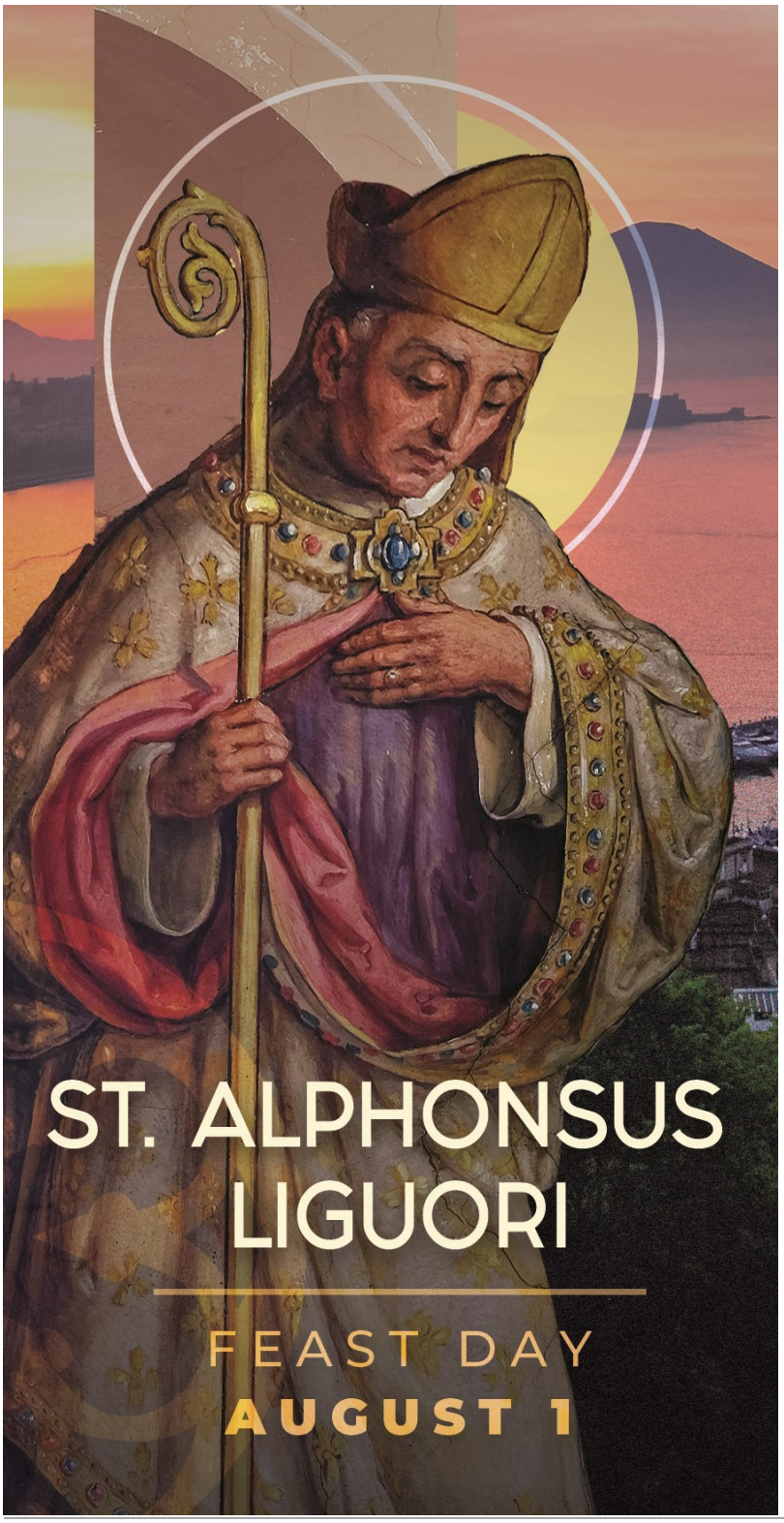
Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JULY 28, 2024: SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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*

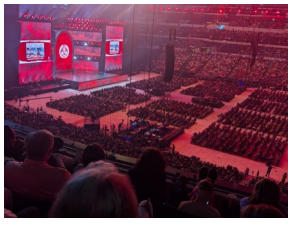
Then Jesus took the loaves,
gave thanks,
and distributed them to those
who were reclining,
and also as much of the fish as
they wanted. (Jn 6:11)

