

**Luke’s Passion narrative resembles that of Mark but has its own emphasis.** The devil who departed from Jesus after the temptations returns now, entering Judas and demanding to sift Peter. Throughout his Gospel Luke portrays Jesus as the merciful and forgiving Savior of humankind; in death he forgives his executioners, and on the cross he brings salvation to a criminal. Typical of Luke is his special attention to women in a society where they were downgraded. His story is that of a disciple who relives the drama of his Master. Personal attachment to Jesus is expressed by the repeated affirmations of his innocence. He develops the personal relationships between Jesus and the various characters in the tragedy, especially Judas and Peter.

To understand the Passion message we have to keep in mind the other half of Luke’s two-volume work, the Acts of the Apostles. The Jesus who is accused by the chief priests before the Roman governor prepares the way for Paul being brought before the same cast of adversaries. The innocent Jesus who dies asking forgiveness for his enemies and commending his soul to God the Father prepares the way for the first Christian martyr, Stephen, who will die voicing similar sentiments.

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

**The Triduum of Easter commences with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Thursday night,** a reminder of the institution of the Priesthood and the Eucharist. This Mass concludes with the procession through the Church and the reposing of the Blessed Sacrament in the Altar of Repose (in the Sacristy) after midnight. Until midnight you are asked to spend an hour in prayer in the Church just as Jesus asked his disciples to accompany him to the Garden of Olives and stay with him one hour.

**Good Friday** finds the Church bare and empty, to remind us of the absence of Jesus after his arrest and preparing for his death. At 3:00 p.m. we will have the Way of the Cross and at 7:00 p.m., the Passion according to John is read followed by Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service. This service concludes quietly with no recession.

**The Easter Vigil** anticipates the joy of Easter. The 7:45 p.m. Vigil begins at dusk, outside the Church with the blessing of the Fire and the lighting of the Paschal Candle that leads the congregation into a darkened Church. The candle becomes the only source of light during the singing of the Exsultet, and the beginning of the first Old Testament Reading from Genesis speaking of creation. Other Old Testament Readings remind us of the power of God (parting of the Red Sea) and of our baptismal vows to turn aside from evil and to do good. These are followed by an Epistle and a Gospel selection. It is at this Mass that Catechumens/Elect are received into the Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. The entire congregation also renews their baptism promises, renounces evil, and makes a Profession of Faith and then the congregation is sprinkled with the newly blessed Holy Water as a reminder of each one’s Baptism.

- Apr 14:** Our Lady of Fatima, Biloxi - Penance Service 7:00 p.m.

**Apr 15:** Chrism Mass at Nativity BVM Cathedral, 10:30 a.m.

**Apr 17:** Mass of Lord’s Supper with Washing of Feet, 7:00 p.m.

**Apr 18:** Way of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.  
Reading of Passion w/Veneration of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.  
Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence  
Parish Office closed for Good Friday

**Apr 19:** Easter Vigil, Baptism & Profession of Faith, 7:45 p.m.

**Apr 20:** Easter Sunday Masses – 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,  
Spanish Mass 2:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

**Apr 21:** Parish Office closed for Easter Monday



**The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed** in the Church or Chapel from 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday (April 17) until after the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. The Chapel will still be open for anyone wishing to make their Holy Hour.



**A diocesan collection will be taken up on Good Friday for the Holy Land.** Your donation will help to support the struggling Christian community and to protect Christianity’s holiest places.



**Divine Mercy Sunday:** As we enter into Holy Week, let us also keep in mind that Easter Sunday is followed by Divine Mercy Sunday. In preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday, we encourage you to say the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet which begins on Good Friday. Copies are available at the exits of the Church. Our Lord’s promise to grant complete forgiveness of sins and punishment on the Feast of Mercy is recorded three times in the Diary of St. Faustina. “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (699). The Church also observes two feasts in honor of the Seven Dolors/Sorrows of Mary, one on the Friday before Good Friday and the other on September 15.



