Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 29, 2023: FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:3)



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri	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—11:30 AM

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

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Wednesday:	5:50 PM

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (Matthew 5:3)/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1 -12a
Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29
Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mk 6:30-34
Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
Jamie Wallett
Sandra Wilson
Monica Alexis Rios
Margaret Nichols
Maria Eisler
Tessa Sergent
Carolina Goldie
Diane Mareci
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Emilia Hurtado
Bernard Zapp
Rachel Schopp
Mike Madigan
David Birks
Celeste Soult
Carol Reckwerdt
Magdalena Gonzalez
Michael Aldape
Jane Christensen
William Ahearn
Janet Horvat
Frank G. Bauer
Al Corleone
Mary Perisin
Cheryl Nester-Detweiler
Marla Alicea
Leon Wink
Judy Fredrickson
Tracy Duda
Jacob Duda
Dorothy O'Brien

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,218

Offertory for 1/22: $12,135

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

Love. Grow. Serve.

Welcome to the Parish!

Hannah Hittle

Thomas Goble

Austin Robles and Monika Muralles

Sarah Stanton

Tyler Herman and Courtney Manning Josephine

Patricia Gonzales
Luis Augustine Palacios

Michael Winkler and Zulaa Ariunaa

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Julia Claire Stewart

Victor Alexander Stewart

Carmela Eleanor Scanzera

Brooke Sharkey Byam

Jackson Ford

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
All men in the parish are invited to pray with us every Wednesday evening from 8:00-9 PM in the sanctuary.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 29
9:00 AM +David A. Dufek
+Gregory Duda
11:00 AM +Ceneca T. Perez
12:30 PM +Manuel and Maria Naula
5:00 PM Teresa Medina (Healing)

Monday, January 30
8:30 AM Jackie Neiman

Tuesday, January 31
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Wednesday, February 1
6:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Thursday, February 2
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, February 3
8:30 AM +Edward Marsalek Sr.

Sunday, February 5
9:00 AM +Patricia Van Osdale
11:00 AM Jonathan Gilana (Birthday Blessings)
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM +Jimmy Kuprianczyk

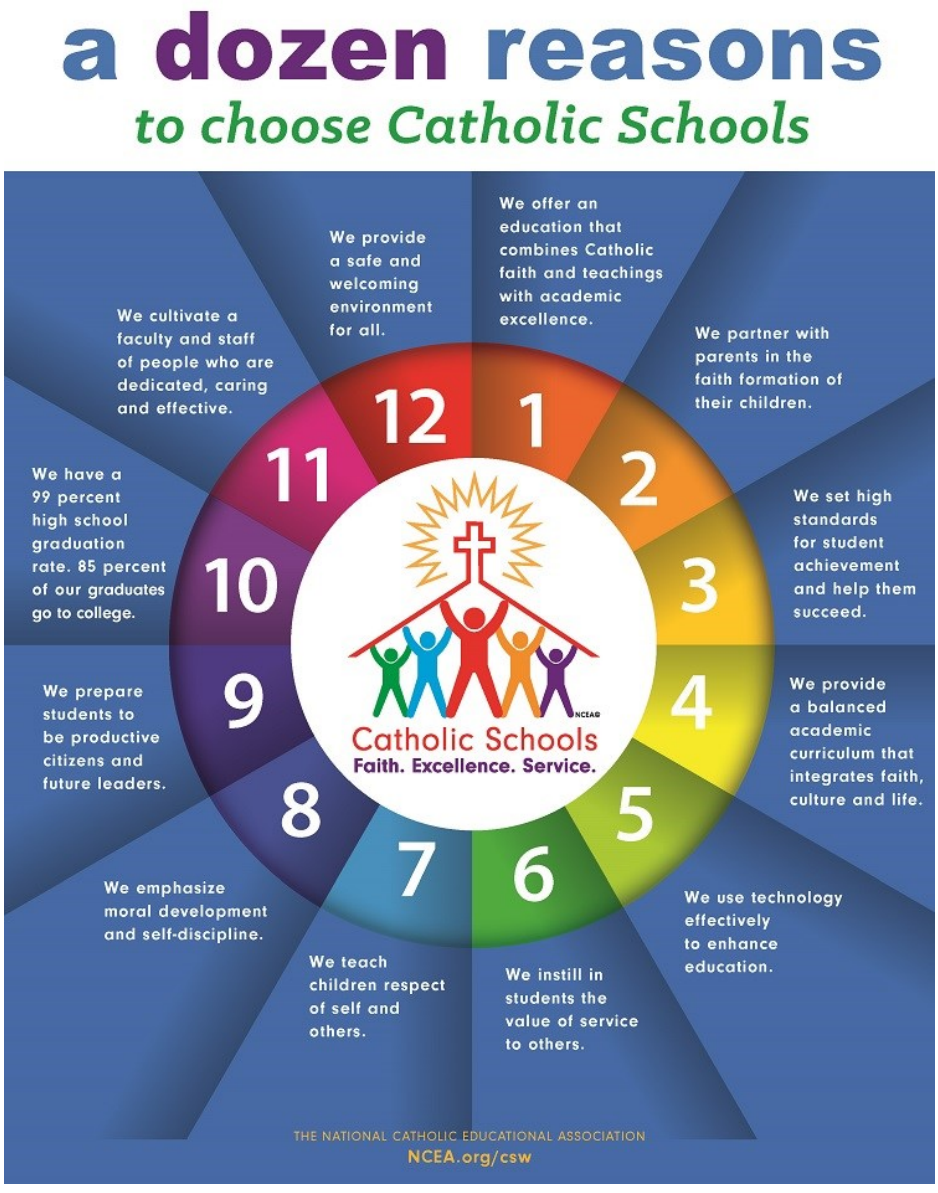
AACA— Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools Week/ Family Mass Live Ice Sculpting!

