

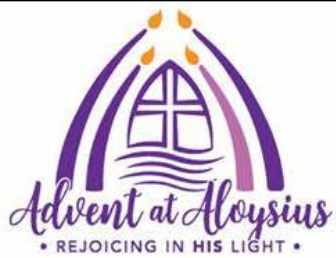


aloysius alive

Vol. 34 No. 3

November-December 2018

FAITH • FAMILY • FUN • 2018



St. Aloysius Parish Prepares for the Coming of Christ

Page 3

What do you know about ACTS Retreats?

By Dr. Steven Brooksher

An ACTS Retreat is a parish-based event that offers parishioners an opportunity to experience the love of Jesus Christ. This in turn fosters a desire for intentional discipleship. ACTS Retreats are given by parishioners for parishioners, and in this way, serve to build Christian community at a parish.

The ACTS Retreat begins on a Thursday evening and ends with Sunday Mass. While utilizing prayer, service, and teaching, the ACTS Retreat meets people where they are in their spiritual journey and invites them to experience God in a manner that is both personal and communal.

In this way, the ACTS Retreat fulfills the mission of, "*Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ among Catholic communities through ACTS.*"

The ACTS Retreat experience is rooted in the Pascal Mystery in that retreatants are invited to reflect on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Throughout the weekend, they are invited to prayerfully consider how they can respond to His love by spiritually surrendering to Jesus in order to have new life with Him. This invitation is

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Fun at the Fair



Full fair coverage, pictures, Page 4-5

All are invited to 'Knowledge of Faith' events

Next study begins in mid-January: 'Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John'

September marked the beginning of a year of emphasis at St. Aloysius on "Knowledge of Faith: Encountering God in Scripture." Our first Great Adventure Bible Study, "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible," engaged more than 150 participants in an eight-week study uncovering the story woven throughout Holy Scripture.

Small study groups met (and continue to meet) throughout the week, guided by facilitators, student workbooks and a series of videos featuring Jeff Cavins from Ascension Press. This engaging journey through the Bible brings focus to the profound connection between the Old and New Testaments, clarifying how the Sacraments, the Church and our entire Catholic Faith are rooted in Holy Scripture.

Our Speakers' Series also began in September, featuring acclaimed author and pilgrimage leader Stephen Binz on "The Grand Narrative of Scripture." In his talk, Stephen encouraged Catholics to focus on a broad, panoramic view of the entire Bible that illustrates the beauty of God's plan for the world. With a clear vision of this sweeping unity and purpose, we can better understand our own place within the storyline and our personal role within the mission of God.

Brian Pedraza, assistant professor of Theology at Franciscan University of Our Lady, spoke in October on the Church's understanding of Divine Revelation, mediated to us through Scripture and Tradition, as described in the Vatican II Constitution, *Dei Verbum*.

Brian's beautiful presentation explored how Holy Scripture is the product of both divine inspiration and human effort, interpreted and understood within the great tradition of the Church. He encouraged his listeners to follow the example of St. Augustine in his *Confessions*, to "take up and read" the Bible, and to experience how God transforms us in an encounter with the living Word.

In November our Director of Adult Formation, Mark Christian, gave an overview of the history and development of the Lectionary – the pattern of Scripture Readings used in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days throughout the year. He also introduced Cycle C in the

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**Coming
to St Aloysius
in January
2019**



**Featuring
Edward Sri**
acclaimed author,
teacher, and speaker
with FOCUS,
Ascension Press, and
EWTN

St. Aloysius Scripture Study Registration Form

8 Week Study Beginning the Week of January 14: Morning, Afternoon, and Evening Sessions are being planned

Participant Information

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Registration Options

Student Workbook Fee: \$25.00

Additional Donation*: _____

Total: _____

We will contact you about the time and date of the group meetings based on your preferences indicated below

Please submit your workbook fee with this form at Registration or to the Church Office. Workbooks will be distributed at the first meeting. Make checks payable to "St. Aloysius Church"

*Additional Donations help others with the Workbook Fee

Volunteer Opportunities: Small Group Facilitator ☐ Hospitality Coordinator ☐
(either at St. Aloysius or another site) (coffee, cookies, etc.)

