

The context for today’s Gospel is the mounting tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders. Jesus has entered Jerusalem and overturned the money changers’ tables in the Temple. Jesus has caught the attention of the religious authorities; the chief priests and elders question Jesus about the source of his authority. Jesus refuses to name for these religious leaders the source of his authority. Instead, he questions the priests and elders through the parable we hear in today’s Gospel. The answer given by the religious leaders is correct, but it convicts them for their failure to heed the call of John the Baptist and for their inability to recognize the Kingdom of God.

The situation Jesus poses is rather straightforward. Given the same task by their father, one son asserts his disobedience in words, but then obeys in his actions; the second son obeys with his words, but disobeys in his actions. The question that Jesus poses is pointed and direct: Which son did what the father wanted? All would agree that “actions speak louder than words” and that even if his words were disobedient, the son who did the work as ordered did the father’s will.

Jesus’ conclusion is also direct. The chief priests and elders, the ones who speak most often about God, did not act accordingly. They did not respond to the message of repentance announced by John the Baptist with a change of heart. Instead, John’s message was heeded by those one would not expect to repent—tax collectors, prostitutes, and other sinners. Because of their actions, these sinners will enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders.

Jesus could ask us the same question. Do our words indicate our obedience to God? If not our words, do our actions? God desires a full conversion of heart, that our actions (and our words as well) will give evidence of our love for God.

--Loyola Press



You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction on Friday, October 2nd at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass).



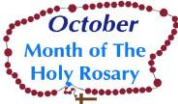
You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, October 3rd at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass) with Devotion, Consecration, Rosary and Benediction. Confession will be available.



St. Alphonsus Prayer Shawl ministry meets the 1st Saturday of each month (October 3) in the Columbus Club Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. Everyone is welcome to join and share their joy for knitting and crocheting or to learn a new skill. Please contact Karen Futch at 228-861-9407 if you are interested in joining.



Serving at the altar is an honor and an important service to our parish. Youth who have received First Communion are eligible to serve. Hands on training for new and returning servers will be held in the Church from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. with specific training on certain parts of the Mass. Please call the office at 228-875-5419 to register for each specific training session.
Monday, October 5: Reception of Gifts and Setting of the Altar
Monday, November 9: Holy Communion and Purification of Vessels
2027 TBD: Benediction After Mass and Clearing of Vessels



October is traditionally dedicated to the Rosary. Lectors at weekend Masses are asked to arrive early and lead the congregation in the Rosary, beginning 20 minutes before Mass. As we pray the Rosary before each Mass, consider making it a daily practice at home with your family—or simply with your spouse. Praying together is a meaningful way to strengthen family unity. As the saying goes, “The family that prays together stays together.”



Throughout October, ushers will count all men, women, and children attending each weekend Mass, as required by the Diocese for every parish.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY

SEPTEMBER 28

Job 1:6-22; Luke 9:46-50

6:30 a.m.

Mr. Malcolm Latour, Jr.

8:15 a.m.

Int. Ms. Gail Banks

Mr. Barney Banks

TUESDAY

SEPTEMBER 29

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; John 1:47-51

6:30 a.m.

Int. Ms. Glenda Hill

8:15 a.m.

Int. Fr. Mike Snyder

WEDNESDAY

SEPTEMBER 30

Job 9:1-12, 14-16; Luke 9:57-62

6:30 a.m.

Ms. Betty Joao

8:15 a.m.

Mr. Joel Grieves

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 1

Job 19:21-27; Luke 10:1-12

6:30 a.m.

Mr. Pat Cronin

8:15 a.m.

Mr. Harry Oliver

Mr. David Jackson

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 2

Job 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5; Matthew 18:1-5, 10

6:30 a.m.

Ms. Judy Meyers

8:15 a.m.

Int. Mr. Pieter van Thiel

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 3

Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17; Luke 10:17-24

8:15 a.m.

Int. Fr. Steve Geerling

4:00 p.m.

Mr. Lester J. McMackin, Jr.

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 4

Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

7:30 a.m.

Mr. Joseph Earley

9:00 a.m.

Thank You St. Jude

11:30 a.m.

Dick and Liz Eckert

5:30 p.m.

Congregation



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Beckett Bassenger, Betty Bodin, Michael Bosarge, Bryleigh Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Arlene Burns, Mildred “Tootsie” Caillavet, Benny Cantin, Marshall Car, Jennifer Catchot, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Michelle Dyess, Rose Mary Eagan, Dawn Fountain, Nija Fountain, Barbara Fournier, Gordon Gaethe, Caroline Gautier, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Margie Gammon, Sandra Grantham, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, James Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Jeff Janus, Ashley Jensen, Fr. Jey Jordan, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Myra Kittle, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Carol Latham, Nelda Latour, Judy Lesso, Mary Lewis, Gordon Mathieu, Shellie McDaniel, Mrs. McKinney, Steve Merkel, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Edward Necaise, Donna and Edward Necaise Jr., Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Cody Parker, Scott Parker, Kathy Pasquini, Janice Pepper, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, MaraLou Guice Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jimmy Senac, Courtney Severino, Glenn Sigumjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr. and all our Homebound Parishioners.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CONSTRUCTION UPDATE
The next phase of our Capital Campaign project has begun. This phase includes construction of the new entrance cover and enclosure of the breezeway between the church and school. The main front entrance and the side entrance by the school will be closed during construction. You will need to use the two side entrance doors near the altar.



