Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 20, 2025: EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



Resurrection of Christ by Fra Angelico.

San Marco, Florence.

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, Sat
8:30 AM
Wednesday 6:00 PM
Sunday 9 AM, 11 AM,
12:30 PM (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*

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." (Jn 20:2)

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4
Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15
Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18
Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35
Thursday: Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48
Friday: Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14
Saturday: Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31

Wedding Banns

II. Therese Madison and Daniel Snow

HOW SHALL I MAKE A RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL THE GOOD HE HAS DONE FOR ME?



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
Ramona Colon
Michelle Renee Moya
Ernest Nora
Albert Meier
Daniel Kathrein

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.

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, April 20 (Easter Sunday)
7:30 AM Evangelization Efforts of St. Alphonsus Parish
9:00 AM Frankart Family
11:00 AM +Ed & Mary Gobat
1:00 PM +Efrain Garcia
No 5 PM Mass

Monday, April 21
8:30 AM Wellbeing of Greater Family, Colleagues, Neighbors, and Students of Ivan Petryshyn

Tuesday, April 22
8:30 AM +Erlinda

Wednesday, April 23
6:00 PM +Petryshyn Family & Maria, Maria, Ana, and Katerina Paraskovia

Thursday, April 24
8:30 AM +Noemi Molina Abreu

Friday, April 25
8:30 AM Edward Frank Marsalek (Birthday Blessings)

Saturday, April 26
8:30 AM The People of Saint Alphonsus

Sunday, April 27
9:00 AM Keaton Pellino
11:00 AM +Alina Lipniewski
+Jack Jud Mattis
12:30 PM +Irene Jesus Esperanza y Carmen Rodriguez
5:00 PM +Carol Pelster

Easter Message From Our Pastor

Seeing, Knowing, and Loving the Treasures of Easter



Mary Magdalene bursts into the room with the news that the tomb is empty, and the race is on. Simon Peter and John jump up and run to the tomb. It's not much of a race, really, because John was in his late teens, the youngest of the apostles, and Peter had a little more "life experience," let's just say. (Speaking as someone whose years of life experience reluctantly outnumbers years of youthfulness).

In the Gospel, John gets to the tomb firsts, but out of respect, waits for Peter to arrive before entering. As a runner who has participated in quite a number of races of varying lengths over the years, I wonder how much faster St. John was, how much quicker did John get to the tomb than Peter? Not because I'm interested in his pace, per se… but how long was he able stand at there alone, in silence, staring into the empty tomb? What thoughts raced through his mind? The wonder, the awe. Where is my Lord now? Standing there with his pulse beating fast from the run, what emotions pumped through his heart?

Every year we hear this Gospel of the Resurrection proclaimed on Easter Sunday, and we joyfully sing Alleluia in response to it. Many families then have a wonderful brunch or dinner together, colorful baskets with candy and treats are shared, and children delight in Easter eggs, hidden and found in the most unlikely of places.

But as adults, with perhaps a few more years of life experience, do we ever wonder what spiritual treasures may be hidden in unlikely places – or even in *likely* places… places sometimes we forget to look because we are too busy, we have too much going on, are too distracted, or maybe life situations have us running around in every other direction. The treasures of Heaven abound, and they are meant to be found.

Today we proclaim that Jesus is risen from the dead! Our celebration of Easter Sunday is not merely a happy retelling of an historical occurrence. We are invited to use our spiritual imagination to enter into the story analogous to Peter and John entering into the tomb – with wonder and awe. Imagining the moment can cause our hearts and souls to race. In Christ's Resurrection, the gates of Heaven are opened, and if the gates of Heaven are opened up, then the gifts of Heaven are poured out. And if they are poured out, there are heavenly Easter eggs to be found – reminders of Christ's love for us, sparks of beauty, hope for the future, and the never-fading light of Heaven that colors our lives and world with grace and joy.

Our hearts, minds, and spiritual imaginations have actually been created to race towards those things because after all — nay, *first of all* — we are created in God's image and likeness. Within each human soul is a desire to see, know, and love the goodness, truth, and beauty of the Risen Christ, his Church, and our neighbor. That, I believe, is the hidden secret to joy, happiness and peace. Only now, on Easter Sunday, we run to find it; that truth is not hiding under a bushel basket. The Risen Lord offers it to you.

"My dear risen Lord Jesus:
Help me to see the goodness and light of Your Resurrection shining on me,
and help me to see the things that You want me to see…

Help me to hear the truth of new life you are teaching me,
and help me to know the things that You know…

Help me to love the beauty of Heaven you are calling me towards,
and help me to love the things that you love…
… that I may find the joy of Easter truly rising in my heart, mind and soul.
Amen.

Rev. Steven Bauer
Pastor

Cardinal's Easter Letter

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

For more than a thousand years, the Church has sung five words that capture the message of Easter: *Christ our hope has risen*.

