Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH 5, 2023: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 8:30 AM
Wed 6:00 PM
Sun 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM (Spanish) and 5:00 PM

Alphonsus Academy & Center For the Arts

Friday 8:30 AM or as announced

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday 6:30— 7:30 PM

Confessions

Wednesday 6:30—7:30 PM
Saturday 11:00 AM—12:00 PM
**Or call one of the priests for an appointment*

Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother,
and led them up a high mountain by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them;
his face shone like the sun.
(Mt 17:1-2)

Worship

This Week's Readings

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9
Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
Jamie Wallett
Sandra Wilson
Monica Alexis Rios
Margaret Nichols
Maria Eisler
Tessa Sergent
Carolina Goldie
Diane Mareci
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Emilia Hurtado
Bernard Zapp
David Birks
Celeste Soult
Carol Reckwerdt
Magdalena Gonzalez
Michael Aldape
Jane Christensen
William Ahearn
Janet Horvat
Frank G. Bauer
Al Corleone
Mary Perisin
Cheryl Nester-Detweiler
Marla Alicea
Leon Wink
Judy Fredrickson
Tracy Duda
Jacob Duda
Dorothy O'Brien
Ryan Meadow
Danny Browder
Carol Kania

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $15,218

Offertory for 2/26: $13,821

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

Welcome to the Parish!

Melissa and Matthew Simpson
Owen
Theodore

Caroline Berg

Kathryn and James Weisenburger

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Ellie Olivia Kovich

Reagan Jo Mahoney

Charles Edward King

Matilda Ruth Flood-Grady

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

"Weenzo" Nelson

Maya Granberg

Andres Vasquez-Lasso

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



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, March 5
9:00 AM +Edward Marsalek
11:00 AM +Richard Meindl
12:30 PM +Juan Gonzales
5:00 PM For the People of St. Alphonsus

Monday, March 6
8:30 AM +David A. Dufek

Tuesday, March 7
8:30 AM +Joseph Riffner

Wednesday, March 8
6:00 PM For the People of St. Alphonsus

Thursday, March 9
8:30 AM For the People of St. Alphonsus

Friday, March 10
8:30 AM Carol Kania

Sunday, March 12
9:00 AM +Edward Marsalek
11:00 AM +Richard Meindl
12:30 PM For the People of St. Alphonsus
5:00 PM For the People of St. Alphonsus

News and Events



Church Architecture Talk/Mass/Social

Join us this Saturday March 11th at 4 PM in the Church for a look at the art and architecture of our own Saint Alphonsus Church. Chicago architect Thomas M. Dietz will discuss the architectural history of the building with a specific eye toward its interior art program. As an introduction to the principles defining sacred space, the presentation will address a number of theological concepts evident in the church. The ultimate intent is to provide participants with a foundation in the theological principles and tools of analysis that can deepen their appreciation of the Church's vast architectural patrimony. An opportunity of Q&A will follow the presentation, after which Mass will be celebrated (an anticipatory Mass which counts for the Third Sunday of Lent). After Mass there will be a social in the rectory's second floor Common Room for more conversations with Tom the architect and other attendees!

Safe Families for Children Ministry

Please join us for New Volunteer Training on Saturday March 11th, here at St. Alphonsus!

FREE light breakfast and lunch included!

Volunteer roles covered in training:

- "Host Family" - host local children in your home for short periods of time
- "Family Friend" - provide volunteer babysitting or transportation for host families and local families in crisis situations

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

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

The Stations Art Exhibition at ACTC

Now Through April 16



Athenaeum Center for Thought & Culture is pleased to present Lucas Reiner's *The Stations*. Following a traditional medieval devotional narrative that recounts Christ's ultimate passage through death to redemption, The Stations paintings transcend religious affiliation to embrace an expanded vision of empathy in peaceful accord with nature, engaging the profound capacity of art to embody a universal human longing to comprehend suffering, loss, and the passage of time. Learn more/get tickets, (suggested free-will donation) at athenaeumcenter.org/events/2023/the-stations/

