

Like the story of Jesus' baptism, the transfiguration is an epiphany story. Both stories are manifestations of Jesus as he is, or as he will be. In both there is a voice, and the voice says the same words. A mountain is a place of divine manifestation. The cloud is a sign of the presence of God. Moses and Elijah stand for the Law and the Prophets.

It is no longer possible to say what happened on the mountain. Was it a vision? Was it a profound religious experience? There has been a tendency to see the transfiguration simply as a stage in the education of the apostles. But its first and chief significance was for Jesus himself. It was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken.

But of course it also benefited the apostles. And it's this that Matthew emphasizes. In the transfigured Jesus they got a glimpse of the glory of the risen Lord. Even so, they would not understand until Jesus had risen from the dead.

In the First Reading we see the obedience of Abraham, an obedience which brought blessings to many. It also points to the obedience of Jesus (an obedience which took him to death on a cross) and to the blessings that would flow to the world as a result.

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

In today's Scripture, we hear of Abraham's unwavering commitment and devotion to the Lord. Today the Lord still calls us to witness to Him in the world. One way to witness to Christ is to offer a gift to the 2026 Catholic Sharing Appeal. Your gift can do so much to help in the lives of others and bring the Gospel of Christ to souls in our diocese. This year's 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 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.

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."

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$11,309.29
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 3,976.00
 Churches in E Europe/Africa Collection.....\$ 1,132.01
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 2
Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Malcolm Latour, Jr.
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Andrew O'Brien, Jr.
TUESDAY	MARCH 3
Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Nelda Latour
8:15 a.m.	Int. Fr. Steve Geerling
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 4
Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Jaqueline Hemenway
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Bryan Moe
THURSDAY	MARCH 5
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31	
6:30 a.m.	Int. Strong Families in our Diocese
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Dean Finfinger
FRIDAY	MARCH 6
Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Jackie Endt
8:15 a.m.	Int. Mr. Johny Guthrie
SATURDAY	MARCH 7
Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32	
8:15 a.m.	The Jordan Family The Pitalo Family Mr. Dennis Forrest
4:00 p.m.	Mr. Albert Misko, Sr. Ms. Eunice Misko Mr. André Kaufman
SUNDAY	MARCH 8
Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Tony Pierce
9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving President Trump
11:30 a.m.	Mr. Conner Bond
5:30 p.m.	Congregation



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: 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., Terese 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 Sigumjak, Myrt Talbott, Brittany and John Thornton, Sarah Galle Traylor, Rose M. Vail, Margaret Misko VanLoon, Ashley Vickers and Glenn Williams, Sr.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS



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.

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 three 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.

March 1: Chapters 19:16 thru 20

March 8: Chapters 21, 22, 23



Catholic Diocese of Biloxi Relic Collection - The Diocese of Biloxi has been given the tremendous blessing of over 1600 relics of saints, one of the largest collections in the country. At present over 450 relics are on display in the Marian Chapel at Nativity BVM Cathedral. Another 250 will be switched out and displayed in May/June. Viewing hours are 45 minutes after the 7:00 and 9:00 a.m. Sunday Masses, during the 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. daily Masses Monday through Friday and the 8:00 a.m. Mass Saturday morning. (Refer to NativityBVMCathedral.org for updated viewing hours.) Group pilgrimages/tours can be arranged by contacting Colleen Kavanagh @ColleenKavanagh64@gmail.com or by calling Nativity BVM Cathedral's office at 228-374-1717. The saints lives inspire us and their relics are our spiritual treasures on earth!



You are invited to join us for the First Friday Devotion & Benediction on Friday, March 6th beginning at 7:45 a.m. (prior to 8:15 mass).



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



You are invited to join us for the First Saturday Devotion on Saturday, March 7th at 7:45 a.m. (half hour before the 8:15 a.m. Mass) with Devotion, Consecration, Rosary and Benediction. Confession will also be available.



A Second Collection will be taken up next weekend (March 7/8) 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.



EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and please join us in praying the ROSARY with EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT on MONDAY, MARCH 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH.

Last month we talked about generational healing family trees and some behavioral patterns we may have possibly inherited.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING/RETURN BOTH YOUR FAMILY TREE FORMS THIS MONTH!!

We will focus now on the power of our tongues. Many of the curses in our family tree have come through the words that we say about ourselves or the words that others have pronounced over our lives.

We all carry a responsibility in the words we choose: there is importance in using them to uplift and inspire. From the power to heal to the power to harm, the Bible is filled with wisdom about the impact of our speech. Our words can snare or trap us and form a barrier that prevents God's blessings from entering into our lives.

The Rosary is one of the most powerful weapons God gives to mankind. Let us pray and ask Our Blessed Mother to intercede for us and our families. She is our greatest intercessor!



PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Our Lady is asking you, your family or ministry to pray the Rosary together for peace, healing, hope, conversion, penance and prayer.

Please sign your name on the sign-up sheet in the front of the St. Alphonsus Church to take home the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima for one week. The statue will be passed from family to family after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Instructions and an explanation on how to pray the Rosary will be provided with the statue.

The phrase "A family that prays together stays together" suggests that shared faith and spirituality can strengthen family bonds and promote a sense of togetherness and support. Regular family prayer can foster unity and help family members grow closer to one another.