



aloysius alive

Vol. 27 No. 2

October 2011



Parish Fair: Join us for fun, fellowship

The much-anticipated annual St. Aloysius Parish Fair is fast approaching. Deadline for online pre-orders is Tuesday, Oct. 4. Visit www.aloysiusfair.org to purchase all items associated with the fair, as well as to sign up for volunteer opportunities.

The online site allows for the pre-purchase of ride, meal and raffle tickets, t-shirts, Fun Run registration and more. All payments will be securely handled through Paypal. All

items, except t-shirts, may also be purchased the weekend of the fair.

This year's fair is set for Oct. 28-30. The event is a long-time tradition at St. Aloysius offering fun, family time and fellowship.

Address any questions regarding online orders to Jolee Bollinger at jhbollinger@hotmail.com.

See you at the fair!

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

My wife, Lindsay, and I graciously accepted the chair position for this year's Parish Fair. We aspire, along with our co-chairs, Ryan and Jaci Juneau, to make this year's fair a wonderful and fun-filled event for the entire parish. It is truly amazing to experience the continued participation and support by so many of our parishioners. The success of the fair is contingent upon this past experience, knowledge and advice. We are truly grateful to be a part of this tradition. As we work to continue the strong sense of fellowship and community of fairs past, we seek to enhance the awareness of the fair to the parish as a whole. It is a great opportunity to get involved in a long tradition of fun, family and fellowship. This ministry requires over 500 volunteers on the fair weekend alone. Please join us in making this year's fair a success.

For more information on how to get involved please contact us at sfalgoust@hotmail.com or 504-722-7723.

Please mark Oct. 7 on your calendars for the Silent/Live Auction (see Page 3 for details) and Oct. 28-30 for the fair weekend.

Stay tuned for more fair updates to come!

Scott & Lindsay Falgoust
2011 chair couple

Scouts earn awards

The Catholic Committee on Scouting held its annual service on Aug. 28 at Our Lady of Mercy Church to present religious awards to Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Ten Cub Scouts from St. Aloysius's Pack 7 received awards from Bishop Robert Muench. Those earning the Light of Christ Award are: Thomas Bellanger, Bion Cashio, Houston D'Albor, Bruen Johnson, Bradford Keller, Matthew Lafleur, Jack Odom, Lane Poche and Ben Tully. Matthew Odom earned the Parvuli Dei religious award. Bottom row: Matthew Lafleur and Ben Tully. Top row: Brad Keller, Matthew Odom, Thomas Bellanger, Houston D'Albor, Bruen Johnson and Bion Cashio



What's this 'Catholic thing' all about? Discovering RCIA

By Father Jamin David

Pick up the Saturday Advocate or look in the old yellow pages for Baton Rouge, and you're likely to see a host of different Christian denominations listed. Their theologies are as numerous as the churches that you see. Though you'll likely notice a host of Catholic parishes, there's a theological continuity that links Churches of the Catholic faith in a mystical way. Many non-Catholics are often attracted to the wealth of the Church's teaching and this history

that extends back some 2,000 years. Some can hardly wait to convert to their newfound faith. It's our desire at St. Aloysius to help individuals learn more about the Church and to possibly become a member as expeditiously as possible.

Paragraph one of the Introduction of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (hereafter RCIA) notes "The rite of Christian initiation presented here is designed for adults who, after hearing the mystery of Christ pro-

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Letter from the Pastor: Theology in community



"The joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the men [and women] of our time... are the joy and hope, the grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well." (GS 1)

With these words, the Second Vatican Council brought us back to a foundational mystery of our faith, the mystery of the Incarnation, which gave the *raison d'être* for the Church's engagement with the world and which signaled changes in theology, spirituality, ministry and pastoral practices.

