



# Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUNE 2, 2024: THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST



## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." - Mk 14:23-25

Y tomando en sus manos una copa de vino, pronunció la acción de gracias, se la dio; todos bebieron y les dijo: "Esta es mi sangre, sangre de la alianza, que se derrama por todos. Yo les aseguro que no volveré a beber del fruto de la vid hasta el día en que beba el vino nuevo en el Reino de Dios". - Mc 14, 23-25

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



### LITURGY SCHEDULE

#### Mass Schedule

**Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri,**

**Sat** 8:30 AM

**Wed** 6:00 PM

**Sunday** 9 AM, 11 AM,  
12:30 (Spanish) and 5 PM

#### Alphonsus Academy & Center For the Arts

**Friday** 8:30 AM or as  
announced

#### Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday**  
6:30—7:30 PM

#### Confessions

**Wednesday**  
6:30—7:30 PM

#### Saturday

11:00—12:00 PM

*\*Or call one of the priests  
for an appointment*



# Worship

## This Week's Readings

Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 (13)/Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26  
Monday: 2 Pt 1:2-7/Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16/Mk 12:1-12  
Tuesday: 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16/Mk 12:13-17  
Wednesday: 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef/Mk 12:18-27  
Thursday: 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Mk 12:28-34  
Friday: Hos 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9/Ps 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Eph 3:8-12, 14-19/Jn 19:31-37  
Saturday: 2 Tm 4:1-8/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 2:41-51  
Next Sunday: Gn 3:9-15/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7bc)/2 Cor 4:13-5:1/Mk 3:20-35

### Please Pray for the Sick

Tessa Sergent	David Birks	Jacob Duda	Rosemarie Cordero
Diane Mareci	Celeste Soult	Dorothy O'Brien	Gary Masterson
William Ahearn	Magdalena Gonzalez	Ryan Meadow	Ramona Colon
Emilia Hurtado	Michael Aldape	Danny Browder	
Michael and Elizabeth Velten	Janet Horvat	Carol Kania	
Fidel Mercado Chavez	Frank G. Bauer	Leslie Salimi	
Margaret Nichols	Al Corleone	Jason Jamero	
	Tracy Duda		

### Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount:  
\$14,890  
Offertory for 5/26:  
\$15,605

Please remember to help the poor. Donations to the poor box in the narthex go to our St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Left QR code for GiveCentral; Right QR code for Venmo



QR code for Zelle Users



## Welcome to the Parish!

Gabriel Portillo  
Alexandra and Whitney Chapman  
Rory  
Allison Michel  
Megan Rohde  
Grant Handloser  
Megan Atha and Daniel Coca Kennedy  
Caroline Wills  
Stephanie Marion  
Alex Ahler and June La Porta August  
Samantha and Tim Landwehr  
Theodore Anne  
Christian and Karina Flores  
Gabriel  
Dr. Jason Hill  
Jamie Urlaub and Marcus Peasley  
Brian Dondanville

## Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Emilia Elizabeth Lostumbo  
Addison Kathleen Mitchell  
Donald Dustin Lapuma

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, June 2

9:00 AM +Joanne Lawrence  
11:00 AM +Joseph B. Miroballi  
+Florentino Ornelas  
+Delfina y Dolores Gutierrez  
5:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

### Monday, June 3

8:30 AM Kathleen Zydowsky Holyk (Health)

### Tuesday, June 4

8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

### Wednesday, June 5

6:00 PM +Joe Riffner

### Thursday, June 6

8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

### Friday, June 7

8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

### Saturday, June 8

8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

### Sunday, June 9

9:00 AM +Otto William Olwig  
11:00 AM St. Alphonsus Graduating Class of 1956  
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus  
5:00 PM +Agnes O'Brien



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# Message From Our Pastor

## Celebrating the Source and Summit

Years ago, before I had entered the seminary, I was employed as a graphic artist at a publishing company. Most people at work knew that I was active in my parish and was sincere about my faith. One guy who worked in the warehouse belonged to a church he described as a non-denominational Bible-believing community. He would periodically challenge me about Catholic beliefs and practices, and was usually surprised to learn that there were real answers and solid explanations for things he misunderstood about Catholicism. He said to me one day, "The real reason I'm not Catholic is that you guys teach all sorts of things that aren't in the Bible."

"Really? Like what?" I asked. "Can you give me an example?"

"Well, take the Eucharist for starters." I was taken aback. My co-worker's response was the last thing I was expecting.

