Saint Alphonsus

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER 5, 2023: THE THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"The greatest among you must be your servant." (Mt 23:11)

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: Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12
Monday: Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-15
Next Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Please Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bonds
Jamie Wallett
Sandra Wilson
Monica Alexis Rios
Margaret Nichols
Tessa Sergent
Diane Mareci
William Ahearn
Andrea Emilia Bernabey
Fidel Mercado Chavez
Emilia Hurtado
Bernard Zapp
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

Welcome Our Recently Baptized

Josephine Marie O'Connor
Aiden Alexander Burke
Graham Patrick Salat

Welcome to the Parish!

Jessica Schoeben and Eric Gomez
Ariel
Benjamin
Laura Malandra
Kimberly and Richard Burton
Penelope
Stephen Ostrowski and Alexandra Straussner
John Czerniak



WEDDING BANNS

Keishla Padilla and Alexandro Diaz

Alyssa Sohn and Brian Rodgers

At Rest in the Peace of Christ

Phil Day

Giving Update

Weekly Budget Amount: $14,890

Offertory for 10/29: $15,536

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 5
9:00 AM +Christian Kebr
11:00 AM +Edward Marsalek
12:30 PM +Manuel and Maria Naula
5:00 PM +Susan Richard

Monday, November 6
8:30 AM +Peter Yoshio Brusstar

Tuesday, November 7
8:30 AM Joshua Lim (Health)

Wednesday, November 8
6:00 PM Jose Luis Zamudio Urbina (Health)

Thursday, November 9
8:30 AM +All Souls in Purgatory

Friday, November 10
8:30 AM +Susan Richard

Saturday, November 11
8:30 AM +All Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, November 12
9:00 AM +Edward Marsalek
11:00 AM +Jorge and Elvia Bouso
All Living and Deceased Veterans
12:30 PM Jose Luis Zamudio Urbina (Health)
5:00 PM +Janet Kachos and Mike Carlos

A Message From the Pastor

Looking for a Sign From God??



Almost exactly 25 years ago: After I had finished college I was well-employed at a vibrant publishing company in the Chicago area, but was feeling spiritually unsatisfied. My soul was more than a little restless. I was feeling the Lord calling to my heart, inviting me to consider the priesthood. It was somewhat unsettling because, while curiously intriguing, it prompted more questions than I could possibly answer. I wasn't sure where to start, but I knew I needed to pray, and I couldn't not do something.

So on Sunday I had arrived to church early for some personal prayer time, and couldn't stop thinking about what was stirring in my heart. I knew I needed to something, but didn't know exactly what or where to go or who to talk to. I had the irrational fear that my pastor (who I didn't really know and would feel awkward approaching) would stuff me into a box and ship me off to seminary just for asking a question. But thankfully I remembered that periodically the bulletin would have a small blurb about vocations, that if any men had any questions about being a priest, that they should call the number provided. And so I prayed, "Dear Lord, I remember that once in a while there was that blurb. Well if that's in there, it'll be a clear sign from you, and then I can safely take the first small step. Amen."

When Mass began, I quickly forgot about my prayer, and the liturgy went as any normal Sunday. After Mass, a smiling usher handed me a bulletin. As soon as I took it I remembered the prayer I said before church. My heart rate rose and my palms started to sweat. I didn't dare open the bulletin with people around, so I hurried into the parking lot. Standing next to my car I opened the bulletin, and my jaw hit the floor. There was not one little blurb about vocations – there were *four full pages!* It was National Vocations Awareness Week.

Today, now 25 years later, also begins National Vocations Awareness Week, which holds a special place in my interior prayer life. It enabled me to journey into the Priesthood for the Archdiocese of Chicago, a journey which has not only transformed my life, but countless others, not just in the Archdiocese, but in different parts of the world, from the western edge of Alaska to the eastern coast of Russia. My mind cannot comprehend how many people Christ has touched, healed, transformed, and saved through my ministry and service as a Catholic Priest. Through it all, I keep growing in how I see, know, and love Him. "Blessings without number and mercies without end," to quote a line from one of my favorite hymns, *O God Beyond All Praising*.

