Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 3, 2025: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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*

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 5:45 PM

"God is Kindness Itself,
And so Anyone Who Loves God
Will Love All Those
That God Loves
And Be Ready to Help
Everyone,
To Console Everyone,
And to Make Them Happy
Insofar as They are Able."

—Saint Alphonsus Liguori

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21
Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 16:13-23
Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28
Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
Jamie Wallett
Monica Alexis Rios
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
Margaret Nichols
Leslie Salimi
Jason Jamero
Carol Kania
Dan Clark
Rosemarie Cordero
Michelle Renee Moya
Ernest Nora
Albert Meier
Eileen Koutnik
Kevin Combs

Eucharistic Adoration:

A Source for Peace

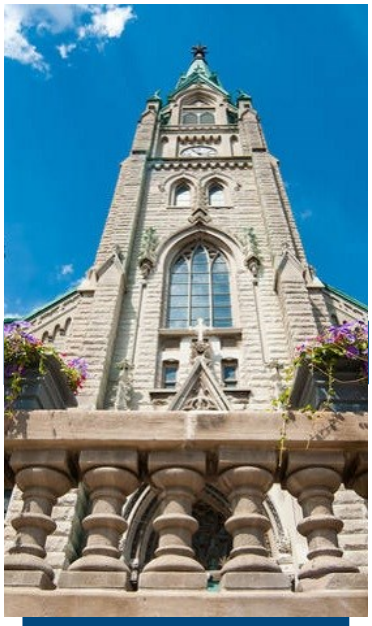
Sometimes our weeks can be quite hectic, making it hard to find quiet time to pray. If this sounds familiar, join us for Mass on Wednesdays at 6 PM, followed by Eucharistic Adoration from 6:30-7:30. This can be a great way to re-center yourself in God and experience the peace that only Christ can give.

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Enzo Munoz
Madelyn Jay Martinez
Lucy Caroline Shipp

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Sr. Pat Murphy, RSM



WEDDING

Peyton Zylke
and
Connor Dieckman

Wedding Banns

II. Allyse Johnson and Jordan Sacks
I. Marisa Sclafani and Taylor Luiso

Men's Vespers– WED evening
Men of the parish are invited to attend our Communio prayer group each Wednesday from 8-9 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 and 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 or more info, contact James Morrow, jemseoul@hotmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 3
9:00 AM +James B. Pellino
11:00 AM +Ignacia Santarinala
12:30 PM +Manuela Nevarez
5:00 PM Holy Catechists and a Fruitful RE Year

Monday, August 4
8:30 AM The Evangelization Efforts of St. Alphonsus Parish

Tuesday, August 5
8:30 AM +Sharon Schomer

Wednesday, August 6
6:00 PM +Fausto Lync

Thursday, August 7
8:30 AM +Kathleen Finch

Friday, August 8
8:30 AM +Albert & Gertrude Fick

Saturday, August 9
8:30 AM +Elaine Drakton

Sunday, August 10
9:00 AM +Ed & Mary Gobat
11:00 AM The People of Saint Alphonsus
12:30 PM +Delores Gutierrez, +Florentino Ornelas, +Delfina Gutierrez
5:00 PM +John Greenlee

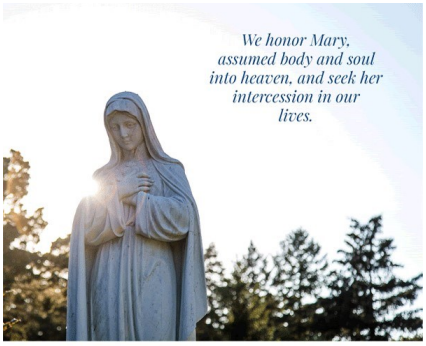
News and Events

Volunteer at Mass as a Lector!

