

**Today is Palm Sunday** - For us, this event is commemorated by blessing palm branches at the beginning of each Mass and then distributed by the ushers to the congregation at the end of Mass. You are asked to take the palm branches home and place them in some prominent place as a reminder of the events we celebrate today.

Today is also the beginning of Holy Week, or Passion Week. The Passion according to Matthew is read at all Masses today to remind us of all the events that transpired immediately after Jesus' arrival to Jerusalem. Events unfold quickly on this Holiest of weeks and you are asked to join us in remembering these events.

**On Tuesday of this week** all the priests of the diocese join the Bishop at the Cathedral (10:30 a.m.) for the annual Chrism Mass, which includes the renewal of vows and the blessing of the oils that are used in the parishes throughout the upcoming year.

**The Triduum of Easter commences with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday night**, a reminder of the institution of the Eucharist, Priesthood and the ceremony of the washing of the feet. This Mass concludes with the procession through the Church and the reposing of the Blessed Sacrament in the Altar of Repose (in the Sacristy) after midnight. Until midnight you are asked to spend an hour in prayer in the Chapel just as Jesus asked his disciples to accompany him to the Garden of Olives and stay with him one hour.

**Good Friday** finds the Church bare and empty, to remind us of the absence of Jesus after his arrest and preparing for his death. The schoolchildren will conduct the Passion Play at 3:00 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., the Passion according to John is read followed by Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service. This service concludes quietly with no recession.

**The Easter Vigil** anticipates the joy of Easter. The 7:15 p.m. Vigil begins at dusk, outside the Church with the blessing of the Fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle that leads the congregation into a darkened Church. The candle becomes the only source of light during the singing of the Exsultet, and the beginning of the first Old Testament Reading from Genesis speaking of creation. Other Old Testament Readings remind us of the power of God (parting of the Red Sea) and of our baptismal vows to turn aside from evil and to do good. These are followed by an Epistle and a Gospel selection. It is at this Mass that Catechumens/Elect are received into the Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. The entire congregation also renews their baptism promises, renounces evil, and makes a Profession of Faith and then the congregation is sprinkled with the newly blessed Holy Water as a reminder of each one's Baptism.

### Easter Triduum

NO Morning Masses Thursday, Friday or Saturday

**Holy Thursday:** 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper, Washing of the Feet. Procession to Chapel. Visitation in Chapel until midnight.

**Good Friday:** Passion Play by schoolchildren 3:00 p.m.; Reading of the Passion (St. John), Veneration of the Cross and Communion 7:00 p.m.; Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

**Easter Vigil:** 7:15 p.m. Lighting of the Fire/Paschal Candle, Exsultet, Old Testament Readings, Blessing of Holy Water, Baptisms/Profession of Faith, Renewal of Baptism Promises, Profession of Faith of entire Congregation, Mass, Communion.

**Easter Sunday:** Mass at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.; (Hispanic Mass 2:00 p.m.), and 5:30 p.m.



**The Blessed Sacrament** will not be exposed in the Chapel from midnight Thursday (April 13<sup>th</sup>) until after the 8:15 a.m. Mass on Easter Monday (April 17<sup>th</sup>). The Chapel will still be open for anyone wishing to make their Holy Hour.

**Prayer for Forgiveness:** Lord, remember not only people of good will but also people of ill will. Do not remember only the sufferings that have been inflicted on us, but remember too the fruit we have borne as a result of this suffering: the comradeship and loyalty, the humility and courage, the generosity and greatness of heart that has grown out of it. And when they come to judgement, let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness. (Prayer found in Auschwitz).

**Pray for Vocations:** For information, go to [www.biloxidiocese.org](http://www.biloxidiocese.org)

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY APRIL 10

Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11

6:30 am Mr. Joe Prejean

8:15 am Ms. Marian Sullivan

TUESDAY APRIL 11

Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38

6:30 am John and Sissy Hannan

8:15 am Mr. Leland Lewis Adler

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25

6:30 am Ms. Shirley Senac

8:15 am Mr. Andrew Justin Striegel

THURSDAY APRIL 13

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-15

6:30 am No Mass

8:15 am No Mass

7:00 pm Ms. Brandy Lesso Hebert

FRIDAY APRIL 14

Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42

6:30 am No Mass

8:15 am No Mass

SATURDAY APRIL 15

Genesis 1:1—2:2; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Isaiah 55:1-11;

Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Matt 28:1-10

8:15 am No Mass

7:15 pm Congregation

SUNDAY APRIL 16

Acts 10:34a, 37--43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

7:30 am Mr. Raymond Beaugez

9:00 am Ms. Mary Louise "Lady" Brennan

11:30 am Ms. Marietta Fountain

5:30 pm Mr. A.O. "Herman" Soares

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection..... \$13,065.24

Poor Collection.....\$ 3,991.51

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Clarence Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Vito Canizaro, Sr., Sally Fero Conklin, Gina Dasher, Betty Dugan, Marthann Ello, Jackie Endt, Loretta Foster, Nora Foster, Joey

Fountain, Carmen Gaethe, Margaret Miller Griffith, Doris Haynes, Jay Holtorf, 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, Daisie Laborde, John Langan, Nathaniel LaSalle, Bob Mayer, Bernie McGinley, Phyllis McGinley, Mary Mendenhall, Patricia Merlau, Edna Miguez, Deacon Greg Miller, Eunice Misko, Robert M. Mitchell, Margaret Murray, Sophia Myers, Leonard Ncaise, Peggy and Edward Ncaise, Ruth Neeley, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley Norman, Edwin O'Connor, III, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Nony Raether, Anna Raley, Pat Reiling, Elba Smolcich, Edna Spell, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Katie Swanson, Gertie Templet, Sharon Tilmon, Dolores Trenouth, Tommy Underwood, Ted Ursu, and Jane Walker.

