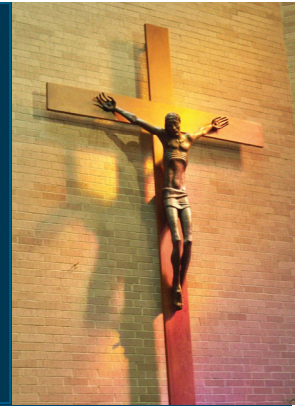




St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church

Greenwell Springs, Louisiana
Diocese of Baton Rouge



3rd Sunday of Advent - December 17, 2017 - Volume 9, Issue 51
"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17

PRIME TIMERS Palace Casino Trip



February 8, 2018

7:00 AM Departure from St. Alphonsus
10:00 AM Arrive at the Palace Casino, Biloxi, MS
2:30 PM Leave Palace Casino (4:30 PM return)

- * Cost: \$15.00/person
- * Smoke Free Casino
- * Free Play of \$15.00 per person
- * Buffet Cost: \$13.00

Minimum of 35 individuals on Bus

Deadline to sign up is Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Sign up in the Parish Office

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
 Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Formation Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Daily Masses/Communion Services

Monday thru Friday 8:30 am
 Novena on Tuesday 8:30 am

Holy Day Masses

As Announced

Reconciliation

Tuesday 8:00 am (during Lent)
 Saturday 3:00 pm and by appointment

Prayer Line

261.5145....Mary Frederick
 261.8854....Adam Landry

Baptism

Contact Robin Debetaz at the Parish Office in the early months of pregnancy for dates and preparation requirements.

Marriage

Contact Blair Millet at the Parish Office six months to one year prior to projected wedding date for information concerning preparation programs.

Funerals

Contact Robin Debetaz at the Parish Office for arrangement information.

Christian Initiation of Adults

If interested in becoming a Catholic and want more information on the process call the Formation Office, 261.4644.

J.A.M. (Jesus and Me)

During the school year for ages 3, 4 and 5 at 10:00 am Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word

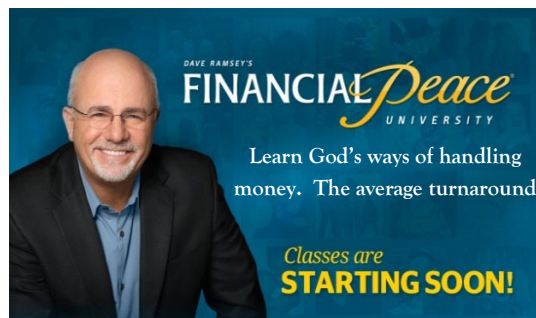
During the school year at the 10:00 am Mass. For children kindergarten through 2nd grade.

St. Alphonsus School

School Office 225.261.5299
 School Cafeteria 225.261.4157
 Website: www.stalphonsusbr.org

**Parish Calendar of Events
 December 18 - 24, 2017**

- Monday..** 8:30 AM Mass
 9:00 AM James Study - St. Gerard
 6:30 PM Boy Scouts - St. Joseph
 6:30 PM Boy Scouts Parent Meeting - Blessed Seelos
- Tuesday..** 8:30 AM Mass
 6:30 PM Mass Study - SAS Classroom 114
 6:30 PM Grief Support - St. Clare
 6:30 PM Men's Study - Choir Room
 7:00 PM High School Youth Ministry - Lighthouse
- Wednesday..** 8:30 AM Communion Service
 11:00 AM Mass Study - Choir Room
 1:00 PM SAS Faculty Christmas Party - St. Francis
 5:45 PM Bell Choir - Choir Room / Church
 6:00 PM Balanced Women - St. Joseph
 6:30 PM That Man Is You - Cafeteria
 7:00 PM Chancel Choir - Choir Room / Church
- Thursday..** 8:30 AM Mass
 School Christmas Break starts
- Friday..** 8:30 AM Mass
 Church Office Closed
- Saturday..** 4:00 PM Mass - 4th Sunday of Advent
- Sunday..** 8 AM, 10 AM Mass- 4th Sunday of Advent
 4 PM, 6 PM, 8 PM Mass - Christmas Vigil



Nine weekly classes begin @ 7:00 pm January 10, 2018 at St. Alphonsus School in the Middle School Build-

This New Year, make the resolution to free yourself from the financial burden of debt so you can live and give like never before. Learn how to eliminate debt, manage your money, and save for your future. Do what millions of families have already done. Let Dave Ramsey's FPU change your life today. For info and sign up, visit <https://fpu.com/1049265> Or Contact Jason Kroll 225-892-0382.

Mission Statement

We are a faith-filled community who, through prayerful discernment, call forth the gifts of the Spirit given to each individual, that Christ may be known in our community and in our world.