Inside This Week



Theology on Tap

Page Five



Seminarian Kevin Ellis Eucharistic Congress Experience Recap

Page Seven

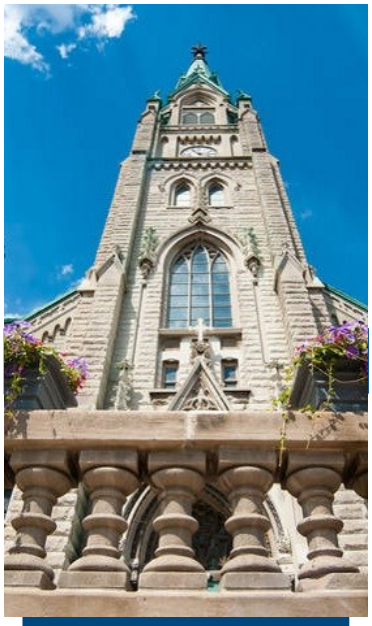
Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44/Ps 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 (see 16)/Eph 4:1-6/Jn 6:1-15
Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Ps 32:18-19, 20, 21/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42
Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/Mt 13:44-46
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Mt 13:47-53
Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54 (24b)/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24 -35

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
Magdalena Gonzalez
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 BANNS

Emily Thron
and
Kevin Smith

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Andres Necuametl Montenegro
Ian Pollock Zulueta
Anne Marie Landwehr
Graham Steven Gard
Benjamin Curtis Hamrick

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 7/21: $11,255

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, July 28
9:00 AM +Albert and Gertrude Fick
11:00 AM +Mary Gobat
12:30 PM +Perfecta Genaro and Monico Corral
5:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Monday, July 29
8:30 AM Juliana and Dino Swan (wedding anniversary)

Tuesday, July 30
8:30 AM Jane Keppeler (birthday blessings)

Wednesday, July 31
6:00 PM +Sean Gibbons

Thursday, August 1
8:30 AM +William and Geraldine Remmes
7:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, August 2
8:30 AM +Sean Gibbons

Saturday, August 3
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Sunday, August 4
9:00 AM +John Maher
11:00 AM The People of St. Alphonsus
12:30 PM +Manuel and Maria Naula
5:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Saint Alphonsus Parish will celebrate our patron saint's feast day with a special evening Mass on Thursday, August 1 at 6:30 PM with a social to follow. All are invited!

St. Alphonsus Liguori (September 27, 1696 – August 1, 1787)



Moral theology, Vatican II said, should be more thoroughly nourished by Scripture, and show the nobility of the Christian vocation of the faithful and their obligation to bring forth fruit in charity for the life of the world. Alphonsus, declared patron of moral theologians by Pius XII in 1950, would rejoice in that statement.

In his day, Alphonsus fought for the liberation of moral theology from the rigidity of Jansenism. His moral theology, which went through 60 editions in the century following him, concentrated on the practical and concrete problems of pastors and confessors. If a certain legalism and minimalism crept into moral theology, it should not be attributed to this model of moderation and gentleness.

At the University of Naples, Alphonsus received a doctorate in both canon and civil law by acclamation, at the age of 16, but he soon gave up the practice of law for apostolic activity. He was ordained a priest, and concentrated his pastoral efforts on popular parish missions, hearing confessions, and forming Christian groups.

He founded the Redemptorist congregation in 1732. It was an association of priests and brothers living a common life, dedicated to the imitation of Christ, and working mainly in popular missions for peasants in rural areas. Almost as an omen of what was to come later, he found himself deserted after a while by all his original companions except one lay brother. But the congregation managed to survive and was formally approved 17 years later, though its troubles were not over.

Alphonsus' great pastoral reforms were in the pulpit and confessional—replacing the pompous oratory of the time with simplicity, and the rigorism of Jansenism with kindness. His great fame as a writer has somewhat eclipsed the fact that for 26 years he traveled up and down the Kingdom of Naples preaching popular missions.

He was made bishop at age 66 after trying to reject the honor, and at once instituted a thorough reform of his diocese.

