

All three readings are concerned with faithfulness to God. The First Reading describes the ceremony of the offering to God of the first fruits of the harvest. It was an occasion for the people to thank God, not only for the blessings of the harvest, but for all he had done for them in the past, and especially in the Exodus. The creed which the offeror recited is a summary of Israel's early history and humble origins. The readings of the following Sundays will focus on significant moments of that history.

The second Reading contains in its simplest form the Christian credo: Jesus is Lord; he died for our sins and was raised up for our justification. Obviously for this faith to be genuine, it must be professed not just with one's lips but also with one's life.

Luke's account of the temptations follows closely that of Matthew, except that he deliberately changes the order of the last two temptations so that the series ends in Jerusalem. This is in keeping with his theological interest in the holy city. The three scenes serve to correct a false understanding of Jesus' mission. Jesus repels the tempter by quoting from the book of Deuteronomy, which stresses God's will for Israel.

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



This weekend is 2025 Catholic Sharing Appeal commitment weekend with the theme of "Building a Future of Hope". This is the weekend to expand our

hearts to give of ourselves generously to those most in need right here in our community. Every gift you make (no matter how big or small) has a tremendous impact by providing the physical and spiritual needs of those most in need.

This year's parish goal for St. Alphonsus is \$76,166. Please make checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi at 1790 Popp's Ferry Road, Biloxi 39532. You may also donate online at www.biloxidiocese.org/giving.



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.



A workshop for all current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and for anyone interested in becoming one will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 7:00 p.m. It will begin in the Adoration Chapel with 30 minutes of adoration before moving to the main church for the rest of the workshop. Please call or email John McMackin (228-229-6236) (jmcmack2@gmail.com) if you are unable to attend.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Bridget Shepherd, mother of Kelley (Rodney) Fountain and sister of Mary (Ronnie) Haaf of this parish, who passed away February 21, 2025

Marian O'Connor, mother of Terry O'Connor of this parish and Fr. Mike O'Connor pastor of OLG, who passed away February 27th. We extend our sympathy to both families and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Your prayers are requested for the deceased priests who have ministered in the diocese, especially those who have died around this time of year:

- Reverend William J. Vollar, March 2, 2011
- Reverend Nicholas Walsh, March 5, 1995
- Reverend Gerard M. Cleary, March 9, 2015
- Reverend Msgr. James J. Hannon, March 16, 2008
- Reverend Msgr. Eamon Mullen, March 19, 1992
- Reverend Msgr. Joseph Mercier, March 20, 2023
- Reverend Msgr. Thomas E. Williams, March 25, 1983
- Reverend Msgr. Michael Campbell, March 29, 1987
- Reverend James P. McGlade, March 31, 1980

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 10
Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46	
6:30 a.m.	Simon and Barbara Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Barney Banks
TUESDAY	MARCH 11
Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Menendez Family
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Mary Shaw
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 12
Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Lea Pitre
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Theresa Simmons
THURSDAY	MARCH 13
Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Thelma Miller
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Todd Klingensmith
FRIDAY	MARCH 14
Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Fr. Kennedy
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Kathy Mangin
SATURDAY	MARCH 15
Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48	
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Steve Sema
	4:00 p.m.
	Mr. Ralph Balius, Sr.
SUNDAY	MARCH 16
Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17—4:1; Luke 9:28b-36	
7:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Nelda Latour
9:00 a.m.	Congregation
11:30 a.m.	Ms. Annette Lawrence
5:30 p.m.	Mr. Dennis van Acker



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, Dale Diaz, Jeannine Dionne, Marjorie DuBois, Rose Mary Eagan, Nija Fountain, Gordon Gaethe, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Margie Gammon, Sandra Grantham, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, James Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, 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 Necaize, Donna and Edward Necaize Jr., Terese Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Kathy Pasquini, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, Richard Potash, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jerry Schneider, Courtney Severino, Dale Seymour, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Dianne Tootle, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.

Pray for Vocations



Lent – A Time for Preparation

Just as Jesus spent 40 days and 40 nights in the desert preparing for his public ministry and His eventual Passion, we too, need to prepare for His death and resurrection. We can do this by clearing out the clutter

and busyness of our daily lives and spending that time in prayer. Praying is, simply put, a conversation with God. An easy way to start this conversation with God is to visit our quiet chapel. The Blessed Sacrament shines so bright in that little room. This Lent, give up the chaos and come experience the peace and grace that Jesus wants to pour out upon each one of us. It's free!! Choose to have a meaningful Lent and form a closer relationship with the One who gave us life! Our chapel is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit stalphonsus.weadorehim.com for the schedule and the option to choose your own hour with Him. What could be better than that?

If you already have an hour on the schedule but are not going, please remove yourself from the schedule or choose to re-commit to your hour this Lent. Thank you!
Please remember to close the tabernacle doors if no one else is adoring Him when you leave. 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.

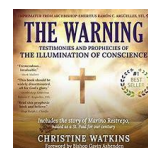
March 9: Our Lady of Undoer of Knots...The most powerful devotion
March 16: 7 verses every Catholic should know



A Second Collection will be taken up next weekend for the Black and Indian Missions. This collection helps to form children in the faith, educate young people, and build hope – a hope often so hard to find in the areas our missionaries serve. The Diocese of Biloxi, being a mission diocese, receives grants for our traditionally African American parishes, as well as grants for our youth, from this annual collection. Envelopes are available at the exits of the Church.



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 today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.



You are invited to come to a Marian Movement of Priest Cenacle Mass on Thursday, March 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Church. Mass, Rosary, and Consecration



OUR LADY OF SORROWS: You are invited to come and join us for the 8:15 Mass followed by the recitation of the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows (a rosary of repentance) on the third Saturday of each month. (i.e. March 15th). The purpose of our coming together is threefold: 1) To pray for all victims of sexual abuse 2) To pray, in reparation for all the vile sins committed against the Body of Christ, and 3) To pray for the graces of repentance, healing, conversion and salvation of ALL SOULS!



An anointing of the Sick will take place on Saturday, March 15th at 3:30 p.m. (before the 4:00 p.m. Mass) in the Church. This is for all elderly parishioners, anyone with an illness, or parishioners with elderly or homebound family members that may wish to receive this Sacrament.



EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus. How will you develop a relationship with this saint? 1) Entrust every intention to his intercession.

2) Honor the fathers in your life. 3) Pray the Saint Joseph novena. (His feast day is March 19th!) 4) Offer up your work to Saint Joseph the Worker. 5) Dedicate every Wednesday to his chaste heart. 6) Consecrate yourself (or your family!) to him.

Please come and join us on MONDAY, MARCH 17th at 6:30 p.m. in praying the ST. JOSEPH ROSARY with the EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT in the ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH in Ocean Springs. "In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your request known to God." (Philippians 4:6)



The Altar Society will meet on Wednesday, March 19th at 9:00 a.m. in the KC Hall. All are welcome to attend.

FOUNDATIONS:

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



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.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$12,136.51
Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....\$ 5,361.00
Poor Collection.....\$ 3,741.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support