

Like the story of Jesus' baptism, the transfiguration is an epiphany story. Both stories are manifestations of Jesus as he is, or as he will be. In both there is a voice, and the voice says the same words. A mountain is a place of divine manifestation. The cloud is a sign of the presence of God. Moses and Elijah stand for the Law and the Prophets.

It is no longer possible to say what happened on the mountain. Was it a vision? Was it a profound religious experience? There has been a tendency to see the Transfiguration simply as a stage in the education of the apostles. But its first and chief significance was for Jesus himself. It was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken.

But of course it also benefited the apostles. And it's this that Matthew emphasizes. In the transfigured Jesus they got a glimpse of the glory of the risen Lord. Even so, they would not understand until Jesus had risen from the dead.

In the First Reading we see the obedience of Abraham, an obedience which brought blessings to many. It also points to the obedience of Jesus (an obedience which took him to death on a cross) and to the blessings that would flow to the world as a result.



“It is good when a soul loves solitude: it’s a sign that it takes delight in God and enjoys speaking with Him.”
---St. Jane Frances de Chantal

How do you respond to solitude? Do you embrace it or run from it? Time in the quiet before the Blessed Sacrament is an excellent place to explore this question...and learn to enjoy speaking and listening to Jesus.

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



Monday morning immediately after the 8:15 a.m. Mass, **Friday afternoon** by the school children at 2:30 p.m. (adults welcome), **Friday evening** at 7:00 p.m. with the Way of the Cross followed by Mass.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Friday, March 13th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



A Parish Pot Luck Celebration is scheduled for Thursday, March 19th (changed from March 10th) from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the KC Hall. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend.

Bring your favorite dish to share: homemade or picked up! Questions? Call Beth McMackin at 228-324-4188.



St. Alphonsus School invites you to come and view their St. Joseph Altar on Thursday, March 19th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. After the viewing, all food will be donated to local charity organizations.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle (Rosary and Message Reading - no Mass) on Monday, March 23rd, at 9:00 a.m. in the Assembly Room at the Villa Maria. All are invited.



THANKS to everyone who supported the Knights of Columbus Blood Drive held on March 1st. They collected 37 pints of blood. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Leona Emily Mihal, mother of Rich (Sue) Mihal of this parish, who passed away March 3rd in Pensacola, Florida.

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
Janell Alliston, Deni Helms and Pat Zuber

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 9
Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38	
6:30 am	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 am	Mr. Gerard Michaud
TUESDAY	MARCH 10
Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12	
6:30 am	Ms. Emily Reed
8:15 am	Mr. Richard Siemeck
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 11
Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28	
6:30 am	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 am	Int. Ms. Olivia Karp
THURSDAY	MARCH 12
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31	
6:30 am	Mr. Waide J. Galle
8:15 am	Ms. Mary Lynn Necaize
FRIDAY	MARCH 13
Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46	
6:30 am	Mr. Mark Melchert
8:15 am	Mr. Lee Wilson
SATURDAY	MARCH 14
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
8:15 am	Int. Mr. Julian Galloway
	Int. Ms. Deborah Galle Foushee
	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
	Msgr. Gregory Kennedy
4:00 pm	Mr. Michael Joseph Sekul
SUNDAY	MARCH 15
Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42	
7:30 am	Ms. Rosalie Trebotich
9:00 am	Ms. Patricia McMackin
11:30 am	Congregation
5:30 pm	Special Intention

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$12,958.75
Poor Collection.....	\$ 4,536.15
Children’s Collection.....	\$ 49.53
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, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Peggy and Edward Necaize, Shirley and Travis Norman, 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 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 - Lifteen: Sunday 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mar 12: RCIA, Sacrament of Confirmation, 6:00 p.m., Mtg Rm
Mar 15: Religious Education Class for all Youth Programs (times above)
Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., The Apostle Peter and the Papacy, Parish Hall Meeting Room, All are welcome to attend.
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. Alphonsus Youth Group).

2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal: In today’s Scripture we hear of God’s call to “bear our share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that come from God.” Many of our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Biloxi suffer the hardships of homelessness, hunger, depression, and despair. Although we cannot always be there to minister to them directly, we can help them by supporting the programs and offices that minister to them through the Catholic Sharing Appeal. Please consider helping “Brings Christ to the World” by giving a generous gift to this year’s Catholic Sharing Appeal. Pledge envelopes are available in the pew or in the back of the church. Thank You!



All are invited to join St. Thomas the Apostle in Long Beach for their Parish Mission “Angels and the Spiritual Life” with Fr. Mike Austin on March 9th, 10th, 11th beginning at 6:30 p.m. each night. Look into all the realms that make up the created order – who all the players are, how we interact with each other and what impact it all has on our relationship with God, with each other and on our salvation. All are invited.



