Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY 26, 2025: THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME





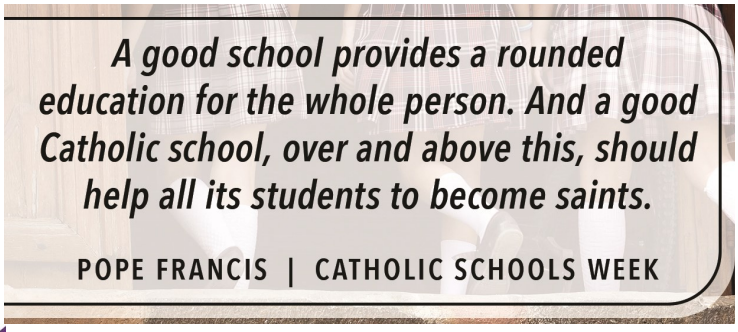


He said to them,

"Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." (Lk 1:21)

Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

AACA
ALPHONSUS ACADEMY
& Center for the Arts



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: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/
1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21
Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41
Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

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
Michelle Renee Moya

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

Welcome to the Parish!

Brian & Laura Murphy
Kevin Rzepczynski & Lyndsey Tierney
Connor Dieckman & Peyton Zylke
Nicole Rock & Raymond Olson
Kathleen Felicelli & John Stroud
Monica Furjanic
Drew Tonkovich & Lauren Lonergan
Andrea Hill
Lucy Brundage
Francisco Meraz
Christine Menke
Jack Fitzgerald
Ashley & Brett Biondi
Elizabeth Kvitek
Candice Dy
Andrew Wegner
Pierina Ardila
Christopher Gamboa
Allyson McCormick

we ♥ our teachers
ALPHONSUS ACADEMY & CENTER FOR THE ARTS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 26
9:00 AM Keaton Pellino (Birthday)
+Leonardo Pellino
11:00 AM +Veronika Stankeviciene and Alfonsas Venckus
12:30 PM +Graciela Giraldo
5:00 PM Laurie Ragusa Vollmann (Health)

Monday, January 27
8:30 AM Adam Alton (Birthday Blessings)

Tuesday, January 28
8:30 AM +Ceneca T. Perez

Wednesday, January 29
6:00 PM +Rita Ream (nee Kane)

Thursday, January 30
8:30 AM AACA Faculty & Staff

Friday, January 31
8:30 AM AACA Students & Families

Saturday, February 1
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Sunday, February 2
9:00 AM Clara Mae Morris (Birthday Blessings)
11:00 AM +Erlinda Alban & +Marcia Vinzons
12:30 PM +Rodolfo y Isabel Ojeda
5:00 PM +Liz Clancy

The Feast of the Presentation, February 2nd, Candlemas, and Your Throats



Each year on February 2nd, if most people were to be asked about lighting, they would wonder if there was enough light for a certain rodent to see his shadow. When Punxsutawney Phil emerges from his burrow and is presented to the nation, will he see his shadow or not? (Sorry, but yes, a groundhog is a member of the rodent family. But a much more welcome resident than the rodents we see in the city. Unless his presentation heralds six more weeks of winter!)

Granted, this article is being written for the January 26th bulletin, squarely in the depths of winter weather, which puts us despite whatever climatological predictions may be made next weekend. Additionally, it's a full week *earlier* than the subject matter about which I write.

February 2nd is 40 days after the birth of Jesus. Mary and Joseph were faithful people, and following the Jewish laws and liturgical customs (outlined in the Book of Leviticus), they took their child to the temple in Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord. And when Jesus was presented, the righteous elder Simeon and the prophetess Anna both spoke about the child: Anna about the redemption He would bring, and Simeon that He would be a light for revelation to the gentiles.

The Feast of the Presentation has been celebrated in Jerusalem since the mid 300s, and within a hundred years had spread through all of Christendom. In the seventh century a liturgical custom had developed that all of the candles used in a church throughout the year would be blessed on the day the Church reflected on the spiritual significance of Jesus being the light of the world, and then carried in a joyful procession either into or around the church. This special mass on the Feast of the Presentation also became known as Candlemas.

The Catholic Church still honors this tradition, albeit in a diminished form. So this year, because the fortieth day after Christ was born falls on a Sunday, ***we get to celebrate Candlemas***! The opening of Mass will look a little bit like Palm Sunday. As you enter the church, you are welcome to pick up a candle (with a protective plastic shield) from a basket. Mass will begin with the priest and liturgical ministers gathering at the baptismal font, and the congregation's candles will be lit as music is played. The celebrant will introduce the Mass, and bless the stack of the various candles used in the church's liturgy and devotion. Only a representative number of the candles used are blessed. Case in point: with our six racks of devotional candles, we literally burn through thousands each year, so if we blessed them all at once, the boxes of candles would be stacked up to the choir loft!