St. Alphonsus strongly supports our wonderful Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts school and our community families! National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2023 is January 29 – February 4. The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2023 is **"Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service."** Schools typically observe the annual celebration week with Masses, open houses and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation.

This Sunday our parish has a special **"Family Mass" this Sunday, Jan. 29 at the 9 AM** to kick-off Catholic schools week. AACA students will serve as greeters, readers, take up the collection, bring up the gifts, and the children's choir will perform. Interested in sending your children to AACA and would like a school tour? Contact Mary Bodlak, Director of Admissions, mbodlak@alphonsusacademy.org

After the 11 AM Mass this Sunday, thanks to our friends at Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce, worshippers will be treated to a **special Ice Sculpting exhibition starting at 12:00 PM until 2:00 PM** outside of church. The event is free to attend, with one block of ice carved per hour. Complimentary food and beverages to help keep attendees warm! With music, food and winter fun, this is a great event for the whole family!



For the many sisters, brothers, priests, and laypeople who have dedicated their lives in service to our Catholic schools over the years, we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the teachers and administrators who sustain our schools and religious ed programs today, we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

For our school community: that we would serve others in all that we do, and work together to love others as Christ loved us, we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

For our parents who have given support and witness to the importance of Catholic education in their daily lives, we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

For the students who work hard to further their education,
we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

In thanksgiving for all the blessings in our lives, especially our families, friends, and school community,
we pray to the Lord:
Lord Hear Our Prayer

we ♥ our teachers

ALPHONSUS ACADEMY & CENTER FOR THE ARTS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Faith Formation

Religious Education at St. Alphonsus



Our Religious Education program is a ministry to support children & families in deeper formation of our Catholic faith! We currently serve children in grades 1st - 8th. Two consecutive years of enrollment is required to participate in First Communion and Confirmation! Our program relies on the time & talents of volunteer parishioners to serve as catechists to our students. **We are currently looking for an additional 2nd grade catechist(s) to serve February - May 2023!** If you have any questions, please reach out to: ecook@stalphonsuschicago.church

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!

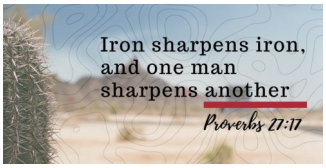
If you or someone you know is interested in taking the class, please contact our pastoral associate, Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

Communio: A Men's Prayer Group

Men of the parish are invited to attend the Communio prayer group each Wednesday at 8 PM in the rectory chapel (come to the rectory side door at the southwest corner of the building at 7:55). 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. For questions or more info, contact James Morrow, jemseoul@hotmail.com

St. Alphonsus Men's Group

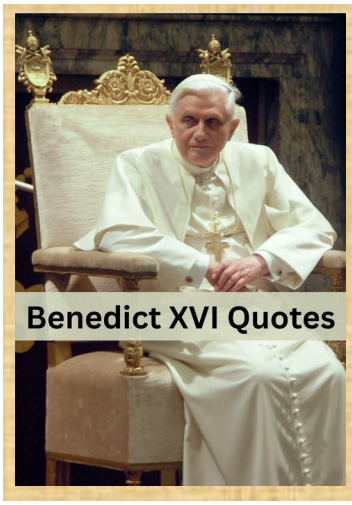
Thursday Evenings



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 Matt Duff at mduff527@gmail.com.



