

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
504-522-6748



**Pope Francis
Memorial Mass**

**Friday, May 2
11:30 am**

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

Fr. Andy Thompson, C.Ss.R.
Presider

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Pope Francis 1936-2025

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let the perpetual light
shine upon him.*

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

As we remember the life and witness of the late Pope Francis, we are invited not only to honor his memory, but to reflect on the path of discipleship he showed us, one shaped by humility, mercy, and a heart open to all.

From the moment he stepped onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica and asked for the people's blessing before offering his own, it was clear that this would be a different kind of papacy. He chose the name "Francis" in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the saint of simplicity, poverty, and peace which led to a decision which would become the cornerstone of his vision for discipleship. Pope Francis reminded us that being a disciple of Jesus is not about titles or honors, but about service. He would often call the Church to go out into the streets, to the forgotten, to the places where pain lives and hope flickers. Like Jesus, Pope Francis walked toward the broken, and he met people where they were.

The Holy Father often spoke of the Church as a "field hospital after battle", reminding us that discipleship is not about building walls, but about walking with people in their wounds and complexities. He would urge pastors to "smell like the sheep", a powerful metaphor for incarnational ministry and genuine closeness. Discipleship, for Pope Francis was never about lofty detachments but rather about gritty solidarity. Perhaps, the defining theme of his papacy was mercy.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy (2015-2016) was not just a calendar event; it was a theological heartbeat of his leadership. He consistently prioritized God's boundless forgiveness over legalism. In doing so, he modeled a Christ-centered approach which invited all people; especially, those estranged from the Church into a journey of healing and belonging. And his concerns for the "peripheries" be they geographic, social or existential was another hallmark of his discipleship vision. Also, he reminded us that Jesus is found not in the power and privilege but in the faces of migrants, prisoners, the homeless, and those suffering. Pope Francis didn't advocate for them from afar; instead, he visited them, embraced them, and lifted their spirits before the world.

With *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis expanded the traditional understanding of discipleship to include care for our common home. He rooted ecological concern in Christian faith, calling followers of Christ to be stewards of creation, protectors of life in all its forms. He challenged a consumerist culture that valued profit over people and the planet. Francis championed a Church that listens. Through the Synod on Synodality and his commitment to dialogue – he fostered a discipleship that was communal, participatory, and discerning. He also called the Church to walk together – not in uniformity, but in unity, embracing the voices of the laity, women, youth, and marginalized communities.

In closing, Pope Francis said, "Let us not forget the three key words: please, thank you, and sorry". Maybe discipleship begins in small things like these words which can help build bridges, not walls. It is a challenge to each of us: to live humbly, love boldly, include generosity, and to listen deeply. His papacy reminds us all - that to follow Christ is, to go where He went, to the poor, to the forgotten, and to the wounded, and to do so with joy, simplicity, and mercy. As we reflect on Pope Francis's life and leadership, may we not merely admire his witness, but embody it.

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

Liturgy Notes

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UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

•Saturday, May 3 – 4:00pm

Lector: D. Waldron

Eucharistic Ministers: E. Rafferty

Sunday, May 4 – 9:00am (Chapel)

Lector: T. Costanza

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Wilkerson

•Sunday, May 4 – 10:30am

Lector: D. Everard

Eucharistic Ministers: T. Schafer; M. Schafer; M. Dahleh

LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

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

Easter 2 Response/Gospel C47 Readings: Hymnal #1010

Song of Gathering: #481 The Day of Resurrection

Song of Offertory #694 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Song during Communion: #799 Peace

Song of Sending: #469 Hymn of Joy

Food Drive Totals:

April = 616 non-perishable food items donated

Year to Date: 2,239 food items and \$45.00 in cash and checks.

Thank you for your generous food donations to the church. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will help many in need. Your contribution will make a real difference in the lives of individuals and families within our community.

-Forres Collins, Food Drive Coordinator



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 26

4:00pm: +Patricia Hahn Rodriguez

Sunday, April 27

9:00am: +Letizia Raimondo

10:30am: +Marie & Dr. AJ Giorlando
+John Bel, Jr.

