

Immediately after criticizing the religious leaders through the parable of the tenants in [last Sunday's Gospel](#), Jesus proceeded to tell another parable, again directed at the religious leaders. We hear this parable in today's Gospel.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. In today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah and in today's psalm, the Lord's goodness is evident in the symbol of a feast of good food and wine. Jesus' listeners would have been familiar with the image of a wedding feast as a symbol for God's salvation. They would consider themselves to be the invited guests. Keeping this in mind helps us to understand the critique Jesus makes with this parable. The context for this parable is the growing tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem. This has been the case for the past two Sundays and will continue to be true for the next several weeks.

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The listeners would have been surprised to learn that the first guests refused the invitation. Who would refuse the king's invitation? A second dispatch of servants follows. Again to the listeners' great surprise, some guests ignore the invitation. Some of the invited guests even go so far as to mistreat and kill the servants. The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city.

We might stop here for a moment. Why would some guests kill the servants sent to invite them to the king's wedding feast? It might be possible that the king was a tyrant, evidenced by the destruction of the city of those who refused his invitation. But if we follow this idea, then the allegory seems to be about something other than the kingdom of heaven. It is more likely that the destruction of the city would have been a powerful image corresponding to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, which would have been an important event for Matthew's audience.

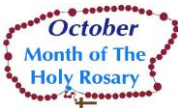
With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the king's wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king's invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus' message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

--Loyola Press



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).



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

OCTOBER 12

Galatians 4:22-24, 26,27, 31-5:1; Luke 11:29-32

6:30 a.m.

Mr. Carlton Latour

8:15 a.m.

Mr. Percy Ferron

TUESDAY

OCTOBER 13

Galatians 5:1-6; Luke 11:37-41

6:30 a.m.

Int. Roy and Mary Smith

8:15 a.m.

Ms. Kathleen Strong

WEDNESDAY

OCTOBER 14

Galatians 5:18-25; Luke 11:42-46

6:30 a.m.

Int. Ms. Melissa Rivera

8:15 a.m.

Ms. Jaqueline Hemenway

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 15

Ephesians 1:1-10; Luke 11:47-54

6:30 a.m.

Int. Ms. Sarah Galle Traylor

8:15 a.m.

Laan-Van Dorp Family Tree

FRIDAY

OCTOBER 16

Ephesians 1:11-14; Luke 12:1-7

6:30 a.m.

Ms. Peggy Closson

8:15 a.m.

Int. Ms. Margaret F. Whetstone

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 17

Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 12:8-12

8:15 a.m.

Mr. Tony Ellis

The Jordan Family

The Pitalo Family

4:00 p.m.

Ms. Mary Lou Seeger

SUNDAY

OCTOBER 18

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b; Matt 22:15-21

7:30 a.m.

Ms. Susie Jurich

9:00 a.m.

Int. Ms. Kelsey Gunkel

11:30 a.m.

Ms. Bridget Shepherd

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, Judy Picciano, MaraLou Guice Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jimmy Senac, Courtney Severino, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr. Terrie Young and all our Homebound Parishioners.

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, Judy Picciano, MaraLou Guice Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jimmy Senac, Courtney Severino, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr. Terrie Young 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.



October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary in the Catholic Church.

We spend this month honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary through daily prayer of the rosary while meditating on the life, death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The rosary is a spiritual weapon and a powerful tool for growth in intimacy with Jesus and fulfilling God's will. What better way to honor our Mother this month than to visit her Son in our chapel. He is available to us every hour of every day. He is waiting!



Ideas to consider this month:

- Change your phone wallpaper to an image of the rosary to remind you of its beauty and to pray it daily.
- Aim to pray the rosary every day of October.
- Pray the rosary for someone else's intentions.
- While praying the rosary, meditate on the fruit of each mystery, asking for that fruit as it relates to your intention.
- Learn more about approved Marian apparitions.
- Buy a friend a rosary, sharing with them why you love to pray it, and spread the devotion.

"Cling to the Rosary as the creeper clings to the tree — for without Our Lady we cannot stand. The family that prays together, stays together, and if you want peace in your heart and your home, pray the Rosary every day. Our Lady has never refused me anything I have asked through the Rosary. She is our tender Mother, eager to grant all we need if only we will come to her with trust and love."

~St. Teresa of Calcutta

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.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



OUR LADY OF SORROWS: You are invited to join us for the 8:15 a.m. Mass followed by the recitation of the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows (a rosary of repentance) on the third Saturday of each month. (i.e. October 17th). The purpose of our coming together is threefold: 1) To pray for all victims of sexual abuse 2) To pray in reparation for all the vile sins committed against the Body of Christ, and 3) To pray for the graces of repentance, healing, conversion and salvation of all souls.



An anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday, October 17th at 3:30 p.m. (before the 4:00 p.m. Mass) in the Church. This is for all elderly parishioners, anyone with an illness, or parishioners with elderly or homebound family members who may wish to receive this Sacrament.



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.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Carla Ann Secunda, sister of Maria Padula of this parish, who passed away October 4th.

We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant her eternal peace.



The Flowers on the Altar

are in Honor of

St. Alphonsus Parishioners

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Wednesday Night Faith Formation
Next Class will be held on **October 14th**
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 Christy at 228-219-6189

Confirmation Class – 6:30 p.m.

Contact Kelley at 228-424-6234

OCIA

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



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.

October 11: CCC...Faith...Response to God's Love

October 18: CCC...The Creed Part I



A Second Collection will be taken up next weekend (October 17/18) for World Mission Sunday. This annual collection provides critical

financial support to missionaries and communities of faith in the most economically disadvantaged regions of the globe.



EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Please join us on Monday, October 19th, at 6:30 p.m. with Fr. Mike Snyder for a night of Healing, the Holy Face of Jesus, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayers of Deliverance, Sacrament of Reconciliation and the prayers of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Throughout life we all acquire wounds; whether they be physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual. They need to be healed and brought into the light of Christ. A large portion of Jesus' earthly ministry was a healing ministry; as well as to teach the Apostles: "Then he summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness" (Matthew 10:1). That healing did not stop once Jesus ascended into heaven. Through the Sacraments and prayer, Jesus continues to give us the avenue to receive healing from Him.

PLEASE JOIN US, ALL ARE WELCOME!



The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (no cooking involved) the week of October 26th - October 30th.

If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both times, please call Jamie Lloyd at 713-818-6071. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,746.83

Poor Collection.....\$ 4,043.00

Monthly/Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 7,331.00

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support