"It is not a more human Church that we need, but a more divine Church. Only then will it be truly human."

"The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness."

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.

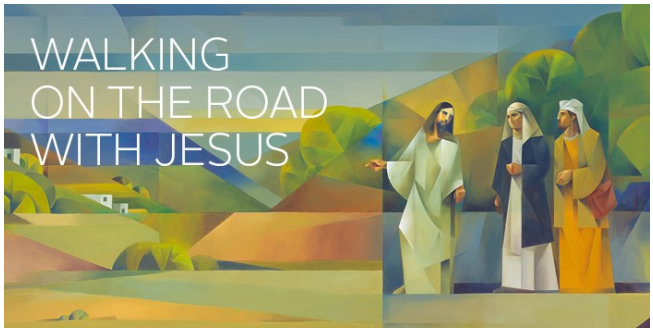
Sign up at *www.givecentral.org/location/39*

Annual Catholic Appeal

Annual Catholic Appeal Feb 11-12

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes and schools that receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible. The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer the call ***"Walking on the road with Jesus."*** In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here at St. Alphonsus. When we financially support the work of our parish, our archdiocese and the Catholic Church throughout the world, we experience a feeling of deep gratitude, especially when we contemplate God's many gifts to us personally. By sharing our wealth through gifts to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal, we demonstrate our commitment to the Church and each other.

You can make a contribution at www.annualcatholicappeal.com



St. Alphonsus Baptism

Choosing A Baptism Date - Most baptisms at St. Alphonsus are celebrated at 2:00 PM on Sundays. To request a date, please complete the Baptism Request form on our website (one form per child).

If your child is age 7 or older, please contact Erica Cook (ecook@stalphonsuschicago.church) for religious education classes.

Preparing For Baptism - First time parents are required to take our baptismal prep class. We hold this class once a month via Zoom, please rsvp in advance. Godparents are welcome to attend class at St. Alphonsus or at their local parish.

If you have already had a child baptized at St. Alphonsus, you need not attend the preparation session again, unless you would like to.

Godparent requirements - It is required to have at least one Catholic godparent who is confirmed and over the age of 16. Godparents are typically one male and one female. The maximum number of Godparents is two.

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Gore-tex is great but, like many other great things, it does not last forever. Here is how to re-activate it. Use one capful of liquid detergent, set washing machine to warm permanent press cycle (105°F/40°C) and select a low spin option. Rinse twice. Hang dry your garment. Once dry, place in a tumble dryer for 20 minutes to reactivate the durable water repellent finish. If a dryer isn't available, iron the garment on a warm, gentle setting without steam. Use a towel between the garment and the iron. Over time, the water repellency can wear off. Apply a spray repellent or a wash-in solution. Then, tumble dry for 20 minutes. www.gore-tex.com/gore-tex-wash-instructions

Contact **Kaitlin Holyk** for questions and inquiries.
weddings@stalphonsuschicago.church
773.525.0709

Walking With Purpose

Women's Group at St. Alphonsus— Tuesday mornings and evenings 9:30-11 AM or 6:30-8 PM



Come as you are. You are welcome here. Make authentic connections with other women! Refuel and Refresh! Learn more about God!

We live in a self-centered culture that all too often leaves us feeling empty and dissatisfied. A fuller view of God and His glory is the perfect antidote—find this during our journey through the **Beholding Your King** Bible study.

We'll study King David, select psalms, the temple, and many Old Testament prophets and see the ways in which they all point to the coming King of Kings, Jesus Christ. This Nine-Lesson Bible study is the second part of a two -part series and is ideally completed after *Beholding His Glory*.

** **Walking With Purpose is taking a break for winter. The new Beholding Your King bible studies will start up again on Tuesday February 7** Questions? Contact Susan Combes at suecombes@hotmail.com

More News and Events

Safe Families for Children



Safe Families for Children is a national, Christian non-profit which connects local families in crisis with "safe families" who volunteer to watch their children while parent(s) get back on their feet. This is a great opportunity to show Christ's love and compassion for local families, often young single moms with no support system, in a tangible and meaningful way.