This simple phrase powerfully expresses the conviction that our hope is the very person of the Risen Christ. He not only rose from the dead two-thousand years ago but is present and active in our world today. As the Risen One, he shares with us his victory and triumph over sin and death, drawing us into the fullness of life that God has ever desired for humanity. Yes, indeed Christ our hope has risen.

We recall this core belief in this Jubilee Holy Year when Pope Francis has called us to be *Pilgrims of hope*. This is an invitation to be a people who journey together, confident that we are sustained by this closeness to the Risen Christ as we face the challenges of life. As pilgrims of hope, we walk with the Risen One and lean on his presence for personal support, but we also discover the power to bring hope to our world, our families, communities, workplaces, and nation. This is a great grace and responsibility.

May our Easter faith that Christ our hope has risen grow stronger, so that we will join in his work of bringing hope to our world with new enthusiasm, putting aside all of our fears and anxieties, in the knowledge that by conquering death, the Risen Lord has given us the sure hope and promise that we too have risen with him and will live forever. Yes, Christ our hope has risen and so have we. Happy Easter!

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Cardinal Blase J. Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago

Carta de Pascua del Cardenal

Estimadas hermanas y hermanos en Cristo:

Durante más de mil años, la Iglesia ha cantado cinco palabras que captan el mensaje de la Pascua: *Cristo nuestra esperanza ha resucitado*.

Esta sencilla frase expresa poderosamente la convicción de que nuestra esperanza es la persona misma de Cristo Resucitado. Él no sólo resucitó de entre los muertos hace dos mil años sino que está presente y activo en nuestro mundo hoy. Como el Resucitado, él comparte con nosotros su victoria y triunfo sobre el pecado y la muerte, llevándonos a la plenitud de la vida que Dios siempre ha deseado para la humanidad. Sí, verdaderamente, Cristo nuestra esperanza ha resucitado.

Recordamos esta creencia fundamental en este Año Santo Jubilar cuando el papa Francisco nos ha llamado a ser Peregrinos de la esperanza. Esta es una invitación a ser un pueblo que camina unido, confiados en que estamos sostenidos por esta cercanía a Cristo Resucitado mientras enfrentamos los desafíos de la vida. Como peregrinos de la esperanza, caminamos con el Resucitado y confiamos en su presencia para recibir apoyo personal, pero también descubrimos el poder de llevar esperanza a nuestro mundo, nuestras familias, comunidades, lugares de trabajo y nación. Esta es una gran gracia y responsabilidad.

Que nuestra fe pascual en que Cristo, nuestra esperanza, ha resucitado se fortalezca, para que nos unamos a su obra de llevar esperanza a nuestro mundo con un nuevo entusiasmo, dejando de lado todos nuestros temores y ansiedades, sabiendo que al vencer la muerte, el Señor Resucitado nos ha dado la esperanza segura y la promesa de que nosotros también hemos resucitado con él y viviremos para siempre. Sí, Cristo nuestra esperanza ha resucitado y nosotros también. ¡Feliz Pascua!

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,
Cardenal Blase J. Cupich
Arzobispo de Chicago

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.

Faith Formation

Walking With Purpose—Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings at 9:30 AM; Evenings at 6:30 PM

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

Become a true , dynamic disciple of Jesus Christ.

Passionate Discipleship is a Bible study focused on equipping women to know Christ and to make Him known. Study 2 Timothy verse by verse as we immerse ourselves in Paul's last and deeply personal letter to his beloved friend and mentee, Timothy.

walking with purpose

Come learn how to live as disciples of Christ, living with Him as the center of our lives and entrusting this message to others who can pass it on as well.

Meetings take place every Tuesday on the 2nd Floor Common Room in the parish rectory. For questions and more info, please contact Marianne at mariannek36@yahoo.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



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children ages 4-7 are invited to join us during the 9 AM Sunday Mass for Children's Liturgy of the Word! The children will hear the Word of God proclaimed in a way that they can understand, enter into prayer, and learn how to actively participate in the Mass! No sign up required. Children will be called up to the front of the Church near the beginning of Mass for a blessing, and Parents may accompany shy/hesitant children to make them feel more comfortable. **Upcoming CLOW Dates are May 4th & June 1st.** Questions? Contact Emily at eember@stalphonsuschicago.church

Religious Education Registration—Coming Soon!



Keep your eyes peeled! Registration for Religious Education opens this Spring! Classes will be open for enrollment for Grades 1-8. Our program is held on Tuesday Evenings (Sept. thru May) from 6:15 PM-7:30 PM.

Did you know that preparation for both First Communion and Confirmation is a 2 year process? First Communion preparation typically begins in 1st Grade and Confirmation preparation typically begins in 7th Grade.

