

SCRIPTURE NOTE

The Book of Job confronts the problem of suffering. The common explanation was that suffering was a punishment for sin. But, though Job is a good man, he suffers greatly. His suffering causes him to take a gloomy view of life (First Reading).

This sets the scene for the Gospel. However, what we see in the Gospel is not Jesus' answer to the question 'why suffering', but his response to actual suffering. He heals the sick and proclaims the good news of salvation. The Gospel also shows the urgency with which he dedicated himself to preaching the Gospel, something we see exemplified also in Paul (Second Reading).

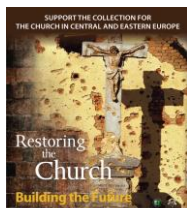
In the midst of his activity Jesus found time to pray in quiet places. It was during these hours of solitude that he maintained and fostered the most important thing in his life – his relationship with the Father. Here lay the secret of his successful ministry.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Friday, February 12th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17th at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall Meeting Room.



A special national and diocesan collection for the Churches in Eastern Europe and Churches in Africa will be taken up on Ash Wednesday (February 17).

The Churches in Eastern Europe collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that still struggle to recover from former communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region.

Churches in Africa are growing but many still lack access to basic resources and pastoral care. This collection supports pastoral projects to build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension.



You are invited to join us each Thursday in the Chapel for the Gethsemane Hour of Adoration and Devotional Prayer to the Precious Blood of Jesus from 11:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m.

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 Herbert Mullen, February 12, 1984
Reverend Patrick Hannelly, February 14, 1990
Reverend Msgr. James Russell, February 15, 2002



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: **Cherie Cooley**, a member of our parish family, who passed away January 28th.

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



The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of **St. Alphonsus Parishioners**

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	FEBRUARY 8
Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56	
6:30 a.m.	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Freddie Lusk
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 9
Genesis 1:20—2:4a; Mark 7:1-13	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Johnny and Janette Williams
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Ramona Bousqueto
WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 10
Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Elaine Belson
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 11
Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30	
6:30 a.m.	Int. The Gatschet-Odom Family
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Jane Maria Sema
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 12
Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37	
6:30 a.m.	All Souls in Purgatory
8:15 a.m.	Mike and Marian Keane
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 13
Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. & Mrs. Erling Rabe, Sr.
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Dina Kuljics
	Ms. Susie Jurich
SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 14
Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor. 10:31-11:1; Mark 1:40-45	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Linda Mayer
9:00 a.m.	Int. Mr. Allen Stiglet
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Jackie Endt
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, Ellen Brown, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, 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, 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 Necaize, Leonard Necaize, Edward Necaize, 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.....\$6,949.56
Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,235.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

Pray for Vocations

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.

Feb 11: RCIA, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Feb 14: No Youth Religious Education Class (Mardi Gras)



Catholic Diocese of Biloxi 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
February 20-21 will be Commitment Weekend for this year's Catholic Sharing Appeal in which we are all invited to share in the ministry of our diocesan Church. This important campaign has a tremendous impact on ministries and programs that help us lift up the name of Jesus and the mission of the Church at our parishes and throughout our entire diocese. At this opportunity to model charity, we look no further than our diocesan patron, St. Martin de Porres, who reflected generous stewardship to benefit people in need in his community.

Every year, this Appeal raises much needed funds that directly support many vital ministries throughout our diocese. These programs include Catholic Charities, Seminarian Formation, Care of our Retired Clergy, and Faith Formation that serve adults and youth, as well as those men in the Diaconate discernment and formation process. As we celebrate this "Year of the Eucharist and the Parish," we can give thanks for what Christ has done for us by sharing our gifts with those in need in our communities.

I ask you to prayerfully consider making a pledge, or giving a one-time gift to the 2021 Catholic Sharing Appeal. Each and every gift has the potential to be a blessing to someone in need of hearing and knowing the Lord Jesus.

Please know that no gift is too small and that your gift, combined with others, really can make a difference in someone's life in our diocese.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman
Bishop of Biloxi

REFLECTION

A lonely place

Jesus often went off to a lonely place to pray. Yet the same Jesus who prayed in lonely places said, 'When you pray, go into your room, and pray to your Father in secret.' This means that the lonely place is not necessarily a place far away, or that by 'room' he means four walls that separate us physically from others. The room is the room of our innermost heart. This room is with us at all times. We should make it a place to which we can go to find rest and spiritual recovery when the world is too much with us. Then we will discover that the inner room is not empty after all, but is occupied by the God of love who dwells in us all.

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

Feb 10: Progress Reports

Feb 11: Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK3, K, 2, 3, 4

Feb 12: Children's Mass, 9:15 a.m., PK4, 1, 5, 6

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Feb 11: Mass, 9:40 a.m.

Feb 12: Progress Reports

St Alphonsus Mission Franciscan Friars of the Holy Spirit March 20-24, 2021 Theme: Lenten Scrutinies

- **Saturday, March 20**
 - 3pm - Confessions
 - 4pm – Mass
- **Sunday, March 21 (Fifth Sunday of Lent)**
 - 7:30am, 9am, 11:30am & 5:30pm – Masses
- **Monday, March 22**
 - 8:15am - Weekday Mass
 - 9am – Bible Study
 - 6pm – Mission Night 1 (Adoration with Healing of the Heart Meditation)
 - Theme: Woman at the Well
- **Tuesday, March 23**
 - 8:15am - Weekday Mass
 - 9am – Bible Study
 - 6pm- Mission Night 2 (Healing Mass)
 - Theme: Man Born Blind
- **Wednesday, March 24**
 - 8:15am - Weekday Mass
 - 9am – Bible Study
 - 6pm- Mission Night 3 (Empowerment Night)
 - Theme: Raising of Lazarus