Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 22, 2021: TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Simon Peter answered him, "Master to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (Jn 6:68)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri	8:30 AM
Wed	6:00 PM
Sunday	9 AM, 11 AM, 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

Saturday	11:00—11:30 AM

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

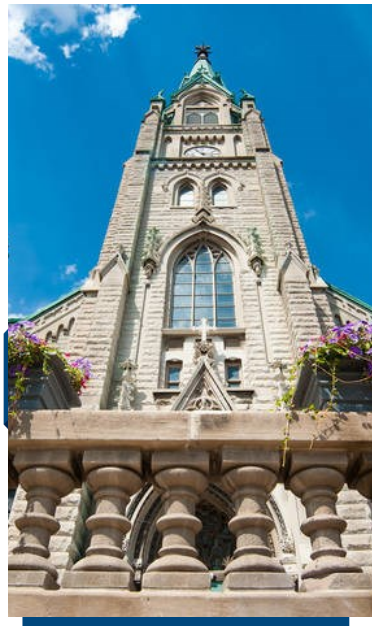
Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Tuesday	after the 8:30 AM Mass
Wednesday:	5:50 PM

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/ Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/ Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
Joanna Ravelingeen
Jamie Wallett
Romie Richard
Sandra Wilson
Monica Alexis Rios
Margaret Nichols
Maria Eisler
Rita Gerich
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Leslie Putman
Carolina Goldie
Diane Mareci
William Ahearn
Emilia Hurtado
Bernard Zapp
Rachel Schopp
Mike Madigan
David Birks
Celeste Soult
Carol Reckwerdt
Doug Tally
Jeff De La Cruz
Stacy Strickland
Tim Dooling
Spencer Lyles
Magdalena Gonzalez
Christopher Bibat
Michael Aldape
Victor Giustino

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,218

Offertory for 8/15/2021: $11,358

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

WEDDING BANNS

Alyssa Oliviera
and
Jack Boyd

Anne Marie Alwan
and
Brendan Keane

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Lia Louise Reyes
Lyra Gia Martinez
James Henry Klucken

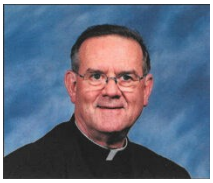
For more info about having your child baptized at St Alphonsus, contact Kaitlin Holyk at stalsweddings@gmail.com

Welcome to the Parish!

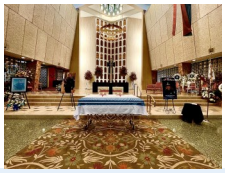
Catherine Bird, Roibeard and Fionn Lavery
Kelly Kevil and James Orchard
Allie and Matt Reed
John Walter Siedlecki

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Fr. Jack Farry
Former Pastor at St. Andrew Parish



Ella French
Chicago Police Officer



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 22
9:00 AM +Thomas Schweitzer
11:00 AM +John (Jack) Patrick O'Shaughnessy
5:00 PM +Helen Kam Kin Hui

Monday, August 23
8:30 AM +Patrick Breen

Tuesday, August 24
8:30 AM +Bartolome Pagalunan
+Ricardo Azores

Wednesday, August 25
6:00 PM Victor Giustino

Thursday, August 26
8:30 AM +Rev. Jack Farry

Friday, August 27
8:30 AM +Mr. & Mrs. George Schwengler

Sunday, August 29
9:00 AM +Robert Bevans
11:00 AM +Michael Blumenthal
5:00 PM Gonzalo Gilana
+Floro Espinosa

Ups and Downs



This past week the school was abuzz with excitement as our teachers are decorating bulletin boards and organizing their classrooms in preparation for the start of the new school year. We are proud of our outstanding faculty, our leadership team, and our dedicated families who make the AACA community so special. We pray that the light and grace of Christ the Teacher illuminate the hearts, minds and souls of our students!

As if to herald the return of all our Rockets, the Blue Angels will also be roaring overhead this weekend (ok, not quite rocket ships, but jets… close enough) as the city has invited the Navy's elite pilots to showcase their precision aerobatics. It's fun to see them, especially as their speed leaves sound behind. And while you are looking for them, they will be looking for St. Alphonsus. To make their synchronized aerial tactics possible, the pilots rely on sightlines created by visual landmarks. Because of its great height, the steeple of St. Alphonsus Church is one of those navigational landmarks for the Blue Angels.

