Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 13, 2022: THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives." (Lk 12:17-19)

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: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19
Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 19:41-44
Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
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
Jane Christensen
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Janet Horvat
Frank G. Bauer
Al Corleone
Mary Perisin
Rita Longnecker
Cheryl Nester-Detweiler
Marla Alicea
Leon Wink
Judy Fredrickson

Joining St. Alphonsus Parish: St. Alphonsus welcomes all community members on their faith journey! Just moved in the area? Coming back to practicing our Catholic faith? You will want to learn about all the events going on at our parish. If you are not receiving our weekly parish newsletter in your email, contact Mario Serrano at mserranostals@gmail.com

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Rev. Donald Senior, C.P., President Emeritus and Chancellor of Catholic Theological Union

Adrian Rivera

Giving Update

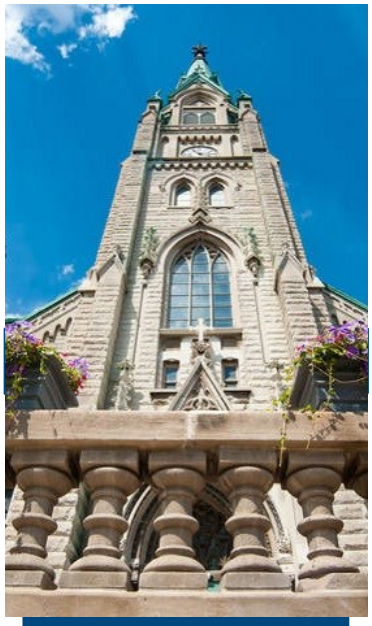
Weekly Budget Amount: $15,218

Offertory for 11/6: $12,590

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

Welcome to the Parish!

Jamie Schorer
Michael D'Andrea
Walter and Mary Guest
Rosemary Ngo
William and Lindsay Hoffman
Caroline Christie



WEDDING BANNS

Gracie Fernandez

and

Daniel Mueller

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Bernadette Helen Hui
Emma Elizabeth Engelman
Brianna and Trevor O'Rourke James
Madelyn and Daniel Strickland
Elizabeth and Patrick Philpott
Katie Hazen
Paul Davies

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 13
9:00 AM For All Living and Deceased Veterans
11:00 AM Colleen Pellino
12:30 PM +For All Souls in Purgatory
5:00 PM +Joaquin Meno
Angel Galan

Monday, November 14
8:30 AM +Nancy Marconi

Tuesday, November 15
8:30 AM +Judy Davis

Wednesday, November 16
6:00 PM Angel Galan
Antonio Manuel Casillas

Thursday, November 17
8:30 AM The O'Brien Family

Friday, November 18
8:30 AM +Lourdes Sanchez

Sunday, November 20
9:00 AM +Norman Enderle
+Alphonsus Venkus
11:00 AM Sharon Pellino
12:30 PM +For All Souls in Purgatory
5:00 PM +Helen Kam Kim Hui

News and Events

Mass of Hope & Healing for Those Who Have Suffered the Loss of a Child

Wednesday, November 16 at 6 PM



All parishioners are invited to join us for a special Mass for anyone who has lost a child through miscarriage, still-birth, accident, illness, or for those grieving due to an abortion. There will be specific prayers for healing and comfort offered during Mass for those who have experienced loss, as well as a special blessing for grieving parents at the end of Mass. Immediately following Mass, there will also be a special time of Eucharistic Adoration in which families can light a candle, inscribe the name of a child in a book of remembrance, or offer other personal prayers.

Cleaning Angels— Fall Service Event



Please join us on Saturday Nov. 19 from 9 AM to 10:30 AM as we help to clean and beautify our Saint Alphonsus Church! It is our duty as good Catholics to be of service to our faith community and our local parish!

- Adopt-A-Shrine: Your opportunity to serve the Lord in a unique way. Select a Shrine, Keep It Tidy and Clean, On Your Schedule or During Scheduled Cleaning Angels Events

Sign up at bit.ly/nov22stalsclean

Contact Coordinator Kelly Lovewell, kjlovewell@gmail.com for questions.

