

The Gospel story is a lesson on growth in faith. The climax of the story comes when the man makes a profession of faith in Jesus, ‘Lord, I believe.’ His journey from blindness to sight symbolizes the journey from unbelief to faith, which is a journey from darkness to light. St. Paul says, ‘Once you were in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord’ (Second Reading). Sadly, while the blind man opens more and more to the light, the Pharisees, who are physically sighted, become more and more spiritually blind. In giving sight to a blind man Jesus shows that he is ‘the light of the world’.

The First Reading talks about the depth of God’s seeing. While people look at appearances, God looks at the heart.

--New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, Flor McCarthy, SDB



The Gospel today reminds us that in our humility, we open ourselves up to a deeper relationship with the Lord and reveal our complete dependence on Him and His grace. When we help others who are on the margins of our society, we act in humility by acknowledging everything we have is a blessing from God, and are called to share them with others. Our Catholic Sharing Appeal is a great way to help those in most need in our communities. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Our parish CSA goal for this year is \$70,146. If needed, pledge envelopes are available at the church exits. Please make all checks out to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese.

St. Alphonsus Lenten Mission March 19th - 23rd

The Year of the Eucharist: Each night a Priest from Our Diocese will give a talk on Mass and Adoration.

Sunday, March 19th after 5:30 Mass:
Fr. Mike Snyder: Introduction and Personal Testimony

Monday, March 20th, 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Mike Austin, Holy Family Parish

Tuesday, March 21st, 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Mike O’Connor, Our Lady of the Gulf Parish

Wednesday, March 22nd, 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Godfrey Andoh, N.B.V.M. Cathedral

Thursday, March 23rd, 7:00 p.m.
Fr. Adam Urbaniak, Our Lady of Victories Parish

Each night we will have a time of Adoration, Reflection and Talks on the Eucharist. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Kathy Mangin, a longtime member of our parish and school, who passed away March 10th.

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. Joseph and the Altar Society Workers

**Altar Society Members for this week
Terry, Aline, Anna, Lois, Norma**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 20
2 Sam 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Matt 1:16, 18-21, 24a	Ella and Simon Gilbert
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Patrick Wagner
8:15 a.m.	
TUESDAY	MARCH 21
Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16	Souls in Purgatory
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Santo & Mrs. Nawasa Padula
8:15 a.m.	
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 22
Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Jr.
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Annie Weaver
8:15 a.m.	
THURSDAY	MARCH 23
Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47	Int. Mr. Holt Foushee
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Carol Gordon
8:15 a.m.	
FRIDAY	MARCH 24
Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30	Int. St. Alphonsus Parishioners
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Ann Krebs Mansfield
8:15 a.m.	
SATURDAY	MARCH 25
Isaiah 7:10-14; 8:10; Hebrews 10:4-10; Luke 1:26-38	Int. Ms. Maralou Guice Richards
8:15 a.m.	
4:00 p.m.	Mr. André Kaufman Albert & Eunice Misko, Sr.
SUNDAY	MARCH 26
Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Mangin
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Nick Thomas
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,228.25
Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 2,560.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Ashleen Balias, Barney Banks, Kevin Barry, Beckett Bassenger, Christopher Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin,

Bob Boney, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Jeff Brochard, Roland and Margaret Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Christine Chandler, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Pat Cronin, Billy Cruthirds, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Nija Fountain, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Charlie Goff, Sandra Grantham, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Daisy Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Nancy Letort, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Iva Misko, Johnny Mitchell, Edward Necaize, Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Thomas Peresich, The Petitjean Family, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Dale Seymour, Bridgett Shepard, Glenn Sigurnjak, Linda Smith, Leonard Tarrant, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, and Ashley Vickers.

FAITH FORMATION

Mar 22: Confirmation Class: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Mar 23: RCIA: 6:00 p.m., Mount Carmel Meeting Room

Mar 26: RCIA: Third Scrutiny, 9:00 a.m. Mass

Adult Study Class, after 9am Mass, Mount Carmel Mtg Room
Faith Formation Classes, Kindergarten – 5th Grade, 10:15 a.m.

Contact Jane Sema at jsema@osstalphonusus.org

Edge Class, 4:00 p.m.; **Life Teen Class,** 6:30 p.m.

