

The First Reading tells how God appeared to Moses in the burning bush. 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 symbolizes 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.



The Diocese of Biloxi is blessed to have 8 men in formation for the priesthood for our diocese. We are also blessed to have 18 retired priests that continue to help minister to the 56,000 Catholics in South Mississippi. Your gift to the 2022 Catholic Sharing Appeal directly aids in the formation, education, and care of all these men. Will you please consider a generous gift to the 2022 CSA in support of our future and retired priests? Your gift of prayer and financial resources ensures that we will continue to help the mission of the Church in a real way. Pledge envelopes are available at the exits of the Church. This year's parish goal for St. Alphonsus is \$61,146. 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/giving.



During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be conducted each Monday morning immediately after the 8:15 a.m. Mass, each Friday afternoon by the school children at 2:30 p.m. (adults welcome), and Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. with the Way of the Cross followed by Mass.



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 28 - April 1, 2022.

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.



The Bookstore and Gift Shop is open on Tuesday Thursday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and after all weekend Masses.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Thomas "Tom" Tatlow, father of Theresa (Gilberto) Patino of this parish, who passed away February 23rd.

Edwin "Big Ed" Catchot, Sr., a member of our parish community, who passed away March 10th.

We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

REFLECTION

Days pass and the years vanish, and we walk sightless among miracles. Lord, fill our eyes with seeing, and our minds with knowing. Let there be moments when the radiance of your presence illuminates the darkness in which we walk. Help us to see, wherever we gaze, that the bush burns, unconsumed. And we, clay touched by your hand, will reach out for holiness and exclaim in wonder, 'How filled with awe is this place, and we did not know it.' (Anon)

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 21
2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Michelina Mercurio
TUESDAY	MARCH 22
Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Matthew Gospodinovich
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Katherine Hanning
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 23
Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Adella Osiecki
THURSDAY	MARCH 24
Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Cindy Champaigne
8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
FRIDAY	MARCH 25
Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38	
6:30 a.m.	Msr. Gregory Kennedy
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Ryan Scott Odom
SATURDAY	MARCH 26
Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14	
8:15 a.m.	Deceased Knights of Columbus
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Ligaya Camagong
SUNDAY	MARCH 27
Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Richard Durkin, Sr.
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Joan Chastant
5:30 p.m.	Mr. McKinley Cantrell

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$17,094.28
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 2,110.00
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Kevin Barry, Beckett Bassenger, Christopher Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Bob Boney, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Jeffrey Brochard,

Kay Brochard, Margaret Broussard, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Vicki Carter, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Christine Chandler, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Sean Halat, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Melissa Menard, Iva Misko, Johnny Mitchell, Edward Necaise, Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, The Petitjean Family, Richard Potash, Jan Roberts, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Ann Tootle, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, and Ashley Vickers.

Altar Society Members for next week
Jamie Lloyd, Terry O'Connor, Norma Williams

FAITH FORMATION

Kindergarten - 5th Grade: Sunday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
 Contact Jane Sema at jsema@osstalphonsus.org

Edge (6th - 8th Grade): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)
Life Teen (9th - 12th Gr): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)
 Contact Will Haislmaier at whaislmaier@osstalphonsus.org

Confirmation (11th Gr): Sunday, 6:30 p.m. (after 5:30 p.m. Mass)
RCIA: Thursday, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
 Contact Chris Molino at cmolino@osstalphonsus.org

Mar 24: RCIA, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
Mar 27: Faith Formation Classes, Times Listed Above
Adult Study Class, 10:15 a.m., Parish Hall Meeting Room
 Brant Pitre "The Jewish Roots of the Papacy: All are welcome to attend."



Jesus, on the Cross and in the Holy Eucharist, is our "Bridge over troubled water." He is our link from the finite to the infinite, the earthly to the eternal. Nearly 2,000 years ago, Jesus, the Son of God, became flesh in the womb of Mary, a fourteen year old girl. This same

God comes down to us from heaven each day, making His dwelling upon our altars. The Eucharist is Jesus.