If you were in a Study Group in the Fall, would you like to continue meeting with that group? ☐ yes ☐ no

Day / Time / Place of your previous group _____

Days and Times you are available: please mark all options, numbering your preference (1,2,3)

Sunday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Monday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Thursday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>
Friday:	morning <input type="checkbox"/>	afternoon <input type="checkbox"/>	evening <input type="checkbox"/>

Other Notes, Needs, Requests: _____

Submit completed forms (along with any questions) to mchristian@staloyusparish.com or by mail to
St. Aloysius Church • Attn: Mark Christian • 2025 Stuart Ave • Baton Rouge, LA 70808
Assistance is available for purchasing the Student Workbooks – contact Mark Christian for more information

Adult, From Page 1

upcoming liturgical year, which focuses on the Gospel According to St. Luke. His presentation emphasized a key passage from the Vatican II Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, which inspired the modern reform of the Lectionary:

"The treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that richer fare may be provided for the faithful at the table of God's word."

Our next Great Adventure Bible Study, "Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John," will begin in mid-January. Registration forms are available now through the Church Office and on our website. It will

follow the same format as the previous study, with small group facilitators, a student workbook, and videos featuring Edward Sri, a scholar with the Augustine Institute who is frequently featured on FORMED.

Monthly speakers will also resume in January, including our Lenten Mission with Father Gregory Plata, OFM on March 11-13.



Nursery available for 9 a.m., 11 a.m. Masses

Sunday Nursery is available during the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Masses for children 3 months through 4 years old. The nursery is held in the St. Aloysius Child Care Center Tiger Room. Parents may register their child on Sunday mornings when they bring their child to the nursery. For more information, please contact Tricia Greely at tgreely@staloyusparish.com or at 225-343-6657.

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY

Vigil Mass 4:30 p.m.

SUNDAY

7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

HOLY DAYS

Schedule will be announced

DAILY MASSES

Monday & Wednesday, 6 a.m.

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m.

CONFESSIONS: Monday and Wednesday after 6:00 a.m. Mass; Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30-8:00 a.m.; Saturday 3:30-4:00 p.m. (when the adjacent Mass is celebrated).

FUNERALS: Please contact the Parish Office prior to scheduling with the funeral home. If after hours, follow directions on voicemail.

PARISH SCHOOL: For information, phone 383-3871, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

NURSERY/CHILDCARE CENTER:
For information, phone 343-1338,
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office during early months of pregnancy. Baptismal preparation is required.

SPONSORS: Baptism & Confirmation sponsors must be confirmed practicing Catholics in good standing in the Catholic Church, and if not St. Aloysius Parishioners, must provide a letter of good standing from the parish where they are registered.

MARRIAGE: Couples are asked to contact the priest at the beginning of the period of engagement at least six months prior to the projected date of the marriage.

CARE OF THE SICK: The Eucharist is brought to the sick weekly and hospital visits made weekly. Families of the sick are encouraged to notify the Parish Office.

aloysius alive Staff



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Managing Editor
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Mag Wall

Angela Falgoust

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St. Aloysius Parish prepares for the coming of Christ

Masses for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

Friday, Dec. 7, Vigil Mass at 6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 8, at 8 a.m. and noon

Advent Penance Service

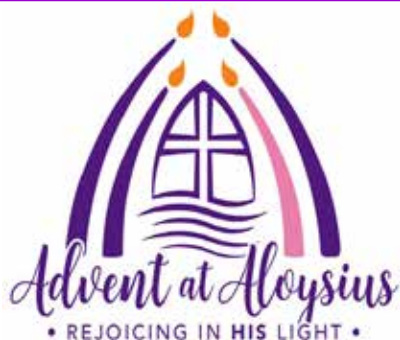
Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 6:30 p.m.
in the church.

Masses for the Solemnity of Christmas

Monday, Dec. 24:
4 p.m. in the church and 4 p.m. in the gym
6:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. in the church
Tuesday, Dec. 25: 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Masses for The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Monday, Dec. 31, Vigil Mass at 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 1, at 7 a.m., 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.