And this God of beauty, life and love has placed it on my heart to share this specific story at this specific time, because maybe there is someone specific who needs encouragement to open his heart – or maybe generally because these days we all need to be strengthened in hope.

In reading about my own story, if the Lord has placed anything on your heart or mind, or if there's a little bit of restlessness going on inside your soul, please consider this an invitation to talk to myself, Fr. Jesús Raya our Associate Pastor here, or Fr. Tim Monahan from the Vocations office of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Any of us would be happy to serve as a sounding board and just discuss whatever thoughts or feelings may be floating in your mind or heart. And don't worry, you're not going to be drafted against your will, you're not going to be dragged off and ordained tomorrow, but a conversation about the interior life with someone familiar with it is often a good starting point.



vocations.archchicago.org



National Vocation Awareness Week— November 5-11

The Catholic Church in the United States commemorates National Vocation Awareness Week, November 5-11. Each year, national Catholic organizations, dioceses, schools, and local parish communities sponsor events and provide different resources to raise awareness for vocations, and help those who are discerning a vocation, particularly one to ordained ministry or consecrated life.

In his message for the 60th anniversary of the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis stated, "Our common vocation to give ourselves in love develops and finds concrete expression in the life of lay men and women, devoted to raising a family as a small domestic church and working as the leaven of the Gospel to renew the different sectors of society; in the testimony of consecrated women and men who are completely committed to God for the sake of their brothers and sisters as a prophetic sign of the kingdom of God; in ordained ministers – deacons, priests, and bishops – placed at the service of preaching, prayer and fostering the communion of the holy People of God."

More Ways to Explore Your Vocation!

Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Mary's Home, 2325 N. Lakewood Ave. Chicago, IL 60614
www.littlesistersofthepoorchicago.org/
The Little Sisters of the Poor are an international congregation of Roman Catholic women religious founded in 1839 by Saint Jeanne Jugan. Together with a diverse network of collaborators, they serve the elderly poor in over 30 countries around the world. Their mission is to offer the neediest elderly of every race and religion a home where they will be welcomed as Christ, cared for as family and accompanied with dignity until God calls them to himself.

Dominican Sisters, Provincial House
9000 W 81st St, Justice, IL 60458 sistersop.com
Our greatest goal is to love God and love our neighbor. As Dominicans our focus is the salvation of souls and everything we do is oriented around that central mission. Are you a single, Catholic woman age 18-35 and wondering what God has in store for you? Take the time to find out! We welcome personal visits to our provincial house in Justice, Illinois. Email Sr. Charbel Joseph, OP at vocations@sistersop.com to arrange a possible visit. Come encounter the Lord and pray about His will for you. God bless!

National Religious Vocation Conference NRVC:
nrvc.net/home
The National Religious Vocation Conference is a professional organization of vocation ministers that promotes vocation awareness, invitation, and discernment to life as a religious sister, brother, or priest. NRVC reflects all forms of religious life and provides educational opportunities, resources, and other supportive services for spiritual, professional, and personal growth. NRVC has an annual membership of nearly 1,000 women and men representing over 275 religious institutes, organizations and dioceses, in 28 countries, most of whom are vocation ministers for religious congregations.

VISION Vocation Network: vocationnetwork.org
This site offers one of the most comprehensive resources available in print and online for those seeking information on Catholic religious vocations and men's and women's religious communities. Since 1987 VISION has been providing hundreds of thousands of readers each year with information on the broad spectrum of Catholic religious life through first-person accounts, profiles, photo stories, and articles about discernment, community life, vows, ministry, and Catholic teachings. Online features include a Community Search, Vocations Calendar, & Vocation Match.

Catholics on Call: ctu.edu/catholics-on-call/
Catholics on Call supports Catholic young adults (ages 18-30) as they strive to discover God's call in their lives, and explore the possibility of a life of service in the Church. A national vocation discovery program of the Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union, Catholics on Call is dedicated to helping young adults from diverse backgrounds explore a call to ministry in the Church and to learn about leadership roles as lay ecclesial ministers, men or women religious, or ministry as ordained deacons or priests.

