



August 24, 2025 * 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time *

Welcome to 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

St. Mary's Church or Redemptorist Chapel
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Mass
Third Sunday of each month at 3pm with
Filipino Faith Community & Parish

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

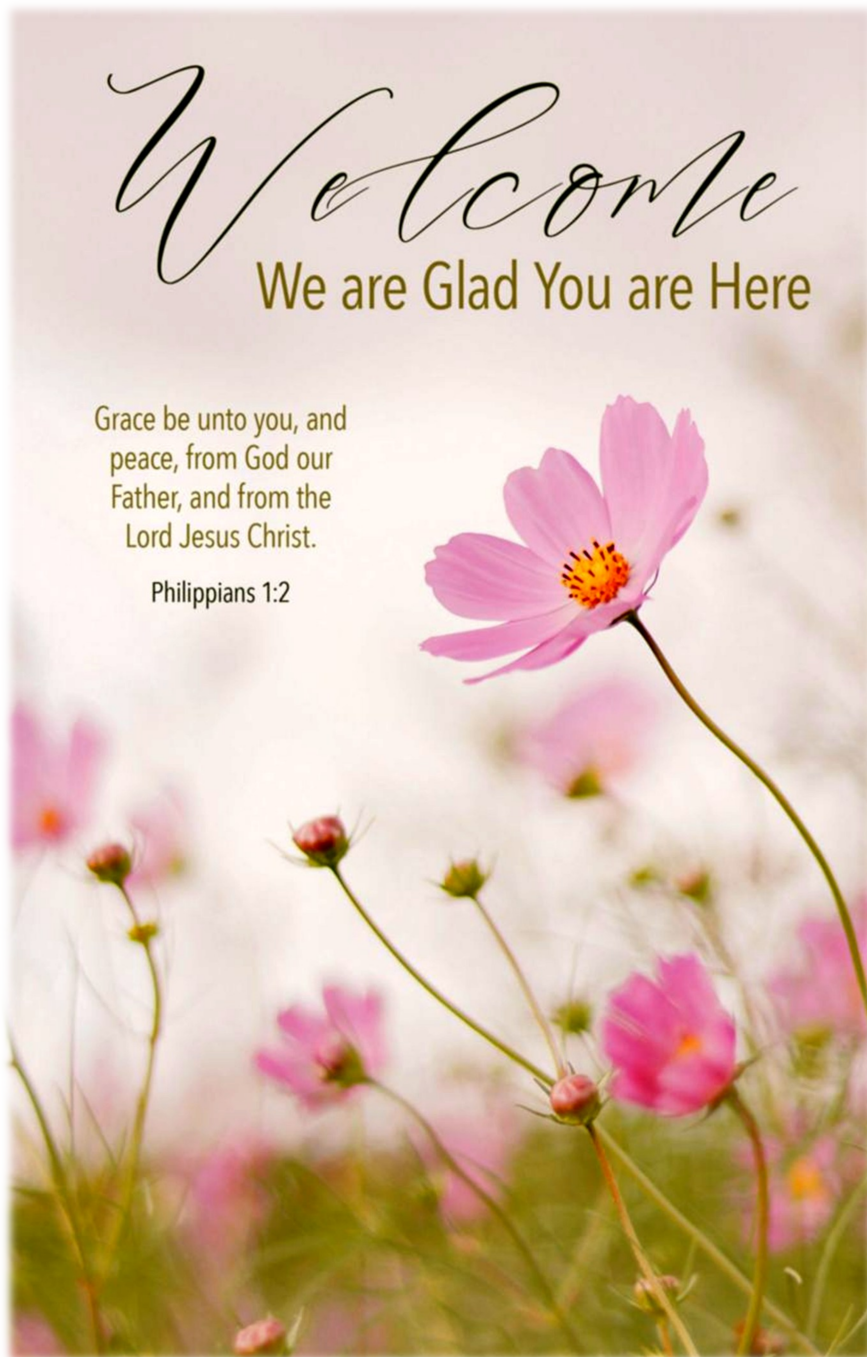
St. Mary's Assumption Church
Saturdays at 3:15pm

Parish Office Hours: M-F; 9am-2pm
Office Email: StAlsNola@gmail.com
504-522-6748

Welcome
We are Glad You are Here

Grace be unto you, and
peace, from God our
Father, and from the
Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:2



Parish Office: 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, LA 70130
504.522.6748 | Parish Website: StAlphonsusNO.com

Find and follow us on Facebook @StAlsNOLA and Instagram @StAlphonsusNOLA

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough.” Lk: 13:24.