AACA– Christmas Card Art Contest



Continuing a new tradition started in 2021, our AACA students will be participating in an art contest for the next two weeks. Fr. Bauer and AACA principal Gerit McAllister will pick the winner on Monday, Nov 21. The winning Liturgy/Christmas themed design will be featured as the front cover of the St. Alphonsus Christmas card mailed out to all parishioners. Runner-Ups will be considered for the cover of the parish Christmas bulletin. We look forward to some amazing submissions from our talented school students!

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



Our faith community will be kicking off the holiday season in style with the annual lighting of the Lakeview Christmas tree on **Sunday November 20 after 5 PM Mass from 6-7:30 PM**!

Enjoy carols performed by our Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts students, FREE hot chocolate from our wonderful neighbor, S&G restaurant and more surprises! The festivities will take place directly outside the veranda of the church on the corner of Lincoln/Wellington/Southport.

Please take note that if you are driving to worship at Mass this evening, a small portion of Wellington will be blocked off for the safety of all attendees. This event is hosted by the Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by a SSA 27 grant. More details can be found at www.lakeviewroscoevillage.org/communitytreelighting

St. Alphonsus Giving Tree

Celebration of Giving
Unwrap the Spirit

Our parish will be taking part of the Celebration of Giving from Nov. 20 to Dec. 4. This wonderful service project annually '*makes Christmas*' for hundreds of those less fortunate. The Giving Tree tags will be in support of struggling families sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Women's Center. The tags will be available in the narthex starting Wednesday Nov. 16.

Alphonsus Scouts Troop 889 Wreath Fundraiser



Troop 889 is selling wreaths and other decorations online this season! Online ordering OPEN NOW w/ delivery starting Thanksgiving week. Order for yourself or as a gift. Enter a separate address and gift message for individual delivery of every item. Visit giftitforward.com to see Mickman Brother' beautiful collection of wreaths, door decorations, and centerpieces. Enter fundraising code **TR889IL001** to support Troop 889 ($8 per item ordered). Thank you for your support and Happy Holidays!

At the Athenaeum

Dante 360— Nov 18-20



Join us for a journey through the Divine Comedy, from Inferno to Paradiso. Featuring art historian, Elizabeth Lev, this event will explore the significance of the world's most famous epic poem and its author, the illustrious Dante Alighieri. Experience the depth and complexity of Dante's vision through a series of recitations, displays of visual art, and music provided by the vocal ensemble Schola Antiqua, which carry the soul alongside the pilgrim in his ascent to Paradise.

Support our parish and enjoy an evening of uplifting entertainment! Use our parish's promo code **ALPHONSUS**; get 10% off your ticket and 10% of your purchase will be donated to our parish community.

Tickets: www.athenaeumcenter.org/dante or (312) 820-6250.

Safe Families For Children

"Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause." ~ Isaiah 1:17 ESV

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

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



More News and Events

Annual Report Released Next Sunday

Our annual report will be publicized next Sunday, Nov. 20. This state of the parish report, released each November, provides a fiscal overview of both St. Alphonsus and our parish school, Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts. It also serves as a showcase for much of our good works, as well as noting some challenges moving forward. The annual reports from the last three years can be viewed on the parish website, stalphonsuschicago.org

Knights of Columbus— Dec. Food Drive

Our parish Knights council is running a Christmas food drive for Misericordia and Mission OLA on December 3rd and 4th. They will be collecting any non perishable items on Saturday the 3rd in the parking lot from 11AM-2PM and after every Mass at the back of church on Dec. 4. Your support is greatly appreciated!

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.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Please note that morning Mass on Thursday, Nov 24 will be at 9 AM, rather than the standard 8:30 AM.



Young Adult Ministry

BE SOCIAL
BE SPIRITUAL
BE CHARITABLE
BE INTELLECTUAL
BE CATHOLIC

The Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is one of St. Alphonsus' most active parish groups! YAM is led by a volunteer board and is guided by Pastoral Associate, Brooks Robinson. Stated simply, the ministry's mission is to help one another participate in Christ's mission, that we, as young adult Catholics, may be effective disciples, evangelists, and agents of charity in all that we do. YAM provides many social, intellectual, service, and spiritual opportunities for growth. Members range in age from 21-39 years old.

Our YAM group is made up of 4 main pillars, Spiritual, Intellectual, Service, and Social.