Samuel Group @ St. Alphonsus



News and Events

Mass of Hope & Healing for Those Who Have Suffered the Loss of a Child

Wednesday, November 8 at 6 PM



All parishioners are invited to join us for a special Mass for anyone who has lost a child through miscarriage, still-birth, accident, illness, or for those grieving due to an abortion. There will be specific prayers for healing and comfort offered during Mass for those who have experienced loss, as well as a special blessing for grieving parents at the end of Mass. Immediately following Mass, there will also be a special time of Eucharistic Adoration in which families can light a candle, inscribe the name of a child in a book of remembrance, or offer other personal prayers.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



Our faith community will be kicking off the holiday season in style with the annual lighting of the Lakeview Christmas tree on **Sunday November 19 from 6-7:30 PM after the 5:00 PM Mass**!

Enjoy carols performed by our Alphonsus Academy & Center for the Arts students, FREE hot chocolate from our wonderful neighbor, S&G Restaurant and more surprises! The festivities will take place directly outside the veranda of the church on the corner of Lincoln/Wellington/ Southport.

Please take note that if you are driving to Mass that evening, a small portion of Wellington will be blocked off for the safety of all attendees. This event is hosted by the Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by a SSA 27 grant. More details can be found at www.lakeviewroscoevillage.org/communitytreelighting

St. Alphonsus Giving Tree

Our parish will be taking part in the Celebration of Giving from Nov. 20 to Dec. 4. This amazing service project annually '*makes Christmas*' for hundreds of those less fortunate. The Giving Tree tags will be in support of struggling families sponsored by Catholic Charities and the Women's Center. The tags will be available in the narthex starting Wednesday Nov. 15.

St. Vincent DePaul Coat Drive

The Saint Vincent DePaul Society would like to extend a very big thank you to all parishioners who donated shoes during our shoe drive. Through your generous donations we collected and distributed approximately 150 pairs of shoes to newly arrived migrants living at the Addison/Halsted police station in September and October. Thank you!

As the weather has gotten colder, we are shifting to collecting coats during the month of November. Please bring any new or gently used winter coats for men, women, or children and place them in the marked containers at the back of the church. We will also accept new and gently used hats, gloves and scarves. These items will be distributed to the newly arrived migrants at the police stations. Thank you for your continued support!

Alphonsus Scouts Troop 889 Wreath Fundraiser



Troop 889 is selling wreaths and other decorations online this season! Online Ordering Open Now for delivery starting week of Thanksgiving. Order for yourself or as gift. Enter a separate address and gift message for individual delivery of every item. Scan the QR code or Visit giftitforward.com to see Mickman Brothers' beautiful collection of wreaths, door decorations, and centerpieces. Enter fundraising code **TR889IL001** to support Troop 889 ($8 per item ordered). Thank you for your support and Happy Holidays!

FORMED— Just Press Play!

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

Our parish will be using the material on FORMED to support our ministries and provide continuing education for staff members and parishioners, as well as outreach for our sick and homebound members. Much of FORMED's content is available in both English and Spanish. You can check out our parish website, stalphonsuschicago.org for further info on how to sign up and check out new programs!

Every week in our parish bulletin, we will try to highlight a current or upcoming show on Formed!
The Church Needs More Saints w/ Jason Evert | SEEK23 Using the example of Pope St. John Paul II, Jason Evert discusses the importance of interior life in the mission of evangelization to which all Christians are called. Everyone has busy lives, we understand this. This video from SEEK23 is only 19 min and has some humorous moments too! watch.formed.org/videos/the-church-needs-more-saints-w-jason-evert-seek23



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The Church Needs More Saints w/ Jason Evert | SEEK23

Using the example of Pope St. John Paul II, Jason Evert discusses the importance of interior life in the mission of evangelization to which all Christians are called.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.

An offering from the Augustine Institute and ignatius press

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization. Dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. The Knights organize and participate in numerous charitable activities each year that are designed to benefit their parish communities, to help their brother Knights grow deeper in their faith as Catholic men, and to serve the needy and less fortunate in the world.

