

# St. Alphonsus Catholic Parish

## A Redemptorist Community



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

St. Mary's Chapel,  
1516 Jackson Ave.

### Weekend Masses:

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 3:15pm, before 4pm Vigil

St. Mary's Chapel: Sunday at 9:00am

St. Mary's Assumption Church: Sundays  
10:30am & Spanish Mass at 12:30pm

### Weekday Masses: Monday-Friday

St. Mary's Chapel: 7:30am

St. Mary's Assumption Church: 11:30am  
Novena Mass in Honor of Blessed  
Father Francis Xavier Seelos,  
*Confessions available, after Mass*

### Perpetual Help Devotions

St. Mary's Chapel  
Tuesdays during 7:30am Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

St. Mary's Chapel  
1st Friday of each month after 7:30am Mass

### Monthly Mass:

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
Our Mother of Perpetual Help Mass, 3rd  
Sunday of each month. at 3pm with the  
Filipino Faith Community & Parish

Parish Office Email: [StAlsnola@gmail.com](mailto:StAlsnola@gmail.com)  
504-522-6748 (Mon-Fri; 9am-2pm)  
*(Office Hours may vary on holidays)*

National Shrine of Blessed Francis X. Seelos  
504-525-2495 (Mon-Sat; 10am-2pm)  
*(Closed on Sundays - Holiday hours vary)*  
[Info@seelos.org](mailto:Info@seelos.org)



## LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Dear brothers and sisters,

Each year on Ash Wednesday, we enter the first day of Lent. The Lenten season lasts for 40 days and it is a time of penance and preparation for Easter. It is a time of fasting, almsgiving and spiritual renewal. By engaging in these disciplines, we allow ourselves to be transformed, preparing our souls for the joy of Easter.

As we enter the season of Lent, I am reminded of Pope Leo's message encouraging Catholics to ask the Lord for "the gift of conversion", at the start of the 40-day penitential season of Lent. Also, He suggested that we approach Lent as a time of a "conversion of heart". Lent is a time to find and to reconnect with God, to pray and to reflect, to repent, to recommit our lives to Christ. For some, it is a time of fasting and praying; a time to give to those in need or to help a neighbor.

During the 40-day journey through the desert, we are reminded of how easy it is to take our eyes off of God and to give in to temptation of the distraction of the world around us. On this first Sunday of Lent, we follow Jesus into the desert. Jesus wanders in the wilderness for a forty-day journey and there, he confronts the devil who tempts him to turn stones into bread. But instead, the Holy Spirit gave Jesus strength to lead Him back to His Father. We too, must allow the Holy Spirit to lead us back to God.

The Lenten season allows us to deepen our relationship with God and to draw closer to Him as we prepare our soul for His death and glorious Resurrection. I want to leave you with another important message from Pope Leo – in his message for Lent this year, he also encouraged the faithful to "let us ask for the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us. Let us ask for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others." Let us open our hearts and souls to God's love and may we be strengthened by His Body and Blood while on our journey of faith.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Pray for us,

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 Rebecca & Mason, Huey's health, Jennifer, Dino to be safe on the water & Kim's back, Melody, Becky, Barrie's health, Tom's health, Susie's arm, Eric, Raymond's eyesight, Sydney's health, Gail, Christina to find a job, Cecily, Teresita's annual checkup, Theresa, friend's recovery from shoulder surgery, Elaine's and Victoria's healing & recovery, the success of our new Mayor & her team, and for all prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts, for all our prayer intentions spoken and unspoken. **Amen.**

**Special Intentions:** Prayers for Pope Leo, and for Archbishop Aymond and our new Archbishop Checchio and for all of our Redemptorist priests, brothers, sisters...Blessed Francis Seelos pray for us. **Amen.**

Updated: (2/17/26)

**Liturgy Notes**

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**UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

