

April 6, 2025 \*Fifth Sunday of Lent\*

# St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish

## *A Redemptorist Community*



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

**St. Mary's Chapel,**  
1516 Jackson Ave.

### Mass Times

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

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

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Sunday at 10:30am  
Sunday Spanish Mass at 12:30pm

Redemptorist Rectory Chapel  
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotees  
Sunday Filipino Mass, Third Sunday of each  
month at 3pm

Weekday Mass Times  
St. Mary's Chapel  
Monday-Friday at 7:30am

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Monday-Friday at 11:30am  
Novena Mass in Honor of Blessed Francis  
Seelos, Confessions available, after Mass

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

Eucharistic Adoration  
St. Mary's Chapel  
First Friday or each month after 7:30am Mass

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

**Parish Office Hours:** M-F; 9am-2pm  
Office Email: [StAlsNola@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsNola@gmail.com)  
504-522-6748



**All are invited** to join us for **Blessed Seelos**  
**Healing Masses**

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
(Sunday) April 6, 2025  
10:30am (English Speaking)  
12:30pm (Spanish Speaking)

**Presider & Homilist: Rev. Jerome Chavarria, C.Ss.R.**  
Anointing of the Sick, *immediately following* each Mass.

Parish Office: 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, LA 70130  
504.522.6748 | Parish Website: [StAlphonsusNO.com](http://StAlphonsusNO.com) | [StAlphonsusOffice@StAlphonsusNO.com](mailto:StAlphonsusOffice@StAlphonsusNO.com)  
Find and follow us on Facebook @StAlsNOLA and Instagram @StAlphonsusNOLA

## Letter from Fr. Aaron Meszaros, C.Ss.R.

In my time serving as pastoral associate here at St. Alphonsus Parish, I watched day after day as the parking lot filled with cars bringing pilgrims of all walks of life, ages, cultures, languages, and backgrounds, from both near and far, to visit with Blessed Seelos and to ask his intercession.

And yet, for those of us who worship in these walls, Sunday after Sunday, sometimes it's easy to forget the gift that is in our midst. The gift before us is a Redemptorist missionary, so beloved by both his fellow Redemptorists and the people of this faith community that they called him a saint even at his deathbed. The people of this community were so touched by his life lived with such love, that they went from praying with him and for him, to praying *to* him for his intercession in their daily lives.

I'm not quite certain we've ever had a Seelos Healing Mass during Lent before. Yet , with the celebration of Seelos' 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of beatification, it seems fitting that we celebrate even amid this Lenten season. Lent of course is a penitential season. But penance does not preclude celebration. It makes celebration more focused on the gifts God gives us. Indeed, Lent ushers us directly into celebration at the empty tomb!

Today, we celebrate. We celebrate our brother Redemptorist who rests in our midst, for his life well lived. We celebrate his dedication to God, and his dedication to proclaiming God's mercy and love. We celebrate the total gift of himself as a witness to that same love. We celebrate his continued intercession and the experience of peace and wholeness so many have known through his witness.

To all of the parishioners of St. Alphonsus Parish: Thank you for celebrating with us.

In Hope,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Aaron J. Meszaros C.Ss.R." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Aaron Meszaros  
National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Director

# Liturgy Notes

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## UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### •Saturday, April 12—4:00pm

**Lector:** J. Marvel

**Eucharistic Ministers:** G. Maginnis

### Sunday, April 13—9:00am (Chapel)

**Lector:** T. Frater

**Eucharistic Ministers:** E. Frater

### •Sunday, April 13—10:30am

**Lector:** T. Schafer

**Eucharistic Ministers:** M. Schafer; B. Fleischer; K. Nguyen

## LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

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

Lent 5 Response/Gospel C24      Readings: Hymnal #993

Song of Gathering: #872 Make Us True Servants

Song of Offertory: #419 Again, We Keep This Solemn Fast

Song, during Communion: #540 Gift of Finest Wheat

Rec: #815 God's Blessing Sends Us Forth

### Pope Francis' prayer intention for April 2025:

**For the use of the new technologies:** Let us pray that the use of the technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



(U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops> <https://www.usccb.org/>)

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, April 5

4:00pm: +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

### Sunday, April 6

9:00am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

10:30am: +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

12:30pm: +Deceased Members of the  
Canceros, Rios, Alonso & Santa Cruz  
Families

### Monday, April 7

7:30am: Evelyn Higginbotham

### Tuesday, April 8

7:30am: +Robert Payne

### Wednesday, April 9

7:30am: Redemptorist Vocations

### Thursday, April 10

7:30am: +Louise Koch Manning

### Friday, April 11

7:30am: +Harold & Louise Hahn

### Saturday, April 12

4:00pm: +Deceased Members of the  
Ross & Higginbotham Families

### Sunday, April 13

9:00am: +Brenda Pendley  
+Dr. Nicholas Plaisance

10:30am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

## SANCTUARY CANDLE & MASS INTENTIONS

Call the parish office at  
504-522-6748, Mon-Fri, 9a-2p,  
to schedule a Sanctuary Lamp or Mass  
Intention for your loved one.

