Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL 28, 2024: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



"I am the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing." (Jn 15:5)

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*

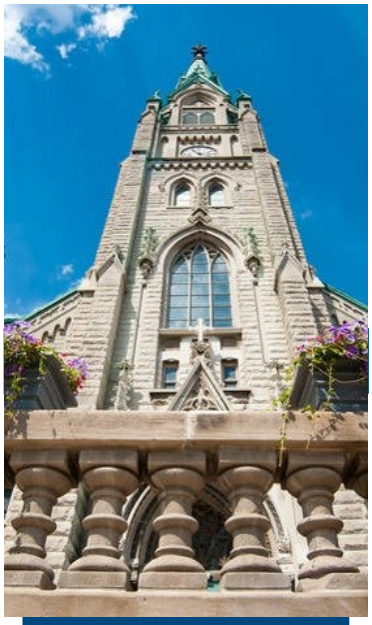
Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

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



WEDDING BANNS

Elaine Carrow
and
Brian Hopkins

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $14,890

Offertory for 4/21: $12,539

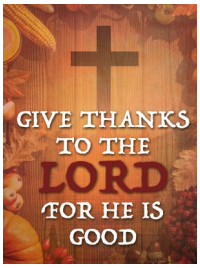
Please remember to help the poor. Donations to the poor box in the narthex go to our St. Vincent DePaul Society.

Left QR code for GiveCentral; Right QR code for Venmo

QR code for Zelle Users

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Amelia Grace Jank
Sophie Grace Meneghini
Orion Thomas Ross



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, April 28
9:00 AM +The Ives Family
11:00 AM +Martha Victoria Bourquardez
12:30 PM +Larry Jones and Kathleen Jacobs
5:00 PM Charlotte Hudson

Monday, April 29
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Tuesday, April 30
8:30 AM The People of St. Alphonsus

Wednesday, May 1
6:00 PM The People of St. Alphonsus

Thursday, May 2
8:30 AM +Raymond Wagner

Friday, May 3
8:30 AM +Rosemary Burke Dolan

Saturday, May 4
8:30 AM First Communion Retreat Volunteers

Sunday, May 5
9:00 AM +Charlotte Macha
11:00 AM +Natividad Velasco
12:30 PM The People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM +Ejatou Diallo

News and Events

First Brats of Summer!

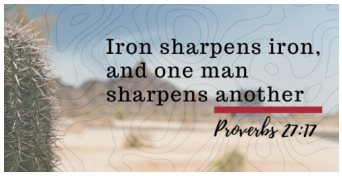


Join us on Friday, May 31 for the First Brats of Summer, or in German, "Erstesommerbratfest!"

The Brat Crew from Oktoberfest will be making their famous brats to celebrate the beginning of Summer Days! Brat packages can be ordered for $16 during pre-sale only and can be picked up between 3 PM-4 PM or 5 PM-7 PM. Individual brats will also be available for $5 straight from the grill during these times! Join us for this easy-going, delicious fest!

Quantities are limited, order your packs early! The order link for pre-sale will be live on our GiveCentral page beginning Sunday, May 5.

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, May 3**, 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.*

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.

