

April 6, 2025

Volume 17, Issue 14

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

"I consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." — Philippians 3:8



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APRIL 11, 2025

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Director of Faith Formation

Assistant Dir. of Faith Formation Colby Novo

Faith Formation Secretary

Youth Minister

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Community Outreach

Facilities Manager

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Custodian

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Donna Lambert

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Dale Hodges

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Preston "Chip" Lovett plovett@alphonsus.org

Michelle Morgan

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH OFFICE

14040 Greenwell Springs Rd, Greenwell Springs, LA 70739 Office Phone - 225-261-4650 Fax - 225-261-5650

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Faith Formation Office Phone - 225-261-4644

Faith Formation Office Hours: Tues. - Fri. 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Church Website: www.alphonsus.org

Church Facebook: St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church

Church Twitter & Instagram: @StAlphonsus_BR

ST. ALPHONSUS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Principal Kristv Monsour

kmonsour@stalphonsusbr.org

Assistant Principal Kristin Tate

ktate@stalphonsusbr.org

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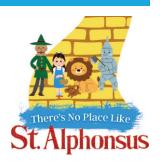
School Office - 225-261-5299 Cafeteria - 225-261-4157

School Website: www.stalphonsusbr.org

Fr. Jason's Wishful Thinking: Thanks for a Successful Auction!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thanks to everyone who made our Auction and Taste Fair a huge success on March 22, 2025. Thanks to the hard work of our Auction Committee members (listed below), our very sponsors, Kristenwood generous Catering, all who attended, and all who purchased raffle tickets and items.



2025 Auction Committee

Auction Chair/Technology: Kyle Cutrer Assistants: Lucky & Juanita Ross

Bank/Finances: Darryl Serio

Beverages/Bar: Jason & Elizabeth Norwood Decorations: Andrea Hubbard & Belinda Croswell

Heads & Tails Game: Vicki Whittington Online/School Items: Kristin Tate

Procurement - Live: Tricia Hale, Ronyell Dodson, Patti Duke,

Cindy Bozeman, Ashley Hubbard

Procurement - Silent: Vicki Whittington, Kim Vince, Lacey Keller,

Lacey Ball, Angelina Metz, Megan McNemar

Publicity & Staff Liaison: Sara Puissegur

Registration: Kristin Tate

Table Watchers: Donna Alexander Taste Fair: Jeanette Eisworth Technology: Kyle Cutrer Tickets: Daina Kroll Security: Allen Colomb

Wine & Dine: Vicki Whittington & Jason Alexander

As of now, we are estimated to have made around \$266,000 from this year's Auction. These funds will go toward our Parish Activity Center and St. Alphonsus Catholic School.

Our next big event on campus will be the Festival of Two Rivers on May 2-4, 2025. This is a wonderful event for the whole family to come out and enjoy. I hope to see all of you there!

Fr. Jason



PARISH WEEKLY CALENDAR: APRIL 5 - 13, 2025

Saturday	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 4:00 PM	Family Adoration - Church Faith Formation - S.F. Vigil Mass			
	4:00 PM Vigit Mass Cub Scouts selling World's Finest Chocolate & Country Meat Sticks				
Sunday	The Fifth Sunday of Lent				
		& 12 PM Masses			
	Cub Scouts selling World's Finest Chocolate & Country Meat Sticks				
	8:00 AM	Blood Drive - S.F.			
	10:15 AM	Learning Group, OCIA,			
		Adaptive PSR			
	12:00 PM	Confirmation - Mass, SAS Caf.			
Monday	9:00 AM	No Greater Love Study - S.F. C			
v	10:30 AM	Piano Tuning - Church			
	1:30 PM	Piano Tuning - C.R.			
	6:30 PM	Scouts Troop - St. Matthew			
	6:30 PM	Cub Scouts Den - Sts. Luke,			
	6.20 DM	John & Mark Scouts Parents - PAC Office			
	6:30 PM				
Tuesday	8:30 AM	Daily Mass & Novena			
	3:45 PM	SAS Faculty - S.F.			
	6:00 PM	Adult Confirmation - S.G. Women of Faith - St. Matthew			
	6:00 PM 6:30 PM	Grief Support - S.C.			
	6:30 PM	Men's Scripture - C.R.			
Wednesday	8:30 AM	Daily Mass			
vveunesuny	11:00 AM	Mark Study - S.G.			
	11:00 AM	SVDP Meeting - S.F.			
	5:20 PM	Divine Mercy Novena - Church			
	5:30 PM	Bell Choir - C.R.			
	6:00 PM	No Greater Love - S.F.			
	6:00 PM	Knights of Columbus - KC Hall			
	6:30 PM	Family Catechesis 7-11 - PAC Chancel Choir - C.R.			
	7:00 PM				
Thursday	8:30 AM	School Mass & Rosary			
	11:00 AM	Matthew Study - S.G.			
	6:00 PM 6:30 PM	OCIA Scrutinies - S.F. C Penance Service - Church			
E-d-l					
Friday	8:30 AM	Field Day & 1 PM Dismissal Mass			
	9:15 AM	Coffee Break - S.F.			
	12:00 PM	Traditional Stations - Church			
	4:00 PM	Men's Club Fried Fish Dinner			
		Pick-up - Front Parking Lot			
	6:30 PM	Themed Stations - Church			
Saturday	9:30 AM	Corpus Christi - Church			
	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass			
		Holy Land Gifts - G.S.			
Sunday	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord				

