

**The First Reading tells how God appeared to Moses in the burning bush and revealed his name.** God has heard the cries of his oppressed people, and sends Moses to liberate them. It is a turning point in the Old Testament. It leads to the Exodus and beyond.

In the Gospel we see how Jesus rejected the popular belief that accidents which befall people are inflicted by God as punishment for sin. Still, sin calls for repentance. And Jesus tells the Jews that they will lose the promises unless they repent. The barren fig tree symbolized the barren state of Israel. But God is patient. There is still time to repent, though that time is getting short.

The role of Moses prefigures the role of Jesus. Through Moses God saved his people, Israel, from slavery in Egypt. We are the new people of God, saved through the waters of baptism from the slavery of sin, and now *en route* under the leadership of Jesus to the promised land of eternal life. We too are fed with food 'from heaven', namely, the Eucharist.

In the Letter to the Romans Paul says that in spite of all God had done for them, most of the Israelites were not pleasing to God. Christians must not think that just because they have received the sacraments they are automatically saved.



**Lent is traditionally a time of Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. In our journey with the Lord this Lenten season please pray that the Holy Spirit keeps our hearts and minds open to ways that we can help or be of service to those that are less fortunate than us and those who are struggling with their walk with the Lord.**

This year's parish goal for St. Alphonsus is \$60,513. 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 Catholic Diocese of Biloxi at 1790 Popp's Ferry Road, Biloxi 39532. You may also donate online at [www.biloxidiocese.org](http://www.biloxidiocese.org).



**Congratulations to Amelie Million** – She was the recipient of this year's St. Timothy Award at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diocese of Biloxi Youth Conference held last weekend. This diocesan award is given to selected youth for their long term commitment to Youth Ministry in their parish and/or diocese. These youth have given of their time, talents, and spiritual gifts in making their parish youth group strong in faith and their community. This year we had seventeen young adults attending from St. Alphonsus. We thank you for your support of our Youth Program and helping our youth encounter Christ.



**“So during Eucharistic adoration, trust that Jesus loves you and that He is pleased with your coming to be with Him. Trust that he dwells in who you are in Him, and not as you typically think of yourself. See how He overlooks your failings and simply enjoys being near to you. Know that He has a super-abundance of love and peace to pour upon you. And finally dare to believe that you bring joy to His heart by simply coming to sit at His feet and gaze upon Him in love.”**

**--Encountering Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration, The Word Among Us** A special 24-hour Adoration in the Chapel is being held every weekend during Lent beginning at 7:00 am Friday mornings and ending at 7:00 am Saturday mornings. All are welcome. Come spend time with Jesus. You pick the time.

“Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him”. --St. Teresa of Calcutta



**The St. Alphonsus Bookstore and Gift Shop** is offering Fr. John Noone's new booklet and CD entitled "250 Questions about CONFESSION". This will inspire you to embrace this wonderful Sacrament of HEALING. Proceeds from the sale of the booklet and CDs will go to the Missionaries of Our Mother of the Eucharist. The Booklet is \$8.00. The set of 4 CDs is \$15.00.



**Congratulations to Myranda Gallagher** - She was the fifth winner of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week drawing which was pulled last Sunday by Valerie Molina.

**Altar Society Members for next week**  
**Joan Burres and Juliana Skelton**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 25</b>
Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38	
6:30 am	Mr. Carlton Latour
8:15 am	Mr. Terry Miller
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 26</b>
Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35	
6:30 am	Ms. Rachel Bellman
8:15 am	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 27</b>
Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 am	Ms. JoAnn Wavra
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 28</b>
Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23	
6:30 am	Mr. Richard “Dick” Porterfield
8:15 am	Ms. Marion Bedard
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 29</b>
Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Mr. David Saunders
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 30</b>
Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14	
8:15 am	Mr. Roy “Ricky” Riviere
4:00 pm	Ms. Kate Kelley
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MARCH 31</b>
Joshua 5:9a, 10-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
7:30 am	Mr. Calvin Riche
	Mr. Ronald Riche
9:00 am	Ms. Sylvia Marie Cronin
11:30 am	Mr. Jim Cagle
5:30 pm	Congregation

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,682.89  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support.



