

aloysius alive

Vol. 38 No. 3

November 2022

FOOD, FRIENDS & FUN



Holy Smoke

See full coverage of the Holy Smoke BBQ competition and list of winners, Page 4.

Love Through Prayer

Taking time for God helps build the Kingdom

By Jenny and Allen Richey, co-chairs
Stewardship Through Prayer Committee

Each year, St. Aloysius parishioners are invited to reflect on the ways in which we steward the Kingdom of God through ministry, prayer and offering. On Dec. 3-4, at each of our Masses, parishioners will have an opportunity to reflect specifically on how we can build the Kingdom through our prayer lives.

Our Stewardship theme this year comes from the Gospel of John. In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment: Love one another as I have loved you." We are called (commanded) to love God and others. "Love" is an action word. And though it may not seem it at first glance, praying is one way that we can begin to actively love others. Prayer requires very little of us other than the sacrifice of some of our time and attention. And prayer can provide clarity on how to love those for whom we pray in other tangible ways as well.

When we pray, we intentionally pause to thank God for His blessings, praise Him for his goodness and intercede on behalf of those whom we know and even those whom we may not know. Oftentimes, those people may not even be aware that we are praying for them. We can ask for guidance and clarity as we work to do God's will each day. It is also a way to grow in our friendship with God and with one another. Prayer

Continued on page 2



Parish Fair

See complete Parish Fair cover and more photos. Page 5.

Confirmed in Christ

On Nov. 8-9, St. Aloysius celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for 113 high school students.



Full Confirmation list and more photos, Page 3.

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Inside Alive

Mass schedule.....	2
Advent & Christmas schedule	2
Giving Tree	6
School news	6-7
Holy Smoke event.....	8

Interested in Stephen Ministers?

People all around us are experiencing life difficulties. As a church, we're called to reach out to them, offering Jesus' love and care. Accordingly, we're offering training for those who feel called to become Stephen Ministers.

What is a Stephen Minister? He or she is a well-trained lay person who provides one-to-one support to a "care receiver." Care receivers are persons hurting or struggling due to a difficult life situation, such as the death of a loved one, a divorce, a terminal illness, being the caregiver of someone with a long-term illness, and other challenging situations. St. Aloysius' Stephen Ministry has been active for more than ten years.

Please note that a Stephen Minister is not a substitute for a professional counselor or therapist. He or she is there to walk alongside the hurting person, by offering spiritual and emotional support. This is done by listening, praying and caring. The motto of



Stephen Ministry is, "We are the caregivers; God is the cure giver."

A cornerstone of the Stephen Ministry program is that all information shared by a care receiver with a Stephen Minister is confidential, as is the identity of the care receiver. A Stephen Minister will meet for one hour, once a week, with his or her care receiver. Stephen Ministers meet once a month for confidential peer supervision.

Becoming a Stephen Minister is a commitment, but the rewards are abundant. You'll grow spiritually and personally, and you'll be part of a caring Christian community. You'll have opportunities to see God at work in and through you, while you have the privilege of being available for someone in need.

Training for new Stephen Min-

isters at St. Aloysius will begin in January and will take place on Thursdays, at a time that will be determined later. The in-person training will take place on: Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26; Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 23, 30; and April 20, 27. A formal commissioning ceremony will occur after the final training session.

If you sense God is asking you to follow him and serve in this ministry, or if someone you know could benefit from this caring ministry, please contact one of the four Stephen leaders:

- Kathy Nikolaus, knikolaus@cox.net or 225-603-7772
- Ann McCrory, annabonan@att.net or (225) 235-7850
- Bob Schoen, bobschoen18@gmail.com or 225-937-2984
- Dana Territo, territo4@yahoo.com, or 225-572-9250

Hear from Stephen Ministers as they share their experiences:

- youtu.be/cJ8Z_Q8LHAM
- youtu.be/JcuVe39UXYs

Stephen Ministry Advent retreat set for Dec. 6

As Christians, we celebrate the birth of Jesus with a time of waiting we call Advent. We may face heartaches and brokenness in our world, but we can wait in hope. For most of us, waiting is hard, but the hope in Advent is that we wait well and that we

wait patiently in trust. Waiting is certainly not passive; it is expectant. And when we wait in hope, God transforms us.