His greatest sorrow came toward the end of his life. The Redemptorists, precariously continuing after the suppression of the Jesuits in 1773, had difficulty in getting their Rule approved by the Kingdom of Naples. Alphonsus acceded to the condition that they possess no property in common, but with the connivance of a high Redemptorist official, a royal official changed the Rule substantially. Alphonsus, old, crippled and with very bad sight, signed the document, unaware that he had been betrayed. The Redemptorists in the Papal States then put themselves under the pope, who withdrew those in Naples from the jurisdiction of Alphonsus. It was only after his death that the branches were united.

At 71, Alphonsus was afflicted with rheumatic pains which left incurable bending of his neck. Until it was straightened a little, the pressure of his chin caused a raw wound on his chest. He suffered a final 18 months of "dark night" scruples, fears, temptations against every article of faith and every virtue, interspersed with intervals of light and relief, when ecstasies were frequent.

Alphonsus is best known for his moral theology, but he also wrote well in the field of spiritual and dogmatic theology. His *Glories of Mary* is one of the great works on that subject, and his book *Visits to the Blessed Sacrament* went through 40 editions in his lifetime, greatly influencing the practice of this devotion in the Church.

Reflection
Saint Alphonsus was known above all as a practical man who dealt in the concrete rather than the abstract. His life is indeed a practical model for the everyday Christian who has difficulty recognizing the dignity of Christian life amid the swirl of problems, pain, misunderstanding and failure. Alphonsus suffered all these things. He is a saint because he was able to maintain an intimate sense of the presence of the suffering Christ through it all.

Saint Alphonsus Liguori is the Patron Saint of:
Theologians
Vocations

2024 Summer Mission Cooperation— Sunday, July 28



This Sunday, **we are pleased to receive a visit from Sister Catherine Petalcurin, MSCS, a representative of the Missionary Sisters of St. Charles Borromeo, Scalabrinians.** The love for the cause of the poorest and most needy migrants is manifested in the generosity of heart, in the welcoming, universal dynamism, which becomes visible in gestures of compassion solidarity. Our missionary action embraces all dimensions of the migrant person, who is looking for bread to satisfy their material needs, the Word to find the meaning of their existence and communities that satisfy their needs of love and belonging, in which no one feels foreign.

The Archdiocese 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



Religious Goods Sale on Sunday, August 4

The Franciscan Clarist Sisters of Ciudad Altamirano, Guerrero, México will be selling religious goods in the Narthex of the church after each Mass on Sunday, August 4, 2024. The community currently has 73 sisters; they are dedicated to contemplative prayer. The sisters sustain their monastery through generous donations and the selling of religious articles and cultural crafts. Please stop by their table to check out what they sell and support them with your purchase religious items.

Stewardship—First Fruits

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

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.

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

Eucharistic Adoration: A Source for Peace:



Sometimes our weeks can be quite hectic, making it hard to find quiet time to pray. If this sounds familiar, join us for Mass on Wednesdays at 6 PM, followed by Eucharistic Adoration from 6:30-7:30. This can be a great way to re-center yourself in God and experience the peace that only Christ can give.

Men's Vespers– WED evening

Men of the parish are invited to attend our Communio prayer group each Wednesday from 8-9 PM in the rectory chapel (come to the rectory side door) It's a great way to take your spiritual life a step further as we enrich our knowledge of the faith, encourage each other in life's challenges, and grow in fortitude together. We chant the Liturgy of the Hours and share reflections on the upcoming Sunday gospel reading, followed by a social with refreshments, fellowship, and conversation. All men of the parish are invited. Questions or more info, contact James Morrow, jemseoul@hotmail.com

Young Adult Ministry



Theology on Tap Speaker Series— Wednesday, July 31 at 7 PM

Join us this summer for our Theology on Tap speaker series to deepen our knowledge of the faith, grow closer to one another in fellowship, and lead lives of charity. Theology On Tap helps support and celebrate your spiritual growth as you explore how God is present in your life in a number of new and exhilarating ways and deepening your relationship with Jesus Christ your way.



