

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
April 14, 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 worshipping 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—6:45 PM,
 Thursday Noon Mass, Good Friday service 5:30 PM

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Palm Sunday is a strange day in our liturgical calendar. We begin by waving palms, but somewhere in the middle, we call for Jesus to be crucified. We celebrate today an equally paradoxical God, one who comes to save through suffering.

“I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!” Jesus, who so often in the Gospels tries to hide his true identity, speaks thunderously to the Pharisees who would still the rejoicing crowd. At the Last Supper, Jesus confirms the Messianic promise to his disciples, saying, “I confer a kingdom on you, just as my Father has conferred one on me.” Yet, before the night is over, Jesus has been betrayed.

We hear the tragedy unfold in Luke’s Passion narrative. Jesus is abused by the council of elders, denied by Peter, whipped by Roman soldiers, and condemned to death by Pilate. But what else do we see? Jesus heals someone who came to arrest him, forgives his torturers, promises a repentant man paradise, and - by his loving endurance - converts a centurion at the foot of the cross. Jesus is both Redeemer of the World and Suffering Servant. In taking on the mantle of Messiah, Jesus does not only receive our praise and our accolades, but he bears our burdens and sins and does so with the deepest love. He may go about our salvation in a paradoxical way, but he is dearer to our own suffering hearts for it. This week, we remember that no sorrow of our own is beyond the reach of the compassion of God.

MASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS FOR THE WEEK

	<u>Mass time</u>	<u>Mass Intention</u>	<u>Saint of the Day</u>	<u>Readings for the day</u>
Mon, Apr 15	NO MASS		Weekday	Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11
Tue, Apr 16	7:00 AM	Sr. Maureen Fenlon †	Weekday	Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wed, Apr 17	6:45 PM	Dorothy McCormick †	Weekday	Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25
Thu, Apr 18	7:00 PM	LeAnn Miller †	Holy Thursday	Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Fri, Apr 19	NO MASS		Good Friday	Is 52:13--53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1--19:42
Sat, Apr 20	8:30 PM	Dan Keeley †	Holy Saturday	
Sun, Apr 21	8:00 AM	Mary Gen Kline †	Easter Sunday	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9
	11:00 AM	For Parishioners		

Mass time changes for Holy Week:

Wednesday, April 17, Mass--6:45 PM
 Holy Thursday, April 18, Mass-- 7:00 PM
 with Adoration until 10:00 PM
 Good Friday, April 19, Good Friday Service--5:30 PM
 Holy Saturday, April 20, Mass--8:30 PM
 Easter Sunday, April 21, regular Mass times 8 & 11

MINISTERS FOR EASTER WEEKEND

Please see the sign up sheet
 in the Gathering Space
 Help out where you can!

Chrism Mass with Bishop Zinkula

Bishop Zinkula invites everyone to come to the Chrism Mass on Monday, April 15 at 2:30 PM at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Davenport. At the Mass the 3 Holy Oils-Sacred Chrism, Oil of the Sick and Oil of Catechumen will be blessed for us this year.

Offertory for April 6 & 7

Envelopes.....	3422.00
Offertory.....	<u>375.31</u>
Total.....	3797.31

Thank you! Your donations make our ministries possible!

Parish Planning & Vision 2020

Vision 2020 is a renewal program from the Diocese to help parishes discern “see” more clearly, along with the diocese, how to evangelize or spread the joy of the Gospel. The song “Renew Our Hearts” was written specifically for this renewal program to assist parishes in prayerfully singing to open our eyes and hearts to the signs of the times.

Parish Planning (hopefully) for St. Alphonsus will focus on planning how to enhance ministries in Church Life, Faith Formation, Social Action, Family Life, Finance and Administration, and Liturgy. St. Alphonsus is alive and active, yet as it is often said, there is always room for growth and/or improvement. Participation in the recent questionnaires indicates room to involve more parishioners particularly in the 20-50 year old age group. Planning for the future of St. Alphonsus needs direction from this age group to see and form how parish life can grow and thrive into the next 5-20 years.

Inserted in the bulletin is an overview of the most recent parish planning meeting. Parishioners desiring to see the compilation of the questionnaires may stop in at the parish office to get a copy.

We have a large collection of dishes from funeral luncheons. Thank you for bringing a dish to the funeral luncheons!

Please check the table for your dish.