On Tuesday, Dec. 6, from 9 AM to noon, the Stephen Ministry is sponsoring an Advent Retreat, "What Are You Waiting For?" to

be held in the St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall Atrium and Chapel. The retreat will be led by Dana Territo. Reserve your space now and join us for a special morning of prayer and reflection. Call the St. Aloysius church office at 343-6657 to register.

Prayer, From Page 1

helps us to root our lives in love.

The St. Aloysius Stewardship Through Prayer Committee invites you to enter into a deeper prayer life this Advent season and upcoming year. Routine and consistent prayer is essential to hearing God's voice in our lives. Prayer can take many forms, whether it be through daily or Sunday Mass attendance; offering memorized prayers; spending time in adoration; silently reading and discern-

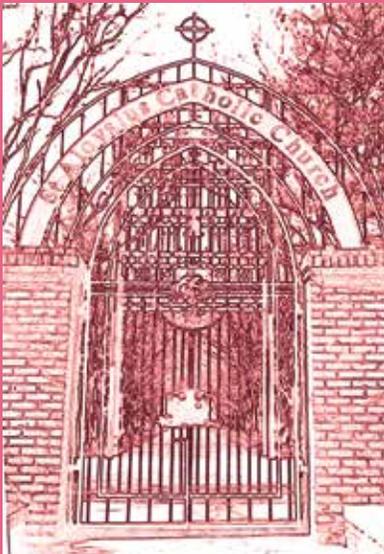
ing the messages of scripture; or quietly and humbly bringing our needs before the Lord. An intentional practice of prayer is a cornerstone of a healthy Christian spiritual life.

St. Aloysius offers a variety of opportunities to deepen prayer life in community with Come Lord Jesus, Rosary Groups, Lectio Divina, Walking With Purpose and various other study groups. Also consider weekly and monthly Adoration in the church on first Wednesdays at 6:30 AM, every Thursday at 8:30 AM and in the chapel throughout the day on the third Satur-

day of each month. Take time to review the steady stream of programs and talks to buttress our faith journeys. A listing of these opportunities is available in the weekly bulletin and on the parish website: www.aloysius.org.

Like all relationships, our relationship with Jesus requires ongoing and consistent communication. It is only with consistent prayer that we can see what God is doing in us and through us, and discover how to continuously live the life He calls us towards. Let us Love One Another and love God by growing our faith through prayer.

aloysius alive



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Postmaster:
Send address changes to
Aloysius Alive,
2025 Stuart Avenue,
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Published by St Aloysius Parish.
Postage paid
at Baton Rouge, LA.

St. Aloysius Parish Prepares for The Coming of Christ

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary (A Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Masses at 6:00 AM, *8:00 AM (with School Students) 12:00 Noon and 6:00 PM

Advent Confessions

In addition to our regular times for the Sacrament of Penance, Fr. Randy & Fr. Nutan will hear confessions in the Church on these days.

Wednesday, December 14 & Wednesday December 21 at 6:00 PM, until the last penitent is heard.

The Solemnity of Christmas

Saturday, December 24--

***4:00 PM (Two Masses: Old Gym and the *Church)**

6:30 PM & 11:00 PM (in the Church)

Sunday, December 25—Masses at 7:00 AM, *9:00 AM & 11:00 AM (There will not be a 5:30 PM Mass on Sunday, December 25.)

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

(New Year's Day)

Our regular weekend Mass schedule:

Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 31 at *4:30 PM

Sunday, January 1, Masses at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:30 PM.

The Solemnity of the Epiphany

Our regular weekend Mass schedule:

Vigil Mass on Saturday, January 7 at *4:30 PM

Sunday, January 8, Masses at 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:30 PM

This * denotes the live streaming of a Mass at our website:

aloysius.org and on our Facebook page:

facebook.com/staloysiusbr

Regular Mass Schedule

SATURDAY

*Vigil 4:30 PM

SUNDAY

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:30 PM

DAILY MASSES

Monday & Wednesday, 6:00 AM

Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 8:00 AM

This * denotes Mass is livestreamed via our website at aloysius.org/livestream or on our Facebook page at facebook.com/staloysiusbr

CONFESSIONS: Monday and Wednesday after 6:00 AM Mass; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30-8:00 AM; Saturday 3:30-4:30 PM (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 AM- 3:30 AM

NURSERY/CHILDCARE CENTER: For information, phone 343-1338, 7:00 AM -5:30 PM 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.

