience of the early Church. It accounts for the relative failure of the message of Jesus. The shallow mind, the hard heart, worldly preoccupations, persecution - these are precisely the obstacles that have frustrated the growth of faith. As the First Reading suggests, the rain always produces positive results; eventually somewhere the earth responds and becomes fruitful. So God persists with his word until he gets a response.
--New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, by Flor McCarthy, SDB



Next weekend, the Diocesan Eucharistic Evangelism Team will be here showcasing Eucharistic Miracles of the World. We will hear testimonies from several Catholics from our diocese on the power of Eucharistic Adoration. Please be sure to attend one of the weekend masses.



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 \$1,474,922 pledged of our \$1,500,000 goal!

Statements have been emailed (if an email was provided) or mailed to all who have made a pledge to our Capital Campaign. If you did not receive your statement, please call the rectory office at 875-5419.



All are invited to join in the recitation of the most holy Rosary after the 8:15 a.m. Mass every Monday.

The intentions will be for:

1. The purification of the Church...our Pope, cardinals, bishops, priests and laity.
 2. The healing and restoration of Family Life, in accord with Our Father's Will.
 3. Any personal intentions.
- Please meet in front of Our Lady's statue, on the right hand side of the altar, for the rosary recitation.



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) this coming week (July 17th - 21st).

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.



Evening of Intercession - Intercessory prayer: Jesus calls us to join Him in interceding for ourselves, our families, our friends, the world, and even for those who may not like us. It is through Mary, our Mediatrix, we are brought closer to Jesus; into a more intimate relationship with Him. What of those times when you are in need of an answer, but time doesn't permit for prayers in petition for a day or more? Mother Teresa of Calcutta knew what to do. She turned to our Mother, and prayed her "Flying Novena." We need your assistance in confident pleading for heavenly assistance and intercession. Please come and join us on this journey of faith through prayer on Wednesday, July 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Church as we introduce her "Emergency Novena." Please bring your rosary.
"In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God." (Philippians 4:6)

Altar Society Members for this week

Judi, Theresa, Jennifer, Pam, Gail, Mark

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JULY 17
Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Matthew 10:34—11:1	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Joe Prejean
8:15 a.m.	Harold and Joicelyn Mayfield
TUESDAY	JULY 18
Exodus 2:1-15a; Matthew 11:20-24	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Joe Drake
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Lyndzie Padula
WEDNESDAY	JULY 19
Exodus 3:1-6; 9-12; Matthew 11:25-27	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
THURSDAY	JULY 20
Exodus 3:13-20; Matthew 11:28-30	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Anita Grace White
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Courtney Severino
FRIDAY	JULY 21
Exodus 11:10—12:14; Matthew 12:1-8	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Gloria Davis
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Ronnie Morano, Jr.
SATURDAY	JULY 22
Song of Songs 3:1-4b; John 20:1-2, 11-18	
8:15 a.m.	Int. The George Gewehr Family
4:00 p.m.	Int. Ms. Margaret Pepper
SUNDAY	JULY 23
Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-43	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Earl Hammond
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Leonard Tarrant
5:30 p.m.	Mrs. Patricia H. Bodet



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: 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, Marshall Car, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Christine Chandler, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Rose Mary Eagan, 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, Rich Mihal, Iva Misko, Edward Necaie, Terése 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.....\$8,814.25
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$5,192.00
 Moss Point Tornado Relief Collection.....\$3,183.01
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Mary Barrich



Saints Who Promoted Eucharistic Adoration

Saint John Neumann

"I have one desire, that of being near you in the Blessed Sacrament.....Gladly would I endure hunger, thirst, heat and cold to remain always with you in the Blessed Sacrament." John Neumann was born in 1811 in what is now Czechia. He entered a seminary, but a superfluity of priests prevented his ordination. Neumann, who spoke multiple languages, wrote to bishops throughout Europe but encountered the same obstacle. Finally, he traveled to the United States, where priests were very scarce, and was ordained within a month. After a few years, he joined the Redemptorist order, and in 1852 he was appointed Bishop of Philadelphia. Neumann wished to establish the Forty Hours' Devotion in his diocese, but his priests were hesitant. There was tremendous anti-Catholic sentiment, and already some churches had suffered arson. One night the bishop fell asleep at his desk and his candle ignited some papers. When he awoke, he found that the fire had done little harm. As he prayed in thanksgiving, he heard these words: "As the flames are burning here without consuming or injuring the writing, so I shall pour out my grace in the Blessed Sacrament without prejudice to my honor. Fear no profanation, therefore; hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my glory." The Forty Hours' Devotion was introduced in Philadelphia soon after, in 1953.

