



# SAINT ALPHONSUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Covington, Tennessee

# AVE MARIA MISSION CHURCH

Ripley, Tennessee

*Rev. Carlos Donato da Silva, JCL, Pastor*

*Email: [office@stalphonsuscovington.org](mailto:office@stalphonsuscovington.org)*

**December 22nd, 2024**

**4th Sunday of Advent/4° Domingo de Adviento**

**Violet**

## MASS SCHEDULE HORARIO de MISAS

### SAINT ALPHONSUS

Saturday/Sábado	4:30 pm
Sunday/Domingo	10:30 am
Misa en español	12:15 pm

Sunday/Domingo

### St. John's

Sunday/Domingo 8:30am

Bi-lingual Mass

### Ave Maria

Sunday 5:00 pm

## ST. ALPHONSUS, ST. JOHN'S & AVE MARIA MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Alphonsus, St. John's & Ave Maria Parishes is to proclaim and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and His Church through liturgy, education, community service, social events, and witness for Christ who has blessed our lives in the larger community of Tipton, Haywood & Lauderdale Counties and beyond. Our parish life is centered on the Eucharist during which we celebrate, in joy, the presence of the Risen Lord among us.

## DEVOTIONS/DEVOCIÓN at ST. ALPHONSUS

### Eucharistic Adoration/Adoración Eucaristía

First Saturday of each month following 8:30 am Mass  
Primero Sábado de cada mes despues 8:30 am Misa

### Rosary/Rosario

First Saturday/Primero Sábado	8:00 am
Sunday morning/Domingo por la mañana	10:05 am
Sunday morning/Domingo por la mañana	11:45 am

## ST ALPHONNSUS Daily/Diario

Monday/Lunes	8:00 am
Tuesday/Martes	8:00 am
Wednesday/Miercoles	8:00 am
Thursday/Jueves	8:00 am
Saturday/Sábado	8:30 am



I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

## SACRAMENTS/SACRAMENTOS

### SAINT ALPHONSUS Confession/Confesión

Saturday/Sábado 3:30-4:15 pm  
or by appointment/Llame para pedir cita

Baptism or Marriage preparation  
Bautismo o Matrimonio preparacion

Call for appointment/Llame para pedir cita

**SAINT ALPHONSUS**  
1225 Highway 51 South (at Tatlock)  
Covington, Tennessee 38019

**AVE MARIA**  
664 S Washington St  
Ripley, Tennessee 38063

**SAINT JOHN'S**  
910 N. Washington Ave  
Brownsville, Tennessee 38012

Mailing Address: PO Box 430 Covington, Tennessee 38019  
Parish Office Phone: 901-476-8140 FAX 901-476-9650 Email: [office@stalphonsuscovington.org](mailto:office@stalphonsuscovington.org)  
Website: [www.stalphonsuscovington.org](http://www.stalphonsuscovington.org)

My dear Parishioners, may the advent of Christ our Lord be a fount of peace and grace to all of you.

At this time I come to you to ask your prayers for the GREULING family whose son Evan is in ICU and in need of our spiritual help. May God listen to our parish family's supplications and may His will be done for Evan and his family. May Our Lady of Sorrows and Saint Alphonsus come to comfort the GREULING family and intercede for Evan and for his health.

In Christ

Prayers for Evan Greuling & Family  
Oraciones por Evan Greuling y su familia



Mis queridos feligreses, que el advenimiento de Cristo nuestro Señor sea una fuente de paz y gracia para todos ustedes.

En este momento me dirijo a ustedes para pedirles sus oraciones por la familia GREULING, cuyo hijo Evan está en la UCI y necesita nuestra ayuda espiritual. Que Dios escuche las súplicas de nuestra familia parroquial y que se haga su voluntad para Evan y su familia. Que Nuestra Señora de los Dolores y San Alfonso vengán a consolar a la familia GREULINGA e intercedan por Evan y por su salud.

En Cristo

P. Carlos Donato, JCL

## DID YOU KNOW? ¿SABÍAS QUE...?

Altar candles were to be composed primarily or to a significant extent of pure beeswax, with the exact percentage determined by the diocesan bishop. The candle itself was given a mystical meaning: the beeswax symbolized the pure flesh Christ received from his Virgin Mother, the wick symbolized his soul, and the flame his divinity.