As students return to their classrooms, they are reminded that learning takes effort, patience, and perseverance. Success in school doesn’t come by accident—it requires studying, practicing, and sometimes even failure before growth. In many ways, discipleship is the same. Among many items to help the student’s success in school that many of us don’t really think about until we need it. That one thing they pick up is their backpack. It carries books, notebooks, supplies, and everything needed for learning. Sometimes, it feels heavy. But students carry it each day because they know it is part of their journey toward growth and knowledge. Their perseverance, patience, and hard work is to, *“Strive to enter through the narrow gate.” (Lk: 13:24).*

In the same way, **discipleship means carrying our “backpack of faith.”** Jesus said: *“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves, take up their cross daily, and follow me” (Lk: 9:23).* Just as a backpack is filled with the tools for learning, discipleship asks us to carry with us the tools of prayer, Scripture, love, patience, and service. At times, these responsibilities may feel heavy, but they are necessary for spiritual growth.

Working hard in school requires discipline. Students must do homework, prepare for exams, and sometimes struggle through difficult lessons. In discipleship, we also work hard, choosing kindness over anger, forgiveness over revenge, and faith over fear. Like schoolwork, discipleship requires effort, but the reward is wisdom, maturity, and closeness with Christ.

The good news is that students are never alone in carrying their backpacks, and sometimes their friends help, or teachers lighten the load. In the same way, we do not carry our discipleship journey alone. Christ walks with us, saying, *“Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest” (Mt: 11:28).*

This back-to-school season, let the backpack remind us that discipleship means carrying the weight of faith with courage and commitment. Working hard in studies prepares the mind for the future; working hard in discipleship prepares the soul for eternity. And even when the load feels heavy, we can trust that Christ, our teacher, walks beside us and helps us carry it.

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

Liturgy Notes

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UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, August 30 – 4:00pm

Lector: D. Waldron

Eucharistic Ministers: E. Rafferty

Sunday, August 31 – 9:00am (Chapel)

Lector: T. Costanza

Eucharistic Ministers: C. Wilkerson

Sunday, August 31 – 10:30am

Lector: D. Everard

Eucharistic Ministers: T. 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

21 OT Response/Gospel C81 Readings: Hymnal #1097

Song of Gathering: #828 All the Earth

Song of Offertory: #807 God's Holy Mountain We Ascend

Song during Communion: #544 I Received the Living God

Song of Sending: #810 Go, Make of All Disciples



Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention for August 2025: For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

www.usccb.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 23

4:00pm: Redemptorist Vocations

Sunday, August 24

9:00am: +Robert Payne

10:30am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Monday, August 25

7:30am: +Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

Tuesday, August 26

7:30am: Francis Alecha

Wednesday, August 27

7:30am: +Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

Thursday, August 28

7:30am: +Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

Friday, August 29

7:30am: +Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

Saturday, August 30

4:00pm: +Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

Sunday, August 31

9:00am: Kay Mumphrey

+Joseph Stiebing, Jr.

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

12:30pm: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Mass Book is Open!

Do you have someone you want to remember or celebrate? The 2025 Mass Book is open from Aug.-Dec.

Masses Available for Intentions

Weekends: Saturday Vigil 4pm
Sundays: 9am, 10:30am & 12:30pm

Weekdays: Monday-Friday – 7:30am

Call 504-522-6748 (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm)

STEWARDSHIP

Giving Update: Weekend of August 16 & 17:

\$930.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,623.00	Loose Collection
\$376.00	Donations/Legacies
\$1,417.45	Online Giving
\$4,346.45	TOTAL

Thank you for your generosity! - Fr. Chung



Parish Food Drive Totals:

August = 447 non-perishable food items donated plus a total of \$275.00 to Hope House.
Year to Date: 4,375 food items have been collected.

