Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 10, 2024: THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury."
- Mk 12:42-43

FORMED— Just Press Play!

St. Alphonsus is dedicated to YOUR spiritual formation. We encourage our faithful to check out FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its catechism. **Best of all, this material is FREE to you. You can get started by clicking on the Formed icon on the front page of our website, www.stalphonsuschicago.org**

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday	6:30—7:30 PM

Confessions

Wednesday	6:30—7:30 PM
Saturday	11:00—12:00 PM

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

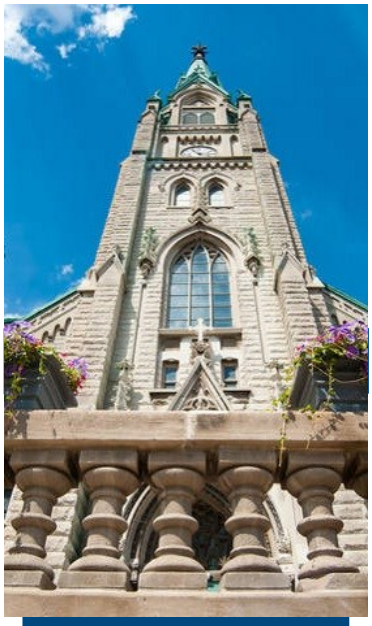
Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
Monday: Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29/Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6/Lk 17:11-19
Thursday: Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Lk 17:20-25
Friday: 2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37
Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8
Next Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32

Please Pray for the Sick

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



WEDDING

Taylor Arnold

and

Justin Rutschilling

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Theodore William White

Lily Anne Juarez

Wedding Banns

II. Kelsey Collett and David Gosz

II. Elizabeth Mauner and Nick Andersson

I. Rose Kavanagh and David Iacoponi

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 10
9:00 AM +Ed & Mary Gobat
11:00 AM +Kaloi Medina
Living and Deceased Veterans
12:30 PM +Rosa Suazo
Sophia and Matthew Hernandez (Birthday Blessings)
5:00 PM +Sister Mary Margaret Murphy

Monday, November 11
8:30 AM Thad and Sharon Pellino (wedding anniversary)
Colleen Pellino (Birthday Blessings)

Tuesday, November 12
8:30 AM +Agnes Wiltzius

Wednesday, November 13
6:00 PM +For All Lost Children

Thursday, November 14
8:30 AM +John Riegler

Friday, November 15
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Saturday, November 16
8:30 AM +Phil Day

Sunday, November 17
9:00 AM Sharon Pellino (Birthday Blessings)
11:00 AM +Richard Meindl
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM Sones Family

A Message From Our Pastor

"That's Just My Two Cents"



I'm sure we've all had the experience of being in a conversation or discussion in a small group of people, and somebody offers an opinion on the matter at hand, and then states, "that's just my two cents." The use of that expression connects back to the Gospel today. The poor widow contributes two small copper coins to the temple treasury, yet Jesus reveals that her "meager" offering is worth more than all the others.

The value of the poor widow's offering is not measured in monetary means, but in spiritual terms. She believes in the ministry of the temple and in the generosity of God's providence that flows from right-ordered liturgical worship. Therefore she is spiritually free to give everything she has. Which, in a way, points to the spiritual freedom of Jesus – for He gives us all that He is, and all that He has. And we, as disciples of Jesus, are invited to dwell in this relationship of spiritual freedom and trust in God's generous providential care. That's when we can recognize all the blessings we have, and be free to share them with others. Because we know there are more blessings than we can count, and still more to come. And our hearts overflow with gratitude.

When we think about all the blessings of life, education, love, relationships, and family that God has given us, how do we express our gratitude to Him? We have no material possession nor amount of copper coins that God "needs," but a significant way we demonstrate thankfulness to the Lord is through a tithe – an offering of our own resources to the Lord and his church. This ensures that current and future members of our community can be nourished in their faith by the ministers which Christ sends to us to be shepherds of souls. This is what is meant by caring for the temporal goods of the church: providing for parish needs, preserving the beauty of our church, and maintaining the facilities needed so the Sacraments can be celebrated.