Our parish is in need of Lectors, especially at the 11 AM Mass. Lectors proclaim the Scripture readings of the day so that all may hear God's word. Lector training only takes about an hour of your time. A workbook with all readings for the year, helpful advice, and interpretive information is also provided. Most lectors are scheduled to read at mass about once a month. If you are interested, contact coordinator Barbara Scharres, bscharres@hotmail.com, to learn more details and be scheduled for an individual training session.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Friday, August 15 is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. **Mass will be at 8:30 AM and a bilingual Mass at 6:30 PM.**





Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion

Our parish is in need of faithful Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion. EMHC's should be fully initiated and practicing Catholics having received baptism, confirmation, and first Eucharist. If you would like to volunteer for this important ministry at Mass, please contact us at parish@stalphonsuschicago.church

Young Adult Ministry

Montrose Beach Day

All young adults in our parish (ages 21-39) are invited to join our YA leaders on Saturday, August 9th from 11 AM-3 PM for a fun day at the beach! We ask you bring some food or drinks to share for a beachside picnic. Feel free to bring any beach games like volleyball, spike ball, or bags. If the weather isn't beach worthy, we will come up with a back up plan to do an indoor activity! There is a Google Doc sign-up on our Facebook event page, or contact Tammy and Nate with any questions at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com



Stewardship—First Fruits

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

We 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*
You can also text *Sunday* to (773) 570-7600

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Sunday Offertory for 7/27: $15,710

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
Give today to support your parish

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BECOME A CATECHIST FOR ST. ALPHONSUS!



Why Be 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.



Spread the Faith **Inspire Hearts** **Make a Difference**

Become a Catechist for the 2025-2026 School Year!

*The kids need you!! Me? You're thinking. I don't know the faith well enough. I'm not a teacher. I wouldn't know where to begin! The good news is, when you give your Yes, God hears your 'yes' and fills in where you're lacking. He will complete the good work He has begun in you! All you need to do is allow the Holy Spirit to guide; you are **never** alone.*

Our Religious Education Program meets on Tuesday evenings (September to May), beginning on September 16. If you are feeling a pull on your heart, I would love to talk with you so you can discern if God is calling you to be a catechist this year. Jesus desires to fill you with an abundance of joy and love, and He will always give you the grace to accomplish what He asks!

More News and Events

Are You Ready to Become Catholic?

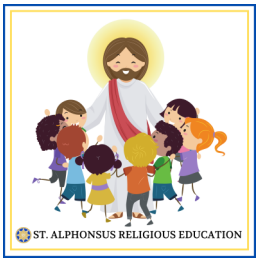
Registration is open for Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (O.C.I.A.) Each year we are blessed with several individuals who desire to enter and learn more about the Catholic faith. The OCIA program is the study of the Catholic Faith and the process of introduction into the faith community.

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

Register Your Children for Religious Education!



Registration for our Religious Education program is now open for the 2025-2026 school year for grades 1st-8th on Tuesday nights at 6:15 PM. Parent orientation is September 9 and classes will begin on September 16. Please register at the link on our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education

Recovery Programs at St. Alphonsus

If you or loved ones you know have a problem with alcohol/substance abuse, please seek help! Our parish hosts two AA programs, Daily Reflections and Young People's Big Book AA Group. Daily Reflections meets on Monday mornings at 8:30 AM in the rectory 1st Fl. dining room. You may contact Lauren Merrill Sammis at lauren.merrill@live.com for more information.

Young People's Big Book AA Group meets Sunday evenings at 7 PM in the Festival Hall. Contact coordinator Denver Baker, dtbaker97@gmail.com for info.

Gospel Reflection

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?" Luke 12:13

Being Cheated

Many things in life are not fair. Children are keenly aware of this any time they sense they have been cheated by a sibling. They complain to their parents, just as the person in the crowd quoted above complained to Jesus about his brother. We want justice and can become quite upset when we feel that we have been dealt an injustice.

The passage above is interesting because Jesus gently but clearly refuses to be the arbiter of justice for this man. It may indeed be the case that he was cheated out of his inheritance by his brother. But it's interesting that Jesus not only refuses to resolve the dispute, He then goes on to teach about greed, suggesting that the cheated man was acting out of greed.

If you were cheated out of your inheritance by a sibling, how would you react? If a sibling were to do this, it would clearly be a sin and an injustice. But the question at hand is your reaction to being cheated. Being cheated by another might result in one of two responses. The most common response is to immediately seek justice, to fight back. But this is not always what God will inspire us to do. Instead, when we experience injustice, we are given an opportunity to love on a very deep level. And this must be our response. This is why Jesus said we must love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. In the big picture of eternity, earthly injustices are always an opportunity for grace. This is evident by simply looking at the gravest injustice of the suffering and death of the Son of God. Jesus did not complain about being so cruelly treated. He did not call on the angels of Heaven to destroy the Pharisees and Romans who attacked Him. Instead, Jesus used the injustice inflicted upon Him as a foundation for His gift of salvation.