September is the Month of Our Lady of Sorrows, which references the sorrows she endured as the Mother of Jesus.



As Catholics, we find great joy in our faith—but we also acknowledge that suffering is part of life. In fact, we go even further and believe that suffering is an essential part of life. That understanding is why we hang the crucifix on our wall and around our neck; we embrace the cross as our path to sanctification.

In that context, it makes sense that we honor Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows. She suffered more than any person other than her Son and she was given more grace than anyone else as well. We can learn from her example, and we can pray for her help in that difficult practice of “suffering well.”

The Seven Sorrows of Mary are portrayed visually with seven swords, often piercing her Immaculate Heart. Devotion to the Seven Sorrows of Mary began in the 1300s after Mary reportedly told St. Bridget of Sweden that it “Would bring great signal graces.” In her 1980’s apparitions at Kibeho, Rwanda, Mary shared that praying the seven sorrows rosary can help us be more penitent and obtain forgiveness for our sins. Whether you pray the rosary or otherwise meditate on Mary’s seven sorrows, they can help you find a deeper understanding of Mary and her Son and bring you closer to them both:

1. Simeon Prophecies Mary's Suffering
2. The Holy Family Flees to Egypt
3. Mary and Joseph Lose Jesus in Jerusalem
4. Mary Meets Jesus as He Carries the Cross
5. Jesus is Crucified and Dies
6. Jesus' Body is Taken Down From the Cross
7. Jesus is Buried

Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Compassion, I turn to you with filial confidence. You shared fully in the work of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose Death brought life to the world. Help me now to understand the truth about the divine compassion. Teach me to accept the sufferings that come into my life as you accepted obediently your own deep sorrows. Loving Mother of the Redeemer, you consecrated yourself by submitting to the divine plan. Obtain for me the grace to make my own submission to the same wise providence, now and at the hour of my death. Amen.

~Delong, T (2021, September 15)

Honoring Our Lady of Sorrows. Catholic Women in Business

If you currently have a designated Adoration hour on the We Adore Him website and have not been going for three months or more, your name will be removed from the schedule. If you need to try a new hour, please visit stalphonsus.weadorehim.com to view the schedule and choose a new hour.



In observance of Right to Life Month, Walking with Moms in Need will host a month-long baby shower throughout October. Collection boxes will be available at

each church entrance for diapers of all sizes, wipes, formula, new or gently used baby and toddler clothing, toiletries, equipment, and other baby essentials. For questions or more information, call Margaret at [228-217-4742](tel:228-217-4742) or Mary at [228-348-6092](tel:228-348-6092).



St. Alphonsus Parish is beginning work on an updated parish directory. The last directory was completed in 2014.

If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Sheila Kowalewski at 228-217-6349 or by email at sheila.kowalewski@gmail.com.



A lovely flower arrangement on the altar area of the church is a beautiful way to honor a deceased loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.

If you would like to donate for a specific weekend, please call the Rectory at 228-875-5419. Donation amount is \$50.00.



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Robin Schenk

Wednesday Night Faith Formation
Next Class will be held on **September 30th**
Dinner begins at **6:00 p.m.** followed by the individual Group Classes at **6:30 p.m.**

Edge for 6-8 Grades
Contact Roxanne at 228-235-8923

Life Teen for 9 & 10 Grades
Contact Jenny at 228-282-0984 or Lori at 228-383-1002

OCIA: Two volunteers needed for childcare
Contact Jammie at 228-806-2641

Adult Bible Study – Bible Timeline
Contact Beth at 228-324-4188

Adult Bible Study - Walk Through the Mass
Contact Lisa at 228-382-4996



On September 27th, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, who knew that “God had sent him to bring good news to the poor.” Together with your gifts, the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul continue his work and mission in our parish.

This month, your donations helped provide 13 families with \$7,338.78 in rent and utility assistance.



Classes for Sunday Morning Adult Study are held after the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass in the Parish Hall. For more information, contact Sue Mihal at 601-573-0020 or Anne McClellan at 228-327-4040. All are invited to attend.

September 27: CCC Divine Revelation...Sacred Tradition

October 4: CCC Continuing Divine Revelation...Sacred Tradition



Classes for the Elementary Youth Faith Formation Ministry Program (Grades K–5) are held on Sunday, from 10:15–11:15 a.m.

To volunteer to be a substitute teacher or to ask questions, please contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392 or jsema@osstalphonsus.org.



Knights of Columbus Assembly 2059 thanks all parishioners who generously donated after Mass on Flag Day, June 14. Your contributions resulted in a single \$1,000 donation to Tunnel to Towers, the Assembly’s selected military and first responder charity.



The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus are raffling a Luxury Couples Getaway. Three prizes will be awarded:

- * Beau Rivage spa day, dinner, and a room with a view
- * Beau Rivage his-and-hers spa day
- * The President Buffet dinner for four

The drawing will be held Sunday, November 8, 2026, during the Peter Anderson Festival. Tickets are \$10 each or three for \$20 and are available by contacting Chuck Nannery at 228-875-0267.



Your Church Needs You—God is calling. Will you answer? We need lectors and altar servers for all Masses. Prayerfully consider serving your St. Alphonsus family.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,957.66

Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 4,036.00

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS