Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 22, 2024: TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If anyone wishes to be first,
he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." (Mk 9:35)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri, Sat	8:30 AM
Wed	6:00 PM
Sunday	9 AM, 11 AM, 12:30 (Spanish) and 5 PM

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—12:00 PM

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

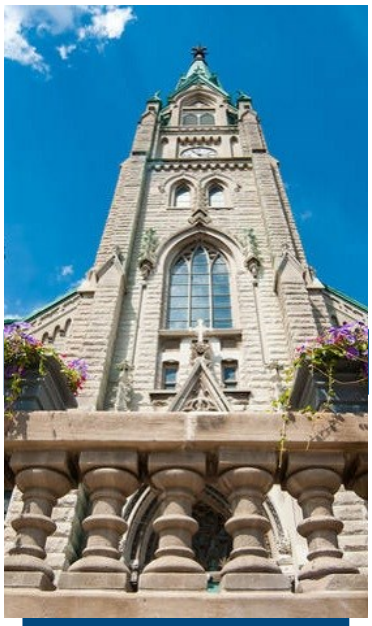
Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 (6b)/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37
Monday: Prv 3:27-34/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44/Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163/Lk 9:1-6
Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Eccl 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4/Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Eccl 11:9—12:8/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a)/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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



WEDDING

Meghan Adams
and
Logan Strauss

Wedding Banns

I. Hailey Watkins and Charlie Piermattei
I. Jessica Pawelski and Dolapo Oni

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 9/15: $12,022

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

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Emiliano Manuel Dee
Alessandro Ares Dee
Lillian Reese Scuglik
Amelia Kathleen Gates

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 22
9:00 AM Glowienke Family
11:00 AM +Richard Slowinski
12:30 PM +Martin Rios and Luis Hernandez
5:00 PM +Jessica Ross Sheehan

Monday, September 23
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Tuesday, September 24
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Wednesday, September 25
6:00 PM Dino Swan (Birthday Blessings)

Thursday, September 26
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, September 27
8:30 AM +Barbara Elliston

Saturday, September 28
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Sunday, September 29
9:00 AM +Edmund and Mary Gobat
11:00 AM +Alan Thiel
12:30 PM +Nicolasa Martinez
5:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus



Oktoberfest!

September 27, 28, and 29th

Admission $10.00 Friday and Saturday

Free Admission on Sunday!

Join us for all the Oktoberfest fun!

And just like every year, there will be plenty of beer and homemade brats!

We'll have music from lots of German bands and Fest favorites alike.

Get all the Fest details and Volunteer at

www.stalsoktoberfest.org

Entertainment

Friday 5-10 PM

~Leslie Hunt Band, ~iPop,
~The Shagadelics, ~Dancing Queen

Saturday Noon-10 PM

~School of Rock
~Sgt. Saukerkraut's Polka Band
~The Polkaholics

~Fletcher Rockwell
~Fearless, a Taylor Swift Tribute
~16 Candles



Sunday Noon-7 PM

KINDERFEST! JUMBOTRON SCREEN ON TO WATCH THE GAMES!

Craft Beer Tasting

Friday 6-9 PM, Saturday 4-7 PM
Select from dozens of options from local breweries, seasonal selections, and international favorites.
Tickets now available at
bucketlisters.com/experience/oktoberfest-chicago

VIP Package

VIP's will receive a commemorative 1L stein from Germany, brats, free admission for 4, 2 for 1 beer, Oktoberfest T-Shirts, Hat and more! Package now available on our parish GiveCentral site,
www.givecentral.org/otp/41554

PROST!!

Help Out and Have a Great Time!!



It takes more than 500 volunteers to make our Fest a success!

Volunteering is a great way to make new friends and help out your St. Alphonsus parish community. Volunteers are involved in admissions, serving food and drinks, and more! Perks include a ticket for a free beer or brat, stylish Volunteer shirt and access to the Volunteer Appreciation Party .



Kinderfest Sunday— Free Admission!

Providing additional fun for families and children, Oktoberfest will once again feature a special "Kinderfest" area on Sunday! The popular train ride is returning! Other fun offerings will include face painting, crafts and activities, and a kid-friendly Kinderfest meal available for them to enjoy! Parents can hang out and enjoy a delicious brat and beer while watching the afternoon games on a Jumbotron. Kids should also keep an eye out for a limited "oktoBEARfest buddy" for sale.



Get all the Fest details & Volunteer at *www.stalsoktoberfest.org*

Become a VIP!

It's a great value and the best way to enjoy Oktoberfest!



This September, make sure you celebrate Oktoberfest the right way and become a VIP!

Everyone likes special perks and cool swag, and there's no better way to receive them than by purchasing an Oktoberfest VIP Package for only $225. Check out how great a value it is:

* awesome 1-L Stein handmade in Germany with a pewter lid, refillable at 2-for-1 price.... $100
* 4 free admissions for Fri & Sat..... $80
* 4 tickets for a free brat or beer... $36
* Oktoberfest T-shirt... $25
* Tyrolean hat or baseball cap.... $25
* $10 Discount to Craft Beer event...$10
* Keychain bottle opener... $5
* Commemorative pin... $5

Quantifiable Monetary Value... $286

PLUS...

Four free passes for indoor bathroom access... $1,234.56

...your wife or girlfriend can verify this value!

Celebrity status from so many people gawking at your awesome lidded beer Stein...

...fame and prestige that'll make Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce envious!

Your own personal fan club if you get additional Steins for your friends...

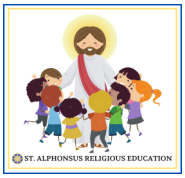
...purchase unlidded Steins discounted at $65; lidded ones at $100,
which are also fillable at the 2-beers-for-1 price deal
(available via pre-order only, while supplies last, contact rectory for info)

** *Note, only the 2024 stein is eligible for beer refills*

www.givecentral.org/otp/41554

Faith Formation

Register Your Children for Religious Education!



Registration for our Religious Education program is now open for the 2024-2025 school year for grades 1st-8th. Classes are on Tuesday evenings at 6:15 PM. Please register at the link on our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education

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.

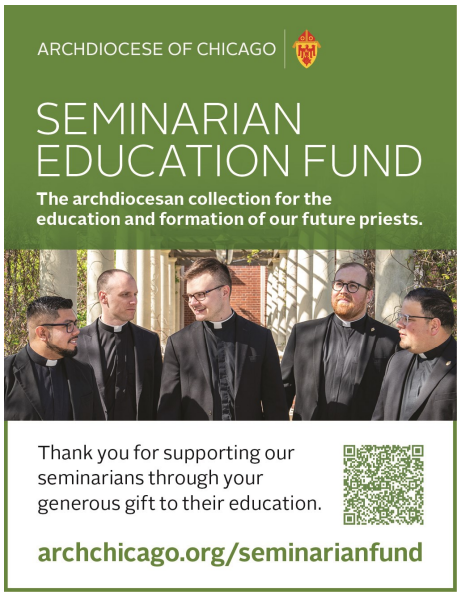
Adult baptism (and if applicable, Confirmation and First Holy Communion) takes place at the Easter Vigil (Evening before Easter Sunday). It is one of the highest celebrations in the Catholic Church's liturgical year! If you or someone you know is interested in taking the class, please contact our pastoral associate, Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

Seminary Sunday Collection

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

All of us have benefited in so many ways from the ministry of priests who have served us in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Before their ordination, these priests prepared over a course of years to serve us. Today, seminarians, when ordained, will be serving your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Some are in the pre-seminary spiritual year at Bishop Quarter House in the city. Others are completing their college studies at the University of St. Thomas in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Finally, those in the last four-year phase of preparation, are being formed at Mundelein Seminary.