The St. Alphonsus Council has a strong group of motivated Knights from all ages and walks of life, w/ our numbers over 100 strong and growing. Our council's main goals are: to rally the Catholic men in our community to a common and noble cause, to assist and defend our church, to serve our community, to encourage growth in faith and prayer in ourselves and in our friends and families, to become better men and fathers, and finally to meet like-minded men that share our same values and belief that you can be a man of the world while still having Christ at the center of your life.

We are always looking for new members, and would welcome the practicing Catholic men of the parish and surrounding community to join our ranks. There is usually a social following our meetings, which is open to all prospective members. To find out more information about the Knights of Columbus at St. Alphonsus, or to apply for membership, feel free to contact parishioner, Ray San Agustin at raysanagustin15158@gmail.com or visit www.stalphonsusknights.com

Our next meeting will be on Monday November 6 at 7:30 PM!

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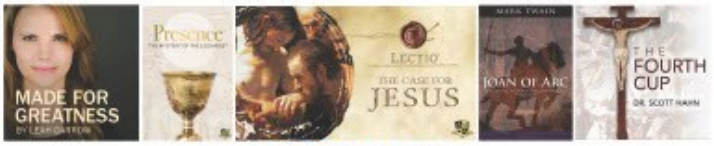
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It's EASY and FREE to register!

1. Visit formed.org/signup
2. Enter our parish zip or name
3. Enter your name and email
4. Enjoy and share with others in our local community!

After you sign up, download the free FORMED app from App Store or Google Play.

Learn more at **formed.org** FORMED



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Truth, Goodness, Beauty.

Turn on any television network or streaming service, and instead of finding content that is true, good, or beautiful, you find content filled with profanity, negativity, and violence. The nightly news is only bad news. You feel empty, disgruntled, and dissatisfied. Turning off the TV, you wonder how it got to be so late, and if there is anything more to life than this.

Well, I have some good news for you, the good news of the Gospel. Because it is good news! But most of us have somehow missed the memo. We live our lives seeking fulfillment, longing for that deeper purpose, and we don't realize that God is waiting to fill our lives with the truth, goodness, and beauty of His love.

When I came to the faith, I had no understanding of anything. Nothing! I knew about Noah's ark and that Jesus had lived a long time ago, but that's it. I only knew the things the world had told me about God and happiness, but what the world had said left me feeling empty and in pain. I longed for something more. In RCIA, I started watching content on FORMED and I couldn't get enough! I began learning more about Jesus. The more I knew about Him, the more I longed to personally know Him. That transformed my life.

Led by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press, FORMED brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content: award-winning studies, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming.

St. Alphonsus now has a parish subscription to FORMED and you can sign up for FREE!

FORMED will transform your life and your family, just as it has transformed mine. Start seeing the world through the lens of the good news of the Gospel. Learn how to defend and share your faith. Discover the deeper meaning of your life. Encounter God in a more personal way. Start watching content on FORMED today!

Emily Ember, Coordinator of RCIA/Evangelization

ATHENAEUM CENTER PRESENTS



TICKETS: www.athenaeumcenter.org OR
CALL: (312)820-6250
LOCATION: 2936 N Southport Ave

DANTE 360

November 10–19, 2023

Returning in a new and expanded production, *Dante 360* is a meditation on humanity's journey from this beautiful but ever-challenging world to the joy of Paradise.

The show is a unique blend of visual art, dramatization, and exquisite music—all drawn from a masterpiece of poetic composition, *The Divine Comedy*. True to Dante's goal, *Dante 360* aims to enrich our understanding of the meaning of life as well as our experience of the journey through it in a compelling narrative of hope and beauty.

Featuring **Liz Lev** *and* **Schola Antiqua.**
Produced by **Lawrence Daufenbach.**
Directed by **Peggy Garvey.**

Use promo code ALPHONSUS at checkout to receive 10% off, and 10% will be donated to your parish.

A Conversation w/ Albert Mohler and R.R Reno, November 10 7:30—10 PM

Please join us in the Paradiso as First Things editor R. R. Reno sits down with Albert Mohler to discuss the future of the religious right.

