

and
Christmas Masses



Mass Times and Intentions for the Week

Saturday	12/23	4:30 p.m.	For Jerome Teer by Steve & Beth Teer
Sunday	12/24	10:30 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
Sunday	12/24	4:30 p.m.	+Jim Haynes by Pat Haynes
Sunday	12/24	11:30 p.m.	For the Parishioners of St. Alphonsus
Monday	12/25	10:30 a.m.	For the Parishioners of Ave Maria/Fr. Martin Orjanioko safe journey
Tuesday	12/26	7:00 p.m.	In Thanksgiving for Joseph & Josephine King 59 th Anniversary
Wednesday	12/27	12:00 p.m.	+Rev. Paul W. St. Charles
Thursday	12/28	12:00 p.m.	For Joseph & Josephine King 59 th Anniversary
Friday	12/29	8:30 a.m.	No Mass
Saturday	12/30	8:30 a.m.	No Mass

Date:	Dec. 23	Dec. 24	Dec. 24	Dec. 24	Dec. 25
Mass:	4:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m.	4:30 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m. (A.M.)
Lector:	E. Teer	J. Pavletic	J. King	A. Calvet	
Eucharist:	S. Burkhardt	S. Farris	K. Clark		
Eucharist:	M. Folden		K. Cross		
E. M. Loft:			B. Wellbrock	G. Buda	
Server:	K. Sass	J. Fritz	J. Walker	K. Sass	J. Fritz
Server:	M. Griffis	M. Fritz	J. Walker	M. Griffis	M. Fritz
Server:	C. Jacobs	J. Fritz	E. Teer	C. Jacobs	J. Fritz
Server:			W. D. Knight		
Ushers:	Volunteer	D. Williams	Volunteer	Volunteer	
Collections:	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	
Gifts:	Volunteer	D. & K. Williams	Volunteer	Volunteer	

Date:	Dec. 30	Dec. 31	Dec. 31	Jan. 1, 2018
Mass:	4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	10:30 p.m.	10:30 a.m.
Lector:	C. Jacobs	S. Matras	K. Ferguson	E. Teer
Eucharist:	S. Burkhardt	S. Poltrock	P. Ferguson	P. Haynes
Eucharist:	J. Prizina		K. Clark	
E. M. Loft:			G. Buda	
Server:	K. Sass	J. Fritz	E. Moreno	K. Sass
Server:	J. Schaefer	M. Fritz	E. Moreno	A. Calvet
Server:	E. Teer	J. Fritz	A. Moreno	
Server:			J. Daley	
Ushers:	Volunteer	J. Pavletic	Volunteer	Volunteer
Collections:	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer	Volunteer
Gifts:	Volunteer	J. & D. Pavletic	Volunteer	Volunteer

Liturgical Ministers

Volunteers for December 30, 2017

Volunteers for January 6, 2018

Church: Volunteer	Altar Linens: J. Buda	Church: Volunteer	Altar Linens: M. Stephens
Parish Hall: Volunteer	Lawn: Volunteers	Parish Hall: Volunteer	Lawn: Volunteers

Birthday Wishes This Week To

Tammy Clowes 12/24 Lana Harbin 12/25 Dave Hessling 12/31

Consider offering or attending Mass, or visiting a church to pray before the Blessed Sacrament for yourself or a loved one's birthday, to thank God for the gift of family and life

Please Pray for Our Parishioners:

Rosemarie Aird, Mike, Jason Brower, Jerry Bryant, Peter Burkhardt, Mary DiBiasi, Dixie Duncan, John Folden, Joe Francis, Natasha Gray, Carmen Jones, Joe King, Marge Knight, W. D. Knight, Nancy Lind, Maria McConnell, Jerry & Rose Mills, Eleanor Nunn, Elaine Perry, Julia Powell, Elaina Prizina, Lynda Rogers, Barbara Schneider, Jack & Joan Smith, Frank Stephens,

