

The reading from Acts describes the Ascension of Jesus. It also shows how Jesus, now in the glorious presence of his Father, continues to act through the Holy Spirit and through his followers.

The Gospel is concerned with the Lord's Ascension and the missionary charge he gave his apostles. The preaching of the apostles was to have the same effect as the preaching of Jesus. The reference to picking up snakes and drinking poison is not to be taken literally. According to the Middle Eastern mentality hyperbole is an accepted way of making a point – through the power of Jesus the apostles will triumph over all evils.

The apostles are to challenge people of all times and places either to believe or reject the Gospel. The statement that equates belief in Christ with salvation and disbelief with condemnation, cannot be preached as bluntly as that. Today unbelief springs from many factors, not least from the poor witness given by those who claim to believe in Jesus.

The theological meaning of the feast is expressed in the Second Reading: God has glorified Jesus, raising him above all earthly powers, and making him head of the Church and Lord of creation.

The Ascension of Jesus is his liberation from all restrictions of time and space. It does not represent his removal from the earth, but his constant presence everywhere on earth.

First Communion Today we congratulate the 21 Second Graders from our Elementary School and Religious Education program who received their First Holy Communion during a special Mass Saturday morning. They are: Braylon Carriere, Hayden Castillo, Henry Danos, Miles Dellenger, Ava Doughman, Zachary Dykes, Lila Ginn, Jillian Goff, Amanda Gordon, Anna Rose Harrington, Jacob Hooper, Peyton Jordan, Miah Kelly, Harper Kilpatrick, Michael LoCoco, Landry Lott, Samuel McClain, Emma Merten, Morgan Miller, Raygan Roberts and Katherine Wall.

New Daily Content in the St. Alphonsus Church App! You may have noticed a changed that has happened in your app recently. The **Living the Good News** button has been upgraded to **Inspire Daily**. This button will give you access to daily reflections and the readings of the day. These reflections come from some of the best Catholic bloggers in America (Catholic teachers, priests, seminarians, the Daughters of St. Paul and so many more) to bring you the best Catholic content on a daily basis.

Don't have the App yet? If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone you can download the app by texting **App** to phone number **88202**, or by visiting **myparishapp.com**.

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.

It is easier than ever for you to enjoy your subscription to FORMED! Just download the FREE FORMED app and start enjoying great video and audio wherever you go (or if you are already signed up – you are able to access through the parish app). You will be able to stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers and is available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. St. Alphonsus has purchased subscription from Formed.org, which gives St. Alphonsus parishioners' FREE access to high quality Catholic programs, movies, downloadable audios and downloadable e-books. To gain access to the website go to www.formed.org, enter our Parish Code f1f5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password and start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place.



The Flowers in front of the Altar are in Memory of Della Sonnier

The Flowers on the Altar Are in Honor of Those Making Their First Holy Communion

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY MAY 14
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17
6:30 am Mathilde and Fernand Latour
8:15 am Mr. Vern Cole, Sr.
Mr. Vern "Larry" Cole, Jr.

TUESDAY MAY 15
Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a
6:30 am Mr. Smokey Hill
8:15 am Ms. Iris Holloway

WEDNESDAY MAY 16
Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19
6:30 am Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 am Int. Ms. Marley Severino

THURSDAY MAY 17
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26
6:30 am Mr. Richard "Dick" Smith
8:15 am Ms. Sandra Grantham

FRIDAY MAY 18
Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19
6:30 am Mr. Mark Pitalo
8:15 am Mr. Ken Reiling

SATURDAY MAY 19
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21:20-25
8:15 am Mr. Michael A. Flores
Genesis 11:1-9; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37-39
4:00 pm Robert A. & Helma Denehie

SUNDAY MAY 20
Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23
7:30 am Congregation
9:00 am Ms. JoAnn Wavra
11:30 am Ms. Peggy Dessommes
5:30 pm Ms. Molly Edwards

