

In the First Reading we have the story of the tempting of Adam and Eve, and in the Gospel the story of the tempting of Jesus. They are two very sophisticated stories, and are not meant to be taken literally.

Jesus is the new Adam, who by his obedience restores for us the gifts lost by the disobedience of the first Adam (see Second Reading). He is also the new Israel. Like the first Israel he too was tested in the desert. But whereas the first Israel was found wanting, Jesus remained faithful to God. --New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies, by Flor McCarthy, SDB

This weekend is the start of the 2026 Catholic Sharing Appeal with the theme of “This is the Hour for LOVE”. Bishop Kihneman invites each of us to help through our prayerful and financial support of this years appeal. This years parish goal for St. Alphonsus is \$76,957. Please make checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Catholic Diocese of Biloxi at 1790 Poppes 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.

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (abstaining from meat and meat products for those who are 14 years of age and older).

Fasting: Catholics 18-59 years of age who are in good health are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all the weekdays of Lent the U.S. Bishops strongly encourage the faithful to participate in Mass and to observe a self-imposed fast. The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening. Customarily, the two smaller “collations,” when considered together, should not equal the main meal – and ideally should be eaten only if needed to maintain one’s strength.

Abstinence: All Catholics 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent (unless the Friday is a Solemnity).

In their Penance and Abstinence pastoral, the U.S. Bishops declared: “the obligation both to fast and to abstain from meat, an obligation observed under a more strict formality by our fathers in the faith, still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No Catholic Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation...” They also stated: “we preserve for our dioceses the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice.”



You are invited to join the Knights of Columbus for a special 50 Year and more Anniversary Couples Dinner

as they celebrate five decades of love, commitment, and shared memories. The evening will take place on Saturday, February 28th at 5:00 p.m. at the Columbus Club Hall (KC Hall). Couples are invited to enjoy a warm, elegant dinner and an evening of fellowship as we honor this meaningful milestone together. They look forward to celebrating with you. A sign-up sheet is available in the vestibule of the church.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Richard Potash, father of Donna Beaugez, of this parish, who passed away February 12th in West Columbia, South Carolina.

Jeffrey Brochard, son of Carl and Mary Brochard of this parish, who passed away February 16th.

Hazel Pitalo, mother of Penny Davis (Billy), Cindy Hebert, Susan Muzsly (Matt) and Jordy Pitalo (Darlene), of this parish, who passed away February 16th.

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY FEBRUARY 23
Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46
6:30 a.m. Ella and Simon Gilbert
8:15 a.m. Int. Ms. Margaret Kempner

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 24
Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15

6:30 a.m. Mr. John Meadows
8:15 a.m. Mr. Jeffery Cowart

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 25
Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32

6:30 a.m. Int. Ms. Debbie Javorsky
8:15 a.m. Mr. Richard M. Durkin, Sr.

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 26
Ester C:12, 14-16, 24-25; Matthew 7:7-12

6:30 a.m. Ms. Rachel Bellman
8:15 a.m. Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 27
Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26

6:30 a.m. Special Intention
8:15 a.m. Mr. Pat Cronin

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28
Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48

8:15 a.m. Mr. Mark Toups
Ms. Anne Morgan Toups

4:00 p.m. Ms. Ligaya Camagong
SUNDAY MARCH 1

Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9
7:30 a.m. Congregation

9:00 a.m. Int. Deacon Jim & Toni Gunkel

11:30 a.m. Ms. Dolores Sonier

5:30 p.m. Mr. Robert Stewart



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Sharon Barthes, Beckett Bassenger, Betty Bodin, Michael Bosarge, Bryleigh Brochard, Kay Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Arlene Burns, Mildred “Tootsie” Caillavet, Benny Cantin, Marshall Car, Carolyn Castleman,

Jennifer Catchot, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Rose Mary Eagan, Dawn Fountain, Nija Fountain, Gordon Gaethe, Caroline Gautier, Ansley Gilich, Julian Galloway, Margie Gammon, Sandra Grantham, Richard Harrison, Trent Hartzog, James Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Olivia Hood, Mary Jo Hoogstra, Jeff Janus, Ashley Jensen, Fr. Jey Jordan, Lora Jordan, Otis Kaufman, Joey Kelley, Jack Kelly, Myra Kittle, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Carol Latham, Judy and Randy Lesso, Mary Lewis, Gordon Mathieu, Shellie McDaniel, Mrs. McKinney Steve Merkel, Thelma Miller, Iva Misko, Edward Necaie, Donna and Edward Necaie Jr., Terése Nicovich, Shirley and Travis Norman, Cody Parker, Scott Parker, Kathy Pasquini, Janice Pepper, The Petitjean Family, Jean Petricca, MaraLou Guice Richards, Charles Wesley Ryan, Jr., Margaret Rucinski, Julia Sarpy, Courtney Severino, Glenn Sigurnjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$10,819.00
Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 4,069.00
May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



THIS LENT, TRY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION!

