

St. Alphonsus Catholic School **The Buzz** Forming Faith and Future

Kristy M. Monsour, Principal

December 5, 2024

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 6 School Mass
- December 9 -Holy Day of Obligation - School Mass
- December 10 -Nativity / Drama
 Play 7:00 p.m.
- December 11 -Nativity / Drama Play 8:30 a.m.

 December 12 -Reregistration Begins / Band Concert 7:00 p.m.

- December 17 19 Middle School Exams
- December 18 Spirit Dress
- December 20 -No School Mass / I:00 p.m. Dismissal

Save the Date - Enrollment for the 2025-2026 School Year

Re-enrollment for currently enrolled students and new siblings will begin on **Thursday, December 12th**.

- Registration Timeline
- 2025-2026 Tuition & Fee Schedule

Please note: Enrollment will be completed online. Parents will pay registration online through their FACTS account.

Church Contribution Update

Please remember that in order to receive the "In-Parish" tuition rate for the 2025-2026 school year, your contribution of at least \$300 needs to be included in the December 22nd Sunday Mass collection. If you are hand delivering it to the church, it needs to be in the church office by Noon on Friday, December 20th. Contact the church office at 225.261.4650 if you would like to set-up automatic contributions.

Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, in order to qualify for the "In-Parish" tuition rate, families will need to contribute a total of \$500 to St. Alphonsus Church in the 2025 calendar year. This rate has not been increased in over 20 years and must be increased in order to meet the higher financial needs of the church. We continue to be grateful for your contributions.

Drama Club Christmas Play and 6th Grade Nativity

The Drama Club will be performing "A Christmas Peter Pan" and the 6th graders will perform the Living Nativity on **Tuesday, December 10th** at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. Please come out and support our Drama Club and our 6th graders.

Middle School Exam Schedule

Please see the middle school exam schedule below. Child care will not be provided for middle school students after exams. Reminder that all middle school students will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Tuesday, December 17th: 6th- History and English 7th- Math and Reading 8th- Science

Wednesday, December 18th:

6th- Science 7th-History and English 8th- Math and Reading

Thursday, December 19th:

6th- Math and Reading 7th- Science 8th- History and English

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest



The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest for students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade. See the attached entry form for more details. Entries are due to the school office by **Friday, December 13th**. The Knights of Columbus have provided the poster boards (1 per student). Participants can pick up the poster boards in the school office. Please encourage your child to participate in this wonderful Christmas tradition.

UCA All-American Thanksgiving Parade

Congratulations to Carsyn C., Brooke R. and Olivia E. for representing St. Alphonsus in the Orlando Spectacular Thanksgiving Day Parade in Magic Kingdom. Over the summer the girls were selected as All-Americans at their UCA Cheer Camp and they elected to participate in the parade. Way to go girls!



Campus Updates!



The middle school gate has been repaired and a remote operator has been installed.



New deck coming soon! Thank you for your generous Hornet Run contributions. More to come!

The Mission of St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic School is to form students in the Catholic Faith spiritually, academically, physically, and culturally in an environment of academic excellence.

Armor of God Prayer

- I put on the helmet of salvation to guard my mind. I think the thoughts of Jesus.
- I put on the breastplate of righteousness to guard my heart. I am righteous in Jesus.
- I put on the belt of truth. I don't believe any lies, and I don't tell any either.
- I put on the Gospel shoes of peace because I am on a mission for Jesus.

I take the shield of faith to stop all the darts of the enemy.

I take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and I defeat the devil.

Amen



For this week's Counseling Corner, I want to focus on helpful study tips! You will find a great handout on the next page. This is great for students in all grades, but especially for our middle schoolers who are starting to prepare for midterms. If your child is struggling and you think they could use some extra help, feel free to send me an email or complete the <u>Counseling Parent Referral Form</u>. I hope everyone has a great rest of the week & weekend!