Confirmation 2022



St. Aloysius Confirmation Class 2022

Ryan Anthony Ainsworth
 Amelia Cate Allemond
 Dax Stevens Allen, JJ
 James Walker Archer
 Mary Frances Avera
 Jordyn Reese Bailey
 Harry Felder Beacham, JJJ
 Patrick Davis Beacham
 Allaire Frances Benedetto
 Melissa McCoy Bofinger
 Bennett Taylor Bokun
 Sarah Lauren Bonneze
 Thomas Maxwell Bonnette
 Devyn Elizabeth Breauz
 Anthony Philip Canizara
 John Patrick Cargile
 Addie Elizabeth Carmouche
 Jett Talbot Carmouche
 Kathryn Grace Casey
 Salvadore Christina, JJJ
 Christian Erick Comeaux
 Macie Victoria D'Angelo
 Luke Thomas Dawson
 Evan Daniel Dayries
 Ethan Frank Michael DeBarbieris
 Charles Vincent Dirks
 Andie McClennon Dotson
 Landry Paul Dziuba
 Alexis Michelle Edgemon
 Arden Grace Ellis
 William Leighton Evans
 Isabella Catherine Ferrara
 Nicholas Joseph Ferrell
 Anna Coogan Foco
 Keller Andre Fournier
 Kylie Grace Fournier
 Leigh Bernice Fulton
 Lila Inez Fulton

Robert Adrian Fulton, JJ
 Luke Michael Funes
 Seth Patrick Gale
 Katherine Routh Gonsoulin
 Jacob Watts Goodson, Jr.
 Emmet Thomas Healy, Jr.
 George Edward Hebert
 Andrew Michael Hodges
 Benjamin Paul Jackson
 Slade Ryan Jindal
 Robert Mulunda Kasongo
 Nicholas Andrew Kolb
 Harrison Paul LaBorde
 Blanchard Joachim Lagarde
 Davis Rexford Lamonica
 Emma Grace Landry
 Arlington Claire LaPlace
 Tucker Steven LaTour
 Kody Jon Lauff
 Camille Remi Lavergne
 Marielle Julia LeBlanc
 Claire Morgan Loffland
 Douglas Jude Mapp
 Mary Preston March
 Gerald Harrison Marchand
 Mary Katherine Mathews
 Allison Ann Matthis
 Van Robinson Mayhall, JV
 Mark Stephen McCormick
 Aidan Pastore McGlynn
 Julie Garcia Mistic
 Jack Merrigan Mosely
 Winston Michael Napoli
 Camdyn William Newman
 Lucy May Nguyen
 Grant Thomas Oubre
 William Joseph Papania
 Joseph Peyton Peak

Marie Elise Pecquet
 Louis Walker Phillips
 Ellis Anne Pierce
 Grace Kelley Pipsair
 Lane Thomas Plauche
 Sean Thomas Quigley
 Brenna Claire Reboue
 Grace Caroline Rennhoff
 Jonathan Adler Rice
 Isabelle Marie Richard
 Audrey Anne Rothkamm
 Helen Michelle Schlieue
 William August Schmidt
 Lucas Callen Schriamm
 Wesley Elizabeth Shortess
 Riley Nicole St. Amant
 Christian Loria St. Martin
 Kate Michael Stockstill
 Anya Gail Stogner
 Neila Camille Stone
 Amelie Isabelle Stuckey
 Camden James Sunstrom
 Porter Prescott Fanner
 Londyn Grace Sheriat
 Christopher Brian Tucker
 Caroline Pierson Fullier
 Caroline Rose Uzee
 Locke Patrick Valluzzo
 Josephine Allain Viator
 Sean Michael Vidrine
 Dylan John Viguerie
 Charlotte Renee' Waguespack
 Jacob Henry Waguespack
 Helen Elizabeth Watts
 Mason Joseph Wild
 Laura Ryan Zapata
 Luke Francis Zeringue

Lives of saints inspire 2022 Confirmation class

By MacDougall Womack
 On Nov. 8-9, St. Aloysius celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for 113 high school students. Bishop Duca sealed each of the young men and women, calling them by the saint name they choose for the occasion. The lives of the saints are delightful and inspiring; here are several of the most popular and most unique names from our confirmands.

