

**The Emmaus story is a sophisticated eucharistic catechesis: a 'liturgy of the Word' is followed by a 'liturgy of the Eucharist'.** The expression 'breaking of bread' is a technical term for the Eucharist. Luke deliberately uses eucharistic language: Jesus *took* bread, *blessed*, *broke*, *gave* it to them.

By the time Luke wrote his Gospel half a century had gone by since the Lord's death and resurrection. So his readers might look back with envy at the people who were fortunate enough to have seen the risen Lord with their own eyes. But in this story Luke makes the point that those who were in that enviable position did not truly know Jesus until the Scriptures were expounded and the bread was broken.

The Christians of Luke's time had those same means of recognizing the Lord – the Scriptures and the breaking of the bread. And so have Christians ever since, for the Scriptures and the Eucharist are the essential components of our Sunday service. In the matter of encountering Jesus with faith, a past generation is no more privileged than the present one.

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



**We encourage those who have not yet had the opportunity to contribute to the Catholic Sharing Appeal** to consider supporting the ongoing efforts of our diocesan Church. Every donation, regardless of amount, plays an important role in the Appeal's success. We extend our sincere appreciation to those who have already chosen to assist individuals in need within our community.

Pledge envelopes are at the exits of the Church. 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).



**You are invited to join the St. Alphonsus School Family for their Spring Soirée** on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at the Ocean Springs Civic Center, from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. This year's theme is "An Evening of Light" and we look forward to seeing our parish community at their event!

Ticket and sponsorship opportunities available at [stalspto.com](http://stalspto.com).



**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 27 – May 1, 2026. 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.



**St Alphonsus Shawl ministry** will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month in the Columbus Club Hall beginning Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon.

Everyone is welcome to join and share their joy for knitting and crocheting or to learn a new skill. Please contact Karen Futch at 228-861-9407 if you are interested in joining.



**The feast day for St. Alphonsus, our patron saint, is Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.** 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.



**Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of: Michael Staley**, husband of Linda Staley of this parish, who passed away April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Judith (Judy) Meyers**, a longtime parishioner of this parish, who passed away April 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 20</b>
Acts 6:8-15; John 6:22-29	
6:30 a.m.	Dr. Malcolm Latour
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Anthony Goretski
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 21</b>
Acts 7:51—8:1a; John 6:30-35	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. John Morano
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Leo Noble
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 22</b>
Acts 8:1b-8; John 6:35-40	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Daniel Bang
8:15 a.m.	Dec/Int Samuel Kerr Family
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 23</b>
Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51	
6:30 a.m.	Mr. Robert Cox
8:15 a.m.	Mr. Bryan Moe
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 24</b>
Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59	
6:30 a.m.	Ms. Jaqueline Hemenway
8:15 a.m.	Int. Ms. Isabella Langan
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 25</b>
1 Peter 5:5b-14; Mark 16:15-20	
8:15 a.m.	Ms. Susie McDaniel
	Int. Ms. Peggy Closson
	Int. Harriet and Chris Reider
4:00 p.m.	Ms. Susie Jurich
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>APRIL 26</b>
Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10	
7:30 a.m.	Mr. Henry Endt, Sr.
9:00 a.m.	Mr. Bill Gryder
	Mr. Neil Gryder
11:30 a.m.	Bill and Dot Collins
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, Craig Fountain, 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, 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.



### Do We Recognize Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament?

April is the month dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament in the Catholic Church. We believe that the Consecrated Host is the Body, Blood, Soul and



Divinity of Jesus Christ. But, do we fully realize what this means? Do we recognize Jesus in this most Sacred Host? Do we know how much He wants to be a part of our everyday lives? He wants to be with us so much so, that He humbles Himself and becomes a small piece of bread that is liable to desecration. He takes that chance just to be close to us. How can we repay Him for this great gift of Himself to us? One way is to visit Him in our chapel and adore Him, where He is always present. He deserves our love in return. He deserves our gratitude for the many blessings we receive. Come to Him with open hearts to receive His overwhelming peace, joy and grace.

Saint John Paul II says this about Adoration of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, "Let Jesus present in the Blessed Sacrament speak to your heart. It is He who is the true answer of life that you seek. He stays here with us in the Blessed Sacrament. He is God with us. Seek Him without tiring, welcome Him without reserve, love Him without interruption: today, tomorrow, forever!"

Commit to a weekly hour in the chapel. This practice fosters a deep sense of reverence and awe for the Eucharistic mystery and offers time for mental prayer before our Lord.

*May the Heart of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament be praised, adored, and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even to the end of time. Amen*

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](http://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.

April 19: Chapters 26 and 27:31

April 26: 27:32-66 and 28

May 3: Dr. Scott Hahn "The Fourth Cup"



**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.



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



**Parish 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.....\$11,116.03  
 Weekly Online Collection.....\$ 3,326.00  
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



### EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** and please join us in praying the ROSARY and EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT on MONDAY, APRIL 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in the church.

We have talked about generational healing family trees and some behavioral patterns we may have possibly inherited. And next on the power of our tongues used to either heal or harm ourselves or others. Fr. Mike is offering Masses with the family bloodline tree forms turned in for our generational/ancestors healings. If you have not turned yours in, please do so by April 20<sup>th</sup>.

We will focus now on the DELIVERANCE PRAYERS to continue the healing process; this is so important! Fr. Mike will be leading us in 'THE HEALING FACE of JESUS' deliverance healing prayers with the opportunity for reconciliation.

Also, rooted in the Gospel, shaped by centuries of prayer, and blessed by countless miracles, the Rosary remains one of the Church's greatest weapons of grace. It is simple in form, profound in power, and always leading us to Jesus through the heart of His Mother.

Let us pray and ask Our Blessed Mother to intercede for us and our families. She is our greatest intercessor!

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US IN PRAYER!!**



### 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.



### The Blessed Mother promises that praying the Rosary devoutly

will lead to numerous graces, including special protection and the flourishing of virtue. The Rosary serves as a powerful spiritual armor against evil and helps deepen one's relationship with God. Please join us in praying the ROSARY every weekday, Monday through Saturday after the 8:15 a.m. Mass in the Church. Everyone Is Welcome!



### Our Parish App is one great way to help make the liturgical season more present in your daily life.

Helpful reflections will aid you in reflecting on the Mass readings each day. Also – under FORMED, 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. **Don't have the App or FORMED yet?** If you have either an iPhone or Android smart phone you can download the App by texting App to phone number 55321, or by visiting [myparishapp.com](http://myparishapp.com). To gain access to FORMED – go to the website at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org) and enter our Parish Code f1f5a9 (case sensitive) on the homepage, create an account with your user name/email and password.



**A lovely flower arrangement on the altar area of the church is a beautiful way to honor a deceased loved one or to celebrate a special occasion.** If you would like to donate for a specific weekend, please call the Rectory at 228-875-5419. Donation amount is \$50.00



**The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of St. Alphonsus Parishioners**