TIPS FOR HELPING KIDS DO THEIR BEST ON THE TEST

Spend Time Studying

Help your child develop strategies for studying that will help them feel confident and prepared for their test. Ideas include:

- Studying a little bit at a time, not just last minute.
- Taking breaks while you're studying.
- Making up songs or rhymes to help you remember the information.
- Asking another person to quiz you on the information.
- Setting specific goals for what you want to learn or remember.
- Not being afraid to ask questions if you don't understand something.

Use Test-Taking Strategies

Knowing the information is the best testtaking strategy, but there are other tools your child can use to help like:

- Read the directions carefully.
- Look through all of the questions before you start.
- Underline or circle important information.
- Write down any important information on the side of your test.
- Cross off answers you know aren't right.
- If you get stuck, move on and come back to that question.
- Try to answer all of the questions.

©Counselor Chelsey

Get Prepared

Feeling prepared for a test is more than just knowing the information. Here are some other things to consider:

- Get a good night's sleep and eat breakfast. Feeling rested, and not hungry, can make it easier for your child to focus and think clearly.
- Make sure you have all of your materials. Not having what you need might mean you have to scramble before the test or stop in the middle of the test to get them.
- Go to the bathroom. Taking care of this before the test can limit disruptions.

Stay Calm

It is completely normal to feel nervous about taking a test. Thankfully, there are some strategies your child can use to help them feel more calm as they work.

- Deep Breathing: Breathe in for 4 seconds, hold the breath for 7 seconds, and exhale for 8 seconds.
- **Positive Self-Talk**: Come up with an encouraging sentence to tell yourself.
- Tensing & Relaxing: Focus on one part of your body. Make it as tense as possible, then relax.
- Focusing On What You Can Control



Remembering Our Children Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 8, 2024 6:00 PM

St. Alphonsus Catholic Church 14040 Greenwell Springs Rd., Greenwell, Springs, LA

Join us as we honor the life, love and light of children who left this world far too soon. This special Candlelight Service serves as a heartfelt tribute, symbolizing that the light of these precious souls will forever shine in our hearts.



We welcome all who have experienced the loss of a child, as well as those who support them, to share in this evening of remembrance and hope.

For more information please call St. Alphonsus Church, 261-4650.

Toy Drive

Spread the Joy, Give a Toy. St. Alphonsus will be helping Ross Tire and Journey Church fill Central's Toy Box. Your donations will help a child have a special Christmas. The homeroom with the most toys collected will receive a Raising Cane's party. We appreciate your help and generosity!



Raising Cane's Party

Toys needed by December 11th new, unwrapped toys for newborn - age 16 Call Ross Tire and Service for more details 262-8473







Babies through fifth graders and their families are invited to attend our annual Kids in Ministry Christmas
Party on Saturday, December 7, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Parish Activity Center. Join us for breakfast with Santa, games, crafts, and more. RSVP for your family:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/ e/IFAIpQLSd8WEnd_LgLTzJ5Hqd4m qKb_n80xOI6OBF6NEQSt4PrJOnIH w/viewform





Join us at St. Alphonsus for a night of live music & dancing! Adults 21+ are invited to our Christmas Dance featuring the Chris Leblanc Band on **December 14th** at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at the church office or online: https:// forms.ministryforms.net/ embed.aspx?formId=592f451ab565-49ff-8e17-8cbab159dd73 Dad's Club presents "Bourbon and Boudin" Click the link to register: <u>https://payit.nelnet.net/form/4tkye7pL</u>





St. Alphonsus DAD's Club



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Exclusively held for the Dads, Uncles, Brothers, & Grandfathers of St. Alphonsus School Students

> When: December 14, 2024 Time: 6–9 PM

Where: Roger's Barn at 6419 Morgan Road, Central Price: Tickets are \$25

Special Guest :

Jonathan Pixley

During his High School Coaching Career, from 2017–2021, his teams went to 5 consecutive state finals, winning 3 state championships in 2018, 2020, & 2021. He had over 450 wins, while also compiling 7 district championships along with 7 District Coach of the Year awards. Pixley was also named the State Coach of the Year in 2021.