Father Tim Anastos is our guest speaker. He will be speaking on:

How to Make a Holy Hour

Fr. Tim Anastos is a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago and chaplain of the St. John Paul II Newman Center at the University of Illinois–Chicago. He serves as a eucharistic preacher for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Join us for fellowship, food, and refreshments starting at 7 PM; with the speaker's talk at 7:30 PM. We encourage you to attend mass at 6 PM followed by Eucharistic adoration from 6:30-7:30 PM. We hope to see you here!

Our final ToT will be on August 7th with Alessandro DiSanto, Co-Founder of the Hallow app as guest speaker.

Air & Water Show Viewing Party!



Come join St. Al's YAM on **Saturday, Aug. 10 from 11AM to 3PM** as we watch the Chicago Air Show from the St. Al's rectory rooftop. Enjoy the great weather, fantastic views of the Chicago skyline and have a great time meeting new friends! The spire of St. Al's tower is used as an orientation point for the show, so you are sure to have great views of the planes! We will have drinks, and a grill for hot dogs and hamburgers. Contact us with any questions at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com

Beach Day!

Our Young Adult Ministry will have a group meet on **Saturday, Aug. 3 from 11 AM-3 PM** for a fun day at Montrose Beach, 4400 N. Lake Shore Dr.! We ask you bring some food or drinks to share for a beach-side picnic. Feel free to bring any beach games like volleyball, spike ball, or bags. If the weather isn't beach worthy, we will come up with a back up plan to do an indoor activity! Contact us at stalsyamsocial@gmail.com

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

SAMUEL GROUP

Discernment for young adults

Samuel Group is a program sponsored by the Vocation Office that holds monthly meetings between September 2024 and April 2025. The goal of the program is to help young adults learn to listen more clearly to the voice of God in their daily lives so that they can make a good discernment. Each meeting includes talks, a time for food and fellowship, adoration, confession, and Sunday Mass. For more information, contact Katie Hazen at **khazen@archchicago.org** or 847.508.2023.

St. Alphonsus Parish (Lakeview), 1429 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago, IL 60657
2024: September 22, October 20, November 17, December 15
2025: January 19, February 16, March 23, April 27
Meetings: 1 – 5 p.m., Mass: 5 p.m.
Meetings and Mass are in English

Cost: $45 per person
Register here: bit.ly/4cSnLTJ



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

In his Message for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which takes place this Sunday, July 28, 2024, Pope Francis recognizes the situation of many elderly people today, and assures them: "God never abandons His children, never."

"Do not cast me off in my old age" (cf. Ps 71:9) This sincere plea, taken from Psalm 71, is the theme of the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.

Pope Francis chose the Theme for the Day, which is organized by the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life.

In his Message for the Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Pope Francis reassured the addressees that "God never abandons His children, never."

He referred to the elderly as "the firm foundation" on which "new" stones can rest, in order to join in erecting a spiritual edifice *(cf. 1 Peter 2:5)."*

Fear of Loneliness

Both the "certainty of God's closeness at every stage of life and the fear of abandonment, particularly in old age and in times of pain," can be found in the Bible, Pope Francis writes. And these words "reflect an utterly evident reality."

"All too often, loneliness is the bleak companion of our lives as elderly persons and grandparents," Pope Francis acknowledges.

"There are many reasons for this loneliness," the Pope continues, "in many places, above all in the poorer countries, the elderly find themselves alone because their children are forced to emigrate."

He describes the situation of the elderly left in their war-torn countries as "the only signs of life in areas where abandonment and death seem to reign supreme."



"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community."



A Conspiracy Surrounding the Life of the Elderly

"The Psalm cited above," the Pope writes, "speaks to a conspiracy surrounding the life of the elderly."

And he explains, that the "abandonment of the elderly is not by chance or inevitable, but the fruit of decisions – political, economic, social and personal decisions – that fail to acknowledge the *infinite dignity* of each person, 'beyond every circumstance, state or situation the person may ever encounter'."

The Holy Father laments that "nowadays many women and men seek personal fulfilment in a life as independent as possible and detached from other people." "The passage from 'us' to 'me' is one of the most evident signs of our times," he writes.

"Solitude and abandonment have become recurrent elements in today's social landscape," the Pope admits.

Following in Ruth's Footsteps

The Holy Father cites the story of Naomi from the Book of Ruth.