Remember when the great and the good believed that religion could be excised from the public square? Whether they admit it or not, the strong icons of family, nation, and religion are back. The open society of the postwar consensus has failed. Where does this leave us? These icons are here to stay. Religion has announced its return to the public square. This is good, right?

These shifting winds present both a challenge and an opportunity. The task before religious believers like you and me is to ensure that religious truth is deployed in prudent ways toward proper ends.

Please join Dr. Mohler and R. R. Reno on November 10 as we chart a path forward for those on the religious right to accomplish precisely this.

www.firstthings.com/events/a-conversation-with-dr-albert-mohler-and-rr-reno

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

Praise and Adoration— Friday November 17 at 7:30 PM



On Friday, September 29th, spend time with our Lord in praise and adoration in the church. We'll spend the first 15 minutes in silent adoration, and then our musicians will lead worship in song. Confession will also be available! The hour will conclude with benediction, and we will gather for fellowship at Lincoln Tap after!

More Young Adult Events— Young Catholic Professionals Happy Hour



All young adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to YCP Chicago's FREE Networking Happy Hour event this **Monday, November 6** at Parlay Lincoln Park, 950 W. Wrightwood. Come and learn about our upcoming half-day retreat, and how to get connected with other young Catholic professionals. Visit ycp.glueup.com/event/ycp-chicago-november-networking-happy-hour-90684/

There will be plenty of sports games to watch, and food and drinks are available for purchase. Free pizza will also be provided. Don't forget to RSVP and bring a friend! If you are new to the city, this is the event for you! For additional event or venue information, please reach out to Luis, luis.alejo@ycpchicago.org

Pope Francis November Intention

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Faith Formation

Join Our RE Catechist Team!

Each year, St. Alphonsus joyfully educates the children of our parish in their Catholic faith. If you would like to spend more time with children, strengthen the faith bonds in our families or enjoy serving in our parish—please consider volunteering as a catechist for our religious education program! We'd love to talk to you and no experience is necessary :) There are training opportunities and support as you get started and throughout your time of service.

Contact our RE Coordinator Emily Ember, eember@stalphonsuschicago.church for more info.

Our Religious Education program is currently underway for the 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested in registering your child, please visit www.stalphonsuschicago.org/religious-education for more information.



Are You Ready To Become Catholic?

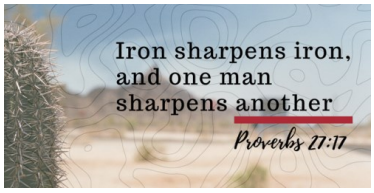
Registration is open for The Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.) Each year we are blessed with several individuals who desire to enter and learn more about the Catholic faith. The RCIA program is the study of the Catholic Faith and the process of introduction into the faith community.

This class is offered for adults in three situations:
1. Un-baptized adults who desire to be baptized in the Catholic Church.
2. Baptized non-Catholic Christians who desire to be formally admitted into communion with the Catholic Church.
3. Baptized Catholics who have not yet been confirmed and desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Adult baptism (and if applicable, Confirmation and First Holy Communion) takes place at the Easter Vigil (Evening before Easter Sunday). It is one of the highest celebrations in the Catholic Church's liturgical year!

If you or someone you know is interested in taking the class, please contact our pastoral associate, Brooks Robinson at brobinson@stalphonsuschicago.church

St. Alphonsus Men's Group — Thursday Evenings



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 new email, divineofficers@gmail.com

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

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

Walking With Purpose

Women's Group at St. Alphonsus— 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



It is encouraging to see both new and familiar faces at our worship services. Throughout the year, many already support St. Alphonsus with your time, talent and treasure.

Thank you again for your continued support of our church! Your spirited generosity ensures our parish continues our mission and good works throughout our community and beyond for years to come!

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

You can also text *Sunday* to (773) 570-7600

Stewardship Reflection

""Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - Matthew 23:12

The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.