- **Saturday, February 28 – 4:00pm**  
**Lector:** J. Marvel  
**Eucharistic Minister:** S. Sternberg
- **Sunday, March 1 – 9:00am (Chapel)**  
**Lector:** K. Soileau  
**Eucharistic Minister:** M. Soileau
- **Sunday, March 1 – 10:30am**  
**Lector:** M. Balducci  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** L. Moran; B. Fleischer; N. Olivares

**LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK**

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

Lent 1 Response Gospel A16, Hymnal Readings: #979

Song of Gathering: #419 Again We Keep This Solemn Fast

Song of Offertory: #577 Have Mercy Lord, On Us

Song of Communion: #530 At That First Eucharist

Rec: #421 Forty Days and Forty Nights

**Pope Leo XIV's**  
**Prayer Intention**  
**February 2026:**

**February: For children with incurable diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Saturday, February 21**  
4:00pm: +Catherine Joachim
- Sunday, February 22**  
9:00am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners
- 10:30am: +Mary Arroyo
- 12:30pm: +Olga Carias
- Monday, February 23**  
7:30am: +Timmy Rigney
- Tuesday, February 24**  
7:30am: Joanna Giorlando
- Wednesday, February 25**  
7:30am: +Tommy Chambers
- Thursday, February 26**  
7:30am: +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando
- Friday, February 27**  
7:30am: Sisters of Mercy
- Saturday, February 28**  
4:00pm: +Natalie & Edward Bourgeois
- Sunday, March 1**  
9:00am: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners  
10:30am: +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**  
**& MASS INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY**

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
In Memory of Fabio & Maria Fernandez,  
requested by,  
Terry Loetzerich & Family.



## Stewardship

### Giving Update: Feb. 14 & 15, 2026:

\$542.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,919.00	Loose Collection
\$420.00	Donations/Legacies
\$50.00	Mass Stipends
\$2,000.00	Baptisms, Weddings, Certificates
\$1,668.86	Misc. Zella phone, St. Vincent de Paul reimbursements
<b>\$6,599.86</b>	<b>Total Giving</b>

Thank you for your support! - Fr. Chung

### Food Drive Totals:

St. Alphonsus Parish is asking for your help to bring non-perishable food items to church each week for our parish Food Drive. We thank all those who have donated food to help those in need living in our community. Thank you very much!

February = 468 non-perishable food items given  
Year to Date = 1,227 food items donated.

Forres Collins – Food Drive Coordinator

### MINISTRY WITH YOUNG ADULTS

*Join us on Sunday, Feb. 22*

Following the 10:30am Mass, **all young adults and their families are welcome to join us** at the Mercy Covent (1017 St. Andrew St) to make sandwiches for our homeless neighbors with the N.O. Catholic Worker. Meet Daniel in the back of church. If you have any questions, contact Daniel Wikoff at [danielgw59@gmail.com](mailto:danielgw59@gmail.com).

**Thank you!**

**We would like to wish Fr. Andy a very Happy Birthday!**



**Fr. Andy Thompson, C.Ss.R.,  
 Associate Pastor – February 24**



### ST. JOSEPH'S ALTAR!

If you would like to help our church family prepare and decorate the St. Joseph's Altar, or if you would like to **donate** baked Italian cookies, desserts, produce (vegetables & fruits) to adorn the altar, help fill cookie bags, serve lunch or make a donation – **See the Sign-up Sheets in the back of church.**

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#### **St. Joseph's Altar Schedule St. Mary's Assumption Church:**

**(Wed) March 18 – Prep Day – 9am-12p**  
 Set up of Altar and Decorate

**(Wed) March 19 – Viewing & Blessing of Altar**, Blessing at 9am, followed by Mass, at 11:30am with prayers & Devotions to St. Joseph (Church will be open from 9am-4pm) (12pm-2pm) – Spaghetti lunch to-go will be served in the back of church, one (1) serving per person or until the food runs out); blessed bags and candles will be available for a donation.