It should be noted that while an oil lamp may be used to indicate the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle (see GIRM, no. 316), the U.S. bishops have never given permission for the use of oil lamps at the altar. Candles are symbols of the presence of Christ, the light of the world (Jn 8:12) and of Baptism by which we share in his light (Col 1:12), and are also signs of reverence and festivity.



Las velas del altar debían estar compuestas principalmente o en gran medida de cera de abeja pura, con el porcentaje exacto determinado por el obispo diocesano. A la vela en sí se le dio un significado místico: la cera de abejas simbolizaba la carne pura que Cristo recibió de su Madre Virgen, la mecha simbolizaba su alma y la llama su divinidad.

Debe notarse que si bien se puede usar una lámpara de aceite para indicar la presencia del Santísimo Sacramento en el tabernáculo (ver GIRM, no. 316), los obispos de los Estados Unidos nunca han dado permiso para el uso de lámparas de aceite en el altar. Las velas son símbolos de la presencia de Cristo, luz del mundo (Jn 8,12) y del Bautismo por el que compartimos su luz (Col 1,12), y también son signos de reverencia y festividad

## Happy Birthday! Feliz Cumpleaños!

Haleigh Buda 12/17      Cynthia Gray 12/19

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, thanking God for the *gift of family and life*. If you would like to have your name added to the birthday list please call the parish office at 901-476-8140



**Prayer for the sick and those in need:**

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need. Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence. Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits. May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts. We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed. Amen.

**Our Ill Priests/Nuestros Sacerdotes Enfermos**

Fr. John Hourican	Fr. Bryan Timby
Fr. Jolly Sebastian	Fr. Burke



Pray for all of our loved ones and for those who are ill



**Our Loved Ones/Nuestras Seres Queridos**

Shirley Arnold	Larry & Jane Isome
James & Robin Barnett	Terry Jergens
William Barrett	Christie Johnson
Joe Bergen	Ester Jones
Patti Blume	Anna Kay
Jane Bringle	Cynthia/Ed Kilpatrick
Darlene Brooks	Phillis King
Dan Browsers	Judy Kovach
Randy Eastwood	Cindy Lavelli
Joe Bynum	Sondra Lewis
Christina Cahaly	Dietmar Linden
Angela Canady	Louanne Little
Alissa Chandler	Nancy McClanahan
Patrick Christy	The McCully Family
Douglas Clements	Linda Medford
Bella Crosby	Alex Medford
Liz Crosslin	Danny Miller
Bobbie Jean Crouse	Tracy by Nickie
Enrique Davis	Dr. Mark Olson
Gina Sedinger	Sally Paulus
Danny Duff	Tom Pavletic
Peter DuFau	Sandra Pellegren
Michael Ellis	William Perry
Rob Engel	Beverly Pratt
Willie Ferrell	Joan Robertson
Karri Flannigan	Diane Robinson
Tammy Freeman	Russom Family
Luke Garza	Mike Sadler
Kathy & Ronda Gentry	Andrea Stafford
Elizabeth Guntert	Jay St. John
Pam Grimsley	Toni Swindell
Guy & Julie Hassan	Jennifer Tidwell
Shannon Heindel	Peter Vanderven
Kay Hernandez	Bobby Ray Vaught
Diane Hessling	Donna Williams
Gunther Hitchcock & family	Steve Williams
Lisa Hogan	Lee Ward
Betty Hopper	Virginia/Richard Whitehorn
	Sally Greuling

**Our Parishioners/Nuestros Feligreses**

Jerry Bryant	Maria Ines Lugo
Peter & Sandy Burkhardt	Marie Norris
Kathryn Barnoud	Elaina Prizina
Gene Cross	Lynda Rogers
Ellen Daily	Holly Schaefer
Dixie Duncan	Joan Smith
Derek Durham	Cyburn Sullivan
Donna Ewer	Annette Tustin
Evan & Jen Greuling	Dottie Wellbrock
Jim & Lois Hayden	Patton Williams
Pat Haynes	Irma Wilson de Roze
Billie Hutchins	Kathy Laxton
Beverly Jiminez	Maryana Leon
Maria & David McConnell	Maria Vasquez
Rebecca Medford	Robert Sorrentino
Jerry & Rose Mills	Charlie Smith
Jackie Hubbard	

Diciembre- La intención del Papa es: Por los peregrinos de la esperanza: Rezamos para que en este año jubilar fortalezcan nuestra fe, ayudándonos a reconocer a Cristo resucitado en nuestra vida cotidiana, y que nos transforme en peregrinos de la esperanza cristiana.

