


The First Reading shows how God remained faithful to his people in spite of their infidelities. God's promises were not nullified by the sins of his people. It was because of their sins that God allowed his people to be exiled to Babylon. But his mercy is seen in their homecoming. This leads into the Gospel. God's love and mercy are seen in the fact that he sent his Son to save us. Jesus came into the world as a light. Sadly, some preferred darkness to the light, thus sealing their own condemnation. Judgement is not passed by God; people judge themselves by their response to the light. The reading from Ephesians stresses the enormity of the love God has shown us in Christ. It makes it clear that we owe our salvation, not to our own efforts, but to the goodness of God.

Catholic Sharing Appeal: In today's Scripture we hear of God's immeasurable love in the act of giving His Son for the life of the world. Let us pray to the Lord Jesus to keep us always aware of His love for us and our call to extend His love to the world through our daily lives of prayer and good works. Please make all checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese. You are invited to watch the 2018 CSA video online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaghdOxI2no>.

If you have not yet given to this year's Catholic Sharing Appeal, please consider making a contribution during the coming week. To date 97 pledges (out of 1047 registered families) have been made which total **\$36,266.00**. This leaves us a total of **\$24,731.00** to reach our parish goal of **\$60,997.00**. In the past St. Alphonsus Parish has always went above the goal that was set by the Diocese – please help us do so again this year. Remember – when our parish reaches its goal, all funds raised over our goal are returned to the parish for our use. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. We thank those who have already responded to help the less fortunate in our community.

CALL BY NAME

 Reminder: Place your CALLED BY NAME response card in the collection basket or return it to the parish office. Please continue to pray for the success of this program in our parish and our diocese, especially during this time of prayer for vocations.

Our Penance Service for Lent will be held in the Church on Thursday, March 22nd at 7:00 p.m. A number of local priests will be in attendance that night to expedite the waiting time. Please make the reception of the Sacrament part of your spiritual preparation for Easter.
Other local Penance Service schedules:
 Sacred Heart, D'Iberville – Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00 p.m.
 St. Elizabeth Seton – Wednesday, March 14th, 7:00 p.m.
 Our Lady of Fatima, Biloxi – Monday, March 26th, 7:00 p.m.

Envelopes are in the pews for anyone wishing to make a donation to the decorating of the Church for Easter in Honor Of or in Memory Of a loved one. When complete, envelopes may be placed in the collection basket or brought to the Rectory. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY ON THE ENVELOPE.** Donations will be accepted through Sunday, March 18th.

You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Monday, March 19th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Rosary, Message reading, Consecration, Mass

An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 21st at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.

Altar Society Members for next week Judi Anderson and Theresa Stuart

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 12
Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54	
6:30 am	Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 am	Ms. Irene Nelson Powers
TUESDAY	MARCH 13
Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16	
6:30 am	Dr. Thomas LeTard
8:15 am	Mr. Vern "Larry" Cole, Jr.
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 14
Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30	
6:30 am	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 am	Ms. Eileen Murtough
THURSDAY	MARCH 15
Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47	
6:30 am	Ms. Inez Danise
8:15 am	Mr. Steve Sema
FRIDAY	MARCH 16
Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	
6:30 am	Ms. Marthann Ello
8:15 am	Mr. Wayne Alliston
SATURDAY	MARCH 17
Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53	
8:15 am	Ms. JoAnn Wavra
4:00 pm	Mr. Michael Joseph Sekul
SUNDAY	MARCH 18
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33	
7:30 am	Mr. Nolan Fremin
9:00 am	Congregation
11:30 am	Ms. Peggy Dessommes
5:30 pm	Ms. Molly Edwards

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$12,933.81
 Poor Collection.....\$ 4,166.21
 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, Jackie Endt, Jeremy Forehand, Loretta Foster, Nora Foster, Joey Fountain, Ron Fournier, Carmen Gaethe, Hunter Grantham, Doris Haynes, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Margaret Betty Horton, Lucia Hourihan, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Earline Huster, Tommy Jones, Theresa Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitolo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Kyle Vaughn Kerbow, 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, Edna Miguez, Eunice Misko, Margaret Murray, Leonard Ncaise, Peggy and Edward Ncaise, Chandra Nicholson, Travis Norman, Charley Nowel, Luke Nudson, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, 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; www.stal.cc

Mar 12: New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.
Mar 15: RCIA, Parish Hall Meeting Room, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Mar 18: 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 Third Scrutiny 5:30 p.m. Mass
 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.



JUST A THOUGHT... Have you spoken to or heard from Jesus lately? Try a visit to the Adoration Chapel. No experience necessary. See the enclosed flyer. "Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him". --St. Teresa of Calcutta

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



You are invited to a Gumbo Dinner at St. Michael Church in Biloxi on Sunday, March 18th from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The dinner will include gumbo (choice of seafood or chicken & sausage), potato salad, bread, dessert and a drink. Cost: \$10 per plate.



Our Diocesan Vocation Office and St. Joseph's Seminary College is sponsoring a "Come and See Priesthood Discernment Retreat" for all men 16 years and older. It is going to take place at St. Joseph Abbey in Covington, LA on March 23-25, 2018. There is no cost to you and transportation will be provided from Biloxi. If you have ever been considering Priesthood, please contact Fr. Adam Urbaniak, our diocesan vocation director, for more information about the retreat."



Congratulations to David Pasquini – He was the third winner of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week drawing which was pulled last Sunday by Theresa Kittle.

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

Mar 14: Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.
Mar 16: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m. / Stations of the Cross 2:30 p.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 12: Spring Holiday
Mar 15: Mass 9:40 a.m.
Mar 16: Report Cards



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 21st at 7:00 p.m. for \$50/couple.

Tickets are available 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.

Archived episodes of Father Joe Dilettuso's television program, Living Words: Scripture and Tradition, can be viewed on the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi's YouTube page. Currently featured is a six-part series on The Passion Narratives with Father Austin Walsh, ST. This is a valuable and timely resource for the Lenten Season. We will continue to add additional episodes of this program in the future. A link to the YouTube page is also available at www.biloxidiocese.org.



The St. Vincent de Paul Society has produced a 10-episode series of 30-minute TV programs for EWTN TV that will air every week (started Sunday, March 4). The programs will be shown on Sunday at 5:30 a.m. and then repeated again the following Saturday at 5:00 p.m. These programs show the many different activities that Vincentians do to serve those in need around the country. Our St. Alphonsus parish has a very active St. Vincent de Paul Conference.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Your prayers are requested for the deceased priests who have ministered in the diocese, especially those who have died around this time of year:

- Reverend Nicholas Walsh, March 5, 1995
- Reverend William J. Vollar, March 2, 2011
- Reverend Gerard M. Cleary, March 9, 2015
- Reverend Msgr. James J. Hannon, March 16, 2008
- Reverend Msgr. Eamon Mullen, March 19, 1992
- Reverend Msgr. Thomas E. Williams, March 25, 1983
- Reverend James P. McGlade, March 31, 1980