There are a bunch of times in the Bible when the Eucharist is mentioned. The Last Supper, of course, contains the Institution Narrative when Christ celebrates the First Mass, where He says the bread and wine are His Body and Blood. Chapter 6 in the Gospel of John contains the Bread of Life Discourse in which Jesus gives us the theological teaching with which we understand the Last Supper/First Mass. The Second Mass occurs Easter Sunday night at Emmaus when the Risen Lord was made known to two disciples "in the Breaking of the Bread" (Luke 24:13-35, which is depicted on our altar's mosaic, very appropriately!). In Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, he explains the tradition of the Church handing on the celebration of the Eucharist (1Cor 11:23-26). The Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the Great High Priest, and the Book of Revelations offers a glimpse into the Heavenly Liturgy, which the earthly liturgy (the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass) already participates in, uniting ourselves to Christ. These are a but a few examples, there are more. The Old Testament, too, contains many more references which point to the Eucharist, the most obvious being the story of the Passover).

Many saints, theologians, popes and preachers have expounded on the depth, beauty, reality and ultimate meaning that the Body and Blood of Christ has for us, especially as it is the heavenly and liturgical meal in



which we are invited to share, and in which we are called to find hope, healing, new life and joy.

For all these reasons – and more – the Catholic Church teaches that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Receiving the Eucharistic Heart of our Lord in the *appearance* of bread and wine is the source of our strength, faith and grace we need to live as disciples in the world. But it is also the goal and

pinnacle of discipleship: being united with Jesus, the author of life and artist of love. The Eucharist "is the culmination both of God's action sanctifying the world in Christ, and of the worship humanity offers to Christ, and through Him to the Father in the Holy Spirit" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1325).

Today, in the great feast of Corpus Christi (which are simply the Latin words for Body of Christ), we take time to contemplate and appreciate the most sublime of truths. Doing so helps us to grow in love – and gratitude – first, simply for who Christ is; and second, for what He has done for us. And that inspires and motivates us to worship Him.

Worship can be understood as simply a verbal, musical or ritual expression of our gratitude and love. And on Corpus Christi, the Catholic Church does that with added prayers, song, and even a procession, a procession which envelops our campus, a 'sacramental' sign of how we desire Christ's sanctifying love to envelope our hearts, lives, parish and world. There is a pattern, a relationship, that what is done on earth will be fulfilled in Heaven, and what is in Heaven will be imitated on earth – *on earth as it is in Heaven*, as the Lord taught us to pray in the Our Father.

And so I invite you to join in this Corpus Christi procession today, which will flow outwards after the 11 AM Mass, travel around the block with song, prayer and Scripture, and then return into the church for solemn Benediction. If we dream of a world that is more conformed to goodness, truth, and beauty, a Eucharistic Procession is the perfect way to begin that transformation.

Additionally, as we celebrate a year of Eucharistic Renewal in the United States, all are invited to a similar Mass and Procession on Friday evening, June 28th as our parish becomes a host site for young adults in the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage.

# National Eucharistic Pilgrimage This Summer!



School Families and Religious Education Families, summer is almost upon us. While school may no longer be in session, Church is always in session! Thanks be to God, He never takes a break from us, nor should we take a break from Him. And, thanks be to God, He always presents us with creative ways in which we can grow in our faith, deepen our understanding of how He's working in our lives, and strengthen our spiritual muscles.

Over the course of the past couple of months, in the midst of our own spiritual renewal in the Archdiocese, we've mentioned the Eucharistic Revival underway across the United States, and the upcoming Eucharistic Pilgrimage that will travel through our area in late-June.

Here are suggestions for you to do something spiritually powerful this summer:

If you are NOT going on vacation at the end of June and will be here in town:

- Join us here at St. Alphonsus for an evening of Mass, worship, and fellowship on Friday, June 28. This event is geared towards all young adults in the Archdiocese, but EVERYONE IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED to attend!!

Below is the current planned schedule:

6:30 PM - Intro Welcome by Fr. Bauer + 10min Pilgrim Testimony

6:45 PM - Mass (Fr. Bauer as Main Celebrant, Fr. Tim Anastos as Homilist, with polyphonic choir)

8:15 PM - Candlelit Procession (around the church - stopping at altars)

8:45 PM - Solemn Benediction

9:00 PM - Social (Athenaeum - Paradiso Hall)

10:00 PM - Event Ends

You are also welcome to bring your family to the event at Mundelein Seminary on Wednesday, June 26 from 4-7 PM.

This gathering will be especially focused on our youth (teens) with the celebration of Mass followed by testimonies from young adult pilgrims, Adoration and Eucharistic Procession.

Attend a multilingual event at the Shrine of our Lady of Guadalupe on Thursday, June 27 ... and/or ...