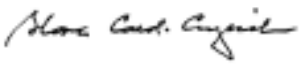
Supporting vocations to the priesthood is a task that belongs to all of us in the Church. I want to invite you to express that support in four ways: pray for vocations and our seminarians in preparation, encourage those seminarians serving in your parish, urge young men to give their lives in service as priests, and make a financial contribution to support our programs of priestly formation. Prayer, encouragement, recruiting and financial support—all these actions express our gratitude to God for the gift of priestly ministry. These actions also build for the future of our Church and for our children and grandchildren. I would note that given that our seminarians need to invest themselves totally in formation, they are not able to work. Thus, we need to cover the costs not only for their education but other expenses such as health insurance and other personal support.



An offering envelope is in your pew or at the back of the church for your financial gift. You may also send your donation directly to your parish, noting that it is for "Seminarian Education," or you may make a gift online at archchicago.org/seminarianfund. If you wish to send a permanent burse to support seminary education in memory of a family member, as others have done, do not hesitate to contact Kirsten Trybula at ktrybula@archchicago.org or at (847) 899-0010.

Thank you for your generous response.

Sincerely yours in Christ



Cardinal Blase J. Cupich,
Archbishop of Chicago

News and Events

Serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion!

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

Men's Pickup Basketball

Almost every Sunday at 7 PM, there is a competitive men's pickup basketball game(s) for anyone who plays. Games are played in the St. Alphonsus gymnasium that is underneath the Athenaeum. Entrance to the gym is on the side of the building between the church and the Athenaeum. If you would like to be added to the weekly email list that coordinates the games or have any questions, you can reach out to Chris at cberezniak1@yahoo.com

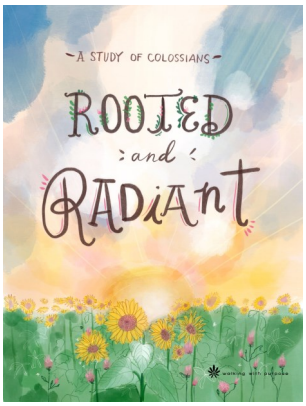


St. Francis Day and the Blessing of Pets

Saint Francis of Assisi (1181-1226) is famous for many things, the most popular of which are his love for Jesus, care for the poor, founding of the Order of Friars Minor, his love for the beauty of God's creation, and the amazing ability to speak to animals.

To celebrate his feast day, we will be having special outdoor prayers with a Blessing of Pets on **Saturday, October 5th at 10 AM,** on the Veranda of the Church. Make sure that all pets are appropriately leashed (or caged), and "walked" before arriving, please and thank you!

Walking With Purpose



Rooted and Radiant Women's Bible Study

Walking w/ Purpose is a modern woman's guide to the Bible! Join us this fall as we help you enjoy a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, nurtured through personal Bible study and small group discussions created just for women!

In the ***Rooted and Radiant*** study, we will learn the book of Colossians and seek to understand the challenges that faced them, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

Sessions are on Tuesdays, mornings are 9:30—11 AM and the evening session is 6:30—8 PM. Questions? Please contact Susan Combes, smbcombes51@gmail.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.

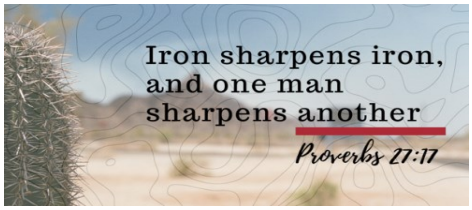
When great conversations happen, synergy that creates connections and helps values be shared develops. *Proverbs 27:17* describes this as two iron tools being sharpened and made more effective. The same applies with friends coming into contact, sharpening and encouraging each other to greater service.

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, October 4th, 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.



They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest. Mark 9:33–34

The Greatness of Holiness



One of the desires that we all have is for greatness. This is a good and natural desire. This desire is manifested in competitiveness in sports and games. It becomes a driving force in business and politics. It drives us to do better in life, such as in school, artistic endeavors, and hobbies, working hard to perfect various skills and talents so as to excel. The problem is that every good and natural desire we have is now disordered to a certain degree because of original sin. As a result, the desire we have for greatness can become an obsession, a cause of discouragement when we fail, a source of jealousy when others appear to do better, and can lead us to pursue empty and fleeting goals in life.

