

# 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 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)



*3rd Sunday of Advent*  
*December 14, 2025*

Parish Office: 2030 Constance St.,  
New Orleans, LA 70130  
Parish Website: [StAlphonsusNO.com](http://StAlphonsusNO.com)

## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we continue on our journey through the season of Advent, we enter the 3rd Sunday of Advent known as **Gaudete Sunday** and a third candle is lit, the pink candle – and it represents **joy**. It also means, “Rejoice!” It marks the arrival of Jesus at Christmas; this is symbolized by lighting a rose or pink candle on the Advent wreath, instead of purple, representing the *nearness* of salvation, joy, and the message of hope from John the Baptist and the angels to the shepherds. It represents the great joy the shepherds felt at Jesus' birth, as announced by angels, reminding us that true happiness comes from Christ's imminent arrival, even amidst waiting.

During the third week, the first two purple candles (hope & peace) and the third pink candle are lit, signifying the growing joy as Christmas approaches. It's a reminder for us to find joy in God's presence. May Christ fill your hearts with joy and may you share this joy with others. All around the world, believers will light candles on this Sunday to illuminate the darkness and to wait in joyful expectation of our Savior to return. Today, we join all those in lighting the third Advent candle, the pink candle (known as the 'Shepherd's Candle') - in anticipation of the coming of Jesus.

As the season of Advent continues to unfold, there are a few events coming up intended to renew our preparation in waiting for the return of Jesus, our Savior.

**December 14th:** New Orleans Symphony Chorus will perform Handel's Messiah. For choirs, this concert is the high point of their year. All are invited to join us at St. Mary's Assumption Church at 3pm to enjoy the sounds of the talented Symphony Chorus musicians and singers.

**December 24th and 25th:** Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We remember that God, who came as a human being, down to earth, is reborn in our lives and in our world. Join us for Christmas Eve Mass at 4pm at St. Mary's Assumption Church on December 24th. And join us on Christmas Day for 8am Mass at St. Mary's Chapel, and for 10am and 12:30pm Masses at St. Mary's Assumption Church. Please invite your family and friends. All are welcome!

Pax,

Fr. Chung Tran, C.Ss.R.



**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 7pm on Sunday.

**Prayer Requests:** We are currently praying for Orlin Lopez & family, Sharie, Mary, Greg, Catherine, Ryan, Linda & Leah, Mike & Trudy, Amanda, Liz's healing of foot, Forres, all those who are ill or suffering, April, Theresa, Conner, Mayor elect & her team, thanksgiving for a successful Advent Retreat, for justice and fair treatment of all immigrants, for world peace for all nations, and for all prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts, for all our prayer intentions spoken and unspoken. **Amen.**

**Special Intentions:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Schmitt and prayers for her husband and family; she passed away recently. Prayers for Pope Leo, and for Archbishop Aymond, and Coadjutor Archbishop James Checchio and all of our Redemptorist priests, brothers, sisters...Blessed Francis Seelos pray for us. **Amen.**

Updated: (12/9/25)

## Liturgy Notes

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### UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

- **Saturday, December 20 – 4:00pm**

**Lector:** D. Gaiennie

**Eucharistic Minister:** S. Gaiennie

- **Sunday, December 21 – 9:00am (Chapel)**

**Lector:** T. Costanza

**Eucharistic Minister:** T. George

- **Sunday, December 21 – 10:30am**

**Lector:** B. Perrault

**Eucharistic Ministers:** C. Nelson; C. Berbuesse;  
E. Berbuesse

### LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

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

Response | Gospel A3 Readings: Hymnal #960

Song of Gathering: #714 The Spirit of God

Song of Offertory: #345 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Song of Communion: #550 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep  
Silence

Rec: #352 O Come Divine Messiah



### 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/>)

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### **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

#### **Monday, December 15**

7:30am: John Patrick Radosta

#### **Tuesday, December 16**

7:30am: John Patrick Radosta

#### **Wednesday, December 17**

7:30am: Carol Wilkerson

#### **Thursday, December 18**

9:00am: John Patrick Radosta

#### **Friday, December 19**

7:30am: +Clary P. Higginbotham

#### **Saturday, December 20**

4:00pm: +Joan Schmitt

#### **Sunday, December 21**

9:00am: John Patrick Radosta

10:30am: +Bertha Ledet Dragon

12:30pm: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

### 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



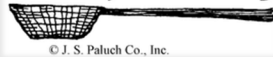
## Stewardship

### Giving Update: Dec. 6 & Dec. 7, 2025:

\$2,348.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,846.00	Loose Collection
\$366.00	Donations/Legacies
\$100.00	Mass Stipends
\$1,000.00	Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals
\$130.00	Religious Education
\$20.00	Food Bank
\$182.51	Lawn & Zella Reimbursements
\$1,632.45	Online Giving
<b>\$7,624.96</b>	<b>Total Giving</b>

Thank you for your financial support!  
- Fr. Chung

### Weekly Offering



### Food Drive Totals:

**St. Alphonsus Parish is sponsoring an Angel Tree Food Drive** to help keep our parish food pantry Full. Because of your kindness and outpouring of food donations—Hope House's pantry shelves were filled. And Fr. Chung was able to donate 800 food items to help the Hispanic Apostolate of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, which runs a food pantry to provide food assistance for the Hispanic community. Our parish was very thankful to be able to assist other food pantries because of your ongoing generosity.