But what about us – does the steeple serve as a navigational landmark for us?

Not unlike a compass, does our faith enable us to see the spiritual direction to which the steeple points? Because we all need a reminder to look upwards, especially when bad news is delivered and makes us feel downcast.

Earlier this week the city re-imposed a mask mandate for indoor spaces because Covid numbers are going up again. The Archdiocese echoed the requirement that masks be worn in archdiocesan buildings and during Masses and liturgies, regardless of vaccination status. The statement from the Archdiocese went on to state, "*Our priority remains the safety of all God's People, which is why we align our guidelines with the current guidance of our public health authorities. As their guidance changes, so must ours.*" Other mitigation factors include sitting every other pew for increase distancing, and the sign of peace will be contactless with those outside of your family group. The Archdiocese may offer more guidance or specific policies in the days ahead, but at press time this is what we know.

It is heartbreaking for many people, because prior to the delta variant of the virus, it appeared life was returning to normal. I sympathize with the frustration many people have, and I wish this chapter could have been written differently. However, rather than sit stoking in that negativity, I prefer to look at my spiritual compass. Like the steeple, it points up. When I need to find hope, I look upwards. The reality and proximity of heaven gives my comfort that the saints and angels are not socially distant, but close at hand to help us navigate these trying times.

St. Alphonsus' Annual Oktoberfest! September 24-26

Mark your calendars for the biggest and best Oktoberfest yet! We're celebrating with all the beer, brats and bands you love. Stay tuned for Brewmaster info, volunteer sign up, craft beer night details and more event updates. Visit stalsoktoberfest.org

Dorothy Spencer Farewell



It is with sadness I am relaying the news that our parish Director of Operations, Dorothy Spencer will be retiring from St. Alphonsus and the ranks of all the employed, effective as of Sept. 3. She said, *"I have enjoyed working with every staff member and every committee member over the years. I assure you it was not an easy decision for me to make… I value the experience I have received over my 13-year career working with the Archdiocese of Chicago."*

We are very thankful and proud of all the work she has done for us here, not only in strengthening the financial health and stability of the church and school, but also sharing her faith with us. It's a big loss and she will truly be missed, and we pray that her retirement provide bountiful opportunities to enjoy family, life, faith and friends.

I have been in contact with Patricia Bruhn, the Director of Vicariate Operations for the Archdiocese, to begin the search for her successor asap, so as to provide the greatest possible sense of continuity in the operations of our great parish. You can view the career position posting online at legacy.archchicago.org/Employment/Parishes Thank you for your support of her and myself, and please join me in wishing Dorothy all the best.

Gospel Meditation

"Far be it from us to forsake the Lord for the service of other gods." We struggle with our gods. They appear in the forms of things like money, power, prestige, popularity, privilege, and self-fulfillment. We like these "gods" because they make us feel good and ask very little of us in return. When we worship them, we worship ourselves. How can you go wrong with that? We buy into the illusion that if something can give us a comfortable life, free of want and need, then it is worth setting other things aside to pursue it. In essence, we sell our souls. Our struggle with "who is God" and to whom do we belong is a real one and one that can easily find us empty and experiencing disillusionment.

The devil tempted Jesus in the desert and promised him more. We are promised "more." But in pursuing the more and the satisfying we lose track of the cost, and the cost is great. We sacrifice our very life in pursuit of something disguised as life. We sacrifice truth for something that only "feels" true. While the true and real God certainly promises us many things, many things are also required. It is not about the warm and secure feelings and self-absorption the world wants to provide, but of giving back. There can be no lukewarm stance with regard to faith. If we are in, then faith in Jesus Christ asks us to do some difficult things: work in service of God's kingdom (not our own), love our enemies, offer no resistance to injury, that we must die to ourselves in order to find ourselves, and trust that Jesus truly gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. These are hard things to accept and even harder to put into practice. It is no wonder that many, who may be attracted to Jesus at first, walk away in pursuit of the more self-satisfying gods.

But truth is truth. If we cannot accept it from the lips of Jesus Christ, then where else will we find it? To whom can we go? There is only one source of truth and life, Jesus Christ. Jesus has the words of eternal life and if we do not go to him, then where else will we find this gift? But we must be faithful and buy into the whole package deal that requires sacrifice and fidelity. When we do, we find ourselves, through the Body and Blood of Christ, connected to the Source of all life and then intimately bound with our brothers and sisters. We all have to decide whether we want to stay or go and if we can accept what Jesus has to say. It's a choice we all have to make.

