



## October 27, 2013 • Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A recent front-page article in the *Chicago Tribune* focused on end-of-life issues. The reporter, who followed the final days in the life of a man in his early eighties, recorded the last conversations the man shared with his wife. He told his wife that, since he could no longer help people, he was ready to go home to God. In his final days he defined the meaning of his existence: to help people. The sentiments of this dying man are echoed in today's second reading, which is a kind of last will and testament for Saint Paul, who knows that his departure is at hand. The original text employs an unusual word that has been translated "departure." One of that original word's meanings is the image of a wandering nomad folding up his tent. How fitting a description for Saint Paul's life, a life spent on the move, spreading the Good News of the Lord Jesus.

## OUR OWN DEPARTURE

Do you ever wonder what your final sentiments will be before you depart this earth? Saint Paul's words are inspiring for those on the Christian journey. He longs for that day when the crown of righteousness awaits him. Saint Paul tells us that that crown is waiting not only for him—it awaits "all who have longed for [the Lord's] appearance" (2 Timothy 4:8). We may not have had the kind of life that Saint Paul had, but each of us, in our own way, has longed for the appearance of the Lord Jesus. Let us pray for the strength to finish the race as Saint Paul did, with strong faith. When the time comes for us to fold up our tents, may we look back on a life spent helping others. May we be welcomed into heaven and receive the crown of righteousness.

Today's Readings: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; Ps 34:2-3, 17-19, 23; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

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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 (Rectory)

St. Mary's Chapel/1516 Jackson Avenue



## Our Faith Community welcomes all members and visitors alike

### St. Alphonse Parish Mission Statement

*In the tradition of our immigrant founders, St. Alphonse 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: stalphonsoffice@parishmail.com  
 Website: www.stalphonseusneworleans.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  
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#### Lillian Moran

lrm1254@hotmail.com  
 Office Manager/Bulletin Editor

#### Robert Zanca

rgzuno@aol.com  
 Music Director

#### Sheila McDermott

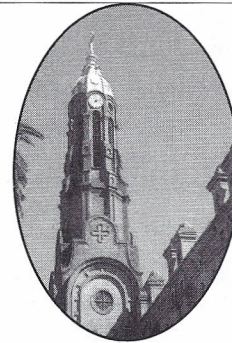
smcder@dcc.edu  
 Vocalist

### 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. Alphonse	524-8116
Hope House	525-2561
Mercy Endeavors	568-0607
St. Alphonse School	523-6594
Seelos Welcome Center	525-2495

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



## Pastor's Corner

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend Ed Moise, the chair of our parish finance committee, will briefly speak at all Masses about the financial status of our parish. This will be the first time since I've been here that the finance committee has done this and I am very happy to have them do so.

Perceptions are important because they often drive what we think, and importantly, what we do. When you look at our parish there are a number of perceptions. Some of them are correct; some are probably not fully developed. But each is important for what it causes us to do.

The main perception I would like to clarify is that this is not MY parish but OUR parish. You will remember my saying this in my recent "state of the parish" address. This is important to remember because while as pastor I am charged with overseeing our physical assets, they are not my assets...they are yours and ours!

The purpose of the Finance Committee, consisting of members who are parish members, underscores this reality. When this committee gathers once a month it is your representatives looking at all facets of our physical reality. While they do not have decision making authority, as pastor I seriously consider every one of their recommendations and almost without exception follow through on their advice. Not only do they have the financial expertise needed, but they are aware of how our parish reality is perceived as one "sitting in the pews."

Like any parish our physical reality impacts our financial reality. We have no control, except possibly by exercising preventative maintenance, to what will happen with our buildings. To some extent we do have control on how we will remedy the needs by contributing money so repairs can be made. The recent emergency sacristy floor repair is an example. This repair was not expected and could not be delayed. Where does one get the money to make the repair? There is no money in our operating budget to cover such emergencies. Fortunately we have the church restoration fund. While we have earmarked the money in this fund towards the restoration of our church tower, the fund is for general restoration which this certainly fit under.

Obviously the bottom line is that this is YOUR/OUR parish and it will ultimately be you who determines what we can or cannot do. I want to thank many of you who have shown such great generosity, some who are in very challenging circumstances. I encourage all of us to consider anew how we can support our parish in its many needs; physical, personnel, and programming. Thanks to all.

Thought for the Week: "I'm supposed to respect my elders but at my age it's getting harder and harder for me to find one."

Have a great week ahead!

Fr. Richard

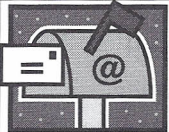
***WE'RE IN THE FINAL DAYS OF THE MATCHING GRANT FOR OUR BELL TOWER.  
EVERY DOLLAR IS DOUBLED!  
MAKE SURE YOU INDICATE THAT YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS TOWARD THE BELL TOWER.***



**Human Concerns Committee Corner**

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.

