



St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church

The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 14, 2021 - Volume 13, Issue 7

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God."

— 1 Corinthians 10:31

LENT

A SEASON OF REFLECTION,
RENEWAL, AND PREPARATION

Fasting & Abstinence during Lent

In the Diocese of Baton Rouge, all Catholics are bound by the laws of fasting and abstinence during Lent.

Catholics aged 18 through 59 are obligated to follow the law of **fasting** on both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting means eating only one full meatless meal a day. Taking two other small meals that together do not equal a full meal is permitted. Food and drink "between meals" (except water) is not permitted.

Catholics aged 14 and up are required to **abstain from meat** on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday. Abstinence means to abstain from eating meat. Eggs, milk, products, or condiments made from animal fat are allowed.

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17th

Mass Schedule

6 AM 8:30 AM
12 PM 6 PM

Stations of the Cross

Please join us at **6:30 PM in the Church on Friday evenings** during Lent for the Stations of the Cross. We will also live-stream the stations on our Facebook and YouTube channel every Friday for those who wish to participate from home.

**Confession Every Saturday
in the St. Clare Room
from 3 - 3:45 PM**

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Formation Office Hours: Tuesday- Friday 8:30 AM- 4:30 PM
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Church Facebook: St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
Church Twitter & Instagram: @StAlphonsus_BR

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

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cryals@stalphonsusbr.org

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School Website: www.stalphonsusbr.org
School Facebook: St. Alphonsus Catholic School

DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17

On January 12, Archbishop Leonard Blair, Chair of the Bishops' Committee on Divine Worship, issued a memorandum to all the Bishops of the United States. In it he wrote, "While Ash Wednesday is not a holy day of obligation and while there is no requirement for the clergy and faithful to receive the imposition of ashes, it is rightly observed as a celebration of high importance, and many will surely wish to participate even amid the current difficulties."

Archbishop Blair then shared a message from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. He writes, "During this time of pandemic, the Holy See has modified the method of distributing the ashes, as outlined in the following "Note":

Prot. N. 17/21

NOTE ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Distributions of Ashes in Time of Pandemic

The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel", or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return".

The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything.

From the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 12 January 2021.

Robert Card. Sarah, Prefect
+Arthur Roche, Archbishop Secretary

Archbishop Blair notes that "these changes minimize the necessity of physical contact between minister and recipient and remove the need for the minister to speak while in close proximity to the recipient.

The distribution of ashes via sprinkling is a common practice in some countries but is not well known here. Therefore, the Committee encouraged ministers to provide some explanation to the faithful, to avoid unnecessary confusion.



WORSHIP

Readings for the Week - Feb. 15 - 21

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20-6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-2

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Pt 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

Worship Guide for Mass

To help you follow along during Mass, we are offering a Worship Guide on our website. On a computer or smart phone, go to www.alphonsus.org and click on the teaser that says **Live Stream & Worship Guide**. We encourage everyone to follow along.

Divine Mercy Novena

The second week of our Divine Mercy Novena will be on ***Ash Wednesday, February 17 at 4:30 PM*** Please note the time change. Social distancing and masks are required. The Novena will also be live-streamed on the St. Alphonsus Facebook and YouTube. *The remaining weeks will be at 6:00 PM.*

Jesus said to St. Faustina, "I desire that the whole world know my infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in my mercy."



OUTREACH

Rest in Peace

Timothy Smith

Jeanette Rushing Milne - *Wife of Charles W. Milne, Sr.*
Mother of Jennifer Fabre.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:00 PM
 Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Live Stream

Sunday 10:00 AM on Facebook & YouTube

Daily Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 AM
 Novena on Tuesday 8:30 AM

Holy Day Masses

As Announced

Children's Liturgy of the Word

For children kindergarten through second grade.
Ministry currently on hold until further notice.

SACRAMENTS & RESOURCES

Baptism

Contact Robin Debetaz at the Parish Office in the early months of pregnancy for dates and preparation requirements.

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 PM and by appointment

Christian Initiation of Adults

If interested in becoming Catholic and want more information on the process, call the Formation Office at 225-261-4644.

Marriage

Contact Sara Puissegur at the Parish Office six months to one year prior to projected wedding date for information concerning preparation programs.

Anointing of the Sick

You can receive this sacrament during a serious illness, before a major surgery, or for spiritual and mental healing. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

Funerals

Contact Robin Debetaz at the Parish Office for arrangement information.

Formed

Go to formed.org and enjoy access to this free online Catholic gateway with our parish access code- 9R9K3M.

Prayer Lines

Mary Frederick 225-261-5145
 Adam Landry 225-938-8000

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Financial Assistance and the Food Pantry will be closed on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021, for the beginning of the Lenten Season. We will resume serving our neighbors on Wednesday, February 24.

FORMATION

Confirmation Year 2

Confirmation Year 2 meeting Sunday, February 21, 2021. We will begin at 5:30 PM in the Church and end at 7:30 PM.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets on Tuesday evenings in the Choir Room from 6–8 PM. Many of us know the Scripture readings from Mass, but do you know how they apply to your everyday life? Come share time with Scripture from the Sunday readings and fellowship with other men of the parish.