Visit the St. Alphonsus YAM Facebook page, *www.facebook.com/AlphonsusYoungAdult* or contact the YAM board at *stalphonsusyam@gmail.com*

Young Catholic Professionals St. Joseph Saturday Retreat— December 3



Join us on Saturday, December 3rd for the annual St. Joseph Saturday Retreat! This retreat is a FREE half-day retreat (open to all young adults in their 20s and 30s), where young adults are encouraged to "look upon work with the eyes of faith" and see God's presence in their vocations and professional lives. The retreat will include talks, group discussion, and prayer, and it will be a time to reflect on the life of YCP's patron saint, St. Joseph the Worker.

**This retreat is being sponsored by YCP Chicago, St. Mary of the Angels Young Adult Ministry, St. Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry, St. Clement Young Adult Community, and Holy Name Cathedral Young Adults.

This retreat will be hosted at St. Mary of the Angels, 1810 N. Hermitage Ave. from 9 AM to 1 PM. Morning Mass/Reconciliation available. To register and for more info, visit bit.ly/ycpdec2022

Welcoming Frater Charles Burris

Frater Charles Burris, O. Praem will be assisting at Mass at St. Alphonsus periodically for the immediate future and was kind to provide a quick bio introducing himself to the faithful! Feel free to say hello at Mass!

Frater Charles Burris, O. Praem is a simply professed religious of St. Norbert Abbey, of the Order of Canons Regular of Premontre, commonly referred to as the 'Norbertines.' Charles grew up in Shawano, WI, before joining St. Norbert Abbey in De Pere just outside Green Bay. Charles has spent the last three years living, studying, and ministering in Chicago as he discerns solemn vows and ordination to the priesthood. Charles has a biology and religious studies degree from St Norbert College and is currently pursuing graduate degrees in divinity and systematic theology at Catholic Theological Union. Charles has worked as a high school teacher for his community, along with completing an internship at the Mayo Clinic in clinical pastoral education.



A few of the things Charles enjoys doing are cycling, especially along the lakeshore trail, gardening to cultivate both food and beauty, and playing strategy games, whether on PC or as board games. Before entering religious life, Charles was a three-time division world champion snowmobile racer, competing in cup and championship races in both the United States and Canada. One of Charles' greatest interests, whether it be books, movies, philosophy, or in just about any way, is the interplay between faith and science and the subsequent moral, theological and ethical questions which emerge. This has taken the form of reading many a book and attending conferences and seminars on the relationship between the Catholic faith and science.

Faith Formation

Register Your Child(ren) for Religious Education!



Our Religious Education program is currently underway for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested in registering your child, please contact Erica Cook, ecook@stalphonsuschicago.church or visit our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education 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.

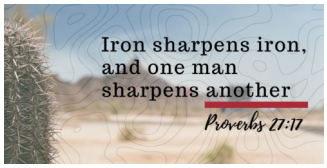
Adult baptism (and if applicable, Confirmation and First Holy Communion) takes place at the Easter Vigil (Evening before Easter Sunday). It is one of the highest celebrations in the Catholic Church's liturgical year!

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

Communio: A Men's Prayer Group

Men of the parish are invited to attend the Communio prayer group each Wednesday at 8 PM in the rectory chapel (come to the rectory side door at the southwest corner of the building at 7:55). It's a great way to take your spiritual life a step further as we enrich our knowledge of the faith, encourage each other in life's challenges, and grow in fortitude together. We chant the Liturgy of the Hours, share reflections on the upcoming Sunday gospel reading, followed by a social with refreshments, fellowship, and conversation. All men of the parish are invited. For questions or more info, contact James Morrow, jemseoul@hotmail.com

St. Alphonsus Men's Group
Thursday Evenings



St. Alphonsus Men's group meets Thursday nights to pray the liturgy of the hours, have fellowship, and to propose challenging topics to discuss.

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

We meet every Thursday night at 7 PM in the rectory. Food and drinks provided. All men are welcome, with most men being in their 20s and 30s. Access can be gained at the west facing rectory door in the parking lot. For questions or more information, contact Matt Duff at mduff527@gmail.com.

Walking With Purpose

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



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

As we look at Old Testament people and events, we'll encounter problems that only Christ will solve, needs that only He will satisfy, and promises that only He can deliver.

