

The First Reading talks about the just one who serves the cause of righteousness, and suffers for it at the hands of the wicked. The ‘righteous’ are those who hold on to their faith in God and obey his commandments. This passage has been seen in Christian tradition as anticipating the hostility suffered by Jesus, the suffering just one *par excellence*. Our reading forms a unified theme with the Gospel and with the reading from James.

In the Gospel we have the second prediction of the Passion: once again the disciples do not understand. Instead, motivated by selfish ambition, they get involved in an argument as to which of them is the greatest. This kind of ambition is condemned by Jesus and by James (Second Reading).

It is not ambition itself that is condemned, but false ambition. False ambition involves a desire to rule others. It creates conflict and division, and is very damaging to the unity of the community. True ambition, on the other hand, is the desire to serve others. The best and purest kind of service is that which is rendered to the little ones, that is, to the most insignificant persons in the community.

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



Capital Campaign Update – September 2024

We are excited to announce our progress with the campaign projects. We have received approval from the Diocese to move forward with the design phase of the Design-Build Contract with Starks Contracting Company. This initial phase of work will take approximately 6 months to complete and will include advancing concept designs to preliminary status, and preparing schedule, cost estimates, and construction drawings. The Parish Building Committee will provide sessions for Parishioners to review and provide comments as the designs progress.

The Parish has been sending out individual updates regarding your campaign contribution. If you have not received one, please let me know. If you would like to update or set up a contribution, you may do so via our website www.osstalphonus.org or by contacting Patience Clasen at pclasen@osstalphonus.org or (504) 920-5468.

Without the continued support of our gracious parishioners and families, we would not have exceeded our capital goal or be positioned to move forward with needed improvements to our Church facilities and school. Thank you for your support in the past, present, and future!

FOUNDATIONS: Edge, LifeTeen, RCIA and Continuing Catholic Formation meets on Wednesday’s from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.in the Parish Hall.

Thank you to everyone that has volunteered thus far. The excitement for the program is overwhelming! We are still looking for another adult to help with child care. Please contact Jammie at 228-806-2641 if you can help. To help with dinner(s), please contact Cyndi at 228-697-2387.



An Altar Server Training class will be held after the 11:30 a.m. mass on Sunday, September 29th. Please plan on attending with your child. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 875-5419 or John McMackin at 228-229-6236.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Sister Stephanie Evelyn Sema, SSML, aunt of Robert (Jane) Sema of this parish, who passed away September 14th.

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

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$9,712.06
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,681.00
 Center for International Seafarers and Truckers.....\$1,217.00
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 23
Proverbs 3:27-34; Luke 8:16-18	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Sarah Galle Traylor
TUESDAY	SEPTEMBER 24
Proverbs 21:1-6, 10-13; Luke 8:19-21	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Shaun Blake
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Phillip Weatherford
WEDNESDAY	SEPTEMBER 25
Proverbs 30:5-9; Luke 9:1-6	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Bridget Shepherd
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Jonathan “Junior” Jenkins
THURSDAY	SEPTEMBER 26
Ecclesiastes 1:2-11; Luke 9:7-9	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Gerald Hopkins
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Marley Severino
FRIDAY	SEPTEMBER 27
Ecclesiastes 3:1-11; Luke 9:18-22	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Louis Keys
8:15 a.m.	Int. Sr. Mary Anne Peltier
SATURDAY	SEPTEMBER 28
Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8; Luke 9:43b-45	
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Gail Banks
	Mr. Barney Banks
4:00 p.m.	Int. Past/Present SVDP Soc. Mbrs.
SUNDAY	SEPTEMBER 29
Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Louis Janus
11:30 a.m.	Bill and Dot Collins
	Ms. Grace Homsany
5:30 p.m.	Int. Protection of the Unborn



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

Bums, 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, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ron & Hillery Jenkins and Family, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Sawyer Kuljis, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Edward Necaize, Donna and Edward Necaize 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.



