

# St. Alphonus Catholic Parish

## A Redemptorist Community



St. Mary's Assumption Church,  
923 Josephine St.

St. Mary's Chapel,  
1516 Jackson Ave.

### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm  
St. Mary's Assumption Church

Sunday at 9:00am  
St. Mary's Chapel

Sunday at 10:30am  
St. Mary's Assumption Church

### Weekday Mass Times

Monday thru Friday at 7:30am  
St. Mary's Chapel

### Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesdays during 7:30am Mass  
St. Mary's Chapel

### Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each month after the  
7:30am Mass  
St. Mary's Chapel

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 3:15pm  
St. Mary's Assumption Church

**Parish Office Hours:** M-F; 9am to 2pm

Office Email : [StAlsNola@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsNola@gmail.com)  
504-522-6748

*(Holy Days/Holiday – Office Hours may vary)*



# PALM SUNDAY

## HOSANNA TO THE KING

## MARCH 24, 2024

*"Blessed is He who comes in the  
name of the Lord!"*

**Mark 11:9**

## LETTER FROM DON EVERARD ON HUMAN CONCERNS

Dear Fellow Parishioners:

Criminal Justice reform has filled the newspapers, TV news, talk shows, and social media in the several weeks here in Louisiana. The following are some of my thoughts about the results of the legislature's Special Session on Criminal Justice.

It was with great sadness that I followed the proceedings of the recent Special Legislative Session on its Criminal Justice reform in Baton Rouge. What hurt most was hearing about our state's dismantling of the 2017 reforms wasn't because the reforms weren't working, but because they were working. The reforms included adding electrocution and nitrogen asphyxiation to the state's repertoire for state sponsored killing is intended to make it easier to enforce the death penalty. Expect death row to soon become active again. Rightfully, this has gotten the most media attention, but other bills will negatively impact a much wider group of people.

Eliminating pardons and cutting back on good time will increase the amount of time people are incarcerated. It will also increase the number of people in prison at any given time. Good time and pardons are valuable strategies to encourage inmates to follow the rules, to take part in available rehab activities, and to make other positive changes in their lives. Consequently, eliminating parole and good time served will result in more disciplinary problems for prison staff in charge of custody, care and control .

The 2017 reforms to the criminal justice system resulted in fewer people in prison and less money spent on incarceration. For example, much of the money saved was reallocated to crime prevention and re-entry programs designed to help people to successfully transition from prison, back into society. Additionally, those funds will surely have to go back to paying for the incarceration of people, once again.

Moreover, religious leaders of many faiths, including our Catholic bishops, supported the 2017 reforms. During the special session they continued to speak against much of what our state's new administration had proposed. They also challenged elected officials to remember that people who do wrong, who act violently, are still children of God; that they hate sin, but not the sinner, and that they focus on rehabilitation rather than, punishment; and that they temper their justice and mercy. However, our newly elected officials were not convinced.

Blessed are the victims of crime who are able, through prayer, to forgive those who caused them harm. Blessed are the victims of crime who struggle with anger and vengeance. Blessed are the perpetrators of harm, that they acknowledge the harm they have caused, seek forgiveness, and change their ways. Blessed are the families and loved ones of the incarcerated, who also suffer. Blessed are our elected officials who continue to struggle to balance justice and mercy. And dear God, bless us all with gifts of hope and compassion, as we struggle with the reality of crime in our state.

-Don Everard, Director of Hope House

# Liturgy Notes

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## UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

• **Easter Vigil, March 30 – 8:00pm**

**Lectors:** Reading 1 – Gen 1:1-2:2 – M. Saia  
Reading III – Exodus 13:15-15:1 – T. Borgman  
Reading V – Isaiah 55:1-11 – T. Costanza  
Epistle – Romans 6:3-11 & Commentator – D. Gaiennie

**Eucharistic Ministers:** T. Saia; S. Gaiennie

• **Easter Sunday, March 31 – 8:30am**

**Lector:** K. Soileau

**Eucharistic Minister:** M. Soileau

• **Easter Sunday, March 31 – 10:30am**

**Lector:** B. Perrault

**Eucharistic Ministers:** T. Schafer; J. Cross; E. Rafferty

## LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

Mass Parts: #8 Gloria | #21 Holy | #28 Mem. Accl. | #31 Amen | #32 Lord’s Prayer #36 Lamb of God