If you have a child that is older than 2nd Grade and has not yet received First Communion or a child that is older than 7 years old and has not yet received Baptism, contact Emily Ember, Coordinator of Religious Education: eember@stalphonsuschicago.church

Easter Stewardship

Christ is risen! Alleluia! The Easter message of joy echoes through the whole world proclaiming Christ's ultimate victory of light over darkness, grace over sin, and life over death. It is the message upon which we build our lives and to which we anchor our own hope of victory with him.

This Easter season reminds us of the role the church plays in our lives, it also urges us to be closer to Christ. Please consider supporting your St. Alphonsus parish with a generous donation. We are grateful for every gift received from the faithful! Your donations are critical to our mission and ministry.

Thank you again for your continued support of our church! Your spirited generosity ensures our parish continues our mission and good works throughout our community and beyond for years to come!

- **Make Your Easter Donation online at www.givecentral.org/otp/527**
- **You can also text *Risen* to (773) 570-7600**
- **Zelle users can send an Easter donation using the address: parish@stalphonsuschicago.church**

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 4/13: $16,129

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

Stewardship Reflection

"...He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." (Acts 10:38)

We can't give what we don't have. Open your heart to receive God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Then, show the same to others. As God's adopted sons and daughters, we are made in His image and likeness. As Pope Benedict XVI said, "we are made for greatness." Let our lives reflect His light to others. Pray to live a grateful and generous life. Strive for greatness! We are made for more! We are made for God!

Around the Archdiocese

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

On Solid Ground

Christian Couples Day of Encounter

"On Solid Ground" will be an invigorating day of insights to help Christian couples build and enhance their relationships grounded in faith and in Christ on **Saturday, May 3, at Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica (Parish Hall), 3121 W. Jackson Blvd.**

Andrew and Terri Lyke longtime marriage and couples ministers in the Archdiocese of Chicago, founders of The Arusi Network and authors of ***"Marriage on a Lampstand: Exploring a New Paradigm for Modern Christian Marriage",*** will be the facilitators. Andrew and Terri bring their vast insights and experiences from around the world helping couples live gracefully and lovingly in Christ.

This Day of Encounter will begin at 8:30 AM with a continental breakfast. The day will be filled with presentations, discussions and activities to support, encourage, and empower couples to strengthen their relationships. Through a variety of relevant topics, couples will shape for themselves a mission for living out their relationship in service to one another, the Church and society. Lunch and dinner will be provided. The day will conclude at 5 PM with a social gathering and dinner.

The cost is $50 per couple. All Christian couples are welcome. Couples do not have to be married. Ample parking is available in the secured lot behind the Basilica on Van Buren.

Register by calling Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica at (773) 638-0159 no later than Friday, April 25.

Capital Campaign at St. Alphonsus

Our Campaign Priorities:

..... GENERATION
TO GENERATION:
ANSWER THE CALL .....

St. Alphonsus is participating in the *Generation to Generation: Answer the Call* campaign, along with every parish within the Archdiocese of Chicago, for parishioners to pledge support over a five-year time period to help with specific parish priorities (just a few highlighted here).

We have an ambitious stretch goal to raise $2.24M our projects, and to date we have raised 36% of that goal. To achieve our goals, especially to save our veranda, we need the support and backing of all of our parish families. Scan the QR code to learn more, or contact the parish office to request a meeting with a campaign committee member.

Thanks & God bless you all!

Save Our Iconic Veranda

Dating back to 1894, the aging veranda has suffered from erosion and decay. The facade needs to be tuckpointed, and the stairs need to be rebuilt.



Repair and Restore the Organ

The windchests and leather pouches that push air through the pipes are cracked, making some notes off key, and some that have fallen mute without air flow.





LEARN MORE AND MAKE A PLEDGE TODAY

Re-imagine the Rectory's Side Courtyard

Turn the empty and vacant courtyard into an outdoor classroom and meeting space for school and church groups.



Drinking Fountains & Campus Upgrades



Drinking fountains in the church basement!

Upgrade the most commonly used spaces in the rectory with new carpeting, furniture, and repair windows so they can actually open and close properly.





Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 27, 2025

Each year, the Sunday following Easter marks Divine Mercy Sunday. As we begin our Journey through the Easter Season, the Church draws our attention to a special devotion which began after Jesus' appearances to St. Faustina Kowalska early in the 20th century. So, what is Divine Mercy anyways?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "the Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners." This is what Divine Mercy is all about. Lent calls us to take a look at our spiritual lives and see where pruning is needed, see where watering is needed. Then we celebrate Easter, and we are filled with the joy of the Risen Christ. Divine Mercy Sunday encompasses this whole drama, the whole drama of the Gospels. While Jesus is risen, we are still here on Earth, full of suffering, poverty, brokenness and sin. As such, we are constantly in need of God's mercy and love. Jesus told St. Faustina, *"I am love and Mercy Itself. There is no misery that could be a match for My mercy, neither will misery exhaust it, because as it is being granted – it increases. The soul that trusts in My mercy is most fortunate, because I Myself take care of it."*

Divine Mercy means saying to Jesus, "I trust in you." Indeed, all images of Jesus's Divine Mercy bear these words. On Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sanctuary is adorned with this image as a reminder for each of us to utter this simple but beautiful prayer, "Jesus, I trust in you." Besides an important devotion for ourselves as sinners, Divine Mercy Sunday also offers us a great time for those all around the world who are in need of God's Love and Mercy. We pray for all the ills that plague our society, from addiction to mental illness, to war and greed, to hatred and envy. And of course, we continue to pray for the legal protection of the unborn and for healing love and mercy for all those whose lives have been touched by this evil. Along with the typical Mass schedule, **we will have an hour of Eucharistic Adoration accompanied with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 PM in the Church.** What a great way to come to the Lord in thanksgiving for all He has done and has in store for us!





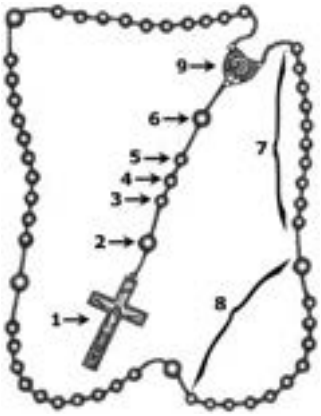
Confessions will also be heard from 3-4 PM. We must be signs of God's mercy in the world. We must not hold back this mercy, for we ourselves have been forgiven. Some reflection questions to consider:

What are some times in my life when I have received God's mercy?

Who do I need to show mercy to right now?

How can mercy bring healing to the wounds of our world?

Praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet



1. Make the Sign of the Cross In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
2. Optional Opening Prayers You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. (Repeat 3X) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!
3. Our Father prayer; on 1st small bead
4. Hail Mary prayer; on 2nd small bead
5. The Apostle's Creed; on 3rd small bead
6. The Eternal Father; large bead
7. "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world"
8. Repeat for the remaining decades; saying the Eternal Father (6) on the "Our Father" bead, and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads
9. Conclude w/ Holy God (repeat 3X) "Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world"
10. Optional Closing Prayer; you can find all at www.ascensionpress.com/pages/divine-mercy-chaplet

Young Adult Ministry

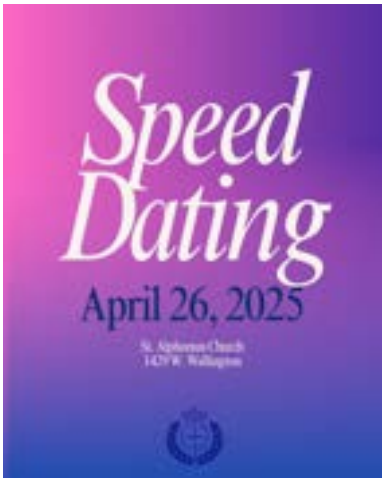
The Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is one of St. Alphonsus' most active parish groups! YAM is led by a volunteer board and is guided by Pastoral Associate, Brooks Robinson. Stated simply, the ministry's mission is to help one another participate in Christ's mission, that we, as young adult Catholics, may 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

Young Adult Speed Dating— Saturday, April 26



Mark your calendar! Young Adult (21 - 39 years old) Speed Dating will take place on Saturday, April 26th, with check-ins beginning at 6:00 PM. This event will be held in St. Alphonsus Festival Hall.

Cost per individual ticket will be $50. You must pre-register for the event! Sign-ups at the door will NOT be allowed. This is a necessity to ensure that we are able to properly plan everyone's conversations. The final day to register will be Wednesday, April 23rd at NOON, no exceptions. Cost of entry includes light refreshments, two drink tickets for the beginning of the event and two drink tickets for afterwards. We will NOT be serving a full dinner so we strongly recommend eating dinner before arriving as this is a longer event.
In order to register for this event, each individual will have to sign up through two links: Give Central (to pay for the event) and our Speed Dating link (your account will require your email, a password to see matches afterwards, your age, your minimum dating age, and your maximum dating age). Remember, you must both pay and sign up through the link order to attend this event.

