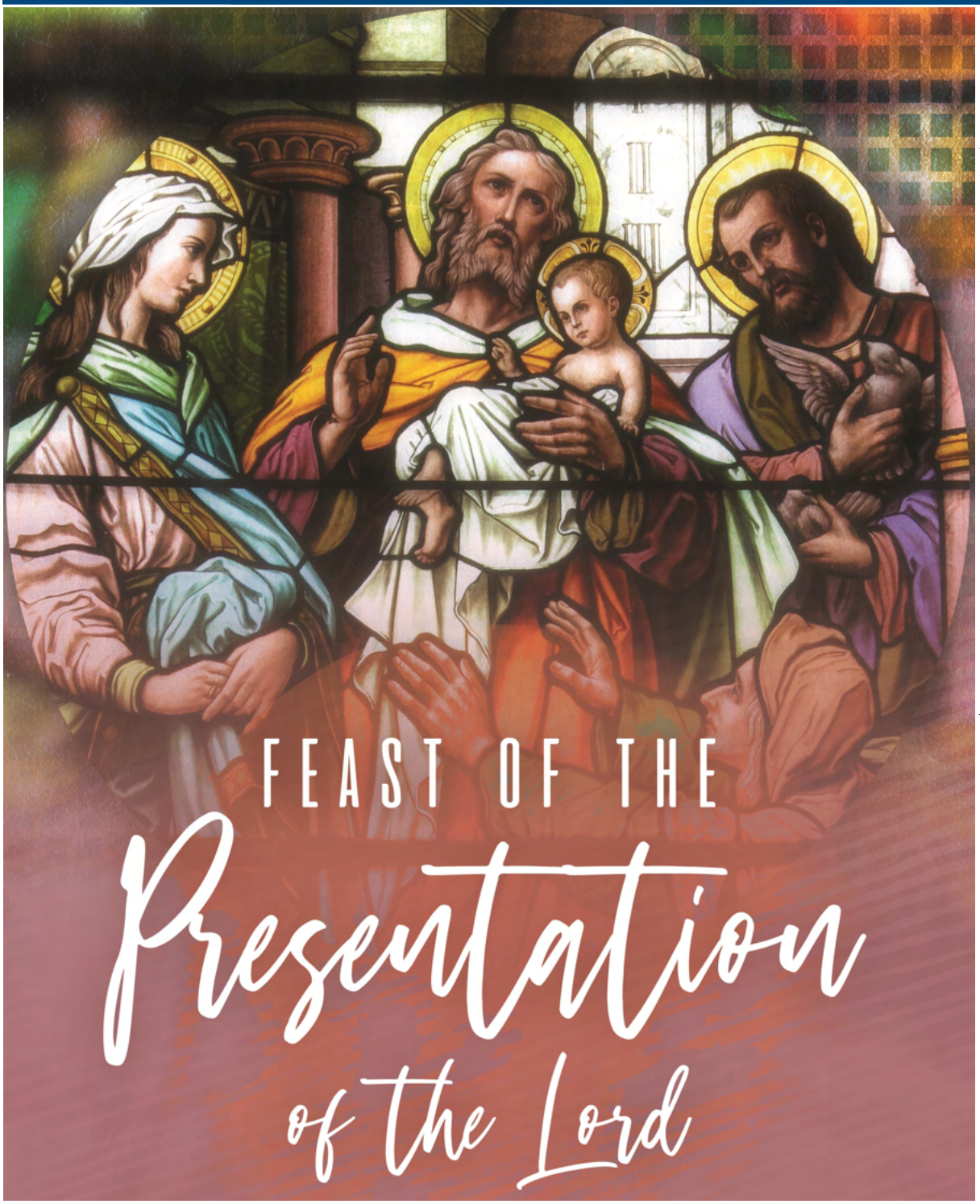
Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2, 2025: THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



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*

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation."
(Lk 2:29-30)

1429 W. WELLINGTON ST. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60657 | STALPHONSUSCHICAGO.ORG | 773-525-0709

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
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: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11//Mk 6:7-13
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 6:1-2a, 3-8/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 (1c)/1 Cor 15:1-11 or 15:3-8, 11/Lk 5:1-11

Please Pray for the Sick

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

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

Welcome to the Parish!