Palm Sunday Response | Gospel B29 Readings: Hymnal #994

Song of Gathering: #441 - All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Song of Offertory: #448 - O Sacred Head, Surrounded

Song of Communion: #551 - Let the Hungry Come to Me

Rec: #433 - Then Let Us Glory in the Cross

**PLEASE NOTE:** There is **No 4pm Mass** on Mar. 30th and **No 9am Chapel Mass** on Mar. 31st.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, March 23**

4:00pm +Elaine Shelley

**Sunday, March 24**

9:00am: Marie Giorlando  
+Dr. AJ Giorlando

10:30am: St. Alphonsus Parishioners

**Monday, March 25**

7:30am: Rickey Higginbotham

**Tuesday, March 26**

7:30am: Evelyn Higginbotham

**Wednesday, March 27**

7:30am: +Dr. AJ Giorlando

**Thursday, March 28**

6:00pm: Evening Mass for the Catechumants & Candidates

**Friday, March 29**

No Mass

**Saturday, March 30**

8:00pm: For the newly baptized around the world

**Sunday, March 31**

8:30am: St. Alphonsus Parishioners  
10:30am: +James A. Waldron

### SANCTUARY CANDLE MARCH INTENTION

For the repose of the soul of Kevin Fortuna, requested by his Mom



Please call our parish office at 504-522-6748 to sponsor a Sanctuary Candle at the Church or the Chapel for a loved one or a Mass Intention for 2024.

## STEWARDSHIP

**Food Drive Totals:**

March = 487 non-perishable food items  
Year to Date: January-March 2024 – 1,503 food items were donated, and \$43.00.

I am very thankful for all of our parishioners and friends who donate food items each week to help feed families in our community. We received over 200 food items in last week’s collection. Thank you!

Forres Collins, Food Drive Coordinator



## Stewardship

### Collection Report: Weekend Mar. 16 & 17, 2024:

\$858.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$5,290.00	Donations/Legacies (Incl: from St. Patrick's Day Mass)
\$51.00	Vigil Lights/Candles
\$1,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals
\$150.00	Easter Flowers
<b>\$7,349.00</b>	<b>Total Giving</b>

Thank you for your financial support!  
Fr. Chung

There will be a Collection taken on Good Friday, March 29th for the Holy Land Collection.

We appreciate your generosity!



### Easter Lily Memorial Flowers

Please fill out your Flower Offering envelopes, along with the person's name being remembered, and place in the offertory basket, and return it by March 24th. This is the last weekend to submit your flower memorials.

*\*Memorials will be printed in the Easter bulletin\**

Our parish Office will be **CLOSED** on March 29 & April 1st for Good Friday and Easter.

*We will reopen on April 2nd.*

### GUILD MINISTRY

## Volunteers



We are in need of **volunteers** to assist in **decorating St. Mary's Church for Holy Week.**

### We need help on the days/times below:

- **(Sat) March 23** - Meet at 9am for Palm Sunday preparations
- **(Wed) March 27** - Meet at 1pm for Holy Thursday's preparations

\*\*\***After the Holy Thursday Service**, we need help to remove decorations and to set up for Good Friday (church visitation). **We also need participants for the 'Washing of the Feet'.** Please see Sign-up sheets in the back of church/chapel if you would like to participate.

- **(Sat) March 30** - Meet at 10am to set up for Easter Vigil

If you can help on any of these days, please call the parish office at 504-522-6748 and leave your name and phone number.

**We appreciate your help!**

**MANY THANKS! TO ALL OF OUR ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR VOLUNTEERS!**  
To all of you who helped baked cookies, donate food items, desserts, cakes, and donations, including: planning, coordinating, and preparing the altar so beautifully! We appreciate all of you so very much!



(Left: Nick Weber;  
Right Upper: Terry  
Loetzerich; Jane Cross;  
Seated: John Yevtich)

**THANK YOU FR. AARON MESZAROS, C.Ss.R. for leading our  
Parish Lenten Mission on March 18-20th, and for sharing the  
good news of the Gospel of Christ our Redeemer!**

We thank all those who volunteered to help and who came for Fr. Aaron's  
Mission and we look forward to 'Meeting Jesus Again'.