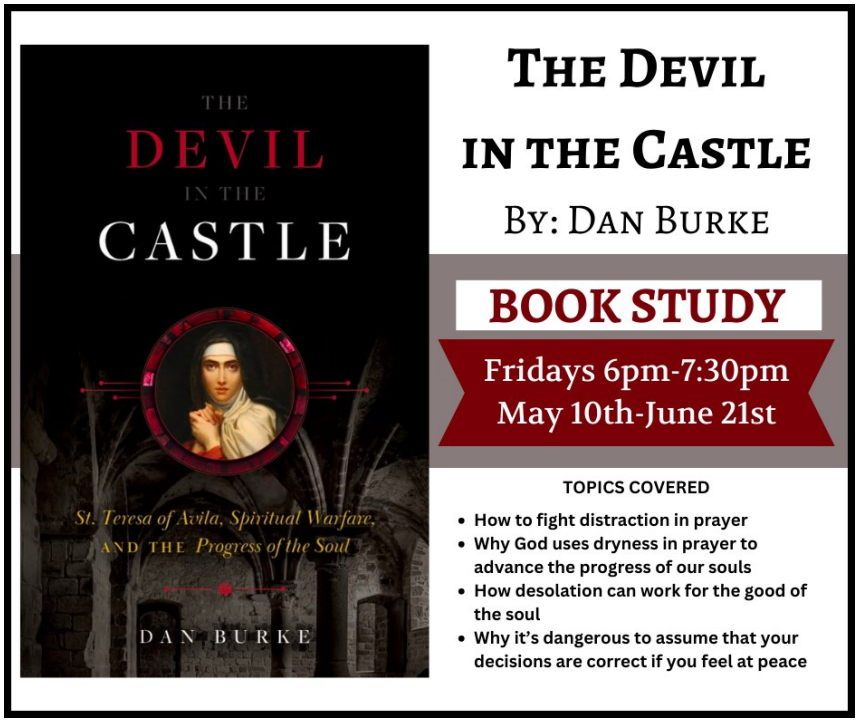
Wednesday Evening Men's Vespers

Men of the parish are invited to attend our Communio prayer group each Wednesday at 8:15-9 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, 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

Faith Formation

Book Study: The Devil in the Castle

Fridays, 6 PM—7:30 PM, May 10-June 21 in Rectory Common Room



Join us for a 7 Week Study diving into the spiritual riches of St. Teresa of Avila's mansions from *"The Interior Castle."*

Using her masterpiece as a guide, bestselling author Dan Burke takes you on an illuminating journey through the seven levels of spiritual progress, explaining what God is accomplishing within your soul at each stage, as well as the finely tailored demonic strategies applied to throw you off your path.

You'll learn how the devil is as active in your prayer life as you are, and how the saints were able to counter Satan as he adapted his schemes to correspond with where they were on their spiritual journeys.

Pick up the book on your own and join us as we work through it!

Questions? Contact Emily at eember@stalphonsuschicago.church

Walking with Purpose

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



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

The **Touching the Divine** Bible study focuses on qualities of Jesus revealed through the Gospel of John. This study draws us into a deeper loving relationship with Jesus as we reflect on His life and personality.

Saint John referred to himself as "the disciple whom Jesus loved," and as we study, John will teach is how much Jesus loves us and how His love is the true satisfaction of our souls. Questions? Contact Susan Combes at smbcombes51@gmail.com

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.

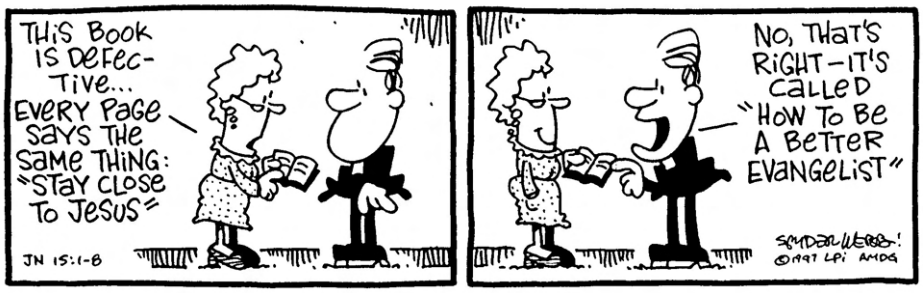
Sign up at *www.givecentral.org/location/39*



St. Alphonsus Parish has purchased a subscription to FORMED so that you, yes YOU! can receive FREE access to Bible Studies, Family Programming, Classic Spiritual Books, and more! ¡Hay programas en español también!

TO SIGN UP FREE:
1) Go to formed.org/signup
2) Type in Zip Code 60657
3) Choose St. Alphonsus
4) Fill out your Name and Email
5) YOU'RE IN!

PARA REGISTRARSE GRATIS:
1) Vaya a formed.org/signup
2) Escriba el código postal 60657
3) Elige a St. Alphonsus
4) Escriba su nombre y correo electrónico
5) ¡DISFRUTA!



Spread the Faith
Inspire Hearts
Make a Difference

Safe Families for Children






"After my husband, Nick, and I married, we began that conversation and started praying about how we wanted to serve others as a couple. Then we heard about Safe Families with the mission to come around families who are in crisis, support them, and be a community to them. The goal is to prevent abuse and neglect so that kids don't ultimately end up in the foster system. It was like a light bulb went off and I knew that was exactly what we wanted to do.

We signed up to be a host family and the day we were officially approved, we got a call about hosting a little boy. Over the next year, we hosted three times, twice for mothers who were fleeing domestic violence and desperately needed a fresh start, and the third mom who needed extra support with her baby because of urgent medical issues.

These experiences opened our eyes to those who truly had no one to call."

Read the full blog post at safe-families.org/blog

Join our ministry, apply to volunteer with Safe Families! sfcms.net/apply

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

Chicago Young Adult Eucharistic Revival

Friday, June 28, 2024 | 6:30 – 10 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Catholic Church
1429 West Wellington Avenue, Chicago, IL 60657

Join us as we celebrate the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the Archdiocese of Chicago!

