

For Matthew, the story of the Magi becomes an anticipation of the fate of the Good News of salvation, a fate that he knew in the aftermath of the resurrection. God revealed himself to the Jews through the Scriptures, and to the Gentiles through nature. The story highlights the paradox: the Jews who have the Scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come, and with the help of the Scriptures, find and adore him.

There is nothing to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from and what exactly the star was. The star was only the means by which a great mystery was revealed – the revelation of Christ as the Savior of the Gentiles too.

The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of today's feast: God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.

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



A Baptism Class will be held in the Rectory on Wednesday, January 8th 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 4th Sunday immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Please call the Rectory with information on the child prior to attending the class.



Walking With Moms in Need Ministry (WWMIN) will be holding their monthly second Sunday Baby Drive next weekend on January 11th and 12th to replenish their supplies to continue the success of the ministry. They are asking for donations of diapers (all sizes), wipes, baby toiletries and necessities, formula, new or gently used baby clothes, strollers, high chairs, car seats, etc.

They wish you a very Happy New Year and thank you in advance for your abundant generosity and continued support.

Boxes will be located at all entrances to the church. For further information, call Mary @ 228-348-6092 or Margaret @ 228-217-4742.



A Second Collection will be taken up next weekend for the Aged and Infirm Priests. The funds from this collection are used by the parishes to offset some of the insurance costs/medical expenses of the priests. It does not provide a pension or a retired priest's day-to-day expenses. This collection remains at the parish. Envelopes are available at the exits of the Church.



EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER All are invited to join us on MONDAY, January 20 at 6:30 p.m. with the EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT in the ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH in Ocean Springs. They say the pen is mightier than the sword, but what about our words? The words we speak have great power and many do not stop to think about the repercussions of their words. From the power to heal to the power to harm, the Bible is filled with wisdom about the impact of our speech. Come join us and let us pray with Our Blessed Mother Mary, our greatest intercessor, with all our hearts! PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US IN THIS NEED FOR PRAYER!!! "Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:9-11).

FOUNDATIONS:

Edge, LifeTeen, RCIA and Continuing Catholic Formation is held on Wednesday's from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.in the Parish Hall.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	JANUARY 6
1 John 3:22—4:6; Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Carlton Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Dennis Belson
TUESDAY	JANUARY 7
1 John 4:7-10; Mark 6:34-44	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Judy Martin
8:15 a.m.	The Canavati Family
WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 8
1 John 4:11-18; Mark 6:45-52	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Eldon Babuchna
8:15 a.m.	Living/Deceased Family of Sion Glazener
THURSDAY	JANUARY 9
1 John 4:19—5:4; Luke 4:14-22a	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Christy Belk
8:15 a.m.	Mr. James "JB" Brune
FRIDAY	JANUARY 10
1 John 5:5-13; Luke 5:12-16	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. David Broussard
8:15 a.m.	Int. Leddy Family
SATURDAY	JANUARY 11
1 John 5:14-21; John 3:22-30	
8:15 a.m.	Living/Deceased Family of Lewis Tucker
4:00 p.m.	Mr. Rodney Goff
SUNDAY	JANUARY 12
Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11; Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7; Luke 3:15-16,21-22	
7:30 a.m.	Congregation
9:00 a.m.	Int. Mark & Ashley McLean & Family
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Margaret Broussard
5:30 p.m.	Int. Homebound

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....	\$ 7,485.25
Christmas Collection.....	\$10,161.00
Weekly Online Collection.....	\$ 2,471.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support	



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Beckett Bassenger, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Betty Bodin, Mercedes Bosarge, Michael Bosarge, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Jeff Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Arlene Burns, Mildred "Tootsie" Caillavet, Benny and Carol Lee Cantin, Marshall Car, Carolyn Castleman, Jennifer Catchot, 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, Margie Gammon, Sandra Grantham, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ron & Hillery Jenkins and Family, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Sawyer Kuljis, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Mary Lewis, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Steve Merkel, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Skip Murphy, Edward Necaise, Donna and Edward Necaise Jr., Terese Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Kathy Pasquini, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor Jr., Jerry Schneider, Courtney Severino, Dale Seymour, Bridgett Shepard, Glenn Sigurnjak, Brittany and John Thornton, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.