The Sacred Heart Boys Youth Retreat will be held March 13th-15th at the Dedeaux Hilton. The retreat is open to all boys 9th through 12th grade. For more information, please contact Melvin Ray, retreat director, at 228-861-5546.



Join parishioner Johnnie Bernhard in Our Lady of Perpetual Help Book Store on Sunday, March 22 at 12:30 p.m. as she signs copies of her latest novel, *Sisters of the Undertow*. National Council of the Humanities member, Adair Margo writes, “With both humor and depth, Johnnie Bernhard probes beneath the superficialities of life in *Sisters of the Undertow*, revealing an unexpected hero. I read it in one sitting and thoroughly enjoyed it.” It is an excellent book to read during Lent as the story centers on the life-long relationship of two sisters and the beauty of forgiveness.



Save the Date for Catholic Kids Camp June 15-19, 2020. This year’s theme is “Cathletics? Training to be Champions for Christ” the overall goal of this sports themed week-long program is to engage kids into the LIFE OF CHRIST with teachings from God’s Word on the Commandments, the Beatitudes and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit. Registration will be April 25 through May 25, for children in Kindergarten through the 5th grades.



Bookstore and Gift Shop: Come view our lent calendars, children activities, books, Prayer devotions of the crucifixion of Jesus, Stations of the Cross pamphlets, DVD’s, CD’s and more. We also have sacramental gifts for reconciliation, communion and confirmation. The Bookstore and Gift Shop is open on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., after the Saturday Vigil Mass, and after all English Masses on Sunday.

ST. ALPHONUS SCHOOL

Mar 10: PTO Meeting, 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Mar 13: Children’s Mass, 8:15 a.m.; Stations of the Cross, 2:30 pm

St. Alphonsus School will host its 3rd **Annual Spring Soiree-Run for the Roses** on Friday, May 1st at the Maritime Museum from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m. Tickets and sponsorships are available. For more information please contact Marie Sanderson at pto@stal.org, www.stal.org or 601-946-4529.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 11: ACT Practice Session, 3:05 pm
Mar 12: Mass, 9:40 a.m.

St. Patrick Catholic High School is now enrolling for the 2020-21 school year. 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. For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, please contact Dr. Matt Buckley at 228-702-0500 or mbuckley@stpatrickhighschool.net.



Several parishes in the Diocese of Biloxi will be hosting the world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima in late March and early April. This historic image of Our Lady of Fatima has been traveling worldwide since 1947, when it set forth from Fatima to

bring Our Lady’s message of hope and peace to a world in need. The presence of this special stature, sculpted by José Thedim based on Sister Lucia’s description of her encounters with Our Lady, is a great gift to our community.

Listed below are the parishes that will be hosting the statue:
Nativity BVM Cathedral, Biloxi: Saturday, March 28 with Masses at 8:00 a.m. (Chapel) and 4:00 p.m. (Cathedral). The statue will be on display in the Cathedral between Masses and will depart after the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

Our Lady of Fatima, Biloxi: Sunday, March 29
Masses will be at 8:30 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.; 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. The statue will be in the Church from 11:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. At 11:00 a.m. there will be a procession and talk by the custodian. Beginning at 1:00 p.m., there will be quiet veneration. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 6:00 – 7:40 p.m. followed by Benediction.
St. Thomas Aquinas, Hattiesburg: Mon, March 30 – Wed, April 1
March 30 – Opening procession will start at 4:45 p.m. followed by Rosary at 5:00 p.m. and Mass at 5:30 p.m. followed by a talk.
March 31 – Quiet veneration from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.; Rosary at 11:30 a.m. and Mass at Noon.

April 1 – Quiet veneration from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.; Rosary at 5:30 p.m. and Mass at 6:00 p.m.
St. Patrick High School, Biloxi: Thursday, April 2
Statue on display from 9:30 - 10:40 a.m. Patrick Sabat, Director of Custodians for the World Apostolate of Fatima, will present a talk. There will be a Rosary, Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Immaculate Heart of Mary.

St. Alphonsus: Thursday, April 2 – Saturday, April 4
April 2 – Procession at 6:30 p.m.; Custodian talk at 6:45 p.m.; Penance service, scapular enrollment, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:00 p.m. and continuing until Saturday, April 4 (except during scheduled Masses).

April 3 – Children’s Mass at 8:15 a.m. followed by custodian talk and scapular enrollment at 9:00 a.m. At 6:45 p.m., there will be another custodian talk and scapular enrollment followed by Stations of the Cross and Mass

April 4 – First Saturday Devotions with Rosary, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction at 7:45 a.m. Mass at 8:15 a.m. followed by custodian talk at 9:00 a.m. Public veneration ends at 9:15 a.m.



Congratulations to Dennis VanAcker - He was the third winner of the Knights of Columbus 10-Week drawing which was pulled last Sunday by Elan Garton.