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,580.34
Poor Collection.....\$ 4,009.31
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Evelyn Bond, Bity Bonney, 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, Ron Fournier, Carmen Gaethe, Walter Gary, Hunter and Sandra Grantham, Doris Haynes, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Margaret Betty Horton, Lucia Hourihan, Most Reverend Joseph L. Howze, Earline Huster, Melissa James, Tommy Jones, Theresa Jones, Clarence Jordan, Anastasia Pitalo 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, Leonard Necaie, Peggy and Edward Necaie, Chandra Nicholson, Travis Norman, Charley Noel, Luke Nudson, Edwin O'Connor III, Teresa O'Connor, Henry Parker, Judy Penton, Amy Petitjean, Anna Raley, Jimmy Senac, Joyleen Seymour, Larry Sladler, Karen Skrmetta Smith, Edna Spell, Dani Stafford, Rust Stallings, Dennis Stamps, 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

May 14: New Wine, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.
May 20: Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds

Confirmation pictures are available for pickup in the Sacristy of the Church.

THANK YOU so much Mr. & Mrs. VanAcker!!

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.

CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP
JUNE 18TH – 22ND

Join us for a week of fun as we take a Radical Ride on the Wings of Prayer with Amazing Angels and Super Saints! Don't miss out as we learn about prayer and how to put it into action. Space is limited. Registration forms are available at the Church exits, Church Office and Bookstore. For more information, contact Jane Sema at jsema@osstalphonusus.org. We are still accepting adult and youth volunteer forms. Youth volunteers must have completing the 5th grade or older.



"...Just as you cannot be exposed to the sun without receiving its rays, neither can you come into the Light and Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament without receiving the divine rays of His grace, His love, and His peace." St. Peter Eymard

We could all use some grace, love, and peace. How about a visit to the Adoration Chapel...what are you doing right now?

"Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him".

--St. Teresa of Calcutta

Congratulations to Magtillt "Mocky" Laan van Thiel: Mrs. van Thiel, a parishioner of St. Alphonsus Church, will have her artwork displayed at the Walter Anderson Museum of Art through August 25th. This exhibition will feature landscapes by Mrs. van Thiel depicting the new realist tradition of oil painting.

You are invited to join them for the "Painting the Gulf" Opening Reception on Thursday, May 17th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be available and is free to the public.



Pope Francis – A Man of His Word opens nationwide on Friday, May 18th. You may never have a chance to meet Pope Francis in person, but this movie, co-produced with the Vatican's Office of Communication, may make you feel as if you did. In the film you will witness the kindness, understanding and sharing that is the sum of Pope Francis's pontificate. The humanity of the pope and his refined thought emerge from the images. This movie is made for Catholics and non-Catholics alike. It conveys that God loves each one of us unconditionally – no matter what our color or creed- and we are called to also love each other and to love the world that God has entrusted to us.

Pray for Vocations

School Subsidy Policy

Registration for the 2018/2019 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

May 16: Early Dismissal 2:00 p.m.

May 18: Children's Mass 8:15 a.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

May 14: AP Biology Exam 8:00 a.m.

May 15: AP Calculus Exam 8:00 am/Senior Awards Night 6:00 pm

May 16: AP English Language Exam 8am / Graduation Practice 9am
Softball Banquet 6 p.m. / Boys Basketball Banquet 7 p.m.

May 17: AP World History Exam 8:00 a.m.

May 18: Graduation 5:00 p.m.

May 19: Sports Physicals @ Encore



The St. Alphonsus 4th degree Knights of Columbus will have a **Flag Retirement Ceremony** on Tuesday, May 15th at 2:00 p.m. in the parking lot by the KC Hall. All are invited.



Attention Graduating Seniors: There are two \$500 Scholarships available from The Chris Nielsen Scholarship Fund to be given away this year. If interested in applying for this scholarship, please email Rodney Fountain at rodney@rfountaincpa.com to receive the requirements and registration form. Deadline: June 15, 2018

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 an **11-part series on The Ten Commandments**. 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.

An Augustine Institute Studios original series, Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members.

Episode 1 and 2 are now available to watch on FORMED.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

Reverend Msgr. Patrick J. Carey, May 1, 1979
Reverend Msgr. Patrick K. Bambrick, May 1, 2002
Reverend John T. O'Brien, May 18, 2009



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Patricia "Patsy" Jones**, sister-in-law of Dianne Bellon and Tommy Jones of this parish, who passed away May 3rd.

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

Altar Society Members for next week
Judi Anderson, Theresa Stuart & Mark Aultman