New Year, New Resolutions

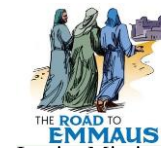
Every new year, we tell ourselves we are going to get into shape and lose a few pounds, organize the clutter, be a better friend or parent. The list goes on and on. How often do these resolutions only last a week, 2 weeks or 3? How about spending 1 hour a week with Jesus in the chapel? This is a resolution that will actually change you. The time spent with your loving Father will change how you see the world, how you see your neighbor, how you see what really matters in this life. Make a New Year resolution that you can stick with and that will stick with you. Become closer to Jesus during adoration! Please remember to close the tabernacle doors if no one else is adoring Him when you leave. stalphonsus.weadorehim.com



Your Church Needs You - God is calling. Can you answer the call? We are in need of Extra Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers at all the masses. Prayerfully consider God's calling to serve your St. Alphonsus Family



Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn King and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.



Men's Emmaus Retreat
Put aside the "hustle and bustle" of daily life and attend the Men's Emmaus Retreat the weekend of January 24-26, 2025. The retreat is held at the William J. Kelley Retreat Center in beautiful, peaceful Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. The retreat is based on the scripture passage "The appearance on the road to Emmaus" (Luke 24: 13-35) and is an uplifting experience that has a profound effect on men's lives. The retreat begins at 4:00 PM Friday and ends after the 5:30 PM mass on Sunday. Round trip transportation is provided from St. Dominic Church, New Orleans or you can meet at the William J. Kelley Retreat Center at 5:30PM on the Friday. Please don't ignore this opportunity but pray on it instead. Something very special awaits you in Bay St. Louis! You can register for the retreat online at: <https://stdominicparish.com/emmaus> or you can email us for a registration form at sdMensEmmaus@gmail.com. Please contact the following men for additional information: Norm Madere 504-481-0411; Rick Valadie (504) 655-8932; or Colin Taulis 504-494-4511



The Poinsettias for Christmas are in Memory of and In Honor Of the following: Our Lady - Mother Mary, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Bill and Dorthea Kennedy, Earl Hammond, Jack and Lady Brennan, Patricia McMackin, Ligaja Camagong, Bart and Maria Camagong, Tam Bao and Leonor Tam, Christopher Gagne, Chester and Mary McPhearson, Ruth Woods, The Peppard Family, Wilbern and Evelyn Parker, Maryann and Bob Ederer, Nikki Terranova, Catherine Fiorentini, The Helms Family, Mike and Isabelle Bishop, Sally and Lou D'Andrea, Shannon Beverin, Richard Salters, Mike Mitchell, Jr., Curtis Marsh, Wendy Weakley, Mike and Anna Mitchell, Bob and Ginger Mitchell, Jim Salters, Jimmy and Mary Salters, Bart Brewer, The Brou Family, Marie Marchulones, The Eagan Family, The Tingle Family, The Senac Family, The Di John Family, The Seigo Family, Carlus E. Chapman, Rosalie Trebotich, Louis Trebotich, Joey Trebotich, Russ Jordan, Carley Jordan, Brittany Jordan, Greg Hebert, George Pitalo, Sr., Lynn Creel, Liam Pitalo, Martin and Anna Seglio, John and Toyoko Reilly, Charles J. Rushing and Family, Phillip Trochesset and Family, John Rosetti and Family, Christine Chandler, Raymond Chandler, William Ray, Robert Nelson, Buford and Mary Cooper, Nickey Thomas, The C. A. Banks Family, Barney Banks, The Joseph Holden Family, Neil