Holy Week & Easter Schedule



Palm Sunday, April 2
Mass times: Sunday 9:00, 11:00 AM, 12:30 PM (Spanish) and 5:00 PM

Holy Thursday, April 6

8:30 AM	Liturgy of the Hours
7:00 PM	Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, April 7

8:30 AM	Liturgy of the Hours
3:00 PM	Stations of the Cross
7:00 PM	Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday, April 8

12:00 PM	Blessing of Easter Baskets
8:00 PM	Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY, April 9
9:00 AM
11:00 AM
12:30 PM

Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16

3:00 PM	Holy Hour & Confessions

Faith Formation

Walking With Purpose Women's Group
Tuesday mornings/evenings



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

We live in a self-centered culture that all too often leaves us feeling empty and dissatisfied. A fuller view of God and His glory is the perfect antidote— find this during our journey through the Beholding Your King Bible study.

We'll study King David, select psalms, the temple, and many Old Testament prophets and see the ways in which they all point to the coming King of Kings, Jesus Christ. This Nine-Lesson Bible study is the second part of a two-part series and is ideally completed after Beholding His Glory.

Our new Beholding Your King bible study group meets ***Tuesdays from 9:30—11 AM and 6:30—8 PM***. Questions? Contact Susan Combes at suecombes@hotmail.com



Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Pope Francis' election to the papacy by praying the Hail Mary 10 times!

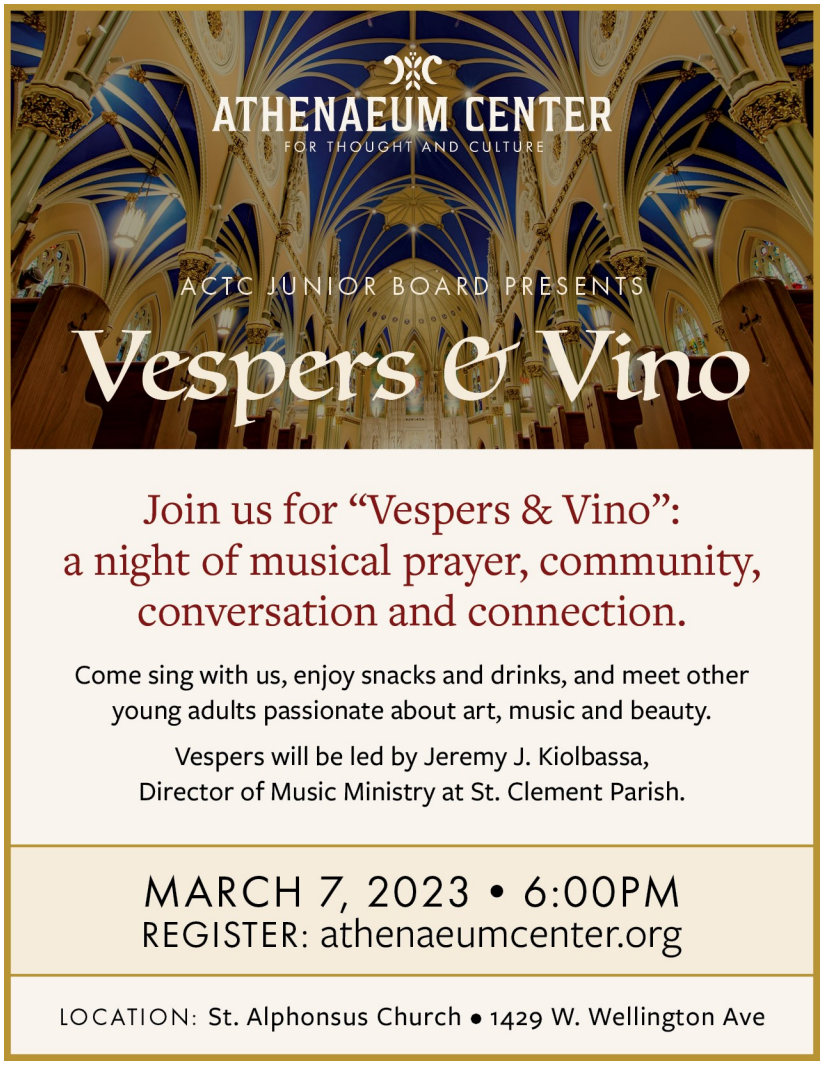
You can register your participation on the campaign by lighting a digital candle on www.decimus-annus.org/en/site/index, a website of the Vatican's Dicastery for Communication.