Also, if any parishioner has their own devotional candles, they are welcome to bring them, and they would be blessed at the same time (please note, the candles must be devotional or prayer candles; other ones, such as holiday, dinner or aromatherapy candles won't be blessed, only those for spiritual or religious applications).

Among the candles to be blessed – the altar candles, votive candles, sanctuary lamps, etc. – you may notice several adoration candles which are bound together with a red ribbon or rope. These candles are actually used for the annual St. Blaise Blessing of Throats, because his feast day is February 3rd. Saint Blaise was a bishop who had performed several miracles, most notably saving a boy from choking to death simply by offering a blessing. After he was arrested and imprisoned, one of the recipients of his miracles brought him two candles to provide light in his cell. The proximity of his martyrdom to the date of Candlemas creates a natural pairing to use the candles blessed on February 2nd as the ones to impart the blessing of St. Blaise on February 3rd.

And how fortunate for parishioners – whether or not a groundhog says we have six more weeks of winter – out of a desire to bestow as much protective and healing grace to as many people as possible, immediately following each of the Sunday Masses on Candlemas, Fr. Raya and I will be doing the St. Blaise blessing of throats with the freshly blessed candles.



Ice Sculpting Event— January 26 from 12—2 PM

This Sunday, there will be a live ice sculpting event outside the veranda to liven up the weekend! From 12 PM-2 PM, watch master ice carvers make winter magic happen as they sculpt a block of ice into a beautiful creation of the audience's choosing! Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce will provide a food truck, offering complimentary beverages and bites to help keep attendees warm. This wonderful event is free of charge and all are welcome!

Alphonsus Academy News

Sunday, January 26— 9 AM Family Mass & Catholic Schools Week

Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Our Alphonsus Academy kicks off Catholic Schools Week this Sunday, January 26. Our 9 AM Mass will be a designated "Family Mass", where our parish AACA students will be involved in reading, bringing up the gifts, singing in children's choir, and more!

After this Mass, we will be having an admissions Open House for all parents interested in our school! You can sign up at AACA's Linktree at linktr.ee/alphonsusacademy



Our Athletic Program is Seeking Coaches!

The Athletic Program at Alphonsus Academy and Center for the Arts is seeking coaches for the upcoming spring season. The following teams are in need of coaches: boys volleyball for grades 6- 8 and co-ed Track and Field. For more information, please contact the Athletic Director, Cullen Gilbertson, at cgilbertson@alphonsusacademy.org.

Art & Soul 2025: Save the Date!



Since its kickoff, Art & Soul annually brings together 350+ guests and generates $ for our school through sponsorships, tickets, and exciting silent and live auctions. It is the school's most successful fundraiser and ensures a quality education for Alphonsus Academy's 500 students.

We are seeking donations for this upcoming fundraiser. Successful packages in the past have included vacation stays, ticketed experiences (sporting events, concerts), bourbon and wine priced $30+, and gift certificates. For more information, please contact Assistant Principal, Angela Kladis, akladis@alphonsusacademy.org

Bless Your Children Every Day

Periodically in our bulletins, St. Alphonsus will focus on evangelization tips and strategies. This particular topic is critical because many souls in the world are far from God. Jesus tells us in scripture that his followers need to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Therefore, we should consider evangelization an act of obedience to Him.

Every parent has the serious responsibility of raising their children to love the Lord, and of making sure they do everything in their power to get them to heaven. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* says, "Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of evangelizing their children. Parents should initiate their children at an early age into the mysteries of the faith of which they are the 'first heralds' for their children" (CCC 2225). A simple, but profound daily practice that parents can utilize is the daily blessing. You have spiritual authority over your children, and can call down God's blessing on them as often as you wish. This will leave them feeling safe, protected and loved.

SAINT PAUL
STREET EVANGELIZATION

A parent can say one of the following brief blessings at basically any time, such as when a child is going to play or to school, or when the child is going to bed each night. The parent makes the sign of the cross on the child's forehead or heart and can say one of the following blessing options offered by the USCCB:

May God bless you.
May God keep you safe.
God be with you.
God be in your heart.
May God bless and protect you.