Even within the life of faith, we can be affected by both the natural desire for greatness and the fallenness of that desire. The natural desire for greatness, when mingled with faith, will lead us to the desire to be a saint and to do great things for the Kingdom of God. But as a fallen natural quality, we can also fall into the trap of seeing ourselves in competition with others within the Church, and we can become jealous of those who appear to be holy and who are recognized for their good work for Christ.

Just prior to the passage quoted above in which the disciples were discovered to have been arguing among themselves about who was the greatest, Jesus predicted to them, for the second time, that He would suffer and die. Recall that after the first prediction of His passion, Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain and was transfigured before them. Perhaps some of the other disciples became jealous of this apparent special treatment. Then, after Jesus predicted His passion to them for the second time, they might have wondered if some of them would likewise share in a similar experience as the Transfiguration.

Regardless of what motivated the disciples to argue among themselves about who was the greatest, the fact remains that they did so. This was not the result of a holy and purified desire. It was the result of a good desire for greatness that became distorted and turned into an unholy competition based on jealousy and selfishness.

In Heaven, we will all know who is the greatest. Interestingly, the Scriptures, the official Church teachings, and many of the saints reveal to us that there will be levels of glory in Heaven. This is why Jesus said elsewhere, "Store up treasure in Heaven" (Matthew 6:20). In Heaven, each of us will be perfectly happy. But each of us will also share in God's glory in varying degrees, based upon the merit of our charity on earth. The classic example of this is that if every soul is like a glass of water in Heaven, then every glass will be full. But some glasses will be larger than others and will be able to contain more water (glory). For this reason, we must remember that the natural desire for greatness is good, but it must be properly ordered by grace. That desire must not become as it was among the disciples who saw each other as competitors. Instead, it must be directed to the deepest desire for holiness and charity. In Heaven, we will all be in awe of those holy souls who are filled with the greatest depths of glory forever. Most likely, they will be widely unknown on earth, but loved and admired in Heaven for the greatness of their holiness.

Reflect, today, upon the desire within your own soul for greatness. Pray that this desire will not fall into selfishness or lead you to see others as competitors. Instead, pray that your desire for greatness will lead you to holiness so that you will be able to store up for yourself the most abundant treasures in Heaven and radiate that glory forever.

Most glorious Lord, You are Greatness Itself. You are our eternal glory. I thank You for the natural desire for greatness that has been instilled within my soul. Please purify that desire, and help me to direct it toward holiness so that I will be able to store up in Heaven the many treasures You wish to bestow. Jesus, I trust in You.

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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

Volunteer at Oktoberfest! Sippin Social after 5 PM Mass Sept. 29



Following the 5 PM Mass on Sunday, September 29th, we will step outside for drinks and socialization at Oktoberfest! Invite some friends to come and stop by!

Oktoberfest is next weekend and we need volunteers! This year, there are two volunteer shifts for young adults with 45 spots to cover between. Oktoberfest is the largest fundraiser of the year for the parish and many of YAM's events would not be possible without this event. So if you've benefitted in some way in the past year from an event hosted by us, please consider giving some of your time to support our work. Volunteers can sign up at https://signup.com/go/CVYkWmQ

Trivia Night! Saturday, October 19



Are you the friend whose schtick is sharing random factoids? Or, the one with the most fun party conversations? Well, calling all you trivia fans and friends alike to come join us in St. Alphonsus' Festival Hall (basement) on Saturday, October 19 from 5 PM-8 PM because St. Alphonsus YAM Trivia is back!

