



Blessed Sacrament Parish

Offering Transformational Encounters with Jesus

2275 Diamond Avenue NE Grand Rapids, MI 49505

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

In the Name of the *Father* and of
the *Son* and of the *Holy Spirit*
MATTHEW 28:19

Mass Times

Sunday 10:30 a.m. | **Tuesday** 8:30 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 15, 2025 | The Most Holy Trinity

A Pastor & His Flock

With many priests transferring from one parish to another on July 1, I wanted to take a moment to address priest transfers. All of us have at some point experienced all that comes with this challenging change in leadership.

For us at St. Alphonsus and Blessed Sacrament parishes, we won't be going through a change this summer. That makes this a helpful moment to reflect as well as be of support to friends and family experiencing such a change. Hopefully my few words can help give direction on this.

Perhaps the most important thing is accepting the new priest for the gifts and talents he brings. Every priest brings certain strengths and has God-given gifts to share through his leadership. Instead, the tendency is to focus on the gifts the last priest had that the new one doesn't. However, that's not helpful, nor does it honor the newly assigned priest for the unique, God-given gifts he is bringing to the table. It is much better to spend our time looking at what is being gained by the new priest's gifts than focusing on the gifts being lost. If this is done well, the parish can build upon the new strengths being offered for the parish community to thrive. Ultimately, we should trust the Holy Spirit is sending a particular priest to serve the parish for a particular time and reason. Appointments are not merely human decisions, they are discerned and made with an obedience to the Holy Spirit.

Every person is different and made uniquely by God. Because he is different, the new priest will not necessarily be comfortable doing things the way they were done before. There needs to be a peaceful openness to change. Change is part of life and it is part of growing in faith. We should do our best to embrace changes and see them as opportunities for a newness of the Holy Spirit.

From this, it is important to show a clear sense of gratitude and affirmation of the many gifts the new priest is bringing (as well as expressing gratitude for the departing one). Along the way try not to only point out what you don't like--human nature is to be critical--but also affirm the ways the new priest is positively impacting the parish. Remember, it is the task of the pastor to set the tone and vision for the parish, which he does with great care and much prayer in order to lead his flock properly. He needs your prayers to see clearly the vision the Holy Spirit is showing him as well as your support to carry it out.

Lastly, there is a real temptation to follow a priest to a new assignment. This should be avoided. Our focus should be on Jesus Christ, not a particular priest and his personality. While these changes can be tremendously emotional and difficult, we must trust God is providing the shepherd we need.

Peace,
Fr. Christopher

Mass & Gospel Reading

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

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

Tuesday, June 17

Mass at 8:30 a.m. | Mt 5:43-48
+William Reynolds

Sunday, June 22- Corpus Christi

Mass at 10:30 a.m. | Lk 9:11b-17
+Mary Kandra, For the People

PARISH EVENTS

Monday - Thursday, June 16-19

8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Garage Sale set up and donations accepted

Friday, June 20

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Garage Sale

Saturday, June 21

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Garage Sale

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 cepplatt@stalphonsusgr.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





Phone: 616-447-2997
Website: asagr.org
Blog: asatoday.blogspot.com

Become a sponsor!

All Saints Academy and businesses on the northeast side of Grand Rapids are working together to assist our students through the ASA Sponsors Program. We invite your business to become a sponsor by visiting our website at asagr.org/sponsors or emailing asadonate@asagr.org. Sponsors are featured on our website, in our weekly newsletters and our Eaglefest booklet. You can find more information about our sponsors, how to support them, and how to become an ASA sponsor on our website at asagr.org/sponsors.

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.

July 9 | 6:30 p.m.
St. Alphonsus Parish

Card Ministry: Please remember in your prayers parishioner Joyce Lewis. Joyce is unable to come to Mass. Cards to Joyce may be sent to 2279 Chesapeake Drive NE, Grand Rapids 49505.

Weekly Offertory - June 8

Adult Envelopes: \$5,162.76
Automatic Envelopes: \$3,691
Youth: \$1

Loose Stewardship: \$335

Total Stewardship this week: \$9,189.76

YTD: \$585,289.18

Budget YTD: \$609,433.96

Last YTD: \$616,329.88

5% Tithe this week: \$459.49

Tithe YTD: \$29,264.46



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

Radiate Summer Retreat

When: Wednesday, June 18 at 10:30 a.m. Mass

Where: Blessed Sacrament

Who: Girls ages 1-12 Grade

Cost: \$5



Radiate's 3rd Annual Summer Retreat will be held next week at Blessed Sacrament Church. Join us for a retreat and service project. Use the QR Code provided to sign up your daughter. We will start with Mass at 10:30 a.m.. Confession will be available after Mass, followed by a picnic lunch and activities at Aberdeen Park and Splashpad.

To learn more about volunteering with this wonderful group of moms and girls please contact melissasmith@iserv.net

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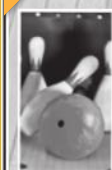
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