Friends Through Faith— Volunteers Needed!

The newly formed Friends Through Faith Adult Social Group hopes to foster essential faith-filled connections and build our St. Alphonsus community through fellowship and fun.

In order to maintain this group, we need volunteers. We will have a zoom committee meeting to discuss specifics. If you are interested, please email Amy Keefner, amykeefner@gmail.com.

We gather for breakfast, cocktails, coffee, and tea the last Sunday of every month following the 11 AM Mass. Connecting with other parishioners can lead to lasting friendships, fruitful ministries, or even just a friendly wave and smile the next time you attend Mass. We hope to create small service groups, outings and friendships out of this community. To register for the March 26th gathering, please email Amy.



Young Adult Ministry

BE SOCIAL
BE SPIRITUAL
BE CHARITABLE
BE INTELLECTUAL
BE CATHOLIC

Wonder Series Discussion Group
Starting Tuesday March 14, 7:30— 8:30 PM



Word on Fire has produced an excellent five-part video series called Wonder which explores the beautiful complementarity of faith and science and inspires awe at the mysterious beauty of God's creation. Please join YAM for a discussion series every other Tuesday starting March 14, from 7:30-8:30 PM in the St. Alphonsus rectory conference room (enter through the rectory front door and signs/people will guide you). We will watch the video (10-15 minutes each) as a group then open it up for discussion. Contact Intellectual Chair Jacob at kelleyjacobm98@gmail.com for info/questions.

YAM Dip N' Dunk
March Madness Watch Party



Come to St. Al's Festival Hall on Saturday, March 18th starting at 4 PM to watch March Madness College Basketball Games while sampling various dips!

Everybody loves March Madness, but we're pairing ours with an array of fantastic dips made by members of the St. Al's YAM community! Think you have the best dip recipe? Sign up at the Google Form link below to let us know if you are going to bring a dip to share.

If you plan on attending and don't bring dip or chips, we ask you to bring $5 to enjoy what's been made. We'll be voting on the best dip at the end of the event! Other snacks, beer and soda will be provided as well. bit.ly/YAMDipnDunk
And don't worry, we'll have multiple screens going so you can watch your favorite basketball team playing the early games.

3v3 Basketball Tournament
Saturday April 1 at 10 AM

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/event/33435

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. After the event we will be heading to a bar (TBD) to socialize and watch the Final Four for March Madness

Time: Starts at 10:00 AM, Cost: $15 per person; each player must sign-up individually.

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*

Lent 2023

Lenten Fish Fry— Friday March 31 at 6 PM!

Truly a highlight and staple of Lent, St. Alphonsus will be hosting one grand Lenten Fish Fry this year. This event is sponsored by our Knights of Columbus council to benefit charitable projects of the parish.

Date: Friday, March 31st
Where: Festival Hall, beneath the church
Time: 6-9 PM
Cost: $15 for adults. $7 for kids 5-12. Free for 4 and under.
Adults can purchase tickets online at www.givecentral.org/location/39/event/36528

Menu: Fried Beer Battered Cod, Coleslaw, Peas, Carrots, Chips, Hawaiian Bread, mini-cupcakes
BYOB Alcohol only. Non-alcoholic drinks and desserts will be for sale
Entertainment: Cornhole/Bags for Adults, Two performances by Trinity Irish Dancer Troupe
Multiple kids games and prizes
Parking/Directions: Limited free parking in the church lots off of Oakdale and Southport

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!! Sign-up to volunteer at bit.ly/stalsffvolunteer

Contact Carlos Medina, cmedina15158@gmail.com for more information.