Our Loved Ones:

Eva Adams, Wendi Allen, William Barrett, James & Robin Barnett, Virginia Bowden, Juanita Brannon, Debbie Brock, Patti Butler, Joe Bynum, Christina Cahaly, Paul Casagrande, Patrick Christy, Darlene Cross, Liz Crosslin, Cass Douglas, Christine Dziadkiewicz, Elizabeth, Leslie Finn, Karri Flannigan, Philip Galaska, Kathy & Rhonda Gentry, Lackey, Gloria Louimet, Gilmore, Dot & Elizabeth Griffin, Jennifer Gross, Philip Harbin, Lisa Hogan, Carrie & Craig Horwath, Peter Hubicki, Bob Hutchins, Lisa Hutton, Luanne Jergens, Christie Johnson, Mode Jones, Judy Kovach, Jacob LeFils, Diane Maness, Debbie Marshall, Kevin Matras, David McConnell, Dennis Barbara McKay, Meredith, Betty H. Owen, Pat Pankey, Sandra Pellegren, Chris Plourde, David Powell, Beverly Pratt, Joan Robertson, Mary Schaefer, Michael Sedinger, Mibong Shin, James Smith, Carmen Sosa, Sam Stitt, Ray & Yelba Stevenson, Peter Vanderven, Donna Williams, Steve & Tracy Williams, Gale Wilson, Earl Yeomans

And Our Priests Who are Ill:

Fr. John Hourican Fr. James Murphy Fr. Jolly Sebastian
Fr. Bryan Timby Fr. Robert Ponticello

Please notify the church office to add or remove someone from the lists. **Also, call 476-8140 to let us know if you, or a family member, are admitted to the hospital.**

Readings for December 18 - December 24, 2017

Monday, December 18

Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday, December 21-St. Peter Canisius, Priest, DOC

Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Friday, December 22

I Sm 1:24-28; (Ps) I Sm 2:1, 4-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23-St. John of Kanty, Priest

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10,14; Lk 1:57-66

Sunday, December 24

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:26-38

Due to the Holy Holiday Schedule the Parish Office will be closed December 22, 2017 thru January 1, 2018 Should you have any announcements to put in the bulletin please submit no later than December 20th

Volunteers Needed

The church will be taking down decorations on Jan 7th after Mass. All volunteers are welcome and will be greatly appreciated!

THIS WEEK AT ST. ALPHONSUS & AVE MARIA

SUNDAY, December 24

10:30 a.m. – Mass at Ave Maria

10:05 a.m. – Rosary at St. Alphonsus

4:30 a.m. – Mass at St. Alphonsus

11:00 p.m. – Choir Christmas Concert

11:30 p.m. – Midnight Mass at St. Alphonsus

MONDAY, December 25

10:30 a.m. – Mass at Ave Maria

WEDNESDAY, December 27

10:15 a.m. – NO-The Legion of Mary at St. Alphonsus

12:00 p.m. – Mass St. Alphonsus

5:00 p.m. – Choir Practice

7:00 p.m. – NO-RCIA

SATURDAY, December 30

4:30 p.m. – Vigil Mass-St. Alphonsus

SUNDAY, December 31

8:30 a.m. – Vigil Mass at Ave Maria

10:30 a.m. – Vigil Mass at St. Alphonsus

MONDAY, January 1

10:30 a.m. – Mass at St. Alphonsus

2nd Collections

Villa Vianney

Last Week's Attendance

St. Alphonsus

4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass: adults & children

10:30 a.m. Mass: adults & children

Ave Maria

8:30 a.m. Mass: 22 adults & 4 children

Dec 17, 2017	St. Alphonsus	Ave Maria	S.A. 2016	A.M. 2016
Budget	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 365.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 365.00
Regular	\$ 1492.00	\$ 439.00	\$ 1575.00	\$ 181.00
Capital	\$ 529.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 559.00	\$ 59.00
Food Pantry	\$ 185.00	---	\$ 60.00	---

Ave Maria Handicap Appeal = \$ 4,932.00

Opportunity to Serve

Join our Hospitality Ministry

Welcome all to our services

We need you to be a Greeter and Usher. Anyone male or female 18 years and over can volunteer.

