

# 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 of each month after 7:30am  
Mass

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

Office Email: [StAlsNola@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsNola@gmail.com)  
504-522-6748



# Catholic Schools

## **United in Faith and Community**

**January 25, 2026**

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

## *Celebrate Catholic Schools Week!*

Dear Parishioners,

During the week of **January 25—February 1, 2026**, St. Alphonsus School will celebrate National Catholic Schools Week. The theme for this year is **“Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.”**

An excerpt from Sister Monica’s letter (from January 2024) on the history of St. Alphonsus School began in 1850 with the construction by Father Chakert, a Redemptorist priest, of a timber building to be used as a school during the week and serve as St. Alphonsus Church on Sundays. The school was established for the English speaking Irish children and staffed by lay teachers until the Sisters of Mercy arrived in New Orleans in 1869.

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to them.” The faculty and staff of St. Alphonsus School are dedicated to responding to the needs of the whole child in all aspects of their development; but they have an even deeper calling. Our teachers, support staff, and administrators are called to discipleship, to be powerful witnesses to Gospel values and to the ever-abiding presence of God’s love.

Each morning we pray our **Vision Statement** together as a school family. We ask God to engrave these words into our hearts and to give us the courage to faithfully live these words each day.

**St. Alphonsus School is a place where all involved form a FAMILY which ministers together to provide a loving, safe, Christian environment where all feel accepted and respected and where each member of the family is challenged, encouraged and empowered to develop into a whole person who uses his/her gifts to build up the Kingdom of God. ONE SCHOOL, ONE BODY, ONE GOAL, MAKE US ONE.**

For the past 174 years, under the protection of St. Alphonsus Liguori, the founder of the Redemptorists, and Mother Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, St. Alphonsus School has been enriched by the cultures and blessed by the faith of Irish, German, French, Italian, Hispanic, and African American families living in the Irish Channel and throughout the city of New Orleans. The history of St. Alphonsus School is a story of a journey of love and dedication between the Redemptorist Community and the Sisters of Mercy. Our St. Alphonsus School Family is deeply grateful to the Redemptorists, the Sisters of Mercy, and the parishioners of St. Alphonsus Parish for their prayers, encouragement, and support during this long journey of the school. Relying on the power of God’s spirit within us, may we continue to be a ***beacon of hope*** and the opportunity for a Catholic quality education in a loving and faith-filled environment for all the families who enter our doors. May the “Door of St. Alphonsus School” truly be a “Door of Mercy and Plentiful Redemption” that invites all who enter to experience God’s love, God’s healing, and God’s compassion.

-by: Sister Monica Ellerbusch, R.S.M.— Principal, St. Alphonsus School

## Liturgy Notes

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### UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

- **Saturday, January 31 – 4:00pm**

**Lector:** D. Waldron

**Eucharistic Minister:** E. Rafferty

- **Sunday, February 1 – 9:00am (Chapel)**

**Lector:** T. Costanza

**Eucharistic Minister:** C. Wilkerson

- **Sunday, February 1 – 10:30am**

**Lector:** M. Balducci

**Eucharistic Ministers:** C. Nelson; J. Cross; T. Schafer

### LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

Mass Parts: | #21 Holy | A #26 Mem. Accl. | #31 Amen  
| #32 Lord's Prayer | #36 Lamb of God

3rd Sunday in O.T. Response Gospel A57, Hymnal  
Readings: #1041

Song of Gathering: #532 All Our Hearts and Minds

Song of Offertory: #715 The Summons

Song of Communion: #684 Let Us Be One

Rec: #637 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

### Pope Leo XIV's Prayer Intention January 2026:

#### **For Prayer With the Word of God**

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be  
nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in  
our communities, helping us to build  
a more fraternal  
and missionary Church.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### **Saturday, January 24**

4:00pm: Sean Wilkerson

+Rev. Gerard LaPorte, C.Ss.R.

#### **Sunday, January 25**

9:00am: John Patrick Radosta

10:30am: +Fabio & Maria Fernandez

12:30pm: St. Alphonsus Parishioners  
+Olga Carias

#### **Monday, January 26**

7:30am: +Terry Cullen

+Ed Lewis

#### **Tuesday, January 27**

7:30am: +Frances Ross

#### **Wednesday, January 28**

7:30am: +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

#### **Thursday, January 29**

7:30am: +Catherine Joachim

#### **Friday, January 30**

7:30am: John Patrick Radosta

#### **Saturday, January 31**

4:00pm: +Mike Wilkerson

+Terry Cullen

#### **Sunday, February 1**

9:00am: Maria & Theo George

10:30am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

12:30pm: +Olga Carias

#### **SANCTUARY CANDLE**

#### **& MASS INTENTION FOR JANUARY**

St. Mary's Assumption Church

In Memory of Valery Leonard Duffel,  
requested by,

David Earl & Peggy Simmons.

## Stewardship

### Giving Update: Jan. 17 & 18, 2026:

\$70.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$4,367.00	Loose Collection
\$2,180.00	Donations/Legacies
\$1,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc.
\$8,716.00	St. Vincent de Paul/Insurance
\$1,467.45	Online Giving
<b>\$17,800.45</b>	<b>Total Giving</b>

Thank you for your generosity! - Fr. Chung

### Food Drive Totals:

St. Alphonsus Parish is sponsoring an Angel Tree Food Drive to help keep our parish pantry full. We appreciate your weekly food donations. Help us to keep Hope House's and the Hispanic Apostolate's food pantries full during the new year. Thank you!

January = 370 non-perishable food items donated.

Year to Date = 370 food items donated.

Help us to keep food available for those in need throughout the New Year!