We currently have June-August; and  
November-December available for  
Sanctuary Lamp Intentions.

We have April-December available for  
Mass Intentions.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Giving Report: Weekend March 29 & 30, 2025:

\$1,105.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,687.00	Loose Collection
\$2,810.00	Donations/Legacies
\$660.00	Miscellaneous Reimbursements
\$1,504.05	On-Line Giving
<b>\$7,766.05</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>

Thank you for your generosity!

-Fr. Chung



### Food Drive Totals:

**March** = 561 non-perishable food items donated  
**Year to Date:** 1,623 food items and \$45.00 in cash and checks.

We appreciate your support of our parish Food Drive.  
May you have a joyful season of Lent. Thank you.

-Forres Collins, Food Drive Coordinator



## GUILD MINISTRY

### *Giving Back!*

#### *One Brown Bag at a time*

Please support our brown bags ministry and give a bag of food and water to a homeless neighbor.

The brown bags will be available to purchase (suggested donation \$2 each) on **April 12 & 13** after Mass.

**Thank you!**

All are welcome to join us for a Day of Prayer in honor of Blessed Father Seelos' 25th Anniversary of his beatification.  
**St. Mary's Assumption Church**  
(Wed) April 9, 2025 — beginning at 10am



## SEELOS SHRINE DAY OF PRAYER

for the Year of Hope

~ Wednesday, April 9 2025 ~

In the Reliquary of Blessed Seelos:

10 am ~ Rosary, Seelos Novena Prayers

In St. Mary's Assumption Church:

11:30 am ~ Mass, Seelos Novena Prayers

3 pm ~ Stations of the Cross, Seelos Novena Prayers

10 am, 11 am, 3 pm ~ Confessions



### Movie Night at the Rectory

All are welcome to join us on  
(Wed) April 9 at 6:30pm, in the 1st floor conference room of the rectory.

We will watch Episodes 6 & 7, of Season 2, of *The Chosen* and we will conclude with the last episode on (Wed) April 16th.

**All are welcome!**

-Fr. Chung

(Enjoy fellowship & refreshments!)





# St. Alphonsus Parish

## 2025 Lenten Calendar

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
923 Josephine Street

St. Mary's Chapel  
1516 Jackson Avenue

### **Stations of the Cross**

St. Mary's Chapel  
Fridays at 6:00pm  
April 11th

### **Evening of Confession**

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Wednesday from 5pm-6:30pm  
April 9th

### **Palm Sunday**

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Saturday, April 12th - 4pm Vigil  
Sunday, April 13th - 10:30am & 12:30pm (Spanish)

St. Mary's Chapel  
Sunday, April 13th - 9am

## **HOLY WEEK & EASTER**

### **St. Mary's Assumption Church**

#### **Holy Thursday, April 17**

Mass of the Lord's Supper  
6:00pm (Bilingual Mass)

#### **Good Friday, April 18**

Adoration of the Cross  
3:00pm

Stations of the Cross (Spanish)  
5:00pm

#### **Holy Saturday, April 19**

Easter Vigil  
8:00pm (English Mass)

#### **Easter Sunday, April 20**

Sunday Masses  
8:30am & 10:30am  
12:30pm (Spanish)

\*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

Join us for our **Parish Easter Egg Hunt**,  
**Sunday, April 20th** at **12pm** in  
St. Mary's Church courtyard.

All kids ages, 12 years and younger are  
welcome to participate! All kids, please  
bring your Easter baskets to hold your eggs.

The Easter Egg Hunt  
will begin, promptly at 12pm.

Find a 'Special Egg' and **WIN A PRIZE!!!**

Thanks – Fr. Andy



## PARISH EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 | 12:00PM

ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH COURTYARD  
ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!



### Easter Lily Memorial Flowers

Please fill out your Flower Offering  
envelopes, along with the person's  
name being remembered, and place  
it in the offertory basket, and return it  
by April 13th.

