

**GOD
HEARS
THOSE WHO
CALL OUT
DAY AND
NIGHT**



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October 20, 2013 • Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

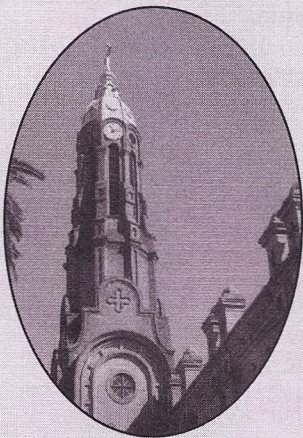
"I kneel down every night in my room, raise my eyes to heaven, and pray and pray and pray. But nothing ever happens. God doesn't seem to hear my cry." How often has our faith life echoed this sentiment? A friend who felt mired in this kind of spiritual rut found that changing his stance in prayer began to make a difference. Instead of raising his eyes to heaven, he began to lower his head and look horizontally when he prayed. What he discovered were the people and events that filled his everyday life. Suddenly his prayers of petition became less self-centered as he realized that his own life was so rich with friends and people who loved him. His "give me, give me, give me" prayers were slowly transformed into prayers balanced by heartfelt expressions of praise and thanksgiving for all that God had done for him. Even in the midst of great trial, his prayer became more honest before God.

LEARNING TO LISTEN

If we understand prayer as a conversation with the Lord Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, we know that our friendship with the Lord can only grow and deepen through this conversation. Imagine what would happen if we never spoke to or communicated in any way with our spouse. The relationship simply would not survive. The same can be said of our relationship with the Lord Jesus. He speaks to us in many ways, if only we attune our ears to his voice. He speaks through the proclamation of the sacred word, through the created world around us, through the voices of our loved ones, through the voices of the poor, and through the richness of the sacramental life. Like Moses and the widow in today's parable, let us be persistent in expressing our own prayers to the Lord. Let us also be persistent in seeking the many ways that the Lord Jesus speaks to us.

Today's Readings: Ex 17:8-13; Ps 121:1-8; 2 Tm 3:14 — 4:2; Lk 18:1-8

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St. Alphonsus Parish

St. Mary's Assumption Church
National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos
2030 Constance Street † New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 522-6748 † Fax: (504) 523-3734

Sunday Masses

Vigil: 4:00 PM (Church)

Sunday: 9:00 AM (Chapel): 10:30 AM (Church)

Weekday Masses

Monday—Friday: 7:00 AM (Chapel)

Monday—Saturday: 8:00 AM (Rector)

St. Mary's Chapel/1516 Jackson Avenue

Our Faith Community welcomes all members and visitors alike

St. Alphonsus Parish Mission Statement

In the tradition of our immigrant founders, St. Alphonsus Parish continues to be a welcoming and caring Roman Catholic community of faith. We are inspired by the Holy Spirit, formed by the Gospel under the mantle of Mary, Our Mother of Perpetual Help, and since 1843 served by the Redemptorists, men of faith such as Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos. We are committed to carry forward a living history that shapes us into a Eucharistic community which strives for a more just society through service to each other and to the community.

Parish Office Hours

Monday—Friday: 8:30 AM—2:30 PM
 Email: stalphonsusoffice@parishmail.com
 Website: www.stalphonsusneworleans.com

Pastoral Staff

Under the pastoral care of the Redemptorists since 1843

Father Richard Thibodeau, C.Ss.R.

rthibs@aol.com
 Pastor

Father Eugene Harrison, C.Ss.R.

eugeneharrison@msn.com
 Parochial Vicar

Father Thomas Pham, C.Ss.R.

jmtpham@gmail.com
 Parochial Vicar

Brother Thomas Wright, C.Ss.R.

twrightcssr@gmail.com
 Pastoral Associate

Lillian Moran

lrm1254@hotmail.com
 Office Manager/Bulletin Editor

Robert Zanca

rgzuno@aol.com
 Music Director

Sheila McDermott

smcder@dcc.edu
 Vocalist

IN RESIDENCE

Father Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.

Director, Blessed Seelos Welcome Center

Father Gerard LaPorte, C.Ss.R.



Confessions

Saturday: 3:30—3:55 PM (Church)
 or by arrangement

Baptisms

Call the parish office by the 25th of the month to make appointment for class. Class is the 1st Saturday of the month at 10:00AM.

Marriages

Please make arrangements at least six months in advance.

Home Visits

Please call the parish office when someone is ill and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick or receive Holy Communion.

Eucharistic Adoration

The 1st Friday of each month at 6:00 P.M. in the rectory chapel.

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Seelos Shrine.