Interested in learning more? Reach out to safefamiliesstals@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus News

FEB 24-25, - St. Alphonsus Parish Men's OVERNIGHT RETREAT led by Fr. Patrick Gorman at Joseph & Mary Retreat House, University St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, IL; retreat will begin about 8 PM FRI evening and finish mid-afternoon on SAT, permitting return back home by SAT evening; will include Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, talk(s), rest, leisure time to walk around the lake. Fee of $128 includes dinner (available for late arrivals), one night's stay in individual room, breakfast & lunch. Open to Men's Group, Parishioners, YAM, AACA Dads & Friends all men are welcome! Please sign up at tinyurl.com/FEB-24-MENS-RETREAT

Volunteer with Cleaning Angels!

All parishioners are invited to join us on **Saturday February 11 from 9 AM to 10:30 AM** as we help to clean and beautify our Saint Alphonsus Church! It is our duty as good Catholics to be of service to our faith community and our local parish! You can sign up at bit.ly/feb23stalsclean

Tuesday Evening Philosophy Group

Join us on Tuesdays for weekly philosophy discussions and digging deeper into the greatest thinkers of all time. Get in touch with our Philosophy group coordinator Evan at esadasiv@alumni.nd.edu for more information.

AACA- Volleyball Coaches Wanted!

Our parish school's Athletic Program is looking for volleyball coaches for the upcoming spring season. If you are interested or know anyone that would be, please contact Angela Kladis, akladis@alphonsusacademy.org.

St. Alphonsus— Polling Place

Pope Francis offered during a 2013 homily: *"Good Catholics meddle in politics, offering the best of themselves, so that those who govern can govern..."*

On Tuesday February 28 from 6 AM to 7 PM, our parish Festival Hall will be utilized as a polling place. Chicago voters can cast their ballots for mayor, alderpeople and police district council members.

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

Social Committee Meeting

Tuesday January 31

Are you interested in learning more about the social pillar and what we do? Do you have an idea for an event we could do? Are you looking to get involved with planning, volunteering and running some of our events? Social Committee is a great way to get plugged into the community, learn and have a voice in what we are going to do, and meet amazing fellow friends. All are welcome! We are looking forward to meeting you! Come join us to discuss and plan upcoming St. Alphonsus YAM social events for the community. We will meet at St. Al's Rectory Common Room at 7:00 PM:

- Frequency of YAM Social Committee meetings
- Recap past months events
- Finalize planning for current month, next big event
- Brainstorm next two months ideas

YAM Game Night

Saturday February 18 at 7 PM



Come one come all to our Young Adult Ministry Game Night! This event will be a "stock the bar" theme. To gain admittance, please bring a beverage you enjoy (alcoholic or not - beer, seltzers, wine, soda, or soda water) to enjoy and leave behind to help us stock our YAM drink supply for future events.

We will have tables set up in festival hall (the large gathering space under the church) and board games, card games, puzzles, and bingo for everyone to enjoy. Please consider joining us for a night of fun that will help us supply drinks at future YAM events!

Volunteer with Nourishing Hope!

On February 4th, 11:30-3 PM, we will be volunteering at Nourishing Hope, formerly known as the Lakeview Pantry. We will sort through donations, take inventory, load the vans with items to be sent out, and other tasks as needed. Nourishing Hope requires all volunteers to submit proof of Covid vaccination. Sign-up is on the St. Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry Facebook page, www.facebook.com/AlphonsusYoungAdult/

Reach out to stalsyamservice@gmail.com with any questions!

More Events of Interest for Young Adults



Catholic Sports League- Volleyball League

Register now for CSL's annual indoor volleyball league! The league will take place Thursday evenings at St. Aloysius' gym, 1510 W. Claremont from Feb 9 to April 20. Sign up as an individual, or with a friend or two at www.catholicsportsleagues.com

Gospel Reflection

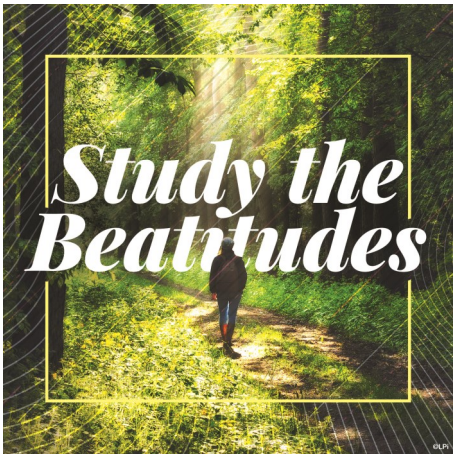
Nothing Ordinary Here

There is nothing ordinary about Ordinary Time. This couldn't be truer today when Zephaniah reminds us of the mysteriousness of God's way and Jesus lays out his Gospel blueprint in his Sermon on the Mount. God's ways certainly are mysterious. Those who are first are actually last and those who have the most will end up with the least. There is an ironic twist to God's wisdom and this is no more evident than in the Beatitudes. Of the Beatitudes, St. Oscar Romero stated: *"These are the paths along which true Christians travel."* Indeed, the Beatitudes embody the heart of the Gospel and define what it means to be Christian.