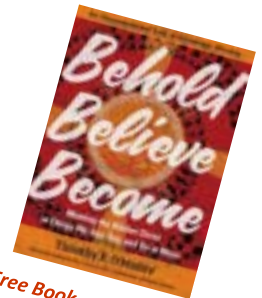
- On Saturday, June 29, our Morning of Adoration and Service, there will be many opportunities at parishes across the Archdiocese, as well as the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels, followed by special evening Masses, witness talks and adoration at six locations around Cook and Lake Counties. (The diaconate community is encouraged to invite parishioners to join them at their respective Vicariate Masses).
- Or attend the Sunday Mass and Eucharistic Procession with Cardinal Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral on Sunday, June 30.

There are so many ways to be a part of the Pilgrimage across those four and a half days.

Now, if you ARE going to be on vacation during that time and not here to participate in any of these events, I encourage you to: find time to participate in Mass in a local Catholic Church, wherever you are, and if possible spend time in either a Eucharistic Adoration chapel or in front of the tabernacle and simply pray.

Join yourself spiritually to Catholics here at our parish, in the Archdiocese, across the country, across the span of history, with the angels and saints in heaven in joyful praise and thanksgiving for Christ's presence in the Eucharist.

Outside the church or chapel, take a selfie with your family and tag our parish social media during those days of June – it's not boasting, it's giving witness as part of our parish family that no matter where we are, we are united through the Eucharist!



**Free Book at Revival Event!**  
*Meeting the Hidden Christ  
in Things We See, Say, and  
Do at Mass by Dr. Timothy  
O'Malley. McGrath Institute  
of Church Life, University of  
Notre Dame*

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Pilgrimage**

# Chicago Young Adult Eucharistic Revival



**Friday, June 28, 2024 | 6:30 – 10 p.m.**

**St. Alphonsus Catholic Church**

1429 West Wellington Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

**Join us as we celebrate the National Eucharistic  
Pilgrimage in the Archdiocese of Chicago!**

Come experience this historic Eucharistic event for ALL Chicagoland area young adult Catholics, as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage officially makes its way through Chicago on its way to Indianapolis for the Eucharistic Congress. The event will include Mass, a Eucharistic Procession, and a social afterwards.

Questions? Please contact Rebecca Siar at  
**[rsiar@archchicago.org](mailto:rsiar@archchicago.org)**.

To learn more and register for this event,  
please visit **[EucharisticRevivalChicago.org](https://EucharisticRevivalChicago.org)**.



***Saint Alphonsus***  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH





# Stewardship—First Fruits



We want to invite all parishioners who want to participate in online giving to do so by enrolling through GiveCentral and setting up your donation via the First Fruits campaign (weekly Mass offering).

A huge thank you to those that are already giving online. Please consider making St. Alphonsus an extension of your home and family when contributing.

Sign up at [www.givecentral.org/location/39](http://www.givecentral.org/location/39)

## Faith Formation

### New Lectio Series in June— Salvation

Every Sunday we confess that Jesus "for our Salvation came down from Heaven." But have you ever wondered what this means?

Beginning Monday, June 24th at 7 PM, we will set out to explore these and related questions using the FORMED Lectio series on Salvation.

To sign up, costs, location, or for other questions contact Brooks Robinson, [brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church)



### Book Study

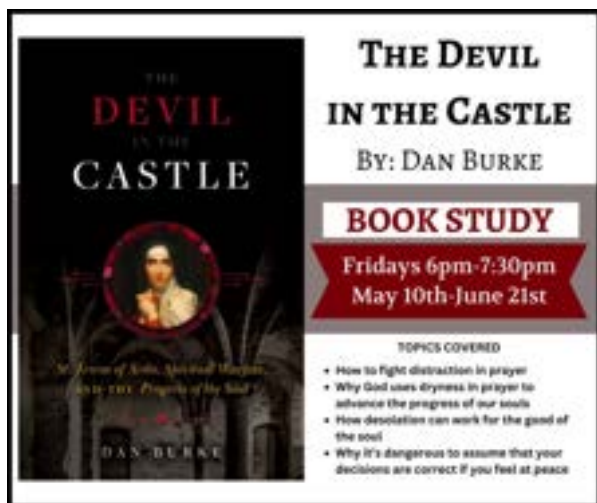
**Fridays, 6 PM—7:30 PM, NOW through June 21st in Rectory Common Room**

How do you fight distraction in prayer? What role does the devil play in your prayer life, and what does God want to accomplish in your soul?

