





**Prayer forms the subject of the First Reading and the Gospel.** Prayer is a favorite theme of Luke. In the First Reading we see Abraham interceding with God on behalf of Sodom, a city full of evil. Troubled by the idea of the innocent being punished along with the guilty, he begins to bargain with God. The story highlights the importance of intercessory prayer, and reveals a lot about the mercy of God. This prepares us for the Gospel which shows Jesus at prayer and contains the Lord’s Prayer. Luke’s version is shorter than Matthew’s, which is believed to be closer to the original version. Jesus urges the disciples to go on asking for what they need with persistence and confidence. --New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, by Flor McCarthy, SDB

 **You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction** on Friday, August 1<sup>st</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 2<sup>nd</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.

 **The Bookstore and Gift Shop is currently closed for inventory and maintenance but will reopen on Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>** with the normal open hours of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and after all English weekend Masses.

 **Capital Campaign Update**

The Sanctuary is complete. Installation of new flooring under the pews is underway. Work to extend the choir loft continues on schedule. We anticipate being back in the Church for weekend masses beginning the weekend of August 2/3. Please note – Weekday Masses (Monday – Friday 6:30 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. and the Saturday 8:15 a.m. morning Mass) will still be held in the Chapel.

The Parish sends out monthly Capital Campaign statements to all who still owe on their campaign pledge. If you have not received one, please let the parish know. If you need to update/change your pledge or set up a contribution, you may do so via our website [www.osstalphonsus.org](http://www.osstalphonsus.org) or by contacting the parish office at 875-5419. Without the continued support of our gracious parishioners and families, we would not have met our capital campaign goal or be positioned to move forward with needed improvements to our Church facilities. Thank you for your support in the past, present, and future!


 **Your Church Needs You -** God is calling. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers at all the masses. Prayerfully consider God’s calling to serve your St. Alphonsus Family.


**WEEKLY OFFERING**


Sunday Collection.....\$7,884.69  
Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,936.00  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

MONDAY	JULY 28
Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34; Matthew 13:31-35	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Malcolm Latour, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
TUESDAY	JULY 29
Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28; John 11:19-27	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Christopher Bellman
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Jeff Cowart
WEDNESDAY	JULY 30
Exodus 34:29-35; Matthew 13:44-46	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Gerald Hopkins
8:15 a.m.	Int. Patricia Freeman Family
THURSDAY	JULY 31
Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38; Matthew 13:47-53	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Joyce Reynolds
8:15 a.m.	Int. The Gatschet Family
FRIDAY	AUGUST 1
Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37; Matthew 13:54-58	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Elizabeth Hughbanks
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Anthony “Tony” Belson
SATURDAY	AUGUST 2
Leviticus 25:1, 8-17; Matthew 14:1-12	
8:15 a.m.	The Jordan Family The Pitalo Family
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Mary Dickinson
SUNDAY	AUGUST 3
Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim & Toni Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Vara Lyons
5:30 p.m.	Int. Fr. Steve Geerling

 **Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Beckett Bassenger, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin, 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, Dale Diaz, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Rose Mary Eagan, Nija Fountain, Ray Frazier, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Margie Gammon, Sandra Grantham, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, James Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Terri Jurich, Otis Kaufman, Joey Kelley, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Mary Lewis, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney Steve Merkel, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Edward Necaise, Donna and Edward Necaise Jr., Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Cody Parker, Kathy Pasquini, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, Richard Potash, MaraLou Guice Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jerry Schneider, Courtney Severino, Dale Seymour, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.




**The Precious Blood of Jesus Christ**

In the month of July, the Catholic Church honors the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. Let us remember the sacrifice that Jesus made by the pouring out of His Precious Blood to save all of humanity for our sins. His Precious Blood is offered to us in the Eucharist every day and is waiting to be adored in the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. Let us spend some of our time adoring His Precious Blood during the month of July.


*"O Jesus, I adore you, truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I adore your Precious Blood, which was shed for the redemption of the world. I thank you for your sacrifice and ask for your mercy and protection. May your Precious Blood reign forever, scattering all evil and bringing peace to the world."*

To deepen your connection with Christ even further, pray the Litany of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus which can be found on EWTN.com.


If you currently have a designated adoration hour on the We Adore Him website and have not been going for 3 months or more, your name will be removed from the schedule. If you need to try a new hour, please visit [stalphonsus.weadorehim.com](http://stalphonsus.weadorehim.com) to view the schedule and choose a new hour.

 **Bethesda Free Health Clinic will be holding their Summer Fundraising event** on Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the WAMA Community Center on Washington Avenue. Tickets are \$40 and available on Eventbrite.

This event features acclaimed New Orleans author, Valorie Hart, celebrating her book "Bohemian Soul: The Vanishing Interiors of New Orleans," capturing the soul of New Orleans homes and interiors. Books will be available for purchase during her meet & greet. Guests will enjoy tapas donated by Mosaic and Evergreen restaurants, music by DJ Chuck, signature cocktails and sweet treats. Guests are invited to express their Boho Style on the strut worthy catwalk. Groups welcome to compete for 3 - \$100 prizes. Individuals have a chance to win door prizes of Robin Santana Pottery. For more info, or pay by check, please email [director@bfhcd.com](mailto:director@bfhcd.com).


 **St. Elizabeth Seton, Ocean Springs, would like to invite you to their annual Evangelization Retreat!** God is moving and leading us in a new and exciting direction, and you don’t want to miss out. The retreats will be based on the spirituality of St. Ignatius. There will be plenty of quiet time to reflect on Scripture. We will also have time for Confession and Adoration, and we will have Mass before we head home on Sunday. Our theme this year is “Called”. We will dive deep into what that call is and how do we live that out in today’s world. **The Women’s Retreat** will be Saturday, August 9– Sunday, August 10 and the **Men’s Retreat** will be Saturday, August 16– Sunday, August 17. The retreats will take place at the William J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis. The cost is \$130.00. This includes transportation to and from the retreat, all meals, and a private room with a private bath. We will meet at 6:45 am on Sat. morning at St. Elizabeth and return to St. Elizabeth around noon on Sunday. You can sign up here: <https://www.stelseton.com/evangelization-retreat> or feel free to call Shellie in the office at 228-875-0654 if you have any questions.

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

 **A Baptism Class** will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, August 6<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.

 **PLEASE JOIN US:** You are invited to join us in praying the rosary outside on the lawn at the Villa Maria on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome! We are looking forward to praying with you!

 **St. Alphonsus Church App - If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone** you can download the app by texting **App** to phone number [55321](tel:55321), or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com).

Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications regarding our parish life and an easy-to-access event calendar as well as many more great features such as daily Mass readings, Catholic news, prayers and prayer reminders, **quick access to our weekly bulletin, Church website (osstalphonsus.org) and FORMED.** It is easier than ever for you to enjoy your subscription to FORMED! Just download the FREE FORMED app and start enjoying great video and audio wherever you go (or if you are already signed up – you are able to access through the parish app). 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. St. Alphonsus has a purchased subscription from Formed.org, which gives St. Alphonsus parishioners’ FREE access to high quality Catholic programs, movies, downloadable audios and downloadable e-books. 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 and start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place.

 **A lovely flower arrangement on the altar area of the church on weekends is a beautiful way to honor a deceased loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.** If you would like to donate for a specific weekend, please call the Rectory at 875-5419. Donation amount is \$35.00

 **Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Reginald Richards,** husband of MaraLou Richards of this parish, who passed away July 3<sup>rd</sup>. We extend our sympathy to each family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.