



The devil said to him, "All this will be yours, if you worship me." Jesus said to him in reply, "It is written: *You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve.*"
- Lk 4:6a, 7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

1st Sunday of Lent

As we enter into this Lenten season of penance and self-denial, we're reminded that the God we follow is no stranger to these things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we see the temptations of Jesus which have parallels throughout Scripture and in our own lives. The apostle John warns against temptations to sensual lust, enticement of the eyes, and a pretentious life. (cf. 1 John 2:16). Before Eve plucks the fruit from the tree, she hears it is good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom (cf. Genesis 3:6). The temptations of Jesus are our own.

"Turn these stones to bread." Here is the lure of bodily comfort, like good food or sensual lust. It's the simplest of temptations because it's instinctual. We want good for our bodies! But there may be times these bodily goods don't serve the higher good for our souls. The leap "from the temple parapet" would entice the eye of the person watching. A feat like this would prove Jesus' Messianic ability. His popularity could be a shortcut to the cross. We might not be daredevils, but we want people to like us and be impressed by us. Do we sacrifice our values along the way? To "bow and worship" the devil - and so claim power and a pretentious life - seems like a dramatic temptation. Not everyone may feel enticed by power in the professional sense, but all of us want control. A volunteer team can feel just as intense as the boardroom! How often do we prefer to be in control of our lives (and perhaps even the lives of others), rather than allow God to be God?

When we consider areas of temptation and sin, it's not to feel ashamed. The temptation in the desert reminds us that we are not alone and that the strength of Jesus can be our strength, too.

1st Sunday of Lent
March 10, 2019

SAINT ALPHONSUS CHURCH

607 South Jackson St.
Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

St. Alphonsus Mission Statement

We, the family of St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish, strengthened by Word and Sacrament, strive to live out Jesus Christ's call to discipleship by worshiping faithfully, serving willingly, and growing spiritually.

Parish Staff

Pastor.....Fr. Paul Connolly.....385-8410
Office Manager Vicki Lohmann.....385-8410
Director of Music Carmen Heaton.....385-9342
Adult Faith Form/RE Cdtr....Margi Mountz.....385-4937
Confirmation Contact.....Ted Mountz.....385-4937
Custodian Russell Hill.....385-8410

Parish Council President.....Bob Cardoni
Finance Council President...Tom Holtkamp

Weekend Mass Schedule... Saturday 5:30 PM
Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 AM

Daily Mass Schedule...Monday NO Mass,
Tuesday—7:00 AM, Wednesday—6:00 PM,
Thursday and Friday Noon Mass

Confessions...Saturday 4:30 PM or by appointment.

Eucharistic Devotion:

Friday Adoration: 9:00 AM to Noon

Monthly Adoration: 1st Thursday Noon to 9:00 PM

Rosary: Led by KC Members, 7:30 AM Sundays

Parish Office Phone (319) 385-8410
RE Office..... (319) 385-4937
Manning Hall.....(319) 385-0544
Church fax.....(319)385-0545
Church Emailstalphonsus@windstream.net
St. Alphonsus Web Site..<https://stalphonsus.weconnect.com>

MASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

	Mass time	Mass Intention	Saint of the Day	Readings for the day
Mon, Mar 11	NO MASS		Weekday	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
Tue, Mar 12	7:00 AM	Norm Walter †	Weekday	Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
Wed, Mar 13	6:00 PM	Le Ann Miller †	Weekday	Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
Thu, Mar 14	12:00 PM	Jodi Bair †	Weekday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
Fri, Mar 15	12:00 PM	Mary Herrmann †	Weekday	Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
Sat, Mar 16	5:30 PM	Toby Shanahan †		
Sun, Mar 17	8:00 AM	For Parishioners	2nd Sunday of Lent	Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/
	11:00 AM	Bob Bonar †	St. Patrick's Day	Phil 3:17-4:1/Lk 9:28b-36

