



Welcome to St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish

A Redemptorist Community



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

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 Assumption Church
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Mass, 3rd Sunday of each month. at 3pm with the 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
(Hours vary during holidays)
Office Email: StAlsNola@gmail.com
504-522-6748



December 7, 2025

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue our journey of Advent in the second week of Advent, the Church once again leads us into the wilderness. We hear many voices distracting us from the true meaning of Advent. We hear the voice of anger in the midst of bankruptcy settlements, the voice of ICE and fear, and yet—we also hear the voice of healing, compassion and empathy. There standing under the vast Judean sky, we meet a strange and powerful figure, John the Baptist, clothed in camel's hair, with a voice that shakes the stillness of the desert:

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near!"

At first, it may seem surprising that the Church gives us this fiery preacher in a season we often associate with soft lights, Christmas carols and quiet expectations. Yet, John's message seems stern and even unsettling. He speaks of axes at the roots of trees and a winnowing fork in the Messiah's hand. And yet, this passage is one of the most hopeful messages of Advent. Because it tells us that God is not finished with us, not with our world, not with our families, and not with our hearts.

The apostle Matthew tells us that the word of God comes not in the temple, nor in the palace, but "in the wilderness of Judea." The wilderness is a place of emptiness, disorientation and uncertainty, and even so, it is also the place where God's new beginnings often take root.

In Advent, we acknowledge that hope does not require perfect circumstances. It is born in the wilderness, in places of our lives, in those moments that feel barren, confusing, and unfinished. John's presence there, teaches us that God meets us where we are, not where we pretend to be and that alone, is hope.

John is the voice crying out, "Prepare the way of the Lord." Hope requires preparation. It calls us to make space, that space in our schedules, space in our priorities, space in our hearts—so that our hearts can receive a greater gift.

In this second week of Advent, we are invited to ask:

- What crooked path in my life needs straightening?
- What rough place in my heart needs smoothing?
 - Where is God calling me to begin again?

These questions are not ones of burdens, rather, they are pathways to hope. Let us prepare the way. Let us welcome the One who comes with mercy, with justice, with Spirit and fire. And let us hold fast to this Advent truth, the kingdom of heaven is near, and that is our hope.

Pax,

Fr. Chung Tran, C.Ss.R.



Liturgy Notes

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UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, December 13 – 4:00pm

Lector: J. Marvel

Eucharistic Ministers: G. Maginnis

Sunday, December 14 – 9:00am (Chapel)

Lector: T. Frater

Eucharistic Ministers: E. Frater

Sunday, December 14 – 10:30am

Lector: T. Schafer

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Cross; B. Fleischer; M. Dahleh

LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

Mass Parts: #20 Holy | #24 Mem. Accl. B | #30 Amen |
#32 Lord's Prayer | #35 Lamb of God

Response/Gospel Advent 2 A2 Readings: Hymnal #957

Song of Gathering: #365 Comfort, Comfort You My People

Song of Offertory: #867 Christ, Be Our Light

Song during Communion: #724 I Come with Joy

Song of Sending: #347 The Advent of Our God

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 6

4:00pm: +Paul R. LeClere

+Mary Ann Augustine

Sunday, December 7

9:00am: Orlin Lopez & Family

10:30am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

Monday, December 8

7:30am: John Patrick Radosta (birthday blessings)

Tuesday, December 9

7:30am: Evelyn Higginbotham

Wednesday, December 10

7:30am: Redemptorist Vocations

Thursday, December 11

9:00am: Mercy Endeavors Senior Center

Friday, December 12

7:30am: Sisters of Mercy

Saturday, December 13

4:00pm: Hope House

Sunday, December 14

9:00am: +Robert Payne

10:30am: +Dr AJ & Marie Giorlando

12:30pm: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners



Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention December 2025:

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE & MASS INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER St. Mary's Assumption Church

In Memory of Ted & Mildred Borgman and Joseph & Justine Williamson, requested by Dr. Ted & Sandra Borgman.

