

**The transfiguration is an epiphany story.** Epiphany stories are common in ancient writing about holy people. In these stories, the veil which separates the invisible from the visible world, and the future from the present, is removed for a moment, and the truth is revealed. This is the earliest epiphany story about Jesus, older than the voice at his baptism, and older than the manifestation of Jesus to the Magi.

It is no longer possible to say what happened on the mountain. The first and chief significance of the event was for Jesus himself. It was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken. But it also benefited the apostles, and it is this that Mark emphasizes. In the transfigured Jesus they got a glimpse of the glory of the risen Lord. Even so, they would not understand until Jesus had risen from the dead.

On the mountain Elijah and Moses appeared to them. Moses represented the law, Elijah the prophets. Thus Jesus is seen as bringing the law and the prophets to fulfillment.

The First Reading shows the depth of Abraham's faith in God. Living among the Canaanites who practiced human sacrifice, we see his agonizing effort to do what he thought God wanted of him. Abraham's great faith was rewarded.

The Second Reading is obviously linked to the First Reading. It shows us the depth of God's love for us. God did not even spare his own Son, but gave him up for us.

**This year's Catholic Sharing Appeal calls us to a quieter place in our world, our homes, and especially our hearts.** As we enter into God's love more deeply through prayer, please remember those in our communities who long for God's love and presence in their lives. Help us to be perfect examples of His love to our brothers and sisters through our prayers, works and lives.

Your gift is very important. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Our parish CSA goal for this year is \$60,997. Please make all checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese.

We thank those who have already responded to help the less fortunate in our community.

*A program to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life, will begin in our parish next weekend.*

**Bishop Kihneman's prayer for vocations.**

Loving Father, your Son, Jesus Christ the High Priest, has told us that the harvest is great but the laborers are few. We ask you now to send more laborers into your vineyard.

Please touch with your Holy Spirit the hearts of all those you are calling to live a life of service in your Church as Priests, Deacons, Consecrated men and women, dedicated married couples and committed single persons.

Help us all to follow Christ faithfully and to answer the call to holiness and discipleship. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Roland Meaut,** a member of our parish family, who passed away February 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
**James Windt,** a member of our parish community, who passed away February 12<sup>th</sup>.  
**Maria Ladnier,** cousin to Will Ladnier of this parish, who passed away February 14<sup>th</sup>.  
 We extend our sympathy to each family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

# MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY FEBRUARY 26

Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38  
 6:30 am Int. Ms. Daisie Laborde  
 8:15 am Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 27

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12  
 6:30 am Ms. Ruby Morton  
 8:15 am Mr. Wayne Alliston

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 28

Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28  
 6:30 am Mr. Richard "Dick" Smith  
 8:15 am Mr. Ruben Burnham, Jr.

THURSDAY MARCH 1

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31  
 6:30 am Mr. Robert "Bob" Mitchell  
 8:15 am Ms. Iris Holloway

FRIDAY MARCH 2

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46  
 6:30 am Ms. Sherry Casey  
 8:15 am Int. Mr. David Duncan

SATURDAY MARCH 3

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32  
 8:15 am Mr. George Pitalo, Sr.  
 Mr. Gregory Hebert  
 Russ, Carley and Brittany Jordan

4:00 pm Ms. Rose Marie Schmitt

SUNDAY MARCH 4

Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25  
 7:30 am Int. Ms. Jackie Endt  
 9:00 am Ms. Kathi Minc  
 11:30 am Mr. Alson Young  
 5:30 pm Congregation

# WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,079.08  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Evelyn Bond, 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, Mary Jo 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, Jimmy Senac, Larry Sladler, Karen Skrmetta 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@cablone.net](mailto:pcronin@cablone.net); [www.stal.cc](http://www.stal.cc)

**Feb 26:** New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.  
**Mar 1:** RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
**Mar 3:** RCIA First Scrutiny 4:00 p.m. Mass  
**Mar 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  
 RCIA Rite of Election at Nativity BVM Cathedral, 2:00 p.m.  
 Confirmation Class, Parish Hall, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

# Family and Youth Calendar

[Jane Sema 228-217-1392 jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)