Naomi, who had grown old, urged her two daughters to leave her and return to their native towns and their homes. Naomi sees herself as a burden and considers it better to step aside.

One of her daughters does as the mother suggests. The other, Ruth, "does not leave Naomi's side and, to her surprise, tells her: 'Do not press me to leave you' (*Ruth* 1:16)," the Holy Father writes. "Ruth is not afraid to challenge customs and inbred patterns of thought."

The Holy Father's Message concludes with an appeal: "In place of the self-centered attitude that leads to loneliness and abandonment, let us instead show the open heart and the joyful face of men and women who have the courage to say 'I will not abandon you', and to set out on a different path."

And he conveys his blessing and prayers, "to all of you, dear grandparents and elderly persons, and to all those who are close to you."

NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

Archdiocese of Chicago seminarian Kevin Ellis has been serving at Mass at St. Alphonsus this summer. He was at the historic Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis on July 17-21 and was kind to share his experience with us!

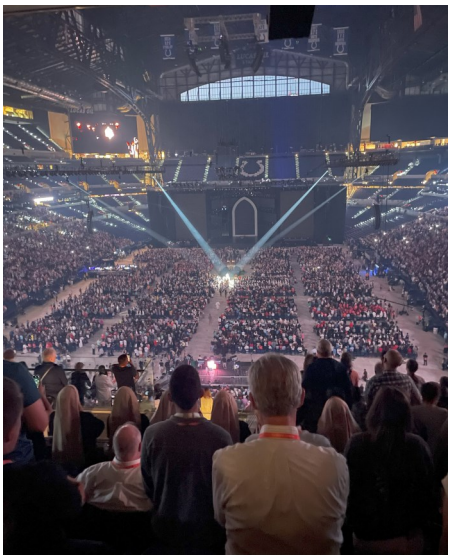


My name is Kevin Ellis and I am a Seminarian for the Archdiocese of Chicago studying at Mundelein Seminary and have been living here at St. Alphonsus for the summer. I had the extraordinary opportunity of attending the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis last week. The first Eucharistic Congress in 83 years here in the United States. We as the Catholic Church in the United States sure need this revival. Before the Congress took place in Indianapolis, there were four Eucharistic pilgrimage routes starting from four different places in the United States. One of the routes called the “Marian Route" in honor of the Blessed Mother began at the headwaters of the Mississippi river in Minnesota making its way south to Indianapolis. On June 28th the pilgrims that have been accompanying Jesus from Minnesota made a stop right here at St. Alphonsus. This was such a beautiful event that began with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and ended with a grand procession around the Church with beautiful chanting and praise to our Eucharistic Lord. I was moved to see so many people, especially young adults in Chicago, adoring the Lord in the most blessed sacrament. I have great hope for the Church right here in Chicago to continue to grow and bear much fruit as a result of this Eucharistic pilgrimage. However, all of these Eucharistic processions around the country were headed to one place, Indianapolis.

This Eucharistic Congress which took place Wednesday July 17th through Sunday July 21st. About 60,000 people attended the Congress at Lucas Oil stadium and the Indiana Convention Center. The event began by all of the pilgrimage routes coming together at Lucas Oil Stadium. Each pilgrimage accompanied Jesus from San Francisco, California, New Haven, Connecticut, Brownsville, Texas, and the Mississippi Headwaters in Lake Itasca, Minnesota. I am sure it was moving for each pilgrim group to walk into that stadium that first day to see thousands upon thousands ready to adore the Lord in the Eucharist. Each day at the Congress consisted of Mass, breakout sessions, and keynote sessions from a multitude of catholic speakers giving talks on what Eucharistic revival means. At Mass each day seeing a multitude of Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious Sisters and Brothers, and so many of the Lay faithful was inspiring.

One of my favorite events that took place during the congress was the large Eucharistic Procession that took place on Saturday, July 20th. Seeing 60,000 people lining the streets of Indianapolis for Jesus was a sight to behold. We marched from the Convention center to the Indiana War Memorials just north of downtown where we all adored the Lord. God has been doing, and will continue to do, so many great things if we have an open heart to His will.





This Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress is a great testament to what the Lord is desiring to do in our country but most importantly in our hearts. I pray that in this revival that we all feel called to be Eucharistic missionaries in living a Eucharistic life in whatever state of life we are in. Also, to know that when we gather for Mass each week or daily that we are called to live Christ’s Paschal Mystery, His life, death, and resurrection, and live out this in all parts of our life without reserve. Thank you for letting me share this beautiful experience with you and know of my prayers. Always united in the Eucharist. God bless you all.



Gospel Reflection

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." John 6:11–12

Journeying in Faith and Prayer



The people who were present for this miracle of the multiplication of loaves and fish had to journey to be there. First, they followed Jesus to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, and then they followed Him up a mountain in a remote area. This is significant because it tells us that a miracle of such magnitude could only take place for those who had faith and acted on that faith. Jesus could have easily performed this miracle in the Temple in Jerusalem or in a synagogue where people doubted Him. If He did that, then many of His skeptics and critics would have seen His almighty power with their own eyes. Jesus could have also done this miracle in Nazareth, His hometown, in the presence of His extended family and friends. Perhaps if He had done this, then they would have come to believe in Him. But Jesus didn't do this incredible miracle in places where faith was lacking. Instead, He went to a remote area where only those who truly wanted to be with Him were present.

Note that the actions by which Jesus performed this miracle are similar to the way He instituted the Holy Eucharist during the Last Supper. We read above that Jesus "took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them…" Though this miracle is recorded in all four Gospels, in John's Gospel it is a prelude to Jesus' Bread of Life Discourse in which Jesus teaches, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst." Therefore, this miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish should be seen as a teaching about the Eucharist. It is in the Eucharist that Jesus feeds us to superabundance. The Eucharist is the gift of His very life and the food that will bring us to eternal life.

Copyright © 2024 My Catholic Life! Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission. www.mycatholic.life

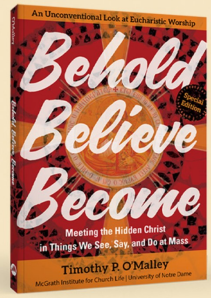
Unfortunately, it seems that very few people ever discover the gift of the Eucharist. Many people look at their participation in Mass as a duty that they must fulfill rather than as an invitation to share in the superabundant life. The only way we will discover the superabundant life given to us through the Eucharist is by working to imitate the faith of the people whom Jesus fed on that mountain. Again, the people who received this miracle had to journey either around or across the sea and climb a mountain. So also with us, the only way to come to a fruitful participation in the Eucharist is to make a concerted effort. The journey we make is one of faith, and the mountain we climb is one of prayer. Unless we believe deeply in our Lord, believe in the superabundant and transforming power of the Eucharist, seek it out faithfully every week and do so prayerfully, we will never be fed in this superabundant way.

Reflect, today, upon the symbolism of Jesus traveling to this remote area so as to perform this most incredible miracle. See this journey that you are invited to take as a journey toward the discovery of the superabundant grace bestowed upon you through the Most Holy Eucharist. The only way that you will receive this grace is by committing yourself to the journey of faith and prayer. Don't miss out. Don't ignore the incredible value of this Gift. Seek out our Lord and discover His Gift of superabundant grace within your fruitful participation in the Holy Mass.

My Eucharistic Lord, You call me to journey up the mountain of faith in the most Holy Eucharist through prayer and determination. May I more deeply discover the great value of the Holy Mass and seek to be fed by You in this superabundant way.
Jesus, I trust in You.

Faith Formation

BOOK STUDY



ALL INVITED.

ALL WELCOME.

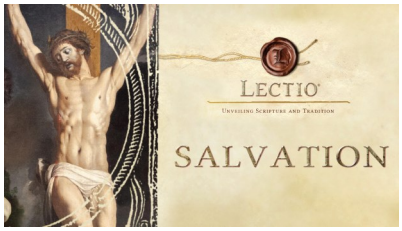
FREE.

Discover how Christ is hidden in the things we see, say, and do at Mass.