Stewardship—First Fruits

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

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*

AACA ALPHONSUS ACADEMY & Center for the Arts

Preschool thru 8th Grade | Arts Integration | Social-Emotional Learning | Extended Care | TOTS Program (2 year olds) | Blue Ribbon School

There are a limited number of openings for 2021-22 in grades TOTS, Preschool (4 Day Afternoon), Kindergarten, 4th, 5th & 6th
Classes begin on August 24

We inspire and develop the whole child in an enriching environment combining academic excellence, an arts-integrated curriculum, and a supportive Catholic family.

Interested families should contact Mary Bodlak, Director of Admissions & Marketing, at 773-819-7655 or mbodlak@aaca.school for more information. New applications are accepted online at www.alphonsusacademy.org (under the Admissions tab).



Faith Formation

Register Your Child(ren) for Religious Education! Catechists Needed!



Registration for our Religious Education program is now open for the 2021-2022 school year for grades 1st-8th on Tuesday nights at 6:15 PM. Registration is due September 10 and classes will begin on September 21. We are anticipating a hybrid in-person/virtual format. Please visit our Religious Education page on the parish website at www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education for more information.

Each year, St. Alphonsus joyfully educates the children of our parish in their Catholic faith. If you would like to spend more time with children, strengthen the faith bonds in our families or enjoy serving in our parish—please consider volunteering as a catechist for our religious education program! We'd love to talk to you and no experience is necessary :) There are training opportunities and support as you get started and throughout your time of service. Contact our RE Coordinator Erica Cook, ecook@stalphonsuschicago.org for more information.

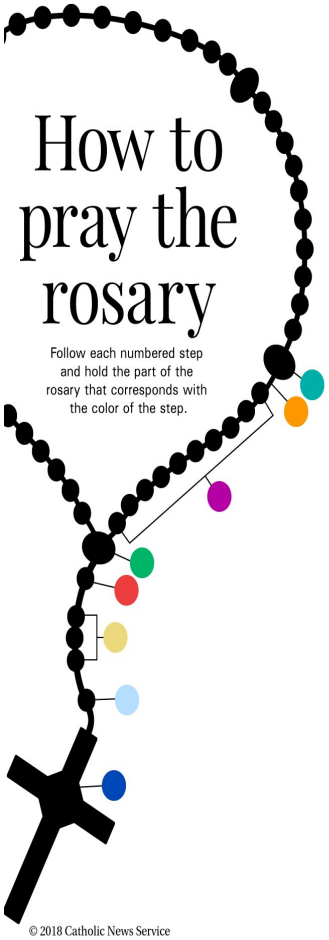
Are You Ready To Become Catholic?

Registration is open for The Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) Classes will be every Wednesday from 6 PM– 7:30 PM and begin September 22. 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.com



1. Make the Sign of the Cross and say the Apostles' Creed
2. Say the Our Father
3. Say three Hail Marys
4. Say the Glory Be
5. Announce the first mystery and then say the Our Father
6. Say 10 Hail Marys while meditating on the mystery
7. Say the Glory Be (Optional: Say the O My Jesus prayer requested by Mary at Fatima)
8. Announce the second mystery; then say the Our Father and repeat these steps as you continue through the remaining mysteries.
9. Say the Hail, Holy Queen
10. Make the Sign of the Cross

Find the mysteries here: https://bit.ly/1hNNOc4



We are going live in October! Chicagoland Worldwide Marriage Encounter is hosting an in person weekend. We are inviting couples with strong marriages, as well as devoted priests & religious. Learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong.