December- The Pope's Intention is: For Pilgrims of Hope: We pray that this Jubilee year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

# SACRAMENT REQUIREMENTS/ REQUISITOS PARA LOS SACRAMENTOS

## BAPTISM

Registered 3 months with Parish  
Parents/Godparents attend 1 hour class within the past 2 years;  
Letter or document for attending a class is required from the parish  
Two godparents & One godparent (preferably both) must be Catholic in "good standing"



## BAUTISMO

Registrado 3 meses con Parroquia  
Los padres / padrinos asisten a clase de 1 hora en los últimos 2 años;  
Se requiere una carta o documento para asistir a una clase de la parroquia  
Dos padrinos y un padrino (preferiblemente ambos) deben ser católicos de "buena reputación"

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Registered with the Parish  
Letter or document of baptism  
Attend 2 year PRE class  
Attend 1 day Retreat/Reconciliation



## PRIMERA COMUNIÓN

Registrado en la Parroquia  
Carta o documento de bautismo  
Asistir a la clase PRE de 2 años  
Asistir a 1 día de Retiro/Reconciliación

## CONFIRMATION

Registered with the Parish  
Letter or document of baptism  
Letter or document of 1st Holy Communion  
Attend 2 year PRE class  
Attend Confirmation Retreat  
Participate in Community Service  
Sponsor(s) must be a Catholic in "good standing"  
Sponsor must provide a letter from their home parish



## CONFIRMACIÓN

Registrado en la Parroquia  
Carta o documento de bautismo  
Carta o documento de la 1ª Comunión  
Asistir a la clase PRE de 2 años  
Asistir al retiro de confirmación  
Participar en el servicio comunitario  
Los patrocinadores deben ser católicos de "buena reputación"  
El patrocinador debe proporcionar una carta de su parroquia de origen

## MATRIMONY

Registered with the Parish and a Catholic "in good standing"  
Letter or document of baptism, first communion and confirmation  
Six months marriage prep classes  
Diocesan marriage prep activities  
Witness(es) must be Catholic in "good standing"



## MATRIMONIO

Registrado en la parroquia y católico "en buen estado"  
Carta o documento de bautismo, primera comunión y confirmación  
Seis meses de clases de preparación para el matrimonio  
Actividades diocesanas de preparación matrimonial  
Los testigos deben ser católicos en "buena reputación"

## Schedule for the Week/Horario de la Semana December 22nd

Prayer of Love: "Heavenly Father, as we light the fourth Advent candle of love, may your love inspire us to love one another as you have loved us. Let your love guide our actions and words. Amen!

Oración de Amor: "Padre Celestial, mientras encendemos la cuarta vela de Adviento del amor, que tu amor nos inspire a amarnos unos a otros como nos has amado. Deja que tu amor guíe nuestras acciones y palabras. ¡Amén!

Sunday/Domingo 22nd Collection  
None/Ninguno

Sunday/Domingo Dec 25th  
Villa Vianney



### This Week/Esta Semana

<b>Sunday Dec 22</b>
<b>1:30 pm Church Christmas Decorating</b>
<b>Monday Dec 23</b>
<b>6:00 pm No Bible Study-Christmas Break</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec 24 No Ministries-Christmas Break</b>
<b>Wednes, Dec 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS</b>
<b>9:15 am</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec 26 No Daily Mass</b>
<b>9:15 am Legion of Mary</b>
<b>3:00 pm No Choir Practice</b>
<b>Friday, Dec 27</b>
<b>9:30 am St. Parasceva Crochet Ministry</b>
<b>Saturday Dec 28</b>
<b>8:30 am Daily Mass</b>

Food Pantry Ministry is in need of clean plastic shopping bags. Please bring them to the back Social Hall at your convenience. Thank you!