Forres Collins – Food Drive Coordinator

We greatly appreciate your generosity! -Fr. Chung

Saint Alphonsus Parish

## ANGEL TREE FOOD DRIVE



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!

**DROP-OFF LOCATION**

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
923 Josephine St.



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



Jan. 31 – Sam Franklin & Isabelle Mulkin

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



Sunday, Feb. 1st  
Hospitality Sunday

Join us for fellowship after the 9am & 10:30am Masses!

## + Ash Wednesday Services February 18th

St. Mary's Chapel  
7:30am

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
11:30am | 7pm (Spanish)



St. Alphonsus School Mass  
St. Mary's Assumption Church  
1:30pm

All are welcome! - Fr. Chung





## **Pick up your colorful St. Mary's T-shirt!**

Call the parish office, Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm to purchase a colorful St. Mary's t-shirt and wear it on your next vacation.

Take a photo of yourself and/or your family member wearing our St. Mary's t-shirt, and tell us where you are at! Then, Email your photos to [StAlsNola@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsNola@gmail.com) and give us your name, and where the photo was taken and when, and we will post it in our church bulletin. We currently have the following colors: **kiwi green**, **orange**, **burgundy**, **dark blue** & **dark grey** in sizes, small through extra-large, \$15.00 each.

(Pictured: Sue with kiwi green shirt).

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Second Collection for Catholic Schools (Jan. 24 & 25)** - We will take up a second collection at all Masses for the Catholic Schools Collection to help fund faith-based education for children and to help promote a lifetime of learning, and service. **Thank you!**

**Confirmation Class will meet on (Sun) January 25** - The Confirmation Class for our parish's high school students will meet from **11:40am - 12:15pm** at the parish rectory. The class topic: 'Forgiveness'. **Thank you – Fr. Andy.**

**We pray that God keeps all of our parishioners & neighbors safe and warm during the winter storm** that will impact New Orleans & the south this weekend through next Tuesday – bringing freezing temperatures, rain, and ice in some areas. Please monitor all weather alerts.

**Mardi Gras Day** – Our parish office will be closed on (Tue) February 17th for Mardi Gras Day.

- ◇ There will be no 7:30am Mass at the Chapel on Mardi Gras Day.
- ◇ There will be no 11:30am Seelos Novena Mass at St. Mary's Church on Mardi Gras Day.

**Have a safe and happy Mardi Gras! - Fr. Chung & Redemptorist Community**

**Lent Begins on +Ash Wednesday, February 18th and our parish will have the following Services:**

- ◇ St. Mary's Chapel – 7:30am Mass
- ◇ St. Mary's Assumption Church – (10am Rosary & prayers, 11:30am Mass); 1:30pm (School Mass) and 7pm Spanish Mass. **(See Bulletin in this bulletin)**

**Lenten Bible Study** – Our parish will host a Lenten Bible Study on Saturdays in Lent beginning on February 28, March 7, March 21 and March 28 at the parish rectory from 9am-11am.

**More details coming soon! - Fr. Andy & the Worship Committee.**

**Beware of Scams!** Please watch out for fake texts/emails that may look like they are from Fr. Chung, Fr. Andy, Fr. Steve & Fr. Tim asking you to purchase gift cards for the church. St. Mary's Assumption Church of St. Alphonsus parish does not send out messages asking for money or to purchase gift cards to help the church. Please do not open these messages. Thank you. – Fr. Chung.



## Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

On June 23, 1867, the same year Blessed Father Francis Seelos died, the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help was solemnly consecrated in Rome. Pope Pius IX told the Redemptorists to make her image known. The Redemptorists took this commission very seriously and devotion of our Lady under this title spread rapidly throughout the world. Here in New Orleans, 90 years ago, in St. Alphonsus Parish, and the church of St. Mary's Assumption, there were as many as 30,000 people coming to the novena every week. This figure is hard to imagine! There were as many as 10 services in each church throughout the day with buses and streetcars coming at all hours, bringing the vast crowds.

In the Philippines today, over 10,000 people come to Manila for the novena. Our Redemptorist church in Manus, Brazil has almost the same number of people who gather. And over the years, millions of prayers have been answered for those seeking Mary's help.

The history of the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is a long and complicated one, but devotion to our Lady is not complicated at all. St. Alphonsus has a very strong devotion to Mary and in one of his many books, *"Visits to the Blessed Sacrament"*, he writes that those who honor Mary and encourage others to do so will be blessed in heaven.

As a Redemptorist priest, I feel called by God and His mother to continue to inspire people with devotion to Mary under the title of Perpetual Help. Here at St. Mary's Assumption Church, we have a shrine in her honor, where thousands have come seeking her help over the years. We celebrate the novena every Tuesday at 7:30am Mass at the Chapel and at 11:30am Mass at St. Mary's Church. We invite and encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to have our Mother of Perpetual Help intercede for you and your family.

**In June 2026, we plan to honor Our Mother of Perpetual Help on her feast day, on June 27th.** In preparation for this great feast, we plan to publish articles in the church bulletin about this devotion to Mary and other topics. We look forward to your participation in honoring Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

— Fr. Steve Benden, C.Ss.R.

(See pictures from Our Mother of Perpetual Help Mass on the next page)

## Monthly Mother of Perpetual Help Mass

We thank our Filipino church family, parishioners, devotees, and friends who came out last Sunday, January 18th to honor our Holy Mother with rosary, prayers and devotions at our monthly special Mass. The Redemptorist community enjoyed spending time with you in worship and fellowship. **All are welcome to join us** on the third Sunday of each month at 3pm for prayers and devotions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help at St. Mary's Assumption Church. Join us for a social gathering afterwards at our parish rectory.

- Fr. Steve Benden, C.Ss.R.



(Pictures by: Leila Benazo)





*Exterior renovations are underway 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)**