Oct 23-24, 2021: Joseph & Mary Retreat House, Mundelein, IL

Email: applications@wwme-chicagoland.org
Phone: 630-577-0778
Website: www.wwme-chicagoland.org

wwme.org

At the Athenaeum

Save the Date! Culture of Life Benefit Concert

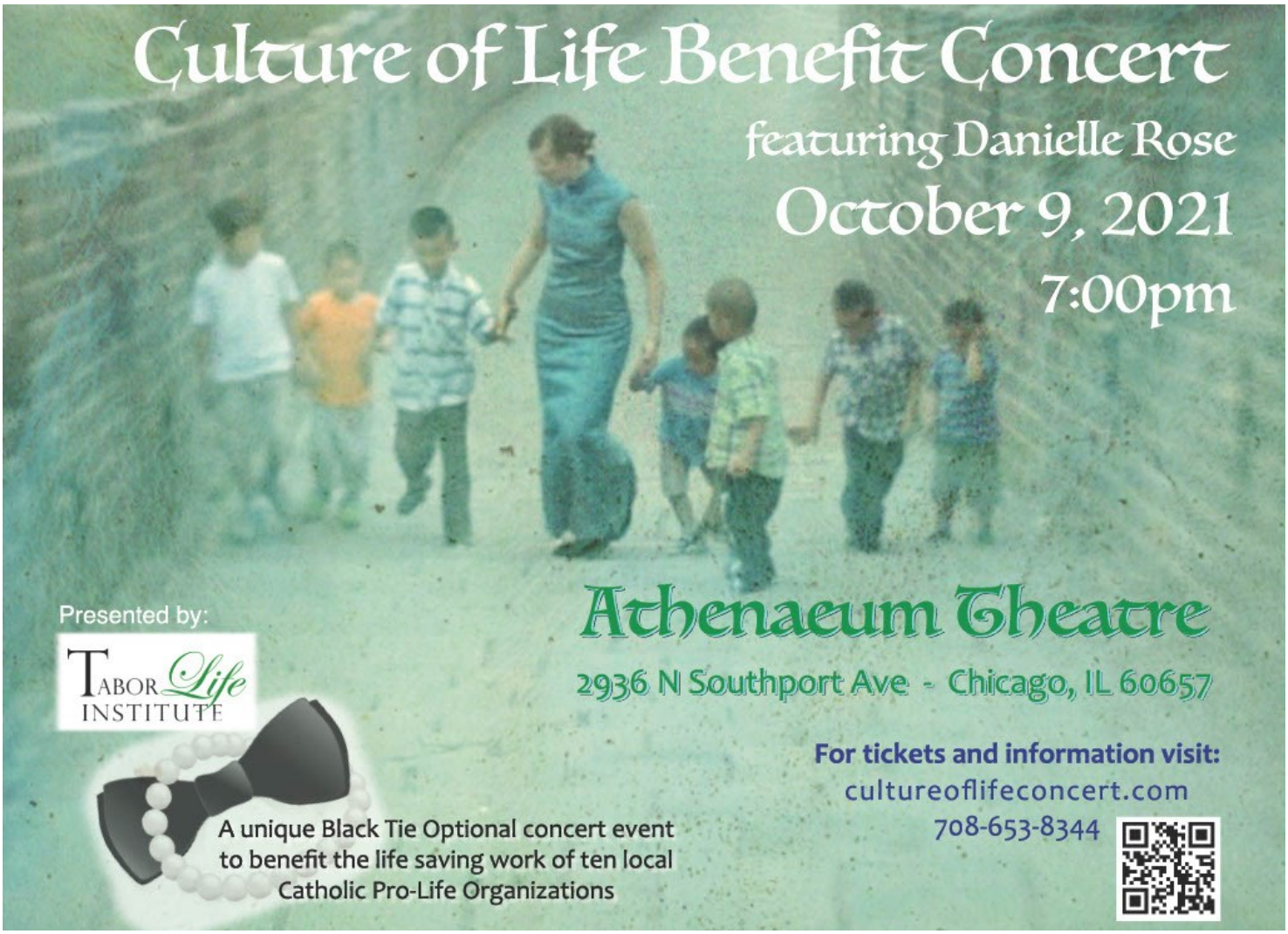
The Tabor Life Institute invites you to join us on **Saturday October 9th, 2021** for a unique black tie optional benefit concert. This event will be unlike any other Pro-Life Fundraising event you have attended in the past. We invite you to get dressed up and enjoy the music and ministry of Catholic Singer & Songwriter Danielle Rose as she performs her *Culture of Life* album in the historic **Athenaeum Theatre** located in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood.