### Readings for Dec 23–Dec 29

**Monday-St. John of Kanty, Priest**  
Mal 3:1-24 Ps 25:4-14 Lk 1:57-66

**Tuesday**  
2 Sm 7:1-16 Ps 89:2-29 Lk 1:67-79  
**Christmas Vigil Of the Nativity**  
Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-29 Acts 13:16-25  
Mt 1:1-25

**Wednesday-The Nativity of the Lord**  
Is 9:1-6 Ps 96:1-13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14

**Thursday-St. Stephen, The 1st Martyr**  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3-17  
Mt 10:17-22

**Friday-St. John, Apostle, Evangelist**  
1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-12 Jn 20:1-8

**Saturday-The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-8 Mt 2:13-18

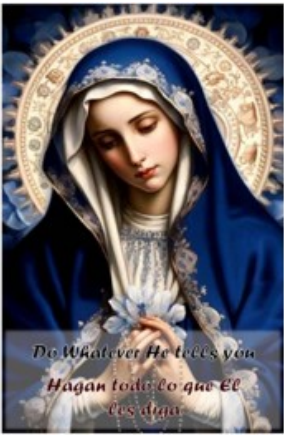
**Sunday-The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
1 Sm 1:20-28 Ps 84:2-10 1 Jn 3:1-24  
Lk 2:41-52

### Liturgical Ministers/ Ministros Litúrgicos

	Lectors	Servers	Sacristans	EMHC
Dec 21	K. Brumley	J. Watkins	M. Griffis	
4:30		J. Schaefer		
		E. Greeson		
Dec 22	G. Buda	M. Buda	J. Buda	J. Terry
10:30	R. Wheeler	C. Buda		
		E. Teer		
		A. Calvet		
Dec 22	R. Equivel	Ep. Moreno	N/R Ortiz	
12:15	C. Moreno	A. Ruiz		
		J. Gobellan		
Dec 28	S. Stegall	D. Hessling	M. Griffis	D. Hessling
4:30		J. Schaefer		
		A. Calvet		
Dec 29	J. Wheeler	D. Hessling	R. Wheeler	D. Hessling
10:30	C. Jones	C. Buda		
		M. Buda		
		E. Teer		
Dec 29	C. Moreno	A. Montoya	N/R Ortiz	
12:15	R. Esquivel	D. Gobellan		
		E. Moreno		

### Volunteers/Voluntarios

	Church	Parish Hall	Altar Linens
Dec 28	Ortiz	Greeson	J. Buda
Jan 4	FF Ladies	Teer	J. Buda



**CALLED BY NAME LLAMADO POR SU NOMBRE**

**The Priesthood The Diaconate Religious Life**

Noah Gogel Abel Gogel Hannah Buda

Estrella Moreno Emanuel Montoya

Aron Ruiz Juan Diego Gobellan

Katherine Brumley Rafael Ortiz

Robbie Greuling Dave Hessling

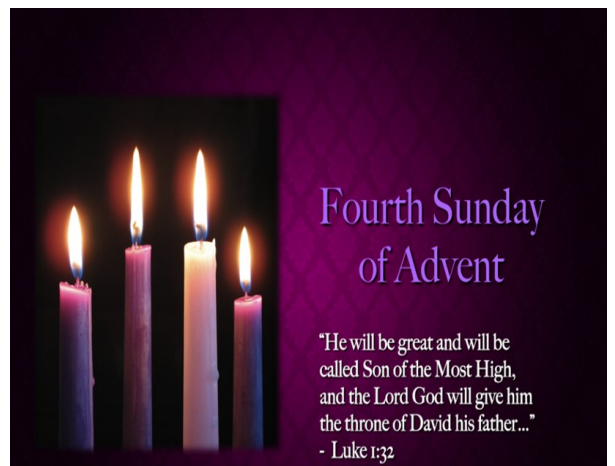
**El sacerdocio El Diaconado Vida Religiosa**



Mass Intentions/Intenciones Masivas			
Saturday	12/21	4:30 pm	
Sunday	12/22	8:30 am	+ For all Souls in Purgatory
Sunday	12/22	10:30 am	For the Parishioners of St. Alphonsus, Ave Maria and St. John's
Domingo	12/22	12:15 pm	
Monday	12/23	8:00 am	Jerome Teer
Tuesday	12/24	8:00 am	NO DAILY MASS
Tuesday	12/24	4:30 pm	For the Parishioners of St. Alphonsus, Ave Maria and St. John's
Wednesday	12/25	0:01 am	+For the Holy Innocents
Thursday	12/26	8:00 am	NO DAILY MASS
Saturday	12/28	8:30 am	