# St. Alphonsus Parish

## Holy Week

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
923 Josephine Street

St. Mary's Chapel  
1516 Jackson Avenue

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

### St. Mary's Assumption Church

#### Holy Thursday, March 28

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
6:00pm

#### Holy Saturday, March 30

Easter Vigil  
8:00pm

#### Good Friday, March 29

Stations of the Cross  
12pm  
Passion of Our Lord Service  
3:00pm

#### Easter Sunday, March 31

Sunday Masses  
8:30am & 10:30am  
*\*There is No 9am Mass at the Chapel*

#### Good Friday – Walk of the Nine Churches

St. Mary's Assumption Church will be open 8am-3pm  
St. Mary's Chapel will be open 8am-12pm

For more information, visit [www.StAlphonsusNO.com](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com)  
Follow us on Facebook @AlsNOLA or call (504) 522-6748



**St. Alphonsus Prayer Chain:** If you would like to add prayer intentions to our weekly prayer chain, contact us at [StAlsPrayers@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsPrayers@gmail.com) or call us at 774-701-1863. Leave the **first name** and the **reason** for your prayer request. The deadline for requesting prayers for the following week's prayer chain is 7:00pm on Sunday evening. Please update us weekly, if you need continued prayers. **Prayer Requests:** We are currently praying for a son who is an alcoholic; Jenn & Linda; Lois, Diana & Sister Lillian; Gene, elderly widow with dementia; Evelyn H.; Sharon's foot; Joe who had a bad fall; Luke for success in school; a cease-fire in Gaza, so that food & water can be delivered to the people; Geraldine who had a stroke; Tyler's recovery from a serious car accident; Paul's health; Rosie's son who had a stroke; Laura, mom of two boys who has cancer; For an end to the war in Ukraine; Gaza & other worn-torn areas in the world; Please keep these above people in your prayers and for all prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts; for all our prayer intentions spoken and unspoken. **Amen.**

**Updates:** Greg is out of the hospital and doing better.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: Carol, who attended Mass here; **Special Intentions:** For Pope Francis, Archbishop Aymond, and all of our Redemptorists priests ...Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us. **Amen.**

Thank you for your prayers!

(Updated: March 19, 2024)

### St. Alphonsus Parish Mission Statement

In the tradition of our immigrant founders, St. Alphonsus Parish continues to be a welcoming and caring Roman Catholic community of faith. We are inspired by the Holy Spirit, formed by the Gospel under the mantle of Mary, Our Mother of Perpetual Help, and since 1843 served by the Redemptorists, men of faith such as Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos. We are committed to carry forward a living history that shapes us into a Eucharistic community.

Visit [StAlphonsusNO.com/contact-us](http://StAlphonsusNO.com/contact-us)  
to our email parish staff.

#### Redemptorist Pastoral Staff

Fr. Chung Tran, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Fr. Andy Thompson, C.Ss.R., Associate Pastor

Fr. John Son Tran, C.Ss.R., Associate Pastor

#### Redemptorists In Residence

Fr. Maurice Nutt, C.Ss.R., Local Superior, Interim Director  
of the Seelos Shrine

Fr. Gil Enderle, C.Ss.R., Vice-Postulator of Cause of Seelos

#### Parish Staff

Susan Higginbotham, Secretary, Bulletin Editor 504.522.6748

Forres Collins, Plant Manager, Maintenance, 504-522-6748

Robert Zanca, Organist, 504.621.6249

Sheila McDermott, Vocalist, 504-522-6748

#### Parish Leadership

Parish Council Pres. Rachel Langkopp, 504.256.1464

Parish Council V. Pres. Marco Balducci, 504.388.3516

Finance Council Pres. Ed Berbuesse, 504.454.1837

#### Local Ministry Information

Seelos Welcome Center 504.525.2495

St Alphonsus School 504.523.6594

Mercy Endeavors 504.568.0607

St. Thomas Clinic 504.529.5588

Catholic Worker 504.457.8062

Hope House 504.525-2561



#### PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

Welcome to any new parishioners! To register as a parishioner please contact the parish office or speak to us after any of our Masses. Reach out to a Redemptorist, contact the parish office at (504) 522-6748 or visit our online form ([www.StAlphonsusNO.com/My Own Church](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com/MyOwnChurch)) to register as a parishioner.

#### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

For sacramental preparation or other needs (baptism, confirmation, first communion, marriage, annulment, etc.), please contact the parish office. For marriages, please plan six to nine months in advance of your planned wedding date.

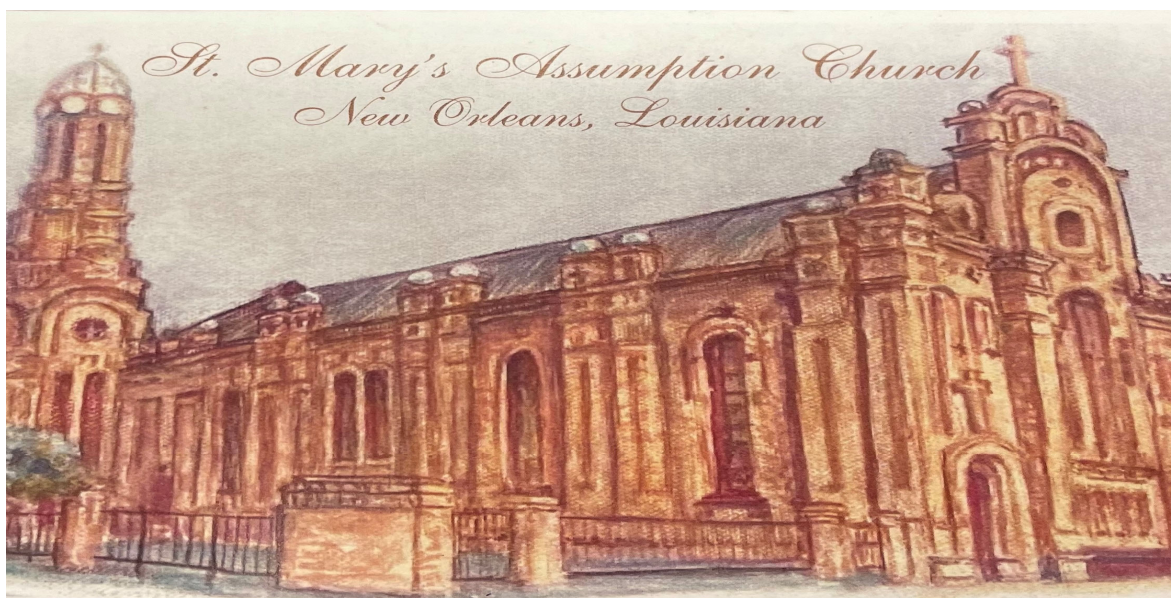
#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Our parish is committed to creating a safe space for all who come to worship. For more information about safe environment practices here and thru the archdioceses, please visit [www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment](http://www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment)

#### SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the Bulletin, Social Media, Website, email to: [StAlsnola.Communications@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsnola.Communications@gmail.com).

**(ALL submissions require pastoral staff approval)**



## Save St. Mary's Assumption Church Restoration Capital Campaign

St. Mary's is one of the most beautiful and historic churches in New Orleans. It is also the final resting place of Blessed Francis Seelos, a Redemptorist priest who ministered to his parish, especially those who were sick and dying of the yellow fever epidemic. Because of heroic care for others, he contracted the illness himself and died of it. His selfless dedication has placed him on the path to sainthood in the Catholic Church.

After 164 years of age and climate – which is hot, humid, and vulnerable to hurricanes – have taken a toll on St. Mary's. As a result, the church has sustained serious damage to the interior plaster walls and ceiling.

As stewards of this treasure and being deeply devoted to the legacy of Blessed Francis Seelos, the Redemptorists of the parish are raising the necessary funds to preserve this beautiful church. Their "Save St. Mary's Campaign Committee" is organizing and directing efforts to restore St. Mary's to its original beauty, while fortifying the structure for future generations. Would you consider helping us?

### Mail your donation:

St. Alphonsus Parish  
Attn: Restoration Fund  
2030 Constance Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

### **Giving made easy!**

#### Scan the QR Code:



### In-Person:

Place donations in the donation boxes in the back of the church or dip your credit card in the dip jar box.

**For updates, visit:**

**[www.StAlphonsusNO.com/SaveStMarys](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com/SaveStMarys)**