The cost of tickets is $25 per person (it is a fundraiser!).
Teams of 5-6 people can register individually or together.
For anyone registering as a team, simply list the names of everyone in the "Comments" section of the GiveCentral link, during your purchase. Light refreshments, beer and wine are included in the event cost. We will have prizes for 3rd, 2nd and 1st place winning teams.
Don't know anyone or don't have 6 people on your team?
Fear not! You may also register individually or in a smaller group (2-4 people). We will assign you to a team. All are welcome!
***Please note: pre-registration with payment through the GiveCentral link is required to attend. No walk-ups will be allowed since we have teams.
Register online at www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/39/event/38222

National Migration Week

The World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) is an opportunity for global churches and the Catholic faithful to engage in prayer, reflection, and action on behalf of our brothers and sisters who are forced to flee their homes. The theme for this year's WDMR is ***"God Walks with His People"***, which "focuses on the itinerant dimension of the Church, with special attention to migrant brothers and sisters, who are a contemporary icon of the Church on the move." National Migration Week is a uniquely US-based celebration that builds on the ideas put forward in WDMR and shaped accordingly to American public. **In 2024, we celebrate National Migration Week September 23-29, culminating with WDMR that Sunday the 29th.**

One lens through which we can understand the theme used for this year's migration message and its importance for us as Catholics is through the idea of accompaniment.

Accompaniment and the Catholic Church

In his latest message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees, Pope Francis emphasizes the theme "*God Walks with His People.*" This theme serves as a reminder that God consistently accompanies His people throughout history, guiding and providing for them, much like He did for the Israelites. Pope Francis draws a parallel between the experiences of migrants today and the ancient Israelites' journey from slavery to freedom, highlighting the similar challenges of oppression and hardship they face.

Pope Francis states, "Like the people of Israel in the time of Moses, migrants often flee from oppression, abuse, insecurity, discrimination, and lack of opportunities for development. Similar to the Jews in the desert, migrants encounter many obstacles on their path: they are tried by thirst and hunger; they are exhausted by toil and disease; "they are tempted by despair."

As Catholics, we are commanded by Jesus (MT 25) to provide support and care for the most vulnerable among us, including the naked, the hungry, the impressed, and the stranger. Through this outreach, we are called to accompany migrants at all stages of their journey: from the point of origin, through transit, and to their final destination. More events around the Archdiocese for National Migration week can be found at https://pvm.archchicago.org/es/human-dignity-solidarity/immigration-ministry/national-migration-week



Pastoral Migratoria Nacional | Semana Nacional de la Migración 2024

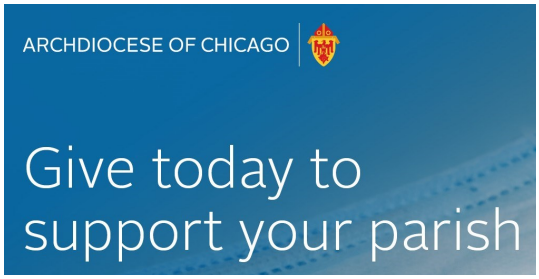
ORACIÓN

"Dios camina con Su pueblo"

Actualizar la Oracion Dios, Padre todopoderoso,
somos tu Iglesia peregrina
que camina hacia el Reino de los Cielos.
Cada uno de nosotros habita en su propia patria,
pero como si fuéramos extranjeros.
Toda región extranjera es nuestra patria,
sin embargo, toda patria es para nosotros tierra extranjera.
Vivimos aquí en la tierra,
pero tenemos nuestra ciudadanía en el cielo.
No permitas que nos constituyamos en amos
de la porción del mundo
que nos has dado como hogar temporal.
Ayúdanos a no dejar nunca de caminar
junto con nuestros hermanos y hermanas migrantes
hacia la morada eterna que tú nos has preparado.
Abre nuestros ojos y nuestro corazón
para que cada encuentro con los necesitados
se convierta también en un encuentro con Jesús,
Hijo tuyo y Señor nuestro.
Amén.

Stewardship—First Fruits

An Act of Humility



One afternoon in 1953, reporters and officials gathered at a Chicago railroad station to await the arrival of the 1952 Nobel Peace Prize winner. He stepped off the train – a giant of a man, six-feet-four, with bushy hair and a large mustache.