Corpus Christi Prayer Group

The Corpus Christi Prayer Group meets on the first Thursday at 7 PM and on the second Monday of each month at 9:15 AM in the St. Joseph Room of the Multi-Purpose Building. We praise and worship God for an hour, then have talks, teachings or testimonies for twenty minutes. Prayers are offered for anyone who wants or needs them. This is an open invitation for anyone. Looking to strengthen or grow in an intimate relationship with the Lord? You can do that here. This will teach you how to walk in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. If you are interested, please contact Reneé Elliott at 774-8936.

The King's Men

The King's Men exists to create and develop a thriving community of Catholic men in our parish. We meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30 until 8:30 PM in the St. Joseph room. We participate in a wide variety of compelling programs such as "That Man is You", "Christ Renews His Parish" men's retreat, The Men of Immaculata Men's Conference and retreats at Manresa. Contact the Faith Formation Office at 261-4644 for more information.

Walk to Jerusalem Program



In 2020, we began a new program for Lent: "Walk to Jerusalem." Members of St. Alphonsus Parish completed the walk within the first three weeks of Lent. Because of the success of the program last year, we will once again begin the journey in 2021 on Ash Wednesday with scripture, meditations, and challenges in the bulletin, along with the information on how to report your mileage each week. In addition, we will be offering a list of cathedrals you can visit virtually and learn their historical backgrounds while on our journey. See our weekly bulletin or the church website each week for more information.

Parishioners are invited to participate in the WALK TO JERUSALEM program, which was developed by St. John Providence Health System and designed to increase the physical, spiritual, and emotional health of participants. **The goal is to walk enough miles through the Lenten season to reach Jerusalem by Easter. Our path from St. Alphonsus to Jerusalem is a total of 6,885 miles.**

Each week participants will be able to submit their mileage in one of two ways:

1. **Submit your name and mileage via the link on the church website by Friday at 10 AM (1st week ending on February 26):**
www.alphonsus.org/lent
2. **Call the Church Office and let us know your name and mileage by Friday at 10 AM each week. We will collect and update the mileage in the church announcements each week.**

As you begin each week, you are invited to focus on the weekly scripture, meditation/reflection, and health message, which will be provided in the bulletin, on the church website, and on the church Facebook page. We invite you to read the scripture passage before starting your physical activity for the week, and as you complete your mileage throughout the week, meditate on the reflection. The health message will give you nutrition and wellness advice, which will relate back to the scripture reading and reflection for the week.

If your fitness calling does not include walking or running, no need to worry. Any fitness or cardio activity (such as swimming or biking, to name a few) lasting 20 minutes will count as 1 mile on this journey to Jerusalem.

So please come on this spiritual journey with us as we become more physically active while also deepening our relationship with God!

***Please note that there is no formal sign-up or registration required. Anyone can join in each week and submit their mileage.**

Weekly Scriptures/Meditations: Ash Wednesday

"Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting in punishment."

Lord, I want to return to your loving arms. Thank you for your abundant love and mercy. Help me to be your hands and feet, and to carry out that love to everyone I encounter.

Health message: When making changes to your diet and lifestyle, first strive to create balance. MyPlate is a helpful tool to balance meals and serve appropriate portions. Challenge—Try to fill half of your plate with fruits and vegetables at all meals and snacks.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Retrouvaille

Matrimony: A calling to forgive! "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope." Retrouvaille offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. Retrouvaille offers hope for a different and better marriage. Retrouvaille helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, forgive, be reconciled and move into their futures believing that God loves them and with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. Retrouvaille provides help for marriage problems/difficulties. For information about our Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples (**March 5-7, 2021**), contact: **Bill and Missie @ 985-232-5963** or visit our website: **HelpOurMarriage.org**.

Download Our App

On your mobile device, download the "Church by MinistryOne" App. In the app, search "St. Alphonsus Liguori Parish" and select our church. In the app, you will be able to access online giving, stream Masses, read the bulletin, and register or edit your family's church census. To edit your family's census records, select "Registration" and fill out the form, selecting "Census Update" if you are already registered at St. Alphonsus Church. If you have questions, please call 261-4650.



ADMINISTRATION

Gifts of Stewardship

For January 30-31, 2021, your *Stewardship* resulted in:

Weekly Collection

Envelopes	\$ 15,713.00
Unidentified	\$ 740.00
WeShare	\$ 3,281.00
Parish Soft	\$ 3,320.00
Bank Draft	\$ 2,704.00

Building/Maintenance Fund

Envelopes	\$ 380.00
WeShare	\$ 180.00
Parish Soft	\$ 225.00
Bank Draft	\$ 1,440.00

Children's Collection

\$ 75.00

Latin America

\$ 111.00

Total Received

\$ 28,169.00

Special Collections on Parish Soft Giving

Ash Wednesday

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