Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER 6, 2024: TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." (Mk 10:9)

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

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: Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 (14)/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Please Pray for the Sick

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

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Nazira Zeledon



WEDDING BANNS

Hailey Watkins
and
Charlie Piermattei

Jessica Pawelski
and
Dolapo Oni

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 9/29: $15,347

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

For Mass donations via Zelle, please submit to general parish email account, parish@stalphonsuschicago.church

Wedding Banns

II. Hannah Marcheschi and Keenan Smith
II. Tara Early and Anthony Wenn
II. Meaghan Hinchey and Harrison Blarr
I. Elise Olsen and John McCormack
I. Rachel Handrich and Parmveer Kahlon

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 6
9:00 AM +Christian Kebr
11:00 AM +Rev. Erasmo Ramirez, OP
12:30 PM +Pablo Carvajal
5:00 PM +Frances Zajczenko

Monday, October 7
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Tuesday, October 8
8:30 AM +Ronald and Barbara Dorsen

Wednesday, October 9
6:00 PM +Donna Rodgers

Thursday, October 10
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, October 11
8:30 AM +Christian Kebr

Saturday, October 12
8:30 AM Andy and Laura Karas
(40th Wedding Anniversary)

Sunday, October 13
9:00 AM +Donald Robinett
11:00 AM +Mary Gobat
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Message From Fr. Bauer

Dankeschön and Prost!

So this weekend things are back to normal around St. Alphonsus parish. Oktoberfest was a big success this year, and the thousands of people who came to the Fest throughout the weekend had a *wunderbar* experience. The beautiful autumn weather afforded everyone the chance to listen to some great bands, feast on our special recipe bratwurst, enjoy a beer, have fun at Kinderfest, and celebrate the blessings of family and friends gathering together in a community of faith.

On behalf of the planning committee, we are so grateful to the many volunteers -- a few hundred -- who offered their time and smiles to make it such a great success... it's hard to adequately express our gratitude. Nevertheless, we are very thankful to all who helped, and to the blessings the Lord has sent us through you and through the Fest. The parish relies on Oktoberfest to be a success in order to sustain us in our mission and ministry. And so to all who had a hand in it, whether as a volunteer or an attendee, we express a very heart-felt **Dankeschön** to you all! And we toast to you all, saying **Prost!**

Many of you probably know that Prost is the German word for "cheers," but there's actually more to it. The word prost comes from the Latin word "prosit," which is actually imported from a priest's prayer at Mass, which in Latin means "May this be of benefit." If you've ever watched the priest and servers closely in the recessional after Mass, you'll see that in the narthex, the servers turn the cross to face the priest. The priest bows and prays the Latin word "Prosit" – which more broadly means may the celebration of the Mass be of benefit for those gathered for it. Generations ago, German Catholics imported that liturgical prayer into festival toasts, recognizing it as an appropriate spiritual expression of their good wishes and blessings for those gathered.

And so to all of you, as a fitting expression of gratitude and spiritual desire for blessings upon everyone in the parish and beyond, I pray **Prosit** – *may this be of benefit, for us here and for the many who came!*

News and Events

Fun Pumpkin Carving!

Next Sunday, October 13 at 12:30 PM, all members of our faith community are welcome to join our Knights of Columbus in our annual Halloween Pumpkin carving and decorating event. No sign-up required; simply come to the main Oakdale parking lot. For questions, please contact Logan Cobell, lcobell@gmail.com

Music Program in October

Our music director, Brian Bloye, will be playing four famous toccatas (3-6 minute mini-concerts) at Mass during October: the *Toccata in F* by J.S. Bach, a fierce *Toccata in B minor* by Eugène Gigout, the beloved and jovial *Toccata from Symphony V* by Charles-Marie Widor, and just in time for All Hallows Eve, and the Feasts of Saints and Souls, the iconic *Toccata and Fugue in D minor* by J.S. Bach.

Register as a Member of St. Alphonsus!

St. Alphonsus is blessed to welcome many visitors each year. If you worship at our church, you are invited to formally join our faith community! Register at www.stalphonsuschicago.org/visitors If you have moved and would like to update your address, contact Mario Serrano, mserrano@stalphonsuschicago.church



Faith Formation

Register Your Children for Religious Education!