As cameras flashed, city officials approached him with hands outstretched and began telling him how honored they were to meet him. He thanked them politely and then, looking over their heads, asked if he could be excused for a moment. He walked through the crowd with quick strides until he reached the side of an elderly black woman who was struggling as she tried to carry two large suitcases.

He picked up the bags in his big hands and, smiling, escorted the woman to a bus. As he helped her aboard, he wished her a safe journey. Meanwhile, the crowd tagged along behind him. He turned to them and said, "Sorry to have kept you waiting."

The man was Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the famous missionary-doctor, who had spent his life helping the poorest of the poor in Africa. A member of the reception committee said to one of the reporters, "That's the first time I ever saw a sermon walking."

Taken from Humility, *31 Reflections on Christian Virtue*

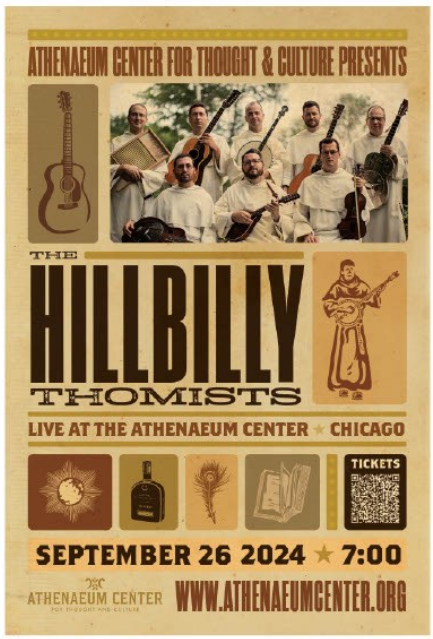
Robert F. Morneau

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*



The Hillbilly Thomists *September 26*

This Bluegrass band of Dominican friars will be returning to the Athenaeum Center on a rare US tour! They first graced our stage in 2022, and brought the house down with their tight harmonies and finger-pickin' melodies.

Since then, they've been busy doing what Dominicans do best—preaching, teaching, and serving. Despite living on different continents, they manage to keep making music; and just this month their newly-released album, *Marigold*, rose quickly to #2 on the Billboard Bluegrass Chart!

Gather your friends and family, and join us for a lively, soulful, and inspiring evening of Bluegrass & Americana music!

TICKETS: www.athenaeumcenter.org OR
CALL: (312)820-6250 / LOCATION: 2936 N Southport Ave
Use promo code ALPHONSUS at checkout to receive 10% off, and 10% will be donated to your parish.

ACTC is Hiring!

The Athenaeum Center for Thought & Culture is looking for the right candidate for two open positions; Box Office Associate and Event and Sales Manager. Please go to their site athenaeumcenter.org/careers/ for full details and to apply.



JOIN THE ALPHONSUS FAMILY!

2025-26 APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

LEARN MORE

At Alphonsus, we offer our students a rigorous academics, supported by an arts-integrated curriculum, within a supportive Catholic community.

Please join us to discuss important application information, make introductions, and tour the school.

OPEN HOUSE DATES

- Friday, September 20, 2024 at 9am
- Monday, October 21, 2024 at 9am
- Friday, November 15, 2024 at 9am
- Monday, December 9, 2024 at 9am
- Monday, January 13, 2025 at 9am
- Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 10:30am

AACA | Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts

Register Now!

Open Houses are designed for adults and require advance registration for security purposes. We also invite families to schedule private tours to better suit their needs. We look forward to meeting you!

Reach out to our Director of Admissions for more information:

Madeleine Durkin
mdurkin@alphonsusacademy.org

ALTAR SERVERS WANTED

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to serve at the altar for Mass?
It might be God calling you to be an altar server. TRY IT!!!