GiveCentral Link for Men: www.givecentral.org/otp/42962
GiveCentral Link for Women: www.givecentral.org/otp/42961
Speed Dating Account (all signups): www.stalphonsuschicago.org/yam-speed-dating-form



Young Adult Book Club

Book Meets in the rectory on Wednesday evenings to discuss a few chapters, grow in faith and intellect, and share in fellowship. Our next book will be C.S. Lewis' "*Mere Christianity",* starting on Wednesday, April 23.
For more information, please contact coordinator Leora, lwallac2@alumni.nd.edu



Tuesday Evening Philosophy Forum

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 Marten at marten1224@gmail.com for more information.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow. The guards were shaken with fear of him and became like dead men. Matthew 28:1–4

The Message of the Angels

The angels of God have been present at the most significant moments of human history. There are numerous mentions of angels in the Old Testament. In the New Testament, the Incarnation of the Savior of the World was announced by an archangel. Myriads of angels were present at His birth. An angel spoke to Saint Joseph on four different occasions. As Jesus began His public ministry and overcame the temptations of the devil in the desert, angels from Heaven came to minister to Him. When Jesus prayed in solitude, especially during His agony in the garden, He was comforted by angels. At the empty tomb, it was an angel who first announced the good news that our Lord had risen. And at the end of time, it will be the angels of God who bring forth God's justice.

Today's angelic salutation to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary at the empty tomb should teach us that the message of the Resurrection is among the most important lessons we can ever learn. Furthermore, the message of this angel, given to these holy women, was intended not only for them, it is also spoken to us today.

The angel made an appearance that depicts absolute power and sanctity. He arrived with the speed of lightning. His countenance was radiant with Heavenly light. He instantly moved the large stone and sat upon it, pointing these holy women to the empty tomb. Today, if we have the eyes of faith, we will also receive an interior revelation from Heaven, just as these women did. Though we will not see with our eyes what they saw, we will see and hear through faith all that was spoken to them.

The message of the Resurrection of Christ is being spoken to you today. Do you hear it? Do you comprehend the voice of this angel from Heaven? If you do, the first thing you will hear are the words, "Do not be afraid!" Fear is one of the greatest obstacles to the reception of the Word of God in our lives. The evil one sows fear; the angels of God dispel it. So begin by considering whether fear clouds your ability to receive the Word of God.



The angel then said, "I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified." In other words, these women had not yet understood the Resurrection. They were still seeking the dead body of our Lord. Similarly, we often find ourselves focusing upon our losses, sufferings and trials. As a result, it can be difficult for us to see the ways that our Lord desires to transform the crosses in our lives and bring from them the glory of the Resurrection. The angel then said, "He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said." When we allow God to transform every cross in our lives, those crosses and sufferings disappear as they give way to the new life God brings forth from them.

Finally, the angel tells the women, "Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead…'" When we come to faith in the death and Resurrection of Christ, we cannot keep it to ourselves. We must go forth and proclaim the Resurrection of Christ to others. It cannot be contained.

Reflect, today, upon the most glorious, awe-inspiring, life-changing message of Christ's Resurrection. If you find that you do not understand this message, then this Easter Season is an important time for you. It must be a time in which you dispel any fear that clouds your thinking. It must be a time when you listen most attentively in faith. It must be a time when you hear God speak to you about His glorious triumph over sin and death. It must be a time when you more fully penetrate the mystery of the Resurrection. And it must be a time when you recommit yourself to go forth and share that message with others. Listen to the angels of God. Receive their message and allow Christ's Resurrection to change your life forever.

Most holy angels of God, please come to me, speak to me and reveal to me the most glorious message of the Resurrection of Christ. Lord, I pray that my heart be freed of all fear and that my mind be opened to all that You wish to reveal to me. I do believe in the glory of Your Resurrection; help me to believe with all my heart and to proclaim that truth to others. Jesus, I trust in You.

What the Church Teaches

We gather here this morning as the result of what was possibly the most unlikely marketing campaign in history. If you want to move a product, first you need to have something that looks appealing, that looks like you need it, and that is reasonably attainable. It helps if the product increases your prestige and standing in a community and is something that other people want as well.

The earliest apostles, like Peter in today's reading from Acts, embarked on a marketing campaign. They had a few obstacles to overcome. Not the least of these were their own weaknesses, doubts, failings and fear. They also had a pretty startling message. This is what they told people: "We believed that he would be the one to redeem Israel. We believed that he would be triumphant over everything that we hate. Then the Romans crucified him as a revolutionary. But that wasn't the end. We have seen him! And we realized that what he was trying to tell us all along was that God's victory is not over the Romans! God is victorious over sin and death! Jesus is the Messiah and he is alive. He reigns at the right hand of God. We don't just believe this; we *saw* him, touched him, talked with him and ate with him after he came forth from the tomb!"

They went out into the world with that message, which any marketer could tell you might not fly. At the beginning, they hadn't understood, but now they did, so they saw that the message wasn't immediately clear. Their leader had not been a success, but a crucified failure. He was not dead; he had come alive again. These were the things that they wanted the whole world to know.