8 AM, 10 AM & 12 PM Masses

Children's Liturgy - S.F.

KIM Easter - PAC

Holy Land Gifts - G.S.

10:00 AM

1:00 PM

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

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Live Stream

Sunday 10:00 AM on Facebook & YouTube

Daily Masses

Tuesday, Wednesay, Thursday & Friday 8:30 AM Novena on Tuesday 8:30 AM

Respect Life Rosary on Thursday after Daily Mass

Holy Day Masses

As Announced

Children's Liturgy of the Word

For children in kindergarten through second grade.

SACRAMENTS & RESOURCES

Baptism

Contact Margaret Garza at the Parish Office in the early months of pregnancy for dates and preparation requirements.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 PM and by appointment

Christian Initiation of Adults

If interested in becoming Catholic and want more information on the process, call the Formation Office at 225-261-4644.

Marriage

Contact Sara Puissegur at the Parish Office six months to one year prior to projected wedding date for information concerning preparation programs.

Anointing of the Sick

You can receive this sacrament during a serious illness, before a major surgery, or for spiritual and mental healing. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Funerals

Contact Margaret Garza at the Parish Office for arrangement information.

Formed

Go to formed.org, find St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish, and enjoy access to this free online Catholic gateway.

Prayer Line

Beverly Heil 225-772-4278 Gloria Jones 225-337-8929

WORSHIP

Readings for the Week - April 6-13

Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11 **Monday**: Dan 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62;

Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday: Num 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; Jn 8:21-30 **Wednesday**: Dan 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dan 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56;

Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gen 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 8:51-59 **Friday**: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42 **Saturday**: Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13; Jn 11:45-56 **Sunday**: Lk 19:28-40; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56 or Lk 23:1-49

Baptisms - March 2025

Jack Joseph Antoon - Child of Eric & Rae Ann Antoon.

Anna Katherine Mancuso - Child of Chase & Samee Mancuso.

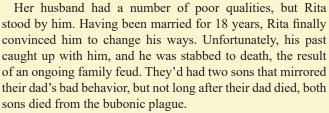
John Paul Zumo - Child of Anthony & Kayla Zumo.

Featured Saint of the Week

St. Rita of Cascia (1381-1457) Feast: May 22

Margherita Lotti was born to parents of nobility. At a young age, Rita had hopes of becoming a nun, but her parents didn't agree.

They arranged for her to marry at the age of 12.



Rita finally was able to apply to the monastery, but before she could be accepted, they wanted her to reconcile with the family and her husband's murderers. With the help of her three patron saints, she was able to accomplish the reconciliation.

At the age of 36, she entered the monastery of St. Mary Magdalene in Cascia. At the age of 60, while meditating before an image of Christ crucified, she developed a wound on her forehead, deemed a partial stigmata.

Rita remained at the monastery, living by the Augustinian Rule, until her death from tuberculosis on May 22, 1457.

Her body has been exhumed three times since her death. Each time her body has been incorrupt and the blood of her head wound glistens.

St. Rita joins St. Philomena and St. Jude as patron saints of the impossible.