Pre-Concert Event - 5:30 PM, Theater Doors Open - 6:00 PM, Concert - 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

The Tabor Life Institute is excited to team up with the Athenaeum Center for Thought and Culture and Catholic singer/songwriter Danielle Rose to offer this one of a kind concert to support the life saving work of ten local Catholic Pro-Life Organizations. The evening will include a pre-concert event for VIP & Premium ticket holders where they can mingle with representatives of each organization while enjoying a few drinks and hors d'oeuvres. During the multi-media concert, each organization will have the opportunity to introduce a song from Danielle's *Culture of Life* album that represents the work they do to promote a culture of life in the greater Chicagoland area.

The Tabor Life Institute will be donating all proceeds from this event equally to the featured Pro-Life Organizations. Be sure to take a look at the Additional Support section on this page. Your support will help ensure the success of this event. You can also help us spread the word by downloading the flyer in the St. Alphonsus Electronic Newsletter and sharing it with your friends and family.

To learn more about this event you can visit the event page at www.cultureoflifeconcert.com.



Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Our Mission

As members of St. Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry, we walk alongside one another in faith. Our community is focused on:

- Meaningful worship, careful discernment, and prayerful reflection
- Curiosity and a thirst for the truth
- Service to one another, our church, and our city
- Lasting friendships and an invitation to fellowship and meaningful participation

Cocktails After Mass August 22



Join us for drinks and fellowship after the 5 PM Mass! This Sunday we will gather on the Church veranda to head over to Will's Northwoods Inn, 3030 N. Racine for drinks and apps. Stay, mingle and have some drinks with St. Al's YAM Community. All are welcome! This is a great opportunity for new young adults to meet others in the young adult community in a laid back atmosphere. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact our YAM Social Team at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com

Samuel Group— Discernment for Young Adults starting Sept 19

Do you ever wonder how to make a good decision according to God's will? Join us for a discernment group specifically geared toward young adults (ages 19–35). Here you will discuss all kinds of discernment—if you are called to consecrated life, married life or single life, to a certain career or city, and more. The goal of this group is to help you, and in some cases your significant other, know yourself, Jesus and your role within the Church. These discernment groups will take place monthly over the course of seven months at St. Alphonsus Parish. At each session, you will listen to talks, have time for small group sharing, and have the opportunity for Mass, Confession and Adoration. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet individually with a spiritual director while doing this course. Register at https://pvm.archchicago.org/samuel-group

YAM Kick-Off Party 2021!

Sunday, September 19 at 6:00 PM

- **Opportunities**
- **Free Food/Drinks**
- **Mingle**



Join other young adults after the 5 PM Mass on Sunday, September 19 for our annual St. Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry Kick-Off Party! This is a great way to learn more about young adult groups, programs, and opportunities. It's a great chance to invite your friends and co-workers to Mass with guaranteed fun to follow! For more info, contact us at stalphonsusyam@gmail.com

Eagle Eye Young Adult Retreat

***God Is Rich In Mercy* September 10-12**

Eagle Eye will be hosting its first young adult retreat for the Chicagoland area! The weekend will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, Intellectual Formation and a bonfire. Spend time in prayer, reflection, and fellowship while opening your heart to God's rich and endless mercy. To learn more and register, visit https://www.eagleeyeministries.org/retreats/

Around the Archdiocese

Concert of American and Polish Sacred Music— September 12

The Lira Ensemble of Chicago, which specializes in Polish music, and the Polonia Council of the Archdiocese of Chicago will present a concert of "American and Polish Sacred Music" on Sunday, Sep. 12 at 3 PM at St. John Brebeuf Church in Niles. The concert celebrates the beatification of late Polish Primate Cardinal Stefan Wyszynski, who was the Primate of Poland (head of the church) during the difficult times of communism. He was mentor and friend of Saint John Paul II. The concert also remembers the victims of 9/11 on the 20th anniversary of the attacks on America in 2001. American sacred music will be performed to commemorate these innocent martyrs. As with all Lira performances, the concert will be narrated in English, so all are welcome. Admission to the concert is free, but a free-will collection will be taken.

Simbáng Gabi 2021

The archdiocese's Asian Catholic Initiative Office is planning to resume their annual celebration of the Simbáng Gabi Filipino tradition. The dates will be December 15–23, 2021. All current Simbáng Gabi leaders are asked to take part in one of two formation sessions available on the following dates/locations:

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Saturday, September 11 at 10 AM at St. Julie Billiart Parish Hall (7399 W. 159th St., Tinley Park)

Saturday, September 18 at 10 AM at Holy Child Jesus Activity Center (formerly St. Margaret Mary) at 7341 N. Claremont Ave. Chicago

Leaders can attend either session. Please direct all inquiries and/or RSVP to Father Tirso at frtirso@stjulie.org or (708) 429- 6767.