St. Mary's Chapel
Special Intentions for the Wilkerson & the Quinlan Families,
requested by Carol Wilkerson



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Giving Update: Weekend of November 29 & 30:

\$1,150.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,450.00	Loose Collection
\$320.00	Donations/Legacies
\$1,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Funeral, etc.
\$2,108.00	Online Giving
\$6,028.00	TOTAL

Thank you for your generosity! - Fr. Chung

Food Drive Totals:

St. Alphonsus Parish is sponsoring an Angel Tree Food Drive to help keep Hope House's food pantry shelves filled throughout the holiday season to help struggling individuals and families living in our community, so they do not go hungry. You may scan the QR Code below. We collected 136 food items in the first week of December, for a total year to date of 8,896. Thank you!

Forres Collins, Food Drive Coordinator.

We greatly appreciate your generosity!-Fr. Chung

Saint Alphonsus Parish

ANGEL TREE FOOD DRIVE



DROP-OFF LOCATION
St. Mary's Assumption Church
923 Josephine St.



Please help us fill the Hope House pantry by emptying the angel tree of food item requests! Select a donation and drop it off under the tree by November 30th. Shelf-stable, nonperishable items only. Scan the QR code for our wish list!

For More Information: (504) 603-6549 Cadence Gatterer

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Join us for a Seelos Day of Prayer
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

St. Mary's Assumption Church

Monday, December 8, 2025

10:45am – Confessions

11:00am – Rosary & Prayer

11:30am – Mass

****(Holy Day of Obligation)***

GUILD MINISTRY



Brown Bags Available Next Weekend!

Please support our brown bag ministry and give a bag of food and supplies to a homeless neighbor. Buy a bag after Mass on December 13 & 14.

Thank you – Fr. Chung.



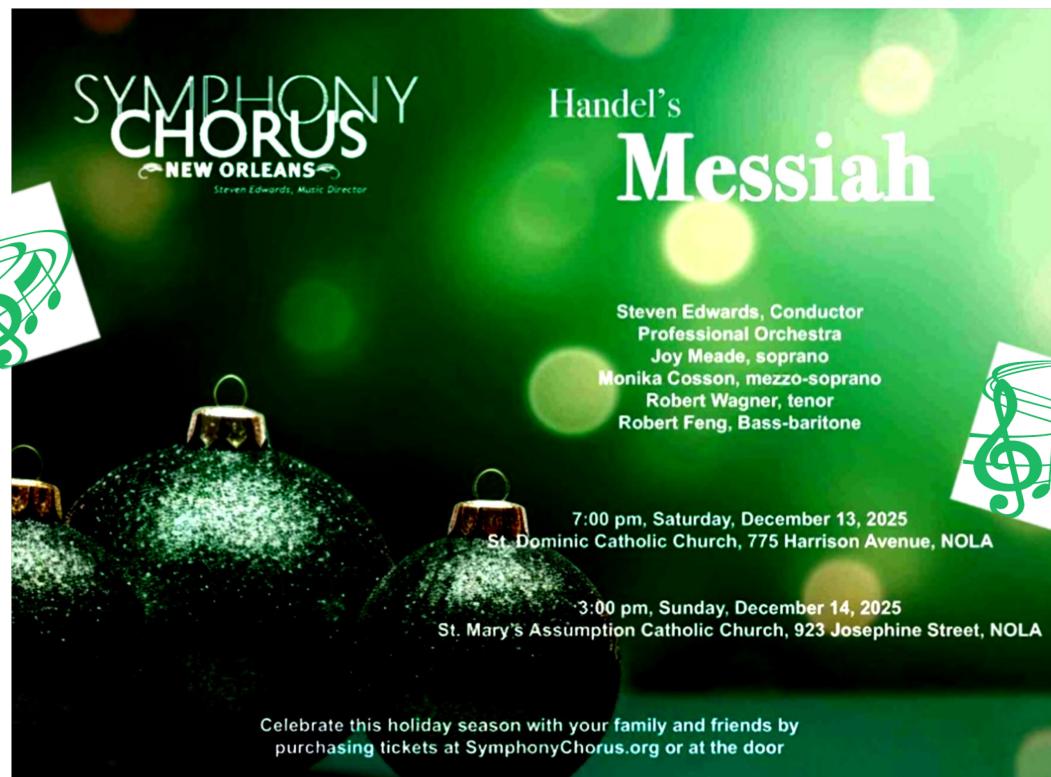
Christmas Offertory Flower Envelopes!