Come experience this historic Eucharistic event for ALL Chicagoland area young adult Catholics, as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage officially makes its way through Chicago on its way to Indianapolis for the Eucharistic Congress. The event will include Mass, a Eucharistic Procession, and a social afterwards.

Questions? Please contact Rebecca Siar at **rsiar@archchicago.org**.

To learn more and register for this event, please visit **EucharisticRevivalChicago.org**.

Saint Alphonsus
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

Our Mission

As members of St. Alphonsus Young Adult Ministry, we walk alongside one another in faith. Our community is focused on:

- Meaningful worship, careful discernment, and prayerful reflection
- Curiosity and a thirst for the truth
- Service to one another, our church, and our city
- Lasting friendships and an invitation to fellowship and meaningful participation

Co-Ed Basketball Tournament— Saturday, May 18



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. Entry is $15. Please read the full details on the GiveCentral sign-up at www.givecentral.org/location/39/33435

More Young Adult News and Events Around Chicago

Catholic Sports Leagues have their popular Kickball league on Tuesday nights, starting May 14, at Gil Park, 825 W. Sheridan. This is a great way to meet new people! Sign up now at www.catholicsportsleagues.com

St. Michael's Church in Old Town, 1633 N. Cleveland, is hosting their "NextGen Mass" on Tuesday, May 7 at 6 PM. Immediately following is "*Finding the Right Balance*" - a chance for discussion & sharing on work/life balance & how that affects your faith life. Food & drinks provided!

Ravenswood Catholic Young Adults are hosting their annual Co-Ed 16" Softball tournament. Games are on Monday evenings, starting May 20, at Winnemac Park, 5100 N. Leavitt St. 60625. Full details and register at www.eventbrite.com/e/rcya-softball-2024-tickets-706399739637

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.

Gospel Reflection

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you." John 15:1–3

Seeking to be Pruned

Pruning a vine is an important part of helping it to grow and produce not only more fruit but the best fruit. If left unpruned, a grape vine will eventually produce less fruit and poorer quality fruit. Good pruning helps to direct the nourishment of the vine to the new buds that are most fruitful.

Jesus' teaching above uses the imagery of pruning a vine to help us understand that faith must lead to charity. First, Jesus says that He is the "true vine." He is the only source of the nourishment we need for the new life of grace. He is the only way to Heaven and salvation. Knowing our Lord and being attached to Him firmly is faith. Second, our Lord says that He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit. This indicates that faith without the good fruit of charity is dead and is like a branch on a vine that produces nothing. Third, when Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with loving attention so that "it bears more fruit."

To apply these teachings to your own life, begin by looking at your faith as if it were a branch firmly attached to a vine. Do you believe all that God has spoken through His holy Word? It is useful to regularly examine your conscience in regard to your faith. Since faith is the first step in the spiritual life, it must remain firmly grounded in the Truth God has revealed. This means we must regularly study the Word of God as it is revealed through the Scriptures and the catechetical teachings of the Church, and assent to those teachings with all our mind.

Next, after affirming your faith in all that God has spoken through the Scriptures and the Church, try to examine your charity. Do you see concrete acts of love in your life that result from your faith? In other words, we can "love" many things in a purely emotional sort of way. But charity is based on faith, not on how we feel.



Charity is the fruit of faith. What acts of charity can you point to in your life? What have you sensed God calling you to do in a selfless and sacrificial way? Have you done it?

Finally, when you discover the ways that charity is alive within you, know that God will focus His pruning there. Pruning can be painful. It will require sacrifice, patience in the face of trial, overcoming selfishness, and doing things you don't feel like doing. In fact, sometimes God even makes charitable acts seem unpleasant as a way of pruning your motivations and making them more pure, based more on faith than on emotion. But this is good.

Reflect, today, upon this holy imagery from Jesus. It's a lesson from nature that reveals the supernatural life of grace at work. Don't be deterred by the pruning God wants to do. Embrace suffering with love, respond to injustice with forgiveness, offer mercy when you don't feel like it, and seek to serve selflessly those who seem undeserving. Doing so will prune you so that God will be able to build up His Kingdom in glorious ways through you.

Jesus, most glorious Vine, You and You alone are the source of all nourishment in life. From You all good things come. Help me to have a firm faith in You and all that You have revealed, so that this faith will bud forth and bring about an abundance of good fruit for the glorious building up of Your Kingdom. Jesus, I trust in You.