Or you can offer your own personally worded blessing. One of our staff members likes to say "May God bless you and keep you today and every day of your life." Either way, this practice will likely help your child live in peace, and may help ensure their practice of the faith down the road.

experience the ALPHONSUS DIFFERENCE

WE OFFER A SMALL SCHOOL FEEL WITH BIG CITY RESOURCES.
OUR COMMITMENT TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND A STRONG CATHOLIC FOUNDATION IS ENRICHED THROUGH AN ARTS-INTEGRATED CURRICULUM AND SUPPORTED BY A COMPASSIONATE, CREATIVE FACULTY.

- Founded in 1906, Alphonsus Academy is steeped in the Catholic tradition and a community landmark in Lakeview
- National Blue Ribbon School, awarded in 2019 for academic and instructional excellence
- Enrollment of approximately 500 students between our Tots Program (2 year olds) and Preschool to 8th Grade
- Active, welcoming environment for families eager to educate their children and engage in community
- Spirit of continuous improvement, collaboration, and inclusivity throughout the faculty--over half of whom hold Master's degrees and have worked at AACA 5+ years
- Very low student to teacher ratio with team of 3 full time learning specialist and guidance counselors dedicated to student success
- Arts-integrated curriculum fosters creativity and a lifelong love of learning with ample experience and opportunities to explore
- Dynamic specials program including Spanish, visual/performing arts, physical education, and extracurricular enrichment opportunities

Join us for a tour!

AACA
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& Center for the Arts

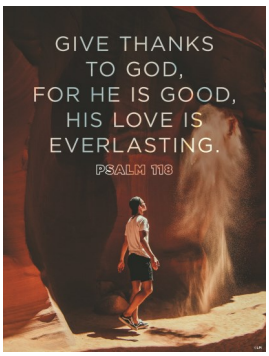


Faith Formation



Psalms Series— January 27 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)



This Monday, our Young Adult Ministry completes the 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!

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.
The January 27 topic is: Psalms of Praise and Thanksgiving
If you are interested in attending, please contact Brendan at brendanmdaley@gmail.com

Walking With Purpose— Women's Bible Study

Tuesday Mornings at 9:30 AM; Evenings at 6:00 PM

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

walking with purpose

Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection explores what it takes to stay close to friends for the long haul, what to look for in a friend, and how to navigate toxic relationships.

Let God reshape how you see and experience intentional relationships, and become a woman who is capable of the lifelong bond of true friendship.

Meetings take place every Tuesday on the 2nd Floor Common Room in the parish rectory. For questions and more info, please contact Marianne at mariannek36@yahoo.com

St. Alphonsus Men's Group

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

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

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

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



"Come to me all you are labored and burdened and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28

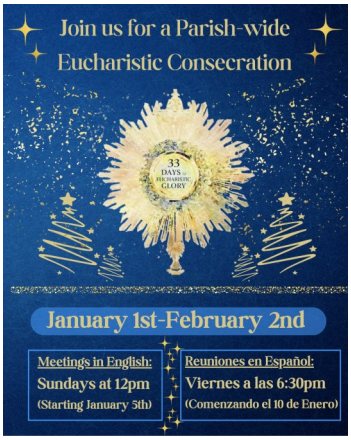
The St. Alphonsus Men's Group is hosting a Holy Hour of silent adoration on Friday, February 7, from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the church. All parishioners are invited to be in the presence of our Lord during this hour, and confessions will also be heard during this time.

News & Events

Mom's Group— Saturday, February 8

St. Alphonsus Parish is pleased to introduce its newest ministry, Mom's Group! Moms of the parish are invited to join other moms for coffee and fellowship on Saturday, February 8, at 10 AM at Big Shoulders Coffee (1165 W. Diversey Ave)! Babies are more than welcome to join, or just bring yourself! This group is geared towards new and first time moms with kids under 18 months, but any mother looking for community and a safe space to discuss the joys and difficulties of motherhood is welcome. As this is a fledgling group, our first meeting will be concentrated on getting to know each other and discussing how the group can best serve the moms of the parish. We look forward to seeing you! For questions, email Kathryn Kibler at kkibler@stalphonsuschicago.church.

Join Us For a Parish Wide Eucharistic Consecration Jan. 1st - Feb. 2nd



The enemy of your soul will tell you that you don't have the time, that since you already missed a day you shouldn't even bother. But the Lord is holding His arms out to you, inviting you to draw closer to His Eucharistic Heart. Start today. Draw nearer to the Lord this New Year! Contact Emily Ember or Fr. Jesus Raya in the Parish Office. **The Consecration will be on February 2nd; a light reception will follow. Meetings in English are on Sundays at 12 PM in Festival Hall**. Meetings in Spanish are on Fridays at 6:30 PM in the Rectory. These meetings are helpful but not required to participate in the Consecration.