As we journey through this life, we need to decide whether we are going to live for this life or for eternity. We cannot have both. However, by choosing to live for eternity, we also enhance our lives here on earth in ways that nothing in this world can match. For example, say you experienced the unfortunate situation of extreme poverty. Say you were cheated out of your home and possessions and were left with nothing. Would this make you miserable? It might, but it doesn't have to. Instead, such an unfortunate circumstance has the potential for you to live day-by-day, trusting in God's providential care and to offer mercy in the face of injustice. And that is good. It is good for your eternal soul. It is good because it will motivate you to trust God on a very deep level and to become a beacon of God's mercy. By contrast, if you had everything you could ever want in this world, it would be seriously tempting to rely less upon God and more upon the things you possess in this world. But the things of this world cannot save your eternal soul. In fact, they are a serious hindrance to your ability to trust in God alone. So, truth be told, poverty and injustice actually open the door to an opportunity for much more grace in our lives than material wealth does. But so often we still long to have more and more of the things of this world.



Reflect, today, upon the spiritual and eternal blessings that come from relying solely upon God and not upon material wealth. This is a hard lesson for most people to learn. If this is your struggle, then try to take on the eternal perspective. Try to look beyond the temporary stability and pleasures that come from accumulating earthly wealth, so that you will see the eternal riches that come from seeking God alone. Everything in this world will one day pass away. In the light of that fact, recommit yourself to the embrace of God's riches by loving others through every injustice you encounter in life.

Most merciful Lord, You endured the greatest injustice ever known. But in the face of that injustice, You offered mercy and the gift of salvation, transforming that injustice into the greatest act of love ever offered. Help me to imitate Your merciful heart and to see injustice, poverty, and every difficulty I encounter as an opportunity to turn more fully to You. Jesus, I trust in You.

August Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 ***Feast of St. Alphonsus Liguori Social after 5 PM Mass in Festival Hall*** **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**4** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary (Spanish) **7:00 PM** Foundations Study **7:30 PM** Knights of Columbus	**5** **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**6** **6:30 PM** Book Club **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**7** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Baptismal Prep Class	**8** **5:00 PM** Legion of Mary **7:30 PM** Men's Group Adoration	**9** **11:00 AM** Young Adult Ministry—Montrose Beach Day
10 **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**11** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary (Spanish) **7:00 PM** Foundations Study	**12** **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**13** **6:30 PM** Book Club **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**14** **6:00 PM** Generation to Generation Donor Thank You Social **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	**15** ***Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary—Mass at 8:30 AM & 6:30 PM*** **4:00 PM** AACA Ice Cream Social **5:00 PM** Legion of Mary	**16** **9:00 AM** YAM Service: Volunteer at Mission OLA Back to School Block Party
17 ***AACA Academy Day Back to School Mass at 9 AM*** **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**18** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary (Spanish) **7:00 PM** Foundations Study	**19** ***AACA— First Day of School*** **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**20** **6:30 PM** Book Club **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**21** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	**22** **5:00 PM** Legion of Mary	**23**
24 **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting **31** ***Archdiocese Summer Mission Co-Op Appeal at Masses*** **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**25** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary (Spanish) **7:00 PM** Foundations Study	**26** **6:00 PM** AACA Back To School Night **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum **7:30 PM** Finance Council Meeting	**27** **6:30 PM** Book Club **8:00 PM** Men's Group Vespers	**28** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	**29** ***AACA— No School Teacher Professional Development Day*** **5:00 PM** Legion of Mary **7:30 PM** Praise and Adoration	**30**

Pope Leo XIV August Intention

"Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

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
Brian Bloye, Director of Music and Organist
Daniel Szymanski, Director of Operations
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kathryn Kibler, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator
Margaret Piery, Parish Secretary/Sacristan

School Staff
Gerit McAllister, Principal
Angela Kladis, Assistant Principal
Madeleine Durkin, Director of Admissions
Kim Wallett, Secretary
Janin Silva, Administrative Assistant