Book Drive

Help our St. Vincent de Paul Conference
by Bringing New or Gently Used
Age-Appropriate Books for Children
in Middle or High School
to

Advent at Aloysius

Saturday, Dec. 1st
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Donate and Help a Child in Need!!



PSR to resume in January for Grades 1-6

Parish School of Religion participants in Grades 1-6 completed their fall classes on Nov. 11. Many thanks to our catechists who shared their faith with our children. Classes will resume af-

ter the first of the year on the following dates:

Jan. 6
Jan. 13
Jan. 27
Feb. 3

Learn about Men's Club's popular events

On Sept. 20, the St. Aloysius Men's Club held its annual Steak Night in the Parish Hall. The guest speaker for the evening was East Baton Rouge District Attorney and St. Aloysius parishioner Hillar Moore. Moore provided the men with an update on crime statistics in Baton Rouge and highlighted some of the efforts of the District Attorney's Office as well as local law enforcement.

All in attendance enjoyed steaks provided by Maxwell's Market and cold beverages generously donated by Mockler Beverage.

The Men's Club is open to all men of St. Aloysius parish over 18 years old. In addition to Steak Night, annual events hosted by the Men's Club include an Evening of Reflection, LSU Coach Night and Crawfish Boil.

The Evening of Reflection is typically held during Advent and takes place in the Parish Hall. A light dinner is served, ac-



companied by an inspirational and spiritual talk by a fellow parishioner or priest.

LSU Coach night typically is held in February in the Parish Hall. Past guest speakers have included a variety of LSU head and assistant coaches and other LSU athletic administration officials.

Finally, the Men's Club annual Crawfish Boil is a couples event on a Friday during Lent

in the Old Gym. With all-you-can-eat crawfish, cold beer and live music, this event is one of the group's most popular. Annual dues are \$20 and cover attendance at all functions except for the Crawfish Boil.

For information, contact Men's Club president Garrett Hiebert at garrett.hiebert@gmail.com. To sign up for the Men's Club, go to the parish website.



Parish Fair another huge success





Thank you to volunteers, sponsors

A sincere thank you to the many wonderful volunteers and sponsors who helped make the 2018 St. Aloysius Parish Fair another amazing event this year.

The support and dedication of St. Aloysius Parishioners ensures the Fair is a successful weekend that allows our family and friends to come together and celebrate Faith, Family, and Fun. Thank you for your commitment of time, energy, and prayers for this important occasion!

Also, St. Aloysius Parish appreciates and acknowledges the companies that demonstrated their commitment to the Parish Fair through sponsorship donations. It wouldn't be possible without you!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the fair to enjoy the food, the rides and games, and each other. Here's to celebrating with you next year!

2018 PARISH FAIR COMMITTEE

2018 Fair Chairs: William and Leigh-Anne Biossat
2018 Co-Chairs and 2019 Fair Chairs: Dom and Ashley Peré

2017 Fair Chairs: Ryan and Erin Allen

Church Staff Resource: Matt Zylcz

Treasurer/Bank Chair: Patrick Valluzzo

Food Chair: Brad Hutchinson and large support team

Fish Fry Chairs: Scott and Garret Callaway

BBQ Lunch Chairs: Matt and Megan LaBruyere

Beverage Chair: Justin Shortt and large support team

Raffle Chairs: Matt and Theresa Jones & Jason and Emily Miranda

Bingo Chairs: Ashlee McNeely and Kirsten Wolff

Game Booth Chair & Website Chair: Kate Prejean

Decorations Chair: Megan Honore-LeBlanc

Order Fulfillment Chairs: Hunter and Tiffany Brown

Prize Booth Chairs: Sarah Haydel

Sweet Shop Chair: Ashley Casey

Talent Show Chair: Kieffer Petree

5k + Fun Run Chairs: Eric and Kacie Engemann

Volunteer Chair: Danielle Clapinski

Kids Play Zone Chairs: Tiffany Fontana

Communications Chair: Elizabeth Tanner

Signage/Logo/Design Chair: Blair Percle

Family Tent Chair: Megan Cardaro

Sponsorship Chairs: Ethan Bush and Arik Garner

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Baton Rouge Orthopaedic

Louisiana ENT & Sinus

Sparkhound

Commerce Title

Marex Services Group

Salco

Excel

Dudley Debosier

Bienvenu, Bonneze, Foco, Viator & Holinga, APLLC

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Keller Williams / Kristy Robique