If someone in your family is in need of prayer, please contact the parish office to have their name placed on the list. We will keep the name on for at least two months unless otherwise notified.

## Religious Education News

Pat Cronin – 872-2652; [pcronin@cablone.net](mailto:pcronin@cablone.net); [www.stal.cc](http://www.stal.cc)

**Apr 13:** No RCIA – Holy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.

**Apr 15:** Easter Vigil Mass 7:15 p.m.

**Apr 16:** No Religious Education/Adult Study/Confirmation Class

## Family and Youth Calendar

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

**Apr 9, 30:** Middle School Youth Group (10-14 years old) Family and Youth Office 4:00-5:00 p.m.

**Apr 13, 27:** High School Youth Group (15-18 years old), Family and Youth Office, 6:00 pm

**Apr 12, 26:** Parent Group Family and Youth Office, 9:00 a.m.

**Apr 20:** Family Adoration, 6:30 p.m. in Church

**June 12-16: SAVE THE DATE – CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP**  
Registration begins April 30<sup>th</sup>.



**A Penitential Service** will be held at Our Lady of Fatima in Biloxi on Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.



**Divine Mercy Sunday:** As we enter into Holy Week, let us also keep in mind that Easter Sunday is followed by Divine Mercy Sunday, instituted through the efforts of St. John Paul II. In preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, we encourage you to say the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet which begins on Good Friday. Copies are

available at the exits of the Church. Our Lord's promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is recorded three times in the Diary of St. Faustina. "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (699).

You are invited to come to our Chapel daily beginning on Good Friday at 3:00 p.m., the Hour of Mercy, to join in this Novena and Chaplet. (Due to the Passion Play at 3:00 p.m. in the Church on Good Friday, this day only – the novena will begin in the Chapel immediately after the Passion Play concludes in the Church).



**The Knights of Columbus will sell Seafood Gumbo dinners / Stuffed Crab plates on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> (Good Friday) in the KC Hall.**



Seafood Gumbo dinners will come with potato salad or coleslaw and bread and the (2) Stuffed Crab plates will come with green beans, potato salad or coleslaw and bread.

Cost: \$7.00 each/combo \$11.00. Carry out begins at 3:00 p.m. and Dine In from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. (or until run out). Tea will be available for dine in only.



**The Parish Office** will be closed on Good Friday (April 14) and Easter Monday (April 17). Office will reopen on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.



**The Altar Society will decorate the Church for Easter on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.** Anyone wishing to help is asked to please meet in the Church at 9:00 a.m.



**Fill your Easter Baskets with gifts of love!** Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bookstore offers a wonderful assortment of gifts, rosaries, books and Bibles for everyone on your Easter list.

**The Bookstore will be closed for Easter break April 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

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

**Registration for the 2017/2018 School Year Going on Now**

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

**Apr 12:** Children's Mass 8:15 a.m. / Passion Play

**Apr 13:** Noon Dismissal

**Apr 14:** No School – Good Friday

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

At St. Patrick Catholic High School, our faculty and staff are called to educate scholars, train disciples, and support champions.

To learn more about the St. Patrick experience, visit our website at [www.stpatrickhighschool.net](http://www.stpatrickhighschool.net). For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, please contact Mr. Matt Buckley at 228-702-0500.

**Apr 9:** Spring Drama Production 2:00 p.m.

The Foundation of St. Patrick Inaugural Event

2:00 – 5:00 p.m. The Dock on Seaway Road, Gulfport

**Apr 13:** Lenten Presentation 9:40 a.m.

**Apr 14:** No School – Good Friday

**Catholic Sharing Appeal 2017:** Let us put God first in all life's priorities by giving to the programs that mean the most in our Diocese.

The CSA gives each of us an opportunity to unite with all Catholics in the Diocese and in the universal church to share our blessings and to show our concern for one another. The CSA gives us the opportunity to act together as a family and support programs and services no single individual or parish can offer by itself. **Your gift is very important. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal.** Please make checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese in the envelope provided, or if you prefer, you may follow the instructions in the brochure and donate online. This year's goal for St. Alphonsus is \$60,997. God will bless us abundantly for our goodness!



**You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass** on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church.

Rosary, Message reading, Consecration, Mass



**Congratulations to Irvin Haydel** - He was the ninth winner of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week drawing which was pulled last Sunday by Diane Boudreaux.

**As you plan upcoming vacations,** visit [www.MassTimes.org](http://www.MassTimes.org) for Mass times and locations for the areas you will be visiting.

**Altar Society Members for next week:**  
**Janell Alliston and Juliana Skelton**



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Casmer "Cassie" Harbin Mathieu,** uncle of Gordon Mathieu of this parish, who passed away March 30<sup>th</sup>.

We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.