There is a tendency, however, to overly spiritualize and individualize the message of the Beatitudes. This keeps them at a safe distance, engaging them merely as interior virtues necessary for personal holiness. Seeing them exclusively as dispositions needed for the salvation of our souls, sidesteps what Jesus intends. Whether we want to admit it or even like it, the Beatitudes have dramatic implications for how we structure our lives and treat our brothers and sisters. Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, dubbed by Pope John Paul II as the "Man of the Eight Beatitudes" said, *"We will never be truly Catholic unless we conform our entire lives to the two commandments that are the essence of the Catholic faith: to love the Lord, our God, with all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves."* The Beatitudes are definitely a matter of personal holiness, but only when accompanied by radical action. The Beatitudes are all about putting things in right relationship.

How do we love our neighbor? Consult the Beatitudes! Loving our neighbor as ourselves cannot be reduced to simply praying for them or wishing them well. Loving our neighbor means that what I desire and want for myself I desire and want for my neighbor. In addition, it means that my actions and lifestyle must work to achieve those goals. Our resolution of conflict must serve the good of our neighbor and reflect peace. Our economic life must work in service of all so that all of God's children have access to the goodness of God's creation and are able to engage in profitable work. The kingdom of heaven, the fullness of which is eternal, begins here. What we do here must mirror the life to come. Bl. Pier Frassati adds that, *"charity is not enough, we need social reform."* It is the hope of heaven that gives us the courage to work for justice here.

Some find discussion of the social implications of the Gospel unsettling. St. Oscar Romero's words offer insight, *"Christians cannot allow sin, the enemy of God, to reign in the world. Christians must work to banish sin and establish the kingdom of God. To struggle for this kingdom is not communism; to struggle for this kingdom is not meddling in politics. It is simply what the Gospel demands: that Christians today commit themselves more fully to history."* There is a great tradition of Catholic Social Justice teaching that exists in our Church. This reflects the Church's attempt to translate into action the profound words and vision found in today's Gospel. The cries of injustice are heard throughout history and continue through today. The Church can draw from the Gospel the very things that can resolve these ills and bring them to peaceful ends.



One of the most notable social justice teachings in our history is Pope Leo XIII's encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (Rights and Duties of Capital and Labor). In it, he discusses the condition of the working class, the relationships and obligations between labor and capital, as well as governments and citizens. Subsequent popes also echo this teaching in encyclicals of their own. Our own United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has detailed the Social Justice teaching of the church, highlighting seven principles: the life and dignity of the human person, a call to family, community and participation, rights and responsibilities, an option for the poor and vulnerable, the dignity of work and the rights of workers, solidarity and care for God's creation. It is incumbent upon every Catholic to familiarize themselves with these essential teachings. We all have to learn how the Church tries to unite respect for human rights and respect for the duties that flow from these rights.

We need faith. We need love. But we also need to know how to translate all of this into action. Jesus pulled no punches and clearly told those listening that what they did to ONE of the least of these they did to him. People are victims of famine and starvation, struggling with mental illness, being abused, and being sold and used for profit. Innocents are killed in senseless wars, families are stressed trying to make ends meet, and people are victimized. There is no scarcity of injustice and greed, corruption, lust, power, envy, anger, gluttony, and pride reign supreme. None of this needs to be. It can all be fixed.