"Who picked Sebastian?" Bishop Duca asked as he addressed the candidates prior to Mass. Eight young men chose St. Sebastian, who is the patron of soldiers, athletes and those who desire a saintly death. St. Sebastian was a member of the vaunted Praetorian Guard in the Roman Army, assigned to protect Emperor Diocletian. When Diocletian discovered that Sebastian was a Christian he sentenced him to death; the image of St. Sebastian full of arrows is well-known. St. Sebastian survived that ordeal, however, and was nursed to health by Irene of Rome. After recovering, Sebastian met Diocletian in public and loudly denounced him for persecuting Christians, which led to Sebastian's martyrdom.

St. Rose of Lima was a popular choice; she was named Isabel at birth but earned the nickname Rose because of her great beauty. She is the patroness of embroiderers, gardeners, florists, people who suffer family problems, the Philippines and of Latin America, which is fitting because she was born in Peru. From an early age Rose desired to become a nun; each day she participated in adoration and received the Eucharist. Rose wanted to take a vow of chastity, but her parents disagreed. After much conflict St. Rose prevailed and entered the Third Order of St. Dominic. She died on Aug. 25,

1617, at age 31, after a life of prayer, fasting and penance.

Bishop Duca likes to ask the candidates if anyone has a saint name that is difficult to pronounce, and this year he highlighted Luke Zeringue's saint—Luigi Scrosoppi. Luigi was recently beatified and canonized by Pope John Paul II and is the patron saint of soccer players. St. Scrosoppi was ordained a priest alongside his two brothers, Charles and John Baptist, in Udine, Italy. St. Scrosoppi founded the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence, who cared for poor and abandoned girls. "Charity," wrote St. Scrosoppi to his sisters, "This is the spirit of your religious family: to save souls and to save them with Charity." He died on April 3, 1884.

Blessed Diana persuaded her father to allow a Dominican priory to be founded on land he owned in Bologna, Italy, and she professed a vow of virginity with the Dominicans. Diana's family forced her to remain at home, but later Blessed Jordan of Saxony persuaded the family to find a Dominican convent for her. Of the nine nuns at the convent, three of them—Diana, Cecilia and Amata—were beatified.

St. Gelasius was the son of an African. He was ordained a priest and later elected Pope on March 1, 492. Gelasius fought against the Acacian heresy, which asserted that Jesus had only a divine nature instead of being fully human and fully divine. Gelasius fought against Roman pagan festivals and ordered that the Eucharist be received under both species—Body and Blood. He died on Nov. 21, 496.

Thank God for the witness of the saints and the newly confirmed. Pray for the newly confirmed as they continue their journey with Christ!

Congrats to Holy Smoke '22 winners



Holy Smoke winners

Grand Champion Category (Overall)

1. Pork Authority
2. All Bark, No Blasphemy
3. Twisted Boot BBQ

Ribs

1. Old Smokey and the Bandits
2. Ring of Fire
3. Garden of Eatin'

Pork Shoulder

1. Garden of Eatin'
2. Pulled Cork
3. Twisted Boot BBQ

Brisket

1. Ring of Fire
2. For the Sake of His Bountiful Ration
3. Twisted Boot BBQ

Iron Chef

1. Immaculate Convection
2. Don't Go Bacon My Heart
3. Let's Go Brisket!

Cocktail

1. Taste and See
2. Immaculate Convection
3. All Bark, No Blasphemy

Other Awards:

- Team Name: Ritter Maherinades
- More Than Smoke: Smoke 'Em If Ya Got 'Em
- Thans of Fun: All Bark, No Blasphemy
- Rookie of the Year: Grills Gone Wild
- Favorite Small Team: Up in Yo' Grill!
- Kids Hamburger: Maria Couvillion



Parish Fair 2022 a huge success!

Thanks to Parish Fair Committee chairs Tuan and Allison Pham, co-chairs Mark and Rebecca Herbst and all committee members, volunteers and sponsors.