These seemingly simple

words had profound implications. They moved Christians from the sanctuary to the marketplace and reminded them of the call of the Old Testament prophets to embrace the concept that unfortunately has become politically charged in our day: social justice. Words like "fellowship," "hospitality," "community," etc. started appearing in the Catholic Church. We realized that while we'd spent much time cultivating our relationship with God, we hadn't paid adequate attention to hospitality; so much time looking at the back of the priests and not enough time looking in the faces of our fellow worshippers. Prayer must be lived out in charity, theology must be done

in the community of faith and thus balanced with hospitality. Otherwise, it's all but "a loud gong and a clanging cymbal."

This issue of *Aloysius Alive* celebrates our attempts to find this balance in our life together, with articles from the Spiritual Growth and the Community Life Commissions. The former focuses on adult formation events, opportunities to pray together and to reflect and deepen our understanding of "the deposit of faith." The latter fosters our life together: social opportunities for us to bond and live out the vision of Psalm 133: "Behold, how good it is, and how pleasant, where brothers and sisters dwell together [in love]."

I've asked Deacon John and Father Jamin, together with the Spiritual Growth Commissions, to explore and organize more formation events in the parish. The changes in the Mass, to begin on the First Sunday of Advent, offer a unique opportunity for us all to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist, the source and summit of our life. We hope to explore different programs on Bible study, intergenerational catechesis, parish renewal, etc. It's exciting to even think of the possibilities!

The Community Life Commission continues to host events to bring us all together. Much more than a fundraiser, the fair is an opportunity for many of us

to work and play side-by-side. The Men's Club dinner, the KC's activities, the Senior Ministry gatherings, etc. are but a sample of what the Community Life Commission tries to accomplish in the parish.

Let's take advantage of both: pray AND play, raise our eyes to heaven AND gaze into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, especially the poor and afflicted. We'll then fulfill the most important commandment: love God and our neighbor.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Than Vu



Ministry Fair

Parishioners learn about parish ministry opportunities at the Ministry Fair in the parish hall on Aug. 28.

'Club 31' pot-luck supper

The "Club 31" is a group of parishioners who have committed to pray for vocations. Members are each assigned a day of the month during which they pray for one hour or attend Mass for the intention of increasing vocations to the priesthood and religious life in St. Aloysius Parish. On Aug. 14 the group got together for a pot-luck supper at the home of the coordinator of the club, Nanette Gremillion, and her husband, Steven.



Connie Corripio, Nanette Gremillion and Tere Thyfield visit with Father Than Vu at the 'Club 31' pot-luck supper.

SPEAK UP

For those who cannot speak for themselves

The 40 Days for Life Baton Rouge Campaign starts September 27th and continues for 40 days until November 6th. St. Aloysius Church will be adopting **November 4th** as our day to pray at the Delta Abortion Facility on Colonial from 7am to 7pm for the choice of life. The St. Aloysius Knights of Columbus are also adopting a day, **October 25th**. Please sign up for an hour or longer and do your part to save lives. Contact Ross or Carolyn McCalip at mccalip@aol.com or 978-2421 to sign up or ask questions. Here is your chance to be a real hero!

Mass Schedule

SATURDAY
8 a.m. Mass, Vigil 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, Friday & Saturday, 8 a.m.
Fridays during School Months, 8:45 a.m.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday at 3:30 p.m. and by appointment for private rite.

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 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.

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'And Jesus Wept': Coping with grief

By Lisette Borne

Chris Roussell, chaplain of St. Joseph Hospice and The Carpenter House, spoke Sept. 9 on learning how to cope with grief and how to accompany others through it.

His presentation examined the tears of Jesus at Lazarus' tomb as Roussell took participants through this Gospel of John passage. He covered the many emotions Jesus experienced at the death of his friend, comparing them to those we experience at the loss of a loved one.

Roussell emphasized that grieving is a natural, healthy and necessary process to react to a loss and that each person's way to grieve is unique. There is no timetable for grief, and its components may be emotional, physical, social and spiritual. He discussed

that one's grief is shaped by who has died, how the death occurred, whether it was an illness or accident, whether death was sudden, whom we are grieving with.

He stressed that there is absolutely no skirting grief and shared one of his favorite quotes: "There is no way out of the desert except through it." He pointed out the importance of both allowing others to share one's grief and also the need for alone time.