Phone Numbers

Daily Spiritual Message	586-1803
Friends of St. Alphonsus	524-8116
Hope House	525-2561
Mercy Endeavors	568-0607
St. Alphonsus School	523-6594
Seelos Welcome Center	525-2495

If you would like to become a parish member of St. Alphonsus please call the parish office.

The Pastor's Corner

Dear Parish Family,

As I write my 100th bulletin column in this format I'd like to offer you a few updates.

Tower Campaign: After meeting with the Finance Committee we are aiming at a December 31st deadline for gathering the majority of donations towards our tower restoration project. Based on the total cost of the project versus money we have for the project we will decide how to make up the shortfall. Obviously we'd like to avoid having to take out a loan since we will incur interest charges, so whatever we can raise between now and the end of the year is very important.

REMEMBER: during the month of October every dollar a parish member gives to this effort will be matched dollar for dollar by a very generous parish member!

Sacristy Floor By the time you read this the sacristy floor repair will be completed. We discovered, to everyone's surprise, at the last termite inspection that there was such severe deterioration of the joists under the floor that it necessitated an immediate repair. This was unforeseen and the repair (\$20,000+) had to be paid with money from the restoration fund which thus necessitates more work in raising funds.

Rear and Back Wall Re-Plastering: After talking about this since I arrived the re-plastering and painting is now underway and should take four to six weeks for completion. While the scaffolding is unsightly we are hopeful that once this work is done we will have completed the majority of work needed in church (the cleaning of the statues and the restoration of the tower which will hopefully both be done in 2014).

Family Day Evaluation: There have been overwhelmingly positive reviews about this year's Family Day with special appreciation for the addition of the jazz band. Thanks, again, to everyone!

Racial Harmony Workshop: The workshop continues into this third week and I believe those who are attending are finding it to be very worthwhile. Even if you haven't made earlier sessions, you are welcome to attend this Wednesday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. in St. Alphonsus School, across from the parish office.

Young Adults Group: Our young adults are enjoying the early attempts of forming a good, cohesive group. All adults in their 20's and 30's are welcome as well as anyone who is "young(er) at heart."

Preparation during Advent: I hope to organize a few sessions on either the catechism of the church or bible discussion sessions in preparation for Christmas. If interested and if you have a preference please let me know.

Christmas Cards and Note Cards and Poster: We have two new Christmas cards plus note cards and a poster! The note cards and poster are of a pencil etching of St. Mary's tower that were done by our own Ed Dwyer whose claim to fame is designing a Christmas card for the White House during the time of the second George Bush. They will be on sale after all Masses and in the parish office hopefully by the end of October.

Thought for the Week: "In filling out an application where it says, 'In case of emergency notify:' I put DOCTOR."

Have a great week ahead!

Fr. Richard

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

The Little Sisters of the Poor thank you for allowing them to come to our parish and celebrate the Liturgy with us. In response to our assistance, and the overwhelming generosity from our parishioners we collected \$2,609.69 to help to provide the aged residents of their community with basic needs and a quality of life they deserve in an atmosphere of love and acceptance.

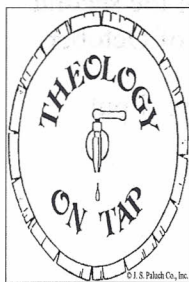
Human Concerns Committee Corner

1. Hope House Outreach Dinner. On October 10, five committee members and their fellow parishioners supplemented the staff of New Orleans Catholic Workers to serve a nutritious meal to 32 individuals in need. We are seeking additional volunteers for this service project who can devote 2 and 1/2 hours on the third Thursday night of the month, once every two or three months. Interested? Contact Marty Kauchak at 504.265.8968.

2. Thanks for supporting this month's food drive. Your generous contributions of non-perishable food items support the needy of our parish and the clients of Hope House. The next food drive will be after all Masses on November 16-17.

3. Our next Human Concerns Committee Meeting will convene at 6:30PM Tuesday October 29 in the Perpetual Help meeting Room in the Rectory.

Theology On Tap



The CYO/Young Adult Ministry Office announces the next Theology on Tap series, to take place on Tuesday October 22, At the Irish House, 1432 St. Charles Avenue, we will gather at 6:30pm and the speaker will start at 7:00pm.

OUR BELL TOWER RESTORATION

Where do you stand?

Have you responded to our campaign to restore St. Mary's Bell Tower?

Why not do so today?

The Matching Grant Challenge goes throughout October!

Therefore each dollar is worth two dollars!

Loving God, we remember the following:

Robert Beyer, Jr. & Sr.

Dennis Cross

William & Thelma Crotty & Family

Walter Palmer Diaz, M. D.

Elsie Dufresne Duffel & V. L. Duffel

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Preston

Irene Gelderman

Nancy Stafford Hartson

Katherine Walet Hartson

Deacon Maurice John Hartson, III

Gerard D. Krummel

Margaret Simmons McBride

William. G. Russell & Sam Moran Families

Mr. Joe Pastora

Mr. Kenny Pratt

Mr. & Mrs. Felix Rousset, Jr., Sr. & Rosemary

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Schafer

Wandah "Cookie" Scheuermann

Mr. Travis Taegue

Mr. Ken Teague

Lucille Bayer Vella

Mercedes & Pete Waldron



CONGRATULATIONS!

We Congratulate Nathan Albert, Jr., Nathaniel Albert, Joseph Martello, and Emma Martello who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 10:30 am Mass last Sunday from Bishop Shelton Farbe, the Bishop-elect of Houma-Thibodeau.

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic?

If you have never been baptized or were baptized in another Christian denomination, you are welcome to participate in R.C.I.A. If you were baptized Catholic but have received little or no instruction in your faith and now would like to prepare for Eucharist and Confirmation, you too, are welcome to join us.



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) meets on a weekly basis in the rectory conference room from 12:00pm—1:00pm every Sunday.

Please call to set up an interview with Fr. Thomas Pham at 504-522-6748.

Sunday Collection

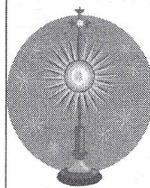
Year to Date:	(7/1/13 -8/31/13)
August, 2013:	\$18,942.00
Actual Year to Date:	\$35,683.33
Budget:	\$40,833.40
Amount below Budget:	-\$5,150.07
Actual YTD Prior Year:	\$35,822.00

Deep gratitude to all!

Please Pray for...

Emma Romsy, John W. Parham, Helen Lee Adams, Lisa Tracey, Norman Mopsik, Nick Baroni, Eric Dusang, Seth & Ian Hubbard, Brandon Isbell, Anne Fontenot, Kathy Patterson, Ming Smith, Ryan Lee, Bonnie Roche, J. B. Vella, Daniel Sinclair, III, Mike Rhodes, Cynthia Bergeron, Barbara Bossier, John Carruth, Elizabeth Doell, Wayne & David Albro, Jackie Sperier, Janice Douglas, Andrew Duong, Hugh Davis, Beth Bertucci, Ted & Susie Sternberg, Trudy Saia, Toni Tanner, Yen Nguyen, Victoria Dominique, Lisa Huber, Michael Schafer, Luke Spottswood, Adele Fauchaux, Linda Fauchaux, Byron Montz, Joyce Bourgeois, Margaret Dyer, Barrie Byrnes, Jack Russo, Miller Family, Lois Beyer, Francis O'Rourke, plus all sick and infirmed. To place or keep a name on our sick list, please call the rectory every 3 weeks to let us know that you, a loved one or friend are still in need of prayers.

WORKSHOPS to RE-CERTIFY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS



The delegation for all those who currently serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will expire at the end of November, 2013. In order to be delegated by the Archbishop for a new five-year term, each minister must participate in a re-delegation workshop in our parish.

There is still one more workshop offered at our parish. On Saturday, November 16, 2013. The workshop will be from 10:00am - Noon at the rectory conference room.

Please note that the re-delegation workshops are for those who are currently certified and serving as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion only. Those who would like to become new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion need to contact the Office of Worship for proper training.

Should you have any questions, please contact Fr. Thomas Pham after one of the Masses or contact him at 504-522-6748.

Monday - October 21

7:00 am Brian Bensen & Family
8:00 am Douglas D. DeFelice +

Tuesday - October 22

7:00 am William G. Melber +
8:00 am Magdalena Vasquez +

Wednesday - October 23

7:00 am Marie Giorlando
8:00 am Flavin C. Cullerton +

Thursday - October 24

7:00 am Valery Leonard Duffel +
8:00 am St. Mary's Bell Tower

Friday - October 25

7:00 am Justine & Joseph Williamson +
8:00 am Patricia Segrave

Saturday - October 26

8:00 am Robert Reilly +
4:00 pm Joseph L. DeFelice +

Sunday—October 27

9:00 am Mario J. Giorlando
10:30 am All St. Alphonsus Parishioners
Angela & Baric Kovacev & Family

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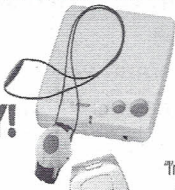
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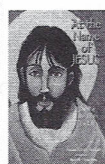


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