Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

AUGUST 21, 2022: TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



And people will come from the east and the west
and from the north and the south
and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. (Lk 13:29)

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8:30 AM
Wed 6:00 PM
Sun 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM (Spanish) and 5:00 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 AM–12:00 PM
**Or call one of the priests for an appointment*

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Wednesday 5:50 PM

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30
Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

Please Pray for the Sick

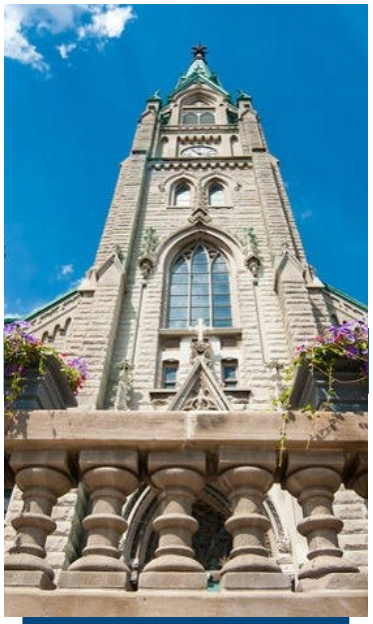
Dorothy Bonds
Joanna Ravelingeen
Jamie Wallett
Sandra Wilson
Monica Alexis Rios
Margaret Nichols
Maria Eisler
Tessa Sergent
Carolina Goldie
Diane Mareci
William Ahearn
Emilia Hurtado
Bernard Zapp
Rachel Schopp
Mike Madigan
David Birks
Celeste Soult
Carol Reckwerdt
Magdalena Gonzalez
Michael Aldape
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Janet Horvat
Frank G. Bauer
Al Corleone
Mary Perisin
Edward Marsalek
Rita Longnecker
Cheryl Nester-Detweiler
Marla Alicea

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,218

Offertory for 8/14: $12,142

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



WEDDING BANNS

Rebeca Medina and Chanthanet Kounthapanya

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Margaret Clarke
Robert R. Miller
Jay MacIntire

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Luca Lorenzo Morales
Hayden Sampson Decker
Charlie Ryan Richardson
Louisa Francis Roberta Barr

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. That can be a great way to re-center yourself in God and experience the peace that only Christ can give.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 21
9:00 AM Pike Family
11:00 AM +Marta Madrid
12:30 PM +Ana Figueroa
5:00 PM +Jack Micelli

Monday, August 22
8:30 AM Patrick J. Breen

Tuesday, August 23
8:30 AM 60th Wedding Anniversary— Rose and Bill Gavin

Wednesday, August 24
6:00 PM +Bart Lipowski

Thursday, August 25
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, August 26
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Sunday, August 28
9:00 AM +Eileen Enright
11:00 AM +Melissa Bird
12:30 PM +Elisa Suazo Benavides
5:00 PM +Jack Micelli



20th Anniversary Oktoberfest!

September 23, 24, and 25th

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

Fletcher Rockwell, Rod Tuffcurls
Ipop, The Bratwurst Brothers

Saturday

AACA Battle of the Bands Winner
Blackberry Jam, To The 9's
Stache
16 Candles (80's Biggest Hits)

School of Rock
Sgt. Sauerkraut's Polka Band
The Indigos, Polkaholics

Sunday

KINDERFEST! JUMBOTRON SCREEN ON SOUTHPORT AVE TO WATCH THE GAMES!

Craft Beer Tasting

Friday 6-8 PM, Saturday 5-7 PM
Select from dozens of options from local breweries, seasonal selections, and international favorites.
Tickets on sale soon!

Brewmaster Package

Brewmasters will receive a commemorative 1L stein from Germany, brats, free admission for 4, 2 for 1 beer, Oktoberfest T-Shirts, Hat and more!
Packages on sale soon!

PROST!

Faith Formation

Register Your Child(ren) for Religious Education! Catechists Needed!