Gryder, Bill Gryder, The Bourgeois Family, The Fiorenza Family, Godfrey Long, Aaron Long, Guy Dubuisson, Janet Beaugez Munger, David J. Munger, Charles F. Munger, The Skelton Family, The Perry Family, Margaret Broussard, Joe and Lucille Ross, Edwin and Ester Broussard, Joseph and Blanche Bienvenue, Ron and Melba Balius, Hubby E. Nelson, Mary Olsen Wilson, Dennis and Alta Mae Higginbotham, John and Ida Olsen, The Auger and Bedard Family and Friends, Diane Higginbotham, Anthony Goretski, Monica Goretski, Betty Nutt, Bobbie Hanson, The Massony Family, Mary Mathieu, Lionel Sentell, Jr., Lionel Sentell, Sr., Elinor Sentell, Russell Sentell, Donald and Martha Little, DeAnna Mackenzie, The Paul Halat Family, Joan Gilbert, Charles Goff, Rodney Goff, Oleus and Della Sonnier and Family, Becky Quiter, George Quiter, Chuck Quiter, William Hosey, The Castelin Family, The Cannon Family, Mr. James Goulding, Ron M. Fournier, Deceased Family Members of the Fournier and Gutierrez Family, William L. Taylor, Juan Bautista Torres, Rosella A. Torres, Enrique and Peligrina Sanchez, The Norman Family, The Belson Family, The Wilson Family, The Sliman Family, the Mavar Family, Herbert and Ann Dubuisson, Dick and Gwen Smelley, Wilma and Leslie Trauth, Eleanor and Glenn Young, Sr., George Young, Gay Lorne Young, David Lloyd, Duane and Helen Lloyd, Deceased Fournier Family, Walter Anderson, Agnes Anderson, Amelia Stebly and Annie, Arnold Seymour, Dot Seymour, Randy Seymour, Charles Goff, Rodney Goff, Norman and Mildred Eckert, Roland and Mildred Hymel, Matt and Vara Lyons, A.O. and Judy Soares, Brenda Soares, Karen Soares, Henry and Sylvia Diaz, Melissa Lee, Jack and Margaret Seymour, Sr., Sherry Seymour, Jack Seymour, Jr., Percy and Valda Fournier, Stanley Fournier, Sr., Bonnie and Homer Franks, George and Pearl Grayson, Hasty and Mabelle Morgan, D.L. Morgan, Sammie and Jeanne Orr, Max Grayson, Jody Kilpatrick, Edward and Regina Disbury and Family, Tanner Fountain, Jerry Dildy, Herbie Beaugez, Freda Beaugez, The Miller Family, The Webber Family, The Vail Family, Deceased Members of the Wagener/Grand Family, The Fremin Family, The Parker Family, Bertha and Arnold Pfiffner, Leona Mihal, Imogene Lambert, Dr. Ronald Persing, William Rogers, Sr., Theresa Simmons, Bernadette and Joe Schultz, Mike and Anna Mitchell, Raymond and Paula Miguez, Michael Mitchell, Bob and Ginger Mitchell, Curtis Marsh, Drew and Kyle Clayton, Cayce Seal, Butch Herbison, Steve Zito, Steve and Helen Trebotich, Barbara and Ronnie Iachino, Steven Iachino, Jenny Woodrum, Joseph Devenny, III, The Gospodinovich Family, The Thibodeaux Family, Louis and Bernadette Kihneman, Hunter Grantham, Charles and Trudy Sentell, Dorothy McKinnon, Robbin McKinnon, Jeff Dees, Dick Porterfield, The Porterfield Family, The Mills Family, Poor Souls, WC Brondum, Jr., Bill Brondum, Bobby Pisarchi, Michael and Joyce O'Sullivan, Molly Mawmaw Edwards, Wally Pawpaw Edwards, Ethel Schubert, Cecilia Brandt, Amelia Edwards, Bess Stiglets, Donald and Gerry Benezue, Bob and Linda Mayer, Phillip Weatherford, The Servov Family, The Seymour Family, The Whitney Family, Mark Thornton Riviere, Jene Pierre, Paul Pierre, Cornelia Pierre, Rickey Pierre, Bruce and Gloria Pierre, Leonard Tarrant, Joan Tarrant and Ann Tarrant, John and Mary Janus, John and Marcella Alexander, Stanley Janus, Dr. John and Joan Janus, Louis Janus, Edmund and Donna Janus, Morgan and Adela Brown, John E. Alexander, Jr., The Gianelloni Family, The Salik Family, The Andrus Family, The Nelson Family, Austin and Everly McClellan, James and Claire Hamel, The Collins Family, Oscar and Mary Mitchell, John M. Kittle, Paul Kittle, Sr., The Mitchell Family, The Kittle Family, Eunice and Albert Misko, Sr., Deceased Peresich family members: Eugene Jr., Doris, Gene III, Janice, Carol, and Thomas and Special Intentions.



We are EXCITED!! We now have Venmo for our parish. The main purpose in acquiring this type of giving opportunity is for ease to our parishioners and visitors as well as for our Wednesday evening "Foundations" program. Please when making a donation specify Parish (Tithing, Poor, Capital Campaign, etc.) or Foundations. We appreciate and thank you!!