MINISTERS FOR MARCH 16 & 17

LECTORS

- 5:30 PM Mary Rink
- 8:00 AM Theresa Rose
- 11:00 AM Robb Gardner

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

- 5:30 PM Team D Jerry Keeley
- 8:00 AM Team E Ken Feldmann
- 11:00 AM Team F Judy Warning

SERVER

- 5:30 PM Ajay/Alexis Wagner
- 8:00 AM Elaina Holtkamp/Owen Baker
- 11:00 AM John McLaughlin/Michael Tansey

USHERS

- 5:30 PM Todd/Audra Gerleman
- 8:00 AM Jeep Grilliot/Tim Lohmann
- 11:00 AM Bob Walderbach/Bernard Pollmeier

GREETERS

- 5:30 PM Matt/Susan McBride
- 8:00 AM Greg/Lana Moeller
- 11:00 AM Jeremy/Amy McLaughlin

Ladies for Charity Meeting

The next Ladies for Charity Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12th at 1:30 PM in Manning Hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend.

Save the Date

What: Family Fun Day
Where: Iris Bowling Lanes
When: Sunday, March 24th, 1:00 to 4:00 PM
 So, polish up your bowling ball and shoes and plan to attend.



Inspiration for the Week

Temptation is a part of our lives. Even Jesus wrestled with temptation. Our faith tells us that we are meant to live our lives in service of God's kingdom. Yet, we often find ourselves pursuing our own desires rather than God's. The Gospel clearly tells us that true power is found in the embrace of virtue—living lives of non-violence, mercy, and forgiveness. Yet, we still are not convinced and seek things that will hurt us and retaliate against those who harm us. When Jesus faced temptation, he found security in who he was, which firmly rooted him in his mission and gave him the determination to trust in God. We, too, must learn to find security in our identity as a son or daughter of God, to live out our mission rooted in that truth, and to be confident in God's abiding presence.

Offertory for March 2 & 3

Envelopes.....	3253.00
Offertory.....	356.25
Direct Deposit	<u>3829.00</u>
Total.....	7438.25

Thank you!

Your donations make our ministries possible!

Keep in Your Prayers

Our condolences to Lisa Brooks and family and friends on the passing of her husband, Rickie. May Rickie be welcomed into the everlasting life.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, Mar 10	Mon, Mar 11	Tues, Mar 12	Wed, Mar 13	Thurs, Mar 14	Fri, Mar 15	Sat, Mar 16
Rosary, 7:30 am Mass, 8:00 & 11:00 am Family Life donuts, 9:00 am RE Class K-8th, 9:30 am KC's in Manning, 10:00-4:00 pm Spanish Mass, 2:00 pm Homebound Ministers-Team 3	NO MASS	Men Scrip, 6:00 am Women Scrip, 6:00 am Mass, 7:00 am Ladies for Charity, 1:30 Finance, 4:30 pm Quilters, 6:00 pm Social Action, 6:30 pm	Women Scrip, 9:30 am Mass, 6:00 pm RE Class K-8th and Confirmation I & II, 6:45 pm	Mass, Noon	Adoration 9 am-Noon Mass at Park Place, 10:00 am Mass, Noon Stations of Cross, Men & Women Scrip, 5:30 pm KC Fish Fry, 6 pm	Confessions—4:30-5:00 pm Mass 5:30 pm Confirmation Retreat in Manning
Sunday, Mar 17 Rosary, 7:30 am Mass, 8:00 & 11:00 am KC Breakfast, 9:00 am RE Class K-8th, 9:30 am Homebound Ministers-Team 4	NO MASS	Men Scrip, 6:00 am Women Scrip, 6:00 am Mass, 7:00 am RCIA, 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl, 2:00 pm Quilters, 6:00 pm	Women Scrip, 9:30 am Mass, 6:00 pm RE Class K-8th and Confirmation I & II, 6:45 pm	Mass, Noon	Adoration 9 am-Noon Mass, Noon Station of Cross, Parish Council, 5:30 pm KC Fish Fry, 6:00 pm	Confessions—4:30-5:00 pm Mass 5:30 pm

Lent During the season of Lent we will be reciting the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings at 5:30 PM.