This year will be the 41<sup>st</sup> annual **Youth Convention** held at the Gulf Coast Coliseum March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>. 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 (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Our youth in 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades may also participate by attending the Junior High Rally from 2:00 -5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

**St. John the Evangelist in Gulfport** invites you to join them on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m. as Jeff Cavins presents "The Modern-Day Disciple". This will be a practical talk about walking with God in the Modern World. Jeff will explain God's desire to walk with us and introduce the first century relationship between a rabbi and his disciple as the metaphor for God's relationship with us. Jeff will describe the life of a disciple two thousand years ago and then paint a picture of how that can become a reality for people today. For more information, call Teri at 228-864-2272.



**An Altar Server Training** is scheduled for Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. with lunch being served afterwards in the KC Hall. All altar servers, and anyone wishing to become an altar server (must have already made First Holy Communion), are asked to please attend this training. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be served for lunch-we ask that you call or email the Rectory Office (875-5419 / [stals@cablone.net](mailto:stals@cablone.net)) if your child plans on staying for lunch.



**The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Dinner and \$3,000 Drawdown event in support of St. Alphonsus' St. Vincent de Paul Society** on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for \$50/couple. Tickets are available from any St. Vincent de Paul member after each Mass, by contacting KC Grand Knight Carl Brochard 228-327-0066, Barney Banks 228-424-9094 or by coming to the Rectory Office during regular business hours. We invite you to come out, enjoy the great fun, parish fellowship, and help support the needy in our community. The dinner will include seafood gumbo, potato salad, coleslaw, rolls, soft drinks, beer and wine.

# \*\*School Subsidy Policy\*\*

**For the 2018/2019 School Year**

St. Alphonsus Finance Committee, in conjunction with the Parish Staff, wishes to reiterate the established policy concerning subsidy of our young people at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School. In order for students to receive subsidized tuition at St. Alphonsus Elementary School or St. Patrick High School, the following must be followed:

1. The Family must be registered in St. Alphonsus Parish
2. Contribute to the support of the parish through the regular use of the envelope system or some other agreed upon service.
3. The family **MUST** attend weekend Mass with the Parish Family at St. Alphonsus.

# ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

**Feb 28:** Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.  
**Mar 2:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m. / Stations of the Cross 2:30 p.m.

# ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Feb 26:** JH Cheer Banquet 6:30 p.m.  
**Feb 27:** Golf Parent Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
**Mar 1:** Mass 9:40 a.m.



**You are cordially invited to attend Our Mother of Sorrows Parish's Lenten Revival** February 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. each night. Richard Lane will be the presenter. The theme is "Here I am, Lord." The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered the final night of the revival. Our Mother of Sorrows is located at 803 Division Street, Biloxi.



**You are invited to join Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio** at St. Elizabeth Seton on March 7<sup>th</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. On Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> he will speak on 40 Days, 40 Ways and on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> he will speak on Personal Prayer Pathway to Joy.



Catholic Social and Community Services, Inc. has the following position available: **Case Manager at Catholic Social and Community Services, Inc.'s office in Hattiesburg, MS.** This is a part-time position that will transition to full-time within six months. All interested candidates are asked to submit a resume to Jennifer Williams at 1450 North Street, Gulfport, MS 39507 by March 7, 2018. For additional information, including a job description, please call 228-701-0555.

**A Women's Conference – Abundance** will be held at the First Baptist Church on Popps Ferry Road on Saturday, March 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Tickets can be ordered at the St. Alphonsus Book Store.



**Congratulations to Charlotte Williams** – She was the first winner of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week drawing which was pulled last Sunday by Joy Cronin. Each week, for eight more weeks, a ticket will be drawn for \$50.00. Even if your ticket is pulled, for each of the remaining weeks the ticket is put back into the 'barrel' for the remainder of the drawings with the final drawing being for \$100.00, \$200.00, and \$500.00. For tickets contact Carl Brochard, 228-327-0066 or Chuck Nannery, 228-875-0267. All proceeds will benefit the Seminarian Education Fund.



**Altar Society Dues Envelopes** are in the pews. Completed envelopes may be put in the collection basket.

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