**Join us for a Study reading, *The Devil in the Castle*!**

Fridays, 6 PM-7:30 PM, Now through June 21 in the Rectory. **PLEASE arrive by 6:15 PM, otherwise the front door will be locked and we may not hear the bell.**

Each week we will discuss a chapter and watch a video from the author as he dives deeper into the spiritual riches of St. Teresa of Avila. Pick up the book on your own and join us as we work through it! Questions? Contact Emily at [eember@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:eember@stalphonsuschicago.church)



### St. Alphonsus Men's Group

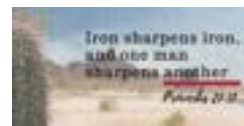
St. Alphonsus Men's Group meets Thursday nights to pray the liturgy of the hours, have fellowship, and to propose challenging topics to discuss.

When great conversations happen, synergy that creates connections and helps values be shared develops. *Proverbs 27:17* describes this as two iron tools being sharpened and made more effective. The same applies with friends coming into contact, sharpening and encouraging each other to greater service.

We meet every Thursday night at 7 PM in the rectory. Food and drinks provided. All men are welcome, with most men being in their 20s and 30s. Access can be gained at the west facing rectory door in the parking lot.

For questions or more information, contact Men's Group at our email, [divineofficers@gmail.com](mailto:divineofficers@gmail.com)

***"Come to me all you are labored and burdened and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28***



***Our St. Alphonsus Men's Group is hosting a Holy Hour of silent adoration on Friday, June 7, from 7:30—8:30 PM in the church. All parishioners are invited to be in the presence of our Lord during this hour, and confessions will also be heard.***

# News and Events

## Calling All Graduates!

All 2024 Graduates are invited to receive a Special Blessing during our 9 AM and 11 AM Masses on Sunday, June 9th! Whether you just graduated Kindergarten, College, or anywhere in between, you are welcome!! Receive your blessing and then join us for...

## Free Parish Breakfast After Mass! Sunday, June 9, 10 AM—2 PM

ALL are invited to stay after Mass to enjoy pancakes, eggs, and delicious treats. Meet fellow parishioners and learn how to get involved in our community!

## We Need Volunteers!

Help us serve breakfast and get first dibs on the food! Shifts are 2 hours each. Contact Emily, [ember@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:ember@stalphonsuschicago.church)

## Baptisms at St. Alphonsus

Baptism is a fundamental sacrament for Christians. It is a sacrament of initiation that unites us to



Christ's mystical body, incorporates us into the Church, and marks the beginning of the Christian journey. Without baptism we cannot participate in the full sacramental life of the Church. In the sacraments we concretely and most visibly encounter God's grace—life reunited with life.

If you are interested in having your child baptized at St. Alphonsus, please contact Kathryn Kibler at [kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church)

For adult baptisms, contact Brooks Robinson at [brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church)

## Weddings at St. Alphonsus



The love between two people is a gift from God. The commitment you make to be together for the rest of your lives is sealed before the community and God during the celebration of the Sacrament of

Marriage. If you are recently engaged and planning to get married (either at St. Alphonsus Church or out of town) please review the Marriage page on our website and reach out to Kathryn at [kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church)



## Eucharistic Adoration: A Source for Peace:

Sometimes our weeks can be quite hectic, making it hard to find quiet time to pray. If this sounds familiar, join us for Mass on Wednesdays at 6 PM, followed by Eucharistic Adoration from 6:30-7:30. This can be a great way to re-center yourself in God and experience the peace that only Christ can give.

## Wednesday Evening Men's Vespers

Men of the parish are invited to attend our Communio prayer group each Wednesday at 8:15-9 PM in the rectory chapel (come to the rectory side door). It's a great way to take your spiritual life a step further as we enrich our knowledge of the faith, encourage each other in life's challenges, and grow in fortitude together. We chant the Liturgy of the Hours, share reflections on the upcoming Sunday gospel reading, followed by a social with refreshments, fellowship, and conversation. All men of the parish are invited. Questions/more info, contact James Morrow, [jemseoul@hotmail.com](mailto:jemseoul@hotmail.com)



# SVdP Donation Drive



Join us next Sunday, June 9, from 8:30 AM- 2 PM for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Donation Drive! Now is the time to start setting aside items to help us help our neighbors in need. All donated items stock the St. Vincent de

Paul Thrift stores located in the Chicago area.

When you donate your gently used clothing and household items to our thrift stores, you are donating to a non-profit that helps those in need no matter where they come from in our communities.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores:

- Provide clothing and basic necessities to the homeless.
- Provide blankets and coats to homeless shelters.
- Provide household items and clothing to victims of fires, floods and other catastrophes.

