

Today’s reading from Matthew’s Gospel comes after a discourse in which Jesus reproaches people who have witnessed his mighty deeds yet still lack belief. In this context, today’s Gospel explains the reason for this unbelief and reveals what is necessary for faith. Today’s Gospel also continues to enhance our understanding of discipleship as last week’s Gospel did.

Jesus first prays in thanksgiving to God who has made himself known to Jesus’ disciples. He praises God who has made himself known to the “little ones” and not to the wise and learned. As in other recent readings from Matthew’s Gospel, a contrast is made here between the unbelieving Pharisees, who are wise and learned, and the faithful disciples, tax collectors, and sinners with whom Jesus keeps company. The second part of this reading calls to our attention the unity between the Father and the Son. God has made himself known through Jesus, and in knowing Jesus, we come to know the Father. In Jesus’ life and in his person, God reveals himself to us.

In the concluding sentences of today’s Gospel, Jesus’ teaching is again contrasted to the teaching of the Pharisees. This common theme of Matthew’s Gospel probably reflects tension that existed between Jesus and the Pharisees and between the Pharisees and the community of Christians for whom Matthew wrote. Pharisaic Judaism became the predominant form of Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem about 70 A.D. Here that tension is expressed as alternative paths of holiness. The careful observance of the Mosaic law taught by the Pharisees could be experienced by some as difficult and burdensome. In contrast, Jesus’ way of holiness is presented as uncomplicated and even restful.

--Loyola Press



PLEASE JOIN US: You are invited to join us in praying the rosary outside on the lawn at the Villa Maria on Saturday, July 11th at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome! We are looking forward to praying with you!



St. Alphonsus will host a Holy Hour for Vocations in the Church on Monday, July 13th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. All are invited.



St. Alphonsus Parish Feast Day Celebration

Join our parish family on Saturday, August 1st for a day of faith and fellowship! The morning begins with 8:15 a.m. Mass, followed by Adoration, Confession, and at 10:15 a.m., coffee and doughnuts with mahjong and bingo. Evening festivities kick off with the 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass, leading into the "Feast Like Family" Spaghetti Dinner at 5:15 p.m. (\$5/person, \$15/family). Enjoy trivia, a movie, and at 7:00 p.m. we will draw the winner for our "Raise the Steaks" Half-A-Cow Raffle featuring local Stonnington Farms beef (\$20/ticket, 6 for \$100). All proceeds directly benefit the St. Alphonsus Catholic School Guardian Angel Fund!

Planning Information: To learn more or to get involved with the celebration planning, please contact John McMackin at 228-229-6236.



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.



The Flowers on the Altar are in Honor of Those Who Protect our Country

WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$8,160.46
Weekly Online Collection.....\$3,531.00
Peter’s Pence Collection.....\$1,562.00

May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY

JULY 6

Hosea 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Matthew 9:18-26

6:30 a.m. Mathilde and Fernand Latour

8:15 a.m. Dec/Int Thomas Patrick Langan Sr. Family

TUESDAY

JULY 7

Hosea 8:4-7; 11-13; Matthew 9:32-38

6:30 a.m. Mr. Conner Bond

8:15 a.m. Mr. Richard “Dick” Eckert, Sr.

Ms. Liz Eckert

WEDNESDAY

JULY 8

Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Matthew 10:1-7

6:30 a.m. Ms. Angelina Ward

8:15 a.m. Ms. Carolyn Castleman

THURSDAY

JULY 9

Hosea 11:1-4, 8e-9; Matthew 10:7-15

6:30 a.m. Ms. Allison Dickinson

8:15 a.m. Int. Mr. Buddy Odom

FRIDAY

JULY 10

Hosea 14:2-10; Matthew 10:16-23

6:30 a.m. Mr. Phillip Howard

8:15 a.m. Marie and Irwin Obernuefemann

SATURDAY

JULY 11

Isaiah 6:1-8; Matthew 10:24-33

8:15 a.m. Ms. Hazel Pitalo

The Jordan Family

The Pitalo Family

4:00 p.m.

Ms. Dolores Sonnier

SUNDAY

JULY 12

Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23

7:30 a.m.

Ms. Sylvia Riche

9:00 a.m.

Int. Mr. Marco St. John

11:30 a.m.

Mr. Ronnie Joe Seymour

5:30 p.m.

Congregation



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Beckett Bassenger, Betty Bodin, Michael Bosarge, Bryleigh Brochard, Roland Broussard, Roxie Buckles, Arlene Burns, Mildred “Tootsie” Caillavet, Benny Cantin, Marshall Car, Jennifer Catchot, Clifford Claverie, Scott Claverie, Breanne

Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Michelle Dyess, Rose Mary Eagan, Dawn Fountain, Nija Fountain, Barbara Fournier, 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, Myra Kittle, Bill Kortman, Mary Krystosek, Daisie Laborde, Carol Latham, Nelda Latour, 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. and all our Homebound Parishioners.