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory Of Deacon Greg Miller



St. Joseph, the Poor Adorer

In St. Joseph, we find an example of what can be called “Eucharistic poverty,” that is, living only for the Real Presence of Jesus and leaving everything else to divine providence. Let’s unpack what “Eucharistic poverty”

looked like for St. Joseph. Saint Joseph was unpretentious in the eyes of the world. He had no worldly ambition or desire for recognition. He was happy with his daily bread, that is, Jesus. The Holy Family was poor. Very poor. Saint Joseph was so poor that his wife had to give birth in a place reserved for animals. “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 5:3). Have you ever wondered what Jesus meant by that statement? If Jesus saying that poverty is wonderful and everyone should give away everything they have and live in a tent? No, that’s not what our Lord is saying. What he is saying is that those who are detached from the things of this world are not far from the Kingdom of Heaven because they rely on Divine Providence. The person who is detached from material things is truly blessed in spirit and rich in the sight of God. This explains why St. Joseph is called “Lover of Poverty.” He relied on Divine Providence for all his needs. He lived, worked, and died for Jesus. You will never find true happiness in material goods. Today, speak to the Lord from the poverty of your heart and ask him to give you a spirit of detachment from the things of this world. Make an act of trust in Divine Providence and desire to imitate St. Joseph and his boundless trust in God.

~30 Day Eucharistic Revival, Fr. Donald Calloway

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. stalphonus.weadorehim.com



Classes for Adult Study are held after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. Videos are by Fr. Chris Alar, Director of the Association of Marian Helpers. For more information, contact Sue Mihal at 601-573-0020 or Anne McClellan at 228-327-4040. All are invited to attend.

September 29: St. Michael... Why you need Him (part 2)

October 6: Spiritual Warfare (part 1)



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 (September 23rd - 27th, 2024).

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.



Deacon Justin Mitchell, Director of the Office of Marriage and Family Life and Father Rofinus Jas, Pastor of Our Mother of Mercy Parish, invite all our married couples to the first “Healing Mass for Couples.”

The Mass will be celebrated on Friday, September 27, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at Our Mother of Mercy Catholic Church, 216 Saucier Avenue, Pass Christian, 39571.

Invite your friends – especially those who need special prayers – to this powerful “Healing Mass for Couples.”

Please contact Deacon Mitchell and let him know if you plan to attend. jmitchell@biloxidiocese.org; 228-702-2107.



To assist or enhance you in your spiritual growth, the bookstore is offering special \$2 and \$5 (specially priced) deals on a variety of books in front of the Church; while supplies last.

Please put money in the box provided beneath the books.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



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 and in reparation for all the offenses, sacrileges and indifferences made against the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Mother Mary asks us to pray for our priests, (especially your parish priest), they are human and will need to be strengthened like Jesus was in Gethsemane when an angel from heaven appeared to strengthen Him. Please we need your participation and prayers! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



Walking With Mom’s in Need (WWMIN)

“Help One Save Two” Choose Life: We are facing an unprecedented challenge in our world – abortion called healthcare and so much more...It is easy to become discouraged. Yet as Christians, we are called to witness the hope and truth of Christ, to serve as He served and to put our faith into action.

WWMIN, a pro-life ministry of our Diocese and the USCCB, is just that! ACTION. For more information, please contact Margaret Miller, Coordinator at 228-217-4742 / mrm82847@yahoo.com or Mary at 228-348-6092.



The KC Ladies Auxiliary will host a baby shower the entire month of October in honor of Our Mother Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. Donation bins will be located in the front vestibule and will benefit the Walking with Moms in Need Ministry. For additional information, contact Kim Ryan at 228-238-9108.



St. Elizabeth Seton invites you to join them in the National Life Chain which will be held on Sunday, October 6th from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. (rain or shine) at the service road of the plaza with Big Lots and Take 5 Oil Change.

Items that may be needed: a chair, rosary, beverage and an umbrella.



In today’s Gospel Jesus called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, “Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me.”

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will help hungry children feel the arms of Jesus around them.

Thanks to the continued generosity of our parishioners, our St Vincent De Paul conference has been able to continue its mission to assist those in need and fund our annual needs-based scholarships. Three \$1,500 scholarships have been awarded. The first annual Jerry Bourgeois, St Patrick High School scholarship was awarded to a deserving student to assist with tuition. The annual Bob Mayer scholarship was awarded to a St Alphonsus School student, also to assist with tuition. A third scholarship was awarded to a local high school student to assist with her freshman college expenses. The conference is grateful for the continued support of St Alphonsus parishioners.



Radio Maria - a Catholic Radio right here in Ocean Springs!

You can listen to it on your radio at FM 88.1; livestream it on your computer at radiomaria.us; download the free app onto your smartphone; or by calling 1-631-359-8743. There are many good programs from inspirational Catholic speakers, programs about history, prayer, care giving, finding a job, Marian apparitions, conversion stories, and many others! Plus there is great music. Let us be grateful to God for this sublime gift to us, for His mercies endure forever! Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. (Romans 12:12)