In the face of loss and its reality, he encouraged the group to reflect on how Jesus shows us that in Him Lazarus moves from life to death to eternal life — and in Him so shall our loved ones and so shall we.

Chaplain Roussell concluded by sharing various area resources available to those grieving.

The St. Aloysius Grief Recovery group meets for prayer and fellowship every second Friday at 9:30 in the convent and occasionally in the library when there is a special program.

THANK YOU !!! THANK YOU !!!

for donating
St. Aloysius Parish Blood Drive.

**33 Units of Blood were collected
on August 21st
in the name of St. Aloysius Parish.**

Please consider going to the Our Lady of the Lake Donor Room on the first floor of St. Mary's Tower anytime they are open. Anyone can donate in the name of St. Aloysius Parish.

The \$50 gift certificate to Digiulio Brothers' Italian Café was won by donor parishioner Brad Casey. Thanks to all who donated and helped to make the blood drive a success and thank you to Knights of Columbus for organizing this important event.

All blood credits are available for St. Aloysius parishioners. Call Cathy Dardenne in the Parish Office at 343-6657, ext. 3029 when blood credits are needed.

Join us on October Seventh for An Enchanted Evening For Our Adult Parishioners

*Experience a delicious meal prepared
by Serop's Café*

*As you listen to live music by
The John Bishop Quartet.*

*Enjoy complimentary wine and beer,
Our wonderful Wine Toss Booth and . .*

New this year, a Dessert Martini Bar!

There will also be Door Prizes and many more Surprises!

St. Aloysius Parish Auction

Tickets: \$15.00

includes meal/wine/beer/live music

7:00 pm in Transformed Gymnasium

Attire: Enchantingly Dressy

To purchase tickets, please return this form to the school office in an envelope marked "Auction" with your payment. Please make checks payable to "St. Aloysius Fair". An auction number will be assigned to you as you check in the evening of October 7, 2011.

Interested in Donating? Please consider offering your time and talent by making a donation to this annual parish fundraiser. Contact Allison Vuljoin at Allison.Vuljoin@la.gov for information.

Questions? Wish to assist with this event?
Contact Eva Ventress @ eva@theintegralgroup.net.

Name of oldest/only child: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Your name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Tickets Purchased (\$15.00 each): _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____

See you at the Auction!



WOMEN VETERANS OF LOUISIANA

St. Aloysius Parish Hall

Friday, October 14th 9:30 am—3:30 pm

Come experience history.

All are welcome to come hear Women Veterans of Louisiana tell their personal stories of service during WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Persian Gulf, Iraqi Freedom and Afghanistan. There will also be an exhibit of memorabilia from Veterans to view as well.

Women Veterans of Louisiana have been organized since June 2008. They are comprised of women from every branch of service. Any woman who was HONORABLY DISCHARGED, is welcome and encouraged to join. Active Duty, Reservist or National Guard female members are welcome to join as well. Please Contact Anna Sanders, President of Women veterans of Louisiana at 225-572-8314 or womenvetsofla@ymail.com.



RCIA..... from page 1

claimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts. By God's help they will be strengthened spiritually during their preparation and at the proper time will receive the sacraments fruitfully." The desire to allow adults to "consciously and freely seek the living God" and to allow them the opportunity to receive the sacraments "at the proper time" is the driving impetus to "revise" the current RCIA practice present at St. Aloysius and to create a year-round program aimed at simple adaptation for persons with various needs.

The first phase of this new program will be called "Inquiry." The rite notes that this period "is of great importance and as a rule should not be omitted." It is a time of evangelization: faithfully and constantly the living God is proclaimed and Jesus Christ whom he has sent for the salvation of all. Though the ritual normatively envisions this "precatechumenate" period as a time to evangelize the unbaptized, this period of "Inquiry" into the faith shall be structured at St. Aloysius as a time to evangelize anyone who is interested in the faith – those who are unbaptized, those who are baptized into the Catholic communion but who are uncatechized and have never practiced their faith, and those who are baptized into other ecclesial communions. St. Aloysius does recognize there are a variety of circumstances that prevent or impede an individual from participating in a "normative" program, and the process of initiation will be adjusted according to their unique needs. Beginning in August, this "Inquiry" session began taking place in the Parish Administration Building on Sundays at 10 a.m. and will continue to operate every weekend, with some exceptions. These sessions give "Inquirers" an opportunity to share their faith story, ask questions about the faith, to pray as a group, and to make connections between their lived faith and the Faith of the Church.