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Rita Allen, Regina Papania Bell, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sybil Burchinal, Carol Lee Cantin, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Melissa James, Anastasia Pitalo Jurich, Andre Kaufman, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Harby Kreeger, Daisie Laborde, Jacob Latil, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Bob Mayer, Cheryl McGie, Bernie and Phyllis McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaise, Leonard Necaise, Peggy and Edward Necaise, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Judy Penton, David Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Raymond Spicuzza, Sylvia Spratley, Ron Stump, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Angela Troclair, Larry Tucei, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Jane Walker, and Sonny Wynn.

### REFLECTION

#### What I fail to do

It isn't the things you do, it's the things you leave undone, which give you a little heartache at the setting of the sun. The gentle word forgotten, the letter you did not write; the flowers you might have sent, are your haunting ghosts tonight. The stone you might have lifted out of your brother's way; the little heart-felt counsel you were hurried too much to say. The tender touch of the hand, the gentle and kindly tone; which we have no time or thought for, with troubles enough of our own. --Anon

## Religious Education News

**Deacon Jim Gunkel – 872-2652; [dcjim@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:dcjim@osstalphonsus.org)**

**Janie Sema – 228-217-1392; [jsema@osstalphonsus.org](mailto:jsema@osstalphonsus.org)**

**Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**  
**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Edge: Sunday, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**  
**9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade - High School Youth: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**Mar 28:** RCIA 2<sup>nd</sup> Scrutiny/Penance/Anointing, Parish Hall Mtg Rm 6pm  
**Mar 31:** Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)  
Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m.; The Jewish Roots of Holy Week  
RCIA 2<sup>nd</sup> Scrutiny Mass, 11:30 a.m., Sponsors Attend  
Children's Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds  
**June 17-21: SAVE THE DATE – CATHOLIC KIDS CAMP**

**The Adult Study Class will be studying The Jewish Roots of Holy Week by Brant Pitre on March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 5<sup>th</sup>.** Come find out what Jesus did from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. If you are looking to get more out of Lent this year – then join us! You will be AMAZED at what you NEVER knew!

**A letter from UNBOUND:** Dear Parishioners, On behalf of Unbound, thank you very much for welcoming us to your parish. Our hearts are full of gratitude for the generosity you have shown to the children, youth and the elders in our sponsorship program. Through your willingness to partner with Unbound, your parish community has taken steps toward a closer walk with Jesus in the name of the poor. We pray that members of your parish community who answered the call to sponsorship will be richly blessed by their experience.

### Lenten Missions:

**St. Rose de Lima Church, 301 South Necaise Ave, Bay St. Louis**  
March 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m. each night.  
**Our Lady of Victories Church, 3109 Magnolia St, Pascagoula**  
Sunday Masses, March 30/31; April 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>: 6:00 p.m. each night.



**Attention Homeschoolers:** Catholic Schoolhouse of Hattiesburg will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. Catholic Schoolhouse is designed to help homeschool families enrich their learning experience by a classical approach to education in a Catholic environment. Please contact Anne Kathryn DeViney for more details at 601-606-5685.



**Co-Ed Arise #9 – Sacred Heart Retreat Center in Dedeaux, March 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>:** Arise is sponsored by the Cursillo Movement of South MS. Whereas Cursillo is limited to Catholics, Arise is designed with the non-Catholic in mind. Arise is designed primarily for these groups of persons who would like to receive additional information about the Catholic faith in a short period of time (one weekend): Non-Catholic spouses of practicing Catholics, Catholics who've been away from the church for a while, Those without a current church/religion who are "searching" for a new one or more meaningful faith experience, Those taking instruction in the Catholic faith. For more information, contact Karly Richardson at (228) 219-2203 or Mike Lingenfelder at (228) 354-8377, or you may visit the website at [www.biloxicursillo.org](http://www.biloxicursillo.org) for an application or more information.