CALLING ALTAR SERVERS

INVITING ALL 4TH–12TH GRADERS
(who have received their First Holy Communion)



TRAINING SESSION IS FOR CURRENT AND NEW ALTAR SERVERS

Monday, November 6, 2023 at 6:30pm

Training will take place inside the church

Light refreshments will be available

For questions or details contact Fr. Jesus Raya (Fr. Chuy)
jraya@stalphonsuschicago.church

Lord Jesus,
as You once called the first disciples
to make them fishers of men,
let Your sweet invitation
continue to resound:
Come, follow Me!

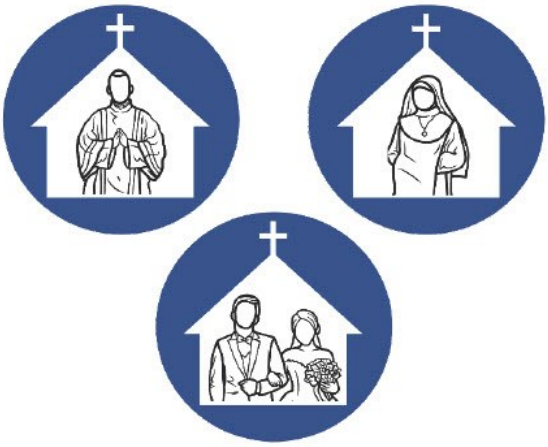
Give young men and women the grace
of responding quickly to Your voice.
Support our bishops, priests,
and consecrated people
in their apostolic labor.
Grant perseverance to our seminarians
and to all those who are carrying out
the ideal of a life
totally consecrated to Your service.

Mary, Mother of the Church,
the model of every vocation,
help us to say 'Yes' to the Lord
Who calls us to cooperate in the
divine plan of salvation.
Amen.

-Pope St. John Paul II

VOCATION MINISTRY
Creating a Culture of Vocations
www.vocationministry.com

HOW CAN YOU HELP PROMOTE VOCATIONS IN YOUR PARISH?



A parish vocation ministry ensures that every parish fosters an environment where each baptized person can joyfully explore the potential of God's call in his or her life by providing resources for prayer and discernment.

IN THE UNITED STATES...

- The average age of a diocesan parish priest is **67 YEARS OLD**
- 42 dioceses **DID NOT** ordain a new priest in 2021
- Over the past 50 years, the number of sisters has declined **74%**
- Catholic marriages have dropped **67%** since 1970

These startling statistics highlight the importance and absolute necessity to encourage vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and sacramental marriage.

"Let us be quite frank: the ability to cultivate vocations to the priesthood and the religious life is a sure sign of the health of a local Church. There is no room for complacency in this regard. God continues to call young people: it is up to all of us to encourage a generous and free response to that call."

-Pope Benedict XVI in his address to the United States Bishops in 2008

FOUR TYPES OF MINISTRY ACTIVITIES FOR FLOURISHING VOCATIONS

Prayer
Awareness & Education
Youth
Affirmation



We meet monthly for fellowship, prayer, and planning.

JOIN US!

Books on Vocation Discernment

To Save a Thousand Souls: A Guide for Discerning a Vocation to Diocesan Priesthood
Fr. Brett Brannen

Priests for the Third Millennium
Archbishop Timothy Dolan

Discerning the Will of God
Fr. Timothy Gallagher

A Living Sacrifice
Fr. Benedict Croel, O.P. and Fr. Andrew Hofer, O.P.

Discernment Do's and Dont's
Fr. George Elliott

Is Jesus Calling You To Be A Catholic Priest? A Helpful Guide
Fr. Thomas Richter, published by the NCDVD

Discerning Religious Life
Mother Clare Matthiass, CFR

Magisterial Documents

Presbyterorum Ordinis (Order of Priests), 1965

Sacerdotii Nostri Primordia (From the Beginning of Our Priesthood) 1959

Pastores Dabo Vobis (I will Give You Shepherds), 1992

Program of Priestly Formation (5th Edition), U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005

Books on the Priesthood

The Priest is Not His Own
Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, 2004

Those Mysterious Priests
Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen, 2005