Tithing is also a spiritual practice, and thus an integral part of a life of faith. As we see today, the Scriptures are filled with exhortations to give praise and thanks to God, and He intends that to happen not just spiritually or emotionally, but financially from our resources. In the Old Testament, those offerings came in the form of turtledoves, rams or other sacrificial animals. Such as a lamb. So it is no coincidence that Jesus offers not just another animal, but Himself, to the Father as the final Lamb of Sacrifice, offered once for all humanity and for our personal benefit. and that gift is re-presented to him on the altar at every Mass.

And so at every Sunday mass, a collection is taken up as a sign of our willingness to participate in the spiritual transformation wrought by Jesus and an expression of our gratitude for all that God has given to us and done for us. The biblical norm for contributing to the church was a tithe of 10% of a persons income or resources. Because of current inflation and other political and economic factors, many people believe that amount unreasonable by today's standards of living. Nevertheless, the issue at stake is that if God enters into a human condition simply out of love for us, are we willing to give a portion of our human resources back to God out of gratitude?

If every parishioner would tithe only one hour's worth of their wages to the church, we would easily be able to balance our budget and fund routine maintenance. If every parishioner tithed two hours worth of wages, Fr. Bauer would never have to ask for money again. But if every parishioner tithed according to the Biblical standard, we could air condition the church! (Granted, that's probably a more effective line in the summer-time!)

In light of all this, we invite you to prayerfully consider increasing your Sunday offertory, or setting up electronic giving using the website here. To help support our parish, and keep our priests cool and effective.

www.givecentral.org/location/39/event/180

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 parish Office Manager, Mario Serrano at mserranostals@gmail.com

You can officially register to join the parish at www.stalphonsuschicago.org/visitors

Stewardship— First Fruits

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

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

FIRST FRUITS
time talent treasure

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

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,192

Offertory for 11/3: $16,883

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

Pope Francis November Intention

For Those Who Have Lost a Child

The prayer intention for the month of November is for "all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter."

Blessing of Veterans— Monday, Nov. 11



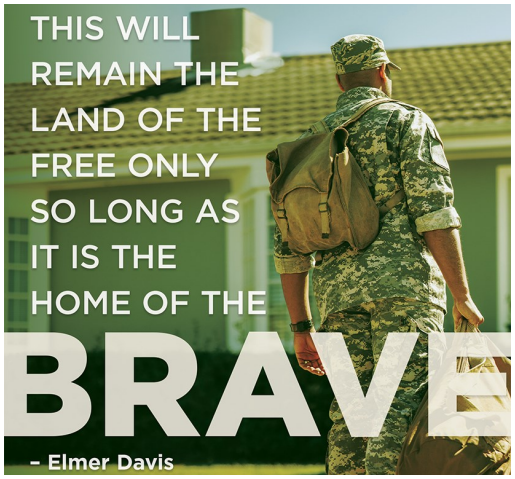
There are so many veterans in our country now. It used to be that veterans were a small contingency in our communities. It did not take that much effort to care for and, once a year, thank them. Now, however, with so many wars in violent parts of the world, there are more veterans than we can compassionately care for. There are many men and women who come back from the service who are wounded for life, either physically, mentally, or emotionally. On this Veterans Day, let us remember those who have served our country, but more than remember, let us redouble our efforts to care for those still with us.

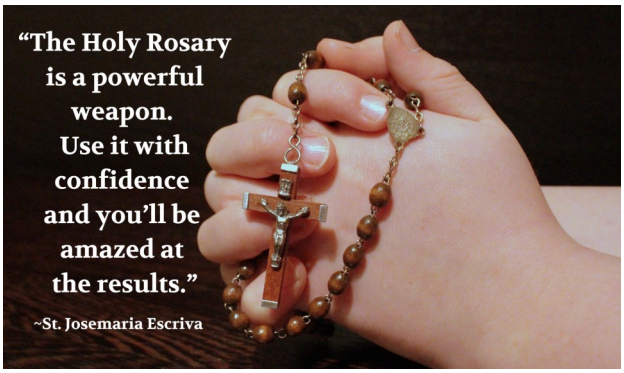
Let us pray...

Good and gracious God,
you do not condone war.
Help us to understand the cause of war
and work toward alleviating it
from the face of the earth you created.

We ask you to bless the veterans of our country,
but also to bless the veterans of our enemies too.
War is the ultimate failure on our part
to see the needs of our neighbor.
Let us remember that our neighbor is our brother.