Registration for our Religious Education program is now open for the 2024-2025 school year for grades 1st-8th. Classes are on Tuesday evenings at 6:15 PM. Please register at the link on our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education

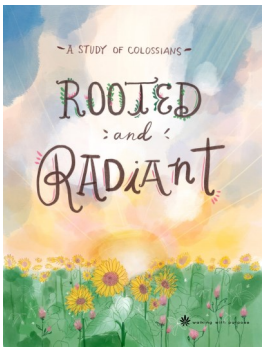
Are You Ready to Become Catholic?

Registration is open for The Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) Each year we are blessed with several individuals who desire to enter and learn more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA program is the study of the Catholic Faith and the process of introduction into the faith community.

This class is offered for adults in three situations:

1. Un-baptized adults who desire to be baptized in the Catholic Church.
2. Baptized non-Catholic Christians who desire to be formally admitted into communion with the Catholic Church.
3. Baptized Catholics who have not yet been confirmed and desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Adult baptism (and if applicable, Confirmation and First Holy Communion) takes place at the Easter Vigil (Evening before Easter Sunday). It is one of the highest celebrations in the Catholic Church's liturgical year! If you or someone you know is interested in taking the class, please contact our pastoral associate, Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church



Rooted and Radiant Women's Bible Study

Walking w/ Purpose is a modern woman's guide to the Bible! Join us this fall as we help you enjoy a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, nurtured through personal Bible study and small group discussions created just for women!

In the ***Rooted and Radiant*** study, we will learn the book of Colossians and seek to understand the challenges that faced them, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

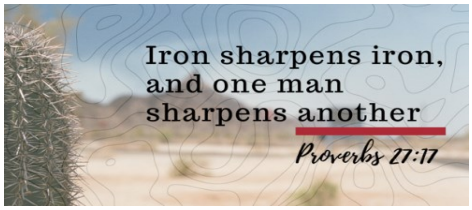
Sessions are on Tuesdays, mornings are 9:30—11 AM and the evening session is 6:30—8 PM. Questions? Please contact Susan Combes, smbcombes51@gmail.com

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

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



FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH. ON DEMAND.

The Last Days: The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ w/ Jonathan Roumie

This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.

Become a Catechist!

Inspire Joy and Love in Little Hearts

Bring Christ to the Children

Be a Role Model and Witness

Increase in Knowledge of the Faith



Jesus said what you do to the least of these you do to me.

Contact Emily Ember, Coor. of Religious Education
eember@stalphonsuschicago.church



Faith Formation

One More Catechist Needed!

We are looking for one additional catechist to help prepare students to receive Confirmation this year. Could that catechist be you?? Classes are held Tuesday evenings from 6:15 PM-7:30 PM. The children need your help so they are prepared to receive this important Sacrament! Contact Emily at eember@stalphonsuschicago.church for more info and please say 1 Hail Mary for all the Religious Education students and catechists!

Mysteries of the Rosary Series

Mondays, Nov. 4th - Dec. 16th
9:30 AM-11 AM, Rectory Common Room

Prepare your hearts for Advent and Christmas by diving into the Joyful Mysteries! Filmed on location in the Holy Land, join us for this video and discussion series as we venture through deeply reflective insights on the life of Christ, theological truths, and captivating stories together with breathtaking scenery, illuminating sacred art, and inspiring music. An authentic encounter with Christ leads to our transformation and sanctification! This is your opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord. Contact Emily for more details.

Pope Francis October Intention

For a Shared Mission

When bishops and laypeople meet for the second part of the Synod on Synodality during October, the faithful are asked to pray that "the Church continues to sustain a synodal lifestyle in every way."

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Storage Tricks

Fold and store bedding inside a pillowcase – it keeps it tidy and you'll never have to hunt for a matching set again.

In drawers, roll rather than fold your t-shirts or knits and then store them in neat rows so you can see the top of each one (rather than a stacked pile, which you'd need to rifle through to see everything underneath).

If you have a linen closet especially for storing bedding and towels, divide sets of bedding into baskets labelled by either room or bed size. That way you always know your king-sized from your double at a quick glance.