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

Sunday, Apr 14	Mon, Apr 15	Tues, Apr 16	Wed, Apr 17	Thurs, Apr 18	Fri, Apr 19	Sat, Apr 20
Rosary, 7:30 am Mass, 8:00 & 11:00 am Faith Formation donuts, 9:00 am RE Class K-8th, 9:30 am Spanish Mass, 2:00 pm Homebound Ministers-Team 4	NO MASS Bulletin goes in to printer today	Men Scrip, 6:00 am Women Scrip, 6:00 am Mass, 7:00 am Seder set up, 9:00 am Prayer Shawl, 2:00 pm Quilters, 6:00 pm Seder Meal, 6:00 pm	Women Scrip, 9:30 am Mass, 6:45 pm RE Class K-8th and Confirmation I & II, 6:45 pm	Holy Thursday Mass, 7:00 pm followed by Adoration until 10:00 pm	Good Friday Ecumenical Way of the Cross begins at Noon here Good Friday service, 5:30 pm	Easter Vigil Mass 8:30 pm
Sunday, Apr 21 Easter Rosary, 7:30 am Mass, 8:00 & 11:00 am Homebound Ministers-Team 1	NO MASS	Tues, Apr 23 Men Scrip, 6:00 am Women Scrip, 6:00 am Mass, 7:00 am RCIA, 1:00 pm Quilters, 6:00 pm Parish Council, 6:00 PM	Wed, Apr 24 Women Scrip, 9:30 am Mass, 5:30 pm Choir practice, 6:30 pm	Thurs, Apr 25 Mass, Noon Building & Grounds, 6:30 pm	Fri, Apr 26 Adoration 9 am-Noon Mass, Noon	Sat, Apr 27 Confessions—4:30-5:00 pm Mass 5:30 pm 1st Communion Retreat in Manning

THE FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY

The Deanery Celebration of the Feast of The Divine Mercy will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church, 2217 Avenue I, Fort Madison, Iowa, **April 28, 2019**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin at 2:30 PM and continue thru The Divine Mercy Holy Hour, which begins at 3:00 PM, the Hour of Great Mercy. Mass will be celebrated at 4 PM.

As written in St. Faustina's Diary, Jesus tells her, "I desire the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary 699)

Come and celebrate The Feast of The Divine Mercy and partake of Jesus' unfathomable Mercy, forgiveness and love.

Prayer cards and 8x10 pictures of Divine Mercy are available in the Gathering Space for all.

Seder Meal—Tuesday, April 16 at 6:00 PM

If you still would like to attend the Seder Meal, please sign up by Sunday noon, April 14th. Thank you to our "host family" Dr. Kent and Susan Metcalf and daughter's Felicity and Phoebe.

Reminder to Parish Council members—set-up for the Seder Meal is Tuesday, April 16 at 9:00 AM in Manning Hall.

Thank You!

Thank you to Gary Crawford and Mt. Pleasant Tire for donating two tires to repair the parish's snow blower. It is ready to go for next year.

Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Pope Francis has asked all parishes to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land.

Your support helps the church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines.

The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection provides humanitarian aid to refugees.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land.

Please be generous!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

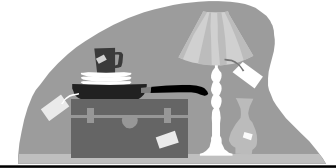
There are envelopes in the back of Church for your convenience.

Ladies for Charity Spring Rummage Sale

Do you have unwanted items cluttering your home?—bring them to the Ladies for Charity Rummage Sale on Monday, April 29, Tuesday, April 30, and Wednesday, May 1 until Noon. Items should be clean and in sellable condition.

Shopping days are:

- Thursday, May 2, 9:00-5:00,
- Friday, May 3, 9:00-5:00,
- Saturday, May 4, 9:00-Noon.



Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

Jesus warns us in the Gospel of Matthew, "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." It is an invitation to a way of life, and a plan that leads to holiness. But make no mistake, it is a warning as well. The cross is a sign of victory, but only in light of the Resurrection. Alone, it is a symbol of ultimate sacrifice: the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for a fallen world, and the sacrifice we are called to make to truly follow him.

The power of this symbol has been diminished in popular culture. It is often used in fashion and simple wall art and on bumper stickers and T-shirts, sometimes with Christian clichés and sometimes not. But the cross is something so much more. It is a reminder of the pain, suffering, and death of one who loved us so much that he would give his very life for us. It is our God on that cross. It is God who cries out in despair, feeling the ultimate depth of human emotion. And there lies the key for us in trying to live this life of carrying our crosses.

For those who suffer the death of a loved one, the Father lost his Son. For those who suffer the ravages of disease, his body was broken, beaten, and pierced. For those who feel they have no way out, he hung on a cross and cried out, "Why?" For those who feel alone and abandoned, he hung on a tree where no one could comfort him, not even his own mother. He has walked in all our shoes, and now we are called to walk in his. In the cross, we find solidarity with the human condition. In an empty tomb, we find our hope. Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Easter bulletin goes to publisher on Monday, April 15—if you want your loved one's name in the Easter Bulletin—I will need the names by Monday, April 15 before Noon.

I will also run the names in the bulletin on April 27 & 28.



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 _____

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