We ask this in the name of Jesus,
our brother and Savior.
Amen.





News and Events

Mysteries of the Rosary Series

Monday Mornings, Now through Dec. 16th
9:30 AM-11 AM, Rectory Common Room

Prepare your hearts for Advent and Christmas by diving into the Joyful Mysteries! Filmed on location in the Holy Land, join us for this video and discussion series as we venture through deeply reflective insights on the life of Christ, theological truths, and captivating stories together with breathtaking scenery, illuminating sacred art, and inspiring music. An authentic encounter with Christ leads to our transformation and sanctification! This is your opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord. Contact Emily, eember@stalphonsuschicago.church for more details.

Mass of Hope & Healing— Wednesday, Nov. 13 at 6 PM



This week, 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.

Cub Scouts Thanksgiving Food Drive Nov 12-14



Please join the AACA Cub Scout Pack 3889 for our 5th annual Thanksgiving Food Drive! Cub Scouts will be collecting donations at morning school drop off (7:30-8 AM) in the AACA parking lot from Tuesday, November 12 through Thursday, November 14. St. Josephat School (part of Pack 3889) will also be collecting Donations. With your generosity to families in need we have collected approximately 1000 lbs. of food donations every year for the past 5 years! All Cub Scouts are encouraged to assist with food collection! All parishioner donations are welcome! Please contact Jennifer Stevens, Cub Master, pack3889@gmail.com with questions!

St. Alphonsus Giving Tree

Celebration of Giving
Unwrap the Spirit

Our parish will be taking part in the Celebration of Giving from Nov. 17 to Dec. 8. This amazing 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. 13.

South Lakeview Neighbors Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 12 at the Athenaeum Center-2936 N. Southport
Meeting starts- 7PM sharp, doors open 6:30PM
Agenda : 19th Police District Community Relations Officer
Cook County Commissioner Bridget Degnen
Lakeview/Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce
All are welcome. SLN membership boundaries are Racine to Ravenswood and Diversey to Belmont
www.slneighbors.org

Faith Formation

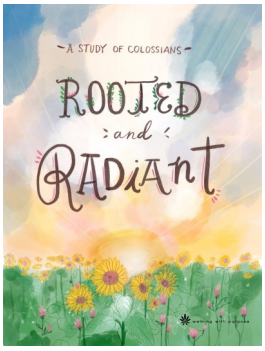
Are You Ready to Become Catholic?

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



Rooted and Radiant Women's Bible Study

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

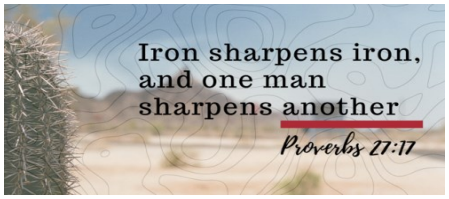
In the ***Rooted and Radiant*** study, we will learn the book of Colossians and seek to understand the challenges that faced them, recognizing that they are remarkably similar to our own challenges today.

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

St. Alphonsus Men's Group

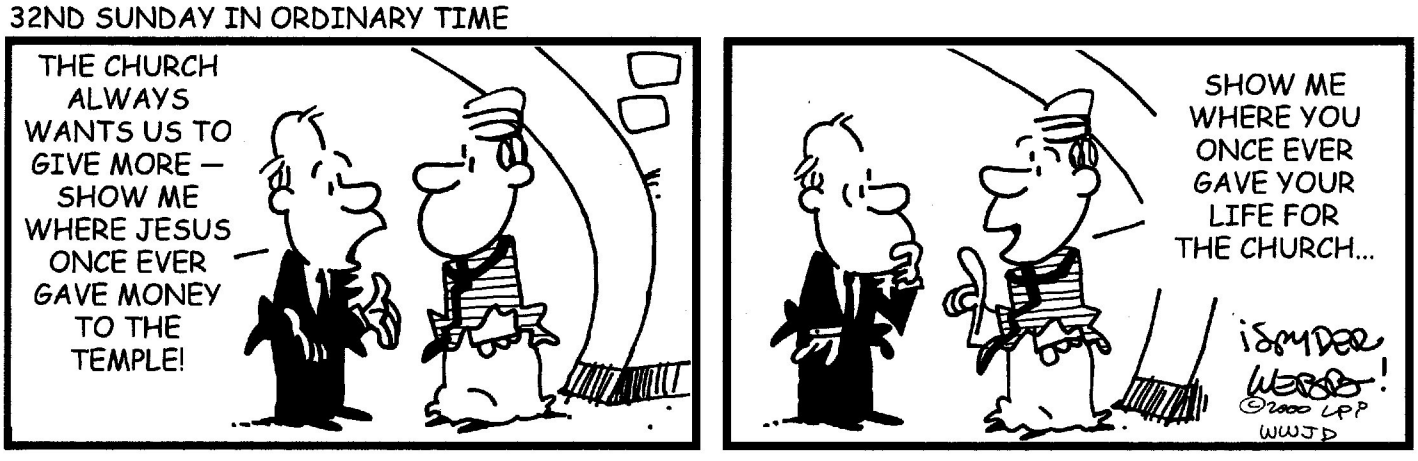
St. Alphonsus Men's Group meets Thursday nights to pray the liturgy of the hours, have fellowship, and to propose challenging topics to discuss.