Beloved Jesus, through the intercession of Saint John Neumann, inspire bishops to cultivate Eucharistic Adoration in their dioceses.

Magnificat June 2023 Volume 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
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!



The St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Alphonsus Church

recently awarded four \$1000 scholarships for the 2023-24 school year to recipients at St. Alphonsus Catholic School, St. Patrick Catholic High School, St. Martin and Ocean Springs High Schools. The high school scholarships were awarded to seniors at the respective schools and paid to their college upon enrollment.

St Vincent de Paul Conferences work in direct service to neighbors in need within their areas. Assistance is provided over a range of expenses including electricity, water, rent and storm recovery. All donations are greatly appreciated.



An Altar Server Training will be held immediately after the 9:00 mass on Sunday, July 30th. Any children who have received their first communion are welcome to attend. Please plan on at least one parent per family attending as well. If you have any questions, contact John McMackin at jmcmack1@alumni.nd.edu or 228-229-6236.



OPUS SANCTORUM ANGELORUM: You are invited to join us in a "Consecration to the Guardian Angel" Study, beginning Friday, August 4th. We will meet in the Mount Carmel Room after the 8:15 a.m. Mass. Regarding the ANGELS..."The Catechism points out, "From its beginning until death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life (St. Basil)" (CCC336). Most Catholics know little about the holy angels except for the prayer, "Angel of God, My Guardian Dear". Yet how much more progress we could make in our spiritual life if we looked more often to him who was given to us specifically as a "shepherd leading us to life".

In an address to American pilgrims on October 3, 1958, Pope Pius XII reminded them that our lives are surrounded by the holy angels: "Each one of us, even the poorest of the poor, has angels watching over him. The angels are glorious, pure and splendid, but they been given to us as companions along the way of life. They have the task of watching over you all, so that you do not stray away from Christ, your Lord." At the end of the audience, he admonished the faithful: "Have a familiar relationship with the angels, whose constant care is directed towards your salvation and holiness. God willing, you will spend an eternity of joy with the angels: learn to get to know them now!"

In order to bring this devotion to the Guardian Angel to its full development, the Holy See approved a Consecration to the Guardian Angel. Through the consecration we open ourselves more for the influence of our personal Guardian Angel, so that he can guide, protect, strengthen and enlighten us towards greater union with God." And, given the confusion in our current culture, we are certainly in need of the help of the angels and they need us.

For further information please contact Maria Padula (330) 461-6119 or Denise Wilson (228) 238-3273.



Eucharistic Revival

It is July! Not only does that mean hot and humid weather nationwide, but in this month, the flames of Eucharistic Revival are starting to burn ever more

brightly in our nation. In approximately one year, over 80,000 Catholics will gather physically—and millions more will be present spiritually—in Indianapolis for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress! Often, people ask me why we are having a Eucharistic Congress and how the Congress connects with the National Eucharistic Revival. The answer is quite simple. *The movement needs a moment.*

The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement—inspired by the Holy Spirit—opening the channels of grace to generate creativity, joy, and missionary zeal. We need an *encounter* with Jesus to be set on fire and sent on mission. This encounter happens in a profoundly powerful way in the Eucharist. Whether at Mass or in silent adoration, we come before the living Jesus in the Eucharist. Jesus reveals himself to us, and he reveals us to ourselves. This encounter leads to mission. And we need this encounter not just once but innumerable times throughout our lives to be sustained by our friendship with Jesus.

This is why we are having the Congress. The Congress is our moment to encounter the living Jesus Christ together (as a nation), experience profound renewal, and be sent out on mission for the life of the world!

In Jesus, Sister Alicia Torres
Heart of the Revival Newsletter

For more information on the National Eucharistic Revival log on @ eucharisticrevival.org.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Billy Cruthirds, husband of Mary Cruthirds of this parish, who passed away July 11th.

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

Pray For Vocations