Jason & Emily Sikorski

John Telfer & Theresa Wasinski

Daniel Kelley & Shannon Philander James Caleb

Sean Glennon & Cara Cicciarelli

Nate Megginson & Liz Gambacorta

Sean Clark & Mary McCauley Ryan

Maureen Fagan & Thomas McDermott

Megan Hofer & Quinn Lloyd

Hannah Ignacio & Thomas Boehm

Tess Rears & Justin Bell

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Leonidas Stephen Kypraios

Collum John Godley

Leo Ashton Phetchamphone

Oliver Tyler Strickland

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 2
9:00 AM Clara Mae Morris (Birthday Blessings)
11:00 AM +Erlinda Alban & +Marcia Vinzons
12:30 PM +Rodolfo y Isabel Ojeda
5:00 PM +Liz Clancy

Monday, February 3
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Tuesday, February 4
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Wednesday, February 5
6:00 PM +Andrew Paul Karas

Thursday, February 6
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, February 7
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Saturday, February 8
8:30 AM +Peter Marsalek

Sunday, February 9
9:00 AM +Norma Pellino & +James Pellino
11:00 AM +Robert Missty Family
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM +Alina Lipniewski

News and Events

Ash Wednesday Schedule

7:00 AM **Service,** with distribution of ashes (English)

12:00 PM **Service,** with distribution of ashes (English)

6:30 PM **Mass (Bilingual in English and Español)**



Ash Wednesday is March 5!

Please note the Ash Wednesday evening Mass will be Bilingual. On this date, there will not be Adoration and Reconciliation after the Mass compared to our regular 6 PM Wednesday evening Mass.



Scout Sunday

St. Alphonsus is observing "Scout Sunday" this weekend, when Scouts from our Troop and Pack are honored to help celebrate the 9:00 AM Mass. Scout Sunday is a way to remember the "birthday" of Scouting in America.

Scouting provides fun, fellowship, and training to our youth, emphasizing honesty, self-reliance, and respect with a reverence for God. Scouting at St. Alphonsus has motivated and served the youth of our community for over 100 years, thanks to the energy of our Scouts and the leadership of our volunteers.

For more information about Scout programs, please contact David Horos at drhoros@gmail.com.

Children's Liturgy of the Word
Volunteers Needed!

Children's Liturgy of the Word is returning to St. Alphonsus Parish! This is an offering for 4-7 year olds to hear the Word of God proclaimed in a way that they can understand. Join the Children's Liturgy Team and help the children enter into prayer, leading them to an encounter with Our Lord!

We are looking for the following Volunteer Positions:

- **Prayer Leaders** – Provide a Child-Friendly Reflection and Conversation on the Day's Readings, bringing the Scriptures to Life
- **Lectors** – Read Aloud the Day's Readings and the Prayer of the Faithful
- **Music Ministers** – Sing the Responsorial Psalm or Provide Accompaniment on the Piano
- **Assistants** – Help Maintain a Prayerful Atmosphere by Soothing and Caring for the Children

All Volunteers need to be VIRTUS Certified (*required to work with children in the Archdiocese*) and attend one Children's Liturgy of the Word Training Session to be prepared. If you are unable to attend a group training session date, reach out to schedule a private training. Sign-Up to volunteer for one Sunday or for them all! Your time and talents are appreciated and a gift to the children.

Questions? **Contact Emily Ember, Coordinator of Religious Education**, at eember@stalphonsuschicago.church

DATES: (at the 9AM Mass on Sundays)
March 9th
March 30th
May 4th
June 1st

Volunteer Training Session: (Attend One)
Tuesday, February 11th @ 6:30 PM – Festival Hall
Thursday, February 27th @ 6:00 PM – Festival Hall



Faith Formation

Walking With Purpose— Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings at 9:30 AM; Evenings at 6:00 PM

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

walking with purpose

Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection explores what it takes to stay close to friends for the long haul, what to look for in a friend, and how to navigate toxic relationships.

Let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships, and become a woman who is capable of the lifelong bond of true friendship.