Coming to Confession During Lent



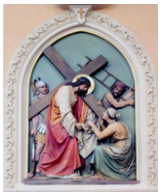
Lent is a traditional time to 'take stock' and discover the ways in which we can turn more fully toward the Lord and away from the sin that weighs us down. It is a great season in which to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

The sacrament is Reconciliation is regularly offered twice each week: Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:30 PM; Saturday from 11:00 to 11:30 AM. You may also contact the rectory office and schedule an appointment with a priest.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed at 6:30 PM on Fridays before Stations. If you need a refresher on how to pray the chaplet, you can go to www.catholic-link.org/how-to-pray-the-divine-mercy-chaplet-your-step-by-step-visual-guide/

Stations of the Cross



Each Friday during Lent, the Stations of the Cross are prayed at 7 PM. This prayer allows us to meditate on Christ's Passion and death while walking the "Way of the Cross." It is a wonderful way to grow in one's knowledge of being a disciple of the Lord.



Learn more at illinoismarchforlife.org



AACA Art & Soul Fundraiser—Friday March 10

Tickets are now on sale for our parish school's biggest fundraiser, Art & Soul, which will take place Friday March 10 at Rockwell on the River, 3057 N. Rockwell. The gala includes a silent and live auction, dinner, dancing, and a paddle raise for a specific project benefiting all our students. *"Plant the Seed for Tomorrow"* is the theme this year! Volunteers needed!

Get your tickets, sign up to volunteer and learn more about this amazing annual event at www.aaca.school/artandsoul



All parishioners are asked to fill out the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI) Survey,** a great way to reflect on your own spiritual growth while helping our parish plan for the future. Complete the short 10 min anonymous survey at portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/gg6g64 or use the QR code here. Available now to March 31.

Gospel Reflection

A Small Glimpse of Jesus' Great Glory

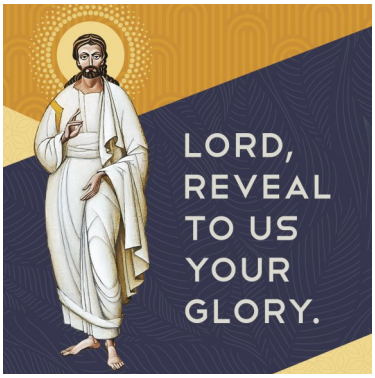
Jesus provides us with moments of joy and consolation on our journey of faith to sustain us through the dark valleys.

In today's Gospel, Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up a mountain and reveals to them his glory as the only Son of the Father. They had already come to believe in him because of his words and miracles. In the previous chapter of Matthew's gospel, Peter had made his profession of faith that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. This, now, was an opportunity to see for themselves the divine glory of Jesus hidden in his humanity.

There was a specific reason why Jesus did this. He wanted to give them a glimpse of his resurrection so they would desire it enough to endure his passion and death, and to endure the demands that ministry with Jesus would place on them.

Jesus was asking a lot of Peter, James, and John. He called them to leave their families and jobs. He required them to believe that he was the Son of God. And he sent them to proclaim that to others. In time, he would ask them to accompany him through his suffering and death. Remember, it was Peter, James, and John who would also go up to the Mount of Olives with Jesus as he suffered the agony in the garden. For them to accomplish all this, they would need something to hold on to, a memory of Jesus' glory to sustain them along the way. And so, Jesus' transfiguration gives the apostles a taste of the future resurrection to help them accept the suffering and shame of the cross.

Paul encourages us in the second reading, "Bear your share of the hardships which the gospel entails." Jesus is asking a lot of us as well. Unlike the apostles, we have never seen Jesus, yet he expects us to accept him as Savior and Lord. To each of us he has given a certain mission which he expects us to undertake. Whether our mission is to be a good parent, a good student, a good spouse or a good priest or deacon, we need help, especially when we encounter hardships. For us to be faithful to Jesus and to the mission he's called us to, we need small glimpses of his glory.