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- Bearcom
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 - Steven Brooksher
 - Alex McGehee
 - Reiter Marshall
 - Cliff Ourso, Jr.
 - Paul Pacanovsky
- Streamline Interiors & More
- Superior Grill (Highland Road)
- Tangerine
- The First Bank
- The Queen Bee

- Troutman Insurance Agency
- Valluzzo Companies

Committee

- Parish Fair Committee & Volunteers
 Chairs: Tuan & Allison Pham
 Co-Chairs: Mark & Rebecca Herbst
 Past Chairs: Garrett & Shyla Hiebert
- Food**
 Chair: Brad Hutchinson
 Fish Fry:
 - Scott Callaway
 - Garrett Callaway
 - Co-Chairs: Bill & Lauren Sanders
 Jambalaya: Mo Harmon
 Specialty Food Cook: Mo Harmon
 Grill Master: Hillar Moore
 BBQ Chicken Lunch: Michael Martin
- Beverage**
 Chair: Justin Short, Casey Crow
 Co-Chairs: David & Micaela Coner, Jason Wendt

- Treasury**
 Chair: Bradley Lowe
 Co-Chair: Jerry Denicola
- Raffle**
 Chair: Ashlee McNeely
 Co-Chair: Lauren Barclay
 Sponsor Consultants: Ashley Pere, Anna Kathryn Barber
 Sponsor Signage Chair: Ashley Pere
- Entertainment**
 Chair: Kyle Zeringue
 Entertainment Co-Chair: Jeff Plauche
- Decorations**
 Chair: Joe & Lauren Britt
 Co-Chair: Kristy Gremillion
- Snowballs**
 Chair: JR & Judy Vendetto
 Co-Chair: Chris Schneider
- Game Booths**
 Chair: Kate Becnel
 Co-Chair: Stephanie Politz
- Order Fulfillment**
 Chair: Hunter & Tiffany Brown
- Bingo**
 Chair: Reiter & Amy Marshall
 Co-Chairs: Todd & Sara Martin

- Prize Booth**
 Chair: Carolina Jones
 Co-Chair: Michelle Mosley
- Sweet Shop**
 Chair: Jill Carter
 Co-Chair: Amanda Casey
- Face Painting & Crafts**
 Chair: Abby Bullock
 Co-Chair: Sara Pollick
- Family Tent**
 Chair: Megan Cardaro
 Co-Chair: Lauren Hensgens
- Communications**
 Chair: Elizabeth Tanner
- Personnel/Volunteer**
 Chair: Kate Prejean
 Co-Chair: Leigh Bonfanti
- Website**
 Chair: Jesse Downs
- Marketing/Graphics**
 Chair: Blair Percle
- Outdoor Mass**
 Chair: Scott Roussel
- Costume & Tent Décor**
 Chair: Johanna Couvillion
- Bookkeeping**
 Belinda McNeely
 Staff Support: Matt Zylicz, Business Manager; Ronnie Haliburton, Facilities Manager



Mrs. Jeannie Bondy and Mrs. Stacie Granier led the first-graders in completing a special service for St. Aloysius Parish. The first-graders created and decorated all of the ornaments for the parish's annual Giving Tree. The Giving Tree is a tradition that provides parishioners the opportunity to help less-fortunate members of the community. The students enjoyed completing their crafts projects and experienced the joy that comes from working together to help others.

Giving Tree: A way to help others

For many years, the St. Aloysius Parish Social Responsibility Committee has sponsored the Giving Tree during the Advent season. As our focus turns to Christmas and Christmas shopping, the Giving Tree provides a way for parishioners to help those in need. This year over 600 ornaments have been crafted by the first-grade classes at St. Aloysius School for the ministries represented.

Each ornament is a symbol that represents a particular ministry or organization. Every ornament is tagged to describe a gift that you may give to help someone. Beginning with the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Nov. 19, you will be invited to select one of these ornaments from baskets located on tables at the side doors of the church:

- 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
- Developmental Disabilities
- St. Vincent de Paul – Sweet Dreams
- Capital Oaks Nursing Home
- Seminarians
- CASA-Court Appointed Special Advocate

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.

Donated items should be returned to the labeled boxes in the back of church beginning on Nov. 19. All gifts should be 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 in need.

KC Council announces essay winner

The Knights of Columbus Council 3743 of St. Aloysius recently announced its parish winner of the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest, an annual Knights of Columbus national contest. The goal of this yearly program is to involve young Catholics in civic discourse and instill in them religious and life-affirming values. The contest encourages youth in the community to become citizens grounded in their faith through creative writing.