"If we are to experience the Eucharist as the source and summit of all Christian life, then we must celebrate it with faith, receive it with reverence, and allow it to transform our minds and hearts through the prayer of adoration" St. John Paul II



When Jesus is exposed in the monstrance, He is fully showing Himself to us. In return, He wants us to show ourselves back to Him. Jesus does not want us to hold anything back. He wants us to come to Him and pour our hearts out. He is waiting. "Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration." Blessed Fulton J. Sheen

What do I do in Adoration?

There is no right or wrong way to spend an hour with Jesus. You need to find what you like to do in silence with Jesus. Here are a few tips:

-Come to Adoration with an open heart. You might be seeking answers for something specific. You might not hear what you are wanting to hear that instant but rest assured, He has a plan. Pray for patience and ask God to show you in many ways - "give me signs, tell me, show me" - He will listen.

-Be quiet. Listen and rest in the Lord's presence.

-Pray the rosary while meditating on the mysteries.

-Journal, read the Bible, or read a book about Adoration or other spiritual reading.

-Tell Jesus what is bothering you. Ask Him for guidance and peace with any decisions you need to make.

-Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

-Read scripture. After reading a few verses, dive deeper into the scripture by utilizing Lectio Divina.

-Find inspiration for reflection in the words of the saints, who have written about Adoration.

"We can but silently adore the Infinite Love which encompasses us on every side." St. John Henry Newman

"He remains among us until the end of the world." St. Maximilian Kolbe

"Looking at the Eucharistic Lord for an hour transforms the heart in a mysterious way." Blessed Fulton J. Sheen

Jesus said in the garden, "Will you not spend one hour with me?"

If you currently have a designated Adoration hour on the We Adore Him website and have not been going for 3 months or more, your name will be removed from the schedule. If you need to try a new hour, please visit stalphonsus.weadorehim.com to view the schedule and choose a new hour.



Continuing Education for Adults is vital to living out your Catholic faith. Join our group as we enjoy coffee,

donuts, and the study of the Gospel of Matthew, presented by Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Michael Barber after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. No registration is required. All are invited to attend.

For more information, contact Sue Mihal at 601-573-0020.

February 22: Chapters 17 thru 19:15

March 1: Chapters 19:16 thru 20



The Foundations Team invites you to join them for Wednesday Night Foundations in the Cafeteria (Parish Hall) on February 25th.

The evening will begin with supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Groups Meet from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Come Fall in Love with our faith. For more information, scan the QR code.

Edge: 6th - 8th Grade

LifeTeen: 9th - 12th Grade

O CIA: Adults Interested in Becoming Catholic

Adult Study: [Confirmed Adults](#)



Is God Calling You to More? New Wine Program

If you feel a nudge to grow deeper in your faith or lead more intentionally, the New Wine Program may be for you. This renewed diocesan formation experience invites both new participants and past graduates to be equipped as missionary disciples who walk with others toward Christ. The next cohort begins August 2026; applications are open through March 6, 2026. Learn more and apply at: www.biloxidiocese.org/new-wine



The St Alphonsus KC Ladies Auxiliary Council 5654 will be forming a Prayer Shawl Ministry in the upcoming months for parishioners who are homebound, having surgery/hospitalizations, in hospice, or in nursing homes.

We are asking for any donations of yarn and fleece to help this ministry grow. A designated box will be available to drop off donations at the front/exits of the church. Anyone interested in participating in this ministry is welcome to bring your talents. You may contact Gay Camagong at 228-424-7722 or Pam Carter at 228-233-5217 for more information.



Living Hope Group / Farm of Hope: The Living Hope Group is a parish-based ministry open to anyone with a loved one facing addiction as well as friends,

supporters, and families connected to the Farm of Hope. The group offers shared spiritual support, prayer, and encouragement. For more information, please contact Lois Ravera at 228-324-3304.



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



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.



St. Alphonsus Church App – You are able to download our parish app on your iPhone or Android by texting App to phone number 55321, or by visiting myparishapp.com.

Stay connected with our parish throughout the week with instant notifications regarding our parish life and an easy-to-access event calendar as well as many more great features such as daily Mass readings, Catholic news, prayers and prayer reminders, **quick access to our weekly bulletin, Church website (osstalphonsus.org) and FORMED.**

It is easier than ever for you to enjoy your subscription to FORMED! Just download the FREE FORMED app and start enjoying great video and audio wherever you go (or if you are already signed up – you are able to access through the parish app). 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. St. Alphonsus has a purchased subscription from Formed.org, which gives St. Alphonsus parishioners’ FREE access to high quality Catholic programs, movies, downloadable audios and downloadable e-books. To gain access to FORMED – go to the website at www.formed.org and enter our Parish Code flf5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password and start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place.