God is revealing to us His glory in the face of Christ so that our desire to know and love Him will be greater than any difficulty we may face on our journey of faith. Peter, James, and John were privileged to see for themselves Jesus transfigured in glory. We have to hold on to less dramatic manifestations of Jesus' presence in our lives as a small taste already on earth of the life that we will share with Jesus in heaven. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Eucharist. Bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ to give us on earth a taste of the intimacy we will have with God in heaven. Through the Eucharist, Jesus is really present among us and within us. We hold on to that small taste of future glory to sustain us during the hardships which come with living the gospel message of love. And we claim it as a promise that one day that glory will be ours with Jesus at the end of time.

—Douglas Sousa, S.T.L.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus
Your glory is present to us always
In the love of a spouse
In the smile of a child
In the beauty of creation
In the word that consoles us
In the sacraments that strengthen
And heal us.
Open our eyes to those glimpses
Of your glory hidden everywhere
So that we can find strength
To bear our cross
And so that we can help others
Bear their burdens as well.
Amen.

Liturgy Music Reflection by Brian Bloye

The *Kyrie eleison* [Lord, have mercy] is one of the most beautiful parts of the ancient liturgy. After the entrance rites, we enter into a moment of humbly acknowledging our fallen state, and asking God for forgiveness, in order that we may go on to celebrate the sacred mysteries with a clean heart. We could liken this moment to a spiritual "washing of our hands" before taking part in a meal.

As the liturgy took shape in its earliest Roman days, it was celebrated in Greek, not Latin. Once Latin became normative, the *Kyrie eleison* was not changed, and continued to be used in the untranslated Greek. This is seen as a sign of its deep importance to the early church. Though it may also be sung or recited in the vernacular [English, in our case], we continue to prefer the use of Greek, not only because of its connection to the very earliest days of the church, but also because of the many beautiful ways it has been set to music in chant and polyphony throughout the church's history. [A side note: if you were to translate *Kyrie eleison* into Latin, it would be *miserere mei, Deus*, which is used in some notable musical compositions, but it is not used at the appointed Kyrie position during liturgy].

The Kyrie became part of the "Mass Ordinary" in the Tridentine rite that was in regular use between 1570 and 1962. The Ordinary consisted of the Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, and Agnus Dei. You will recognize all of these texts, as we continue to sing or say them all: Lord Have Mercy, Glory to God, Creed, Holy, Holy, and Lamb of God.

The Kyrie has a tripartite form:

Kyrie eleison [Lord, have mercy]
Christe eleison [Christ, have mercy]
Kyrie eleison [Lord, have mercy]

In many early settings, each invocation was *itself* sung three times, resulting in a nine-fold repetition of the text. If you attended Mass this past weekend at St. Alphonsus, you heard a beautiful chant setting of the Kyrie that was constructed in this way. [Now you know why that Kyrie was so long!] We sang *Kyrie eleison* three times, then on a higher note we sang the *Christe eleison* three times, and finally we sang the original Kyrie again three more times. The very last Kyrie, however, was highly ornamented, and much longer than any of the others, as if to intensify and sum up our request for mercy.

The Kyrie is often one of the most compact movements of the Mass Ordinary set by great composers, making it ideal for use in our current liturgy [the *Novus Ordo*]. At St. Alphonsus, we will hear one of these beautiful and compact settings during each of the Sundays of Lent. I will give some background about each Kyrie (form, origin, and style) in the music bulletin each week.

In the *novus ordo* liturgy, the Kyrie is often sung by the people. You know how this goes: the cantor sings a special title of invocation in English [called a 'trope'], such as: "Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness." Then the cantor goes on to sing: "Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son," and the congregation immediately sings back: "Ky-ri-e e-le-i-son." This is sometimes colloquially referred to as the "trope" form, and it is a prayerful way for us to enter into the liturgy during ordinary time, or during liturgies when there is only a cantor available.

But what about during penitential seasons like Advent or Lent? Or when we want to celebrate a seasonal feast, an ordination, or a sacramental moment? In these liturgies, when presumably we have more musical forces at our disposal, we can use extended settings of the Kyrie (or Gloria, or even an entire Mass Ordinary) to highlight the solemnity of the celebration.