Behold, Believe, Become Book Study

Sundays at 6 PM, Rectory Common Room, NOW through August 11

Have you ever thought of the Mass as boring?? Come discover the Hidden Christ in some of the elements we encounter at Mass. Everything we see, say, and do at Mass tells us something about who Christ is and who we are to become as Christian people. But if we don't look for that deeper meaning, if we don't understand, then the Mass *can* seem boring because we are missing out. Every encounter with God has the power to completely transform you. Are you ready to live a transformed life, both during the Mass and out in the world?



Lectio Series — Salvation

Every Sunday we confess that Jesus "for our Salvation came down from Heaven." But have you ever wondered what this means?

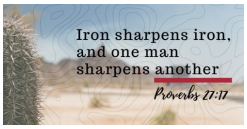
Continuing on Monday evenings at 7 PM, we will set out to explore these and related questions using the FORMED Lectio series on Salvation. To sign up, costs, location, or for other questions, contact Brooks Robinson, brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

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

Our St. Alphonsus Men's Group is hosting a Holy Hour of silent adoration on Friday, August 2, from 7:30—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.

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Scented deodorant

We all buy deodorant and use it for its intended purpose. The problem is that most deodorants are scented. The scent attracts mosquitoes. So, in the summer during mosquito season buy unscented deodorant to avoid being a mosquito pin cushion.

C.O.F.F.E.E.

Christ Offers Forgiveness For Everyone Everywhere

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

SCHOOL OF PARISH LEADERSHIP AND EVANGELIZATION

Are you passionate about serving your parish community and making a positive impact?

University of Saint Mary of the Lake provides academic courses and formative experiences for those seeking to build the Kingdom of God in our world. The School of Parish Leadership and Evangelization is your gateway to enhancing your skills, deepening your faith, and becoming a confident leader within the Catholic Church. Unlock the doors to a transformative experience.

APPLY TODAY for the Certificate of Lay Leadership program.

Curious about our Graduate Degree Programs, including a Doctor in Ministry? Are you discerning a possible call to diaconal ministry?

Join us **August 5th at 6:30 pm** for our online information session!
Email Llewandowski@usml.edu to register.

https://usml.edu/sple/parish-ministry-programs/

BECOME A CATECHIST FOR ST. ALPHONSUS!



Why Be A Catechist?

- Inspire Joy and Love in Little Hearts
- Bring Christ to the Children
- Be a Role Model and Witness
- Increase in Knowledge of the Faith





Jesus said what you do to the least of these you do to me.



Spread the Faith **Inspire Hearts** **Make a Difference**

Contact Emily Ember, Coor. of Religious Education: eember@stalphonsuschicago.church

Become a Catechist for the 2024-2025 School Year!

*The kids need you!! Me? You're thinking. I don't know the faith well enough. I'm not a teacher. I wouldn't know where to begin! The good news is, when you give your Yes, God hears your 'yes' and fills in where you're lacking. He will complete the good work He has begun in you! All you need to do is allow the Holy Spirit to guide; you are **never** alone.*

Our Religious Education Program meets on Tuesday evenings (September to May), beginning on September 17. If you are feeling a pull on your heart, I would love to talk with you so you can discern if God is calling you to be a catechist this year. Jesus desires to fill you with an abundance of joy and love, and He will always give you the grace to accomplish what He asks!

More News and Events

Are You Ready to Become Catholic?

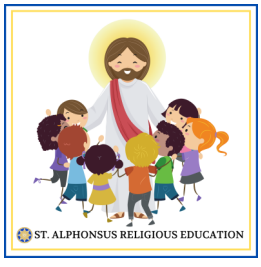
Registration is open for The Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) Each year we are blessed with several individuals who desire to enter and learn more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA program is the study of the Catholic Faith and the process of introduction into the faith community.

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

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 on Tuesday nights at 6:15 PM. Parent orientation is September 10 and classes will begin on September 17. Please register at the link on our Religious Ed page, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education

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 and Young People's Big Book AA Group. Daily Reflections meets on Monday mornings at 8:30 AM in the rectory 1st Fl. dining room. You may contact Lauren Merrill Sammis at lauren.merrill@live.com for more information.

Young People's Big Book AA Group meets Sunday evenings at 7 PM in the Festival Hall. Contact coordinator Denver Baker, dtbaker97@gmail.com for info.

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
Connie Del Toral, Administrative Assistant