Please contact Jeremy Pesnell at day: 901-874-3824 or evening: 904-412-7868 or call Karen at the Parish Office 901-476-8140.

Birthday Blessings

All those who celebrated their birthday in the month of December will be given a special blessing at the Sunday Masses on December 23 and 24.

Pope Francis' December Prayer Intention: The Elderly

That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.



God, in an admirable fashion You established the dignity of human nature and you reformed it in a more admirable manner. Grant that we may come to share in the Divinity of Your Son Who chose to share our humanity. Amen.

Lives of the Saints

Why Christians Should Give

9. Giving imitates God. “Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:1). When we give, we mirror the nature of God. Through our faithful giving, we become more like him. “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:16). Our Lord is a loving and giving God. As we imitate his compassion and giving in our stewardship lives, we give a clear witness to what is really important to us.

8. Giving gives God the opportunity to supply us with more to give. God wants us to be his channels. God’s love, mercy, and grace flow through us. He never stops giving to us, and he wants us to share our blessings with others and to extend his kingdom. Paul in 2 Corinthians 9:8 wrote, “And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” In verse 11 we read, “You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” God blesses us so we can be a blessing to others through our generosity.

7. Giving helps the needy. During Jesus’ life on earth, he gave sight to the blind, food for the hungry, and comfort for the hurting. In the same way, we are called to use our lives and resources to help the needy. “*Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers*” (Galatians 6:10). The Apostle John wrote, “*If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him?*” (1 John 3:17). Through the working of the Holy Spirit, God will open our eyes and our hearts to those who need our support.

6. Giving gives us the opportunity to experience the joy in giving. As nice as it is to get gifts, it is even more meaningful to give them. When we give, we quickly discover true joy. In Acts 20:35 Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

5. Giving helps break the power that money can have over us. By nature, we are selfish people, and money can become overly important to us. Jesus warns us in Luke 12:15: “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” We are to possess our possessions rather than let them possess us. Through our faithful giving, we are empowered by God to overcome our desire to hoard what he has given to us.

4. Giving is an act of worship. God is glorified when we faithfully give him our first and best. Proverbs 3:9 reads, “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.” When we make giving a priority, we honor God. If we give God our leftovers, we dishonor him.

3. Giving demonstrates our faith and obedience. Jesus said, “If you love me, you will obey what I command” (John 14:15). In 1 Corinthians 16:2 we read, “On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income.” God’s Word is clear that we are expected to give on a regular basis in accordance with our blessings. Through faith, God strengthens us so we can give generously.

2. Giving acknowledges God’s ownership. God has created and still owns all things. “*The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it*” (Psalm 24:1). We are the managers of all that God entrusts to us. When we give, we are merely returning a portion of what God has already given us (1 Corinthians 4:7)

1. Giving expresses our gratitude and thanksgiving to God. King David wrote, “Now, our God, we give you thanks and praise your glorious name. But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you and we have given you only what comes from your hand” (1 Chronicles 29:13-15). David understood God’s awesome love and generosity. David saw the joy that his people had in responding to God’s love and care by giving to the building of the temple. It was his prayer that their commitment and generous giving to the Lord would continue forever.

Christmas Mass Collections

There will be a Christmas Day collection as well as a collection for Villa Vianney, the residence place for senior priests to live comfortably and safely. Although the pace of life is slower at Villa Vianney, our senior priests continue to be active by offering Masses for our intentions, supporting parishes while a pastor is away, and advising groups like Cursillo. Their priesthood lasts a lifetime, and they are still loved and needed. Thank you for your generosity!