"Most Holy Sacred Heart of Jesus, help my heart to preserve in all that is holy." - St. Rita of Cascia

"There is nothing impossible to God." - St. Rita of Cascia

Family Adoration

Join us on the first Saturday of each month for Family Adoration & Benediction at 8:30 AM. Next date: April 5. We will have coffee and donuts in the St. Francis Room following Adoration. *Please note: We will not have a First Saturday 8 AM Mass in April.*



Divine Mercy Novena

Join us in praying the Divine Mercy Novena each Wednesday at 6 PM in the church during the Lenten season. Our Lord said, "Through the chaplet, you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with

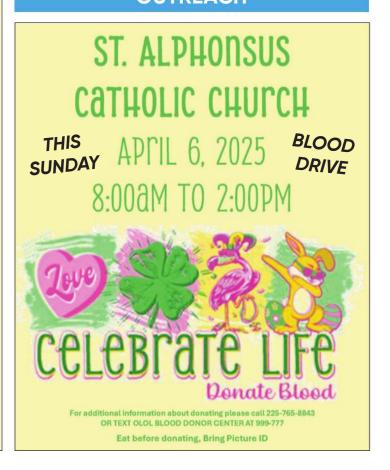


my will." The Rosary will be recited before the Novena at 5:20 PM.

Stations of the Cross Friday, April 11 at 6:30 PM

The middle and high school youth invite you to join them in "Our Journey with Jesus." We encourage you to examine your heart, and accept the task at hand as we face our daily challenges and respond to His call, as we unite ourselves to Him. The evening will reflect on the Passion of Christ by utilizing prayer, music, and visual aids, both traditional and present-day; lead by the youth group. The goal of praying the Stations is not just to get through them. The goal is to contemplate the depth of love God demonstrated on the Cross. The other goal is to learn how to carry our own crosses with Christ. In praying the Stations, we learn compassion. We enter into the suffering of Christ to better understand our suffering and the suffering of others.

OUTREACH



Fr. Jason's Wishful Thinking: Cemetery Expansion Plans

I hope that all of you are having a fruitful Lent thus far. Lent is an incredibly busy time at St. Alphonsus with the St. Joseph Altar, our Annual Auction, Friday fish dinners, and extra spiritual activities. In the midst of these activities, we might lose sight of Lent and the bold message from Ash Wednesday: "Remember that you are dust, and unto dust you will return." Yes, all of us will experience death one day, and one of the corporal works of mercy is to bury the dead. One of the top five things that priests and deacons do each week is burying the dead and ministering to the families that must carry on. With this in mind, I wanted to discuss a delicate subject with all of you.

During our listening sessions last summer, one of the topics that repeatedly surfaced was the possibility of offering other forms of burial space in our existing cemetery. We have a very small cemetery on our church property and all of the ground space has been exhausted. After doing some research, I believe that the best approach would be to offer columbarium space for cremains/ urns along the perimeter of the cemetery and the back parking lot (there is a chain link fence there now). If you are unfamiliar with a columbarium, these are raised structures made out of concrete/ aluminum and clad with granite and/or marble. Each space (or niche) measures 13" x 13," which is quite suitable for the placement of a large urn. The granite on the exterior of the columbarium is designed to be etched with the decedent's name and any other information that a family desires.

We have called a few prominent cemeteries in the Baton Rouge area and have determined that their columbarium niches range in price from \$2,995 - \$8,195. We are proposing to sell our niches from \$1,500-\$1,700 each, depending on the desired height of the niche. The Diocese of Baton Rouge requires that we establish a mausoleum endowment for the perpetual maintenance of the structure, so 25 percent of the purchase price would be invested at the Baton Rouge Area Foundation for this purpose. Doric Products, a monument company based in Illinois, will manufacture this columbarium. They have been in business for over 70 years. Our initial columbarium will contain 120 niches: 60 niches facing

the cemetery, and 60 niches facing the back parking lot. If the columbarium proves to be popular, we could always add additional ones along the fence perimeter as time goes on.

So I am asking those of you reading this article today... Have you considered your burial plans? Are you familiar with the Church's teachings on what is proper for Christian burial and what is not? The Catholic Church does not agree with the modern notion of spreading ashes in one's favorite place on earth or dividing the ashes of an individual as sentimental keepsakes. There is only one exception to this principle in Catholic thought, and that is if a person is beatified on their way to canonization as a saint, relics can be produced from one or two bones of the saint's body. Otherwise, the Church teaches that our earthly remains should be buried or interred whole, on land or sunk at sea, as a visible sign that we await the resurrection of the body at the second coming of Christ. Cremains do not need to be interred in a cemetery, but this is certainly preferable to the idea of holding on to urns in a home and creating shrines to our deceased and prolonging the grief process. It is psychologically healthy to put a distance between us and our deceased loved ones so that we can move forward with our lives.

