



**Christ is the  
Head of the body,  
the Church**

**November 24, 2013 • Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

William Butler Yeats says in his poem "The Second Coming," "Things fall apart, the centre cannot hold." His vision is a gloomy assessment of the state of fallen humanity and the evil in the world, against which he asserts our powerlessness.

But in Colossians, Christ, "the image of the invisible God," is "before all things, and in him all things hold together" (Colossians 1:17). This hopeful and triumphant scripture tells of our salvation, for in Christ "we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (1:14). Christ, our King, has made "peace by the blood of his cross" (1:20). His kingship is forever both in this world and the next.

**JESUS, REMEMBER ME**

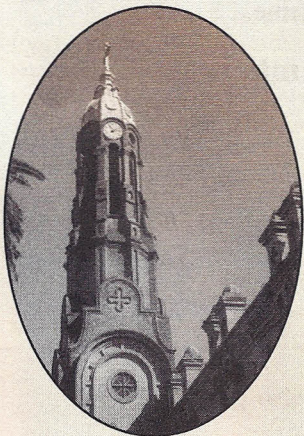
As Jesus hangs on the cross in the agony of a tortured death, the sign above his head reads, "This is

the King of the Jews" (Luke 23:38). One criminal, crucified with him, voices the opinion of the world that this is what it appears to be, the end of Jesus and his mission. But the other criminal, acknowledging his own guilt, is given the grace to see that all is not lost, either for Jesus or his mission. He asks for a place in the kingdom to come. This is an act of extraordinary faith from one about to die from horrible torture. Jesus acknowledges this man's faith in the reign of God by another promise, that Paradise will welcome him, and with him, all of us who are sinners, redeemed by Christ's blood.

"Let us give thanks to the Father, who has made [us] fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light" (Colossians 1:12).

Today's Readings: 2 Sam 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

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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,

Is there a place at the table?

The celebration of Thanksgiving traditionally centers around a meal. Weeks in advance folks are thinking about what to cook for Thanksgiving dinner depending on what went over well the year before or some specialty that some "regular" to my dinner is happily willing to bring. All stops are out as plentiful and varied food fills the thanksgiving celebration scenario.

Quickly behind what to serve is an equally important question: Who will I ask to join me for Thanksgiving (or where am I going for Thanksgiving)? Often it's with the "usuals," those family members, friends, or others who have been invited for so many years that they no longer expect an invitation. It's a given that they are part of Thanksgiving. But before ending here let's look a little closer at the Thanksgiving table. This year who or what else might I consider inviting?

Almost every family has a member who is ordinarily not included to a Thanksgiving celebration. While it might be good to pause and ask oneself if is this the year for that to change, I'm thinking here of someone else. Is this the year the Lord will be invited or invited in a different way?

This may seem like a very strange question. After all, you could say, Jesus is already invited. We begin the meal with a prayer! If so, this is a great start indeed. But maybe this year we might consider bringing God around the table in a further way.

What would happen if before the start of the meal everyone (or me, if I happen to be alone for Thanksgiving dinner) took time to share out loud one person or one thing he or she is especially grateful for at this particular Thanksgiving time? At the end of whatever is said a simple, "Thank you, God." or "Thank you, Jesus" would be said.

On Thanksgiving morning we will have the celebration of the Mass, the Eucharistic meal, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's chapel on Jackson Avenue. This will be a great way to join with other parish members around the Lord's Table to thank him for so many people and, so many other elements of our life. You are invited!

Happy Thanksgiving to all! Regardless of how we individually celebrate this holiday we have reason to be thankful because in God's House we are always invited; there is always a place for us at the Table. Always, but especially on Thanksgiving, may we extend a similar invitation to him as well.

**Thought for the Week:** A Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving to you and your loved ones."

Have a great week ahead!

Fr. Richard



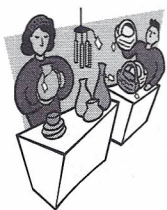
***EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS RE-DELEGATED  
and DELEGATED***

Congratulations to those who participated in the re-delegation and delegation workshop at our parish. They are: Steve Baker, Jane Cross, Sheila McDermott, Sandra Borgman, Kim Nguyen, Dennis J. Waldron, Jennifer C. Burton, Pat C. Palmer, Elizabeth B. Dowling, Marie C. Giorlando, Mary Lenel B. Romero, Kenneth L. Pastor, Eugenia K. Maginnis, Carol W. Gelderman, Michael J. Saia, Trudy E. Saia, Geraldine L. Randall, Kathleen Tatine M. Frater, Carol Q. Wilkerson, Mignon R. Schafer, Diana H. Spottswood, Joanie W. Hartson, Louise B. Martin, Susie B. Sternberg, Theodore J. Borgman.

Certificates for the new five-year term will be sent to our parish's office by the end of November and we will have them handed to you.

***ANCHORS AWEIGH!***

Fr. Thomas Pham, our Parochial Vicar, was commissioned into the Navy and appointed with the rank of Lieutenant Junior Grade. Fr. Thomas will serve the Navy Reserve as a chaplain at Navy Operational Support Center – New Orleans in Belle Chase and occasionally at other bases nearby New Orleans. Congratulations, Fr. Thomas Pham!