We gather here because we believe in what they told. We believe that it is the most essential news of all time, the fulcrum on which the whole of humanity rests. But, we don't just know and believe because of the message. We believe because of the messengers. Mary and the other women at the tomb were not just perplexed. They were bewildered, frightened, and struck mute with their fear. Peter was not just investigating the scene. He was dealing with his own betrayal of Jesus. He had fled from the cross and hid, rather than risk death with his friend.

They all changed. Mary Magdalene went from mute fear to telling everyone that she could that she had met the Lord. She wasn't believed, immediately. (They thought she was just a hysterical woman.) But when they saw for themselves, they couldn't doubt her any longer. Peter went from despair about betrayal to hearing that he was forgiven. He was not only forgiven, he was entrusted with the work of Christ - to preach the Good News. My personal favorite is James, the leader of the church in Jerusalem. He was a relative of Jesus - the Scriptures call him 'the brother of the Lord.' He was not one of the apostles. When he is mentioned earlier in the story, he was trying to get Jesus to come home and stop this foolish preaching. Yet, he was also convinced about the Resurrection. (If you can convince someone in your family, who has known you from birth, you can convince anyone.)

We believe because they believed. They risked imprisonment and death. They were able to cheerfully admit their failings and doubts - and say why those had been wiped away. Their witness tells us this news. *The Lord is risen! We know because we saw!* We, as imperfect, as doubtful, as capable of failure, follow in their footsteps. We continue to proclaim this great truth because it is bigger than any of us. We share something essential with those first apostles - knowing that the resurrection is the reason for our lives, and our hope.

For more information, see the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, § 639-646, 847-860, 863-865.

How the Church Lives

At Easter, we welcome new Christians into the community of the baptized. We also renew our own baptismal promises. We state once again our rejection of sin and evil and commit ourselves to what we believe - God as creator, Son and Spirit, inviting us to life forever with God. We renew our vows for some of the same reasons that a couple may renew their vows on their wedding anniversary. Each year, we realize more deeply what we have pledged ourselves to. The implications are more clear. We may know the cost of sin, the risk of belief, the grief of death and the hope of new life in more profound ways. When we say 'Yes' again, we know a bit more of what we have accepted and what it means to live it every day of the year.

Holy Week and Easter at St. Alphonsus



Please pray for those who have received the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil

Being baptized, confirmed and receiving the Eucharist

♦ *Devon Flowers* ♦ *Ana Walton*

Being received into the Catholic Church, confirmed and receiving the Eucharist:

♦ *Ally Alexander* ♦ *Laura Arnold* ♦ *Brandon Banner* ♦ *Timothy Blegen*
♦ *Arumeh DeGeorge* ♦*Christine Garces* ♦ *Lauren Killough*
♦ *Tristan Lopez* ♦ *Christie Pipkins* ♦ *Kyle Rafferty* ♦ *Emily Sziky*

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

TO SIGN UP FREE:
1) Go to formed.org/signup
2) Type in Zip Code 60657
3) Choose St. Alphonsus
4) Fill out your Name and Email
5) YOU'RE IN!

PARA REGISTRARSE GRATIS:
1) Vaya a formed.org/signup
2) Escriba el código postal 60657
3) Elige a St. Alphonsus
4) Escriba su nombre y correo electrónico
5) ¡DISFRUTA!



experience the ALPHONSUS DIFFERENCE

WE OFFER A SMALL SCHOOL FEEL WITH BIG CITY RESOURCES.
OUR COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND A STRONG CATHOLIC FOUNDATION IS ENRICHED THROUGH AN ARTS-INTEGRATED CURRICULUM AND SUPPORTED BY A COMPASSIONATE, CREATIVE FACULTY.

- Founded in 1906, Alphonsus Academy is steeped in the Catholic tradition and a community landmark in Lakeview
- National Blue Ribbon School, awarded in 2019 for academic and instructional excellence
- Enrollment of approximately 500 students between our Tots Program (2 year olds) and Preschool to 8th Grade
- Active, welcoming environment for families eager to educate their children and engage in community
- Spirit of continuous improvement, collaboration, and inclusivity throughout the faculty--over half of whom hold Master's degrees and have worked at AACA 5+ years
- Very low student to teacher ratio with team of 3 full time learning specialist and guidance counselors dedicated to student success
- Arts-integrated curriculum fosters creativity and a lifelong love of learning with ample experience and opportunities to explore
- Dynamic specials program including Spanish, visual/performing arts, physical education, and extracurricular enrichment opportunities

Join us for a tour!

AACA
ALPHONSUS ACADEMY
& Center for the Arts



Music at St. Alphonsus

Mozart Requiem Concert— Friday, May 16 at 7:30 PM



Family friendly performance of Mozart's iconic masterpiece. Don't miss this exciting and delightful concert experience with world-class soloists!

