

**For this and the next four Sundays the Gospel readings come from Chapter 6 of St. John's Gospel.** John has no account of the institution of the Eucharist. But this chapter more than compensates for that.

The miracle described in the First Reading shows God's concern for his people during a time of famine. The bread in question was the bread of the first-fruits, which was meant to be offered to God. But instead of offering it to God, Elisha, the prophet of the old covenant, gave it to the people. The left-overs stress God's generosity.

Like Elisha, Jesus, the prophet of the new covenant, feeds hungry people, and does so even more astonishingly. There are clear eucharistic overtones in the way the miracle is related. Jesus "took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to the people." Such language is meant to remind us of what he did at the Last Supper, and of what happens every time we celebrate the Eucharist.

Even though both feedings are miraculous there is an essential human element in each, without which no miracle is possible.

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



**World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly:** The Holy Father has announced the IV World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated this Sunday, July 28, 2024. However, the U.S. Catholic Bishops approved the transfer of the celebration of this

observance to the first Sunday after Labor Day, which is Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

The theme chosen by the Holy Father, "Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. Psalm 71:9), wishes to call attention to the fact that, sadly, loneliness is the bitter lot in the lives of many elderly, so often the victims of the throw-away culture. He has invited everyone "to show our tender love for grandparents and the elderly members of our families."

The purpose of this day is to:

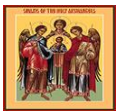
-Acknowledge and celebrate the wisdom, experience, and contributions of older generations to families, communities, and the Catholic Church.

-Foster connections between young people and the elderly, encouraging mutual respect, learning, and support.

-Highlight the challenges faced by many elderly individuals, such as isolation and loneliness, and promote initiatives to provide them with companionship and care.

-Emphasize the inherent dignity and value of every human life, from conception to natural death, and the importance of caring for the elderly.

In his message, Pope Francis stresses the importance of remembering and valuing the elderly around us, urging younger generations to draw from their wisdom and experiences. He highlights that grandparents and the elderly are a treasure to our families and society, providing a link to our history and a source of strength and guidance for the future.



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** The members of the **Opus Sanctorum Angelorum** invite you to come to the Mission being presented by Fr. Wolfgang Sietz of OSA, August 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at St. Alphonsus Church. The topic is ... ANGELS! Fr. will emphasize the powerful help available to us, when we call upon the

angels. In these modern times, many do not really believe in angels and their eagerness to help us in all sorts of situations, if we call upon them through our prayers. Fr. Sietz will bring enlightenment to us, in their regard. So, do mark the above dates on your calendars and plan on coming. Allow your guardian angels to inspire you to attend. You will make them very happy!



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:**

**Myra Brune**, a member of our parish family, who passed away July 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Anne Toups**, a member of our parish family, who passed away July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Alice Hire**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>JULY 29</b>
Jeremiah 13:1-11; John 11:19-27	
6:30 a.m.	Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Theresa Hire
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 30</b>
Jeremiah 14:17-22; Matthew 13:36-43	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Earl Keys
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Bryan Moe
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>JULY 31</b>
Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21; Matthew 13:44-46	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Oberia Hawkins
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Madeline West
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 1</b>
Jeremiah 18:1-6; Matthew 13:47-53	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Jeffries Family
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Gwendolyn Smelley
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 2</b>
Jeremiah 26:1-9; Matthew 13:54-58	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. James Bayliss, II
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Grace Toomey
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 3</b>
Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24; Matthew 14:1-12	
8:15 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim Gunkel
	The Jordan Family
	The Pitalo Family
	Mr. Joe Langlinais, Sr.
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>AUGUST 4</b>
Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24; John 6:24-35	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Int. Teachers/Students/Volunteers
11:30 a.m.	Mrs. Vara Lyons
5:30 p.m.	Int. Ms. Bridget Shepherd



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Beckett Bassenger, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin, Bob Boney, Mercedes Bosarge, Michael Bosarge, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Jeff Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Arlene Burns, Mildred "Tootsie" Caillavet, Benny and Carol Lee Cantin,

Marshall Car, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, 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, Sandra Grantham, Josh Hamilton, Trent Hartzog, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ron & Hillery Jenkins and Family, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Mary Krystosek, Sawyer Kuljis, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Iva Misko, Edward Necaie, Donna and Edward Necaie Jr., Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Kathy Pasquini, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Courtney Severino, Dale Seymour, Bridgett Shepard, Glenn Sigurnjak, Tracy Beaugez Simmons, Brittany and John Thornton, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$7,878.84  
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,646.00  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



### Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic exposition and adoration is a tremendous gift to God's people. Its fruits bless both the individual and the world. Eucharistic Adoration is a special time of intimacy between a soul and God. Whether at Mass or outside of

Mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is the greatest thing we can do. Have you ever gone to Eucharistic adoration? It's not hard to do. Why not pray about signing up for an hour a week? It will transform your life. You will find yourself falling more in love with Jesus, having more peace in your life, and not stressing out over all the chaos that life throws at you. Sitting in silence before the Blessed Sacrament reading the Bible or the lives of the saints, praying a rosary, or just gazing upon the miracle of the Holy Eucharist is never pointless or a waste of time. Eucharistic adoration is always spiritually fruitful. The presence of Jesus blesses you, every single time. Don't miss the grace of spending time with Jesus and adoring him. Your time here on earth is but the blink of an eye compared to eternity.