Registration for our Religious Education program is now open for the 2022-2023 school year for grades 1st-8th on Tuesday nights at 6:15 PM. Parent orientation is September 20 and classes will begin on September 27. Please register at the link on the front page of our parish website. Visit our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education for more information.

Each year, St. Alphonsus joyfully educates the children of our parish in their Catholic faith. If you would like to spend more time with children, strengthen the faith bonds in our families or enjoy serving in our parish—please consider volunteering as a catechist for our religious education program! We'd love to talk to you and no experience is necessary :) There are training opportunities and support as you get started and throughout your time of service. Contact our RE Coordinator Erica Cook, ecook@stalphonsuschicago.church for more information.

Are You Ready To Become Catholic?

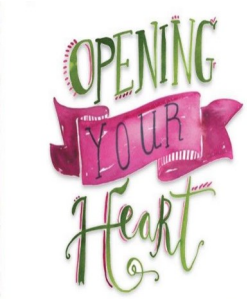
Registration is open for The Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) Each year we are blessed with several individuals who desire to enter and learn more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA program is the study of the Catholic Faith and the process of introduction into the faith community.

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

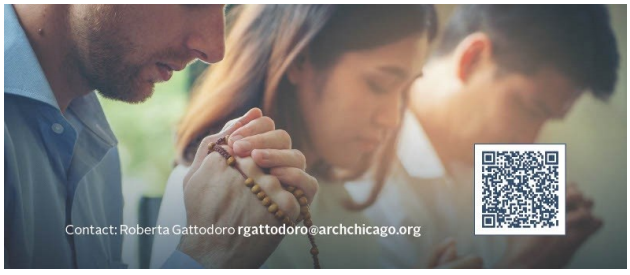
Walking With Purpose— Summer Prayer Group



Are you looking for a way to refuel and be refreshed, make authentic connections with other women, and learn more about God? It's time to come back to community! Our mission at Walking With Purpose is to help every Catholic woman and girl in America encounter Jesus Christ through our Bible studies.

Walking With Purpose summer group will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM in the St. Alphonsus Common Room in the rectory. We will come together to share our intentions and pray the rosary. All women are welcome! Please join us on September 13 to pray in community. For more info, contact suecombes@hotmail.com

Samuel Group— Discernment for Young Adults



Do you ever wonder how to make a good decision according to God's will? Join us for a discernment group specifically geared toward young adults (ages 19–35). Here you will discuss all kinds of discernment—if you are called to consecrated life, married life or single life, to a certain career or city, and more. The goal of this group is to help you, and in some cases your significant other, know yourself, Jesus and your role within the Church. These discernment groups will take place monthly over the course of seven months at St. Alphonsus Parish. At each session, you will listen to talks, have time for small group sharing, and have the opportunity for Mass, Confession and Adoration. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet individually with a spiritual director while doing this course. This group starts meeting **Sunday September 18** from 1–5 PM. Register at bit.ly/3AJRkqs

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

Praise and Adoration
Friday, August 26 at 7:30 PM



Spend time with our Lord in praise and adoration in the church. We'll spend the first 15 minutes in silent adoration, and then musicians will lead worship in song. The hour will conclude with benediction, and fellowship at Lincoln Tap down the street after!

*Want to sing/play an instrument with us? Come to the lower church early (6:30 PM) to run the songs with the music team! Or contact Patrick Doherty on Facebook.

Cocktails After Mass



Meet at St. Al's Veranda after 5 PM Mass Sunday, August 28 and we'll walk over to Lincoln Tap Room at 3010 N. Lincoln Ave. for some drinks and socialization.