Students were invited to write and submit a 500- to 750-word essay on the theme, "How can young Catholics evangelize our faith to families and friends who have turned away from religion, and encourage them to return to the Church and embrace the sacraments?"

Forty eighth-graders in Lisa Mongrue's social studies classes submitted essays. Two rounds of rigorous grading took place in October, with essays judged on grammar, style and how clearly they presented the theme, along with creativity, imagination and overall development of the topic. Identities of the students were kept confidential during judging.

This year's winning essay was written by Lily Comeaux, who received \$100 and a framed certificate for her first-place finish. Her essay now moves on to the district level competition.



From left, Lisa Mongrue, SAS Social Studies Teacher; Courtney Comeaux, mother; SAS eighth-grader Lily Comeaux; Erick Comeaux, father; Jon Reise, KC Council 3743.

4th-, 5th-grade retreats foster learning, reflection

St. Aloysius fourth- and fifth-grade students gathered recently for retreat experiences.

On Friday, Oct. 21, fourth-graders gathered in Gonzaga hall, along with adult volunteers, for a retreat with the theme, "Halloween, All Saints and All Souls." First, the students played a game called, "Seek out Your Saint." The small group leaders, who were the saints, scattered throughout the meeting rooms. The student groups had to solve clues given by Ms. Edie Boudreaux, SAS religion coordinator, to figure out their saint.

After seeking and finding their group leaders, all groups gathered for an explanation of the canonization process. Students next had breakout sessions – half of them participated in small group activities about the apostles, titled "Fishers of Men," while the other half met Ms. Boudreaux in the church for an explanation of the saints' icons lining the main aisle. Following the presentation, the groups switched sessions.

Then, the students gathered in the Parish Hall for an explanation of Halloween and its relationship to All Saints' Day. They learned about Purgatory and the importance of All Souls' Day. Afterwards, they created icons of people they know and believe have gone to Heaven. These icons were used to make banners for

the All Saints' Day Mass.

The fifth-grade retreat was held on Nov. 2 with the theme, "WWJD on the Internet." Forty-five volunteers served as retreat coordinators and small group leaders for the students. The main message of the retreat was, "Technology changes; God's teachings never change."

The students watched videos and discussed how a Christian can show love for God, neighbor and self when using the internet. They viewed a video from the "Ascension Presents" series featuring Father Mike Schmitz, creator of the "Bible in a Year Podcast," and Father Josh Johnson. Other videos came from the NetSmartz series presented by the Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

A special feature of their retreat was a video of the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. Carlo is on the path of becoming the first saint of the new millennium. He died in 2006 at just 15 years old and created a website about Eucharistic miracles during his life that is still maintained today. The students viewed the website and learned about the Eucharistic miracle of Lanciano.

The fifth-graders learned that the internet is a powerful tool that can be used positively and create messages to spread God's teachings to the world.



Kindergarteners collect Halloween Costumes

Kindergarteners collected gently used and new Halloween costumes to help the children in the Big Buddy Program celebrate a happy Halloween. This was in conjunction with the 10/31 Consortium of Baton Rouge, which hosts the Fifolet Festival and other city Halloween celebrations. Prince Donner of Fifolet (St. Aloysius third-grader Donner Stein) assisted the kindergarteners in announcing the collection at morning assembly.

The kindergarten students decorated posters that were placed throughout the school. These posters reminded all SAS students to bring donated costumes. The kindergarteners also decorated large donation boxes. Generous students brought costumes and filled the boxes.

On the morning of Oct. 7, Mrs. Kelley Stein spoke to the kindergarteners about the importance of their collection. She explained the joy that the children experience when they get to choose their new costumes. Prince Donner also thanked the kindergarteners for their efforts.

After the presentation, Mrs. Cronin's kindergarten class helped load the boxes and bags of costumes into a vehicle for delivery. This year's collection totaled 1,300 costumes — 800 of which were given away at events hosted by the 10/31 Consortium. Mrs. Stein says this was "the best year yet" for collecting costumes. The kindergarten students learned that even small children can bring big joy to the world.

St. Aloysius School celebrates All Saints' Day

On Tuesday, Nov. 1, students in kindergarten through eighth grade joined parishioners in celebrating All Saints' Day at Mass. It was a joyous celebration facilitated by the sixth-grade liturgical choir, cantors and the seventh-graders third period religion class.