After celebrating the Rite of Acceptance or the Rite of Welcoming, the period of "Catechesis" begins. The rite notes that this period "is an extended period during which the candidates are given suitable pastoral formation and guidance, aimed at training them in the Christian life. In this way, the dispositions manifested at their acceptance into the catechumenate are brought to maturity." This is accomplished by suitable catechesis, the support of sponsors, suitable liturgical rites, and through the Church's evangelical outreach. Again, though the ritual normatively envisions this "catechumenate" period as a time to specifically form and catechize the unbaptized, this period of "Catechesis" shall be structured at

St. Aloysius as a time to catechize those who have been accepted by either the Rite of Welcoming or the Rite of Acceptance. Beginning in late September, these "Catechesis" sessions typically last for an hour to an hour and a half and would give those in the catechumenate and those preparing to enter full communion with the Church the opportunity to receive instruction saturated with Church teaching and the deposit of faith that directs the heart toward God, fosters liturgical participation, and nourishes apostolic activity and a life in accord with Christ. Dismissal Catechesis (structured specifically for the unbaptized) takes place in the parish Administration building on Sundays after dismissal from the 9 a.m. Mass. Extended Catechesis (structured for both the baptized and unbaptized) takes place in the Parish Administration building at 10 a.m. generally every weekend.

The rite continues by describing a third period – a period of mystagogy – as "a time for the community and the neophytes together to grow in deepening their grasp of the paschal mystery and in making it part of their lives through mediation on the Gospel, sharing in the Eucharist, and doing works of charity." It is fundamentally a period of help offered by the community of believers. A session of mystagogy will be held the Sunday following the Easter Vigil and on the Sunday after individuals are welcomed into full communion with the Church. The session will be structured as a social, allowing the opportunity for fellowship. It will also be the practical opportunity to invite the new converts to full participation in the various ministries that St. Aloysius offers, including integration in the same process they just completed as members of the RCIA team. For those interested in such reintegration, this mystagogical period can continue as they share their faith with new inquirers who enter the program throughout the year.

None if this "new" process is possible without the help of a group of interested individuals like you who devote much time and effort into welcoming these prospective new members into our Church. They assist as catechists, inquiry leaders, sponsors, and as ministers of hospitality. Are you interested in becoming a volunteer in the RCIA process? Would you like to learn more about what we do? If so, feel free to contact Deacon John or myself at the parish office for more information. Or perhaps you're not Catholic and are interested in learning more about the faith and would like to learn more about the Church. Stop by our morning inquiry sessions any Sunday or call us up; we would love to welcome you to our dynamic and vibrant parish of St. Aloysius!

The Gift of Self: Honduras

By Bennett Sherman and Elizabeth Sherman

As people of faith, we believe that every person should have the opportunity to be free from unreasonable burdens and hardships. The burdens of our American society seem minor compared to those of others. After a week in the impoverished country of Honduras, we now understand what it means to live in a society burdened by daily limitations and dangers.

Recently, we joined our father, an orthodontist in Baton Rouge, and Dr. Richard Wampold, a general dentist in Baton Rouge, for six days in Guaimaca, Honduras, providing dental and orthodontic treatment to the local mission girls' school. Others on the trip were our mother, Jane; our oldest brother, Stephen; Dr. Wampold's son, Evan; and interpreter/organizers Debbie and Daniel Wolf.

For us, the days began at 6 a.m. At the mission's medical/dental clinic, we conducted non-stop examinations, records preparation, X-rays, consultation and comprehensive dental treatment of each girl. Around noon, we would pause for lunch and sterilization, then continue until around 6:30 p.m., finishing just in time to attend 7 p.m. Mass at the Guaimaca Catholic Church next door. There we would find the entire school of girls already preparing themselves in silence. Following the evening Mass, we would have dinner and then off to bed, usually by 9 p.m.