Please fill out your flower envelope and write the person's name of who you would like to remember, and return it along with your donation in the offertory basket by December 21st.
All memorials will print on Dec. 28th.

Spirit of Thanksgiving!

We are so proud of the generous giving spirit of the students of St. Michael's School— they donated over 1,000 food items to our parish for Hope House.

Fr. Chung happily received their kind donations. May God bless them abundantly!



Peace of Jesus

St. Mary's Assumption
923 Josephine St.

St. Alphonsus Parish, New Orleans

St. Mary's Chapel
1516 Jackson Ave.

Christmas Eve Mass Schedule:

St. Mary's Assumption Church

- * (Wed) Dec. 24 - 4pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

(Children's Mass - special gifts given out at Mass for children ages 12 and under)

Christmas Day Mass Schedule:

St. Mary's Chapel

- * (Thu) Dec. 25 - 8am Christmas Mass

St. Mary's Assumption Church

- * (Thu) Dec. 25 - 10am Christmas Mass

- * (Thu) Dec. 25 - 12:30pm Christmas Spanish Mass

Parish Office will be Closed: (Wed) Dec. 24 - (Fri) Dec. 26

(We will reopen on (Mon) Dec. 29 at 9am)



St. Alphonsus Parish, New Orleans
2030 Constance Street
New Orleans, LA 70130
504-522-6748
Office Hours: (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm)

www.StAlphonsusNO.com

MEET A REDEMPTORIST

Rev. Patrick Keyes, C.Ss.R.

Before my first profession as a Redemptorist, I felt called to work with the Latino community in the United States. I have worked in parishes in California, Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, and New York. I am currently stationed in our formation community in Mexico City, where we have 14 young men in the first stages of preparation for Redemptorist Life. The joy and hope of the Latino community both in the U.S. and in Mexico has been an inspiration to me. They have a great devotion to the Blessed Mother, most especially under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe. When the Blessed Mother appeared to Saint Juan Diego he expressed his many concerns and she responded, "Do not be afraid, am I not here who am your mother?" The great faith of the Hispanic community reminds me that I have nothing to fear; God's mother Mary is here with me.



Photo of Father Patrick during a mission – with a First Communicant.

For more information, visit: <https://mfsdiocese.ca/>
 Submitted by: Kristine Stremel
 Public & Community Affairs Director
 Redemptorists – Denver Province



Coming Soon!

We will have a Contest – to find 'baby Jesus' hidden in the Dec. 21st bulletin!

The first (3) people must call the parish office on Mon, Dec. 22nd, and correctly identify where they found baby Jesus in the Dec. 21st bulletin – will win a gift card to the Seelos Gift Shop.

More details in the Dec. 21st bulletin! - Fr. Andy



Help us Keep in Touch with You

If you are currently a parishioner, and any of your family's information on file with us, has changed such as (address, phone, email, etc.) - please call our parish office at 504-522-6748, (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) or email us at StAlsNola@gmail.com.

Thank you.



Front of Church is completely restored!

**The Front of the Church is completely restored!
Exterior renovations have begun on the back of the church near the courtyard.**

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 storms, and 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 its efforts to restore St. Mary's to its original beauty, while fortifying the structure for future generations. We want to thank all those who donated and contributed to our Save St. Mary's Restoration Fund to help pay for the Exterior Renovations of our Church.

We are prayerful and hopeful that we will continue to receive contributions to help fund Phase II, Interior Renovations—to restore the damaged walls and plaster inside of the church, to help repair all of the interior cracks, to preserve the antique plaster carvings, to repaint the interior with historic colors, and other interior renovations as needed.

Would you consider helping us raise funds to complete the Interior Restoration of the Church?

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**