On Donation Drive Sunday, We Will Gladly Accept:

- Gently used clothing, shoes, household items
- Small appliances

- Household decorations
- Kitchen utensils, dishes, pots, pans
- Jewelry
- Tools
- Sporting goods

Clothing should be packed in plastic bags. Household and other heavy items should be in boxes. Please wrap glassware and other fragile items in paper or bubble wrap.

The donations trailer will be parked in the St. Alphonsus parking lot from 8:30 AM-2 PM on Sunday, June 9 (convenient to mass times). Volunteers will be available to help load your items. We hope to see you there.

PLEASE NO TVS, COMPUTERS, PIANOS, BABY SEATS, PILLOWS/MATTRESSES! THANK YOU!

PLEASE NOTE: Donations will ONLY be accepted at the donations trailer on Sunday, June 9 between the hours of 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM. Any items left outside of these times or at any other location will not be accepted. PLEASE DO NOT leave items at the church, rectory, or outside of the trailer. Thank you!

St. Alphonsus Parish has purchased a subscription to FORMED so that you, yes YOU! can receive FREE access to Bible Studies, Family Programming, Classic Spiritual Books, and more! ¡Hay programas en español también!

TO SIGN UP FREE:

- 1) Go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)
- 2) Type in Zip Code 60657
- 3) Choose St. Alphonsus
- 4) Fill out your Name and Email
- 5) YOU'RE IN!

PARA REGISTRARSE GRATIS:

- 1) Vaya a [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)
- 2) Escriba el código postal 60657
- 3) Elige a St. Alphonsus
- 4) Escriba su nombre y correo electrónico
- 5) ¡DISFRUTA!





## ***Congratulations AACA Class of 2024!***

**Mark Theodore Abdel-Malek**  
DePaul College Prep

**Logan Zi Cano**  
Lane Tech College Prep

**Ruth Frances Cvengros**  
Northside College Prep

**John Eric Glotzbach**  
DePaul College Prep

**Dylan Lucca Hahn**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Beckett Neal Hemenover**  
DePaul College Prep

**James Allen Hering**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Elizabeth Karnes Huyler**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Byron Robert Jarousse**  
DePaul College Prep

**Drake Jay Jones**  
Loyola Academy

**Luc Gregory Joubert**  
Loyola Academy

**Mary Grace Kelly**  
DePaul College Prep

**Samuel James Kerr**  
Lincoln Park High School

**Keegan Thomas Kunkle**  
Northside College Prep

**Aron Jude Leong**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Brayden Tanner Liss**  
DePaul College Prep

**Joseph Francis McCorkle**  
Mount Carmel High School

**Charles Robert Merok**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Eleanore Lacey Merok**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Arwen Lorel Millett**  
Lane Tech College Prep

**Madelyn Christine Miquelon**  
DePaul College Prep

**Sharaden Liv Mueller**  
Loyola Academy

**Nathaniel Francis Ogilvie**  
Jones College Prep

**Kennedy Rose Ray**  
DePaul College Prep

**Luke Thomas Rhomberg**  
DePaul College Prep

**Roman Emilio Riveron**  
Notre Dame College Prep

**Grayson Elizabeth Ruff**  
DePaul College Prep

**Ava Olivia Jean Sare**  
Loreto Kirribilli

**Luisa Bailey Scelzo**  
DePaul College Prep

**Allison Grace Shutler**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Brendan Sebastian Smith**  
Loyola Academy

**Matthew Edward Smosna**  
DePaul College Prep

**Oliver Edward Stapleton-Herda**  
Loyola Academy

**Audrey Kathleen Stewart**  
DePaul College Prep

**Liliana Jane Thomas**  
DePaul College Prep

**Graham Kemmer Turnbull**  
St. Ignatius College Prep

**Quinn Everly Wigmore**  
Loyola Academy

**Genevieve Helena Wojcieszek**  
DePaul College Prep



## Eucharistic Prayer Companion

### The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ: Blessed, Broken, and Shared

**THE GRACE I SEEK:** to have a spirit of loving obedience to all that God asks, especially to help build a Eucharistic culture

**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.**

*Pause for a few moments, and allow yourself to become aware of Jesus' gift of himself in the Eucharist. Realize that, at this very moment, the Lord of Life is gazing upon you with great love. Allow yourself to receive his loving gaze. You are his beloved child. Rest in his loving gaze.*

*Thank Jesus for the gift of himself in the Eucharist.*

**ASK FOR THE GRACE:** Jesus, help me to have a spirit of loving obedience to all that God asks, especially to help build a Eucharistic culture.

