

SCRIPTURE NOTE

The transfiguration is an epiphany story. Epiphany stories are common in ancient writing about holy people. In these stories, the veil which separates the invisible from the visible world, and the future from the present, is removed for a moment, and the truth is revealed. This is the earliest epiphany story about Jesus, older than the voice at his baptism, and older than the manifestation of Jesus to the Magi.

It is no longer possible to say what happened on the mountain. The first and chief significance of the event was for Jesus himself. It was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken. But it also benefited the apostles, and it is this that Mark 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.

On the mountain Elijah and Moses appeared to them. Moses represented the law, Elijah the prophets. Thus Jesus is seen as bringing the law and the prophets to fulfillment.

The First Reading shows the depth of Abraham's faith in God. Living among the Canaanites who practiced human sacrifice, we see his agonizing effort to do what he thought God wanted of him. Abraham's great faith was rewarded.

The Second Reading is obviously linked to the First Reading. It shows us the depth of God's love for us. God did not even spare his own Son, but gave him up for us.



Witnessing the Eucharist within Us

In today's Scripture, the Lord tests Abraham's faith by asking a great sacrifice from him. Abraham prepares to offer his son to God out of complete love and faith. For his faith, he is rewarded as the father of a great nation, being blessed and protected, becoming a blessing to others with great kings among his descendants. Many of our brothers and sisters in our diocese suffer the hardships of homelessness, hunger, depression, and despair. Although we cannot always minister to them directly, we can, in faith, be a blessing to them by supporting the programs that minister to them through the 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal.

Please consider helping us "Witness to the Eucharist within Us" by giving a gift to this year's Catholic Sharing Appeal. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. If needed, pledge envelopes are available at each of the doors. Our parish CSA goal for this year is \$58,490. Please make all checks out to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese.



A Baptism Class will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Any parent with a child for baptism must attend this class prior to scheduling a baptism date. Godparents are also encouraged to attend. Godparents who

are not registered /active members of St. Alphonsus must present a letter from their pastor giving them permission to be a godparent. A godparent must be a Catholic in good standing with the church, receiving the sacraments on a regular basis. Class lasts a little over one hour. Baptisms are scheduled each month on the 4th Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Carl Clark, Jr., son of Mary Clark this parish, who passed away February 15th.

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

Altar Society Members for next week
Mary Ann Bounds, Barbara Fournier, Lois Ravera

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 1
Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 a.m.	Int. Family George Sekul
TUESDAY	MARCH 2
Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12	
6:30 a.m.	Deceased Mbrs Straight/Spears Family
8:15 a.m.	Int. Dr. Randy Roth
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 3
Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Glenn Ryan
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Charlene Wilson
THURSDAY	MARCH 4
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. George Wavra
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Irma del Carmen Borrero Hudson
FRIDAY	MARCH 5
Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Robert Holt Foushee
8:15 a.m.	Int. Fr. Mike Snyder
SATURDAY	MARCH 6
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Christopher Seymour
	Mr. George Pitalo, Sr.
	Mr. Gregory Hebert
	Russ, Carley & Brittany Jordan
4:00 p.m.	Mr. & Mrs. William (Joyce) Staehle, Jr.
SUNDAY	MARCH 7
Exodus 20:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Peggy Necaie
9:00 a.m.	Ms. Patricia Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Anna Mitchell
5:30 p.m.	Congregation



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Beckett Bassenger, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Virginia Bigelow, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Ellen Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Carolyn Castleman, Pat Cronin, Fred Dale, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Blake Donald, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Serenity Higgins, Anne Hindmarch, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Betty Horton, Melissa James, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, EJ McIntyre, Cheryl Megie, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Lee Molbert, Donna Necaie, Leonard Necaie, Edward Necaie, Shirley and Travis Norman, Della Faye Odom, Michael Punziano, Anne Purdy, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Eunice Tamdah, Mary Terry, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch, J.W., and Thane Williams.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$7,178.22
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$3,215.00
Black and Indian Missions Collection.....	\$ 166.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support	

Religious Education News

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

Kindergarten – 5th Grade: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
Confirmation Class: 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.;
6th – 8th Grade – Edge: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
9th – 12th Grade – Lifeteen: 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mar 4: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Mar 7: Youth Religious Education Class (times above)



You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction on Friday, March 5th beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).