The Precious Blood of Jesus Christ

In the month of July, the Catholic Church honors the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ. Let us remember the sacrifice that Jesus made by the



pouring out of His Precious Blood to save all of humanity from our sins. His Precious Blood is offered to us in the Eucharist every day and is waiting to be adored in the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel. Let us spend some of our time adoring His Precious Blood during the month of July.

"O Jesus, I adore you, truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I adore your Precious Blood, which was shed for the redemption of the world. I thank you for your sacrifice and ask for your mercy and protection. May your Precious Blood reign forever, scattering all evil and bringing peace to the world."

To deepen your connection with Christ even further, pray the Litany of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus which can be found on EWTN.com.

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 for the month of July for inventory and maintenance.



The Catholic Diocese of Biloxi is seeking a Director of Finance to lead and oversee financial operations across the Diocese, including the Chancery, Catholic Charities, and related ministries. This key

leadership role serves as the primary financial advisor to the Bishop, ensuring sound financial planning, strong internal controls, and faithful stewardship of Church resources. The Director works closely with clergy and diocesan leadership to promote transparency, accountability, and alignment with the mission of fostering Discipleship in Christ.

Candidates should have a bachelor’s degree (advanced degree preferred), 7–10 years of financial management experience—ideally in a nonprofit setting—and a commitment to Catholic values. CPA certification is preferred. For full details and/or to apply, please visit: <https://www.biloxidiocese.org/director-finance>



In the Gospel today we hear Jesus say: “Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” **Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brings peace to those who are overwhelmed with life’s burdens.**



Parish Registration

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.

HURRICANE PRAYER

O Heavenly Father, all the elements of nature obey your command.

Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear into praise of your goodness. Protect us from hurricanes and disasters of nature.

We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. (Save and pray frequently)



The Second Sunday Donations for Walking With Moms in Need will be held next weekend, July 11th and 12th. As their ministry grows, so do their needs. They continue to need all sizes of

diapers, especially size 2/3T pull-ups and 4/5T pull-ups, and baby wipes. Donations of gift cards of \$20 or less from Visa, Walmart, Target, any grocery store, and fast food restaurants are very helpful for emergency situations or for needs they don’t supply. Baby necessities and baby equipment are always in demand. Both new and gently used baby, toddler, and children clothing are needed as well. As always, they thank you for your kindness, support, and generosity.

Contacts: Margaret at 228-217-4742 or Mary at 228-348-6092.



St. Michael and Stella Maris Explorers are hosting a Moms' Back to School Retreat on Saturday, July 18th. This retreat is designed to encourage and equip you for the school year ahead with a full day of prayer, learning,



fellowship, and time to journal and/or plan. All school-age mothers are welcome! Scan the QR code for more details or contact Ashley Rodriguez, 410-693-8825 (call/text).



EVENING OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

Please JOIN US on Monday, July 20th, at 6:30 p.m. in praying the ROSARY with Our Lady and EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT. CONFESSION will also be available.

The late Father Gabriele Amorth said: “During an exorcism, Satan told me, through the possessed person, ‘Every Hail Mary of the Rosary is a blow to the head for me; if Christians knew the power of the Rosary, it would be the end of me!’”

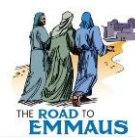
This is why the rosary is a vibrant and powerful weapon for spiritual warfare!

The rosary has won battles, fought heresies, and wrought countless miracles. A multitude of saints and popes have endorsed it.

Pope Pius IX declared, “Among all the devotions approved by the Church, none has been so favored by so many miracles as a rosary devotion.” “Give me an army, saying the rosary and I will conquer the world.” - Pope Pius IX

Prayer is truly one of the most powerful weapons God gives to mankind. Let us now come together and pray with Our Blessed Mother, who is our greatest intercessor.

EVERYONE IS INVITED, LET US JOIN OUR LADY IN PRAYER!



Men, put aside the "hustle and bustle" of daily life and be part of the upcoming men’s “Road to Emmaus” retreat the weekend of July 24th – 26th.

The retreat is held on the Gulf Coast at W. J. Kelly Retreat Center in Bay Saint Louis.

The retreat is based on the scripture passage which includes Jesus’ appearance on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24: 13-35) and is an uplifting spiritual experience that has a profound effect on men's lives.

The retreat begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday and ends after the 5:30 p.m. Mass on Sunday. Round trip transportation is provided from St. Dominic Church, New Orleans.

Please don't ignore this opportunity, but pray on it instead. Something special awaits you on the Road to Emmaus. Website registration can be done here: <https://stdominicparish.com/emmaus>. Please contact the following men for additional information: Norm Madere 504-481-0411 or Steve Schulkens 504-401-6990.



Save The Date: The Annual Mass of Wedding Anniversaries will take place on Sunday, October 4th at 2:00 p.m. at the Nativity B.V.M. Cathedral. Couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55,

60, 65 or 70 years of marriage or more in 2026 are welcome to attend. Registration forms are available in the Rectory Office.