



ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH

151 ST. ALPHONSUS WAY • CROSSVILLE, TN 38555

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Website: stalonline.org

Facebook: facebook.com/StAlphonsusCrossville

Parish Office Hours: Monday–Thursday: 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

As disciples of Jesus Christ, the Catholic community of St. Alphonsus is committed to knowing, loving, and serving God, and His creation.

“Prepare the way of the Lord”
- Mark 1:3

DECEMBER 6 • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil.....	5:00 p.m.
Sunday.....	8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. (<i>Spanish Mass</i>)
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday Adoration	5:00 p.m.
1st Friday Mass & Adoration.....	8:30 a.m.
1st Saturday Rosary	8:30 a.m.

STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Jim Harvey	ext. 102
Deacon: Peter Minneci.....	call office
Director of Bus & Fin.: Karen Otuonye	ext. 101
Dir. of Faith Formation/Youth Ministry: Pauline O’Keeffe	ext. 108
Assistant Dir. of Faith Formation: Sara Carey.....	ext. 105
Dir. of Music: Marian Sullivan.....	ext. 104
Office Assistant:	ext. 100

ORGANIZATIONS

Knights of Columbus.....	John Peaslee
Council of Catholic Women (CCW).....	Patti Macken
Hispanic Ministry.....	Maribel Estrada
SACS Community Services of Cumberland County.....	931-484-8074

BAPTISMS

are celebrated once per month at a regular weekend Mass. Preparation classes are offered at **6:00pm** on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. RSVP with Sara no later than the Thursday prior.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION are celebrated every year in the spring. In order to participate, a child must be enrolled and active in our religious education program. Contact Sara Carey.

MARRIAGE

Our Diocese mandates a period of at least six months for marriage preparation. Please call the office to set an appointment to discuss preparation for this sacrament with Fr. Jim. Attendance at an Engaged Encounter weekend is required. Visit www.dioknox.org and click on marriage preparation for more information.

RECONCILIATION (PENANCE)

The regularly scheduled time for Reconciliation is from 4:15 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. every Saturday. Special Reconciliation services are held during Lent and Advent every year.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK/COMMUNION

Call the office to inform us of anyone who is hospitalized, in a nursing home, or otherwise unable to attend regularly-scheduled Masses. Privacy laws prevent us from calling to get information about your condition when you are hospitalized.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Parents or guardians are primarily responsible for the catechesis of their children, which leads to participation at Mass. All children are required to follow the normal course of religious education classes. A special class for sacraments will be offered for those who have missed a number of years of religious education. Contact Pauline O’Keeffe.

COLUMBARIUM

Please email your questions regarding the columbarium to: columbarium@stalonline.org.

PRAYER BLANKETS

If you would like to pick up a blessed prayer blanket or shawl, call or stop by the office during office hours.

TRAVELING

When traveling, visit www.masstimes.org or call 410-676-6000 to find mass schedules/times.

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Please see inside for safety precautions set forth by the Bishop to attend Mass or enter the church & offices.

Saturday, December 5

Mass at 5pm

Sunday, December 6

Mass at 8:30am & 11am
Confirmation Class #2, noon
Spanish Mass 4pm, Fr. Jorge

Tuesday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of Mary, Holy Day of Obligation

Mass at 8:30am and 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 9

YM Connect at 6pm - 7th & 8th girls onsite

Thursday, December 10

Morning Mass at 8:30am

Friday, December 11

Morning Mass at 8:30am

Saturday, December 12

Mass at 5pm

Sunday, December 13

Mass at 8:30am & 11am
Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 4pm

Won't you please consider St. Alphonsus in your will or estate planning? Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Sat., Dec. 5	5:00pm	†Phyllis Kuhlenschmidt, †Lorraine Matthews
Sun., Dec. 6	8:30am 11:00am 4:00pm	†Matthew Lorenc, †George Lorenc †Ron Alt, †Joe Illian For the People of our Parish
Tue., Dec. 8 (Holy Day)	8:30am 6:00pm	For the People of our Parish For the People of our Parish
Thurs., Dec. 10	8:30am	For family and friends
Fri., Dec. 11	8:30am	Intentions of June L. Smith and Miguel Rivera
Sat., Dec. 12	5:00pm	†Deceased members of the Pluff & Sugden Families
Sun., Dec. 13 (OLOG)	8:30am 11:00am 4:00pm	†Wanda Lorenc, †Lillian Brock †Theresa Finn, †Ron Alt For the People of our Parish

We are streaming Holy Mass on the web!

You can find our **streaming link for Holy Mass** on our Facebook page, or go to our church website and click the blue Facebook icon.



(You do not have to have a Facebook account in order to access this page.)



SACS is looking for a few folks to help work in the back room getting food ready for clients.

Please call John at 931-456-2597 or email: kopmeier@frontier.com



National and Diocesan Collections for the remainder of 2020:

Diocesan Deacon Formation

12/6

Catholic Charities for Immigrant Services 12/12

Religious Retirement Fund 12/13

Envelopes for each of these collections will be on the table in the entryway. To make a gift online, visit dioknox.org

It is with great sadness that we announce the **cancellation of our January 2021 CCW Scholarship Card Party** due to Covid-19. We would like to thank all of you for your past attendance and generosity at our annual event. We pray everyone stays healthy, and we look forward to when we can all meet again. *CCW Scholarship Committee*

Saints for the week

Sunday:

St. Nicholas of Myra,*
“the Wonderworker”

Monday:

St. Ambrose, Bishop &
Doctor of the Church

Tuesday:

Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday:

St. Juan Diego

Thursday:

St. Eulalia,
Virgin & Martyr

Friday:

St. Damasus I, Pope

Saturday:

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Next Sunday:

St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

**indicates saint or blessed highlighted in this bulletin*

Readings for the week of December 6

Sunday:

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Monday:

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday:

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15

Friday:

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Next Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Please remember:

Dispensation for Mass is still in effect.