Use coupon code SACC for a 25% DISCOUNT
www.cameratachicago.org/category/concerts/

Enjoy the outstanding musical artistry of Camerata Chicago and its choir performing the famous *Requiem* by Mozart!

- Four wonderful soloists conducted by Maestro Drostan Hall including Robin Wiper, Lauren Decker, Martin Luther Clark and Wm. Clay Thompson.
- Elite orchestra and choir with top Chicago area musicians.
- Entertaining and educational musical anecdotes about the music and its vivacious composer.
- Generously supported by Deby and Jamie Fellowes.

First Brats of Summer is Friday, May 30!



Back by popular demand!
(Or at least Father Bauer... ha ha!)
What is "First Brats of Summer"? This event is a simple FUN-raiser for the parish where our Brat team from our biggest annual parish fundraiser, Oktoberfest, will be making brats to celebrate the beginning of Summer! You can pre-order brat packages to take home or hang out outside and enjoy freshly grilled sausages. More details on this easy-going delicious fest to come soon!

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Dishwasher detergent pods that are encapsulated in that plastic material are not always meant to go in the little dishwasher detergent compartment. That compartment is usually meant for straight detergent, and it often does not have the capacity to break down that outer plastic. It can end up clogging your dishwasher over time and reducing its cleaning power. Throw those literally right in the dishwasher, or put them into the silverware basket.

2025 St. Alphonsus' Annual Oktoberfest!

September 26, 27, and 28

The St. Alphonsus Oktoberfest is held annually on the last full weekend in September. It is the primary fundraiser for the parish, but mostly it is a great deal of fun! We celebrate the parish's German heritage with beer, homemade brats, and a variety of bands which appeal to a range of musical tastes. There is also a Kinderfest with games, crafts and entertainment for children, Craft Beer Nights Fri and Sat in the Festival Hall, jumbotron for the Sunday games, and other surprises! stalsoktoberfest.org for more info.

Paint and Sip Event— Thursday, May 1



We invite you to join us for an evening of painting the Chicago skyline to support the essential work of Catholic Charities! You will have the opportunity to learn more about Catholic Charities' programs and services while joining in fellowship.

Thursday, May 1 6:30 PM— 8:30 PM
St. Alphonsus Festival Hall

Event is BYOB. Snacks and painting materials will be provided. Tickets are $40 and can be purchased at bidpal.net/2025paintandsip

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago partners with mission-driven people and organizations across Cook and Lake counties to witness a message of mercy and hope to a world in need. We are called to serve and accompany anyone, regardless of their faith, gender, race, or ethnicity.

More Young Adult Events Around the Archdiocese



Road to Emmaus Revival



On Pentecost Sunday, June 8, at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N. State St. from 3-10 PM, all are invited to a inspiring day of praise and celebration! This revival theme, "***The Road to Emmaus***," reflects the journey of all Christians – a path where we may feel discouraged but where Christ and His Church are always present to guide us back to Jerusalem with renewed hope. The event will include inspiring speakers, Mass, personal testimonies, an opportunity for Adoration, a Eucharistic Procession and will conclude with a bonfire, dinner and fellowship. All are warmly invited! Learn more and register at www.holynamecathedral.org/upcoming-events/road-to-emmaus/

Catholic Sports Leagues



Join fellow young adults (ages 21-39) in CSL's popular Kickball league on Tuesdays May 7th-June 17th! They will once again be playing at the iconic Gill (Joseph) Park in Lakeview with post-game plans at Murphy's.

$35 early bird pricing ends April 22nd! Register at www.catholicsportsleagues.com

Living Peace & Justice

Nourishing Hope's End Hunger Social



The Young Leaders Board of Nourishing Hope, formerly known as Lakeview Pantry, is hosting the End Hunger Social on Thursday, May 8, at Bandit, 841 W. Randolph St. to help raise funding to support their community programs.

The End Hunger Social draws more than 200 young professionals from all over the Chicago area, raising funds annually to provide food, social services and mental health counseling to any Chicagoan in need.

Join for an evening of food, music, cocktails, networking, and silent auction items to raise funds for Nourishing Hope's future!

Learn more and get tickets at www.nourishinghopechi.org

Midtown Educational Foundation's 10th Annual Soirée



MEF operates through its Metro Achievement Center for girls and Midtown Center for boys in grades 4 – 12.

Programs focus on Hispanic and African-American youth, offering after-school and summertime growth opportunities that help students of average academic ability to achieve above-average results. Programs are rooted in Catholic moral and social teaching and embrace students regardless of their religious, racial, ethnic, or familial status. MEF received its original inspiration from Opus Dei, an institution of the Catholic Church, and continues today its partnership with Opus Dei.