Contact Will Haislmaier at whaislmaier@osstalphonusus.org



The Lord Is My Help needs volunteers to pack take-out lunches from 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. and/or to serve lunch from 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. (no cooking involved) this coming week (March 20th – 24th). If you are able to volunteer your time on any of these days at either/both of the times, please call Jamie Lloyd at 713-818-6071. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



St Alphonsus Men’s Group meet on Tuesday’s from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Mount Carmel Meeting Room.

MEN’S GROUP All men of our parish are invited to come build confidence, to encourage and inspire each other spiritually, and develop lifelong fellowship through prayer and sharing, discussion of The Gospels, inspirational readings and videos, and guest speakers.

As men, we strive to be providers and protectors, with a goal of getting ourselves, our families and our fellow Brothers and Sisters to heaven. Our calling to become this kind of man is easier when we have the accountability, support, and example of other men with the same goal.

For more information, contact Buddy Odom at 228-218-7498.



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Ocean Springs is celebrating its second year anniversary and you are invited: All clothing half-off every day; cupcakes served every Saturday; celebration cake and coffee March 21st;

Book Nook Book Sale in front of store March 25th (bag of books \$1). Thank you for your generous donations and purchases!! Volunteers are needed! Call 228-334-5222 for more information.



The Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast on Sunday, March 26th from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. in the KC Hall for \$8.00 a plate. Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice.

Come and enjoy the great food and fellowship.



Envelopes are in the pews for anyone wishing to make a donation to the decorating of the Church for Easter in Honor Of or in Memory Of a loved one. When complete,

envelopes may be placed in the collection basket or brought to the Rectory. **PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY ON THE ENVELOPE.** Donations will be accepted through Sunday, April 2nd.



You are invited to join a Special Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Fr. Mike Snyder and Terri Smith of the MIR Group May 27th – June 4th, 2023. The cost is \$3,297 per person, based on double occupancy, and includes roundtrip airfare from

New Orleans, 7 nights accommodations in Medjugorje, breakfast and dinner daily, airport transfers, all tips and gratuities and an English speaking Catholic guide. To book your pilgrimage, call 800-715-6670 or go online to www.catholicjourneys.com/smith.



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.

School Subsidy Policy

Registration for the 2023/2024 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.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Mar 22: Early Dismissal, 2:00 p.m.

Mar 24: Children’s Mass, 8:15 a.m. / Stations of the Cross, 2:30 p.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 17: Mass, 9:40 a.m.



An Hour of Companionship

Spending an hour before the Eucharist is a practice that the Church has been encouraging for centuries. It is hard to find a saint who did not write about how important it was in his or her life. Blessed Fulton Sheen encouraged Catholics to

spend an hour once a week in front of the Blessed Sacrament. In his autobiography, *Treasure in Clay*, Blessed Fulton Sheen said one reason he keeps his holy hour is to grow more and more in the likeness of God. As Paul puts it: ‘We are transfigured into his likeness, from splendor to splendor.’ We become that which we gaze upon. Looking into a sunset, the face takes on a golden glow. Looking at the Eucharistic Lord for an hour transforms the heart in a mysterious way as the face of Moses was transformed after his companionship with God on the mountain. Something happens to us similar to that which happened to the disciples at Emmaus. On Easter Sunday afternoon when the Lord met them, he asked why they were so gloomy. After spending some time in his presence, and hearing again the secret of spirituality -‘The Son of Man must suffer to enter into his glory’ - their time with him ended, and their ‘hearts were on fire.’

Excerpt taken from Discipleship Quad Guidebook, Part 2 by Bob Rice.

To view the adoration schedule and sign up for an hour you have 3 options:

1. Go to the adoration website at stalphonusus.weadorehim.com
2. Scan the QR code



3. Click on the My Parish app, click the button ‘Parish Info’ and you will find ‘We Adore Him Adoration Sign Up’

Once you have gotten to the website, click on Sign Up (if you don’t already have an account) or Log In (if you have an existing account). You will need to create a password. If you cannot remember your password, click forgot password and create a new one. You will then gain access to the schedule to view available hours. It is important that you sign up as this will enable you to receive upcoming adoration event information as well as help in the safety of all who attends Adoration (i.e. receiving update of door code). If you have questions or difficulty using this website, please reach out and call 228-282-0984. We are happy to help you navigate!



Mass for Family and Friends: You can have Masses offered for the Intention of family and friends as well as for the deceased. Mass cards are available at the Parish Office during regular business hours. The donation for each Mass is \$10.00.