In this form (the "Confiteor" form), we all speak the words of the Confiteor together, and then we listen to a musically elaborated setting of the Kyrie. Such moments can give us a chance to reflect more deeply on the text itself, and allow us to enter for a longer time into a state of penitential contemplation than we might normally do. For this reason, the church asks us not to relegate this ancient music to the concert hall or to universities, but rather to make continued use of it as a "treasure of inestimable value"

During these weeks of Lent, may you use this time at the beginning of Mass, when the choir is singing the Kyrie, to call to mind the ways in which you want to begin anew, and to prayerfully approach the Mass with a clean heart.

–Brian Bloye, Music Director



THE MASS

The Liturgy of the Word

Have you ever visited one of your former homes, perhaps one that you haven't seen in years? As you walk around the block, memories will surface about your time there, especially if you were a child then. You may remember riding your bike around the street, visiting friends who lived a couple of homes down from your own. The smell in the air may evoke a specific season of the year. You'll remember major events that took place during the time of life you lived in this home.

There's something amazing about the human capacity for recollection. Young children often only need to be told the name of a specific "thing" once or twice before they are able to recall the name on their own. When we reassemble as families during holidays, we're able to remember the many stories of past holidays. Memory is an extraordinary gift.

THE DISPOSITION OF MEMORY

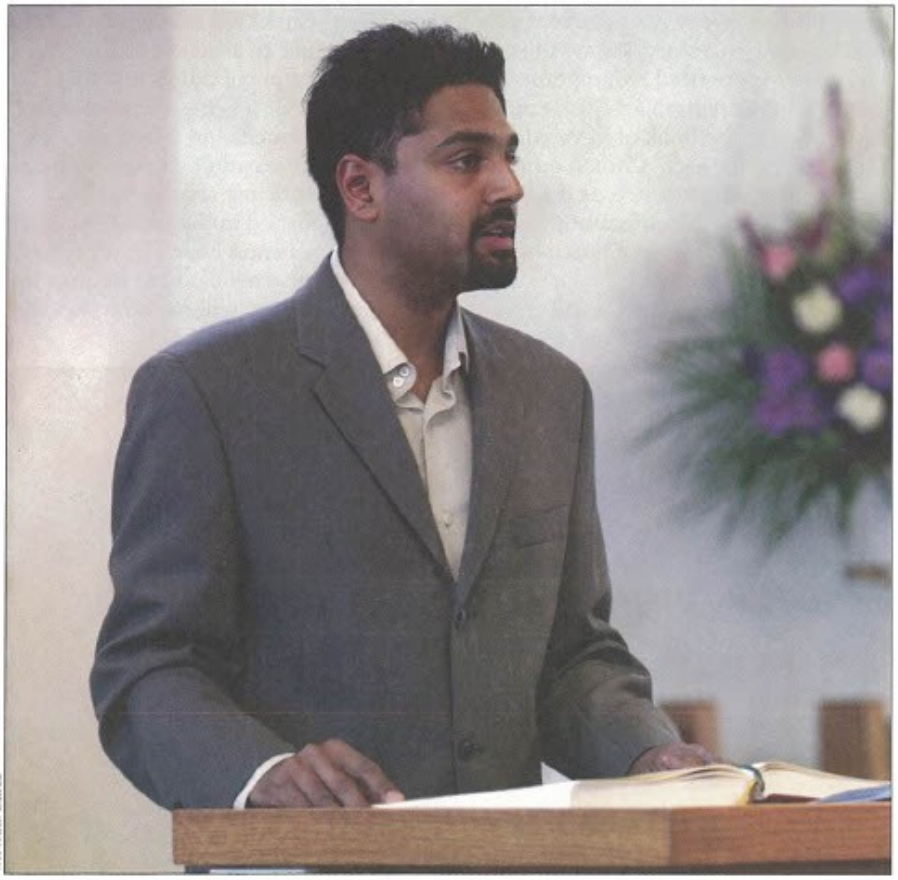
Even though we have an amazing capacity to remember key events, memory is not just about the ability to recall something, to think about what happened in the past. Memory is also linked to our identity. The memories that we have shape who we are and what we are called to be. When I remember a book that I read, I don't just think about the plot. I think about what I felt as I read the book, what insights were generated in the act of reading, and how my life was changed through the reading. If the book is a work of fiction, I may even think about how this book changed the way that I see myself or the world through an encounter with the characters in the story.