Continued on page 10

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 **8:30 AM** NET Retreat **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts— 2nd **7:00 PM** Young Adult Book Club	2 **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	3 **7:30 PM** Men's Group Adoration **8:00 AM** AACA 8th Grade Graduation Pictures	4 **11:30 AM** Volunteer w/ Nourishing Hope
5 **3:00 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	6 **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Knights of Columbus Meeting **7:00 PM** AACA School Board Meeting	7 **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **4:00 PM** Webelos Boy Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	8 **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts— 1st **7:00 PM** YAM Book Club	9 **6:00 PM** Leonine Forum Chicago Mass **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	10	11 **9:00 AM** Cleaning Angels Ministry **9:00 AM** Boy Scouts— Pinewood Derby **12:00 PM** YAM Saint Social @ St. Mary of the Angels
12 **Annual Catholic Appeal Collection** **Scout Sunday at 9 AM** **3:00 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	13 **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **3:00 PM** Junior Scouts— 4th **6:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	14 **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **4:00 PM** Webelos Boy Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	15 **7:00 PM** YAM Book Club	16 **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	17 **AACA— No School; Professional Development Day** **5:30 PM** AACA Father/Daughter Dance	18 **7:00 PM** YAM Game Night
19 **1:00 PM** Samuel Group **3:00 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	20 **AACA— No School President's Day** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	21 **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **4:00 PM** Webelos Boy Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	22  **Ash Wednesday; See Blurb on Next Page for Services** **12:00 PM** Blessings in a Backpack **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts— 3rd **6:00 PM** First Communion Seminar	23 **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	24 **7:30 PM** Praise and Adoration **8:00 PM** Knights of Columbus Retreat at Mundelein Seminary	25 **8:00 AM** Knights of Columbus Retreat at Mundelein Seminary

Catholic Schools Week

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ash Wednesday is February 22!

Ash Wednesday Schedule

7:00 AM **Service,** with distribution of ashes (English)
8:30 AM **Mass w/ AACA**
12:00 PM **Service,** with distribution of ashes (English)
3:30 PM **Service,** with distribution of ashes (English)
6:00 PM **Mass (Español)**
7:00 PM **Mass (English)**



There are traditional practices for Lent which help us to engage in the penitential nature of the season.

Fasting All adults from the age of 18 until their 59th birthday are asked to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means eating only one full meal that day. One can eat at two other times, but the total food should not equal a full meal. This does not apply to those who are ill, pregnant or nursing.

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
26	**27**	**28**
1:00 PM Youth Free Throw Competition sponsored by Knights of Columbus **3:00 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **7:00 PM** Knights of Columbus 4th Degree Meeting	**6:00 AM** Election Polling Place **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **4:00 PM** Webelos Boy Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum **7:00 PM** Finance Council Meeting

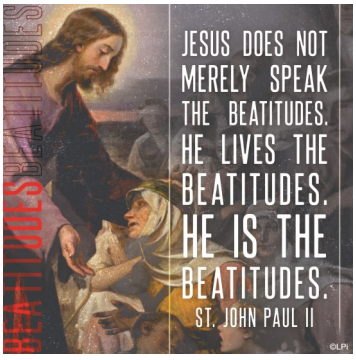
Scheduling at St. Alphonsus

The monthly calendar in the bulletin only shows all current parish events/ activities. It does not indicate all sacraments such as weddings and baptisms. You can view the entire parish calendar on our website at www.stalphonsuschicago.org/calendar If your group's events are not listed in our calendar, please contact Mario Serrano at mserranostals@gmail.com

Gospel Reflection Continued...

Take an honest look at our world. Now, picture Jesus standing on the mountain delivering the sermon on the Beatitudes. Is this the world he was envisioning? It's very unlikely. How did it all go so wrong?

The basic themes of Ordinary Time, which lead us into the fullness of the mystery of our loving God, are nothing ordinary at all. In fact, they are quite unordinary. Piercing the truths of the Gospel and delving into the teachings of our faith, we find a radical and more equitable way of living coming into focus. Sadly, it has yet to be really tried.



For some reason we have successfully skipped around where the Gospel message is intended to lead us, preferring instead a style of living of our own design. Human beings struggle with their need to cling to things, foolishly thinking that's where security lies. What's mine is mine and yours is yours and we become frightened and defensive when challenged to think out of the box. After all, doing precisely that sent Jesus to the Cross.

Parishes and individuals do amazing acts of charity for those in need: clothing drives, food collections, diaper drives, serving in soup kitchens, and the like. All of this is good and necessary and deserves commendation. However, charity is only one piece of the bigger picture. It is also necessary to study our great treasure house of Social Justice teaching, to begin to acknowledge, understand and work to change the systemic causes of poverty and injustice. Education is key. Once we open our minds and eyes, we begin to recognize how even some of the little things we do contribute to the larger problems of our world. A little education and enlightenment go a long way.

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@stalphonsuschicago.church

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM— 5:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM— 7:30 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
Daniel Szymanski, Director of Operations
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kaitlin Holyk, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator

School Staff

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