

The first half of Mark's Gospel (1:1-8:26) describes Jesus' ministry of healing and preaching in Galilee.

Jesus begins his preaching by calling on people to repent and embrace the Good News. For Mark, 'believe in the Gospel' meant 'believe in the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.'

Repentance is one of the main themes of the readings. The First Reading relates how the preaching of Jonah met with an immediate response in the pagan city of Nineveh. The story shows the possibility of a heathen city repenting and turning to God. It also shows the mercy and forgiveness of God.

If the Ninevites responded so fully to the preaching of Jonah, how much more fully should we respond to the preaching of Jesus? The Gospel shows the prompt response of the first disciples to his call to follow him. Even though we can't share Paul's belief that the Second Coming of Christ is imminent, he still has an important message for us, namely, that this world is not the be-all and the end-all. We are destined for the next world. This should profoundly affect the way we live in this world.



Tax Statements for yearly contributions are available upon request. These statements only reflect contributions made through the regular church collections and the special second collections if they have been made in an identifiable fashion (church envelope or loose check). Any loose cash contribution cannot be credited. Contributions to the Catholic Sharing Appeal will be acknowledged from the Diocese.

Please email or call the rectory office if you need a tax statement (stals@cableone.net or 875-5419).

Statements will be mailed by the end of the month.



The Boy Scouts of America Troop 211 will be having a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser next Sunday (January 28th) from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon in the Parish Life Center/KC Hall. Please help the Scouts as they work their way to Summer Camp and building good character. Cost: \$5.00/plate



The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (no cooking involved) during the week of February 12 - 16 (closed February 13). If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times, please call Norma Williams at 875-2636. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus are now selling tickets for a "10 week" drawing for \$10.00 each. Each week, for nine weeks, a ticket will be drawn for \$50.00. The 'winning' ticket then goes back into the 'barrel' until the last week when a \$500.00, \$200.00, and \$100.00 winner will be pulled. First drawing will be February 18, 2018. For tickets contact Carl Brochard, 228-327-0066 or Chuck Nannery, 228-875-0267.

All proceeds will benefit the Seminarian Education Fund.



Kelsey Gunkel (daughter of Deacon Jim & Toni Gunkel) is volunteering with NET (National Evangelization Teams) Ministries in Australia. Net is a peer-to-peer Catholic youth ministry organization that encourages young people to love Jesus and embrace the Church. Kelsey will serve on a team with NET Ministries until November 2018. This is not government funded, therefore Kelsey was responsible for raising \$7,200 (of the \$13,000 needed for each missionary). Although she has come close, Kelsey is still \$2,000 short of her goal. If you would like to help Kelsey reach her goal, you may donate at netministries.com.au/sponsorship - this link goes directly to the Sponsorship Page where you will be able to insert Kelsey's name.



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory of Sr. Eileen Lowney

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JANUARY 22
2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30	
6:30 am	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 am	Mr. A.J. Holloway, Sr.
TUESDAY	JANUARY 23
2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mark 3:31-35	
6:30 am	Ms. Mary Skaar
8:15 am	Mr. Vern "Larry" Cole, Jr.
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 24
2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 am	Ms. Cynthia Jagger Carter
THURSDAY	JANUARY 25
Acts 22:3-16; Mark 16:15-18	
6:30 am	Ms. Inez Danise
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Bob Mayer
FRIDAY	JANUARY 26
2 Timothy 1:1-8; Mark 4:26-34	
6:30 am	Jerry and Leon Modolo
8:15 am	Dr. Henry Noble Pitre
SATURDAY	JANUARY 27
2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41	
8:15 am	Ms. Joan Kelly
	Mr. Jay Holtorf
	Ms. Anita Grace White
	Mr. Ken Reiling
SUNDAY	JANUARY 28
Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28	
7:30 am	Congregation
9:00 am	Ms. Kathi Minc
11:30 am	Mr. Alexander McLachlan
5:30 pm	Ms. Mary Ladnier Bosarge
	Mr. Bobby Bosarge

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,987.40
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Quinn Boudreaux, Carole Bourgeois, Gregory Brou, Valerie Brou, Clarence Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Sally Fero Conklin, Pat Cronin, Gina Dasher, Betty Dugan, Tyler Eldridge, Marthann Ello, Jackie Endt, Jeremy Forehand, Loretta Foster, Nora Foster, Joey Fountain, Carmen Gaethe, Doris Haynes, Ron Hoogstra, Margaret Betty Horton, Lucia Hourihan, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Earline Huster, Tommy Jones, Theresa Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Audrey King, Ann Eleece Kouns, Jeff Kouns, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, John Langan, Nathaniel LaSalle, Catherine Lawrence, Bob Mayer, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Mary Mendenhall, Patricia Merlau, Edna Miguez, Eunice Misko, Margaret Murray, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Chandra Nicholson, Travis Norman, Charley Nowel, Luke Nudson, Edwin O'Connor, III, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Anna Raley, Brenda Sargent, Karen Skrmetta Smith, Dick Smith, Joe Souza, Edna Spell, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Stan Stanton, Gertie Templet, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers and Jane Walker.