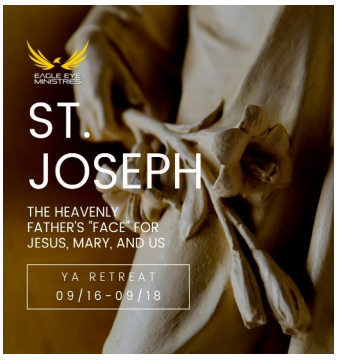
Gallagher Way Movie Night
Wednesday, August 31 at 6:00 PM



Our Young Adult Ministry is organizing a fun movie night to Gallagher Way outside Wrigley Field! The movie screening will be *Almost Famous* and this event is free of charge. More info for this and all YAM events can be found at www.stalphonsuschicago.org/young-adult-ministry or reach out to us at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com

Philosophy Forum— Tues Evenings

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



Young Adult Retreat— Sept 16-18

Eagle Eye Ministries is excited to invite you to its annual young adult retreat for the Chicagoland area! All young adults 18-35 are invited to their annual young adult retreat. See more details and register at https://buff.ly/3PsMmlY

Led by Fr. Hugh Mary of the Community of St. John, the weekend will include Mass, Adoration, Confession, Intellectual Formation, and Community. Spend time in prayer, reflection, and fellowship while learning about St. Joseph and how he can be a beacon of holiness for us on our journey towards heaven.

More News and Events

Summer Mission Appeal



This Sunday, St. Alphonsus is pleased to host a visit from Fr. Bob Miller, CssR, a representative of the Catholic Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya. The summer Missionary Cooperation Plan is an opportunity for our parish to learn about, support and be inspired by the work of missionaries ministering in another part of the world.

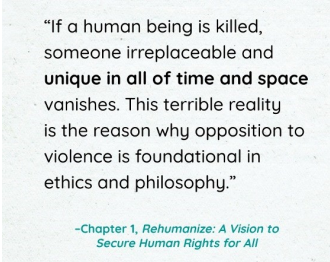
Please pray for missionaries worldwide who empower local leaders to form and nourish communities of faith where the Church is young, struggling, or economically strained. If you are able, place a donation to support this mission cause in the second collection basket. Please make checks out to the parish. Or you can make a donation online at WeAreMissionary.org/give.

Send Father Bauer Your Prayers and Petitions!



From Aug 26 to Sept 4, our pastor Rev. Steven Bauer will be going on a pilgrimage through Spain as he and the rest of the Theology of the Body team delve deeper into the mystics of Spain and Mary's hopeful promises revealed at Fatima! All parishioners are encouraged to submit prayers and petitions at bit.ly/BauerPrayers

Rehumanize: Pro-Life Book Discussion



This Thursday, August 25 at 6:30 PM in the Festival Hall, St. Alphonsus welcomes author and activist Aimee Murphy for a reading/ discussion. With the launch of her challenging and inspirational book, *Rehumanize: A Vision to Secure Human Rights for All,* Murphy will confront our polarized culture with a call to consistency, authenticity, and compassion for our fellow humans by inviting our community to engage with these heavy issues in a way that rehumanizes. You can learn more at www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-rehumanize-book-launch-author-lecture-book-signing-tickets-403344242487

Recovery Programs at St. Alphonsus

If you or loved ones you know have a problem with alcohol/substance abuse, please seek help! Our parish hosts two AA programs. Daily Reflections meet on Monday mornings at 8:30 AM in the rectory Common Room. Contact Lauren Merrill Sammis, lauren.merrill@live.com for more information. There is also a Young People's Big Book AA group that meet Sunday evenings at 7 PM in the Festival Hall. You can contact one of the coordinators, Samuel, samuelaaronmosley@gmail.com for more info.

Safe Families for Children Ministry

Summer Baby Registry! Now through Aug 28



The Safe Families for Children ministry is holding a summer baby registry to stock up our Festival Hall supply closet with essential baby & toddler items, **and we need YOUR help to purchase these items!**

Baby Registry link: bit.ly/babyregistry22

Registry items range from kids' toothpaste ($2) to pack-and-plays ($110), and include everything in between.

Safe Families for Children is a national, Christian nonprofit organization that connects families in crisis, often single mothers with no support system, with local "Safe Families" that volunteer to host children while the parent(s) get back on their feet.