Community News

Lincoln Brunch Fest— Saturday, October 12

If brunch is your jam (literally), then Lincoln Brunch Fest is the spot to be! Join them for the first event Lincoln Brunch Fest happening Saturday, October 12th on Lincoln Avenue from Diversey to Wellington. Local restaurants will serve FREE samples their favorites (and soon-to-be yours) from 10 AM to 3 PM. This, along with entertainment and activities for kids, will transform the street into a brunch-tastic afternoon and have you thinking about where to brunch the following weekend!

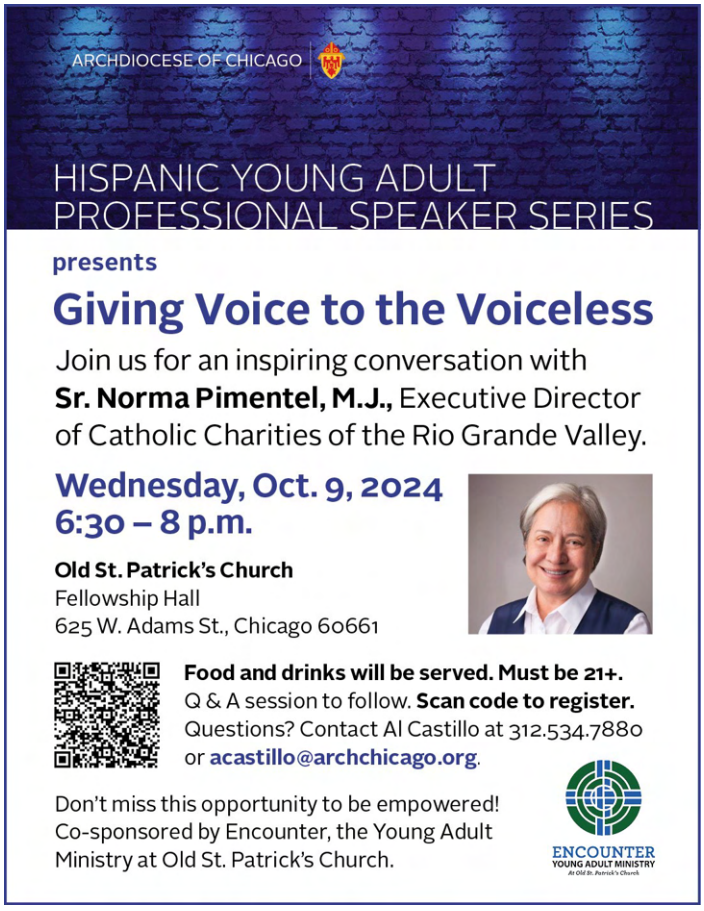
Lincoln Brunch Fest is FREE to attend, and is brought to Lincoln Ave as a benefit of West Lakeview Special Service Area 27. Visit www.lakeviewssa27.com/brunch-fest for a list of participating restaurants in our area!



South Lakeview Neighbors Meeting

Tuesday, October 8
The Athenaeum Center-2936 N. Southport
Meeting starts- 7 PM sharp, doors open 6:30 PM
Topic : Chicago School Board Candidates Forum
All 6 candidates are committed to attend.
Also - Candidates for Cook County State's Attorney
All are welcome.
www.slneighbors.org

Around the Archdiocese



Hispanic Speaker Series

All young adults are invited on **Wednesday, Oct. 9 from 6:30 – 8 PM at Old St. Patrick's Church (Fellowship Hall, 625 W. Adams St.)** for an inspiring conversation with Sr. Norma Pimentel, M.J., Executive Director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley. Discover the incredible work of Sr. Norma as she provides a lifeline to asylum seekers on their journey to safety in the United States. As the driving force behind creating safe spaces for immigrants to rest and recover, Sr. Norma's mission goes far beyond immediate humanitarian aid. She has become a powerful advocate for immigrant families, reminding the world that these individuals are not mere numbers – they are human beings deserving of respect, dignity and compassion. Don't miss this opportunity to hear firsthand from Sr. Norma about her impactful work and the profound difference it is making in the lives of countless individuals and families. Food and drinks will be served. Must be 21 or over. Q&A session to follow.