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

The St. Alphonsus Men's Group is hosting a Holy Hour of silent adoration on Friday, February 7, from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the church. All parishioners are invited to be in the presence of our Lord during this hour, and confessions will also be heard during this time.

More Faith Formation News— Come and See Women's Retreat

All single Catholic women, aged 18-35, are encouraged to pray your discernment and consider attending the Dominican Sisters - Immaculate Conception Province "Come & See" discernment retreat weekend from Feb. 21-23. Register https://forms.gle/3q48WzAiFA6uceAFA

The retreat takes place at their Provincial House, just southwest of Chicago in Justice, IL. For questions, please email Sister Charbel Joseph, OP, at vocations@sistersop.com



Pope Francis February Intention

For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

More News & Events

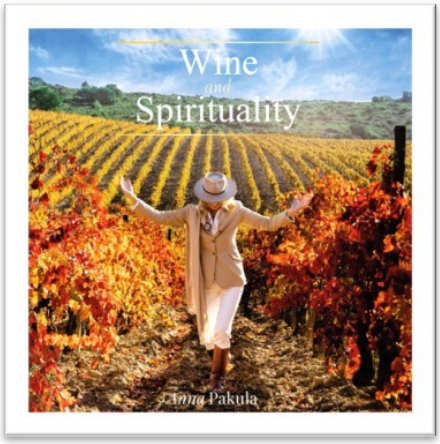
Mom's Group— Saturday, February 8

St. Alphonsus Parish is pleased to introduce its newest ministry, Mom's Group! Moms of the parish are invited to join other moms for coffee and fellowship on Saturday, February 8, at 10 AM at Big Shoulders Coffee (1165 W. Diversey Ave)! Babies are more than welcome to join, or just bring yourself! This group is geared towards new and first time moms with kids under 18 months, but any mother looking for community and a safe space to discuss the joys and difficulties of motherhood is welcome. As this is a fledgling group, our first meeting will be concentrated on getting to know each other and discussing how the group can best serve the moms of the parish. We look forward to seeing you! For questions, email Kathryn Kibler at kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church.



Wine and Spirituality

Whether you are a wine aficionado or not, we are sure you would like the book, *Wine and Spirituality,* by Anna Pakula, an international wine consultant and a parishioner of St. Alphonsus. Anna finds her self recovering from an unexpected life-saving surgery and your purchase would help cover her medical expenses. You would not only help Anna, our parish would receive a donation from the proceed as well. We have a book on display in the narthex. For more details, take a flyer from the table in the narthex or talk to Fr. Jesus Raya or Fr. Steve Bauer after Mass.



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

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is now at St. 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 info, please contact Fr. Jesus Raya.***



¡La Legión de María ya está en San Alfonso! La Legión de María es una asociación apostólica laica de católicos que sirven a la Iglesia y al prójimo de manera voluntaria. La Legión considera como prioridad el bienestar espiritual y social de cada individuo. Los miembros participan en la vida de la parroquia a través del voluntariado y de actividades evangelizadoras patrocinadas por la parroquia. ***¿Interesado en ser legionario? Las reuniones en español se llevan a cabo los Lunes a las 6 PM en la rectoría. Para obtener más información, Padre Jesus Raya Custodio, jraya@stalphonsuschicago.church***



Prayer of Eucharistic Consecration

To be prayed after receiving Jesus, truly present in Holy Communion.
Find the entire Consecration Prayer in the 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory Book.

Lord Jesus Christ, Bread of Life, True God and True Man, The Alpha and the Omega, Truly present—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—in the Blessed Sacrament, I consecrate myself to You today without reservation.

Here I am, Lord. I come to do Your will. Come and dwell within me. Heal my body, focus my mind, transform my heart, and nourish my soul, so that I may represent You faithfully in the many situations and circumstances of my daily life.

Lord Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist, I consecrate myself to You today without reservation. Transform me. Transform my life. I trust in the eternal genius of Your ways. I make myself 100 percent available to You. Lead me, encourage me, challenge me. Show me how I can collaborate with You, and I will do what You ask with a joyful heart. Amen.

WHAT'S NEXT??

