

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.

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



In today's Scripture we hear of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Let us pray for God's grace to be transfigured in our own lives to be more the person that God is calling us to be in the world today.

One way to help in the Mission of the Church is by offering a gift to this year's Catholic Sharing Appeal. Together we can make a difference in our communities and help in that Mission in a real and tangible way.

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.



Please join us for a Parish Potluck on Tuesday, March 7th at 6:00 p.m. in the KC Hall. We will showcase 35 Eucharistic Miracles and hear from two guest speakers on Eucharistic Adoration. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy an evening with our St. Alphonsus family! Feel free to BYOB. Paper products will be provided. For questions, contact Beth McMackin at 228-324-4188.



St. Alphonsus is hosting an XLT night on Thursday, March 9th from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Church. This is an evening for all to come and worship the Lord in the presence of His Eucharistic body. There will be music and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available. We hope to see all of our parishioners at XLT and encourage all families to come. This is a great time to lay the burdens of everyday life at the feet of God and be filled with His peace.



An Altar Society Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15th at 9:00 a.m. in the Mount Carmelite Meeting Room.



Evening of Intercession - Intercessory prayer: You are invited to come and be a part of this night as we continue to learn to intercede and pray with faith in God's love, and with confidence and persistence, even to the point of bargaining with God. No petition is too small! Jesus calls us to join him in interceding for ourselves, our families, our friends, and even for those who may not like us. To ask God to soften our hearts and help us stay open to the mystery of the way he is at work among us. Join us on Wednesday, March 15th at 6:30 p.m. in the Church. Please bring your rosary. "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God." (Philippians 4:6)

**Altar Society Members for this week
P Zuber, D Beaugez, D Helms, J Hillyard**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 6
Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Christopher Seymour
TUESDAY	MARCH 7
Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12	
6:30 a.m.	Edward and Marie Weidner, Sr.
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Lyndzie Padula
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 8
Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Edward G. Dietrick, Sr.
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Julia Szekunda
THURSDAY	MARCH 9
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Rachel Bellman
8:15 a.m.	Dr. & Mrs. Leon (Orpha) Striegel
FRIDAY	MARCH 10
Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Dick Porterfield
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Joseph Allan Gatschet
SATURDAY	MARCH 11
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Wilda Yoast
4:00 p.m.	Mr. Edward "Jimmy" Murray
SUNDAY	MARCH 12
Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Int. Dr. Alice Xenachis
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Carol Peresich
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Ann Tootle

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,322.14
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 1,984.00
 E Europe/Africa & Black/Indian Mission Collection....\$ 1,679.77
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: 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, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Christine Chandler, Pat Cronin, Billy Cruithirds, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Dale Dorcik, Marjorie DuBois, Nija Fountain, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Charlie Goff, Sandra Grantham, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Nancy Letort, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Iva Misko, Johnny Mitchell, Edward Necaie, 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 8: Confirmation Class: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Mar 12: RCIA: First Scrutiny, 9:00 a.m. Mass, Class after 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

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.



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) the week of 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.



You are invited to join a Special Pilgrimage to Medjugorje with Fr. Mike Snyder and Terri Smith of the MIR Group. 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 5:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Mass Music Ministry is searching for musicians and vocalists to play/sing in their group. If interested, please see Erwin Gaines after the 5:30 p.m. Mass or leave your name and number with the Church Office.



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.

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Mar 10: Children's Mass, 8:15 a.m. / Stations of the Cross, 2:30 p.m.

ST. PATRICK HIGH SCHOOL

Mar 8: Wrestling Team Banquet, 6:00 p.m.

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



Time for Adoration

The Gospels show clearly that Peter was a man of action; he always needed to be doing something. So on Mount Tabor, instead of contemplating in silence and wonder the glory of his Lord, he wanted to build three tents.

There is a time for stillness, for contemplation, for wonder, for adoration in the presence of God. A time to heed the words of the psalmist: 'Be still, and know that I am God.' Sometimes we are too busy. We would be better to be silent, to be listening, to be wondering, to be adoring in the presence of God.

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

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!



St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Ocean Springs will be celebrating its second year anniversary during March 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.



You are invited to a Lenten Mission at St. Thomas the Apostle in Long Beach March 14th – 16th. The night will begin in the St. Thomas Community Center with a Lenten Supper and Meet and Greet with Charles and Linda Walden at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Mission Talk at 6:30 p.m.

WHO ARE YOU CALLED TO BE? A Meditation on service to the "least of these". Is your heart in your faith? Or sometimes do you feel like you are just going through the motions? Maybe you're attending Mass, putting money in the collection basket, or maybe even an occasional volunteer? Is something missing? Throughout the Gospels, we are called to follow Christ, but what does that mean in today's world? St. Paul writes in his letter to the Ephesians that: "we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Our speakers, Charles and Linda Walden, have been following Christ, walking in good works. Their answer to Christ's call to care for "the least of these" has taken them from the mountains of Haiti to lonely hospice rooms, from time spent with women in need to time spent with men behind bars. Come listen to their inspirational stories and challenges. Be ready for that final judgment when, called before the throne of God, we will be asked to attest to what we did "for one of these least ones."

For more information, contact: Dave Gauthier at 228-596-8835 or religiouseducation@saintthomaslb.org.