Register online at consejo.archchicago.org/news-and-events/hyap-series
Reserve your seat now! Questions? Contact Al Castillo at acastillo@archchicago.org.

Young Adult Ministry

The Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is one of St. Alphonsus' most active parish groups! YAM is led by a volunteer board and is guided by Pastoral Associate, Brooks Robinson. Stated simply, the ministry's mission is to help one another participate in Christ's mission, that we, as young adult Catholics, may be effective disciples, evangelists, and agents of charity in all that we do. YAM provides many social, intellectual, service, and spiritual opportunities for growth. Members range in age from 21-39 years old. Our YAM group is made up of 4 main pillars, Spiritual, Intellectual, Service, and Social. Visit the St. Alphonsus YAM Facebook page, *www.facebook.com/AlphonsusYoungAdult* or contact the YAM board at *stalphonsusyam@gmail.com*

BE SOCIAL
BE SPIRITUAL
BE CHARITABLE
BE INTELLECTUAL
BE CATHOLIC

Trivia Night! Saturday, October 19



Are you the friend whose schtick is sharing random factoids? Or, the one with the most fun party conversations? Well, calling all you trivia fans and friends alike to come join us in St. Alphonsus' Festival Hall (basement) on Saturday, October 19 from 5 PM-8 PM because St. Alphonsus YAM Trivia is back!

The cost of tickets is $25 per person (it is a fundraiser!).
Teams of 5-6 people can register individually or together.
For anyone registering as a team, simply list the names of everyone in the "Comments" section of the GiveCentral link, during your purchase. Light refreshments, beer and wine are included in the event cost. We will have prizes for 3rd, 2nd and 1st place winning teams.
Don't know anyone or don't have 6 people on your team?
Fear not! You may also register individually or in a smaller group (2-4 people). We will assign you to a team. All are welcome!
***Please note: pre-registration with payment through the GiveCentral link is required to attend. No walk-ups will be allowed since we have teams.
Register online at www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/39/event/38222

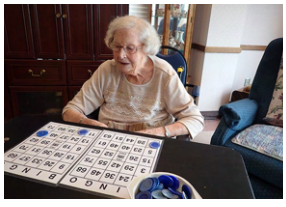
Apple Picking— Saturday, Oct. 12



Hay there! Do you love Fall weather, Are you fun to the Core, Isn't it A-Maze-ing that Autumn Leaves a smile on your face? Ready to have a Gourd time and live Apple-y ever after? Don't Leaf us hanging and come be the Apple of our Eyes, you couldn't Pick a better way to spend your day. Come one, come all to St Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry goes Apple Picking and have an Apple-solutely wonderful day!

Our YAM community leaders will be carpooling from St. Alphonsus that morning to County Line Orchard in Indiana, 200 S County Line Rd, Hobart, IN 46342.
Please visit our Facebook event page for the Google sign-up!
Contact us at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com with any questions!

Volunteer w/ Little Sisters of the Poor!



On Sunday, October 13th, we will be volunteering with Little Sisters of the Poor, assisting the elderly community with a Bingo afternoon! The event will run from 2-3 PM. We will plan to meet at St. Alphonsus before and head over as a group (walk over or drive). Please visit our Facebook event page for the Google sign-up!

Praise and Adoration Holy Hour



On Friday, October 18th at 7:30 PM, spend time with our Lord in praise and adoration in the church. We'll spend the first 15 minutes in silent adoration, and then our musicians will lead worship in song. Confession will also be available! The hour will conclude with benediction, and our Young Adult Ministry will lead a group to gather for fellowship and drinks at a local bar after!

Living the Gospel of Life



Support "The Baby Bottle Project" Pick Up Your Bottle This Sunday!

This October, our parish will be participating in The Baby Bottle Project benefiting Aid for Women. Aid for Women was founded over 43 years ago on the faith and teachings of the Catholic Church. Aid for Women operates four pregnancy resource centers throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. Services include pregnancy tests, ultrasound exams and confidential counseling. Aid for Women's residential programs, Heather's House and Monica's House, help women whose decision to choose life is further complicated by lack of adequate housing.