### 2025 Catholic Sharing Appeal “Building a Future of Hope”

As we come to the end of our Lenten journey in preparation to celebrate the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, please consider joining all the faithful in the Diocese of Biloxi in participating in this year’s CSA. Our Parish Goal is \$76,166. A gift, of any amount, combined with others, really does make an impact for the mission of the Church. Thank you in advance for your gift of faith! If needed, pledge envelopes are in each end of the pews. 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](http://www.biloxidiocese.org/giving).



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of Mary,** mother of Sr. Sharon, who passed away April 3<sup>rd</sup> in India. We extend our sympathy to the family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant her eternal peace.



**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, 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, Ashley Jensen, Lora Jordan, Terri Jurich, 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, MaraLou Guice Richards, Reginald Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Jerry Schneider, Courtney Severino, Dale Seymour, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Ted Ursu, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.

## WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$14,447.50  
Weekly/Monthly Online Collection.....\$ 4,565.00  
Poor Collection.....\$ 4,390.00  
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	APRIL 14
Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Joe Prejean
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Marie C. Laan
TUESDAY	APRIL 15
Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-23, 36-38	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Joy Tucei
8:15 a.m.	Int. Fr. Mike O’Connor & Family
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 16
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25	
6:30 a.m.	Int. President Donald Trump
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Stephen Herring
THURSDAY	APRIL 17
Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-15	
6:30 a.m.	No Morning Mass
8:15 a.m.	No Morning Mass
7:00 p.m.	Int. Mr. Bobby Bayliss
FRIDAY	APRIL 18
Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42	
6:30 a.m.	No Morning Mass
8:15 a.m.	No Morning Mass
SATURDAY	APRIL 19
Genesis 1:1—2:2; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Isaiah 55:1-11; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Luke 24:1-12	
8:15 a.m.	No Morning Mass
7:45 p.m.	Congregation
SUNDAY	APRIL 20
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9	
7:30 a.m.	Ms. Lea Pitre
9:00 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim & Toni Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Anthony Goretski
5:30 p.m.	Int. Ms. Mara Lou Guice



### 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](http://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.



**Capital Campaign Update** – A communication session with Parishioners will be held this month to communicate progress on designs and plans for construction funded by the Capital Campaign. The preliminary design phase will be completed the week of April 6. The designs, material selections, cost estimates, budget, and plans for construction will be included in a report that will be shared with the Bishop. Rendering Boards (views of the designs) will be displayed in the vestibule of the Church in the week(s) preceding the Parish communication session. The communication session will include discussion on the scopes of work, collecting feedback on designs, and the plan to minimize disruption to Mass once early works commence, forecasted to start in May. Please check future bulletins for the date, time and location of the communication session. Announcements will be made at Mass once the date is set.



### EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

A great Lenten penance! The month of April is dedicated to the BLESSED SACRAMENT. “I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh.” (John 6:51) Please come and join us on MONDAY, APRIL 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in praying the 20 MYSTERIES OF THE HOLY ROSARY with the EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT in the ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH. “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matthew 18:20)



**The Altar Society will meet** on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the KC Hall. All are welcome to attend.



**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.

**The Bookstore and Gift Shop will be closed for Easter** Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.



**The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus Council 5654 will offer Fish Dinners on Good Friday (April 18<sup>th</sup>)** in the KC Hall (take out and dine in will be available) from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. Plates will be \$12.00 each and will include fried fish, potato salad, hush puppies, green beans and dessert.



**The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus 4th Degree are raffling off an Aventon Sinch.2 Electric Bike.** The Drawing will be held on Good Friday (April 18<sup>th</sup>). Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20. For tickets or for more information, see any Knights of Columbus member or contact Chuck Nannery at 228-324-1586.



**The St Alphonsus Ladies Auxiliary is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt** on the school playground for the children of the Parish following the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday (April 20). Come see the Easter Bunny and bring your Easter baskets!



**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 April 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</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.



**You are invited to join St. Alphonsus Catholic School for their Spring Soiree “Havana Nights” fundraiser on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** from 7:00 – 11:00 p.m. at the House of the Jackson Pearl. Silent auction items range from trips, spa days, tickets and more. There will also be a split-the-pot raffle. Last year’s winner took home \$17,000. Visit [www.stalspto.com](http://www.stalspto.com) to buy tickets. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Email [pto@stal.org](mailto:pto@stal.org) or text 228-217-6349 with any questions.