

**For this and the following two Sundays we will be reading from Luke's 'Sermon on the Plain' which parallels Matthew's 'Sermon on the Mount'.**

The First Reading is a little bit of wisdom poetry. It contrasts the wicked who trust in human beings and the righteous who trust in God. The former are compared to a barren desert shrub; the latter to a fruitful tree planted beside a flowing river. This prepares us for the Gospel, where Jesus declares the poor blessed. The poor are the 'little ones' who have no one to trust in but God.

The beatitudes echo the program Jesus announced in the synagogue at Nazareth. Whereas Matthew has nine Beatitudes, Luke has only four with, however, four corresponding 'woes'.

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



**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 February 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>.

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.



**EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER** - Please join us on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in praying the HEALING ROSARY FOR THE FAMILY with the EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

in the ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH. The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph; interceding for your family's well-being. Jesus is God. Mary is the greatest saint and intercessor. Saint Joseph is the patron of the universal Church. Together, the Holy Family wants to help your family become a communion of saints. Turn to them in prayer! Ask for their guidance and protection as a family. They are always there to support you. So please come join us in praying the Rosary, a powerful tool for growing in relationship with the Blessed Mother. "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God." (Philippians 4:6)



**The Altar Society will meet** on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the KC Hall. All are welcome to attend.



**The Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast** on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. in the KC Hall.

Breakfast will include eggs & pancakes (to order), grits, bacon, sausage, biscuits, gravy, coffee and juice. Come and enjoy the great food and fellowship.



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Johnny Callegari**, brother-in-law of Nancy Letort and Theresa Niolet of this parish, who passed away February 6<sup>th</sup>.

We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant him eternal peace.

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$12,233.81  
 Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....\$ 7,316.00  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



The Flowers on the Altar  
 are in Memory of  
 Norman and Mildred Eckert

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 17</b>
Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13	
6:30 a.m.	Special Intention
8:15 a.m.	Int. Bishop Kihneman
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 18</b>
Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21	
6:30 a.m.	Mathilde and Fernand Latour
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Anita Grace White
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 19</b>
Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Mark 8:22-26	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Peter Nguyen van Chiêu
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Jane Wilson
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 20</b>
Genesis 9:1-13; Mark 8:27-33	
6:30 a.m.	Special Intention
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Bill Gryder
	Mr. Neil Gryder
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 21</b>
Genesis 11:1-9; Mark 8:34—9:1	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Michael Dickinson
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Bryan Moe
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 22</b>
1 Peter 5:1-4; Matthew 16:13-19	
8:15 a.m.	Anne and Mark Toups
4:00 p.m.	Mr. Albert Misko
	Ms. Eunice Misko
	Mr. Andre' Kaufman
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 23</b>
1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38	
7:30 a.m.	Homer and Bonnie Franks
9:00 a.m.	Ms. Patricia Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Congregation
5:30 p.m.	Int. Ms. Linda Rich



**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, James Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Ron & Hillery Jenkins and Family, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Jack Kelly, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Judy and Randy Lesso, Mary Lewis, Gordon Mathieu, Mrs. McKinney, Steve Merkel, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Edward Necaie, Donna and Edward Necaie Jr., Terése 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, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.



### Blessed in God

Here is a thought: I love God and am loved by him; he consoles in all the afflictions of life, while the love of creatures consoles very little and is often the beginning on the greatest sufferings. Commit yourself, then, to give

your heart to the love of Jesus, with a great and constant desire to be totally filled by him and totally aflame with his divine fire. One loves God because all good is found in this good alone. There one finds the complete fulfillment of mind and heart, and there is nothing left to be desired: "Give me your love, my God," said Saint Ignatius, "and this is enough for me." With all knowledge, one can still be unhappy; with God's love, one is always happy, and the most ignorant of men who knows how to love God is worth more than the learned who don't love him. O good God, make us love you as much as you deserve to be loved.  
 ~Blessed Clelia Merloni

Come and tell God how much you love Him with a visit to our chapel to adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He is always there!

Please remember to close the tabernacle doors if no one else is adoring Him when you leave. [stalphonsus.weadorehim.com](http://stalphonsus.weadorehim.com)



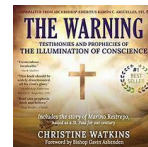
**Classes for Adult Study** are held after the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass in the Parish Hall. Videos are by Fr. Chris Alar, Director of the Association of Marian Helpers. For more information, contact Sue Mihal at 601-573-0020 or Anne McClellan at 228-327-4040. All are invited to attend.

