

Here Mark begins to tell us the kind of things Jesus did in proclaiming the kingdom.

Deuteronomy presents Moses as the ideal prophet (First Reading). The prophet can never speak on his own authority, but speaks on behalf of God. The Jews believed that God would raise up in the last days a prophet like Moses. The early Christians regarded Jesus as the awaited prophet. His teaching was given with authority and confirmed by miracles, the sign that God was with him. In today's Gospel we see how Jesus spoke with authority, and how the ordinary people recognized this.



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@cablone.net or 875-5419).

Statements will be mailed by the end of the month.



A Note from Fr. Mike:

Friends in Christ,

It is the flu season. The Sign of Peace can be given in many ways, such as a hand shake, a nod of the head, hand waving or with the peace sign using your fingers. Please respect those who do not wish to make the sign of Peace by shaking hands. Respect your neighbor's boundaries.



Saturday, February 3rd, is the Feast of St. Blaise.

The traditional blessing of throats will take place next weekend (February 3rd and 4th) after the Saturday 8:15 a.m. morning Mass as well as after each of the weekend Masses.

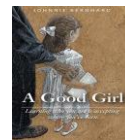


The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (no cooking involved) during the week of February 12 - 16 (closed February 13). If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times,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



Johnnie Bernhard's novel, A Good Girl is currently available in the bookstore. With its themes of mercy and forgiveness it is a great choice for the Lent Season. The book contains traditional Catholic prayers and a strong devotion to Our Mother, Mary.



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.

**Altar Society Members for next week
Mary Ann Bounds and Lois Ravera**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JANUARY 29
2 Samuel 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Mark 5:1-20	
6:30 am	Ms. Molly Edwards
8:15 am	Ms. Iris Holloway
TUESDAY	JANUARY 30
2 Samuel 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Mark 5:21-43	
6:30 am	Ms. Rachel Bellman
8:15 am	Ms. Sandy Miller
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 31
2 Samuel 24:2, 9-17; Mark 6:1-6	
6:30 am	Msgr. Gregory Kennedy
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Anthony Belson
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 1
1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12; Mark 6:7-13	
6:30 am	Mr. Robert "Bob" Mitchell
8:15 am	Elvin Asher Family
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 2
Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 am	Ms. Marian Sullivan
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 3
1 Kings 3:4-13; Mark 6:30-34	
8:15 am	Mr. George Pitalo, Sr.
4:00 pm	Mr. Gerard P. Michaud
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 4
Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39	
7:30 am	Ms. Dorthy Bidwell
9:00 am	Congregation
11:30 am	Ms. Melisa Roberts Lee
5:30 pm	Mr. Terry Miller

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$9,638.76
Aged & Infirm Priests Collection.....\$3,463.68
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, Breanne Dalton, 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 Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, 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.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Religious Education News

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

Jan 29: New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Feb 1: RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.

Feb 4: 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
Confirmation Class, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Family and Youth Calendar

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

This year will be the 41st annual **Youth Convention** held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum March 23rd – 25th. Youth groups from all the parishes within the Biloxi Diocese will come together to celebrate our faith through community, Mass, keynote speakers, and worship. The Diocesan Spirit Movers (10th – 12th grade peer ministry team) have planned the theme *ALIVE*, prepared activities, and will be the Masters of Ceremonies. Target age group for the youth Celebration is 9th – 12th grade. Our youth in 6th – 8th grades may also participate by attending the Junior High Rally from 2:00 -5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 25th at the Coast Coliseum. Anyone interested in attending the convention or Youth Rally may text or contact Jane Sema at 228-217-1392 for more information.

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 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 (osstalphonsus.org) and FORMED. Download the app by texting App to phone number 88202, or by visiting myparishapp.com

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Jan 29-Feb 2: Catholic Schools Week

Jan 31: Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

Feb 2: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

Feb 3: Sweetheart Dance 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Jan 29 – Feb 2: Catholic School Week

Feb 1: Junior Ring 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.



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.

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 Special Parish Prayer Book is located on the south side of the Vestibule of the Church (front entrance). Anyone desiring prayers for any intention is requested to enter their intention on the Parish Prayer Book and they will be remembered in the Prayers of the Faithful at all weekend Masses.



The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of Ligaya Camagong