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



**Your Email Address**

Your email address is important to us ...

-Easy and inexpensive way to communicate with you.

-You are informed on what is happening in the parish.

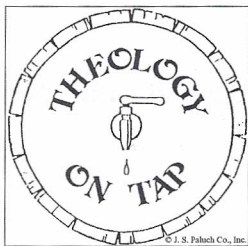
May we suggest that when you give your offering this week that you put your email address either on your check or on your envelope.

**THE MONTH of SEPTEMBER**

**Baptisms - Eddie Scott, Jr.,  
Thaddeus Terry, Jr., Jane Graugnard,  
William Graugnard and Lena Jeanfreau**

**Wedding- Andrew Green & Stephanie Erb**

**Death - Cecil J. Murphy, Jr.**



***Theology On Tap***

The CYO/Young Adult Ministry Office announces the next Theology on Tap series, to take place on Tuesday October 29, at The Irish House,

1432 St. Charles Avenue

We will gather at the Irish House 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**





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**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**

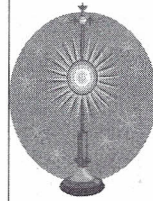
Year to Date:	(7/1/13 -9/30/13)
August, 2013:	\$22,703.00
Actual Year to Date:	\$58,388.33
Budget:	\$61,250.06
Amount below Budget:	-\$2,861.73
Actual YTD Prior Year:	\$54,946.00

**Deep gratitude to all!**

**Please Pray for...**

Sheila & Jaimie, Emma Romsy, John W. Parham, Helen Lee Adams, Lisa Tracey, Norman Mopsik, Nick Baroni, Eric Dusang, Seth & Ian Hubbard, Brandon Isbell, Anne Fontenot, Ming Smith, Ryan Lee, Bonnie Roche, J. B. Vella, Daniel Sinclair, III, Cynthia Bergeron, Barbara Bossier, John Carruth, Elizabeth Doell, 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 Faucheux, Linda Faucheux, 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.

**WORKSHOP 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 which is held in our parish.

There is still one more workshop offered at our parish. Saturday, November 16, 2013. The workshop will be from 10:00am - Noon in 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 28**

7:00 am Our Bell Tower  
8:00 am Paul & Ruby Hebert

**Tuesday - October 29**

7:00 am Brian Bensen and Family  
8:00 am Cecil J. Murphy, Jr. +

**Wednesday - October 30**

7:00 am Nicholas Pastor +  
8:00 am Bella Petit DeFelice +  
7:00 pm Racial Harmony Workshop

**Thursday - October 31**

7:00 am Sister Carolene +  
8:00 am Judith Schafer

**Friday - November 1**

7:00 am **All Saints Day Vigil (Church)**  
8:00 am **All Saints Day**  
8:00 am Lourdes C. Kelley +  
8:00 am The Delatte Family

**Saturday - November 2**

8:00 am **All Souls Day**  
4:00 pm Poor Souls  
**(Sunday Liturgy)**  
Douglas D. DeFelice +

**Sunday - November 3**

9:00 am Walter Metzinger, Jr. +  
10:30 am All St. Alphonsus Parishioners  
Brian Bensen and Family

# St. Alphonsus Parish

# November 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Oct 31 Vigil Mass for All Saints(6pm Jackson Chapel)	1 ALL SAINTS DAY Mass(7/8 am) 6 pm Holy Hour (rectory chapel)	2 ALL SOULS DAY Mass(8am) 10 am Baptism Class (conference room)
3 RCIA(noon)	4	5	6 Finance Committee(6pm)	7	8	9 Church Cleaning(9am)
10 --Hospitality SUN --RCIA (noon)	11	12	13	14	15	16 --Re-certification for Ministers(10am) --Monthly Food Drive
17 -- Monthly Food Drive --RCIA(noon)	18	19	20 Vision Committee(6:30pm)	21	22	23 Christmas Tree for St. Al's Students
24 Christmas Tree for St. Al's Students --RCIA(noon)	25	26	27	28 THANKSGIVING  Mass (10am Jackson chapel)	29	30 Christmas Tree for St. Al's Students



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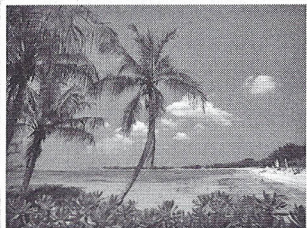
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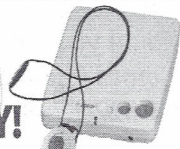
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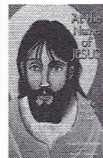


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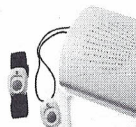
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