

# St. Alphonus Catholic Parish

## *A Redemptorist Community*



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

St. Mary's Chapel,  
1516 Jackson Ave.

**3rd**  
**Sunday of**  
**EASTER**  
**YEAR A**



### 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

### 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

### Eucharistic Adoration

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

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)

## Growing Faith: One Seed at a Time

It is spring time again! and you if you have strolled by the parish rectory, you may find Father Chung working in his garden or watering his vegetables. What began as a simple idea has taken root and Fr. Chung is now growing bell peppers, sweet and banana peppers, a variety of herbs, kumquat trees, a papaya tree, and grapes. Not to mention, other plants, flowers and trees he planted outside of the rectory, and in St. Mary's courtyard.

With his sleeves rolled up and a **joyful spirit**, Fr. Chung has been personally tending the rectory's garden and sharing its vegetables and fruits at community meals. Each seed sown is a reminder of God's abundant generosity and the miracle of growth that unfolds quietly, beneath the soil. I believe the garden is more than just a project for him, it is his quiet time of reflection and prayer with God.

Father Chung has shared that caring for the earth is a way of honoring God's creation, echoing the call in Scripture to "till and keep" the garden entrusted to us. And that God invites all of us to be mindful of the gifts we have received and how we can nurture them.

And Fr. Chung often says, that the *"Biggest lesson his garden teaches is not about how many vegetables or fruits it yields, but about waiting. You have to water the garden, weed it, and wait for it to bear fruit"*, he said. Gardening also demands faith, that the seeds are working under the soil. Similarly, Fr. Chung reminds us that God is working in our lives, he is in our hearts, even when we cannot see the results.

In this humble garden, we are reminded with faith, patience, and care, even the smallest seeds can grow into something truly nourishing – for both body and soul.



(Far left) Fr. Chung standing next to his Papaya tree.  
Pictures of Kumquat trees, vegetables & fruits he grew; bird enjoying his garden.

**UPCOMING LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

• **Saturday, April 25 – 4:00pm**

**Lector:** M. Saia

**Eucharistic Minister:** G. Maginnis

• **Sunday, April 26 – 9:00am (Chapel)**

**Lector:** T. Costanza

**Eucharistic Minister:** T. George

• **Sunday, April 26 – 10:30am**

**Lector:** B. Perrault

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

**Liturgy Notes**

LITURGICAL MUSIC FOR THIS WEEK

Mass Parts: | #21 Holy | A #26

Mem. Accl. | #31 Amen | #32 Lord's

Prayer | #36 Lamb of God

Easter 3 Response Gospel A43, Hymnal Readings:  
#1011

Song of Gathering: #834 Festival Canticle

Song of Offertory: #554 Shepherd of Souls, Refresh  
and Bless

Song of Communion: #566 See Us, Lord, about Your  
Altar

Rec: #692 Come to Us, Beloved Stranger

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

**For priests in crisis**

Let us pray for priests going through moments of  
crisis in their vocation, that they may find the  
accompaniment they need and that communities  
may support them with understanding and prayer.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 18**

4:00pm: For the Egyud Family

**Sunday, April 19**

9:00am +Dr. AJ & Marie Giorlando

10:30am: For All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

**Monday, April 20**

7:30am: In Thanksgiving to Fr. Seelos  
(Colleen L.)

**Tuesday, April 21**

7:30am: +Mercedes R. Waldron

**Wednesday, April 22**

7:30am: +All Deceased Redemptorists

**Thursday, April 23**

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

**Friday, April 24**

7:30am: Redemptorist Vocations

**Saturday, April 25**

4:00pm: +Sue Ann Johnson

**Sunday, April 26**

9:00am: +Olivia Trotto

10:30am: +Annette Deshazo Fourcade

12:30pm: All St. Alphonsus Parishioners

**SANCTUARY CANDLE**  
**& MASS INTENTION FOR APRIL**

St. Mary's Assumption Church

For the repose of the soul of Mrs. Patricia  
Hartsell, requested by Mike & Trudy Saia.

St. Mary's Chapel

In Thanksgiving for Sister Monica  
Ellerbusch, RSM, and Sister Jane Briseno,  
RSM, for their dedication and love they share  
in our community,  
requested by Parishioner.



## Stewardship

### Giving Update: April 11 & 12, 2026:

\$772.00	Weekly Envelopes
\$1,180.00	Loose Collection
\$250.00	Donations/Legacies
\$5.00	Mass Stipends
\$20.00	Food Bank Donation
\$108.00	Lawn care reimbursement
<b>#2,335.25</b>	<b>Total Giving</b>



Thank you for your generosity! - Fr. Chung

### St. Alphonsus Parish Food Drive Totals:

April = 23 non-perishable Food Items

Year to Date: January through April – 2,211 food items donated.

We appreciate your generosity. Our goal is to collect 8,000 food items and we have received over 2,000 so far. Thank you very much!

-Forres Collins, Food Drive Coordinator.

## We Welcome Fr. Phong Pham to our parish next weekend!

Fr. Pham, a Redemptorist missionary priest will be visiting our parish next weekend, **April 25 & 26 through May 1st.**

Fr. Pham will speak at all the Masses on behalf of Cross Catholic Outreach, while Fr. Chung & the Redemptorist Community are away for meetings in Wisconsin. Fr. Pham will share his ministry serving the poor all around the world.