The MEF Soiree on Friday, May 16 from 7-11 PM, at Artifact Events, 4325 N Ravenswood Ave., plays host to roughly 500 of Chicago's young professionals and is their Auxiliary Board's largest fundraiser of the year. For tickets and more info, www.midtown-metro.org/events/25soiree

Community News

Lakeview Earth Day Celebration— Sunday, April 27 from 10 AM—2 PM



Going green has never been easier! In celebration of Earth Day, Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce and Special Service Area 27 are offering complimentary composting services and technology recycling to the community with the returning Lakeview Earth Day Celebration tech recycling at a new location, the Blaine Elementary Parking Lot (3828 N. Southport) on Sunday, April 27! All services are being offered free to the community.

Electronics Recycling & Paper Shredding

Did you know that electronic waste contributes 70% of toxic waste in the US? Bring your old electronics to the Blaine Elementary Parking Lot from 10 AM - 2 PM, and work together with SSA 27 and Newtech E-scrap Recycling Inc for responsible electronics recycling. Commonly recyclable items include computer equipment, personal electronics, office equipment and industrial equipment. New for 2025 is the inclusion of paper shredding and recycling!

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The Knights organize and participate in numerous charitable activities each year that benefit their parish and surrounding communities. They grow deeper in their faith through serving the needy and less fortunate in the world.

The St. Alphonsus Council has a strong group of motivated Knights from all ages and walks of life; our numbers are over 86 men strong and growing. Our council's main goals are to rally the Catholic men in our community to a common and noble cause, to assist and defend our church, to serve our community, to encourage growth in faith and prayer in ourselves and others, to become better men and fathers, and finally to help each other be men of the world while still having Christ at the center of our lives.

We are always looking for new members, and we welcome practicing Catholic men of the parish and surrounding communities to join our ranks. Our council meetings are open to all prospective members and there is usually a social fellowship after the meeting. To find out more information about the Knights of Columbus at St. Alphonsus, or to apply for membership, feel free to contact parishioner and Grand Knight, Ray C. San Agustin at raysanagustin15158@gmail.com or visit www.stalphonsusknights.com

Happy Easter!! Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 5 at 7:30 PM. Open to all practicing Catholic men! Please come out and join us!

We will have a Food Drive in support of Mission of Our Lady of the Angels on Saturday, May 17 in our parish parking lot.

More News and Events

Baptisms at St. Alphonsus



Baptism is a fundamental sacrament for Christians. It is a sacrament of initiation that unites us to Christ's mystical body, incorporates us into the Church, and marks the beginning of the Christian journey. Without baptism we cannot participate in the full sacramental life of the Church. In the sacraments we concretely and most visibly encounter God's grace—life reunited with life.

If you are interested in having your child baptized at St. Alphonsus, please go to the Baptism page on our website, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/baptism, complete the form on there and our Sacraments Ministry coordinator will be in contact to secure a date.

For adult baptisms, contact Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

Weddings at St. Alphonsus



The love between two people is a gift from God. The commitment you make to be together for the rest of your lives is sealed before the community and God during the celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage. If you are recently engaged and planning to get married (either at St. Alphonsus Church or out of town) please review the Marriage page on our website and reach out to Kathryn at kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church

Legion of Mary



The Legion of Mary is now at Saint Alphonsus! Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who serve the Church and their neighbor on a voluntary basis. The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of each individual. Members participate in the life of the parish through volunteering and evangelizing activities sponsored by the parish. Interested in becoming a Legionary? Meetings in English take place on Fridays at 5 PM in the Rectory. For more information, please contact Fr. Jesus Raya at jraya@stalphonsuschicago.church.


ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
Friday before Ordinations:
Mass and Holy Hour
May 9, 2025
5:15 – 7 p.m.
Holy Name Cathedral
735 N. State Street, Chicago
Parking available. Scan code for more information.
Join us to pray for vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life and diaconate. All are welcome!
Fr. Timothy Monahan,
Vocation Director 847.531.0148
tmonahan@archchicago.org
ChicagoPriest.com


ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
DIOCESE OF JOLIET
QUO VADIS DAYS
Sunday, July 27 – Wednesday, July 30, 2025
Mundelein Seminary, Mundelein, IL
Quo Vadis is a camp led by Chicago and Joliet Seminarians, open to young men who have graduated middle school and have an openness to growing in discipleship and fraternity, and learning more about the priesthood.
QVD
For information and registration, visit:
chicagopriest.com/events/quo-vadis-days


ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
SERENITY PRAYER
O God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time. Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace. Taking, as he did, the sinful world as it is, not as I would have it. Trusting that he will make all things right if I surrender to His will; that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with Him forever.
Do you think you might have a vocation to the priesthood?
Rev. Timothy Monahan
Vocation Director
tmonahan@archchicago.org
847.531.0148 | chicagopriest.com
scan for more information on discernment

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
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