Beholding His Glory, a nine-lesson Bible study, reminds us how all Scripture points us to our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. We will learn to recognize and appreciate God's plan for our own lives, His awe-inspiring majesty, and His desire for personal intimacy with each one of us.
Questions? Contact Susan Combes at suecombes@hotmail.com

Gospel Meditation



Many make it their life's ambition to determine precisely when the world will end. By reading the signs of the times, consulting scripture, or looking to prophetic predictions that are sometimes centuries old, they claim a certain credibility in being able to do so. Is all that necessary to know? Even when his disciples pointedly ask him this question, Jesus does not directly answer. While the end will inevitably come, Jesus points out that there is a lot we need to do first: remain faithful, face persecution, endure suffering, face wars and insurrections, and give testimony. Human beings tend to focus their energies on the wrong kingdom. Consumed with all of the things we have built and seeking to preserve them, we forget that we belong to a different kingdom, the Kingdom of God.

All of the "stuff" we have constructed will be taken away. All that will remain is God's kingdom. Which kingdom do we prefer? We answer that question by honestly looking at where we invest most of our time and energy. What matters to us as we embrace a new moment or day in our lives? If our relationship with God, the strength and integrity of our souls, and the steadfastness of our character are of utmost importance, then it matters little when the physical end will come. We will have what we need to persevere, endure, and confront whatever comes our way. Jesus cautions that we do not allow ourselves to be overwhelmed or overly terrified by the agonies and disappointments of the world. Although we may be apprehensive and uncertain when faced with complex challenges, God is with us. We will receive the inspiration we need to forge ahead.

God is a God of salvation and new beginnings. Whether we consider the daily unfolding of our earthly lives or our eternal ones to come, God never leaves us with dead ends. There is always hope, and there is always something new to come. As Julian of Norwich reminds us, "God made us, God loves us and God keeps us." This wisdom holds true whether life is stable and profitable or challenging and uncertain. If we remember this simple truth, we will be ready regardless of the day or the hour.

Know Your Saints

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini
Feast Day November 13



You may recognize the name St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (1850 – 1917) as the first United States citizen to become a saint. Known for her deep trust in God, she was a courageous woman doing the work of Christ.

Her life of service began when she was first refused admission to the religious order which had educated her to be a teacher. Not one to take things face value, she instead focused her charitable work at the House of Providence Orphanage in Cadogno, Italy, and in 1877, professed vows there and took the religious habit.

When the bishop closed the orphanage in 1880, he named St. Frances Xavier Cabrini prioress of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. However, she had a dream she was determined to fulfill. Since her early childhood, she had dreamed of being a missionary in China. Pope Leo XIII, however, urged her to see the need in the west. She traveled with six of her fellow religious sisters to New York City, where they worked with the thousands of Italian immigrants residing there.

Although she experienced many disappointments during this time, she persevered. When she arrived in New York, the house intended to be her first orphanage in the United States was not available. Rather than come back to Italy and the order she oversaw, she instead found a way to establish that orphanage elsewhere — plus a few more. Throughout her life, she is known for founding 67 institutions dedicated to caring for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated, and the sick. She died of malaria in her own Columbus Hospital in Chicago in 1917.

Please Silence Your Cell Phones Upon Entering St. Alphonsus Church



While we love that you choose to worship with us at St. Alphonsus, please don't be THAT person and have your phone go off during the liturgy. It is distracting and disrespectful to our fellow faithful.

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Safety Tips

Here are some safety tips to use. Some are self-evident, some are not.

Knives. A sharp knife is a safe knife. With dull knives you must use uncontrollable force. Keep them sharp. Always cut toward a cutting board, not toward your thumb. There are no recipes that include human blood. Always put the knife down near the wall and parallel to the wall. That way it can not be where it will cut you or be where small children will be able to reach it.

Pots. All pots on the stove should have their handles turned away from the front of the stove. You can bump into the handles and scald yourself and the small children will not be able to reach them. When pouring liquids off of pasta or potatoes always pour away from yourself to avoid having the steam scald your face.

Keep the counters and floor clean. It will avoid having objects from slipping and tipping and avoid you from slipping and tipping on the floor.