The items donated via this baby registry will be available to parishioner families who volunteer as "host families" for local children, and will return home with the children at the end of hosting. Taking in a child is challenging, and many children arrive at their host family's home with few possessions. Our ministry supports our "host families" with whatever material items the children need during their stay (clothes, diapers, toys, etc.), reducing the financial burden of hosting a child.

Thank you for your generosity! God Bless! Learn more at safe-families.org or contact us at safefamiliesstals@gmail.com

Catholic Charities

St. Martin de Porres Society Inaugural Event
"Putting Faith Into Action: Becoming Builders of a Better World"

All are invited to this special event as ACTC welcomes Bishop Robert Barron (Live) and Father James Martin, S.J. (via video conference) in a conversation about the needs of our region, nation and world, and how each of one of us can address these needs by putting faith into action today. Sally Blount, President and CEO of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago will moderate.

Wednesday, September 28
The Athenaeum Center for Thought and Culture
2936 N. Southport Ave.
Doors open at 5:45 PM
Program begins at 6:30 PM with a reception to follow.





Come to reconnect with friends or make new ones as we inspire each other to live our faith in new ways.

A ticket is required to attend this event. Please RSVP online at athenaeumcenter.org/events/2022/catholic-charities/ to reserve your general admission seat. A suggested donation of $50 per person ($25 for young professionals) is encouraged. For more information, please contact communications@catholiccharities.net.

The St. Martin de Porres Society is a forum for dialogue and debate at the intersection of economic growth, social justice, the mission of Charity, and the practice of mercy. It serves as a convener of partners, advocates, and champions of Catholic Charities and our broader community, providing opportunities for intellectual discovery and deep conversation about the needs of our region, nation, and world, and the power of faith in meeting those needs. Together, we can inspire each other to live our faith in new ways, through greater education, regular service with intention, and advocacy on behalf of our neighbors in need.

Natural Family Planning

The Natural Blueprint

Are you interested in learning about a natural method to avoid or achieve pregnancy? Apply today to join The Natural Blueprint's next cohort, beginning September 21. Space is limited.

The Natural Blueprint is a six-week virtual course that introduces you to the basic principles of a scientifically proven, natural method to help you achieve your goals - whether you want to learn more about your reproductive health, prevent pregnancy, or achieve pregnancy. We also discuss hormonal condition clues that can be discovered through charting, basic lifestyle changes that can support hormone balance, and the latest technology that helps make charting cycles easier.

Interested in joining? Apply today at thenaturalblueprint.org or reach out to thenaturalblueprint@gmail.com to learn more!

Stewardship—First Fruits

Participate in Electronic Giving

GiveCentral.org is a secure online system where parishioners can create individual giving profiles with payment options ranging from direct debit (ACH) to credit cards.

Benefits for you
- Increased options and accessibility
- Review your giving history in real time
- Keep your gifts secure

Benefits for St. Alphonsus
- Saves money on envelopes & postage
- Helps predict cash flow for budgeting
- Better collection of payment history

Go to www.stalphonsuschicago.org & click on the Donate tab at the top of the page.
Questions? Contact Mario Serrano at mserranostals@gmail.com

Stewardship Reflection

"For behold, some are last who will be first and some are first who will be last." *Luke 13:30*

Our cultural standards are different from God's standards. We often rank people by what they have, how powerful they are, or how successful they are. Jesus reminds us that God will not judge us by the same earthly standards. When God asks you, "What have you done with the gifts I have given you?" How will you respond?

Stewardship of Time

Most people admit that it's difficult to find a quiet moment to spend with God. Family and work responsibilities sometimes seem to take up every spare second. Unless we're good stewards of our time, prayer just doesn't happen.

To become a more prayerful person, take inventory of how you spend the 168 hours in the week to find which things may be less important than regular prayer. During this stewardship renewal, join with other parishioners who are learning to rearrange their schedule to make "first things first."