12:30pm: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Monday, April 28

7:30am: +Barbara Johnson

Tuesday, April 29

7:30am: +Barbara Johnson

Wednesday, April 30

7:30am: +Barbara Johnson

Thursday, May 1

7:30am: +Deceased Daughters of Charity

Friday, May 2

7:30am: +Pope Francis

Saturday, May 3

4:00pm: +Lee Tawney

Sunday, May 4

9:00am: +Sandra Trout Wilson

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

12:30pm: 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 2025;
and November-December available for
Sanctuary Lamp Intentions.

We have May-December 2025
available for Mass Intentions.

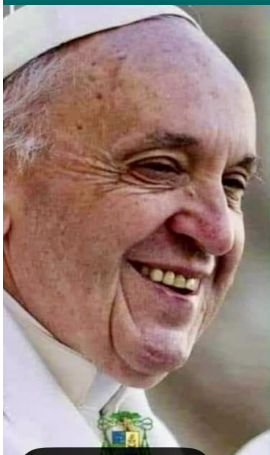
STEWARDSHIP

Giving Report: Weekend April 19 & 20, 2025:

\$1,813.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$3,339.00	Loose Collection
\$2,611.00	Donations/Legacies
\$20.00	Mass Stipends
\$790.00	Second Collection for Holy Land & Flowers
\$1,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Certificates
\$1,246.70	On-Line Giving
\$10,819.70	TOTAL

Thank you for your generosity!
-Fr. Chung

May his memory be a blessing



“ Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you. ”
Pope Francis



FRIDAY MONTHLY **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Please join us on the first Friday of each month for Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following, the 7:30am Mass at the Chapel.

Friday, May 2nd

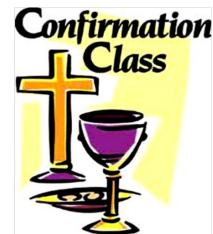
All are welcome!

We would like to extend an heartfelt thank you to all volunteers and to everyone who made Holy Week and Easter liturgies so special!



Thanks to our sacristans, servers, lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers, greeters, decorators, and all those who helped behind the scenes prepare the linens for the Altar. You are all truly appreciated!

Thank you!



Confirmation Classes: For those of you who may be interested, St.

Alphonsus Parish will offer Confirmation Classes scheduled to begin on **(Sunday) April 27th at 11:45am – 12:30pm** in the 1st floor conference room of the Rectory.

It is open to the youth in the parish, both English/Spanish who are baptized Catholic, but would like to be **Confirmed** in the Catholic Faith.

If you are interested, please join Fr. Andy Thompson at 11:45am at the Rectory's 1st floor conference room, located via the driveway off of 2030 Constance Street – to sign up and to learn more about the class.

Contact Fr. Andy at 504-522-6748 or at frandythompsoncssr@gmail.com.

Holy Week and Easter 2025!



St. Alphonsus Prayer Chain: If you would like to add prayer intentions to our weekly prayer chain, contact us at 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 7pm on Sunday.

Prayer Requests: We are currently praying for Pebbles, Mike, Tiffany, Christina, Lisa, Maris, Manfred, Best school choice for the Cook kids, Connie, Mark, Leigh and baby, Andrea, Gustavo & the Canceres Family, a parishioner who is depressed & has gambling problems, and for all prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts, for all our prayer intentions spoken and unspoken. **Amen.**

Updates: Jill's 95 year old father has been placed in assisted living. Kenny's infection has cleared.

Special Intentions: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Pope Francis, and June who died recently. For Archbishop Aymond, and all of our Redemptorists priests, brothers, sisters...Blessed Francis Seelos pray for us.