In praying the Mass, we must come to the celebration with this broader sense of memory. In the end, we Catholics tell the same stories again and again. We remember what God has accomplished in the covenant with Israel. We remember the Incarnation, the suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. We remember the lives of the saints, even the hope of the world to come.

We spend so much time remembering because we're learning to see ourselves as part of this story. If you're attentive to contemporary culture, you'll see a lot of stories being told. There's the story that fame and fortune are what makes a human being happy. There's the story that the only human beings that matter are ones who can do something in society. There's the story that we are made for constant work and activity.

The Catholic professes another story. The meaning of the world is not fame or fortune. The human person is not made for efficiency, work, and activity alone. Rather, the human being is made to participate in God's very life. The only story that makes sense of all other stories is God's involvement in our life.

And God is still deeply involved. When we listen to the Scriptures at Mass, we are not just remembering what happened a long time ago, in a land far, far away. We are remembering that Jesus Christ is the one who is fully human and fully divine. He is the one



WETTMAN IMAGE

THE MASS BULLETIN SERIES

- Week 1 - Origin of the Mass
- Week 2 - Disposed for Confession
- ➤ **Week 3 - Liturgy of the Word**
- Week 4 - Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Week 5 - Communion of People

NOURISHMENT FOR BELIEVERS

The liturgy of the Word is an integral part of sacramental celebrations. To nourish the faith of believers, the signs which accompany the Word of God should be emphasized: the book of the Word (a lectionary or a book of the Gospels), its veneration (procession, incense, candles), the place of its proclamation (lectern or ambo), its audible and intelligible reading, the minister's homily which extends its proclamation, and the responses of the assembly (acclamations, meditation psalms, litanies, and profession of faith).

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1154

who was raised from the dead. He is the living Lord!

Therefore, God is still working in our midst this very day. Every part of our lives can be understood through the story that God has told us about himself and ourselves.

For this reason, we have to spend time with this story. Do we read the words of the Scriptures? The lives of the saints? Do we think about the meaning of this story for our lives? Do we spend time in silence before the memory of the Scriptures, allowing the images to enter into the very marrow of our bones?

REMEMBERING GOD

At every Mass, we employ this deeper sense of memory in recalling what God has accomplished through Jesus Christ.

The introductory rites of the Mass conclude with the collect prayer. This prayer brings together the individual prayers of the entire community into one. And this communion is brought about through an act of remembering.

The collect prayer has four parts. First, it begins as addressed to God. We remember, in speaking God's name, that we are children of God, made to address God as our creator and redeemer. Second, the prayer recalls what God has done. God, for the Christian, is not an abstract principle but has become involved in history. God rescued Israel from slavery, liberated men and women from sin and death through Jesus Christ, and raises up holy men and women throughout the history of the Church.

Third, the collect prayer asks that God act once more after the pattern of what God has accomplished in the past. The God who saved humanity will act even today. Last, the collect prayer concludes with a short phrase in which we ask that our prayer might be heard through the power of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. In this way, we remember in this prayer that even our capacity to pray is first a gift from God, something that God accomplishes through us.

