

ST. ALPHONSUS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
504 Jackson Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
228.875.5329
Deacon David Allen, Principal
Mrs. Judy Illich, Asst. Principal
#calledtobeasaint
www.stal.org

The Deacon's Desk

...a Parent Guide to the Week Ahead at St. Alphonsus Catholic School

Volume 3, Issue 15

November 16, 2020

School Advisory Council:

Esmeralda Stadthagen
Sheila Kowalewski
Kristen Owens
Kevin O'Connell
Brian Sanderson
Fr. Michael Snyder
Deacon Jim Gunkel

Covid Caution...

What is allowed?

As is the case with most things during Covid-19, guests and group meals within our building are not allowed at this time. However, if there is a special occasion (birthday, etc.), a class snack may be sent that we will take to your child's classroom. Check with your child's teacher about what they might need for various classroom observances. Thank you for your patience and support!

Back Page...

Interested in Girls' Lacrosse?? See the flyer on page two!

Coming Up...



2:00 P.M. Dismissal – Wednesday	NOV 18
Thanksgiving Holidays – Mon. – Fri.	NOV 23–27
Breakfast with Santa – Saturday, Out- side at Craw- fish House 8AM–11AM	DEC 5



A Time for Giving Thanks...

As we all look forward to next week's Thanksgiving vacation, we reflect on the year we've had so far and realize that we have MUCH to be thankful for. Even with the craziness and disappointments of 2020 to-date, we give thanks for the blessings of a "real" school year with in-person learning, a hurricane season that could have been MUCH worse, and a school and church family that has the strong support of families like yours. I give thanks for you to our Lord each day in my Liturgy of the Hours and thank you for sharing your children with us. We will still have things to do and look forward to in the coming weeks: Breakfast with Santa takes place December 5th, and we're even working on a virtual children's Christmas video for you for the holidays! The Christmas spirit will be alive and well at St. Al's, and we look forward to sharing our joy with you in the weeks to come. God Bless you!

Liturgy Lookout: This Week in Mass...

The End is Here...

Our liturgical year is quickly drawing to a close, and the last Sunday of our liturgical year is "The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe," which we celebrate on November 22nd. We've heard admonishments about the "end times" the last several weeks, and this week "ramps-up" with first readings from the book of Revelation. We hear God revealing to His beloved apostle John what is taking place in heaven, and he is allowed to see just a glimpse; but oh, what a glimpse it is! You will recognize much of our Catholic Mass in the 4th and 5th chapters of Revelation on Wednesday and Thursday's readings. It tells us that the worship of our Lord is ongoing and eternal in the heavenly kingdom. The light and joy of the heavenly liturgy are beyond our imagination, and we should be striving to make it there to see it first-hand!

Simultaneously, Jesus gives us hope that we can make it there, and if we're not doing what we're supposed to be there now, it's not

too late to repent and reconcile with Him to do so. Zacchaeus's story is recounted Tuesday, which shows us that indeed any person can turn to the Lord and be saved, regardless of background or life situation. But the Lord goes on in the gospel of Luke this week to tell us that He expects much of us as His children and starts with giving us the parable of the servants and gold coins Wednesday. The message here is to realize that our gifts and talents (and yes, we all have them) are given freely to us to use for the glory of bringing others to Him. Keeping and using our gifts selfishly for ourselves will not get us to heaven. Doing so causes Jesus to weep (Thursday), as He does over the future loss of Jerusalem. Jesus wants us to live with Him forever in heaven, and this theme is softly whispered throughout our gospels this week. Even though we wince at the word "judgment" that we hear so often this week, the plan He gives us to overcome our obstacles is easy to follow and, of course, worth it!

This week's memorials give us hope that living a humble life

through the gospel can be our key to salvation. We celebrate St. Elizabeth of Hungary Tuesday, and she rejected a life of wealth to help the poor, much like Zacchaeus did in that day's gospel. The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul Wednesday shows us that the heavenly liturgy shown in Revelation this week is mirrored here on earth in the Catholic Church... at least, as much as humanly possible. The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday is observed right before this week's Solemnity, Christ the King Sunday. What better role model for a life of service can we have than our Blessed Mother??

As we enter into the Thanksgiving holidays next week, we pray for our school families on their mutual journeys to heaven. This week's liturgical celebrations give us a glimpse of the joy that awaits us. We hope to all see each other in heaven; until then, we hope to see all of YOU in mass! Have a blessed week.

Blessings and Peace,

Deacon David

Forming Intentional Disciples for CHRIST!





TRYLAX®

THE RIGHT LACROSSE

AT THE RIGHT TIME

PRESENTED BY



TryLax® is a 90 minute, introductory lacrosse experience for kids who have never played before, but are thinking they might want to.

The clinic will be conducted by US Lacrosse trained coaches from the local community, in an effort to connect you with a program in your area.

DEC 5

10:00AM-11:30AM

GAY LEMON FIELD

1493 DEENA RD
OCEAN SPRINGS, MS



GIRLS

Ages 6-14

FREE

LACROSSE STICK



PLUS A ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP
TO US LACROSSE

\$50 PER PLAYER
MAX OF 50 PARTICIPANTS
TOTAL

REGISTER TODAY AT

<https://ocean-springs-girls-lacrosse.leaguemanagement.uslacrosse.org/seasons/player-registrations/landing-page/10>

SUPPORTED BY