"For Catholics, stewardship of time should include setting aside periods for family prayer, for the reading of Scripture, for visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and for attendance at Mass during the week whenever this is possible."
From the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on Stewardship

Stewardship of Talent

Are you serving in a ministry at St. Alphonsus? With hectic work schedules and family life, we all need time to relax and exercise — but we also need to rejuvenate ourselves through service. Reaching out in love to others, while sometimes difficult, is nonetheless spiritually enriching. In fact, it is a necessary part of our Catholic life.

Perhaps you could become an usher, sing in the choir, or simply serve food and punch at a parish reception. No matter how big or small your contribution, our parish just isn't the same without you! The best part is, when we serve together, we not only form friendships with one another, but we also deepen our relationship with God Himself. Now that's stewardship!

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service, but the same Lord; there are different workings, but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit." 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Stewardship of Treasure

Have you ever created a family or personal budget? At the top of most people's list of expenses are big items like the mortgage, car payments and tuition. Other expenses are food, credit card payments and entertainment. But how about the Church? Does St. Alphonsus have a place in your family's budget? Throughout Scripture, we are taught to give to God our "first fruits" or the "choicest portion." In modern speech, we might say that the first "line item" in the family budget should be returning a portion of our income to God. Both symbolically and in actuality, this is a powerful expression of God's place in your life. *"Where your treasure is, there also lies your heart"* (Matthew 6:21).

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God."
2 Corinthians 9:10-11

Ten Commandments of a Wife & Mother



"When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good and not evil, all the days of her life." – *Proverbs 31:10-12*

- **Develop an intimate**, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He is your primary love. Allow Him to move you, forgive you, speak to you, guide you, heal you and fill you. Try to keep a spiritual journal of the inspirational messages you sense from Him, even if the entries are just short, encouraging and inspirational sentences; share these with your husband.
- **Keep your priorities** in order – Jesus, your family, your work, etc. The best thing you can do for your husband is to love Jesus and see Him in your husband, despite any faults and weaknesses your husband might have. The best thing you can do for your children is to let them see you love their father. There is great dignity in being your best wife, mother, woman. Develop a weekly schedule setting aside primary time for Jesus, for your husband and for each child.
- **Realize that you** are the "heart" of the home and that your husband is the "head" of the home. Both head and heart work together for the benefit of the whole body, which in this regard is the family. Even on a purely natural level, one's head and heart work together for the benefit of the body: the heart pumps blood to the head, the head processes it and is able to function and work rationally. It is your primary duty and responsibility to work with your husband and support him with your love. Love is your greatest gift.
- **Let your husband** know the problems and difficulties that you and your children are experiencing in striving to live strong Christian lives amidst a secular society. Remember that Christians are called to be "in the world, but not of the world." Work with God and your husband toward solutions. For example, violence and sexual promiscuity dominate many TV programs today. Decide with your husband which television programs you will allow the family to watch. You and your husband must be disciplined in this regard, too. For example, sports tend to be overemphasized in some households. Similarly, soap operas may glamorize immoral and illicit relationships.
- **Pray with your** husband and regularly so. Share your insights with him. If you keep a spiritual journal, share it with him. Ask and allow the Lord to sanctify and purify your relationship with your husband. Ask the Lord for the strength to love your husband with the same love and purity He has for you and His Church.
- **Spend quality time** with each child, loving each one fully as he or she needs. There is nothing to compare with a mother's love in a child's life. You will intuitively know each child's needs and problems. Treat each child in a unique and personal way. The power of a mother's affirming love is tremendously overwhelming and something truly wonderful. Children need it. They require it for their full and proper development. Share openly with your children and allow them to be open with you. You should know their fears, worries and temptations. Pray daily for guidance and wisdom – both for yourself and for them. Dare to discipline with love and firmness.
- **Support your husband** in setting up a place for family devotions within your home. Encourage your family members at family devotions to place everything in God's hands – worries, fears, doubts, difficulties and temptations. Establish a family "Book of Petitions" similar to that which is found in your parish church and which family members can freely write in. Instill in them the Truth that God is really their Father and that the Blessed Virgin Mary is really their Mother. Instill in them, too, that the Holy Spirit is really present to each one of them, desiring to work actively in each one of their lives. Remind them that Jesus lives in their hearts, is speaking to them and is constantly loving them and is willing to forgive them. Foster the use of sacramentals among your family members.
- **Try to set** the tone in living a simple, humble and non-violent lifestyle. This is a challenge in the materialistic, pleasure-seeking and individualistic culture in which we live today. You are called to heroic virtue here – the very stuff for which a person is canonized a Saint. Movie stars, TV heroes and sports heroes are generally not the best role models for children. Keep watch over the songs your children are listening to and the posters they hang up in their bedrooms. This calls for wisdom on the part of both you and your husband – *and* firm, loving discipline and order from both of you.

