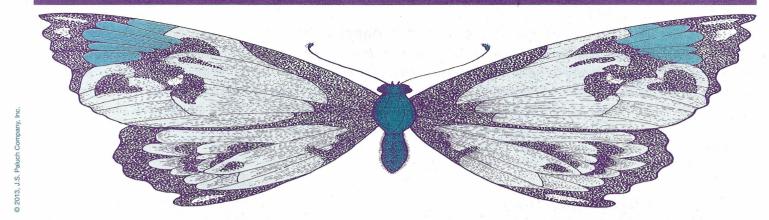
God is God of the living



November 10, 2013 • Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Resurrection is the theme woven throughout today's scriptures. The brothers in the first reading, suffering unspeakable torture, state unequivocally that giving themselves to death will lead to their being raised up by God. The story of these martyrs, as well as the stories of countless martyrs through the ages, can be a source of tremendous strength and courage for us as we travel the journey of Christian conversion. Who of us has never entertained doubts about what awaits us after death? The lives and deaths of the martyrs stand as witness to the enormous strength of their faith. This is why the Church—especially in its early history—developed such a strong cult around the lives and witness of the martyrs. Today we may recall them when we celebrate their feast days, but we seem to do little more. Perhaps it is timely for us to capture the tremendous inspiration that can come from learning more about them.

MARTYRS AS A SOURCE OF STRENGTH AND COURAGE

In times of doubt on our faith journey, calling to mind the lives of the martyrs can be a great source of strength. Just pick up a book on the lives of the saints or perform a search on any search engine for "martyrs" to read these accounts. In a country where we can sometimes take freedom of religious expression for granted, these stories can seem quite remote. Yet the martyrs' unwavering belief in what awaited them after their grueling deaths is a great example to us even today. As we look toward the conclusion of this liturgical year and as Advent beckons, let us be inspired by those who have gone before us in faith. And let the words of today's responsorial psalm become our own: "But I in justice shall behold your face; / on waking I shall be content in your presence" (Psalm 17:15).

Today's Readings: 2 Mc 7:1–2, 9–14; Ps 17:1, 5–6, 8, 15; 2 Thes 2:16 — 3:5; Lk 10:27–38 [27, 34–38]

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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. 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.

Pastor's Corner

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend is a special time for Redemptorists as we celebrate the 281st anniversary of the Church's approval of our religious community. The exact date is November 9, 1732, and our parish proudly bears the name of our founder, St. Alphonsus Liguori.

Similar to other religious communities in the Church we were founded to respond to a need that the local Church at the time couldn't adequately address. Simply put that need was preaching to the marginalized, especially the economically poor, who were outside the ordinary pastoral care of the Church ordinarily exercised through parishes. Through the years we have fulfilled this mandate by establishing such things as chapels of devotion, offering retreats to priests, religious and laypeople, and preaching parish missions which are a spiritual renewal at which one or two Redemptorists spend a week or longer in a parish offering a variety of special preaching events.

When the Redemptorists first came to the United States in 1832 their purpose was to minister to the German speaking immigrants who needed pastoral care. We soon discovered, however, that the only way most bishops would allow us into their diocese was if we would staff a parish. While this was not what we were founded to do, this is where we were most needed and where bishops were eager for help. Therefore we took a parish with the understanding that while we would minister in the parish context, we would also have Redemptorists living in the rectory who could carry out the Redemptorist mission of extraordinary preaching outside the parish. Our rectories, therefore, were often much larger than the ordinary parish rectory so as to accommodate the greater number of Redemptorists living there.

Today the Redemptorists are in almost 80 countries and we minister to a wide variety of people in a wide variety of contexts depending on the greatest unmet needs of the area. While all of us cannot go on the foreign missions, all Redemptorists are considered missionaries because by our Constitutions and Statutes (our rule) that is who we are called to be regardless of what we do.

This weekend we celebrate our birthday, thanking God for the many opportunities we have had to preach the Good News wherever we are sent. We thank God for the men and women who feel caught up in our spirit and wish to assist in some way to promote the Redemptorist mission. As always, we pray that more men of good and generous spirit may consider our way of life as future Redemptorists. Think about aligning yourself with the Redemptorists. If you have any questions, any Redemptorist would be happy to answer. That would be a great birthday gift for all of us.

This weekend I am away from the parish celebrating the wedding of a friend in Wichita, Kansas. When I return on Sunday afternoon I will only be here until Monday morning when I'll be leaving for Redemptorist meetings in Houston, Texas. The rest of the Redemptorists will be here, however, so all will go smooth. I will be back in the parish on Friday.

Thought for the Week: "A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to become unraveled."

Have a great week ahead!

Fr. Richard

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.



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 LIGHT OF FAITH" ENCOUNTER SESSIONS

Encounter the thought of Pope Francis and explore how Faith is a light that illumines all aspects of our lives.

Our presenters are Fr. James Wehner, rector of Notre Dame Seminary and author of "The Evangelization Equation"; Dr. Daniella Zsupan-Jerome, professor of Liturgy and Evangelization at Loyola University; and Todd Amick, Director of the Office of Evangelization and Eucharistic Renewal for the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

They will explore different areas of the pope's encyclical as they relate to the New Evangelization and will answer questions from the audience. Parish groups and all the faithful are welcome and no prior reading is required - all attendees will receive a free CD set audio recording of the encyclical.

November 13, Infant Jesus of Prague Center,

700 Maple Ave. Harvey, Louisiana, 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

For more information call Todd Amick (504) 482-8010 Or email: tamick@arch-no.org

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?

Loving God, we remember the following:

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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

Ministry at Saint Alphonsus Parish

As baptized Christians we are encouraged to go forth and proclaim the Good News. One way this is concretely expressed is through ministry (outreach) at our local parish. Below are some current and potential possibilities to exercise ministry at our parish.

1-Church cleaning: Second Saturday of the month 9:00am.

2-Gardening at Chapel: Assuring that the grounds at St. Mary's Chapel, 1516 Jackson Ave., are well maintained.

3-Hospitality Committee: Assist with providing small refreshments after 10:30 am Sunday Mass the second weekend of the month.

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a) Choir

b) Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

c) Lector

d) Mass Greeters before Mass

e) Server

f) Usher

5-Office Assistance: Assist when something out of the ordinary requiring additional help is needed, such as stuffing envelopes.

Name _____ Contact information

Email

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!

The figures for October will be ready November 17th.

Please Pray for ...

Terence Ibert, Jr., Sheila & Jaimie, Emma Romsky, 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 in our parish.

There is still one more workshop offered at our parish; Saturday, November 16, 2013. This workshop will be from 10:00am - noon, and will be held in the rectory conference room.

Please note that the re-delegation workshop is for those who are currently certified and serving as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. 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 the Mass or contact him at 504-522-6748.

Monday - November 11

7:00 am

Brian Bensen & Family

8:00 am

Joseph E. Sepulvado +

Tuesday - November 12

7:00 am

Henry Reiley +

8:00 am

Cecil J. Murphy, Jr. +

Wednesday - November 13

7:00 am

Hope House

8:00 am

Our Bell Tower Restoration Donors

Thursday - November 14

7:00 am

Mercy Endeavors

8:00 am

Isabel & William Russell & Family

Friday - November 15

7:00 am

Mercedes & James (Pete) Waldron +

8:00 am

Our Redemptorists

Saturday - November 16

8:00 am

Catholic Workers

4:00 pm

Bella Petit DeFelice +

Sunday - November 17

9:00 am

James Wagner +

10:30 am

All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Angela Baric Kovacev & Children +

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