Únase a Nosotros Para Una Consagracion Eucaristica Para Toda La Parroquia Del 1 De Enero Al 2 De Febrero

El enemigo de tu alma te dirá que no tienes tiempo, que como ya te perdiste un día, ni siquiera deberías molestarte. Pero el Señor te tiende los brazos y te invita a acercarte a su Corazón Eucarístico. Comienza hoy. ¡Acércate más al Señor este Año Nuevo! Comuníquese con Emily Ember o el padre Jesús Raya en la Oficina Parroquial.

Baptisms at St. Alphonsus

Baptism is a fundamental sacrament for Christians. It is a sacrament of initiation that unites us to Christ's mystical body, incorporates us into the Church, and marks the beginning of the Christian journey. Without baptism we cannot participate in the full sacramental life of the Church. In the sacraments we concretely and most visibly encounter God's grace—life reunited with life.

If you are interested in having your child baptized at St. Alphonsus, please go to the Baptism page on our website, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/baptism, complete the form on there and our Sacraments Ministry coordinator will be in contact to secure a date.

For adult baptisms, contact Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary is now at St. Alphonsus! Legion of Mary is a lay apostolic association of Catholics who serve the Church and their neighbor on a voluntary basis. The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of each individual. Members participate in the life of the parish through volunteering and evangelizing activities sponsored by the parish. ***Interested in becoming a Legionary? Meetings in English take place on Fridays at 5 PM in the rectory. For more info, please contact Fr. Jesus Raya.***

¡La Legión de María ya está en San Alfonso! La Legión de María es una asociación apostólica laica de católicos que sirven a la Iglesia y al prójimo de manera voluntaria. La Legión considera como prioridad el bienestar espiritual y social de cada individuo. Los miembros participan en la vida de la parroquia a través del voluntariado y de actividades evangelizadoras patrocinadas por la parroquia. ***¿Interesado en ser legionario? Las reuniones en español se llevan a cabo los Lunes a las 6 PM en la rectoría. Para obtener más información, Padre Jesus Raya Custodio, jraya@stalphonsuschicago.church***

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news of him spread throughout the whole region. He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all. Luke 4:14–15

Enthused by the Gospel

This Gospel passage reveals to us the very beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. He began His public ministry immediately after spending forty days in the desert being tempted by the devil. As He began, He went to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit." Many people heard about Him and welcomed Him with much enthusiasm.

Though Jesus was initially welcomed with praise, we know that things quickly changed. Some eventually became so hostile that they put Jesus to death, but it's useful to ponder the initial response He received. This initial response is one that must become continuously new in our lives. The initial response was that He "was praised by all."

Jesus would later teach about this initial experience many would have toward the Gospel when He taught the Parable of the Sower. Recall that the seed that was sown on rocky ground, that fell among thorns, and that was sown in good soil all began to grow. Only that which was sown on the path failed to grow, because the birds came and ate it up. This latter case describes those who are completely indifferent to the Gospel. But in today's Gospel, the "all" are those who at least paid attention and initially responded with enthusiasm. The seed began to grow in these three scenarios—but, of course, in only one of those cases did the seed ultimately bear good fruit.

Another way to look at this initial encounter with the Gospel is to consider a child. In almost every case, when a child is presented with the Gospel, they will begin to respond and even find excitement in the faith. But, as many parents have seen, this initial welcome is sometimes followed by a rejection of the Gospel later in life.



When did you initially encounter the Gospel? For some it was during childhood. For others, there was a powerful experience of conversion later in life. Think of that initial encounter you had and the ways that you were excited by your newfound faith. Has that experience continued and grown in your life? Or has your initial praise of God and enthusiasm dwindled or even died?

Reflect, today, upon the fact that God wants us to continuously experience the Gospel as something new and transforming. The newness of the life of grace must never wear off. Ponder this experience in your life and try to see yourself as one of the people in today's Gospel who heard Jesus for the first time. Ponder their enthusiasm and join in their praise of our Lord so that you will be motivated to let God and the preaching of His holy Word continuously transform you.

Glorious Word of God, You have come to set us free by revealing to us Your love and mercy and by bestowing that grace upon us. Please open my mind and heart to Your holy Word so that I will be driven by a holy love to serve and follow You all the days of my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

Helpful Household Hints by Harvey Levin

Keeping Warm

Now that cold weather is upon us, we need to find better ways to keep us warm. Obviously, a warm coat is "warm." But it is not practical to have various coats in every degree of warmth. So, make sure that your "warm" coat is loose enough to layer underneath it to keep yourself toasty as … uh toast.