Please take a Baby Bottle home with you. Fill it with your spare change and return it to church in October. The bottles will be passed out by 7th/8th grade Alphonsus Academy students at the exits as you leave Mass. Thank you for your support!



Prayers for Respect Life Month!

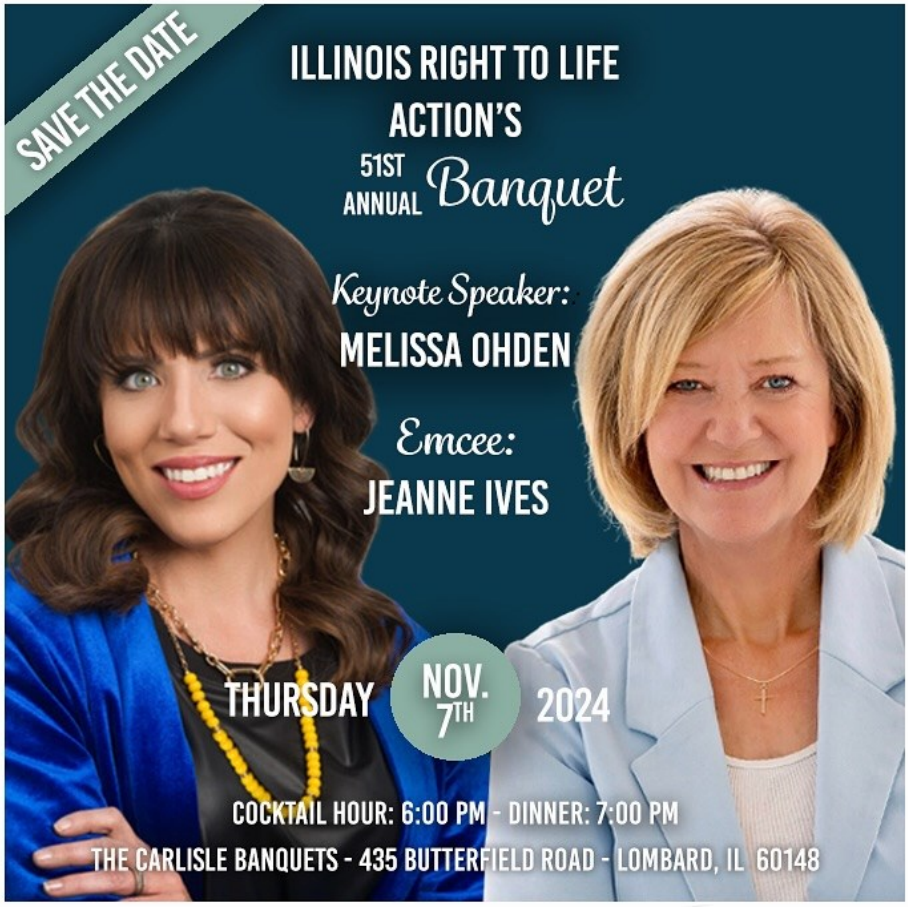
For all Catholics: that on this Respect Life Sunday, the Lord will strengthen our resolve to protect the gift of every human life; *We pray to the Lord*:

When we meet Jesus in the Eucharist, this encounter has the power to change us. The Eucharist has the power to transform the depths of our hearts and the heart of our culture. United to the power of his Eucharistic Presence, may we work to ensure that each person has life—and has it in abundance.

Illinois Right to Life Banquet

All members of our faith community are encouraged to become pro-active and learn more about *Illinois Right to Life*, a leader in promoting a culture of life in Illinois, resources for credible, compelling information on life issues/ pertinent legislation and continuously working to protect the most vulnerable members of our state.

Illinois Right to Life will host their 51st annual banquet on Thursday, Nov. 7. Speakers include Melissa Ohden, founder of the Abortion Survivors Network, Jeanne Ives, host of *The Real Story* on AM 560 Chicago, IRL Board President Mary Kate Zander, and Executive Director Jaclyn Cornell. Visit www.illinoisrighttolifeaction.org to learn more.