Community Life

Pray for our Expectant Families

Pray for expectant families who are members of the parish and have been entrusted with a new life to nurture and love.

Chris and Bryce Fontenot, Dustin and Brittany Phillips, Chase and Cheryl Ranlett, Tim and Sarah Love, Pete and Marlana Firmin, Matthew and Angela Englade, Benjamin and Katie Foret, Brynn and Chase Martinez, Chase and Lacie Viola

If you are an expectant family, let us know so that your parish family can pray for you and your baby. Please contact the Parish Office, 261-4650, to arrange for your names to be listed in our bulletin.

Expectant Parent Blessing

If you are expecting a baby—Congratulations! Fr. Mike will be offering a blessing to all expectant parents on December 17th at the 10:00AM Mass. Please call the parish office and let us know the good news so we can include your names in our weekly “Pray for our Expectant Families” portion of the bulletin.

Wedding Anniversary Milestone Celebration

St. Alphonsus to Honor Milestone Wedding Anniversary Couples

On Saturday, February 4th at the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass we will be honoring couples married in the Catholic Church who are celebrating special wedding anniversaries, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, 55th, 60th, and above, in 2018. A reception will follow for the honorees, their family and friends. Couples celebrating are asked to RSVP to the church office, 261-4650, by January 11th, 2018. If you are celebrating one of the above milestone anniversaries and have not received an invitation letter, please call the church office to request one.

Prime Timers

No membership needed to attend Prime Timers activities. Save the dates for these upcoming Prime Timers events:

Palace Casino – February 8th
Cajun Comedy Relief – March 10th

Check your upcoming bulletins for more information closer to these events.



Pastor	Rev. Michael J. Moroney fmoroney@alphonsus.org
Executive Director	JoAnn Stein joann@alphonsus.org
Permanent Deacon	Robert Kusch rkusch@diobr.org
Permanent Deacon	Ronnie Hebert rjhebert@diobr.org
Permanent Deacon	George Hooper ghooper@alphonsus.org
Director of Formation	Olga Johnson dre@alphonsus.org
Youth Minister	Lynette Shaffett youth@alphonsus.org
Finance Manager	Melissa LeSage melissa@alphonsus.org
Parish Nurse	Stephanie Gaudin stephanie@alphonsus.org
Communication Secretary	Blair Millet blair@alphonsus.org
Parish Secretary	Missy Savoy msavoy@alphonsus.org
Formation Secretary	Cindi Schlatre cindi@alphonsus.org
DRE Assistant	Kaitlyn Johnson kaitlyn@alphonsus.org
Receptionist	Robin Debetaz rdebetaz@alphonsus.org
Maintenance	Ronnie Deaton Mark Mitchell maintenance@alphonsus.org
Custodian	Michelle Morgan
School Principal	Dr. Cynthia Ryals cryals@stalphonsusbr.org

Contact Information

St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church
14040 Greenwell Springs Road
Greenwell Springs, LA 70739.3302
Office Phone—225.261.4650
Fax—225.261.5650
Formation Office—225.261.4644
Website: www.alphonsus.org

Pastoral Council

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Trustee	Linda Housewright
Trustee	Darryl Serio
	Donna Blanchard
	Ashley Boyle
	Joe Bossier
	Lisa Deaton
	Tessa Dembre
	Matthew Englade
	Bobby Harris
	Debbie Sartwell
	Rev. Michael J. Moroney

Formation

Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation preparation will begin soon. If you or someone you know is interested in confirming, contact the Faith Formation Office, 261-4644, for more information.

Learning Group

Faith Formation Learning Group will meet on Sunday, December 17th at 5:30 PM. Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. Learning group classes resume on Sunday, January 7th, 2018.

Confirmation Year 1 Meeting

Confirmation Year 1 meeting will be Sunday, December 17th. If you are in Learning Group 9th Grade, you will attend the Confirmation session instead of the Learning Group. We will begin at 5:30 PM in the church and then move to the Family Center and end at 7:30 PM. Parents, if you have a 9th grader and younger student, the 9th grader will not be dismissed until 7:30 PM. You will have to make arrangements to pick up younger children at 7:00 PM.

RCIA Rite of Welcome, December 3rd



Join us for CoffeeBreak

Friday, January 12th - St. Francis Room
Start the new year with a morning of prayer and continued reflection on "Celebrating The Mass" with the ladies of CoffeeBreak. It's not too late to join us, as we have a few extra books and there is no homework involved.

- 9:15 AM - Coffee and Refreshments begin
- 9:45 AM - Prayer and Meditation
- 10:15 AM - Small Group Study

Take some time for yourself and the Lord. Join us for a spiritual and relaxing morning!! We look forward to meeting you.

If you have any questions, please contact Jackie at 261-2116 or avon1.jackie@gmail.com.