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



We meet every Thursday night at 7 PM in the rectory. Food and drinks provided. All men are welcome, with most men being in their 20s and 30s. Access can be gained at the west facing rectory door in the parking lot.

For questions or more information, contact Men's Group at our email, divineofficers@gmail.com



Young Adult Ministry

Psalms Series— Monday Evenings at 7 PM

He said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and in the prophets and psalms must be fulfilled.'" (Lk 24:44)



Our Young Adult Ministry is hosting a free series on the book of Psalms for young adults in their 20s and 30s to learn:

- how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God through the Psalms
- how to meditate on the Psalms using lectio divina
- how the Psalms foretell the life and mission of Jesus
- ...and much more!

On Mondays at 7:00 PM-8:30 PM throughout November – January, we will watch video materials from Ascension Press presented by Jeff Cavins, Tim Gray, and Sarah Christmyer, followed by a group discussion. No preparation or supplies are needed, though there is an accompanying workbook if you would like to go deeper, which can be purchased from Ascension Press.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Brendan at brendanmdaley@gmail.com

Tailgate/ Chili Cook-Off! Saturday, Nov. 16



On Saturday, November 16th, our parish's Young Adult Ministry will be hosting a tailgate at St. Alphonsus! We will be celebrating the fall Saturday tradition of watching college football and rooting on everyone's favorite teams. While YAM will provide some items, like a typical tailgate, it will be potluck style with food, drinks, and fun being provided by all who show up if able.

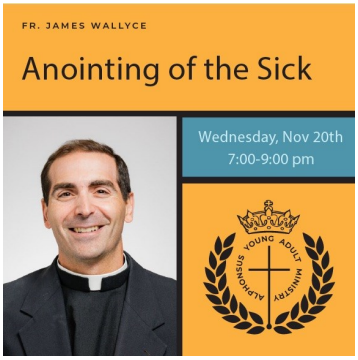
On top of that, we will also be having our annual Chili Cookoff incorporated into the event. If you think you have what it takes, feel free to bring a crockpot and compete with the best of the best.

When: Saturday, November 16th from 10 AM-3 PM
Where: St. Alphonsus Festival Hall and surrounding outside area

Please be sure to sign-up on the Google Doc sheet in our November newsletter or Facebook page!

Sacrament Series— Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday, November 20 at 7 PM



As we close out our Sacrament Series, we are excited to invite you for a talk on our final Sacrament: The Anointing of the Sick. While this Sacrament is often misunderstood as being available only to those near death, it may be administered to any who have experienced the onset of a serious medical injury, illness, or old age. Whereas those who receive the Sacrament of Marriage receive grace for the married state, those who receive the Anointing of the Sick receive grace for the state which they enter through illness. We are pleased to have as our final speaker in this series Fr. James Wallyce, pastor of St. Paul of the Cross parish in Park Ridge. Doors will open at 7 PM with the talk beginning at approximately 7:30. Light refreshments will be provided. Hope to see you here!

Praise and Adoration— Nov. 22 at 7:30 PM



On Friday, November 22nd, spend time with our Lord in praise and adoration in the church. We'll spend the first 30 minutes in silent adoration, and then our musicians will lead worship in song. Confession will also be available! The hour will conclude with benediction, and our Young Adult Ministry will gather a group for fellowship and drinks afterwards!