I CAME SO THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE LIFE



During the Easter Vigil liturgy, the single flame of the Easter candle shines through the darkness. That small flame spreads as each person's candle is lit and the light of Christ is shared with others. Before we know it, the entire Church is ablaze with the warm glow of candlelight and the darkness has been vanquished.

We are each called by God to be that light of Christ that breaks through the darkness. We are called to be his disciples, continually transformed by our encounter with him and sharing in his mission. Jesus came that we might have *life*.

Part of the impetus for the Eucharistic Revival was a concern that some Catholics do not believe, or at least do not understand, that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. Even though our human senses perceive bread and wine, the Eucharist is Jesus—body, blood, soul, and divinity. Similarly, many people do not realize or acknowledge the sanctity of human life when it is hidden in the womb. Both instances call for us to help others recognize these sacred gifts that may not be perceivable through our human senses. We need to help others understand that just because something may not be apparent to our eyes does not mean that it is not there or that it is not important.

We live in a society that rejects those who are weak, fragile, or vulnerable. Yet, it is precisely within these conditions that a person is most in need of our care and protection. Pope Francis reminds us that "every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world's rejection."[1]

> **"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."**
>
> **John 1:5**

The U.S. bishops have affirmed that, while it is important to address all the ways in which human life is threatened, "abortion remains our pre-eminent priority as it directly attacks our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, destroying more than a million lives each year in our country alone."[2]

As Pope St. John Paul II wrote, "we are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the 'culture of death' and the 'culture of life'. ...we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life."[3]

"I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Matthew 28:20



In the face of challenges such as abortion and physician-assisted suicide, we may feel that we are not equal to the task of overcoming the darkness. Yet, we are not alone. Jesus tells us, "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

The God who became man to save us still dwells among us. For Christ is "the light [that] shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5). He is the one who overcame death and continually raises us to new life. He remains close to us always, seeking us out in each moment of our lives.

Jesus gave his very flesh to give us the gift of eternal life and invites us to the most profound experience of this gift in our celebration of the Eucharist. When we meet Jesus in the Eucharist, this encounter has the power to change us. The Eucharist has the power to transform the depths of our hearts and the heart of our culture. United to the power of his Eucharistic Presence, may we work to ensure that each person has life—and has it in abundance.

Low Gluten Hosts Available



If you are allergic to wheat or have celiac disease, or for any reason can't tolerate gluten, we have hosts available for you. Low gluten hosts are available at every Mass, even daily Masses.
To receive a low gluten host at Mass, all you have to do is get in the Communion line for the celebrant, and then just point to the little ciborium that the priest sets on the communion rail.

These hosts have 0.01% gluten. We can provide further information about their content upon request.

At the Athenaeum

Roger Deakins Photography Exhibition
October 17-20



Legendary cinematographer, Sir Roger A. Deakins along with his longtime collaborator and wife James Deakins (aka Team Deakins) will be at the Athenaeum on October 17–20 for movie screenings, book signings, and more!

Thursday, October 17: Byways book signing + Film Screening with Q&A: ***The Man Who Wasn't There***

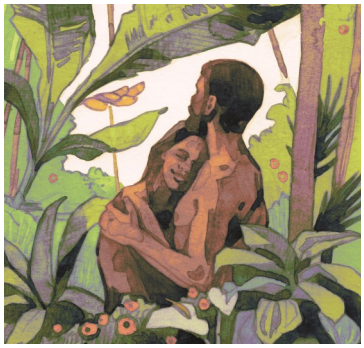
Friday, October 18: Public Gallery Opening

Sunday, October 20: Byways book signing + Film Screening with Q&A: ***Shawshank Redemption***

Get your tickets for these events and check out more coming to the Athenaeum at athenaeumcenter.org/events/

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. *So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate.*" — Mk 10:7-9

Authentic Love



The Pharisees were not interested in the deepest truths of God. They were only interested in twisting God's truths in an attempt to prove their own self-righteousness. The question they posed to Jesus was a trap, but Jesus doesn't fall into it. He asks them what Moses taught about the love in marriage and then explains that their understanding of Moses' teaching was based on the hardness of their hearts and not the original intent of God as was revealed in the beginning.