Also, moisture from your body evaporates, so you do not want any moisture in your clothes. Clean clothes are warmer than clothes from yesterday.

Also, color is essential. Dark colors are warmer than light colors. This is regardless of visible light. Yes, black underwear is warmer than white underwear. It has a higher coefficient of thermal conductivity. That is why chocolate ice cream is softer than vanilla ice cream though both are in your dark freezer.

But sometimes you will be outside and regardless of what you are wearing, your fingers and toes are cold. Take ten deep breaths. Count them. Your blood gets aerated and it causes your capillaries to dilate and the extremities get warmer. This really works.

In this cold weather you have swapped the baseball cap for a knit hat. But remember two hats are warmer than one hat.

Young Adult Ministry

Sunday, February 9 at 1:00 PM
Sip & Paint Aid for Women Fundraiser in Festival Hall



Join us on Saturday, February 9th, from 1-4 PM for a Paint & Sip Fundraiser benefiting Aid for Women, an organization dedicated to supporting women facing unexpected pregnancies with emotional, practical, and spiritual care. Enjoy an afternoon of creativity, community, and refreshments—all while making a meaningful impact!

Come paint, sip, and give back before football festivities kick off. Let's support a great cause together!

Sign up in the link below. The registration link can also be found on our YAM social media!

https://form.jotform.com/250094535653155

YAM Game Night— Saturday, February 22 at 6 PM

On Saturday, February 22, our Young Adult Ministry will be hosting a game night for the community! Come enjoy a fun evening playing classic such as Euchre, Sorry!, and Monopoly or bring your own favorite game to introduce the community to. We will have multiple tables set up in Festival Hall to accommodate the group and we encourage everyone to invite a friend and have a great time!

YAM 3x3 Basketball— Saturday, March 8



3-on-3 Basketball is back! Come join St. Alphonsus' Young Adult Ministry (YAM) for its annual 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Grab some friends and join us for one of our most exciting events of the year!

The tournament will be a round-robin group play followed by a single elimination tournament for the top 6 teams. Each team is guaranteed 3 games in the group play. There is not a separate tournament for men and women so teams can be co-ed. There will be a limit of 16 teams, so sign up before all of the spots are full. Teams are limited to 5 players. If you do not have a team and want to sign up individually without a team, we will place you with other individual sign ups to create a team. Please specify "Individual" in the team category at the registration link.

Sign up here: www.givecentral.org/location/39/33436

As part of the event, we will provide snacks and drinks. All are welcome to come and watch the event for free if not part of a team. For those watching the event who are not part of a team but would still like to partake in the food and drink we ask that you make a $5 donation.

Date: Saturday March 8th
Location: St. Alphonsus Gymnasium
Time: Starts at 10:00 AM
Cost: $15 per person; each player must sign-up individually.

IMPORTANT: Please be sure to rank your skill level 1, 2, or 3 (below for example)
1 – Recreational: No experience to recreational experience. Did not play basketball in high school or only occasionally plays pick-up
2 – Competitive: Played basketball at any point in high school or plays pick-up/intramurals regularly
3 – Elite: Played varsity basketball in high school or college or plays competitive pick-up/intramural basketball

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 1/19: $13,086

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

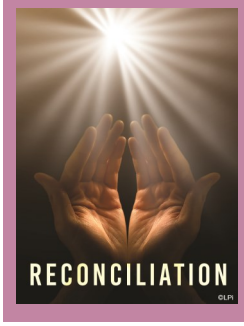
Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America— Jan. 26, 2025



This weekend, we take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean lack access to church programs and ministries because of a rising secular culture, rugged rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers. Your generosity enables our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Please be generous in the special collection. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america

Our Narthex is Designed for Children and Parents

Did you know that we designed the narthex for the convenience of young families? We know that it can be difficult to take a young child to Mass. We applaud the effort you make! If you feel the need to take your child out of the church, please feel welcome to bring him or her to the narthex. The glass wall and speakers enable you to still see and hear the Mass while you soothe your child.



Please pray one Hail Mary for all the Religious Education students who will be receiving First Reconciliation at the end of this month!

Low Gluten Hosts Available



If you are allergic to wheat or have celiac disease, or for any reason can't tolerate gluten, we have hosts available for you. Low gluten hosts are available at every Mass, even daily Masses. To receive a low gluten host at Mass, all you have to do is get in the Communion line for the celebrant, and then just point to the little ciborium that the priest sets on the communion rail. These hosts have 0.01% gluten. We can provide further information about their content upon request.

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