

Matthew has already introduced Jesus as the light of a darkened world (see Third Sunday). Now the function of enlightening and guiding a morally confused humanity is shared with his disciples. In the ancient world, salt was one of the most important necessities of life, especially for preserving, and seasoning food. So too was light for obvious reasons. We shouldn't turn salt and light into allegories. They are just images. Both images are making the same point: Jesus' disciples have a vital role to play in the world through their good deeds. When the disciples stop witnessing through their deeds, they become as useless as salt that has lost its taste or a lamp that doesn't give light.



“Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the most tender of friends with souls who seek to please Him. His goodness knows how to proportion itself to the smallest of His creatures as to the greatest of them. Be not afraid then in your solitary conversations to tell Him of your miseries, fears, worries, of those who are dear to you, of your projects, and of your hopes. Do so with confidence and with an open heart.”—St. Damien of Molokai Jesus desires that we share our lives with Him...any and every thing that matters to us, matters to Him.
“Jesus asks nothing of you except to come be with him”. --St. Teresa of Calcutta



The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:30 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (no cooking involved) during the coming week (February 10th – 14th). If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times, please call Norma Williams at 875-2636. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle (Rosary and Message Reading - no Mass) on Thursday, February 13th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room at the Villa Maria. All are invited.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Friday, February 21st, at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Patricia McMackin, mother of Les (Beth) McMackin of this parish, who passed away January 15th in York, Pennsylvania.
Eugene “Gene” Peresich, III, brother of Wink Cunningham of this parish, who passed away January 23rd in Huntsville, Alabama.
Shirley Lee, a longtime parishioner of this parish, who passed away January 26th in Oxford, Mississippi.
James B. Johnson, brother of Myrt Talbott of this parish, who passed away January 30th in Mobile, Alabama.
We extend our sympathy to each family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

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 John A. Izral, January 22, 2020
- Reverend Herbert Mullen, February 12, 1984
- Reverend Patrick Hannelly, February 14, 1990
- Reverend Msgr. James Russell, February 15, 2002



The Flowers on the Altar are in Memory Of All Deceased Knights of Columbus Members

**Altar Society Members for next week
Janell Alliston, Deni Helms and Pat Zuber**

Pray for Vocations

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	FEBRUARY 10
1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56	
6:30 am	Mr. Malcolm Latour, Jr.
8:15 am	Joseph Bernard and Norma Haaf
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 11
1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13	
6:30 am	Mr. Nolan Fremin
8:15 am	Mr. Harby Kreeger
WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 12
1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23	
6:30 am	Ms. Susan Rubio
8:15 am	Int. Ms. Tiffany Wilson
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 13
1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30	
6:30 am	Ms. Margaret K. Guice
8:15 am	Ms. Monica Goretski
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 14
1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37	
6:30 am	Special Intention
8:15 am	Dr. Gilberto Patiño
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 15
1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10	
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Julian Galloway
	Int. Bulletin Advertisers
	Msgr. Gregory Kennedy
4:00 pm	Mr. Glen Skelton
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 16
Sirach 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-	
7:30 am	Elvin Asher Family
9:00 am	Mr. Owen Green
11:30 am	Ms. Jo Gill
5:30 pm	Congregation

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$11,128.30
Poor Collection.....	\$ 4,555.38
Children's Collection.....	\$ 52.00
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, Walter Bolton, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sarah Broussard, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, Loretta Foster, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Ron & Mary Jo Hoogstra, Melissa James, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Brenda Landrum, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaise, Leonard Necaise, Peggy and Edward Necaise, Chandra Nicholson, Shirley and Travis Norman, Roger Parker, Michael Punziano, Sarah Robinson, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted and Clara Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch and Thane Williams.

Religious Education News

Chris Molino 228-860-8884; cmolino@osstalphonusus.org
Rachel Weatherford 228-327-6183; youth@osstalphonusus.org
Janie Sema 228-217-1392; jsema@osstalphonusus.org

Kindergarten – 5th Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
6th – 8th Grade – Edge: Sunday, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
9th – 12th Grade - Lifeteen: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Feb 13: RCIA, Sin and Temptation, 6:00 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Feb 16: Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)
Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., “The Origin of the Bible” (Human invention or Divine Intervention) by Dr. Brant Pitre
Children’s Church, 11:30 a.m. Mass for 3-6 year olds
Confirmation Class, 4:00 – 5:15 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room

We invite you to keep up to date with all things involving the Youth Ministry by following us on Instagram (@st.alphonusus.hsyg) and on Facebook (St. Alphonusus Youth Group).



If you have a loved one who is homebound and can no longer come to Mass or is sick and temporarily homebound – please call the Rectory with the information.



The Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast on Sunday, February 16th from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. in the KC Hall for \$6.00 a plate. Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice.



The Knights of Columbus are selling “10-Week” drawing tickets for \$10 each with all proceeds benefitting the Seminarian Education Fund.