ADVENT



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

Holiday Mass Schedule

- ♦ Immaculate Conception (Holy Day), 12/8: 8:30am & 6pm
- ♦ Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sun. 12/13: Mass at 4pm, no procession or fiesta
- ♦ Christmas Eve, 12/24: 4pm (livestreamed), 7pm, 10 pm (no children's program)
- ♦ Christmas Day, 12/25: 10am
- ♦ Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day), 1/1: 10am (livestreamed)

2020 Bishop's Appeal—October

- ~Parish Goal: \$36,800~
- ~Total Committed: \$44,856.61~
- ~Collections to Date: \$37,218~
- ~Needed to Reach Goal: \$0~

Bishop's Appeal 2021 Dates:

- ⇒ January 30–31: Announcement Weekend
- ⇒ February 6–7: Commitment Weekend (in-pew process conducted in all parishes)
- ⇒ February 13–14: Follow-up Weekend



Bishop Stika issues directives for attending Mass—extends dispensation.

“Let me emphasize, if you are vulnerable, elderly, or just not comfortable going to a public Mass, please

Instructions for attending Mass:

- The obligation to attend is dispensed; if you are over 65, sick or have been with someone who is sick, have a fever, or have been out of the country, please stay home.
- Face masks must be worn before entering the building.** You must keep your mask on until you exit (except for communion).
- You must enter in single file and be counted; once we have reached capacity, you will be turned away. You will be escorted in, seated, and escorted out by ushers.
- More than half of the chairs have been removed, and those remaining are arranged to maintain safe distance. They may not be moved for any reason, nor may additional seats be added.
- There will be no missalettes, holy water, hand-holding during the Our Father, Sign of Peace, Precious Blood, Eucharist on the tongue, or communal singing. We will provide a cantor and music.
- There will be no passing of the basket or Presentation of Gifts. Collection baskets will be in the center aisle and you can drop your donation as you come for communion.
- To receive communion, you will be escorted by ushers, remain in single file, and keep 6 feet of distance between each person. Upon approaching the priest or deacon, you will remove your mask, use the provided hand sanitizer, stand on the “X,” extend your arms to receive the host in your hand, consume the host, replace your mask, and return to your seat.
- When Mass is over, remain seated. You will be escorted out by the ushers row by row and single file. You must leave the building and go straight to your car to depart. **There will be no congregating in the lobby, entryway, or parking lot.**

Prayers for your Advent Wreath

Before you light the first purple candle: O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Your blessing upon this wreath, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from you your abundant graces. Who lives and reigns forever. Amen.

As you light the second purple candle: God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

1. b; 2. a; 3. b; 4. c; 5. c; 6. 100 miles

Get Quizzical for Advent!

1. Advent begins what?
 - A. the Christmas shopping season
 - B. the new liturgical year
 - C. countdown to the new calendar year
2. Who said, “My soul magnifies the Lord?”
 - A. Blessed Virgin Mary
 - B. St. Joseph
 - C. St. Elizabeth
3. “Emmanuel” means what?
 - A. Savior B. God with us C. God and Man
4. Which Archangel announced to Mary that she was chosen to be Christ’s mother?
 - A. Raphael B. Michael C. Gabriel
5. Why is the third candle of the Advent wreath rose-colored?
 - A. Rose is the traditional color of the number 3
 - B. It is the color of flowers
 - C. It is the symbol of joy, reflecting the day’s antiphon.
6. According to tradition, approximately how far did Mary travel to visit Elizabeth?

St. Nicholas’ existence is not attested to by any historical document, so nothing certain is known of his life except that he was probably Bishop of Myra in the fourth century.

According to tradition, he was born in the ancient Lycian sea-port city of Patara, in modern-day Turkey, and traveled to Palestine and Egypt while he was young. He was imprisoned during the persecution of Christians by the Roman emperor Diocletian but was released under the rule of Constantine the Great. As bishop, he attended the first Council of Nicaea in 325, where he allegedly struck the heretic Arius in the face.

Nicholas’ reputation for generosity and kindness gave rise to legends of miracles he performed for the poor and unhappy. He was reputed to have given marriage dowries of gold to three girls whom poverty would otherwise have forced into lives of prostitution, and to have restored to life three children who had been chopped up by a butcher and put in a tub of brine.

He died December 6, 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church, where a unique relic, called manna, formed in his grave. This liquid substance, said to have healing powers, fostered the growth of devotion to Nicholas. The anniversary of his death, December 6, became a day of celebration, and by the sixth century his shrine had become well known.

In 1087 Italian sailors or merchants stole his remains from Myra and took them to Bari, Italy. This transferal greatly increased the saint’s popularity in Europe, and Bari became one of the most crowded of all pilgrimage centers. Nicholas’ relics remain enshrined in the 11th-century basilica of San Nicola at Bari, though fragments have been acquired by churches around the world. In 2017 researchers dated one such relic fragment, a piece of hip bone housed in a church in the United States, and confirmed it to be from the fourth century.

Patronage: Sailors, children, wolves, pawnbrokers, and others.

Attributes: Vested as a bishop holding a Book of Gospels, sometimes with Christ over one shoulder and Mary over the other, sometimes holding three golden balls or coins.

(And, yes, he is the origin of Santa Claus!)



Charles W. Kite

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