Students and parents created a "Book of Life" containing the names of loved ones for whom we prayed. Banners created by fourth-graders at their recent retreat hung at the front of the church. Students and faculty were excited to celebrate our school community and ties

to the Communion of Saints in Heaven.

As with every All School Mass, food was collected for the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank. Students brought special items to help clients celebrate Thanksgiving with their families.

Our celebration of All Saints continued through Friday, Nov. 4, with first-graders dressing as and presenting reports on various saints. Parents visited the classrooms to view the student presentations. The students were excited to share their new-found knowledge with classmates and parents.



4th-graders celebrate St. Francis of Assisi with blessing of pets

Fourth-graders celebrated the feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a special blessing of classroom pets. On Oct. 4, students in pre-kindergarten through third grade gathered in the old gym for the ceremony. Fourth-grade parents also attended.

The fourth-grade students selected boys who most represent the values of St. Francis and girls who most represent the values of St. Clare of Assisi. Elijah

Badeaux was chosen to be St. Francis, and Christopher Walker and Andrew Politz were chosen as the Brothers of St. Francis. Anna Beach was chosen to be St. Clare, and Anna Katherine Sanchez and Cambre Bare were chosen as the Sisters of St. Clare.

The service began with readings explaining the life of St. Francis. Then, the fourth-graders led the gathering in a rous-

ing rendition of "All God's Critters Got a Place in the Choir." During the song, "St. Francis," "St. Clare" and their followers led a procession around the gym blessing pictures of pets that the students in the crowd held. The procession ended with a sprinkling of holy water on the cages of classroom pets.

Prior to the celebration, fourth-graders, under the direction of their religion teach-

er, Mrs. Nicole Wintz, prepared small bottles of holy water that each contained a prayer blessing and a St. Francis medal that seventh-graders added. Following the ceremony, each fourth-grader took a bottle of holy water home to bless their pets, or the pets of family and neighbors. The students enjoyed learning about these two saints and sharing their knowledge with their school mates and families.



SACCC Fall Fest!

The Child Care Center annual Fall Fest, held Oct. 7, featured family fun including trick or treating, a photo booth, coloring and crafts, and pony rides, as well as fellowship and a picnic-style meal of pizza, delicious desserts and sweet treats. Each child took home a seed kit and watering can for planting their own fall flowers.

During the month of November, the Child Care Center is focusing on giving thanks for Thanksgiv-

ing. The SACCC turkey will be on display for children to bring family-decorated feathers. SACCC will also be adopting 15 families this year for the Thanksgiving Baskets Ministry to provide Thanksgiving meals.

Needy families in the church parish's geographical boundaries will have turkey trimmings and sides for a Thanksgiving meal delivered to their homes thanks to the generosity of SACCC families.



New SACCC director: 'Blessed beyond measure'

Dear St. Aloysius Child Care Center Families,

It is with great excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the new director of the St. Aloysius Child Care Center. I am honored to have been given the opportunity to join a great community and to lead an outstanding child care center that is devoted to serving and leading young children and their families in Christ.

I graduated from Northwestern State University with a Bachelors in Child Development and Human Relations. After graduating, I moved to Baton Rouge to start my teaching career. For the last several years, I have worked closely in the classroom with children ranging from K4 to third grade. Over the last two years, I have completed extensive amount of coursework to obtain my Academic Language Therapy License while serving children with dyslexia.

My husband, Brad, and I met in Baton Rouge and have been happily married for three years. We welcomed our first child, John Beckett, in December of 2021. My husband and I are so blessed that our son is able to be a part of St. Aloysius Child Care Center, as my husband attended the center throughout his early childhood years.

Along with our leadership team and staff, I am excited about both the challenges and rewards of being a critical part of your child's future. I look forward to working with all parents/guardians and establishing positive relationships. Trust, communication, and understanding are vital parts of these relationships. I am a strong proponent of an open-door policy and I welcome conversations regarding your child(ren).

I am blessed beyond measure to be given this opportunity to serve your child(ren) and family. I look forward to serving the families of the parish and community, by providing your children with quality early childhood education, in a nurturing environment based in the Catholic faith.

Yours In Christ,
Caitlin Boudreaux
Director of St. Aloysius Child Care Center

