

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 at 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 7:00 p.m., the Passion according to John is read followed by Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service. This service concludes silently with no recession.

The Easter Vigil anticipates the joy of Easter. The 7:30 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 Promises 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 the Catechumens/Elect are received into the Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. The entire congregation also renews their Baptismal 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.

Easter Triduum

NO Morning Masses Thursday, Friday or Saturday

Holy Thursday: 7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

After Mass until Midnight - Reading of the Gospel and Adoration

Good Friday: Way of the Cross, 3:00 p.m.; Reading of the Passion (St. John), Veneration of the Cross and Communion, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

Easter Vigil: 7:30 p.m. Lighting of the Fire/Paschal Candle, Exsultet, Old Testament Readings, Blessing of Holy Water, Baptisms/Profession of Faith, Renewal of Baptismal Promises, Profession of Faith of entire Congregation, Mass, Communion.

Easter Sunday: Mass at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.; (Hispanic Mass at 2:00 p.m.); and 5:30 p.m.



The Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed in the Church or Chapel from 7:00 p.m. Holy Thursday (April 2) until after the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening. The Chapel will still be open for anyone wishing to make their Holy Hour.



The St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Good Friday Fish Fry on Friday, April 3rd from 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the Columbus Club Hall (KC Hall). Plates will be \$12.00 each and will include fish, hush puppies, green beans and potato salad. Take-outs will be available.



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



The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday (April 3) and Easter Monday (April 6) and will reopen on Tuesday, April 7th at 8:00 a.m.



A note from Fr. Mike: Bishop Kihneman has informed me that because Fr. Jude Awe is not incardinated in the Biloxi Diocese and will not be ministering in our diocese; we are not to send him money. Please pray for Fr. Jude and his ministry.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	MARCH 30
Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Mollie Davidson
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Kathleen Karcher
TUESDAY	MARCH 31
Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38	
6:30 a.m.	Salvation of Souls
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Andrew O'Brien, Jr.
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 1
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Eddie Hire
8:15 a.m.	Int. Dan and Ann Whyte & Family
THURSDAY	APRIL 2
Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Corinthians 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. Fr. Steve Geerling
FRIDAY	APRIL 3
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 4
Genesis 1:1—2:2; Exodus 14:15—15:1; Isaiah 55:1-11; Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Romans 6:3-11; Mark 16:1-7	
8:15 a.m.	No Morning Mass
7:30 p.m.	Congregation
SUNDAY	APRIL 5
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9	
7:30 a.m.	Int. Ms. Julie Trosclair (McKay)
9:00 a.m.	Int. Deacon Jim & Toni Gunkel
11:30 a.m.	Int. Mr. Eric Marquez
5:30 p.m.	Ms. Maria Luisa Salvatierra



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 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.....\$8,192.46
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$3,746.00
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



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 more deeply into the scripture by utilizing Lectio Divina.

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

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.



The Bookstore and Gift Shop will be closed April 1st – 6th.



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 (April 3). 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 receives Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (699).



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 Catholic Sharing Appeal. A gift, of any amount, combined with others, really does make an impact for the mission of the church. We thank you for your gift of faith! Pledge envelopes are at the exits of the Church.

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.



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 at colleenkavanagh64@gmail.com or by calling the Nativity BVM Cathedral Office at 228-374-1717. The saints' lives inspire us and their relics are our spiritual treasures on earth!



The feast day for St. Alphonsus, our patron saint, is Saturday, August 1st. We have begun planning for our annual St. Alphonsus Day celebration. If you would like to be part of planning and executing the celebration, please contact John McMackin at 228-229-6236 or the Parish Office at 228-875-5419.



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.



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](tel: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.**

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