Around the Archdiocese



Run w/ Team OLA in the 2023 Marathon!

Mission of Our Lady of the Angels (via the Franciscans of the Eucharist) provides **hope to the poor** on the west side of Chicago via food pantries supporting 3000 families a month, afterschool programs, seniors programs, community meals, and much more. **Consider running to support Mission OLA in the**....
Bank Of America Chicago Marathon (Oct 8, 2023)
Registration is OPEN!
Limited # of Guaranteed Entries- SIGN UP TODAY!
Benefits of joining:
-Guaranteed entries into the race!
-T-shirts, pre-race Mass & dinner, place to stay the night before the race, and more...
-Sr. Stephanie (2:53 marathoner, NCAA D1 cross-country and track athlete, as featured in Runner's World) can write a training plan for you
- (hopefully) Complimentary subscription to the Hallow App so you can pray while you run!
-Each team member will be paired with a member of the prayer team to pray for them!
-Please see missionola.com/marathon.html for details



Catholic Charities Junior Board— Nov. 17

Catholic Charities is hosting their official Junior Board Relaunch Celebration on Thursday, November 17th @ 6:00 PM at Catholic Charities, 721 N. LaSalle St.

Join for an evening of community and conversation as they share a renewed vision for the Junior Board and upcoming volunteer opportunities.

All are welcome, whether you've been a longstanding member of the Junior Board or have friends and colleagues who are eager to join and support the Catholic Charities mission.

Please RSVP by Wednesday Nov. 16 at bit.ly/ccjunboard22

Please email juniorboard@catholiccharities.net with any questions!

Stewardship— First Fruits

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

It is encouraging to see both new and familiar faces at our worship services. Throughout the year, many already support St. Alphonsus with your time, talent and treasure.

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

Sign up at *www.givecentral.org/location/39/event/527*

You can also text *Sunday* to (773) 570-7600

The Works of Mercy— Bearing Witness to Christ

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

- Feed the hungry.
- Give drink to the thirsty.
- Give alms to the poor.
- Visit the prisoners.
- Shelter the homeless.
- Visit the sick.
- Bury the dead.

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

- Admonishing the sinner.
- Instructing the ignorant.
- Counseling the doubtful.
- Comforting the sorrowful.
- Bear wrongs patiently.
- Forgiving injuries.
- Praying for the living and the dead.

God, the source of mercy, calls each of us to be merciful. One way to respond to that invitation that is deep inside each of us is to practice the works of mercy. Pope Francis reminds us, "We are called to show mercy because mercy has first been shown to us"

Traditionally, Catholic teaching has categorized the works of mercy as **corporal**, those addressing physical and material needs, and **spiritual**, those focusing on the spiritual and emotional needs of our neighbors.

In day-to-day life, there isn't such a well-defined separation between corporal and spiritual works of mercy; surely the kindness that prompts us to offer a drink to the thirsty touches the other emotionally and spiritually as well. At the same time, comforting the afflicted might actually require us to take care of some physical or material need of our neighbor.

Feed the Hungry

For many people around the globe, hunger is an ever-present reality of life. We do not have to travel to Asia, Africa, or South America to find people who do not know from where the next meal will come. According to the U.S Department of Agriculture, in 2014 members of 6.9 million households in the United States did not have adequate food at times.

What Can We Do?

- Make it a priority to not waste food; portion out smaller servings and be creative in using leftovers.
- Get involved locally by donating to or volunteering at the local food bank or soup kitchen.
- Support charitable organizations that work toward alleviating hunger by both directly supplying food and helping the poor gain tools, skills, and resources to be able to produce their own food.

Instruct the Ignorant

Education is often the key that unlocks the prison cell of poverty, whether we talk about mastering reading, writing, and math skills, or about our faith. Spiritual poverty is soul-crushing because it diminishes the religious imagination, which is necessary for living in Christian hope.

For Reflection

In what ways do you instruct others? Every year, catechists for our parish Religious Education program are welcomed. If teaching is not your personal calling, how might you still support educational efforts in our parish community?

Give Drink to the Thirsty

Water that is suitable for human consumption as a precious commodity. According to a World Health Organization and UNICEF report, 663 million people in the world do not have access to clean water, and more than 300 million people in Africa live in a water-scarce environment. Women and children spend 125 million hours each day collecting water. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations states that 70 percent of water resources are used for agriculture, irrigation, and food production.