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



*Sister Jane Brisenó, RSM*  
**April 2**

Wishing you a very **Happy  
Birthday** filled with love and  
joy, may God strengthen your faith-filled  
life as you serve the Mercy Endeavors  
Senior Center, and community.

Sisters of Mercy



**GUILD MINISTRY**

### HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS

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

We will **need volunteers to help with  
preparations** for the Holy Thursday service  
and we will need help after the service to  
remove decorations & help setting up for  
Good Friday (church visitation of 'Walk of  
the Nine Churches'). Also, we will need  
volunteers to set up for the 8pm Easter Vigil  
on Holy Saturday.

If you can volunteer for one of the above  
Holy Week services, **please call**  
**504-522-6748**, leave your name, phone  
number & brief message.

**Thank you!**  
**-Fr. Chung**

### 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.

**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. Andrew Thompson, C.Ss.R., Associate Pastor

#### Redemptorists In Residence

Fr. Steve Benden, C.Ss.R., Chaplain of the Seelos Shrine, St. Alphonsus School and St. Michael's Special School

Fr. Tim Watson, C.Ss.R., Chaplain of the Seelos Shrine, Hispanic Ministry

#### Parish Staff

Susan Higginbotham, Secretary/Bulletin Editor, 504.522.6748

Forres Collins, Plant Manager/Maintenance, 504.522.6748

#### Music Staff

Robert Zanca, Organist, 504.621.6249

Sheila McDermott, Vocalist, 504.522.6748

#### Wedding Coordinator

Cheryl Miller, Wedding Coordinator,  
[wedcoordstmarys@gmail.com](mailto:wedcoordstmarys@gmail.com)

#### Parish Leadership

Parish Council Pres. Skip Miller, 404.822.6370

Parish Council V. Pres. Sara Schexnayder, 908.303.9935

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
Hope House Adult Ed.	504.524.7353



#### 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/My Own Church)) 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.

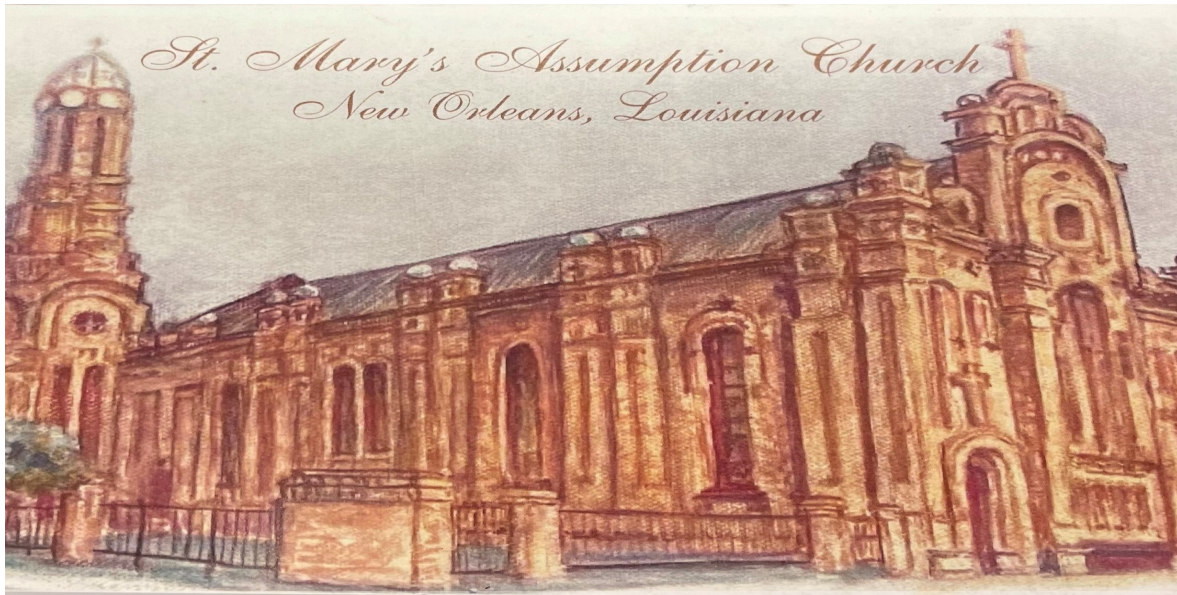
#### SAFE ENVIRONMENT

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:**



**For updates, visit:**  
**[www.StAlphonsusNO.com/SaveStMarys](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com/SaveStMarys)**