If you enjoyed '33 Days to Eucharistic Glory' by Matthew Kelly and you are wondering how to continue a daily habit of diving more deeply into your faith, here are some suggestions of what you can do next:



MASS JOURNAL

Enrich your experience at Sunday Mass, learn how to listen to the voice of God, and deepen your daily spirituality. The Mass Journal is a spiritual tool that urges us to ask the question, **"God, what is one way that I can become a-better-version-of-myself this week?"**
Find it on DynamicCatholic.com



INTO THE DEEP

Learn how to overcome distractions and build a habit of prayer that will radically transform your everyday life. God is waiting to meet you where you are and encourage you every step of the way. Even ten minutes a day can change your life.
Find it on DynamicCatholic.com



DAILY REFLECTIONS WITH TIM GRAY

Start your day off right. Be inspired and renewed each morning with a short video from Dr. Tim Gray giving insights on the daily Mass Readings.
Listen on FORMED!



JESUS & THE JEWISH ROOTS OF THE EUCHARIST

By taking us back to the Jewish roots of our faith, Dr. Brant Pitre gives us a powerful lens through which to see anew the bread of the presence, the manna, the Last Supper, and ultimately the meaning of the Eucharist.
Listen on FORMED!



THE FOURTH CUP

Well-known Catholic theologian Dr. Scott Hahn explains Christ's Paschal Sacrifice on the cross as the fulfillment of the traditional fourth cup used in the celebration of the Jewish Passover meal. He draws a symbolic parallel to the Last Supper and Christ's death on Calvary. Mass will come alive for you as never before!
Listen on FORMED!



CONFIRMATION: THE SACRAMENT OF EVANGELIZATION & MARTYRDOM

In this talk, Dr. Brant Pitre invites us to understand better the tremendous graces and calling received through this Sacrament. He points to various passages in Scripture that provide a historical foundation and, through bold witness, challenge us to surrender our lives willingly to Christ.
Listen on FORMED!

ASK YOURSELF:

How will I keep this consecration alive in my heart, mind and soul? What spiritual practices and routines (Adoration, daily Mass, fasting, giving, Spiritual Communion, etc.) would I like to implement to honor my consecration? In what ways will I serve my parish community? Begin preparing for Lent now!

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Luke 2:29–32

The Culmination of a Life of Faith

At the time of Jesus' birth, there was a man named Simeon who had spent his whole life preparing for one significant moment. Like all faithful Jews at the time, Simeon was waiting for the coming Messiah. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would indeed see the Messiah before his death—and so this happened when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the Temple to offer Him to the Lord as an infant.

Try to imagine the scene. Simeon had lived a holy and devout life. And deep within his conscience, he knew that his life on earth would not come to an end until he was privileged to see the Savior of the World with his own eyes. He knew this by a special gift of faith, an interior revelation of the Holy Spirit, and he believed.

It's helpful to think about this unique gift of knowledge that Simeon had throughout his life. Normally we gain knowledge through our five senses. We see something, hear something, taste, smell, or feel something, and as a result come to know it to be true. Physical knowledge is very reliable and is the normal way we come to know things. But this gift of knowledge Simeon had was different. It was deeper and was spiritual in nature. He knew he would see the Messiah before he died, not because of some external sensory perception he had received but because of an interior revelation from the Holy Spirit.

This truth begs the question, which type of knowledge is more certain? Something you see with your eyes, touch, smell, hear or taste? Or something that God speaks to you in the depths of your soul by a revelation of grace? Though these types of knowledge are different, it's important to understand that the spiritual knowledge that is given by the Holy Spirit is far more certain than anything perceived through the five senses alone. This spiritual knowledge has the power to change your life and direct all your actions toward that revelation.



For Simeon, this interior knowledge of a spiritual nature suddenly united with his five senses when Jesus was brought into the Temple. Simeon suddenly saw, heard and felt this Child Whom he knew he would one day see with his own eyes and touch with his own hands. For Simeon, that moment was the culminating moment of his life.

Reflect, today, upon anything that our Lord has spoken to you in the depths of your soul. Too often we ignore His gentle voice as it speaks, preferring instead to live only in the sensory world. But the spiritual reality within us must become the center and foundation of our lives. It is there where God speaks, and it is there where we, too, will discover the central purpose and meaning of our lives.

My spiritual Lord, I thank You for the countless ways in which You speak to me day and night in the depths of my own soul. Help me to be always attentive to You and to Your gentle voice as You speak to me. May Your voice and Your voice alone become the guiding direction of my life. May I trust in Your Word and never waver from the mission You have given to me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Beverage Chilling

Though it is cold outside, you may want a cold drink inside but you find that there are no bottles in the refrigerator and you do not want to wait until a bottle chills. Just take the bottle and wrap a wet napkin around the bottle and put it into the freezer. It will chill much faster than a bottle without the wet napkin.

Young Adult Ministry

Sunday, February 9 at 1:00 PM
Sip & Paint Aid for Women Fundraiser in Festival Hall



Join us on Sunday, February 9th, from 1-4 PM for a Paint & Sip Fundraiser benefiting Aid for Women, an organization dedicated to supporting women facing unexpected pregnancies with emotional, practical, and spiritual care. Enjoy an afternoon of creativity, community, and refreshments—all while making a meaningful impact!

Come paint, sip, and give back before football festivities kick off. Let's support a great cause together!

Sign up in the link below. The registration link can also be found on our YAM social media!

https://form.jotform.com/250094535653155

YAM Game Night— Saturday, February 22 at 6 PM



On Saturday, February 22, our Young Adult Ministry will be hosting a game night for the community! Come enjoy a fun evening playing classic such as Euchre, Sorry!, and Monopoly or bring your own favorite game to introduce the community to. This event will be "stock the bar" style in which attendees will be asked to bring a beverage you enjoy, alcoholic or not, to share and stock up the YAM fridge for future events such as Speed Dating!

We will have multiple tables set up in Festival Hall to accommodate the group and we encourage everyone to invite a friend and have a great time with YAM! For questions, please contact us at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com

YAM 3x3 Basketball— Saturday, March 8



3-on-3 Basketball is back! Come join St. Alphonsus' Young Adult Ministry (YAM) for its annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Grab some friends and join us for one of our most exciting events of the year!

The tournament will be a round-robin group play followed by a single elimination tournament for the top 6 teams. Each team is guaranteed 3 games in the group play. There is not a separate tournament for men and women so teams can be co-ed. There will be a limit of 16 teams, so sign up before all of the spots are full. Teams are limited to 5 players. If you do not have a team and want to sign up individually without a team, we will place you with other individual sign ups to create a team. Please specify "Individual" in the team category at the registration link.

Sign up here: www.givecentral.org/location/39/33436

As part of the event, we will provide snacks and drinks. All are welcome to come and watch the event for free if not part of a team. For those watching the event who are not part of a team but would still like to partake in the food and drink we ask that you make a $5 donation.

Date: Saturday March 8th; Location: St. Alphonsus Gymnasium
Time: Starts at 10:00 AM ; Cost: $15 per person; each player must sign-up individually.

Around the Archdiocese

Passion of Joan of Arc



St. Vincent de Paul, 1010 W. Webster is screening the silent 1928 classic on Friday, February 7 at 7:30 PM with live organ accompaniment by Jay Warren. Visit their parish website for tickets.

Resurrecting the Catholic Funeral

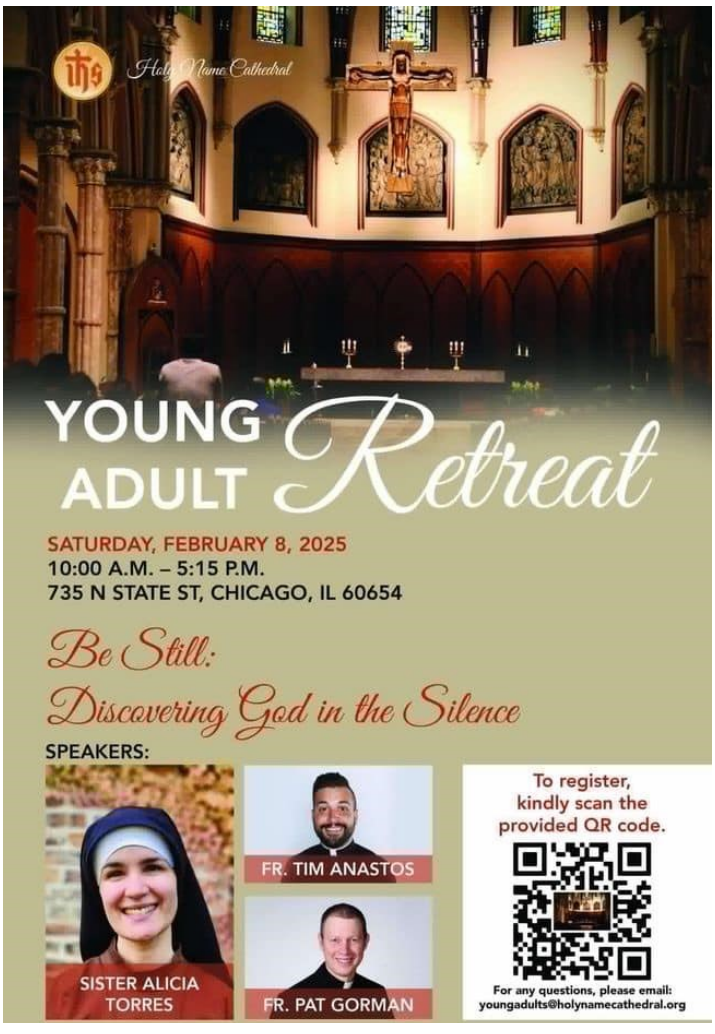
On Saturday, Feb. 22 from 10 AM—Noon, the Benedictine monks of Chicago invite all to rediscover the significance and beauty of the Catholic funeral: a proclamation of eternal life and participation in the journey to our eternal destination.

Topics include the Catholic Church's teachings on proper practices for the wake, funeral Mass, and graveside service. Presentations by monks and special guest, Marcin Scigaj of Catholic Cemeteries, Archdiocese of Chicago, followed by Q&A with opportunity to ask questions one-on-one. This is a free event at Monastery of the Holy Cross, 3111 S. Aberdeen St. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/resurrecting-the-catholic-funeral-tickets-1146612903059

Conference for College Prep Students: "What Really Happens When…?"

On Saturday, March 1 the Newman Forum for High School Students will hold its sixth annual winter conference on faith, reason, and culture. The Newman Forum is a collaboration between the Lumen Christi Institute, the University of St. Mary of the Lake, and the Archdiocese of Chicago Vocations Office. Its mission is to bring the fullness of the Church's intellectual tradition to teenagers (and their teachers and parents), remove stumbling blocks about the incompatibility of faith and reason, model an integrated intellectual and spiritual life, and prepare teenagers to be mature Catholics in college. For more information and details on all of the talks, as well as to register, visit: https://lumenchristi.org/event/winter-newman-forum-conference-for-high-school-students-what-really-happens-when/

More Young Adult Events Around Chicago



Holy Name Retreat

All young adults in our faith community are encouraged to sign up for the retreat at Holy Name Cathedral on Saturday, February 8. There are some great speakers, including former Associate Pastor at St. Alphonsus, Fr. Patrick Gorman. Registration is $35. Visit https://holyname.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/618/responses/new

Catholic Sport Leagues

CSL has their annual awesome indoor volleyball league, held here at St. Alphonsus' gym on Thursday evenings from February 20 to April 10. Similar leagues around the area are typically $100 or more, but their registration is only $65! (And includes post-volleyball merriment at Southport Betty's…) Visit catholicsportsleagues.com

Christian Singles Bowling Event

Are you ready for an evening of fun, fellowship, and a little friendly competition? Soul to Soul Coaching invites you to an upcoming Christian Singles Bowling Night—a perfect opportunity to connect with other like-minded individuals in a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere. This event takes place on Saturday, February 15 at Arlington Lanes Bowling Alley in Arlington Heights, IL from 2-5 PM. Open to all single Christians in their 20's, 30's, or 40's. www.facebook.com/events/1005327014729048

Youth Free Throw Competition

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level for the 8th annual Free Throw Championship sponsored by the St. Alphonsus Knights of Columbus. The local competition will be held on **Saturday, February 22, 2025 in the St. Alphonsus parish gym starting at 10:00 AM**.

Sign-up at stalphonsusknights.com/freethrow/

Volunteers Needed! To volunteer, please contact Logan at lcobell@gmail.com

COMPETITION FORMAT:

Each contestant receives three warm-up tosses followed by 15 consecutive Free Throw attempts from the appropriate age-designated foul line. To break a tie, contestants take a second round of five free throws. No warm-up tosses are permitted for the tie-breaker rounds. Successive rounds of five free throws each continue until a winner emerges.

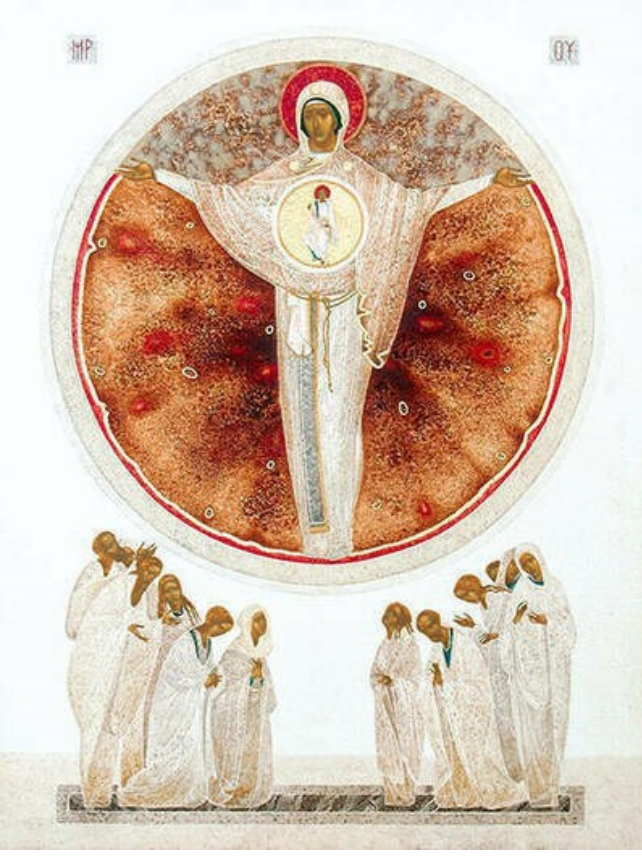
The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing through local, district and state competitions. All boys and girls 9 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their respective age divisions.

The Knights of Columbus is an international Catholic family fraternal service organization with 1.9 million members in 17,000 local councils. Last year, Knights donated over 70 million volunteer hours and $170 million to charitable and benevolent causes, sponsoring projects to benefit their church, councils, communities, culture of life, families and youth.

RULES:

- All children must be pre-registered in order to compete.
- ONLY GYM SHOES are allowed in the gym, no marking shoes are permitted.
- VIRTUS trained adults will be on staff to run the event
- No food or drink allowed on basketball court.

More Faith Formation



True Genius: The Mission of Women in Church and Culture

Registration is now open for an upcoming conference, *True Genius: The Mission of Women in Church and Culture*, which will take place March 26–28 at the University of Notre Dame and organized by the McGrath Institute for Church Life.

We currently live in a polarized culture, and debates about women feed that polarization, which marks our society as well as the Church. On the one hand, there is a widespread assumption that Catholicism is anti-woman. On the other hand, in some Catholic circles, there is a growing anti-feminism that defies Church teaching.

With several intelligent faithful women speakers at the helm, this conference aims to counter both of these misguided narratives by presenting anew the Church's understanding of women's dignity and significance in the Church and culture. To learn more and to register, visit https://hubs.la/Q033n8Vg0

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Archdiocese Women's Committee (AWC)

VOICES OF WOMEN

The Relevance of the Church

Join the Archdiocese Women's Committee (AWC) for one of three Zoom discussions on the relevance of the Church.

Our goal is to hear the voices of 200 or more women. Discussion will address the following:

- How relevant is the Church in the lives of women today?
- What are three essential things a parish must have in order to be relevant (or more relevant) in women's lives?
- How has the practice of your faith changed since the pandemic? In what ways has your parish continued to or failed to nurture you in your new practices?

Advance registration is necessary in order to receive the Zoom link for participation. To register, please scan the QR code or click on your desired session below.