TRAINING SESSION FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS
Monday, September 23, 2024 at 6:30pm

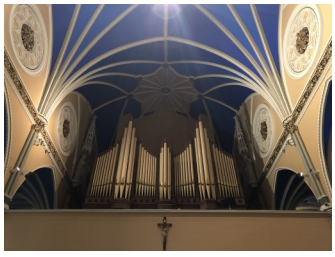
FALL MEETING (ICE CREAM SOCIAL)
FOR CURRENT AND NEW ALTAR SERVERS
Monday, September 30, 2024 at 6:30pm

If you are interested and cannot make it to the new altar server training or our first fall meeting, please talk to Fr. Raya for accommodations. To be an altar server you must be in 4th-12th grade, have received First Holy Communion, and commit to serving at least one Sunday Mass per month.

For questions contact Fr. Jesus Raya (Fr. Chuy) jraya@stalphonsuschicago.church

Tocctober

Music Program at Mass for October!



A few years back, during the heart of the pandemic, I played a major work of Bach after Mass each week in October. I called it “Bachtober.” I heard from many people how much they enjoyed these 3-6 minute mini-concerts after Mass.

Playing on the same idea, this year I propose “Tocctober,” a combination of the word toccata with the month of October.

What is a toccata? A toccata is a musical composition that is written for the organ or other keyboard instrument. Toccatas are known for their fast-moving passages, full chords, dramatic runs, and intense harmonies. The word "toccata" comes from the Italian word toccare, which means "to touch.” Thus, a toccata is a piece that features the performer’s “touch” at the instrument: usually a fast and exciting perpetual-motion extravaganza!

I will play four famous toccatas over the weeks of October: the *Toccata in F* by J.S. Bach, a fierce *Toccata in B minor* by Eugène Gigout, the beloved and jovial *Toccata from Symphony V* by Charles-Marie Widor, and just in time for All Hallows Eve, and the Feasts of Saints and Souls, the *iconic Toccata and Fugue in D minor* by J.S. Bach.

I will play these works at all Masses during the four Sundays of October.

See you then…after Mass!

Brian Bloye
Music Director

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Quick chill beverage

Let’s say you just made it to your family cookout. Everybody is having a good time but the drinks aren’t cold. Sure, you can throw the beverages in the freezer for half an hour to chill them out, but who wants to wait that long?

In order to quickly cool down your beer or other beverage, simply wet a napkin before wrapping it around the drink’s container. With the container wrapped in wet paper, set the beverage in the freezer for 15 minutes. The napkin will accelerate the cooling process, thus leading you to a frosty drink in a fraction of the time.

Safe Families for Children



Please join us in exploring the plight of urban poverty this October! All parishioners and community members are welcome.

Light breakfast will be provided.

9 AM-10:30 AM
Saturday, October 19th

St. Alphonsus Rectory, 2nd Floor Common Room

To register, please scan the QR code or visit:
www.eventbrite.com/e/st-alphonsus-safe-families-for-children-poverty-training-tickets-1015683375317

Faith at the Movies— October 8 at 7 PM; one night only!

Spirit Juice Studios is proud to present ***"Heart of a Servant: The Father Flanagan Story,"*** a documentary that tells the inspirational story of Fr. Edward Flanagan, founder of Boys Town, who is currently on the path to sainthood. Fr. Flanagan devoted his life to serving vulnerable children and standing up for justice. His legacy, rooted in his deep Catholic faith, is an inspiration to all of us, and his cause for canonization continues to gain momentum. Fr. Flanagan is not only a model of holiness but also a uniquely American saint, one who represents the potential for sanctity in our own land. Narrated by *The Chosen's* Jonathan Roumie.

In a time when Catholic voices and stories need more representation in mainstream media, it is crucial for the Catholic community to rally behind projects like this one. Supporting Catholic media allows our stories of faith, courage, and love to reach broader audiences, and Spirit Juice is honored to bring Fr. Flanagan's story to the big screen. Get your tickets at www.fathomevents.com/events/heart-of-a-servant/



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/Parish Secretary

School Staff

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