The days were simple yet exhausting. However, when each day ended, there was no greater feeling than knowing you brought hope and Christ into another's life. Such feelings, like orthodontics, are something almost unheard of in the girls' rural community.

But we just thought our days were tough!

For the 69 girls of the mission school – ages 12-20 – Monday mornings begin at 3 a.m. with a four-or-more-hour journey to school by foot and in the back of pickup trucks. This is the only means of getting an education beyond sixth grade, and the girls, selected by the nuns based upon their devotion to their faith, are eager to



Participants in a recent trip to provide dental and orthodontic treatment in Guaimaca, Honduras, were, from left, Bennett Sherman, Stephen Sherman, Elizabeth Sherman, Dr. Steve Sherman, Jane Sherman, Daniel Wolf, Debbie Wolf, Dr. Richard Wampold and Evan Wampold.

learn. Upon arriving at school, the girls quickly begin their course work. Weekdays at the school are just as long. The girls wake up early to do chores, then head to the school's farm for science classes and to work in the fields, growing food for the school and to sell to the local community. At the end of each day, the girls celebrate Mass or devotion at 7 p.m., followed by homework before going to bed. In addition, during our week in Honduras, each girl was given a thorough dental examination and cleaning, and was treated for cavities, sometimes four or more per student. Some also had to have one or more teeth pulled, as well as root canals, and six of the girls received the first ever orthodontic braces in their community.

On the weekends, the girls begin their journey home at noon – once again by pickup truck and on foot. Most of the homes have one or two rooms housing sometimes 10 or more family members. Meat is scarce, so the diet usually consists of corn tortillas and beans, and plumbing and potable water are luxuries. As difficult as this may seem for us to understand, these incredible young women never complain. They constantly demonstrate a life of simplicity and faith, which are both very admirable traits that we as Catholic Christians should yearn to have.



A student at the local mission girls' school in Guaimaca, Honduras, the first orthodontic patient in Guaimaca, smiles for the camera.

We would like to say how incredibly thankful we are to have such a blessed life rooted in a nourishing atmosphere. It took a week in a place without abundance to realize how much we truly have. It allowed us to realize that the superficial problems we consider burdens are merely worries. True burdens are those that include hunger, safety, lack of shelter and sanitation, abuse and neglect. A person bound by such burdens is restricted from being herself, which is why she needs the hands of God to provide help and encouragement.

On the week of July 10-17, it was our calling to give ourselves to the girls at the mission school in Guaimaca, Honduras. In reality, it was the Honduran girls who gave the gift of themselves to us by showing their everyday faith that changed our lives forever.



Boy Scouts Troop 7 Jambalaya Fundraiser

Wednesday, October 5, 2011 at the Knights of Columbus Hall
Serving from 11:00 am til 7:00 pm

Tickets are being sold by all St. Aloysius Boy Scouts,
after all Masses October 1/2 or contact www.brtroupe7.org.

\$7.00 per Dinner which includes: Jambalaya by Roberto Sandoval,
Green Beans, Bread and Cookie.



ORDER LUNCH FOR YOUR OFFICE!
Call in advance and we can deliver or have them ready for you.



This is the only fundraiser that Troop 7 Boy Scouts hold each year and it helps to fund troop activities. Troop Service projects the last year few years have benefited the St. Vincent DePaul, Sacred School, the Baton Rouge Speech and Hearing Foundation, the BREC Bluebonnet Swamp Nature Center, St. Aloysius School, and the Baton Rouge Food Bank. We appreciate your support.

Welcome to new parishioners of St. Aloysius Parish

Bienvenue

The Welcoming Committee will host a luncheon on Sunday, November 13th following the 11:00 am Mass to honor new members of our parish. All new parishioners are invited to attend. Contact Anne Roberts at aaob1444@gmail.com with any questions.

WELCOME

Bienvenido