Religious Education News

Pat Cronin - 872-2652; pcronin@cableone.net; www.stal.cc

Jan 22: New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Jan 25: RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.

Jan 28: Religious Education 10:10 a.m.
Adult Study Class 10:10 a.m.
Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds

Family and Youth Calendar

Jane Sema 228-217-1392 jsema@osstalphonusus.org

As we build our youth programs we are looking for young adults and parents to help with activities for our youth. If you are interested in helping us build a **DYNAMIC YOUTH PROGRAM** contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392.

Parent & Child Prayer and Fellowship

Come and join our group as we study The Saints. The group meets on the second and fourth Wednesday from September through May, in the Family and Youth office in back of the Parish Hall.

Safe Environment Notice: Every volunteer who works with minors and every employee of all parishes and Catholic schools of the Diocese of Biloxi must receive a copy of the *Policy of the Diocese of Biloxi Regarding Complaints of Abuse of Minors*. Copies of this policy are available from any pastor or principal. If any volunteer who serves with minors or any employee did not receive this policy, please contact your pastor or principal, or call 228-702-2126/27. A copy of the policy is also available to any interested person. In addition, a copy of the *Diocesan Code of Conduct Regarding Contact with Minors* and the *Diocesan Policy Concerning Supervision of Youth Trips and Other Youth Functions* are also available from your pastor or principal, or by calling 228-702-2126/27.

How to report a complaint of abuse: The clergy, religious, and laity who serve in the ministries of the Diocese of Biloxi are committed to making Church ministries safe for young people. Allegations of misconduct with minors are reported as the law requires and an internal investigation is conducted. A copy of the diocesan policy is available on the diocesan website (www.biloxidiocese.org) or by contacting your pastor. A complaint of misconduct should be reported directly to civil authorities. In addition, a complaint should be reported to the Diocese of Biloxi by calling the phone numbers on the diocesan website or by calling 228-702-2112 or to the State of Mississippi's Hot Line: 1-800-222-8000.



The next men's Cursillo weekend will be January 25th - 28th. Cursillo is a spirit filled weekend for those who would like to know more about the church and who are in search of a closer relationship with God. The weekend is filled with worship, song, love, laughter, witness and blessings. Cursillo is open to any practical Catholic man ages 18 and over. If interested, you can obtain an application and instructions at biloxicursillo.org or for more information contact Johnny Beard at 228-990-7292. If no answer, please leave message.



The St. Alphonsus Church app is available to download for iPhone and Android smart phones. Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications regarding our parish life and an easy-to-access event calendar as well as many more great features such as daily Mass readings, Catholic news, prayers and prayer reminders, quick access to our weekly bulletin, Church website (osstalphonusus.org) and FORMED. Download the app by texting App to phone number [88202](tel:88202), or by visiting myparishapp.com

Altar Society Members for next week
Kay Brochard and Norma Williams

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Jan 26: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Jan 25: Mass 9:40 a.m.



You are invited to join us in praying the Liturgy of the Hours before the 8:15 a.m. Mass (Monday - Friday) beginning at 7:45 a.m. in the Church.



The St. Alphonsus Bookstore and Gift Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., after the Saturday Vigil Mass, and after all English Masses on Sunday. Come visit and see what we have. Consider giving Catholic gifts for birthdays, holidays and any occasion.

UPCOMING TRAVELS



Ireland - The Wild Atlantic Way including a Pilgrimage to the Marian Shrine in Knock with Fr. Louis Lohan April 20-29, 2018. \$3,855 per person/two per room. For more information, email Irelandwelcomesyou@gmail.com.



Pilgrimage to Italy May 28-June 8, 2018 with Fr. Mike Austin. \$4,499 per person/two per room from New Orleans. For more information or to register, contact Fr. Mike Austin at 228-238-1050 or Mrs. Paula Spears at 228-697-7814 or email Tourofitaly2018@gmail.com.



Medjugorje Pilgrimage with Fr. Mike Snyder June 8-16, 2018. \$3,299 per person/two per room from New Orleans. For more information or to register online: www.catholicjourneys.com/mir2018.



Visit Norway and Sweden with Fr. Louis Lohan September 14-23, 2018. \$4,963 per person/two per room. For more information, contact Paul at: experiencescandinavia@gmail.com or 228-697-7814

You may also pick up a brochure for any of these upcoming travels in the Vestibule of the Church.



A lovely flower arrangement on the altar area of the church on weekends is a beautiful way to honor a deceased loved one or to celebrate a special occasion. If you would like to donate for a specific weekend, please call the Rectory at 875-5419. Donation amount is \$35.00.



Hospital Stays: Because of privacy concerns, it is increasingly difficult to find out who is in the hospital. Many parishioners can be there for an entire week (or more), yet their names never appear on the "Clergy List" that we get to see. This seems to happen especially to those who are admitted through the Emergency Room. Consequently we are reminding you that if you or a family member is going to be in the hospital and wish to be visited or receive communion while there, please call the Rectory at your earliest convenience.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Wilkes Hebert, brother of Mercedes Bosarge and Loretta Foster of this parish, who passed away January 12th in Gulfport. We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS