

# 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



*January 18, 2026*

## LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR

**And as we continue...**

Here in New Orleans, we are proud to have Blessed Father Seelos, C.Ss.R., as an intercessor for us. We share his life story with pilgrims each day and pray at the shrine for his intervening for us with God.

This past Wednesday, January 14th, we Redemptorists celebrated another very special Blessed in our congregation. Blessed Peter Donders, C.Ss.R. dedicated his life to helping people, but he is especially known for his work with the Hansen's (leprosy) disease community in Surinam—a small country in the northeastern part of South America. He ministered and lived for 28 years in the government leprosarium of Batavia until his death in 1887. Blessed Donders died among his lepers, poor among the poor, mourned and invoked as a saint. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on May 23, 1982.

I was asked by some of our parishioners for more specifics on our Redemptorist membership and numbers. Here are the current figures as of January 6, 2026 as follows:

Total number of Redemptorists in the world: 4,469

Bishops: 59

Priests: 3,392

Permanent Deacons: 9

Transitory Deacons: 77 (these will be ordained priests in the coming year)

Lay Brothers: 289 (these of which are 35 are in temporary vows/students)

Clerical Students to be ordained: 643 (these of which are 531 are in temporary vows)

I ask that you keep all of us in your prayers, as we continue on our journeys of faith. Feel free to reach out to me, Fr. Andy at [frandythompsoncssr@gmail.com](mailto:frandythompsoncssr@gmail.com).

-Fr. Andy Thompson, 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, Barbara Y., Mike, Kerry, Aimee, Julia, Janie, Jay, Jennifer, Gennie, Tina & Shawn, Heather, Julia, for the parents of three young kids who are struggling with issues, Joshua, Estre's health & healing, for justice and fair treatment of all immigrants, for world peace for all nations, for a peaceful and healthy 2026, 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 Olga Carias, a parishioner who passed on January 9, 2026; and for Kyle who died recently—prayers for their families. 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: (1/13/26)

# Liturgy Notes

© J. S. Pabst Co., Inc.

## UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### • Saturday, January 24 – 4:00pm

**Lector:** J. Marvel

**Eucharistic Minister:** S. Sternberg

### • Sunday, January 25 – 9:00am (Chapel)

**Lector:** K. Soileau

**Eucharistic Minister:** M. Soileau

### • Sunday, January 25 – 10:30am

**Lector:** G. Gitz

**Eucharistic Ministers:** L. Moran; B. Fleisher; B. Sallettes

## LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

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

2nd Sunday in O.T. Response Gospel A56, Hymnal  
Readings: #1038

Song of Gathering: #404 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Song of Offertory: #867 Christ, Be Our Light

Song of Communion: #536 Eat This Bread

Rec: #697 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

### 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 17

4:00pm: +JoAnn Christopher

### Sunday, January 18

9:00am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

10:30am: For Dr. Cao's parents' (James & Pauline Cao's 48th Anniversary)

+Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

12:30pm: +Olga Carias

### Monday, January 19

7:30am: Maria & Theo George

### Tuesday, January 20

7:30am: Sera & +Alfred J. Boese  
(58th Anniversary)

### Wednesday, January 21

7:30am: +Terry Cullen

### Thursday, January 22

7:30am: +Rev. Jacky Merilan, C.Ss.R.

### Friday, January 23

7:30am: Evelyn Higginbotham

### 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: +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. 10 & 11, 2026:

\$20.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,107.00	Loose Collection
\$1,120.00	Donations/Legacies
\$50.00	Mass Stipends
\$1,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc.
\$10,000.00	Religious Retirement Collection
\$4,762.57	Lawn & Insurance reimbursements
\$1,183.26	<i>Online Giving</i>
<b>\$19,242.83</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. Thank you for your generous food donations. The food you give goes directly to Hope House and the Hispanic Apostolate to help them serve those in need living in our community. Thank you!

**January** = 336 non-perishable food items donated.

**Year to Date** = 336 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



**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



**Jan. 17 – Trevor Danley & Caroline Christmas**

**Jan. 31 – Sam Franklin & Isabelle Mulkin**

May God bless these couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage.

### Second Collection: Weekend of January 24 & 25:

Our second collection for next weekend is 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!

Our Parish Office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, January 19th

We're Closed in Observance of

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY**

## Our Mass Intention Book is open for 2026.

Please call our parish office at 504-522-6748 to schedule a Mass Intention for a loved one, from January - December 2026.

---

- ◊ Mass Intentions – \$5 stipend

**Thank you!**

## Annual Statements 2025:

To our parishioners: the annual statements for your annual donations, online giving and others will be available soon.

If you have any questions, contact Connie at 504-451-4108.

**Thank you!**



## Confirmation Mass for Students of St. Alphonsus Parish!

Our confirmation students will join the youth of Christ the King Parish for their Sacrament of Confirmation on **Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 7:00pm.**

---

There will be a **retreat day on Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026** from **10:30am-6:30pm** at **Christ the King Church** in Terrytown, LA, that includes a Mass and lunch will be provided.

There will also be a **rehearsal on Sunday, March 1, 2026** at **11:30am** after the 10:30am Mass at Christ the King Church.

\*These above events are mandatory to attend to be confirmed this year.

If the parents or students have any questions, please see me.

**Thank you – Fr. Andy**

## ON JANUARY 11, 2026, HUNDREDS GATHERED AT ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH FOR THE BLESSED SEELOS HEALING MASS

The first gathering was held on the 207th anniversary of Father Seelos's birth (Jan. 11, 1819). Nearly 600 parishioners, non-parishioners, Catholics from all over the city, pilgrims from near and far came to Blessed Seelos Healing Mass for physical and spiritual healing. We pray that all prayer intentions and petitions are answered. We thank Fr. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R., for celebrating the Mass.

Following the Mass, priests anointed the sick, blessing the foreheads and hands of the faithful. Those that were unable to attend the Mass, were able to see it livestream on Facebook.



**All are welcome to join us  
St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Monday-Fridays for 11:30am Daily Seelos Novena Mass  
\*(Confessions are available after Mass)**

**For more information, contact the Seelos Shrine and Welcome Center  
Learn more about Blessed Seelos | Visit the Shrine at 919 Josephine Street, New Orleans  
www.Seelos.org  
Call: (504) 525-2495 – Monday-Saturday, 10am-2pm**

## 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](http://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

### Parish Leadership

Parish Council Pres. Skip Miller, 404.822.6370

Parish Council V. Pres. Sara Schexnayder, 908.303.9935

Finance Council Pres. Ed Berbuesse, 504.495.6056

### 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/My Own Church)) 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](http://www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment)

### SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for the Bulletin, Social Media, Website, email [StAlsNla.Communications@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsNla.Communications@gmail.com). All submissions require pastoral staff approval.



***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)**