Updated: (4/20/2025)

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



POPE FRANCIS MEMORIAL MASS ~ FRIDAY, MAY 2 AT 11:30AM



All are welcome to join St. Mary's Assumption and St. Alphonsus parishioners, along with Seelos Shrine staff and volunteers for a Mass celebrating Pope Francis' life and legacy. Fr. Andy Thompson, C.Ss.R., Presider. **Please invite your family and friends!**



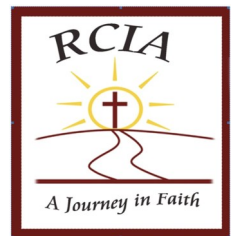
Thank You to our dedicated Catechists and assistants – we would like to thank you for all of your hard work, love and dedication this past year. You have helped our children grow in the Catholic faith by preparing them for First Communion. Please keep our children in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist on May 4th. Thank you. – Fr. Andy Thompson & the Redemptorist Community.



We welcomed Adam Fortier into the Catholic faith on Holy Saturday at our annual Easter Vigil Mass. Keep him in your prayers for his journey of faith. We welcome other adults who would like to participate in our RCIA Faith

Formation Program, to call us at 504-522-6748 to find out more information.

- Fr. Chung



Get our new Church T-Shirts while supplies last! Buy a custom t-shirt with St. Mary's logo and help support your parish. Each t-shirt costs \$15.00 each.

We currently have a few t-shirts in small, medium, large, and 2X. Call the parish office to place your order.

(ALL T-Shirt Orders must be picked up ONLY at the parish office at 2030 Constance St., between (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) - **Thank you!**

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
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

Music Staff

Robert Zanca, Organist, 504.621.6249

Sheila McDermott, Vocalist, 504.522.6748

Wedding Coordinator

Cheryl Miller, Wedding Coordinator,
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/MyOwnChurch)) to register as a parishioner.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

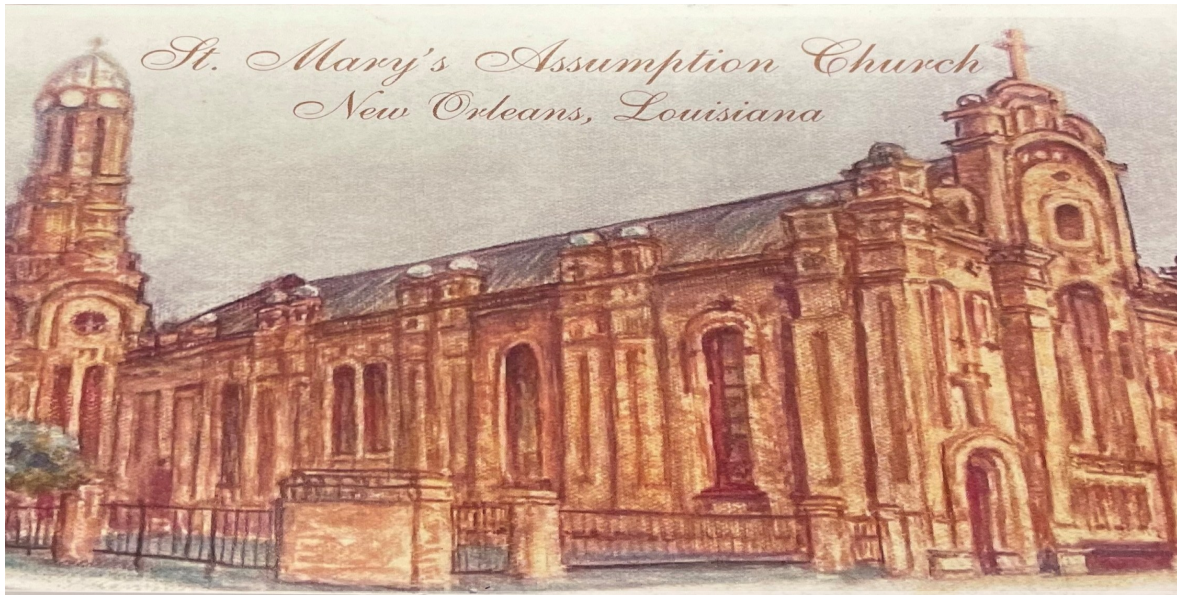
For sacramental preparation or other needs (baptism, confirmation, first communion, marriage, annulment, etc.), please contact the parish office. For marriages, please plan six to nine months in advance.

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

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the Bulletin, Social Media, Website, email to: 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