~30 Day Eucharistic Revival, Fr. Donald Calloway

"Like St. John, all are called to become beloved disciples. All we need is to become Eucharistic souls, adoring souls, allowing God to work those wonders in us, which only he can do." Blessed Carlo Acutis

Come and visit Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament, in our chapel any day or hour of the week. He is waiting.

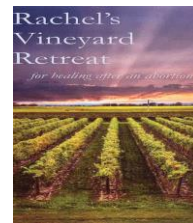
Please remember to close the tabernacle doors if no one else is adoring Him when you leave. [stalphonsus.weadorehim.com](http://stalphonsus.weadorehim.com)



### Annunciation Parish is having an "\$800 GIVE AWAY DRAWDOWN" Fundraiser

\$800 will be given away each month for 12 months. The 1st ticket drawn will receive \$500. There will be 3 more tickets drawn for \$100 each. All the winners are eligible to win again as the tickets go back to the barrel for the next month drawdown. So you have 12 chances of winning. The four drawings will be on the 1st Sunday of every month beginning August 4, 2024. Tickets are \$50.

Tickets are available at St. Alphonsus Parish Office during regular business hours or you may contact Annunciation Church parish office, 228 255-1800 Mon – Fri. 8:30 – 12:30. Don't miss out!! Fr. Chinnappa Mark thanks you for your kind support in maintaining this beautiful parish.



**The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat weekend for the Diocese of Biloxi** will be held August 23-25, 2024. Rachel's Vineyard is an international retreat that provides an opportunity for women and men to find forgiveness and healing from abortion. The retreat begins on Friday evening and ends on Sunday afternoon and will be held at the William J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis, MS.

If you or someone you know would like to attend, please contact Deacon Johnny Williams at: [rachelvineyard@biloxidiocese.org](mailto:rachelvineyard@biloxidiocese.org) or 228-702-2169. You may also click on the following link which will take you to the Rachel's Vineyard web page on the Diocese of Biloxi's website: [Rachel's Vineyard | Catholic Diocese of Biloxi | Biloxi, Mississippi \(biloxidiocese.org\)](http://Rachel'sVineyard|CatholicDioceseofBiloxi|Biloxi.Mississippi(biloxidiocese.org))



**The Annual Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass** will be celebrated on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral. Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 or more years of marriage in 2024 are welcome to attend. You are asked to register whether you can attend or not. If you cannot attend a certificate will be mailed to you. The Mass will be followed with official pictures being taken and a reception at the Sacred Heart Center. Registration Forms are available in the Rectory Office during regular business hours or you may register on the diocese website at: [www.biloxidiocese.org](http://www.biloxidiocese.org). **Registration Deadline: Aug. 29, 2024.**



**You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction** on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).



**You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion** on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.



**Bethlehem Nativity Group will visit St. Alphonsus to display hand-carved olive wood religious art made by Catholics in the Holy Land on the weekend of August 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.**

Your purchase of these beautiful items will help support Catholic families in Bethlehem and Jerusalem to continue to earn a living in the land of Christ's birth.



**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](http://App) to phone number [88202](http://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 Registration

**Parishioner Registration:** When planning a baptism, marriage, or to obtain subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must be able to demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you do attend Mass. It is the Church, not just this parish, which insists that signs of good faith commitment be present on these occasions. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of contributions and Mass attendance. Parish registration forms may be obtained in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.



**PLEASE JOIN US:** You are invited to join us in praying the ROSARY every weekday, Monday through Saturday, after the 8:15 a.m. mass at St. Alphonsus Church in Ocean Springs. The Blessed Mother Mary herself prays with us. The Rosary prayer embraces the problems of the Church, of the See of Saint Peter, the problems of the whole world. In it we also remember sinners, that they may be converted and saved, and the souls in purgatory. And now more than ever we pray for world peace. Please we need your participation and prayers! Everyone is welcome!



**In the Gospel, Jesus supersedes both the apostles' and the crowds' expectations: with little he feeds many...Jesus is the sign of God's lavish presence and love. Your donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is indeed a sign of God's extravagant love to the lonely and the poor.** This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 14 families with their utility and rent. God Bless You!

### HURRICANE PRAYER

**O Heavenly Father, all the elements of nature obey your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear into praise of your goodness. Protect us from hurricanes and disasters of nature. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Save and pray frequently)**