**February 16:** Proof of Christ's Suffering and Crucifixion (Part 2)

**February 23:** What Did Jesus Do On Holy Saturday (Part 1)



**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.



**THE WARNING: Testimonies and Prophecies of THE ILLUMINATION OF CONSCIENCE, by Christine Watkins.** This amazing book is a "must read", for all Christians and non-Christians. At some point, in salvation history, EVERY living man, woman and child, on Earth, will experience a phenomenal

event, prophesied by many saints, prophets, Popes and mystics from the past and the present, whereby each will see the condition of his soul, before God. It will be a wonderful Act of Mercy that our Loving Lord wishes to present to us. Many folks, whose stories are related in this fascinating book, have actually experienced this Illumination of Conscience already. Dr. Gavin Ashenden, former Anglican Bishop and Chaplain to the Queen of England from 2008-2017 (Turned Lay Catholic for the Sake of Truth) among numerous others, encourages folks to open their minds and hearts to learn about the Illumination of Conscience and how it pertains to each of us, so that we can prepare ourselves for the coming reality of this astonishing world-wide event. Copies of THE WARNING are available at the front entrance to our Church for a donation. Please share with family and friends!



**In the Gospel today, Jesus gives us the blessings of serving the poor, hungry and weeping people, for you will then rejoice and leap for joy. But Jesus also teaches us the decisiveness of choice: blessing or woe.**

Choosing to help those who are suffering will fill your heart with the blessing of Jesus and indeed your reward will be great in heaven.

### FOUNDATIONS:

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



Parish Registration

**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.



**NATIVITY BVM CATHEDRAL'S "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS":** The Music and Fine Arts Ministry of Nativity BVM Cathedral announces the resumption of their Eighth Season of their Community Chorale: "Gloria In

Excelsis." The Community Choir program is open to any interested singers in the Dioceses of Biloxi and the Greater Gulf Coast Area. The Chorale continues to rehearse on Tuesday evenings at 6:45 p.m. in the Youth Ministry Hall of the Sacred Heart Academy Center directly behind Nativity BVM Cathedral located at 870 Howard Avenue in Biloxi. The Spring 2025 Season works being prepared include Ronald Nelson's "Voices from the Passion", for their Lenten Reflections concert on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. and the annual Patriotic Concert that will be presented on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. These are major programs planned for this semester. The Chorale has also been invited to sing the "National Anthem" for the Memorial Day Ceremony at the National Veterans Cemetery in Biloxi and share a Patriotic Program at the National Armed Forces Retirement Home in Gulfport in May.

For more information, contact Terry Maddox at 251-406-1454 and/or [terrydalemaddox@gmail.com](mailto:terrydalemaddox@gmail.com).



**The Rosary truly is a very special prayer, one that has many benefits for those who pray it devoutly and faithfully every day.** The Rosary is the second most powerful prayer next

to the Mass! So important is it, that at the first apparition of Fatima in 1917, Our Lady chose to identify herself as, "The Lady of the Rosary." The Rosary is a prayer loved by many of the saints since its introduction in the 12th century. The Rosary is a prayer that fits perfectly into the spiritual life of all who seek to allow Mary to be their light to Christ, to show them the path to Jesus. In his Apostolic Letter, Rosarium Virginis Mariae, Blessed Pope John Paul II states in his introduction, "The Rosary, though clearly Marian in character, is at heart a Christocentric prayer. In the sobriety of its elements, it has all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium..." (RVM, 1) PLEASE JOIN US in praying the ROSARY every weekday, Monday through Saturday, after the 8:15 a.m. mass at St. Alphonsus Church in Ocean Springs. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



**Our Parish App is one great way to help make the liturgical season more present in your daily life.** Helpful reflections will aid you in reflecting on the Mass readings

each day. Also – under FORMED, you will be able to stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers and is available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. **Don't have the App or FORMED yet?** If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone you can download the App by texting [App](http://App) to phone number [88202](http://88202), or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com). To gain access to FORMED – go to the website at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and enter our Parish Code f1f5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password.



**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 English weekend Masses.