**SCRIPTURE MEDITATION** — Read slowly, 3–4 times. Allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you through this passage.

**"Taking the book of the covenant, he read it aloud to the people, who answered, 'All that the Lord has said, we will heed and do.' Then he took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, saying, 'This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you.'"** (Exodus 24:7–8)

**REFLECTION QUESTION** — Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heart.

Every time God made a covenant with his people, it was "sealed in blood." He chose to send his Beloved Son, who shed his Blood to set us free, sealing the "new and everlasting covenant." How can I grow in gratitude for the Blood of Christ outpoured for my salvation? How can I stand in true awe as I consider how the Body of Christ was literally tortured, realizing that he did this out of love for me?

**SCRIPTURE MEDITATION** — Read slowly, 3–4 times. Again, allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through this passage.

**"While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take it; this is my body.' Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many.'"** (Mark 14:22–24)

**REFLECTION QUESTION** — Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heart.

What a profound moment in salvation history! Jesus celebrates the first Mass with his disciples, instituting the Eucharist. With deep gratitude and wonder in our hearts, let us pray, "Lord, I give you thanks and praise for the gift of the Eucharist—the renewal of the Paschal Mystery in which I participate at every Mass. I ask you for the grace to receive your Body and Blood in Holy Communion with awe, allowing you to transform my life so it can be a living reflection of your Eucharistic Heart: blessed, broken, and shared so that all may have life."

*Remain in silence with the Lord. Allow him to speak in the silence, in your heart. Receive his presence. If it helps, write down what you sense the Lord communicating to you during this time of prayer.*

**CLOSING PRAYER** — O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect, Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ)

**SUNDAY MASS CONNECTION** — At every Mass, Jesus offers himself to the Father for us. We can always join our own offerings with Jesus at Mass. This Sunday, offer your desire to enter more fully into Holy Mass so that you can become a living sacrifice of praise with Jesus.

**LOVE IN ACTION** — During the coming week, make your love for our Eucharistic Lord concrete by spending extra time with him in Eucharistic adoration, offering that time of prayer for those in most need of his mercy.



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# Gospel Reflection

*While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many."*

*Mark 14:22–24 (Year B Gospel)*

## Wonder and Awe Before The Eucharist

At the holy Mass, as soon as the priest pronounces the words of the consecration, transforming the bread and wine into the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ our Lord, he genuflects, rises, and then says, "The mystery of faith." What is "the mystery of faith?" Oftentimes, when we say that something is a mystery, we mean that the conclusion is hidden but that there are certain clues to help solve the mystery. And once the mystery is solved, everything is clear and it is no longer a mystery.

"The mystery of faith" is much different. Those words are spoken at Mass immediately after the consecration as a way of drawing the faithful into a holy awe and amazement of what just took place. But this mystery can only produce wonder and awe if the reality of what just took place is understood through the gift of faith. Faith is knowing and believing without perceiving the reality before us with our five senses or through logical deduction. In other words, faith produces true knowledge of a spiritual reality that can only be known, understood and believed through spiritual insight. Therefore, if we attend the Mass and have been gifted with the knowledge of faith, then as soon as the consecration of the bread and wine takes place, we will cry out interiorly, "My Lord and my God!" We will know that God the Son is present before us in a veiled way. Our eyes do not perceive, nor do any of our senses reveal to us the great reality before us. We cannot rationally deduce what just took place. Instead, we come to know and believe that the Son of God, the Savior of the World, is now present before us in His fullness, under the veil of mere bread and wine.



In addition to the divine presence of our Lord and our God, the entire Mystery of our Redemption is made present. Saint Pope John Paul II tells us that in this moment there is a "oneness in time" that links the *Paschal Mystery*, that is, the Life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, to every moment that the Eucharist is celebrated and made present through the words of consecration. And that unity between each Mass and the *Paschal Mystery* "leads us to profound amaze-

ment and gratitude" (*Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, #5). Do you sense and experience this profound amazement and gratitude each time you attend the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? Do you realize as you attend the Mass and as the words of consecration are spoken that the entire Mystery of your redemption is made present before you, hidden from your eyes but visible to your soul by faith? Do you understand that it is God the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity Who descends to us to dwell with us in that moment of time in this glorious Sacrament?

Reflect, today, upon the hidden but real Mystery of Faith. Allow yourself to be drawn into a wonder and awe at what you are privileged to attend. Let your faith in the Most Holy Eucharist grow by being open to a deepening of this gift of faith through spiritual insight and belief. Behold this great Gift of the Eucharist with the eyes of faith and you will be drawn into the wonder and awe that God wants to bestow upon you.