**Willwoods Married Couples Retreat: March 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>:** Would you like to break away with your spouse and spend quality time enriching your marriage? Then join the upcoming Married Couples Retreat at St Joseph Abbey's Christian Life Retreat Center in Covington, LA. A Married Couples Retreat does not mean that someone is failing but rather it is a falling into the graces of our Lord. It is giving you and your beloved the opportunity to find rest, strength, and enrichment, which is something we all need! Attending a retreat once a year is a great habit that will deepen and renew your love for God and each other! Sign up today for a great start to 2019! To register or for more info call Jason Angelette at (504) 830-3716 or visit [www.FaithandMarriage.org](http://www.FaithandMarriage.org). Suggested donation of \$275 is requested but not required.

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

### Registration for the 2019/2020 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

**Mar 26:** Spring Pictures: PK3, PK4, K, 1<sup>st</sup> Grades

**Mar 27:** Spring Pictures: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grades

**Mar 29:** Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.; Stations of the Cross, 2:30 p.m.

**Spring Soiree “Run for the Roses” Friday, May 3, at the Maritime and Seafood Museum.** Live entertainment, Silent/Live Auctions, Raffles, Delicious Food, Signature Drinks. Tickets are \$50 each or \$100 a couple. Sponsorships are also available and all in the community are welcome! Please contact Marie Sanderson at 601-946-4529 or [St.AIRunfortheRoses@gmail.com](mailto:St.AIRunfortheRoses@gmail.com) for more information.

## ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

**Mar 24:** Men's Varsity Soccer Banquet, 1:00 p.m.

**Mar 27:** 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat, 8:15 a.m.

**Mar 28:** Adoration, 9:40 a.m.

**Mar 30:** Shamrockin' the Coast Party & Silent Auction

**St. Patrick's Drama Guild to present Sister Act this spring!** This year we are offering \$5 tickets for our regular performances to the students in our partner schools if they present their St. Patrick Athletic Pass and are accompanied by an adult who has purchased a regular priced ticket. Regular tickets at the door are \$15. Performance dates: April 5 at 6:30 p.m., April 7 at 2:00 p.m., April 12 at 6:30 p.m., April 13 at 6:30 p.m., and April 14 at 2:00 p.m. Call the school to purchase tickets (228-702-0500), purchase online through the Fighting Irish Spirit Store, or reach out to Gail Trahan at [gtrahan@stpatrickhighschool.net](mailto:gtrahan@stpatrickhighschool.net).

**Meet and Dine Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>** for Mater Redemptoris House of Formation in LaCrosse, WI from 6pm-8pm at 733 34<sup>th</sup> Street Gulfport, MS. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Bishop Gunn 1583. Local Katherine Lingenfelder spent two years at the House discerning religious life thanks to the generosity of so many throughout the diocese! The sisters and aspirants are coming to say thank you for the countless prayers and financial generosity. All are invited to join to meet the sisters and aspirants! Money raised will support the expenses of the house. Tickets may be purchased from Gay Camagong at 228-424-7722 or at the door.

**Come and Chat for Women Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>:** Women 16 and up that are curious about religious life are invited to join the Diocese of Biloxi Office of Vocations for an afternoon with the Sisters and Aspirants from the Mater Redemptoris House of Formation in LaCrosse, WI! The Sisters are from the Franciscan Sisters of the Martyr Saint George and the Aspirants are young women from around the country that are aspiring to do God's will and discerning religious life. There will be a time to listen to them share stories and advice, ask questions, chat with others and prayer! It will be an afternoon of joy, laughter and maybe a few tears! Come and Chat Sign-in/Registration is from 1:00pm-1:30pm and will be from 1:30pm-4:00pm Location: The Diocesan Pastoral Center, 1790 Popp's Ferry Road, Biloxi. To register: visit <http://signup.com/go/vgYOMXj> or contact Katherine Lingenfelder 228-860-5062 or [k.lingenfelder@yahoo.com](mailto:k.lingenfelder@yahoo.com).