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Mark 12:41–42

Giving Your Whole Livelihood



If you were in charge of the Temple treasury, which would you prefer? The rich putting in large sums of money? Or one poor widow putting in two small coins? Of course, an honest answer to that question might be hard to give. Much good can be done with large sums of money, right? Wouldn't it be better to accept more than a few cents? The dilemma one would experience in this situation reveals a misperception that we regularly encounter in life. Is more better than less? Is wealth better than poverty? Is success better than failure? It all depends upon the spiritual reality at hand.

Take, for example, success vs. failure. Say one person sets off on a selfish and immoral business venture that quickly produces a huge income. Many would consider that a success. Say another person prayerfully sought to fulfill the will of God and started some other business. After years of trying, that business failed and went into bankruptcy. Which situation is better? Clearly, the one who sought to fulfill the will of God is the winner. Why? Because the spiritual fruit of fidelity to the will of God, despite worldly setbacks, produced an eternal treasure more valuable than earthly wealth.

God judges the heart, not the worldly outcome. In fact, from a worldly perspective alone, Jesus' life was a complete failure. He was arrested, charged with a capital crime, beaten and killed. His earthly kingdom—desired by many of his followers—was never established. Many of them abandoned Him when He was killed. Even after He rose from the dead, He didn't establish an earthly kingdom.

Of course, in the spiritual realm, the realm of eternal realities, Jesus' life was infinitely successful. His death destroyed death itself, and His Resurrection enabled all who believe in Him to share in eternal life. His spiritual Kingdom is now in full bloom and will one day be visible to all.

Back to our original question. If you were in charge of the Temple treasury, and you were given the same option that Jesus pointed to of receiving the large sums of money from the rich, or the two coins from the poor widow, it would certainly be better to accept the two coins. If that is hard to comprehend, then it is a sign that you live more according to the values of the world than the values of the spiritual Kingdom of God. The poor widow gave more than two small coins; she also gave the spiritual gift of her generosity and complete trust in God. She gave all she had and trusted that God would take care of her and use her gift for good. This is infinitely more fruitful for the building of the Kingdom of God than the gift of someone's excess of money. God does not need our money, but we need to give it, be detached from it, and be ready and willing to give everything we have, all that we are, our entire livelihood to God. This is trust. This is a spiritual gift that will have far greater eternal ramifications for the salvation of souls than all the money in the world.

Reflect, today, upon the compliment Jesus pays to this poor widow. "She, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." Do you contribute your whole livelihood? Do you dedicate everything you have, all your energies and gifts, and all that you are to the service of God for His glory? We are called to give everything to God—not just a portion of our lives. Reflect upon how well you imitate this poor widow and seek to follow her holy example.

Most generous Lord, You gave all that You had and all that You are out of love for the salvation of the world. Help me to imitate Your total gift by returning all to You, entrusting my entire life, all that I am, and my entire livelihood to You. Jesus, I trust in You.

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More News and Events

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 24 from 6-7:30 PM after the 5:00 PM Mass**!

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 Mass that 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/community-tree-lighting

Alphonsus Academy— Art Contest for Christmas Card



Our Alphonsus Academy students participate in an annual art contest. The winning Liturgy/Christmas themed design will be featured as the front cover of the St. Alphonsus Christmas card that is mailed out to all parishioners. Father Bauer and AACA principal Gerit McAllister will pick the winner on Monday, Nov 18. Runner-Ups are considered for the cover of the parish Christmas bulletin. More submissions will be posted periodically on our parish Facebook page through the course of the Christmas season. We look forward to some amazing submissions from our talented school students!

Boy Scouts— Troop 889 Wreath Fundraiser



Troop 889 is selling wreaths and other decorations online this season! Online Ordering Open Now for delivery starting week of Thanksgiving. Order for yourself or as gift. Enter a separate address and gift message for individual delivery of every item. Visit www.giftitforward.com to see Mickman Brothers' 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!