Thank you to our kind parishioners who gave over 270 food items last week. Your donations help Hope House distribute food to those in need. Your kindness is appreciated.

Forres Collins – Food Drive Coordinator



Eucharist for Our Homebound Members

If you or a loved one are **homebound** and unable to attend Mass, but wish to receive the Holy Communion, please contact our parish office at 504-522-6748 or email us at StAlsNola@gmail.com, to arrange a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister.

We are here to support you – Fr. Chung



August 30 David Delio & Becki Landry

May God bless this couple as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.



Save St. Mary's Restoration Campaign:

Thank you for helping us raise **over \$2 Million dollars** since 2022! The \$2 Million funded **Phase I** of our church's **Exterior Renovations** – which are **currently underway!**

We still need your help to raise an additional \$2 million dollars for Phase II – Interior Renovations. Restoring the interior will involve repairing walls and plaster work damaged by leaks and intrusive moisture – as well as researching and repainting the interior with historic paint colors.

But we cannot do this without the love and support of our parishioners, visitors and friends.

How you can help – please consider making a donation today by **scanning the QR Code below:**



God Bless you! – Fr. Chung



Help our Parish collect school supplies for St. Alphonsus School!

See the list below and drop off your donations in one of the collection bins in the back of church and the chapel.

Thank you to all those who donated supplies last week.— Fr. Chung



Celebration of the feast of the Assumption—August 15, 2025 - 11:30am Mass

We had a great turnout for our feast, to celebrate the Assumption!



Celebrants: Fr. Aaron Meszaros, C.Ss.R., Fr. Tim Watson, C.Ss.R. & Fr. Joseph Royan, C.Ss.R.

Parish Announcements!



20th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina Events!

(Wed) August 27 at 6pm – Prayer Service for Katrina Immigrant Workers at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 4640 Canal Street, New Orleans. The prayer service will be held in the shade on the front steps of the church. You are welcome to bring a folding chair.

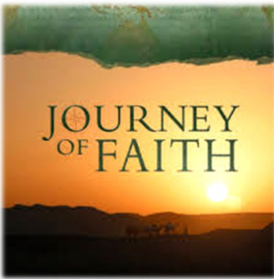
(In case of rain – the event will be held inside the church).

(Thu) August 28 at 6:00pm – Interfaith Prayer Service at St. Louis Cathedral – Join Archbishop Gregory Aymond and Faith Leaders of the Metro Area for a prayerful time of remembrance and renewal. **(See the Flyers in the back of church).**

(Fri) August 29 – St. Mary's Chapel at 7:30am – Mass & Prayer Service

(Fri) August 29 – St. Mary's Church at 11:30am – Mass & Prayer Service

St. Mary's Courtyard – See the Commemorative Sign about Katrina by: Jack Radosta



Would you like to join the Catholic Church? Whether you are just starting to explore the Catholic faith, have been considering becoming Catholic for a while, or were baptized Catholic, but received no other sacraments, we are here to walk with you on your journey of faith. Full initiation into the Catholic Church is constituted by participation in the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. **The process to prepare for the reception of these Sacraments is the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** – a process of spiritual and educational formation that has been handed down to us from the early Church. Please call 504-522-6748, if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith.

Our Parish Office and the Seelos Shrine will be Closed for Labor Day on (Mon) Sep. 1st.

The Confirmation Classes meet again on (Sun) September 7th! - The Confirmation Classes for our parish's high school students will meet on Sunday, Sep. 7th, from **11:40am - 12:15pm** in the 1st floor conference room of the Rectory. The 5th class will focus on 'Prayer, Talking to God'.
Thank you – Fr. Andy Thompson, C.Ss.R.

All are welcome! Our Lady of Sorrows Mass St. Mary's Assumption Church: **(Monday) September 15th**

10:45am – Introduction to Our Mother of Sorrow

11:00am – Chaplet to Our Mother of Sorrows

11:30am – Mass

(Confessions will be available at 12pm)

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, 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

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.



We are making progress on the exterior renovations!

**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**