We welcome Fr. Pham to our parish!

### Second Collection:

#### April 25 & 26:

We will have a second collection for the Diocesan Priest Retirement. The money raised will help fund retired priest's healthcare and living expenses while they still service their community.

We appreciate your support.

All young adults are invited to attend the monthly Adoration Hour!



**CHRIST IN THE CITY**  
 MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR YOUNG ADULTS  
 Adoration • Reconciliation • Fellowship  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 21**  
**7:00 PM**  
**ST. FRANCIS ASSISI**  
 631 State Street, New Orleans  
[nolacatholic.org/citc](http://nolacatholic.org/citc)



## Don't Miss the Bulletin!!!

Don't worry if you didn't get a bulletin at Mass – the bulletins are uploaded each week onto our church's website.

To view the bulletins, visit: [www.StAlphonsusNO.com](http://www.StAlphonsusNO.com) and click on the Bulletin tab and stay informed!



## Meet a Redemptorist!

Father Michael McAndrew, C.Ss.R., is a Redemptorist missionary. He is the son of a second-generation immigrant family. In his early ministry, he worked in various parishes, as vocation director, and he served the board of directors of the National Catholic Council on Alcoholism.

Since 1991, Fr. Michael has dedicated himself to ministry with migrants and immigrants in Colorado, Oregon, California, Kansas, Mississippi, and preached parish missions in twenty states in the U.S. He recognizes as his greatest blessings, his time with the youth at Casa San Alfonso in Denver and summer migrant camp missions in Oregon and California. He recently published a memoir of his life in migration ministry, *Walk with My People: A Life in Migration Ministry* (2024).

Kristine Stremel

Public & Community Affairs Director  
Redemptorists – Denver Province



**Lillian Moran received the Distinguished Graduate Award for St. Alphonsus School** at a recent Archdiocesan ceremony with Archbishop Aymond in March 2026.

The Archdiocese of New Orleans' Distinguished Graduate Award honors alumni who exemplify strong Catholic values and show exceptional service to their church and school.

**Congratulations! - Fr. Chung**



**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 Brian, Alex, Donald & Kevin, Estre, JoAnn, an end to all wars, Patricia, Rudy, In thanksgiving for beautiful Easter services, Christine, In thanksgiving for Blessed Francis Seelos & prayer intercessions & healings, Teddy, and for all prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts, for all our prayer intentions spoken and unspoken. **Amen.**

**Updates:** Greg's skin biopsies were all good; and April's surgery was a success; Raymond's eye surgery was a success. Thanks for your prayers!

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

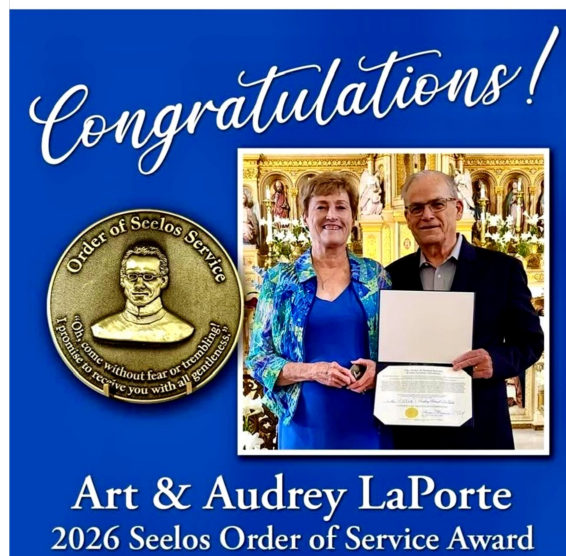
*Updated: (4/14/26)*

## SEELOS HEALING MASS – APRIL 12TH!

The Parish and the Redemptorist Community thank Rev. Tom Donaldson, C.Ss.R., for celebrating the 10:30am Healing Mass and we also thank Rev. Manuel Chavez, C.Ss.R., for celebrating the 12:30pm Spanish Healing Mass. Many parishioners and visitors came from near and far to attend the Healing Masses at St. Mary's Assumption Church. Congratulations to Art & Audrey LaPorte, the 2026 recipients of the Seelos Order of Service Award!



From the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos: Congrats to Art & Audrey LaPorte, 2026 recipients of the Seelos Order of Service Award! These long-standing volunteers have shown dedication to hospitality and welcome to guest and stranger, embodying the spirit of Blessed Seelos.



**BLESSED SEELOS, PRAY FOR US!**

## We welcome Fr. Binh Ta, C.Ss.R!

Our parish and Redemptorist Community and the Seelos Shrine and Welcome Center welcome Fr. Binh Ta, a Redemptorist priest who was named the **new** Director of the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos!

Fr. Binh Ta is currently the Formation Director for our Redemptorist students at the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Texas.

He will join the Redemptorist Community in residence and transition into his new role, as Director of the Seelos Shrine, **beginning on June 30, 2026.**

*Congratulations!*

### 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. Marco Balducci, 504.388.3516

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 of the church have been completed! We hope to begin on Phase 2, Interior renovations soon! Thank you for your generous donations!**

## **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 died during 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 2, 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 in order to preserve this sacred place of worship.

**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)**