Learn More About Your Catholic Faith

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, Church History, the Sacraments, Catholic Scripture, and many more topics? Consider taking one of our many Ministry and Theology (MAT) courses for only \$15 each! Some courses are offered on various campuses around the diocese and some are offered online. They are open to everyone and are taught by very talented instructors from around our diocese! To learn more, visit the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis website at evangcatbr.org under the Certification tab. We would love to have you join us! If you have any questions, reach out to our staff at 225-336-8760.

Outreach

Pray For the Sick

Please note: Names are removed after eight weeks. Call the office to put name back on the list.

Billy Stears, Luke Allen, GiGi Chenevert, Dr. Stephen Speeg, Phyllis Jackson, Clay Guillory, Scott Armand, Lou and Curley Ballard, Babette Vlahos, Pat Matthews, J.K. Malone, Joy Lonibos, Phyllis Lasserre, Sharon Loeb, Margaret Smith, Laurence LeSage, Jaycee Richard, Gary Saucier, Darrell Firmin, Alexander Landry, Blanche Hoover, Rita Neck, Datz Family, Schittone Family, Donner Stein, Earline Brown, Ronnie Collette, Jane Mizell, Marlene LeBlanc, Catherine Willis, Edna Ellis, Lynette Shaffett, Tiffany Penton, Barbara Dearie, Larry Bueche, Ashley Smith, Charlie Crawford, Larry Crawford, Arlene Picard, Monica Hudson, Hope Broadus, John Robers, Ashley Usie, EJ and Caroline Graffeo, Marlene Buhler, Kenny Acord, Mary Beth Browning, Fisk Morris, Jean Firmin, Lisa Graffeo, Mollea Hood, Ashlea Hood, Michael Morales, Ray Amond, Shawn Kean, Dana Rogers, Gloria "Jinkie" Phillips, Theresa Ognibene, Adrian Kaiser, John Larkin, Savannah McNair, Briggs Elliser, Anita Bueche, Anna Kirby, Jamie Samson, Doug Langlois, William Hanegan, Annaleigh Fontenot, Gayle McGrew, Mildred Faul, Charlie Firmin, Lee & Kathy Madere, Paden Mouton, Krystal Feltman, Dot Bourgeois, Melanie Way, Sandy Dares, Ashlynn Ferguson, Barbara Simoneaux, Millie Strickland, Ouida Davis, Barbara W. Flake, Douglas Cooper, Allan Eddy, Sally Stears, John Nicosia, Holly Hart, Anthony Collette, Jeff Ferguson, Ian Davis, Anthony Rodriguez, Liam Thistlewaite, Al Felps, Nina Creel, Nancy Hill, Sonya Hunt

Health Fair is Coming

Mark your calendars for our Health Fair, which will resume after a long hiatus. This year's theme is "Happy, Healthy New Year." It will be held on January 20th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon in the St. Francis Room. There is a great need for assistance to make this a special event. People are needed to help with setup, cleanup, registration, door prize procurement, and refreshments. Those parishioners with clinical skills are needed for different areas. Door prizes are also needed. If you would like to donate a door prize or wish to help, please contact Stephanie Gaudin at the parish office or email stephanie@alphonus.org.

GIFTS of the Season

It is that time again. The stress of what to buy, how much money to spend, getting everything ready, etc. Take a deep breath, let it out slowly. Here are some ideas that don't cost anything but can make this a wonderful Christmas for you.

Greet others with a smile and "Merry Christmas."

Someone might be having a bad day, feeling stressed or angry. A smile and a kind greeting can give someone a different perspective of their day. It also can put you in a good mood.

Initiate a new tradition for your family/friends during the holiday season. Have a casual dinner, game night, drive around looking at the holiday lights, sing Christmas carols, or bake cookies. Keep it to just your family or invited friends, especially those that are alone or having a hard time.

Free Labor. Volunteer. Deliver holiday baskets, serve meals at the homeless shelter, volunteer to help decorate your church or an elderly neighbor's house. It is always nice to volunteer to help those that have little. It can be volunteering to watch someone's children while they shop or help a friend wrap presents—anything that will help someone else.

Time. Our time is so precious especially at this time of the year, but that is what makes giving our time mean so much to us and to others. Try to spend time with your family members one on one. Really listen to what is going on in their lives. How about that neighbor that you haven't really talked to in months? Or a coworker who is having a hard time at home? How about a visit to a nursing home? Give them the gift of just listening.

Save some lives. The holidays are a horrible time for our area blood banks. Spend about an hour and donate blood. (Tell them what church you are from). It can help up to 3 people. It could save their life. Isn't that what Christmas is all about?

If you need some other ideas, just close your eyes and pray to Jesus so that the world can be saved. Listen for His answer. After all He is in the love one another business.

The Health Ministry wishes you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2017.