*My ever-glorious Eucharistic Lord, I do believe that You are here, made present in our world under the form of bread and wine, every time the Holy Mass is celebrated. Fill me with a deeper faith in this Holy Gift, dear Lord, so that I may be drawn into wonder and awe every time I witness this holy Consecration. Jesus, I trust in You.*

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# *Come as you are.*

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

**Make authentic connections with other women**  
**Refuel and refresh | Learn more about God**

In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? ***Living in the Father's Love*** will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all.

This brief but powerful Bible study is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. Discover just how much God loves us and how the gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love.



St. Alphonsus Rectory  
1429 W. Wellington Ave.  
(2nd Fl. Common Room)  
Tuesdays, June 11 to July 16  
Two sessions, 9:30- 11 AM or 6:30- 8 PM

Questions? Contact Susan Combes at  
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walking with purpose

[www.walkingwithpurpose.com](http://www.walkingwithpurpose.com)





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Archdiocese of Chicago  
Diocese of Joliet  
Diocese of Peoria  
Diocese of Rockford  
Diocese of Springfield in IL

## A BETTER WAY FORWARD

### *A Message on Assisted Suicide from the Catholic Bishops of Illinois*

*April 2024*

Legislation has been introduced to legalize assisted suicide in Illinois. SB 3499 makes it legal for a physician to prescribe an array of lethal drugs to a person diagnosed with a terminal disease who requests to end his or her life. The Catholic Bishops of Illinois oppose this legislation; there is a better way forward for our state.

As Pope Francis underscores, "We must accompany people towards death, but not provide death or facilitate assisted suicide."

Assisted suicide disregards the Hippocratic Oath, "Do No Harm," and sends the wrong message about the role of medical professionals. We cannot say it any better than the American Medical Association, "Physician assisted suicide is fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer, would be difficult or impossible to control, and would provide serious societal risks."

This legislation brings a range of possible abuses. It should alarm us that in states with legalized assisted suicide there are documented cases of people being offered inexpensive lethal drugs to end their life rather than being provided more costly treatment. The poor and those with disabilities are particularly in jeopardy because they are the most vulnerable to abuses. Every major national organization that represents people with disabilities is opposed to assisted suicide.

In Oregon, where assisted suicide has been legal since 1997, data show that pain is not among the top five reasons why a person wants to end their life. Loss of autonomy, feelings of being a burden and being less able to engage in activities that make life enjoyable are most often cited as reasons for choosing assisted suicide. A better way forward is to expand mental health coverage and strengthen social supports such as community programs to help those dealing with depression and feelings of hopelessness.

No one wants to suffer or experience a loved one's suffering. Fortunately, there are effective ways to alleviate suffering or make a person more comfortable at the end of life through palliative care. This relatively new specialty area of medicine cares for the whole person – physically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually – to relieve symptoms and stress that often accompany serious illness or side effects of treatment. A better way forward is to expand the number of palliative care locations and services in all areas of Illinois.

Assisted suicide is not a compassionate solution for those who are suffering. There is a better way forward that truly offers compassionate care and compassionate choices. Please go to [www.ilcatholic.org](http://www.ilcatholic.org) or call 217-528-9200 to find out how to contact your local elected official to tell them to vote NO on SB 3499.

# June Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> <i>Corpus Christi— No 12:30 PM Mass Eucharistic Procession at Noon</i> <b>6:00 PM</b> YAM Board Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Big Book AA Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> AA Daily Reflections Group <b>9:15 AM</b> Visiting Choir in Church <b>7:00 PM</b> AACA School Board Thank You Social <b>7:30 PM</b> Knights of Columbus	<b>4</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Boy Scouts Troop 889 Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Philosophy Forum	<b>5</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den <b>6:30 PM</b> Young Adult Book Club <b>8:15 PM</b> Men's Group Vespers	<b>6</b> <b>3:00 PM</b> Tigers Cub Scouts <b>6:15 PM</b> Leonine Forum Chicago Mass <b>6:30 PM</b> Women's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Faith Group	<b>7</b> <i>AACA— Last Day of School</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> AACA Variety Show at Athenaeum <b>6:00 PM</b> Book Study Group <b>7:30 PM</b> Parish Holy Hour (hosted by Men's Group)	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <i>Blessing for all 2024 Graduates at 9 &amp; 11 AM Mass</i> <i>Priest's Health and Retirement Collection</i> <i>Pancake Breakfast 10 AM—2 PM in Festival Hall</i> <b>8:30 AM</b> St. Vincent de Paul Donation Dr. <b>7:00 PM</b> Big Book AA Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> AA Daily Reflections Group <b>3:00 PM</b> Junior Scouts— 4th <b>6:00 PM</b> Women's Faith Group	<b>11</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Philosophy Forum	<b>12</b> <b>3:30 PM</b> Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den <b>6:30 PM</b> Young Adult Book Club <b>8:15 PM</b> Men's Group Vespers	<b>13</b> <b>3:00 PM</b> Tigers Cub Scouts <b>6:30 PM</b> Women's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Faith Group	<b>14</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Book Study Group	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> <i>Father's Day</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Big Book AA Meeting	<b>17</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> AA Daily Reflections Group	<b>18</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Philosophy Forum	<b>19</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Young Adult Book Club <b>8:15 PM</b> Men's Group Vespers	<b>20</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Women's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Faith Group	<b>21</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Book Study Group	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Big Book AA Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> AA Daily Reflections Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Lectio Series: Salvation	<b>25</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>6:30 PM</b> Walking w/ Purpose Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Philosophy Forum	<b>26</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Young Adult Book Club <b>8:15 PM</b> Men's Group Vespers	<b>27</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Women's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Men's Faith Group <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Faith Group	<b>28</b> <i>Eucharistic Revival; 6:30—10 PM Mass, Eucharistic Procession and Social</i>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <i>Peter's Pence Collection</i> <b>7:00 PM</b> Big Book AA						