***MERCY ENDEAVORS SENIOR  
SHOWCASE***

Come join us at Mercy Endeavors Senior Center on Friday, December 6, from 10:00 AM—2:00 PM for crafts, games and food at the annual ***SENIOR SHOWCASE.***

Tickets will be sold for individual items and all funds generated will support program expenses at Mercy Endeavors. The seniors also welcome all donations toward the event. Call 504-568-0607 for more information. We look forward to seeing you at the showcase!

**OUR BELL TOWER RESTORATION**

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

***Why not do so today?***

**We all need your help to "git er done!"**

**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**







**CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE FOR THE CHILDREN**

The tree will be ready on November 23rd..



All gifts must be returned by Sunday Dec. 15. The gifts can be returned to church or to the rectory during the week. Please return the gifts wrapped and with the name tag (ornament) attached.

You are welcome to take as many names as you would like.

The value of the each gift should be between \$20 and \$25.

We would like for each child attending St. Alphonsus School to receive one gift.

**Sunday Collection**

|                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Year to Date:</b>          | <b>(7/1/13 –10/31/13)</b> |
| <b>October, 2013:</b>         | <b>\$24,313.00</b>        |
| <b>Actual Year to Date:</b>   | <b>\$82,702.33</b>        |
| <b>Budget:</b>                | <b>\$81,666.72</b>        |
| <b>Amount above Budget:</b>   | <b>+\$1,035.61</b>        |
| <b>Actual YTD Prior Year:</b> | <b>\$71,700.50</b>        |

*Deep gratitude to all!*

**Please Pray for...**

Lydia R. Steele, Larry Konikoff, Jr., Rosemary & Claude Dupuis, Donald Henry, Meagan Sauviac, Betty Rome, Imelda Ward, Terry Baker, Terence Ibert, Jr., Emma Romsky, John W. Parham, Helen Lee Adams, Lisa Tracey, Norman Mopsik, Nick Baroni, Eric Dusang, Seth & Ian Hubbard, Brandon Isbell, Cynthia Bergeron, Barbara Bossier, Elizabeth Doell, Janice Douglas, 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.



**Electronic Giving**

One new way of donating money to St. Alphonsus is electronically. This saves you having to worry about bringing money with you to church and assures that your contribution is made whether you are here on Sunday or not.

For more details please call Brother Tom Wright at 504-256-6114 or email: [twrightcssr@gmail.com](mailto:twrightcssr@gmail.com).

**Touro Hospital Needs volunteers:** For the surgery waiting room desk, book rack for patients, assist administrative staff, gift shop, escort patients to their rooms after they have gone for tests.

For more information please email Denise Chetta at [denise.chetta@touro.com](mailto:denise.chetta@touro.com).

**Our 2014 Weekly Envelopes are in**

If you're thinking of becoming a registered parishioner of St. Alphonsus Parish now would be a good time to sign-up.

You may fill out your parish census form that is in your bulletin this weekend and return it either next weekend in the collection or mail it back to us.

It's very important that our information about you is correct so that your end-of year giving figures will go to the right address.

Don't forget your email address.

**Monday - November 25**

7:00 am Brian Bensen & Family  
8:00 am Hope House Education Center

**Tuesday - November 26**

7:00 am Justine & Joseph Williamson +  
8:00 am Cecil J. Murphy, Jr. +

**Wednesday - November 27**

7:00 am Mercy Endeavors  
8:00 am Our Bell Tower Restoration Donors

**Thursday - November 28 Happy Thanksgiving**

10:00 am Redemptorists

**Friday - November 29**

7:00 am D. Tyler Stokes  
8:00 am Friends of St. Alphonsus

**Saturday - November 30**

8:00 am St. Thomas Clinic  
4:00 pm Magdalena Payan Vasquez +

**Sunday - December 1**

9:00 am James Wagner +  
10:30 am All St. Alphonsus Parishioners  
Maude Reilly Cullerton +



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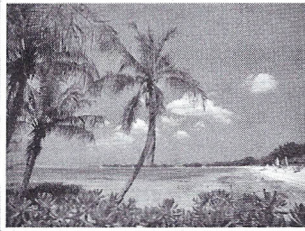
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 of Deacon  
 Bobby Hartson

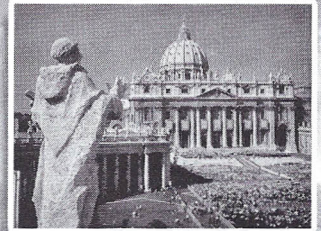
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Come Sail Away on a 7-night Catholic Exotic Cruise. Prices begin at \$1175 per couple which includes all port fees and taxes. Daily Mass and Rosary offered. Deposit of only \$100 per person will reserve your cabin.

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 Brian or Sally, coordinators 860.399.1785

[www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com](http://www.CatholicCruisesAndTours.com)



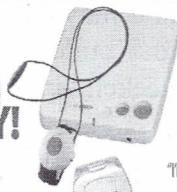
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# Life Matters

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[www.usccb.org/respectlife](http://www.usccb.org/respectlife)