You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, March 6th at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass) with Devotion, Consecration, Rosary and Benediction. Confession will also be available.



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) the week of March 15th – 19th. 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.



During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be conducted each Monday morning immediately after the 8:15 a.m. Mass and Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. with the Way of the Cross followed by Mass.

LENTEN MISSION

FEATURING FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
MARCH 22-24, 2021



MISSION TEAM:
FR. ANTONY TINKER,
FR. ATHANASIUS FORNWALT
<http://www.becomefire.faith>

Monday, March 22nd:

The Woman at the Well

8:15 AM -Weekday Mass 9 AM -Bible Study

6PM -Mission Night 1:

Adoration with Healing of the Heart Meditation

Tuesday, March 23rd:

The Man Who Was Born Blind

8:15 AM -Weekday Mass 9 AM-Bible Study

6 PM -Mission Night 2: Healing Mass

Wednesday, March 24th:

The Raising of Lazarus

8:15 AM -Weekday Mass 9 AM -Bible Study

6 PM -Mission Night 3: Empowerment Night

****School Subsidy Policy****

Registration for the 2021/2022 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 4: Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4

Mar 5: Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 3: 8th Grade Retreat (Girls); Women's Soccer Banquet, 6:00 p.m.

Mar 4: Mass, 9:40 a.m.

Mar 7: Varsity Cheer Banquet, 1:00 p.m.



A note from Rob Grueling, SVdP President, St. Maximilian Kolbe Conference: Our St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store (located in the Gulf Breeze Plaza next to Planet Fitness) is just about right on schedule thanks to the many volunteers. We're trying to assemble gondola

shelving with little knowledge of how to put them together. If there's anybody that has knowledge or expertise, please give us a call - you are needed. Daily, we're getting 6-8 volunteers from St. Elizabeth Seton and from St Alphonsus. We have had most of our St. Elizabeth Seton SVdP helping and donating. There's little struggle as the harvests are plenty, and the fields are not yet full. Put your personal stamp on this Catholic endeavor and come join in the fun. There's something for just about everyone. To volunteer just call Sally at 228-215-1610.

We are selling tickets at \$20.00 per person for the "First Look". As a fundraiser for or front illuminated signage, this is your opportunity to walk into the thrift store just after 11:00 mass of Sunday March 21st. You'll get the first choice to purchase anything for sale in our store. Bishop Kihneman will be with us at 10:30 on Thursday, March 25th to bless the store and those in it. It should be quite an event. For tickets call Sally.

Pro-Life



"The St James Pro Life Initiative has now expanded diocesan wide. The name is now "Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life". You can still use St James Pro Life Billboard on our Facebook page for news and updates. If you would like to support and continue to keep this ministry alive,

please donate directly to Venmo @ dioceseofbiloxipro-life or mail checks directly to: Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life, 1790 Popp's Ferry Rd, Biloxi, MS 39532, and mark "ProLife" on memo line of check. Thank you all for your support and please continue to pray for the unborn.

Michele Pisciotta M.D., Director of Pro-Life Ministries, NFP Coordinator; Karen Rhodes, President Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life; Penny Sullivan, Founder Diocese of Biloxi Pro-Life".

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Debbie Bazzone (Diocese of Biloxi Pro Life Ministry) at dbaz9@aol.com or 727-460-1570.



Attention Graduating Seniors: There are two \$500 Scholarships available from The Chris Nielsen Scholarship Fund to be given away by the Knights of Columbus. If interested in applying for this scholarship, please email Brian Sanderson at bsanderson@cardinalgroupllc.com to receive the requirements and registration form. **Deadline: June 1, 2021**

Pray for Vocations