In the month of December, we collected 238 food items, for a total year to date of 8,998. A kind donor donated a \$250 Walmart gift card to Hope House and another person gave \$100 donation for a total of \$689.00. Thank you very much! Please continue to bring what you can each week to Mass. **Help us to keep food available for those in need throughout the holiday season.**

Forres Collins—Food Drive Coordinator

**We greatly appreciate your generosity! -Fr. Chung**



### Christmas Decorating!

Please join us next **Saturday, Dec. 20th** to decorate St. Mary's Assumption Church for Christmas.

We will decorate first and then enjoy pizza and refreshments for lunch afterwards.

All are welcome to help us!

**Thank you! - Fr. Chung & Redemptorist Community**

*Pizza & refreshments for all Volunteers!*



### GUILD MINISTRY

**Brown Bags** will be available at all Masses: **December 13 & 14**

Please support our brown bag ministry and give a bag of food & supplies to a homeless neighbor.

*(Suggested donation is \$2 per bag)*

### STEWARDSHIP

#### Second Collection for Retired

**Religious:** We will have our second collection at all Masses for the retired religious.

Thank you for your generosity.



*All are welcome!*

**Please join us for 'Handel's Messiah' Concert and performance by the Symphony Chorus of New Orleans at St. Mary's Assumption Church on, Sunday, December 14th at 3pm.**

You may purchase tickets online at [SymphonyChorus.org](http://SymphonyChorus.org) or at the door.

**Please invite your family and friends!**

A poster for the Handel's Messiah concert. The background is a dark green with bokeh light effects. In the bottom left, there are two large, dark green Christmas ornaments with gold caps and gold glitter. The text is white and gold. The top left says 'SYMPHONY CHORUS NEW ORLEANS' with 'Steven Edwards, Music Director' in small text below. The top right says 'Handel's Messiah' in large, bold letters. Below that, it lists the conductor and soloists: 'Steven Edwards, Conductor', 'Professional Orchestra', 'Joy Meade, soprano', 'Monika Cosson, mezzo-soprano', 'Robert Wagner, tenor', and 'Robert Feng, Bass-baritone'. The bottom right lists the two performances: '7:00 pm, Saturday, December 13, 2025' at 'St. Dominic Catholic Church, 775 Harrison Avenue, NOLA' and '3:00 pm, Sunday, December 14, 2025' at 'St. Mary's Assumption Catholic Church, 923 Josephine Street, NOLA'. At the very bottom, it says 'Celebrate this holiday season with your family and friends by purchasing tickets at [SymphonyChorus.org](http://SymphonyChorus.org) or at the door'.

**CHRISTMAS BOOKS for  
St. Alphonsus School**

**Thanks** to all those who have  
donated books for the students of  
St. Alphonsus School!

We ask those to please **return your gift  
wrapped books to the parish office by  
Monday, Dec. 15th – between 9am-2pm.**

We want to make sure that each child  
receives a book for Christmas.

If you have any questions, please call  
504-522-6748. **Thank you!**

**Holy Days of Obligation:**

**St. Mary's Assumption Church**  
Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24  
Vigil Mass at 4pm

**St. Mary's Chapel**  
Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 – 8am

**St. Mary's Assumption Church**  
Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25  
10:30am  
12:30pm Spanish

**New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1**  
**9am Mass - St. Mary's Assumption Church**

## Peace of Jesus

St. Alphonsus Parish, New Orleans

St. Mary's Assumption  
923 Josephine St.

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)*

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### **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](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com)

## Parish News!



### FIND BABY JESUS CONTEST!

Can you **find baby Jesus hidden** in the bulletin?

Discover the joy of finding Christ in Christmas! The wisemen followed a bright star in the night sky to find baby Jesus.

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If you find baby Jesus in next week's Dec. 21st bulletin, you must call the parish office on Monday, Dec. 22 and tell us where you have found him.

The first (3) people who call the parish office on Monday, Dec. 23, and correctly identify the hidden location of baby Jesus will **win a prize!**

Please be sure to leave your name, phone number and the location where you found baby Jesus.

Parish Office – 504-522-6748 – we open at 9am -2pm, on Mon, Dec. 22.

**Good luck! - Fr. Andy**



### **Preservation Resource Center's Annual Holiday Home Tour - Tour of St. Mary's Chapel on Dec. 13 & 14, 2025**

A huge "Thank You" to the Preservation Resource Center (PRC) for featuring St. Alphonsus Parish – and St. Mary's Chapel as one of its properties for this year's Christmas Home Tour. We also **thank our Parish Council Members and volunteers** for making this possible!

**Thank you** to those who volunteered to greet visitors on the PRC Tour this weekend at St. Mary's Chapel, and for helping plan for this event.

**We appreciate your time, talent, love and support! - Fr. Chung**

Please log onto [www.prcno.org/holiday-home-tour/](http://www.prcno.org/holiday-home-tour/) for more information or if you would like to purchase tickets for the holiday tour.



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