Our Church's teaching regarding the indissolubility of marriage flows from the teachings found in the Book of Genesis, subsequently confirmed and clarified by Jesus in today's Gospel. When a true marriage bond is established by the free and total consent of a man and woman, that bond can only be separated by death.

From a much broader perspective, the marriage bond of which Jesus speaks also reveals to us the depth of commitment that God has made to each one of us and the reciprocal commitment He invites us to make. God's covenant offered to us is freely given, total, and irrevocable. This is important to understand. God will never change His mind when it comes to the commitment He has made to each one of us. For our part, we must continuously seek to reciprocate that commitment by giving ourselves to the will of God in the same way.

Though much more could be said about this exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees regarding earthly marriage, we must also see in this exchange a common trap that we will encounter in our marital covenant with God and our love of others. Just as the Pharisees used the law of marriage to try to trap Jesus in His speech, caring nothing about the deeper truths that this teaching revealed, we can also use the Law of God in a way that reveals our own hardness of heart. Love, be it that of marriage or the love that is the basis of our union with God, can easily be used as a weapon rather than a source of unity. Regarding others, we can easily fall into the trap of using the precepts of love as a source of manipulation and persuasion. "If you loved me, then you would..." Regarding our love of God, we can often reduce our love into a reluctant following of God's most basic laws, such as "I have to go to church."

If love is to be pure and holy, it must rise above erroneous interpretations of love and be lived in the way it was intended to be lived. Pure love is always self-giving. It is sacrificial. It always looks to the good of the other. Love is total and must be irrevocable. Love forges a bond that should never be broken. It must endure everything and is possible only when it is grounded in the love that God has for us.

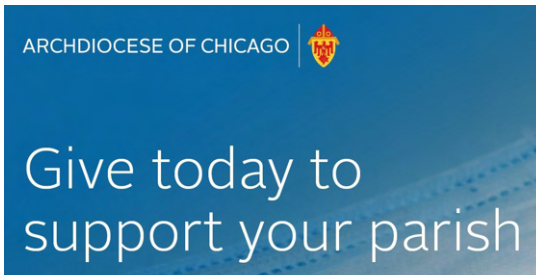
Reflect, today, upon the way that you love. Does the hardness of your heart lead you to misrepresent the love God wants you to share with others? Do you minimize the requirements of love? Is your love total, irrevocable, and freely given? Is your love self-seeking or self-giving? Reflect upon the pure and holy nature of the love God has offered to you, and recommit yourself to offer this same depth of love to God and to others so that the covenants that result from your love will always endure.

Lord of the Covenant, Your love is perfect. It is pure, it is selfless, self-giving, total and irrevocable. Please help me to love You with this same love so that I can share in the divine marriage covenant to which I am called. May this holy love also overflow into every relationship so that You will be the foundation of those holy bonds. Jesus, I trust in You.

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Stewardship— First Fruits

Beyond Mass



Jesus was a marvelous story teller and, in one message, He compares our speech, our actions and our attitudes as fruits from a tree. And he reminds us that "every tree is known by its fruit."

It is important to remember that being a Christian and doing God's work extends beyond the Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass. Everything we do in life is a reflection of our faith and shows to the world our true beliefs. We should not attempt to "turn off" our religion as we walk through the church doors after Mass. What do our fruits say of each of us?

Do we help our fellow man when we see a need? Do we keep a positive outlook in the face of momentary adversity? Do we look for the face of Jesus in our neighbor and greet that person with a loving heart?

Being a Christian and being a steward isn't always about money. It's about our attitudes, our actions and how we respond to God's many blessings. By becoming a part of the wonderful St. Alphonsus family, we have accepted responsibility for our Parish and our fellow parishioners. By partaking of the sacraments, we have accepted the responsibility of discipleship.

The people of St. Alphonsus have the ability to offer to God the most wonderful and glorious fruits – the fruits tended and sent to us by His very hand. We have the ability to watch our Parish continue to grow in His glory and be abundantly blessed by His grace. But we must do our part. We must live according to His teachings, share a portion of the gifts bestowed upon us and give thanks every day of our lives for all that He has given.

And, above all, we must never forget to forever sing His praises!

Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

– 1 Corinthians 15:58

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.