Wednesday, February 19 | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0219
Tuesday, February 25 | 7 – 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0225
Monday, March 3 | 7– 8:30 p.m. | bit.ly/AWCVOW0303

The Archdiocese Women's Committee is an adjunct committee of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council. It serves as an advisory committee that works directly with Cardinal Cupich.

At the Athenaeum

Ross Douthat | Believe: Why Everyone Should Be Religious

Thursday, February 13 at 7 PM



An evening celebrating New York Times opinion columnist Ross Douthat's new book *Believe: Why Everyone Should Be Religious*.

Do you ever wish you had more faith, but struggle to make religious belief fit with modern assumptions about the world and human life? With a rare combination of empathy, open-mindedness, and persuasive argument, Ross Douthat offers a blueprint for thinking one's way from doubt to belief.

As a columnist for the New York Times who writes often about spiritual topics for a skeptical audience, Ross Douthat understands that many of us—whether we are agnostic, somewhat religious, or longtime believers—want to have more faith than we do. But we think we can't believe the way our ancestors did, knowing what we know now—can we?

With clear and straightforward arguments, Believe shows how religious belief makes sense of the order of the cosmos and our place within it, illuminates the mystery of consciousness, and explains the persistent reality of encounters with the supernatural.

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

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Scout Sunday at 9 AM 12:00 PM Eucharistic Consecration Reception 1:30 PM Eucharistic Consecration Reception 2:30 PM RCIA 7:00 PM Big Book AA Meeting	**3** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** AACA School Board Mtg. **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (Espanol) **7:00 PM** Knights of Columbus Meeting **7:00 PM** Baptismal Prep Class	**4** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**5** **1:45 PM** Girl Scouts **6:30 PM** YA Book Club **8:00 PM** CL Community **8:00 PM** Men's Vespers	**6** **6:15 PM** Leonine Forum Mass **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	**7** AACA— No School **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (English) **7:30 PM** Men's Group Adoration	**8** **10:00 AM** Moms & Tots Ministry @Big Shoulders Coffee
9 **1:30 PM** Aid for Women Sip & Paint Fundraiser **2:30 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**10** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **9:00 AM** AACA Admissions Open House **5:30 PM** Tiger Scouts Meeting **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (Espanol) **6:00 PM** RE First Communion Seminar	**11** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Children's Liturgy of the Word Volunteer Training **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**12** **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts—3rd **6:30 PM** YA Book Club **8:00 PM** CL Community **8:00 PM** Men's Vespers	**13** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	**14**  Valentine's Day **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (English)	**15**

Stewardship— First Fruits

We want to invite all parishioners who want to participate in online giving to do so by enrolling through GiveCentral and setting up your donation via the First Fruits campaign (weekly Mass offering).

A huge thank you to those that are already giving online. Please consider making St. Alphonsus an extension of your home and family when contributing.

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

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

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 1/26: $13,065

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

February Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 **1:00 PM** Samuel Group **2:30 PM** RCIA **6:00 PM** YAM Sippin Social **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**17** AACA— No School President's Day **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (Espanol)	**18** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**19** **6:30 PM** YA Book Club **7:30 PM** Faith & Fellowship Prayer Night **8:00 PM** CL Community **8:00 PM** Men's Vespers	**20** **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts Wolf Den—2nd **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:30 PM** Catholic Sports League Volleyball	**21** **3:00 PM** Boy Scouts— Webelos **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (English)	**22** **10:00 AM** Youth Free Throw Shooting Competition sponsored by Knights of Columbus **6:00 PM** YAM Game Night
23 Annual Catholic Appeal Collection **2:30 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**24** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (Espanol)	**25** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **6:30 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum **7:00 PM** Finance Council Meeting	**26** **1:45 PM** Daisy Scouts— 1st **6:30 PM** YA Book Club **8:00 PM** CL Community **8:00 PM** Men's Vespers	**27** **8:15 AM** Blessings in a Backpack **6:00 PM** Children's Liturgy of the Word Volunteer Training **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:30 PM** Catholic Sports League Volleyball	**28** **4:00 PM** Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby Set-Up **6:00 PM** Legion of Mary Meeting (English) **7:30 PM** Praise and Adoration	

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