Many people have worshipped at St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish throughout their lifetimes and have expressed the desire to be interred here on the cemetery grounds, as it is blessed each year on the Solemnity of All Saints Day. Since the new columbarium and its installation will be a substantial cost to St. Alphonsus Parish, we will require a \$500 deposit for each niche, with the remainder of the purchase price due in 60 days. We won't sign the contract with Doric unless we see that there is considerable interest in this project. Please call the parish office at 225-261-4650 and let us know if you are interested in these cremation niches and how many of them you would seriously need for your family. Once we order the columbarium, installation typically takes three to four months. Thank you for your consideration, and I hope that this project will meet one of the needs of our parish for years to come.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jason

FORMATION

Learning Group

The last Learning Group session is Sunday, April 6, 2025. If your child is in 10th Grade, they will be attending the Confirmation session instead of Learning Group. If your child has missed a class, please contact their catechist to get make-up work. All make-up work is due no later than May 1st for your child to receive credit.

Confirmation Year 1

Confirmation Year 1 will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in June of 2025. The next session will be on Sunday, April 6, 2025. We will begin with Noon Mass and move to the SAS Cafeteria for our session. Candidates, your sponsor needs to attend this session. Lunch will be provided.

Family Catechesis

The last class for Family Catechesis **7-11th Grades** will be held on **Wednesday**, **April 9** at 6:30 PM in the Parish Activity Center. Please bring your completed book and log booklet to this meeting. Books will be graded. Parents and child are required to attend.

Confirmation Year 2

The date for Confirmation rehearsal is Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 7 PM in the Church. Parents, your child will be given an envelope to order Confirmation pictures. Price and package sizes are on the envelope. The envelope needs to be completed, fees enclosed and returned at Confirmation. Sponsors are required to attend the Rehearsal. If they are unable, you must have a proxy to stand in.

The date for Confirmation is Tuesday, April 29, 2025. Candidates must be in the St. Francis room by 6:15 PM to receive instruction and meet the Bishop before Mass.

2025 AUCTION & TASTE FAIR

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, parishioners and supporters of St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish gathered in our new Parish Activity Center to eat, drink, and bid on a variety of silent and live auction items. Kristenwood Reception Hall catered the event, offering a fabulous sampling of their specialties. The costume contest was another highlight, helping bring together our Wizard of Oz theme. Fr. Jason stole the show as the Mayor of Munchkinland! It was a truly enjoyable night and a highly successful fundraiser. Our gross revenue was \$266,000 this year. Thank you again to all of our sponsors, donors, volunteers, bidders, and those who attended. We look forward to seeing everyone at our next Auction in 2026. *Photos by Sara Puissegur and Jeannine Cockerham*.



























First Eucharist

The date for 1st Eucharist Rehearsal is Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 6 PM in the Church. The date for 1st Eucharist is Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 3 PM in the Church.

Coffee Break

Join us on Friday, April 11 in the St. Francis Room at 9:15 AM. Social with coffee and refreshments to start our morning together. We welcome Donna



Speeg to begin our morning of sharing the message, prayer and novena of the devotion of Divine Mercy. Hope to see you there.

KIM Easter Eggstravaganza

The Easter Eggstavaganza will be on Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025, beginning at 1 PM at the PAC. Please join us for food, crafts, games, and an Easter Egg Run. Visit the parish website to R.S.V.P. For more information, call 261-4644.

Prefilled egg donations can be dropped off in the Gather Space.

Order Your Fair T-shirts!

If you would like to order T-shirts for our 2025 Festival of Two Rivers, order forms can be found in the Church and School Office, or you can order online at www.alphonsus.org.



ADMINISTRATION

Gifts of Stewardship

For March 22-23, 2025, your Stewardship resulted in:

Weekly	Col	lection

Weekly Collection	
Envelopes	\$ 14,136.00
Unidentified	\$ 2,368.00
Parish Soft	\$ 8,148.50
Building/Maintenance Fund	
Envelopes	\$ 112.00
Parish Soft	\$ 638.00
New Parish Activity Center	
Envelopes	\$ 230.00
Parish Soft	\$ 593.36
Children	\$ 25.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 140.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$ 25.00
Total Received	\$ 26,415.86
SVDP Building Project	\$ 12,170.00
SVDP Ash Wed. Envelopes	\$ 185.00





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