Remember: On the Fridays of Lent we are to abstinance from eating meat.



All are invited to attend the KC Fish Fry at 6:00 PM **March 15, 22, 29 and April 5 & 12.** The menu and prices are posted on the bulletin board by the kitchenette.

St. Alphonsus Communal Penance-Mon, April 1-7:00 PM

Parish Planning Questionnaires

Please return your questionnaire, the questions will assist Parish Council in planning for St. Alphonsus. They may be returned by placing them in the collection basket. They do not have to be signed but signing will make follow up possible.

Keep the Confirmation II students in your prayers. They will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, March 31 here at St. Alphonsus at 2:30 PM.

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

It will take too long. I can't spare it. I don't know anybody. I am just too busy. How many excuses can you think of to put forth as reasons why you should say no to the call of Jesus Christ? Wait. You didn't know to whom those responses were directed? We say no to many things and many people, but we wouldn't say no to Jesus. Really?

During this Lenten season, like all the other seasons, we will be asked to respond in many different ways. There will be fasting, almsgiving, and abstinence from certain foods. There will be invitations to various devotions and formational studies. We will be asked to reflect on our faith and then dive deeper.

The argument will be made by some that many of these things are being asked of us by others and not Jesus. Of course, that will just be another excuse like those above. For every calling upon us comes with a temptation to take the easy way out or to minimize the value of the request.

We will stay caught up in an endless cycle of excuses that lead us nowhere. That is unless we simply choose to stop the madness and say YES! This Lent, give up and give in. Let God take over as you surrender all you are and have to Him. Now is the time to turn to Jesus. No more excuses.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Thank You to the Altar & Rosary Members

What generosity you ladies have in giving such a large amount of money (500.00) to our Sister Water Project. Thank you so much! I wish all of you could see the smiles and joy on all the people who are experiencing pure, clean water for the first time. You can all be proud that you helped bring this about with your generous donation. May God bless all of you in a special way.

Sr. Ann Marie Dunn and Sr. Rosemary Vaske

Thank You for Your Generosity!

The Social Action Committee thanks all the RE Classes and the St. Alphonsus parishioners for the awesome donations to the Fellowship Cup, Community Action, and Informed Choices. All the diapers (31 boxes), wipes (30 boxes), quilts, blankets and baby clothes will help many babies and moms in Henry County and surrounding areas. God Bless all of you for your generosity.

Disciples According to the Heart of Jesus: A Men's Retreat

Join men from across the diocese for a retreat on Saturday, April 6th from 9AM-3PM at St. Mary, Solon. From the first moment Jesus stepped on this earth, he invited us to follow him. His invitation was to be better people, parents, better spouses transformed by his Spirit and according to his heart. Spend the day with us, praying, reflecting and sharing your faith with others. Cost is \$30/person until March 17th and \$40/person until April 1st. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/adult-retreat> or contact Rosina Hendrickson (563-888-4244 or hendrickson@davenportdiocese.org).

Mary: The "Yes" that Changed the World: A Women's Retreat

Join women from across the diocese for a retreat on Saturday, April 13th from 9AM-3PM at St. Mary, Williamsburg. Come and explore how Mary's "Yes" calls us to a deeper relationship with God in the silent moments of life, but also, and especially, in the loudest and most hectic moments. Cost is \$30/person until March 24th and \$40/person until April 8th. For more information or to register, visit <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/adult-retreat> or contact Rosina Hendrickson (563-888-4244 or hendrickson@davenportdiocese.org).




During this Easter season we invite you to donate towards the purchase of flowers/decorations for the Church in honor or memory of your loved ones. Please complete the form below with Name of person or persons to be honored or remembered along with your name and drop in the collection basket or bring to the Parish Office.

In Memory or Honor of _____

Your Name _____


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