



Blessed Sacrament Parish

Building the Body of Christ

2275 Diamond Avenue NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Phone: (616) 447 - 7554 | bsacrament.net | church@bsacrament.net



Mass Times

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

Parish Staff

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

Deacon John Falicki | jfalicki@stalphonsusgr.org

Brenda Ormstad | Finance Manager | bormstad@bsacrament.net

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

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

Bulletin submissions: communication@stalphonsusgr.org

June 8, 2025 | Pentecost Sunday

Go Make Disciples

Over the past weeks, we have focused on encounters with Jesus. These encounters are to lead to discipleship. Now that we have clarity on this first step of encounter, what does discipleship look like?

First, let me suggest we pay careful attention to Scriptures, especially the four Gospels and Acts of the Apostles as they are read in Mass. If we relate our own selves to the disciples and first apostles, we will see how they grew in discipleship. We will be able to relate to their moments of weakness as well as celebrate the moments of epiphany, joy, and growing in understanding.

Aside from this, the journey of discipleship is marked by trust and surrender. The whole journey of faith is one of ever-growing trust in God as we surrender more and more to him. As we do this, we do what the first disciples did: we share our experiences. Foremost, I must be willing to share about my encounter with Jesus and speak to how this has altered my life. Testimony is the first and most powerful way we can evangelize.

Let me reiterate that evangelization is not optional for any Catholic. It is, in fact, the first way I follow the command of Jesus to "love one another." If I do not evangelize, then anything else I do in the name of Jesus or in the context of faith, does not give people Jesus but gives myself instead. The goal of faith is not a gift of myself. It is to give the gift of God's grace by proclaiming the gospel message of our salvation and redemption through Jesus Christ.

Likewise, fear is common, but that does not mean we can avoid evangelizing. Remember, Jesus tells his disciples to "go" and "make" disciples of all nations at the end of Matthew's gospel. This is called the Great Commission and it is the primary mission of every believer. Thankfully, he promised us the Holy Spirit, who gives us the words we need as well as his gifts of courage, wisdom, and understanding (among others) to aid us in his grace as we carry this out.

Having reflected upon all of this, I invite you to consider a day away to pray and retreat or finding a retreat opportunity in the near future in which you can encounter Jesus. In the meantime, take to prayer the following questions, reflecting upon them (perhaps even journaling about them):

Have I encountered Jesus personally? If so, when and how and what impact did those encounters have in those moments and to my how I live today? If not, take a moment to prayerfully accept Jesus into your heart right now. How can I grow in deeper trust in God? Am I a disciple? How would I rank my level of discipleship? What can I do to grow in discipleship? What fears prevent me from evangelizing? Who might the Lord be calling me to share my faith with?

-Fr. Christopher Epplett

Mass & Gospel Reading

Sunday June 8 - Pentecost Sunday

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 20:19-23
+Ken West

Tuesday, June 10

Mass at 8:30 a.m. | Mt 5:13-16
+David Dodge

Sunday, June 15 - The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Jn 16:12-15
+Chet & +Harriet Liszewski

PARISH EVENTS

Sunday, June 8

11:30 a.m. Graduation
Reception in Narhex

Saturday, June 14

9 a.m. to noon Garage Sale
Set up

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 Fr. Christopher at cepplett@stalphonesusgr.org

CALL for VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, June 14

9 a.m. to noon

Help needed to move racks and supplies from the garage to the Family Center. Donations accepted during that time.

Monday - Thursday, June 16 - 19

8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Donations accepted and help is greatly needed to sort, hang, unload and display donations.

GARAGE SALE

Friday, June 20

9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Help is greatly appreciated during the sale.

Saturday, June 21

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Help is greatly appreciated during the sale and at 3 p.m. for clean-up.

Questions? Marie at 616-260-4685



Catholic Services Appeal

Our 2025 Goal is \$95,049

Current CSA Pledges as of June 2:

118 pledges - \$34,205 + \$15,110 online pledges via diocese

TOTAL PLEDGED - \$49,315 (51.9% of goal)

\$45,734 remaining to reach goal



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Welcome Summer!

Chapter 113 of Psalm instructs that "From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised". At ASA we praise the Lord that it is summer!

Summer care and summer office hours begin on Monday, June 9. If you need to reach the school offices over the summer please contact the lower campus office at 616-447-2997 between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. Monday through Friday.

ALL ARE INVITED TO

CAMPFIRE CATECHISM

An evening of
Q&A with Fr.
Christopher
answering
questions on our
Catholic faith.



Bring a lawn chair
and a beverage and
join us for a bonfire
outside at the
circle drive outside
the rectory.

June 12 | 6:30 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Parish

Card Ministry: Please remember in your prayers parishioner Ed Bartosiewicz. Ed is unable to come to Mass. Cards to Ed may be sent to 2624 Monroe NE, Grand Rapids, 49505.

Weekly Offertory - June 1

Adult Envelopes: \$6,429

Automatic Envelopes: \$1,036

Youth: \$1

Loose Stewardship: \$377

Total Stewardship this week: \$7,843

YTD: \$565,943.42

Budget YTD: \$585,056.60

Last YTD: \$594,384.48

5% Tithe this week: \$392.15

Tithe YTD: \$28,297.17



Vacation Bible School

July 21-24 | 9 a.m. to noon

All Saints Academy in collaboration with Blessed Sacrament and St Alphonsus parishes will offer

Wilderness Adventure through the Sacraments.

Vacation Bible School will be available for children who are 4 years old or entering grades K-5 in the upcoming school year.



Join the VBS Team: Adult and Teen volunteers are welcome for many roles. Teens entering grades 6-12 in the upcoming school year are invited to serve on the music, art, or skit teams. We also need Trail Guides and assistants at the craft, games, snack or faith station. Join the fun!



Please donate to support the Wilderness Adventure Vacation Bible School this summer. We need various supplies and appreciate your help. Check the VBS Donation area after Masses or contact Rebecca at rebecca@stalphonsusgr.org or (616) 821- 4899 for details. Thank you!

To register, volunteer, donate, or questions please contact Rebecca at rebecca@stalphonsusgr.org or (616) 821-4899

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



OCTOBER 11
9am-5pm

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Register: WWW.MICHIGANCWC.ORG

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June 8, 2025 | Pentecost Sunday

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