A Priest's Life: The Calling, The Cost, The Joy
The Word Among Us Press

The Joy of Priesthood
Msgr. Steve Rosetti

Reclaiming our Priestly Character
Fr. David Toups

Maurice and Therese: The Story of a Love
Patrick Ahern

The Grace of Ars
Fr. Frederick Miller

Treasure in Clay
Archbishop Fulton Sheen

The Grunt Padre
Fr. Daniel Mode

A Shepherd in Combat Boots: Chaplain Emil Kapaun of the 1st Cavalry Division
William L. Maher

Holy Man: Father Damien of Molokai
Gavan Daws

The Shadow of His Wings: The True Story of Fr. Gereon Goldmann, OFM
Gereon Karl Goldmann

Autobiography of a Hunted Priest
John Gerard

Books on Celibacy

Why Celibacy
Fr. Carter Griffin

When God Asks for an Undivided Heart
Fr. Andrew Apostoli

Sacerdotalis Caelibatus (Priestly Celibacy)
Pope Paul VI, 1967

Virginity
Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa

"...And You are Christ's" The Charism of Virginity and the Celibate Life
Thomas Dubay, S.M.

Please continue to pray for Matt Duff and all our Archdiocesan seminarians!



Around the Archdiocese



4th Annual West Suburban Catholic Culture Series

FAITH AND REASON AS THE TWO WINGS:
THE HISTORY AND ENDURING IMPORTANCE
OF CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHY

RUTH LAKE COUNTRY CLUB, HINSDALE, IL
6:30pm Drinks | 7:00pm Dinner & Lecture | 8:30pm End

REGISTER

Register at the QR code or at www.lumenchristi.org/event/2023/09/catholic-culture-series-on-faith-and-reason

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

WHO WILL FILL THESE SHOES?



November 24, 2023, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Inviting young men in the Archdiocese of Chicago, ages 13–20.

Parents and priests are also invited to this annual event hosted at Mundelein Seminary.

Come and learn more about the priesthood and your vocation.

November 24, 2023 University of St. Mary of the Lake
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mundelein, IL

Please register by November 23.
For further information contact Katie Hazen at **khazen@archchicago.org**.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

REGISTER NOW AT
KEEPHOPEALIVEIMMIGRANTS.ORG
Tickets | Sponsorships | Ads | Donations

KEEP HOPE ALIVE BENEFIT 2023

BUILDING A WELCOMING COMMUNITY

Thursday, November 30, 2023
6 p.m. VIP Reception
6:45 p.m. Main Reception/Program

Saint Ignatius College Prep
1076 West Roosevelt Road
Chicago, Illinois 60608



The premier benefit and celebration supporting the Archdiocese of Chicago's local Immigration Ministry and National Pastoral Migratoria.

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Mark Goebel at **312.534.8383** or **mgoebel@archchicago.org**.

Host:

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago

Co-chairs:

Rev. John Hoffman

Jim Kiley, Wintrust Financial Corporation

Tom Kiley, Great Lakes Advisors—A Wintrust Company

2023 Lifetime Achievement Award Recipients:

Sr. Pat Murphy, RSM

Sr. JoAnn Persch, RSM

Why Register at a Parish?

- It is a **sign of commitment and support to the life of a parish community** and indicates willingness to **belong to our parish family**.
- Our Parish Staff will have the basic information needed to **communicate with individual families, especially in times of emergency.**
- Every Catholic needs to have their **sacramental information documented**. Copies of one's Baptismal, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage records are required at various times in our life.
- Families that enroll their children in **our Parish School or Religious Education Program** should be registered and active in the parish, especially if they intend to have their children receive the Sacraments.
- Families are able to receive **important information about the parish** that often comes through direct mailing.
- For **Godparents**, it is required to provide information stating active parish registration, practice of faith and ongoing support to the overall life of the parish.

Parish Mailing list is **only used for church purposes and never shared with businesses or other organizations.

All who worship at St. Alphonsus are invited to register as a member if you have not yet done so! There is a link on our website, www.stalphonsuschicago.org/visitors

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

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 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 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- Fri

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. 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