Continued on page 10

- **Try to discern** with your children – *individually* – the call of the Lord upon each one of their lives. Each child is called to put God first and to serve Him with his or her whole heart. This is a difficult, yet heroic task in today's world. You can teach your children how to do it. Pray for the wisdom and know-how.
- **With your husband**, make Sunday truly the *Lord's Day* and a day of family togetherness. Encourage your family to receive frequently the Sacrament of Confession and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. Help to ensure the celebrating of the Sacraments by your family members on a regular basis. The Sacrament of Confession should be partaken of at least monthly and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist should be partaken of at least weekly. Take your family to Sunday Mass *precisely as a family*. Do not give your teenagers an option here. If you do, you are not fulfilling your vocation as a mother. Again, do everything in your power to make Sunday the Lord's Day and a day of family togetherness; that is, a day of prayer, relaxation and recreation. This calls for creativity, imagination and frequent planning in advance. Seek input from your husband and older children in this regard. Remember, any good and wholesome recreation is really a "re-creation" of both body and soul.

Prayer For Our Family

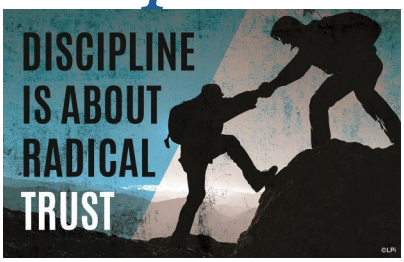
Heavenly Father, most good and gracious God, sustain our family in Your love. Make our family home a place where holiness and love abound. In our daily actions, help each one of us to learn to be more like Jesus. Aid our family to imitate the Holy Family of Nazareth: Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Help our family to learn from the good example of those families that especially please You in their way of life. May our family members learn to give good example always by living lives in true Christian faith, hope and love. Assist our family in learning to bear pain and suffering as Jesus did. Aid our family members, too, in overcoming difficulties and carrying their crosses. Help our family life to lead to Jesus Christ, the Source of all Truth and happiness. We ask this through Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. AMEN.

Family Prayer to Our Blessed Mother Mary

Holy Mary, Virgin Mother of God, we seek your patronage and we invoke you under your title "Queen of Families."

O Blessed Mother, you were conceived without sin. May every family choose you this day as the model for their household, along with St. Joseph, your most loving, chaste and caring spouse. Through your Immaculate Conception, preserve all families from every disaster, from all violence and from every misfortune. O Holy Virgin, bless and protect all families, strengthen them in trial and keep them from every evil. AMEN.

Gospel Meditation



The serious disciple knows the necessity and value of discipline. Thinking of discipline as something punitive in nature, we underscore its place in our spiritual lives. Discipline is really about a radical trust in God and his guidance. "When you are conducted by a guide who takes you through an unknown country at night across fields where there are no tracks, by his own skill, asking no advice from anyone, giving no inkling of his plans, what choice do you have but to give yourself completely to his guidance? If you are convinced that he is a good guide, you must have faith in him and abandon yourself to his care (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)."