**Thank you – Fr. Chung**



We thank our parishioner, Liz for sharing her photo with us wearing her new St. Mary's t-shirt during Mardi Gras!

If you would like to order a t-shirt, call our office.

(Sizes: small-extra large in Kiwi green, orange, dark blue, burgundy and grey)  
(Cost: \$15 each)



### Sunday, March 1st Hospitality Sunday

Please join us after 9am and 10:30am Masses for coffee and donuts!

All are welcome!

### Confirmation Class Retreat Day—(Sunday) Feb. 22nd!

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 at 10:30am, and lunch will be provided for all students.

**All students must attend!**

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Join Fr. Andy at Christ the King Church in Terrytown, LA on Sunday, March 1 at 11:30am, following the 10:30am Mass for your **Confirmation Rehearsal** and then on:

\*\*\*\*\*

(Wednesday) March 4—Join Fr. Andy to receive your Sacrament of Confirmation at Christ the King Church— **all students must be there by 6:15pm; Confirmation will take place at 7pm.**

(Please wear your Sunday's best)

\*\*\*\*\*

If you have any questions, about these events, please call Fr. Andy at 504-522-6748 or email him at [frandythompsoncssr@gmail.com](mailto:frandythompsoncssr@gmail.com)

*Thank you—Fr. Andy*



### Lenten Bible Study

You are invited to a four-part bible study to deepen your understanding of Jesus and to explore how to live out your faith more fully in everyday life. Enjoy meaningful talks, spiritual growth & fellowship.

**Saturday Mornings on:**  
February 28  
March 7  
March 21  
March 28

**Location: Sisters of Mercy Convent**  
1017 St. Andrew St., New Orleans, LA

**Time: 8:45am – Fellowship & Coffee**

**Reflection: 9am – 10:30am**

*All are welcome! -Fr. Chung*



# St. Alphonsus Parish

## 2026 Lenten Calendar



St. Mary's Assumption Church  
923 Josephine Street

St. Mary's Chapel  
1516 Jackson Avenue

### Stations of the Cross

St. Mary's Chapel    **Fridays at 6:00pm**  
February 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20 & 27

St. Mary's Assumption Church    **Fridays at 7:00pm/Spanish**

### Evenings of Confession

St. Mary's Assumption Church  
**Wednesdays from 5pm-6:30p**  
March 11, 18 & 25

### Parish Lenten Bible Study

**Sisters of Mercy Convent**

1017 St. Andrew Street, New Orleans

**Saturdays, 9am-10:30am**

**Reflection: Fr. Chung Tran, C.Ss.R.**

**Dates: February 28, March 7, 21 & 28**

(Doors open at 8:45am – Coffee & fellowship) – Admission is Free!

*(Voluntary donations are gratefully accepted)*

### St. Patrick's Day Mass

St. Mary's Assumption Church

**Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon**

**Irish Channel Parade immediately following Mass at 1pm**

*(There will be no 4pm Vigil)*

### St. Joseph's Altar

St. Mary's Assumption Church

**Wednesday, March 18 — Preparations of the Altar**

**(Volunteers arrive from 9am –12pm)**

St. Mary's Assumption Church

**Thursday, March 19 — Blessing & Viewing of Altar**

Devotions and Prayers to St. Joseph,

Blessing at 9am, Viewing of Altar, 9am-4pm, Mass following at 11:30am,

(Meatless spaghetti lunch served at 12pm-2pm – or until food runs out)

Blessed bags and candles available for a donation.

*(Church closes at 4pm)*

### HOLY WEEK & EASTER

St. Mary's Assumption Church | St. Mary's Chapel – more details coming soon!

For more information, visit [www.StAlphonsusNO.com](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com)

Follow us on Facebook @AlsNOLA or call (504) 522-6748

## 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/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](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 on the back of the church are coming along nicely!*

## Save St. Mary's Assumption Church—Restoration Capital Campaign

Picture taken: February 10, 2026

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)**