Rest In Peace

Diane Hamilton

Archie Browning - Father of Darla Thompson

Glenn Darce - Husband of June Darce

Elizabeth Gonzalez - Mother of Vince Gonzalez, Julie Burns, Jan Pennington, Christie Richard

Serving Our Country

If you have a family member serving in the military overseas please call the parish office, 261-4650, and let us know the name, rank and branch of military.

ARMY: ... Captain Chad A. Alford, Warrant Officer Jody K. Hunt, Captain Brian C. Greco, Specialist Sam Lockwood, Sgt. Richard Dupuy, Specialist E-4 Charles N. Garner

LA NATIONAL GUARD: ... Spec4 Terrell Vidrine, Scott Armand

AIR FORCE: ... Airman First Class James Barbier, Sr. Airman E-4 Travis Wilson

NAVY: ... Lt. Col. Glenn P. Lumpkin, Jr., Chad Domm, AD3 Tyler Comeaux

Worship

Readings for the Week

Monday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Where does prayer come from? Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole person who prays. But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or the spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times). According to Scripture, it is the *heart* that prays. If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain.

Adoration Chapel

Committed Adorer Needed

Thursday 7:00 - 8:00 PM
 Friday 10:00 - 11:00 PM
 Saturday 11:00 - Midnight
 Saturday 9:00 - 10:00 PM

Prayer Partner Needed

Sunday: 8:00 - 9:00 AM
 9:00 - 10:00 AM
 1:00 - 2:00 PM
 6:00 - 7:00 PM
 7:00 - 8:00 PM
 8:00 - 9:00 PM
 11:00 - Midnight

Monday: 10:00 - 11:00 AM
 11:00 - 12 Noon
 Noon - 1:00 PM
 8:00 - 9:00 PM
 9:00 - 10:00 PM
 10:00 - 11:00 PM

Tuesday: 8:00 - 9:00 AM
 8:00 - 9:00 PM
 2:00 - 3:00 PM
 4:00 - 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 3:00 - 4:00 PM
 10:00 - 11:00 PM
 11:00 - Midnight

Thursday: 7:00 - *8:00 AM
 6:00 - 7:00 PM
 7:00 - 8:00 PM
 8:00 - 9:00 PM

Friday: 10:00 - 11:00 AM
 1:00 - 2:00 PM
 4:00 - 5:00 PM
 6:00 - 7:00 PM
 10:00 - 11:00 PM

Saturday: 7:00 - 8:00 AM
 8:00 - 9:00 AM
 Noon - 1:00 PM
 1:00 - 2:00 PM
 6:00 - 7:00 PM
 8:00 - 9:00 PM
 9:00 - 10:00 PM
 11:00 - Midnight

This hour Jesus wants you to spend with Him is spent any way you want. You may bring your own prayer books, use the books in the chapel, read the Bible, pray the Rosary, or just sit, relax and enjoy the sweet peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. You may feel you can't pray well. Don't let this discourage you. The mere fact that you take time out at a specific time each week to spend an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament pleases Him very much, and is in itself a prayer of great faith.

To fill an hour, contact:

Barbara, 261-2293 [6:00AM - 11:00AM]

Joyce, 261-0045 or 933-3556 [Noon - 5:00PM]

Ronnie, 925-9691 [6:00PM - Midnight]

Stump the Deacon

During Advent, priests and deacons wear purple vestments during mass. Why the change from green?

The color of the vestments changes throughout the liturgical year. The color sets a tone and indicates the nature of the feast or season.

Purple (or Violet) is worn during Advent to signify preparation for the coming of Christ and during Lent to signify penance.

White (or Gold) symbolizes joy, purity and hope, and is worn during the Christmas and Easter seasons, on many feast days, and during weddings and funerals.

Red symbolizes the outpouring of blood and is used on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and the feast days of the Apostles and martyrs. It also symbolizes the fire of the Holy Spirit, so it is worn on Pentecost Sunday and for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Green is a sign of life and hope and is worn during the Ordinary Time.

Pink (or Rose) may be used instead of purple on the third Sunday of Advent and the fourth Sunday of Lent as a sign of joy. This is an option; many parishes continue to use purple vestments on these two Sundays.

Administration

Gifts of Stewardship

All of the people in today's readings -- the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist -- seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

For December 2 - 3, 2017
your *Stewardship* resulted in:

<u>Weekly Collection</u>	
Envelopes	\$ 22,099.00
Unidentified	\$ 1,253.00
WeShare	\$ 3,067.00
Bank Draft	\$ 3,241.00
<u>Building/Maintenance Fund</u>	
Envelopes	\$ 4,903.00
WeShare	\$ 32.00
Bank Draft	\$ 2,015.00
Children's Collection	\$ 78.40
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 125.00
<u>Total Received</u>	\$ 36,813.40

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