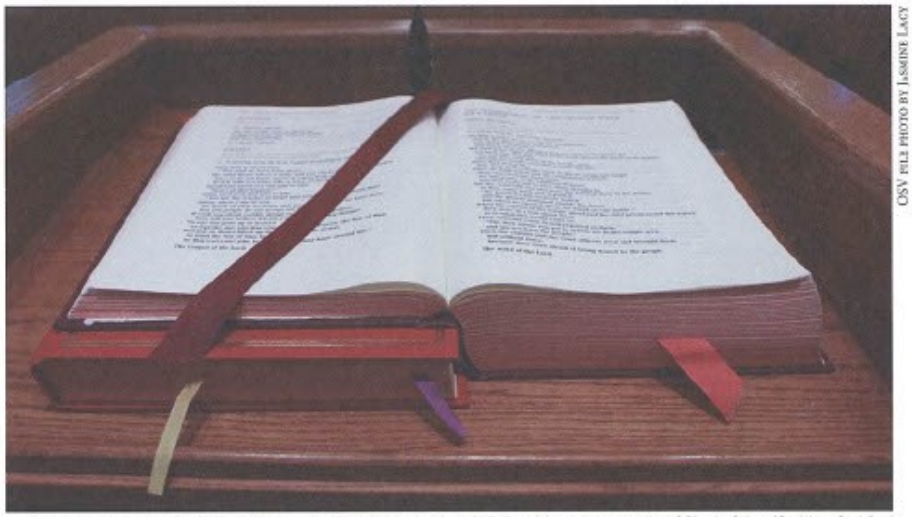
The Liturgy of the Word unfolds at Sunday Mass through the reading of the Scriptures. During most of the year, the first reading is from the Old Testament. This reading will help us reflect more deeply on the Gospel. During Easter, the first reading will be taken from the Acts of the Apostles, describing the early history of the Church. After the first reading, we sing the psalm. The psalm involves the whole Church in reacting to the wondrous works that God has accomplished. We're not passive spectators, listening to a story. We are the ones who have experienced redemption. The second reading is from an epistle or, during Easter, the Book of Revelation. The words of the early Church echo once more in our presence, as the letters addressed to specific communities still generate wisdom for the Church here and now.

Last, we listen to the Gospel. The Book of the Gospels is often presented with incense and candles. We sing a hymn of praise, crying out Alleluia, praising God who is present among us. The priest will often kiss the Book of the Gospels, asking God's voice to become our own speech. And we hear about the life of Jesus, not as a story from some past time. Instead, Jesus remains fully alive, his speech interrupting our limited vision of what constitutes human happiness. The homily should unfold the meaning of Jesus' words, allowing us to hear the way that Jesus speaks to us here and now.

The profession of faith and the universal prayer are linked to this act of remembering. The profession of faith, the Creed, is a summary of all that the Church believes. Further, it is the very Creed professed at our baptism and our confirmation. These words, which we have written in our very memories, are part of us. And we offer the universal prayer, or intercessions, because having remembered what Christ has accomplished we remember our identity. We are sons and daughters of the living God, meant to intercede for the world.

DISPOSED TO REMEMBER

Catholics have a vocation to remember what Jesus Christ has accomplished. God is not just an absentee creator, who did a couple of things and then disappeared. God is the one who created, redeemed, and now sanctifies the entirety of creation. This narrative, therefore, is not just about what God has accomplished in the past. God is still active here and now. The more that we remember what God has done in the past, the more we will see how God is active in our lives right now.



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Contact

Sacramental Information

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

How to Offer a Mass Intention

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our parish has received permission to once again host important sacraments. Please be patient as the pandemic created a scheduling backlog regarding Baptisms and Weddings. You can find more info at:

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/baptism

www.stalphonsuschicago.org/marriage

St. Alphonsus Social Media

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

Directory

Parish Office

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

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 AM– 5:00 PM Mon, Wed, Fri
9:00 AM– 7:30 PM Tue, Thurs

School Office

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

School Office Hours:

8:00 AM– 3:00 PM

Staff

Parish Staff

Rev. Steven Bauer, Pastor
Rev. Patrick Gorman, Associate Pastor
Brooks Robinson, Pastoral Associate
Brian Bloye, Director of Music and Organist
Erica Cook, Coordinator of Religious Education
Daniel Szymanski, Director of Operations
Mario Serrano, Parish Office Manager
Kaitlin Holyk, Sacrament Ministry Coordinator

School Staff

Gerit McAllister, Principal
Angela Kladis, Assistant Principal
Mary Bodlak, Director of Admissions
Caroline Jordan, Advancement Director
Kim Wallett, Secretary
Connie Del Toral, Administrative Assistant