Each week, for nine weeks, a ticket will be drawn for \$50. Even if your ticket is pulled, for each of the remaining weeks the ticket is put back in the “barrel” for the remainder of the drawings with the final drawing being for \$100, \$200 and \$500. The first ticket will be drawn February 16, 2020. Tickets may be purchased by calling Carl Brochard at 228-327-0066 or coming by the rectory office during regular business hours.



Women's GIFT will present a silent retreat, directed by Fr. Dominic Pham, based on the Spiritual Exercises of the St. Ignatius of Loyola at the William Kelly Retreat Center in Bay St. Louis the weekend of February 21st – 23rd. Openings are limited and the deadline for the payment is Friday, February 14th. For more information, contact Mildred Bolden at 228-547-0974 or email address: mil_476@yahoo.com.



Spend 24 hours visiting and praying with sisters from a variety of religious communities February 28-29. Come experience community life while asking questions about discernment and getting answers in real time. Single Catholic women ages 18-40 are encouraged to participate. For more information, contact Sister Jean Rhoads, D.C., at sisterjean.rhoads@doc.org or 812-963-7556. Register now online at <http://called2be/GCGSFeb20>.



St Alphonusus Knights of Columbus and the Red Cross will hold a Blood Drive on Sunday, March 1st from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. One Pint Saves Up to Three Lives! Donate blood and stay for the Pancake Breakfast. Sign up early to skip the lines at Redcrossblood.org. Contact Blake Elkins with any questions at StAlIBloodDrive@gmail.com.



Catholic Day at the Capitol will take place Wednesday, March 4th from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at St. Peter Cathedral Parish Center, 123 N West Street, Jackson, MS. This year's topic is “Access to Adequate Healthcare for All.” To register, go to catholiccharitiesjackson.org/events/catholic-day-at-the-capitol-2020.

ST. ALPHONUS SCHOOL

Feb 12: Progress Reports
Feb 14: Children’s Mass, 8:15 a.m.
Feb 15: Sweetheart Dance, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Feb 12: ACT Practice Session, 3:05 p.m.
Feb 13: Mass, 9:40 a.m.
Feb 14: Progress Reports

The Lenten Season

Ash Wednesday is February 26th. Sometime prior to this day, parishioners are asked to return blessed palms received last Palm Sunday to be burned for Ash Wednesday ashes.

Fasting: Catholics 18-59 years of age who are in good health are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all the weekdays of Lent the U.S. Bishops strongly encourage the faithful to participate in Mass and to observe a self-imposed fast. The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening. Customarily, the two smaller “collations,” when considered together, should not equal the main meal – and ideally should be eaten only if needed to maintain one’s strength.

Abstinence: All Catholics 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. In their Penance and Abstinence pastoral, the U.S. Bishops declared: “the obligation both to fast and to abstain from meat, an obligation observed under a more strict formality by our fathers in the faith, still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No Catholic Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation...” They also stated: “we preserve for our dioceses the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice.”

Flowers and Music: During Lent, flowers are not to be used to decorate the altar, with the exceptions of the fourth Sunday of Lent, and the Solemnity of St. Joseph (March 19), and the Solemnity of the Annunciation (March 25); musical instruments are only to be played in order to support the singing, with the same exceptions.

Gloria and Creed: The Gloria and the Creed are sung/said on the Lenten solemnities. Note that when the Creed is said during the Mass on the Annunciation that all genuflect at the words, “and by the Holy Spirit, he was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.”

Covering Crosses and Images: Crosses and images should not be covered for the whole of Lent. The appropriate time to cover crosses and statues in purple is before the Saturday Vigil Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29 (after the Saturday morning Mass of that day). Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday; other images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

Holy Water: Removing holy water from the fonts during the season of Lent (and replacing it with sand, etc.) is not permitted; holy water is removed after the evening Mass Holy Thursday and refilled on Holy Saturday with water blesses at the Easter Vigil.

Funeral Masses: The celebration of a funeral Mass is not permitted on the Sundays of Lent and Easter, Holy Thursday, and the days of the Easter Triduum. However, when necessary, a “Funeral Liturgy Outside Mass” may be used.

St. Joseph Tables (a.k.a. St. Joseph “Altars”): While the preference is for a St. Joseph Table/Altar to be in another building or space, if a St. Joseph Altar is placed in a church it should be located outside the sanctuary, distinct from the Altar of Sacrifice.



St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Elementary School in Picayune (PreK-8th Grade) is now accepting applications for Principal for the 2020-21 School Year. Requirements include Master’s Degree in Educational Administration/Leadership, 486 Administrative Certification or ability to obtain certification and be an active member of the Catholic faith. Complete application at www.biloxidiocese.org and forward with resume and license to Dr. Rhonda Clark, Superintendent of Education, 1790 Popps Ferry Road, Biloxi, 39532 or rclark@biloxidiocese.org. Applications will be accepted through March 1st.