J Rivet Construction

Louisiana Cutting

LUBA

Giraffic Prints

State Farm - Cliff Ourso

State Farm - Rieder Marshall

State Farm - Steven Brooksher

Investar

Jones Walker

BR Printing





Annual Giving Tree returns Nov. 17

For many years, St. Aloysius Parish has sponsored the Giving Tree as a way for parishioners to help those in need in the Baton Rouge area.

We are especially grateful to members of the St. Aloysius Prayer Shawl ministry, who have donated their time and talents again this year. Look for their knitted and crocheted stars. Our parishioners and students make the majority of the ornaments that represent the 11 organizations supported by our ministry:

- Prison Fellowship (Children of Prisoners)
- Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Holy Grill Kids
- Joseph Home Residents
- Women in Crisis Pregnancies
- Myriam's House
- Bishop Ott Shelter

- Habitat for Humanity
- Southern States Scholars and Scholars Laboratory (formerly Boys Hope/Girls Hope)
- Developmental Disabilities
- St. Vincent de Paul – Sweet Dreams
- Cenikor

Ornaments will be placed in baskets near the side entrances of the church beginning Nov. 17. Each ornament represents an organization and has an attached tag listing items specifically requested by that organization. Booklets will be available telling a little about the organizations and the services they provide.

You may keep your ornament as a reminder of our parish effort to help those in need. A special prayer is included on the back of the booklets; please remember to pray for those



who are less fortunate this holiday season.

Gifts should be returned to the marked boxes in the back of church beginning on Nov. 24. All gifts should be returned unwrapped.

St. Aloysius parishioners have always been incredibly generous in supporting the Giving Tree ministry and we are thankful for your willingness to share what you have with those less fortunate.



Baby Bottle Campaign to aid pregnancy centers

The Dignity of Life Committee of St. Aloysius and the Knights of Columbus will launch the 2019 Baby Bottle Campaign Jan. 19-20 to aid our local crisis pregnancy centers.

We cannot say we are a pro-life church if we do not care for them both. We love the mother and her baby. That is why we support our crisis pregnancy centers and their life-saving work. This year we are supporting two life-saving centers: The Pregnancy Problem Center and the Woman's New Life Center.

Both have been giving women in crisis pregnancies an alternative to abortion for many years and have saved many babies and their mothers from the nightmare of abortion. Both have free pregnancy tests and have ultrasound machines, so mothers can see their babies in their womb.

The PPC has a Mom and Me Shop to help clothe and feed both moms and babies and of-

fers an Earn to Learn program to help moms and dads become better parents with healthier babies. The Woman's New Life Center offers professional counseling, educational resources and post-abortion counseling. The center also teaches Natural Family Planning.

Last year's campaign was very successful. We want this Baby Bottle Campaign to be the best yet, especially since we are helping two centers. Running each center is expensive, but you cannot put a price tag on the lives and souls saved. Please help us to offset their expenses with your donation.

Thank you so much for your generosity and know your donation will help save lives. Contact Ross McCalip at rmccalip@aol.com with any questions.



ACTS, From Page 1

extended through the pillars of the apostolate:

- **Adoration:** A response to God's love through prayer and worship
- **Community:** Participating in the One Body of Christ as Church
- **Theology:** Deepening our relationship with God in order to better fulfill His will
- **Service:** Answering the call to discipleship by following the model He gave us

Those who attend an ACTS Retreat share in an experience that has impacted more than a million lives worldwide since the first retreat in 1987. There are numerous testimonies describing retreatants who were evangelized through a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. They witness to becoming better fathers, mothers, husbands, wives and children.

