

**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.

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



**A Baptism Class** will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.



**PLEASE JOIN US:** You are invited to join us in praying the rosary outside on the lawn at the Villa Maria on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome! We are looking forward to praying with you!



**Special Collections** A **Second Collection** will be taken up on **Ash Wednesday** (February 14) for the Churches in Central and Eastern Europe and Africa.



**XL.T....Exalt!** We will be hosting a night of praise and worship along with adoration each 3rd Thursday of the month. Confession will be available. The next one coming up is February 15th, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Father Kennedy will start the evening off with a brief talk on preparing for Lent. We hope you can join us.



**Evening of Intercessory Prayer** - February is the month of the Holy Family! Let us all please come and join together in interceding and praying the healing rosary for families. Grant that our families may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. May families never again experience violence, rejection, and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing; make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Our Heavenly Father has given us a model in the Holy Family of Nazareth, please come join us on Wednesday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church and please bring your rosary, if you do not have one, one is available for you and to take home and pray with. In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God." (Philippians.4:6)

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$7,968.79  
Weekly Online Collection.....\$2,432.00

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 5</b>
1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Joseph "Joey" Jurich
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 6</b>
1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Ed Dietrick, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Mark Toups
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 7</b>
1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Judy Catchot
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Jackie Endt
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 8</b>
1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Earl Keys
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Freddie Lusk, Sr.
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 9</b>
1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Dick Porterfield
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Gena Odom
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 10</b>
1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Melsie Mangin
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Susie Jurich
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 11</b>
Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Cor 10:31—11:1; Mark 1:40-45	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Int. Ms. Jane Sema
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Judy Soares
5:30 p.m.	Int. Hospitalized and Infirm



**Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends:** Ralph Balias, Beckett Bassenger, Christopher Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin, Bob Boney, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Jeff Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Sybil Burchinal, Arlene Burns, Mildred "Tootsie" Caillavet, Benny and Carol Lee Cantin, Marshall Car, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, Allene Chatham, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Rose Mary Eagan, Nija Fountain, Ray Frazier, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Josh Hamilton, Trent Hartzog, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Albert Gregory Mansfield, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Iva Misko, Edward Necaie, Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Dale Seymour, Bridgett Shepard, Glenn Sigurnjak, Linda Smith, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Dennis VanAcker, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.



### Eucharistic Adoration

This Lent, instead of giving something up, try adding something to your weekly routine. Pick up an hour of peace, once a week, adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Our chapel is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week just for you. Make this Lenten season the best one yet and bring your family too!

Did you know that the chapel has a dedicated hour just for families? The family and children hour is every Tuesday from 4-5pm. Check it out!

"Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace."

St. Padre Pio



**Adult Study this Sunday** after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Mount Carmel Meeting Room with the EPIC DVD Series *It's a Journey through Church History.*

For more information, contact Sue Mihal at 601-573-0020 or Anne McClellan at 228-327-4040. All are invited to attend.



### LOVE LIFE Walking with Moms Pennies for Life

Last year Parishes and Schools participated in the Biloxi Catholic Diocese Walking with Moms fundraiser, "Pennies for Life". **\$6000 was raised for the Walking With Mom's in Need Ministry!** This money has helped provide many mothers and their babies in our parishes and our communities with basic needs. This year with other parishes in the Diocese participating we are hopeful that we will spread the word about Walking with Mom's, grow and become even more effective in reaching those who can benefit from this program.

**St Alphonsus Parish is again collecting Pennies for Life!** Participants are asked to donate one penny for each year of their lives in thanksgiving to God for the life He has given them. (any coin denomination or folding money is also accepted) The proceeds collected will be given to the Diocese of Biloxi Walking with Moms in need Ministry.

Donations will be accepted through Sunday, February 11th and may be placed in the large container with the red heart balloon either at the entrance to the Church or School.



### Redeemer in the Womb

The first stage of the divine Word's human life was in Mary's body. For nine months, He whom the heaven of heavens cannot hold was housed, as a real human baby, within His mother's womb. ---Fr. John Saward  
Margaret Miller, Coordinator; [mrm828@yahoo.com](mailto:mrm828@yahoo.com)



**Parishioner Registration:** When planning a baptism, marriage, or to obtain subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must be able to demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you do attend Mass.

It is the Church, not just this parish, which insists that signs of good faith commitment be present on these occasions. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of contributions and Mass attendance. Parish registration forms may be obtained in the Vestibule of the Church or at the Parish Office during regular office hours.



**The Flowers on the Altar  
are in Honor of  
Catholic School Week**

## St. Alphonsus Lenten Mission "Disciples On A Mission"

DISCIPLESHIP - STEWARDSHIP – EVANGELIZATION

Casting Nets, a lay apostolate dedicated to the New Evangelization will be at St. Alphonsus February 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>. The mission will be led in the Parish Hall. Monday evening there will be a dinner prior to the mission and Tuesday evening a social will follow in the Parish Hall.

Casting Nets will bring a great deal of inspiration and information in presentations that are humorous and entertaining. Speakers Tony Brandt and Chris Stewart have a combined 50 years of experience in almost every level and form of ministry, from youth to college and from RCIA to adult formation.

The focus of the mission: "Disciples on a Mission" - Tony and Chris will discuss the three pillars of the spiritual life in the light of the New Evangelization. Prayer, almsgiving and fasting have a transforming effect on us and on all those we encounter.

All are welcome and child care will be provided.

Sunday, February 18: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.; Parish Hall

Talk 1: "The Challenge of Missionary Discipleship"

As disciples we are called to go ALL IN! How will we respond to that call and go make disciples?

Monday, February 19: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; Parish Hall

Talk 2: The Complete Gift of Self"

Active Stewardship is shown in the grateful response of offering all that we are back to the Lord and His Church in a Complete Gift of Self.

Tuesday, February 20: 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.; Parish Hall

Talk 3: "The Seven Pillars of Effective Evangelization"

These pillars are necessary for a solid foundation if we are to be effective in winning souls.



**Leading up to the Eucharistic Congress - there will be a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage consisting of 4 separate Eucharistic Processions starting at 4 corners of our country and ultimately meeting in Indianapolis.**



South Mississippi is blessed to be on the Juan Diego route that begins in Brownsville, TX. Jesus and His 12 member Eucharistic Pilgrimage Team will arrive in Mississippi on Monday, June 10, 2024 and head to Mobile on Friday, June 14, 2024.

Your Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Team is planning 5 days of activities to include Masses, community gatherings and Eucharistic Processions across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This will be an amazing public display of faith to our community.



### A HEALING ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

In connection with Our Lady of Lourdes, which St. Pope John Paul II designated as World Day of the Sick and in the Spirit of Eucharistic Revival, **you are invited to an Hour of Grace on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral.** Come, let us pray for healing for the sick from Jesus in the Eucharist.



**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 Peresich,** brother of Wink Cunningham of this parish, who passed away January 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Rita Allen,** mother of Ralph (Robin) Allen of this parish, who passed away January 26<sup>th</sup>.

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