CCHD Collection— Nov. 17

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the national anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ "... to bring glad tidings to the poor ... liberty to captives ... sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." (Luke 4:18)

Next week our special collection will support the CCHD. Nearly 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Vegetable Slicing

When slicing a round vegetable (like a sphere) cut slices from one side, but only to the middle. Then turn the sphere 180 degrees so that your subsequent cuts go up the other side of the sphere. In that way, if the knife slips on the skin of the vegetable, it will slip away from your fingers. No cook book has a recipe that includes human blood as an ingredient.

Holy See News



Vatican's anime-style mascot Luce goes viral w/ Catholic memes, fan art

On October 28, the Vatican introduced an anime-style mascot named ***Luce*** to represent Catholic pilgrims in the 2025 Jubilee year — and within a week, the character has already become a viral Internet sensation. Hundreds of memes and fan art renditions of Luce (pronounced Lu-Chay) popped up on social media websites such as Facebook, X, Reddit, and Tik-Tok and have been circulating the platforms.

The character has become particularly popular with Catholic meme accounts and groups but also has a presence in non-Catholic spaces, such as with amateur anime artists, Protestant meme accounts, and some secular and political meme accounts. It has also inspired Halloween costumes and the creation of a cryptocurrency called Luce Token.

Luce's symbolism

Luce, which is Italian for "light," is a blue-haired mascot who wears a rosary around her neck and a yellow raincoat that is meant to symbolize journeying through life's storms and reflect the color of the Vatican flag. She wears green muddy boots that represent a long and difficult journey and carries a staff meant to symbolize the pilgrimage toward eternity.

The Vatican's Dicastery for Evangelization commissioned the creation of the character, which was designed by Italian artist Simone Legno, who owns the company tokidoki, which creates products with Japanese-inspired designs. Archbishop Rino Fisichella, the Vatican's chief organizer for the jubilee, unveiled the mascot during a news conference.

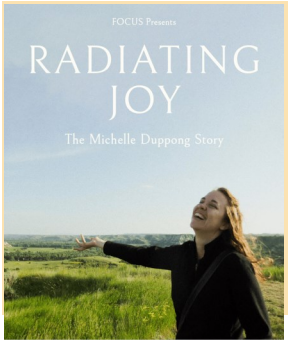


Many of the Luce-inspired memes invoke Christian messages of prayer and warding off the devil. One popular meme, which parodies a famous scene from "*The Shining*," shows Luce use her staff to break a hole into a wooden door and stick her face through the hole as the devil cowers in the corner. Some others depict Luce kneeling in prayer.

Several Luce memes spreading around the Internet also invoke pro-life messages, such as one that depicts Luce saving a baby from a Planned Parenthood abortion facility. Some memes have put Luce side by side with Crusaders.

Father Matthew P. Schneider, LC, a Catholic priest with a large social media following, has embraced the mascot, creating threads on X with more than 70 of his favorite fan art renditions of Luce. Some of the amateur artists are Catholic, but dozens of amateur anime artists who normally produce secular art have also jumped on the trend. "I like Luce, the mascot for the holy year 2025," Schneider said on X. "The images seem like a good Christian adaptation of modern culture or inculturation."

The Vatican intends to keep moving forward with the mascot. Luce made an appearance at the Lucca Comics and Games convention in Tuscany, Italy, and will also appear at the Expo 2025 in Osaka, Japan, next year.



Faith at the Movies— Tuesday, November 12; one night only!

Radiating Joy: The Michelle Duppong Story is the story of Servant of God Michelle Duppong, who bore witness to Christ through heroic suffering and a passion for inviting others to be transformed by His love. The film, directed by Danny Anderson, tells the story of Michelle's beautiful and faith-filled life, especially during her diagnosis, treatment, and death. Get your tickets at www.fathomevents.com/events/radiating-joy-the-michelle-duppong-story/

Contact

Sacramental Information

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

How to Offer a Mass Intention

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. Alphonsus Social Media

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

Directory

Parish Office

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

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM– 5:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM– 7:30 PM Tues, Thur

School Office

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

School Office Hours:

8:00 AM– 3:00 PM

Staff

Parish Staff

Rev. Steven Bauer, Pastor
Rev. Jesús (Chuy) Raya, Associate Pastor
Brooks Robinson, Pastoral Associate
Emily Ember, Coordinator of RE/Evangelization
Brian Bloye, Director of Music and Organist
Daniel Szymanski, Director of Operations
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kathryn Kibler, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator/Parish Secretary

School Staff

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