For me, ACTS has served as a scaffold for me to deepen my spiritual life. It was truly a leap

of faith for this off-the-scale introvert to commit to a weekend about which I had few details. The retreat was a very intimate faith experience that brought me to more profound personal relationship with Jesus. At the same time, I was surrounded by a group of men from St. Aloysius, each on his own spiritual journey. Through that shared experience, I developed a very special relationship with a community of men whom I had previously only known superficially and now cherish deeply.

The weekend was the beginning of a new direction for me. Over the past two years I have committed to the discipline of starting each day with prayer. I have found myself gathering with one group or another of St. Aloysius parishioners, sometimes two or three times a week, to pray and lift each other up. I have taken advantage of opportunities for service that were previously invisible to me. All of these things are a part of my life now, not because I have to, but because I want to.

Within St. Aloysius Parish, this new evangelization has caught fire. Since it began

here in 2016, more than 400 parishioners have participated in ACTS. Those 400 haven't been idle; they are committed to adoration, community, theology and service. You will see them serving throughout the various ministries at St. Aloysius. There are upwards of 50 to 60 parishioners at 6 a.m. Mass every Wednesday who were not there before.

Look around you at Mass. You will see many who have a deeper, more joyful, faith life because of this experience. Ask around. The return Mass for the next women's retreat is Nov. 18 at 11 a.m. Look at the faces of the women returning from that retreat and you will want some of what they have.

St. Aloysius has four retreats each year, two for men and two for women. The next dates are *March 28-31 and Oct. 3-6, 2019*, for men and *May 30-June 2 and Nov. 21-24, 2019*, for women. The best way to learn more about ACTS is to speak with one of the 400. You can find many at 6 a.m. Mass on Wednesdays. Or contact anyone of the parish staff and they can point you in the right direction.





Fall at SAS

Blessing of the animals,
Father Randy's birthday, more



First-graders' costume drive helps share Halloween fun

From Sept. 26 through Oct. 3, the St. Aloysius first-grade classes sponsored a Halloween costume drive. Families were encouraged to donate new or gently used Halloween costumes, which were then sorted by the first-graders for delivery to 10/31 Consortium, a non-profit organization that serves our community through the fun and creativity of Halloween traditions and folklore.

Donations by SAS, combined with other contributions throughout the community, amounted to over 1200 costumes. These costumes were donated

to children with the Big Buddy Program and to Melrose Place Subdivision, this year's selected neighborhood beneficiary, as well as kids who attended a costume giveaway day on Oct. 14. All the remaining costumes were packaged up and sent with the United Cajun Navy for delivery to hurricane-affected families.

Thank you to everyone who donated costumes and to the SAS first-graders for working so hard to organize these costumes for delivery to the kids in our area and to those recently affected by the hurricanes.



Busy, fun October at Childcare Center

The St. Aloysius Child Care Center celebrated Halloween throughout October with fun festivities. Decorated pumpkins filled the lobby for the annual pumpkin decorating contest; children and parents had fun working together to decorate pumpkins. Categories included most creative, funniest, prettiest, most original, best overall, and best created by a child. The winners were hard to choose!

The annual Pumpkin Carving Party was a treat for the children to have fun with their friends outside of the classrooms. Everyone enjoyed pizza, face painting by Sparkles the Clown and more pumpkin decorating. For their Halloween class parties, children wore fun costumes and enjoyed treats, crafts, and games.

October Show N' Tell let-

ters were "G," "H" and "I," and the children created goop, rode horses, and made ice cream sandwiches. The Bible theme for October was Baby Moses, and children also learned the Spanish words for fall, leaf, pumpkin and acorn. Many children celebrated their birthdays in October and brought treats for their classes to enjoy.

November brings more exciting activities, as the children begin learning about the meaning of Thanksgiving, enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner, decorate family feathers to add to the center's Family Turkey, and make place mats to use at Thanksgiving dinner with their families. The center will also celebrate Mickey Mouse's birthday and learn about the letters "J," "K," and "L" for Show N' Tell.