Friends of the Windows St. James Chapel Tours Resume

The historic St. James Chapel at the Archbishop Quigley Center has resumed its Saturday program of tours and concerts. Free docent-led tours of the Chapel and its magnificent stained glass windows are available between 9 and 11 AM every Saturday morning except holiday weekends. The free concerts are presented at 1 PM on the second Saturday of every month September through May. Tickets are not needed and reservations are not required. For more information contact Friends of the Windows at windows.org or call 312.534.8092.

Rector's Classic Golf Outing and Dinner Program Benefitting Mundelein Seminary

Thursday, September 23; go to https://e.givesmart.com/events/n2z/ to register

Join us for a day and evening of fun to support your future priests!

Our golf event will begin at Pine Meadow Golf Club and will include a BBQ lunch, a swag bag at registration and a TaylorMade gift for each golfer.

The day of togetherness will continue into the evening with a reception, silent/online auction, raffle, dinner and award presentation at Mundelein Seminary.

We are proud to honor **Most Reverend John R. Gorman '52**, the most senior auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, who served as rector of Mundelein Seminary from 1966 to 1973, with the 2021 Joseph Cardinal Bernardin *In Service of One Another* Catholic Humanitarian Award.



Coming to Saint Alphonsus Chicago

walking with purpose

SO MUCH MORE THAN A BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, September 21st 2021

Parish Office
1429 W. Wellington Ave
Chicago, IL 60657

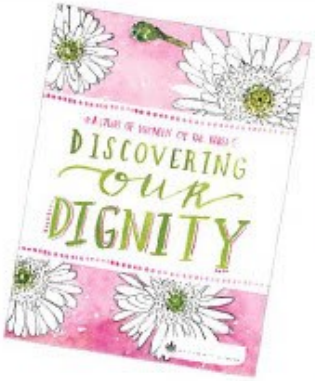
Are you looking for a way to refuel and be refreshed, make authentic connections with other women, and learn more about God? It's time to come back to community!

Our mission at Walking with Purpose is to help every Catholic woman and girl in America encounter Jesus Christ through our Bible studies.

Discovering Our Dignity

Women of the Old and New Testaments were as flawed and broken as we can be, yet the power of God worked in their lives. Learn from their experiences in *Discovering Our Dignity*, a 22-lesson Bible study.

Through their stories recorded in Scripture, women of the Bible reach out to touch our "present" in a tender, honest and loving way—woman to woman —with ancient wisdom, sage advice, and insights from sorrowful failures and emotional wounds.



Walking with Purpose will meet on **Tuesdays**
From **9:30am-11am or 6:30pm-8:30pm**
For more information, contact **suecombes@hotmail.com**

walkingwithpurpose.com

Contact

Sacramental Information

Contact our parish office 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

Did you ever notice 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 here is $15. However, any amount that you would like to offer is completely 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*

Our parish has received permission to once again host important sacraments. Please be patient as the pandemic created a scheduling backlog regarding Baptisms and Weddings. You can find more info at:

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/baptism

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/marriage

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 Twitter 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 | (F): 773-525-3238
www.stalphonsuschicago.org

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM— 4:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM— 1:00 PM Tue, Thurs

School Office

1439 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121
(P): 773-892-1397 | (F): 773-348-4829
www.alphonsusacademy.org

School Office Hours:

8:00 AM– 3:00 PM

Staff

Parish Staff

Rev. Steven Bauer, Pastor
Rev. Patrick Gorman, Associate Pastor
Brooks Robinson, Pastoral Associate
Brian Bloye, Director of Music and Organist
Erica Cook, Coordinator of Religious Education
Dorothy Spencer, Business Manager
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kaitlin Holyk, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator

School Staff

Gerit McAllister, Principal
Matt Gunsaulus, Assistant Principal
Mary Bodlak, Director of Admissions
Caroline Jordan, Advancement Director
Kim Wallett, Secretary
Connie Del Toral, Administrative Assistant