What Can We Do?

- Be mindful of our own water consumption.
- Support organizations, like Water with Blessings, who equip, empower, and entrust mothers as agents of clean water in their own communities.
- Advocate for safekeeping forests, wetlands, and grasslands—nature's water filters— so our water sources may remain healthy and clean.

Admonish Sinners

Christ is our model for admonishing sinners. Throughout the Gospels he reminds people how to follow the path of righteousness and "go and sin no more." At the same time, Jesus warns religious leaders about putting heavy burdens on others while not lifting a finger to help (see Luke 11:46). So when we think about admonishing sinners, we need to keep in mind the way Jesus confronted sin and dealt with sinners—frequently employing parables and questions to engage people, with gentleness and conviction rather than finger wagging, with great credibility, and from the authenticity of an integrated life.

For Reflection

Who helps you to spot the plank in your own eye? How does your life call others to the way of Christ?

Clothe the Naked

Our closets are overflowing; we rent storage units to keep more of the stuff we've accumulated. Some estimates state that most of us use only about 20 percent of the clothes in our closet. Much of our clothing is created in developing countries. The textile industry in these countries employs mostly children and women who often work long hours under difficult circumstances.

What Can We Do?

- Care for our clothes so they may last longer.
- Teach children basic mending skills; how to sew back a button, sew together a seam, or adjust a hem.
- Support the local charitable store by donating clothing in good condition or by shopping there (don't forget business attire).

Counsel the Doubtful

Some people might feel that there is no room for questioning, for turning over a thorny issue of faith, so they walk away. Yet, a mature Christian is one who has wrestled with doubt, who has questioned, and emerged with deeply planted, well-rooted faith as a result. To show mercy is to create space and time to wrestle together but also to reassure and provide advice from our own experience: to lend an ear and to offer insight and care. The most powerful counsel any Christian can give is to bear witness to the joy of the Gospel by sharing God's presence and workings in one's life.

For Reflection

Who helped you with your questions of faith? How can you be present to others who need counsel?

Shelter the Homeless

Images of people displaced by war, persecution, or a confluence of hardships fill the media. We need not look further than our inner cities to encounter the homeless. When we are tempted to judge them, let us remember that judgment belongs to God. Our role is to make God's love present in the world through our words and deeds. Pope Francis reminds us that "the rule of life for Jesus' disciples must place mercy at the center. (*Misericordiae Vultus)*

What Can We Do?

- Learn about ways your parish or diocese is addressing homelessness.
- Volunteer at a shelter and get to know the people and their stories.
- Support programs, like Habitat for Humanity, that build affordable housing.

Visit the Sick and the Imprisoned, Comfort the Afflicted

These works of mercy draw attention to caring for members of our communities who are not visibly present, who might be otherwise forgotten. Perhaps the most needed gift in our time is being present to others, Curing might be beyond our ability, but offering companionship is not. Let us listen and respond to the cry of the sick, the imprisoned, and the afflicted: "Do not forget us!"

For Reflection

How does your parish or diocese care for the sick, the imprisoned, and the afflicted? How can you be a part of these efforts?

Bury the Dead, Pray for the Living & the Dead

The Church teaches us that dying is to be born to eternal life. Meditating on this teaching might help us to feel more comfortable with being with those who mourn and with attending a funeral service. Our presence at a funeral signals our care and acknowledges and honors the innate dignity of the person who died. Praying the Litany of the Saints reminds us that the Communion of Saints includes all the living and departed faithful.

For Reflection

What are some ways you might support your parish's efforts in caring for families in grief?

Forgive Offenses, Bear Wrongs Patiently

When we are secure in God's unconditional love for us, when we are secure in our status as beloved, it is easier to let go of hurt and bear wrongs. We still feel the pain of hurt, and the bruise left by the wrong committed against us will take time to fade, yet knowing who we are and whose we are frees us from the chains of seeking retribution and enlarges our own heart to allow live, compassion, forgiveness, and mercy to take up residence.

For Reflection

Are there wrongs that you have been unable to forgive? Are you ready to have a change of heart? How does your parish community give witness to God's forgiveness?

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