If someone wants to be physically fit, they readily find a competent trainer who sets them on a rigorous schedule. Determined to reach their goals, they sacrifice personal pleasure and trust in his guidance. Why should it be any different with God? In order to remain true to the way Jesus places before us, we have to listen, learn, and be willing to change. Falling in love with God and maintaining that relationship requires an investment of time, energy, and hard work. Putting personal preferences aside in pursuit of the Gospel and giving proper attention to our spiritual lives is challenging work. At first, "all discipline seems a cause not for joy but for pain, yet later it brings the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who are trained by it (Hebrews)."

"What God does is essentially good. It does not need to be reformed or controlled…If you would live according to the Gospels, give yourself completely and simply to the action of God (Jean-Pierre de Caussade)." Submission to the holy will of God is not a submission to a set of pre-ordained set of circumstances. Rather, it is an abandonment and trust in God's creative, life-giving, and salvific power. God brings light out of darkness and life out of death. Nurturing this bond of trust and seeking God in all things creates an intimate and particular relationship and bond between our Creator and us. When He comes, there will be no issue with us recognizing Him or Him recognizing us. We will have met before.

Contact

Sacramental Information

Contact our parish office (773) 525-0709 for information regarding celebrating sacraments including Baptisms (infant and adult), Reconciliation (confession), Eucharist (Communion), Confirmation, Marriage, Anointing of the Sick. For information regarding Funerals, please first contact the funeral director of your choice to begin making arrangements.

How to Offer a Mass Intention

Did you ever notice that every Mass said here at St. Alphonsus is offered for a special intention? The entire congregation prays for that intention during the petitions (Prayers of the Faithful) when we say, "For those who have died, and for the intention of this Mass: (named intention)"

You can make a Mass Intention request here. Masses are often offered for family, friends and relatives that have died. Praying for the dead is a Spiritual Work of Mercy. Offering a Mass for someone that has died is an especially comforting gesture to the family. Mass can also be offered to commemorate joyful occasions and to give thanks to God for blessings received.

The customary offering for a Mass here is $15. However, any amount that you would like to offer is completely acceptable. You can request Masses by visiting the Parish Office during office hours or calling the Parish Office at (773) 525-0709.

You can ***register in the parish*** by coming to the rectory office or going online at *www.stalphonsuschicago.org*. The advantage to registering is that we know who you are and can better plan our programs by knowing whom we serve.

Want *to find out what is happening in the young adult community?* Join the St. Al's Young Adult Listserv. We send out monthly emails to let people know about our upcoming events. To register for the listserv, contact *stalphonsusyam@gmail.com*

The ***Knights of Columbus*** are the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. For more information, visit *www.stalphonsusknights.com*

Our parish has received permission to once again host important sacraments. Please be patient as the pandemic created a scheduling backlog regarding Baptisms and Weddings. You can find more info at:

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/baptism

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/marriage

St. Alphonsus Social Media

Choose to participate in meaningful engagement! Having an attitude of engagement challenges us to love our digital neighbor as ourselves. You can find St. Alphonsus' Facebook and Twitter by going to the parish website and clicking the icons at the footer of the page.

Directory

Parish Office

1429 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121
(P): 773-525-0709 | (F): 773-525-3238
www.stalphonsuschicago.org
parish@stalphonsuschicago.church

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM— 4:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM— 1:00 PM Tue, Thurs

School Office

1439 W Wellington Ave, Chicago, IL 60657-4121
(P): 773-892-1397 | (F): 773-348-4829
www.alphonsusacademy.org

School Office Hours:

8:00 AM– 3:00 PM

Staff

Parish Staff

Rev. Steven Bauer, Pastor
Rev. Patrick Gorman, Associate Pastor
Brooks Robinson, Pastoral Associate
Brian Bloye, Director of Music and Organist
Erica Cook, Coordinator of Religious Education
Daniel Szymanski, Director of Operations
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kaitlin Holyk, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator

School Staff

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