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May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts- 3rd **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den **6:30 PM** Young Adult Book Club **8:15 PM** Men's Vespers	**2** **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts—Tigers **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	**3** **7:30 PM** Men's Group— Holy Hour Praise and Adoration	**4** **1:00 PM** First Communion **6:00 PM** Our Cluster Youth Ministry Visitor Mass
5 Cinco de Mayo First Communion—2nd Grade at 2 PM **3:00 PM** RCIA **6:00 PM** YAM Board Meeting **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**6** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **7:00 PM** AACA School Board Meeting **7:30 PM** Knights of Columbus Meeting	**7** **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **6:00 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **6:15 PM** Religious Education **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**8** **1:45 PM** Junior Scouts—4th/5th **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den **6:30 PM** Young Adult Book Club **8:15 PM** Men's Vespers	**9** **8:00 AM** AACA Ducky Derby **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts—Tigers **6:15 PM** Leonine Forum Mass **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	**10** **8:00 AM** AACA Ducky Derby **6:00 PM** Book Study Group	**11**
12 Mother's Day Catholic Charities Special Collection **3:00 PM** RCIA **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**13** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group	**14** Religious Education — May Crowning/ Last Day of RE **9:30 AM** Walking With Purpose **6:00 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **6:30 PM** Walking With Purpose **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**15** **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den **6:30 PM** Young Adult Book Club **8:15 PM** Men's Vespers	**16** **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts—Tigers **3:00 PM** Girl Scouts—Bridge Ceremony **4:00 PM** Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Ceremony **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	**17** **5:00 PM** Archdiocese Vocations Office Mass w/ Holy Hour to Follow **6:00 PM** Book Study Group	**18** **6:00 PM** YAM 3x3 Basketball Tournament
19 Little Sisters of the Poor Appeal **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	**20** **8:30 AM** AA Daily Reflections Group **10:45 AM** Catholic Tours	**21** **6:00 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** YAM Sacrament Series **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	**22** **1:45 PM** Brownie Scouts- 2nd **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den **6:30 PM** Young Adult Book Club **8:15 PM** Men's Vespers	**23** **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts—Tigers **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Women's Faith Group	**24** AACA No School **6:00 PM** Book Study Group	**25**

May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 **7:00 PM** Big Book AA Meeting	27 **Memorial Day/ AACA and Rectory Closed**	28 **6:00 PM** AACA 8th Grade Graduation Tailgate **6:00 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 889 **7:00 PM** Finance Council Meeting **7:00 PM** Philosophy Forum	29 **8:30 AM** AACA Pin Day Mass **3:30 PM** Cub Scouts—Arrow of Light Den **6:30 PM** Young Adult Book Club **8:15 PM** Men's Vespers	30 **8:15 AM** Blessings in a Backpack **3:00 PM** Cub Scouts—Tigers **6:00 PM AACA 8th Grade Graduation** **6:30 PM** Women's Faith Group **7:00 PM** Men's Faith Group	31 **First Brats of Summer— First Wave at 3 PM; Second at 5 PM** **6:00 PM** Book Study Group **7:30 PM** Praise and Adoration	

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.

At the Athenaeum

After Liberalism— A Conversation with Patrick Deneen and R.R Reno
Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30 PM



Please join us for a conversation with Patrick Deneen and First Things editor R. R. Reno on postliberalism. The two speakers will explore the effects of liberalism on individuals and society at large. We invite you to bring your most challenging questions and allow yourself to be challenged.

Patrick J. Deneen holds a B.A. in English literature, a PhD in Political Science from Rutgers University, and has been a professor of Constitutional Studies at University of Notre Dame since Fall 2012. He is the author and editor of several books and numerous articles and reviews and has delivered invited lectures around the world. His teaching and writing interests focus on the history of political thought, American political thought, liberalism, conservatism, and constitutionalism. This event is ticketed as Free-Will donation, with suggested donations being $15 and up. athenaeumcenter.org/events/2024/after-liberalism-a-conversation-with-patrick-deneen-and-r-r-reno

With This Light— May 10 at 7 PM



During her 70 years as a nun, Sister Maria Rosa Leggol helped over 87,000 Honduran children escape poverty and violence through an ecosystem of social, educational and entrepreneurial projects, inspiring an international network of supporters to expand her work. In the midst of civil wars, economic collapse and natural disasters, she continued her charge to help young people, such as Maria and Rosa, break familial cycles of poverty and violence to create lives of their own. *With This Light* poetically interweaves the compelling present-day stories of these teenagers with the epic life and noble actions of Sister Maria Rosa. **Join for a screening of the film + a conversation directly after with Executive Producer, Jessica Sarowitz. Tickets are $10**
athenaeumcenter.org/events/2024/with-this-light

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- Fri

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