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

Sign up at *www.givecentral.org/location/39*

Safe Families for Children



Please join us in exploring the plight of urban poverty this October! All parishioners and community members are welcome.

Light breakfast will be provided.

9 AM-10:30 AM
Saturday, October 19th

St. Alphonsus Rectory, 2nd Floor Common Room

To register, please scan the QR code or visit:
www.eventbrite.com/e/st-alphonsus-safe-families-for-children-poverty-training-tickets-1015683375317

October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 **2:00 PM** Big Book AA Inventory Meeting **2:30 PM** RCIA **6:00 PM** Young Adult Ministry Board Meeting **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	7 **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** AACA School Board **7:00 PM** Baptismal Prep Class **7:00 PM** Knights of Columbus Meeting	8 **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scout Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	9 **1:45 PM** Brownie Girl Scouts—3rd **6:30 PM** Book Club Meeting **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	10 **6:15 PM** Leonine Forum **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Sharing Group	11 **6:00 PM** Oktoberfest Volunteer Appreciation Party	12 **9:00 AM** YAM-County Line Orchard Day Trip

October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
13 **8:00 AM** Team MOLA Chicago Marathon Cheer Team **12:30 PM** Knights of Columbus Pumpkin Carving **1:45 PM** YAM Service- Bingo Volunteer w/ Little Sisters of the Poor **2:30 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**14** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group	**15** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education— Parent Confirmation Mtg. **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scout Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**16** **6:30 PM** Book Club Meeting **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**17** **8:00 AM** AACA Rocket Run Tots, Pre-K & K **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Sharing Group	**18** **8:00 AM** AACA Rocket Run 1st through 8th & Family Fun Run **3:00 PM** Boy Scout Webelos 3889 Meeting **7:30 PM** Praise and Adoration Holy Hour	**19** **9:00 AM** Safe Families for Children— "Understanding Poverty" **9:00 AM** Cub Scouts Raingutter Regatta **5:00 PM** Trivia Night
20 **World Mission Sunday Collection** **1:00 PM** Samuel Group **2:30 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**21** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **5:30 PM** Cub Scouts— Tiger Den **6:00 PM** Religious Education— RCIC Parent Meeting	**22** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scout Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**23** **1:45 PM** Daisy Scouts—1st **6:30 PM** Book Club Meeting **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**24** **8:00 AM** Blessings in a Backpack **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts— Wolf Den 2nd **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Sharing Group	**25** **5:30 PM** AACA Trunk or Treat	**26**
27 **Shepherds of Bethlehem Holy Land Artifacts Sale** **2:30 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**28** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group	**29** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education— First Communion Mtg. **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scout Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**30** **6:30 PM** Book Club Meeting **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**31** **Halloween** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Sharing Group	**Nov. 1** **All Saints Day— Holy Day of Obligation Mass at 8:30 AM and 6 PM**	**Nov. 2** **All Souls Day— Mass at 5 PM** **9:30 AM** Religious Education— Holy Fire Retreat at Credit Union 1 Arena **12:00 PM** YAM- Fall Retreat

Faith at the Movies— October 8 at 7 PM; one night only!



Spirit Juice Studios is proud to present ***"Heart of a Servant: The Father Flanagan Story,"*** a documentary that tells the inspirational story of Fr. Edward Flanagan, founder of Boys Town, who is currently on the path to sainthood. Fr. Flanagan devoted his life to serving vulnerable children and standing up for justice. His legacy, rooted in his deep Catholic faith, is an inspiration to all of us, and his cause for canonization continues to gain momentum. Fr. Flanagan is not only a model of holiness but also a uniquely American saint, one who represents the potential for sanctity in our own land. Narrated by *The Chosen's* Jonathan Roumie. Get your tickets at www.fathomevents.com/events/heart-of-a-servant/

Contact

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*. 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*

The ***Knights of Columbus*** are the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. For more information, visit *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
parish@stalphonsuschicago.church

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM– 5:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM– 7:30 PM Tues, Thur

School Office

1439 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121
(P): 773-892-1397 |
www.alphonsusacademy.org
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 Wallett, Secretary
Janin Silva, Administrative Assistant