## Sacramental Information

Contact our parish office at (773) 525-0709 for information regarding celebrating sacraments including Baptisms (infant and adult), Reconciliation (confession), Eucharist (Communion), Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick. For information regarding Funerals, please first contact the funeral director of your choice to begin making arrangements.

## How to Offer a Mass Intention

Have you ever noticed that every Mass said here at St. Alphonsus is offered for a special intention? The entire congregation prays for that intention during the petitions (Prayers of the Faithful) when we say,

"For those who have died, and for the intention of this Mass: (named intention)"

[You can make a Mass Intention request here.](#) Masses are often offered for family, friends and relatives that have died. Praying for the dead is a Spiritual Work of Mercy. Offering a Mass for someone that has died is an especially comforting gesture to the family. Mass can also be offered to commemorate joyful occasions and to give thanks to God for blessings received.

**The customary offering for a Mass is \$15.**

However, any amount that you would like to offer is acceptable. You can request Masses by visiting the Parish Office during office hours or calling the Parish Office at (773) 525-0709.

You can **register in the parish** by coming to the rectory office or going online at [www.stalphonsuschicago.org](http://www.stalphonsuschicago.org). The advantage to registering is that we know who you are and can better plan our programs by knowing whom we serve.

**Want to find out what is happening in the young adult community?** Join the St. Al's Young Adult Listserv. We send out monthly emails to let people know about our upcoming events. To register for the listserv, contact [stalphonsusyam@gmail.com](mailto:stalphonsusyam@gmail.com)

The **Knights of Columbus** are the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. For more information, visit [www.stalphonsusknights.com](http://www.stalphonsusknights.com)



## St. Alphonsus Social Media

Choose to participate in meaningful engagement! Having an attitude of engagement challenges us to love our digital neighbor as ourselves. You can find St. Alphonsus' [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) by going to the parish website and clicking the icons at the footer of the page.



## Directory

### Parish Office

1429 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121  
(P): 773-525-0709 |  
[www.stalphonsuschicago.org](http://www.stalphonsuschicago.org)  
[parish@stalphonsuschicago.church](mailto:parish@stalphonsuschicago.church)

### Parish Office Hours:

**9:00 AM— 5:00 PM Mon- Fri**

### School Office

1439 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121  
(P): 773-892-1397 |  
[www.alphonsusacademy.org](http://www.alphonsusacademy.org)  
[info@alphonsusacademy.org](mailto:info@alphonsusacademy.org)

### School Office Hours:

**8:00 AM— 3:00 PM**

## Staff

### Parish Staff

**Rev. Steven Bauer**, Pastor  
**Rev. Jesús (Chuy) Raya**, Associate Pastor  
**Brooks Robinson**, Pastoral Associate  
**Emily Ember**, Coordinator of RE/Evangelization  
**Brian Bloye**, Director of Music and Organist  
**Daniel Szymanski**, Director of Operations  
**Mario Serrano**, Parish Office Manager  
**Kathryn Kibler**, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator/Parish Secretary

### School Staff

**Gerit McAllister**, Principal  
**Angela Kladis**, Assistant Principal  
**Madeleine Durkin**, Director of Admissions  
**Kim Walleth**, Secretary  
**Connie Del Toral**, Administrative Assistant