

Blessed Sacrament Parish



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Parish Office Hours

Tuesday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Mass Times

Sunday 10:30 a.m. | **Tuesday** 8:30 a.m. | **Wednesday** 10:30 a.m.

Confession Times

Wednesday 11:15-11:45 a.m.

Parish Staff

Fr. Christopher Epplett | Canonical Administrator | cepplett@stalphonsusgr.org

Deacon John Falicki | jfalicki@stalphonsusgr.org

Darrell Beckwith | Business Manager | dbeckwith@bsacrament.net

Maureen Cromwell | Director of Religious Education | mcromwell@stalphonsusgr.org

Marie LeMire | Pastoral Care Corridnator | mlemire@bsacrament.net

March 30, 2025 | Fourth Sunday of Lent

A Deeper Surrender

The entire time of Lent offers an opportunity. It's just that sometimes we give up too easily and let a feeling of defeat overcome us. Or, on the flip side, we get too comfortable and limit how we are to be challenged, thus missing the opportunity for greater growth. We need to see the Lenten season as a continuous opportunity for repentance and keep focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving — the return of our whole hearts to God through these practices.

Just like playing cards, a board game, or sports, you can be far ahead claiming victory early or way behind thinking defeat is inevitable. But it's not over til it's over. Hope for victory remains. If you're having an amazing Lent so far, stay alert and keep making every effort...keep growing. If Lent has gone poorly for you, resolve to change things. Start new, redefine things, and have a resolve to correct course.

The best way to do this is to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength. And then trust he will act as the Advocate. The same Spirit who led Jesus into the desert is available to lead us throughout our own Lenten journey. However, we often leave him out and make Lent about my own personal effort. When things don't include the Holy Spirit, they are bound for failure.

Ultimately, our goal during Lent should be about a deeper surrender to God in order that he may remold our hearts to draw closer to his own. Our whole hearts must return to God — renewed in fulfillment God alone can give us. If we do Lent well, then this will be a memorable year. Something will change in me that I will remember the rest of my life.

Whatever you are doing this Lent, don't miss the opportunity for it to be memorable. It is not only possible, but God's desire that this season completely alter and transform my life powerfully and dramatically. May we, like Jesus, be led by the Spirit.

Peace,
Fr. Christopher

Spend time with God this week!

Here's your last-minute reminder that our parish is participating in "The Light is On for You: An Evening of Penance" April 3. Encounter Jesus in the healing sacrament from 5 - 8 p.m. in the confessional as we prepare for the Lord's resurrection.

Visit GRdiocese.org/penance for details

Religious Education Update

Our Confirmation students just completed a busy stretch. They were Confirmed by Bishop Walkoviak on Thursday evening during the beautiful Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral of St. Andrew. They also participated in the Shine Youth Rally on Sunday afternoon at the 3- Mile Project. They spent an entire afternoon surrounded by the love of Jesus that was felt through prayer, worship music and Eucharistic Adoration. Congratulations to the students and their families who supported them through this step in their faith journey.



**Congratulations to our Confirmation
Students who were confirmed by
Bishop Walkoviak!**

Sunday, March 30 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 9: 1-41
+Jack Zaiser

Tuesday, April 1

Mass at 8:30 a.m. | Jn 5: 1-16
+Paul Kaderabek

Wednesday, April 2

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 5: 17-30
+John O. Bales

Sunday, April 6 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 8:1-11
+Esther Heemstra

Parish Events

Monday, March 31

4: 45 p.m. Bunco

Tuesday, April 1

9:15 a.m. Bible Study
6 p.m. Pickleball
7 p.m. Adult Choir

Wednesday, April 2

11 a.m. Adoration

Thursday, April 3

5 p.m. The Light is On for You
7 a.m. Revive Women's Basketball

Friday, April 4

6:30 p.m. Stations of the cross



Interested in Catholicism?

Are you searching for a deeper relationship with God? Fulfillment of your purpose in life?

Are you attracted to the truth, beauty, and goodness you've experienced in the Catholic Church?

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Contact cepplett@stalphonsusgr.org



St. Alphonsus Lenten Fish Fry

April 4, 11

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

224 Carrier St. NE, Grand Rapids

Menu

Baked or Fried Walleye
French Fries or Baked Potato
Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw,
Grilled Cheese, Beverages,
Dessert (Donation)

Prices

Adults: \$15
Seniors: \$13
Children 5-12: \$6
Children 5 and under: Free

Stations of the Cross

*By your Holy Cross you have
redeemed the World*

Fridays in Lent

1 p.m. - St. Alphonsus

6:30 p.m. - Blessed Sacrament

Discover resources to enhance your Lenten journey

Lent is a time of grace, renewal, and conversion. And in this Jubilee Year, these 40 days offer us a profound opportunity to reflect even more deeply. Find resources to enhance your Lenten journey at GRdiocese.org/lenten-resources/ and events at GRdiocese.org/events

Card Ministry: Please remember in your prayers, parishioner Michelle Aman. Michelle has recently moved into a new home. Cards to Michelle may be sent to Vista Springs, 2420 Coit Ave NE, #1, Grand Rapids, 49505.

Puzzles: Be sure to explore our latest collection of puzzles in the conference room across the stairs. New donations welcome and feel free to take any return when you're finished.

Weekly Offertory

Offertory for March 23, 2025

Adult Envelopes: \$12,587

Automatic Envelopes: \$3,785

Youth: \$0

Loose Stewardship: \$503

Total Stewardship this week: \$16,875

YTD: \$461,687

Budget YTD: \$475,358

Last YTD: \$478,542

5% Tithe this week: \$843

Tithe YTD: \$23,084

Thank you for your generosity!

Triduum Schedule

Holy Thursday

6:30 p.m. - St. Alphonsus

7 p.m. - Blessed Sacrament

Good Friday

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Confession - St. Alphonsus

1:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross - St. Alphonsus

1:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross - Blessed Sacrament

2 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy - St. Alphonsus

2:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy - Blessed Sacrament

Easter Vigil

9:15 p.m. - St. Alphonsus & Blessed Sacrament



Easter Morning Masses

7 a.m. - St. Alphonsus

9 a.m. - St. Alphonsus

10:30 a.m. - Blessed Sacrament



Thursday 4/17 6:pm



Friday 4/18 12:30pm



Monday 4/21 5:30pm

Catechesis of The Good Shepherd: Easter Triduum

Families with children of all ages are invited to experience the Easter Triduum with scriptural presentations, prayer, songs, and discussions designed specifically for young children.

Holy Thursday April 17,
6 pm
(immediately prior to the
6:30pm Mass)

The Cenacle This scriptural account of the Last Supper helps the children visualize Jesus's Passover meal with His disciples and the institution of the Eucharist with His words "Take and eat, this is my Body; take and drink, this is my Blood."

Good Friday April 18th,
12:30 pm
(immediately prior
stations at 1:15pm)

City of Jerusalem Using a three-dimensional map of Jerusalem, we will walk with Jesus from the site of the Last Supper through the events of Good Friday. The children will get a sense of where these events took place within the city to help them visualize the events from Jesus's Passion, grounding these passages in a real, physical location.



Liturgy of Light Monday
April 21, 5:30 am

This beautiful liturgy celebrates Jesus's Resurrection, proclaiming Him as "the Light of the World" (John 8:12), giving each of us His Light to share with others. The goal of this liturgy is to help your children enter fully into the life of the Church and the mystery of the Easter Vigil. The liturgy lasts approximately 40 minutes and includes the engraving and lighting of a mini-Paschal Candle, a procession with singing,

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