In the Holy Eucharist, we find our very best friend who is always with us. Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is the only person in the whole world who waits to love us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He never leaves us, but always comes with us and stays with us. The message His Eucharistic Heart gives us is: "*I will comfort you.*"

Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament touches and fills your heart with His Love and Mercy. Patiently, He waits for you to open the door of His living, personal, true and real love, for He has given you the key. Each time you receive Jesus in Holy Communion or spend time with Him in the Blessed Sacrament, you not only receive, but return His love. By uniting yourself to His Sacred Eucharistic Heart, you begin to see, to taste, to know a little piece of Heaven.

When we unlock the door of the tabernacle and look upon His Eucharistic Heart, we are given the comfort and strength we need to live each day. Excerpt taken from: Behold the Lamb by Mary Beth Bracy

To view the adoration schedule or to sign up for a weekly adoration hour, visit stalphonsus.weadorehim.com/signup. If you know you cannot make your hour, please request a substitute on the website.

1. Log in to your adoration account at stalphonsus.weadorehim.com
2. Click on 'My Dashboard'
3. Scroll down until you see 'My Commitments'
4. Click the yellow highlighted box that says, 'Request Substitute'
5. A text box will pop up asking you to confirm your sub request. Click on the green 'Request Substitute' box to confirm.
6. Click 'Okay' to complete.

The computer will now find you a substitute and let you know when one has been secured.

Call 228-282-0984 for any questions on logging in or using the website.



St. Elizabeth Seton invites you to their 1st Annual Craft Fair on Saturday, April 9th from 12 Noon - 6:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 10th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The fair will be held on the Church grounds (4900 Riley Road, Ocean Springs) and will include local vendors with handmade crafts. They are also looking for vendors who would like to be a part of the fair. If interested, call Amy at 228-324-9406 or 228-875-0654.



The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Blood Drive on Sunday, April 10th from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the KC Hall. For early registration go to redcrossblood.org - search St. Alphonsus in the upper right hand corner, "Find a Blood Drive" box and sign up for an available time. Walk-ins will also be accepted.

School Subsidy Policy

Registration for the 2022/2023 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 21-22: Spring Break - No School

Mar 25: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m.; Stations of the Cross, 2:30 p.m.

St. Alphonsus School is looking to hire a PK1 Teacher and Cafeteria Manager. If you have childcare or food service experience and would be interested, please contact the school at 875-5329.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 21-22: Spring Break - No School

Mar 24: Mass, 9:40 a.m.

Mar 25: Alumni Night, 6:00 p.m.

Mar 26: Shamrockin' the Coast, Beau Rivage, 7:00 p.m.



For the sake of his sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Come join us as we continue Christ's journey to the cross through the Divine Mercy Novena on Saturday morning immediately following the 8:15 a.m. Mass in the Church.



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 3, 2022**



The Lord Is My Help is in need of a Cook/Kitchen Manager. This is a full time position (Monday-Friday), has a competitive hourly wage and benefits are available. Duties will include creating a menu, prepping food and cooking for 180+ people a day. Will also work with the Meals on Wheels program as well as a rotating group of volunteers.

A Serve Safe Certification and Resume' with references is required. If interested, please call 228-238-9315 (M-F 9:30-5:30) or email: thelordismyhelpso@gmail.com.

Commentary on the Doctrine Of the Most Holy Eucharist

(Articles taken from the *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*)

4. **The Ends of the Eucharistic Sacrifice**
3. *Propitiation* (continued from last week)

According to the doctrine of the *Catechism*, sin is an offense against God (CCC, no. 1140; 1850; 431; 397). Sin raises itself up against the love of God toward us; it is rebellion against God "disobedience toward God and lack of trust in his goodness: (CCC, no. 397), "a rupture of communion with him" (CCC, no. 1440). Therefore, by expiation we render obedience to that divine Love which is shown disrespect and contempt by many and we intend to make satisfaction for disobedience and sins by worshipful acts of obedience and love.

Pray For Vocations