Dec 14/15	St Alphonsus	Ave Maria	Saint Alphonsus 2023	Ave Maria 2023
Weekly Budget	\$ 3,047.00	\$ 547.00	\$ 3,051.00	\$ 613.00
Weekly Regular	\$ 3,280.00	\$ 290.00	\$ 2,921.00	\$ 350.00
YTD SURPLUS (Jul-Dec) wk 24	(\$5,626.00)	(\$2,361.00)	\$ 4,745.00	(\$2,471.00)
Friends of the Poor	\$ 100.00		\$ 0.00	
Food Pantry	\$ 0.00		\$ 200.00	
Tiny Blessing	\$ 0.00			
Helping Hands		\$ 0.0		\$ 0.00

Attendance/Público				
Dec 14/15	St. Alphonsus		Ave Maria	
	Adult	Youth	Adult	Youth
4:30 pm	42	6		
10:30 Mass	65	26		
12:15 Mass	31	25		
5:00 Mass			15	2



# For Our Little Saints

Advent  
Sunday of  
The Fourth

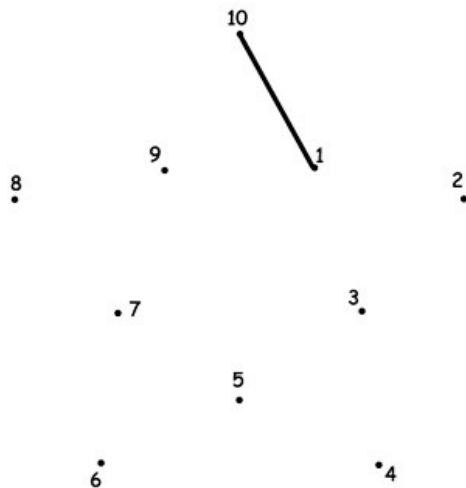
The fourth candle represents love and is called the Angel Candle. We are reminded of the ultimate love of God that He would send His only Son for us. It is the color purple, leading us to wait with anticipation of the Kingdom of God on earth.

December 22, 2024



## Prayer

O most holy Nicholas, thou extraordinary Saint of the Lord, our loving defender and ready helper in sorrows everywhere: help us sinners and hapless ones in the present life. Amen



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Saint Nicholas was born in what is now known as the southern coast of Turkey. His parents raised him to be a devout Christian. They died in an epidemic while Nicholas was young. He obeyed the words of Christ and used his whole inheritance to help the needy, the sick, and suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God and became a Bishop at a young age. He was persecuted and suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. Over time many stories and legends have been told of St. Nicholas' life and his deeds. Those stories help us to know and understand his character and why he is loved and seen as a protector of those in need.



The Catholic rosary is made up of 59 beads. 6 beads are used to pray the Our Father, and the 53 smaller beads are used for praying the Hail Mary, Apostles' Creed, Glory be, and the Hail, Holy Queen. These beads are separated into 5 decades or groups of 10 small beads. The 5 decades of the rosary make up the main portion of the rosary.

Sorrowful  
Mysteries



1. The **First Sorrowful Mystery** is The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden. The fruit of this mystery is Contrition for sins.
2. The **Second Sorrowful Mystery** is The Scourging at the Pillar. The fruit of this mystery is Mortification.
3. The **Third Sorrowful Mystery** is The Crowning with Thorns. The fruit of this mystery is Contempt for the World.
4. The **Fourth Sorrowful Mystery** is The Carrying of the Cross. The Fruit of this mystery is Patience.
5. The **Fifth Sorrowful Mystery** is the Crucifixion and Death of Our Lord. The fruit of this mystery is The Forgiveness of Sins and Forgiveness of Enemies.



OUR LADY QUEEN OF

*peace*



*To be one  
in flesh*

MARRIAGE  
PREPARATION  
WEEKEND

**FEBRUARY**  
Fri 7–Sun 9



Scan for information  
and to register.

SAVE  
*your spot*  
TODAY!

Get ready for your marriage  
at OLQP with a peaceful weekend.

Meets diocesan marriage  
preparation requirements.

Spiritual and practical content.

# 2024 Christmas Mass Schedule

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 21 <sup>st</sup>	Vigil Mass	4:30 pm
Sunday, December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St. John's	8:30 am
Sunday, December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	St Alphonus	10:30 am
Sunday, December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Misa en Español	12:15 pm
Sunday, December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ave Maria	5:00 pm

## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

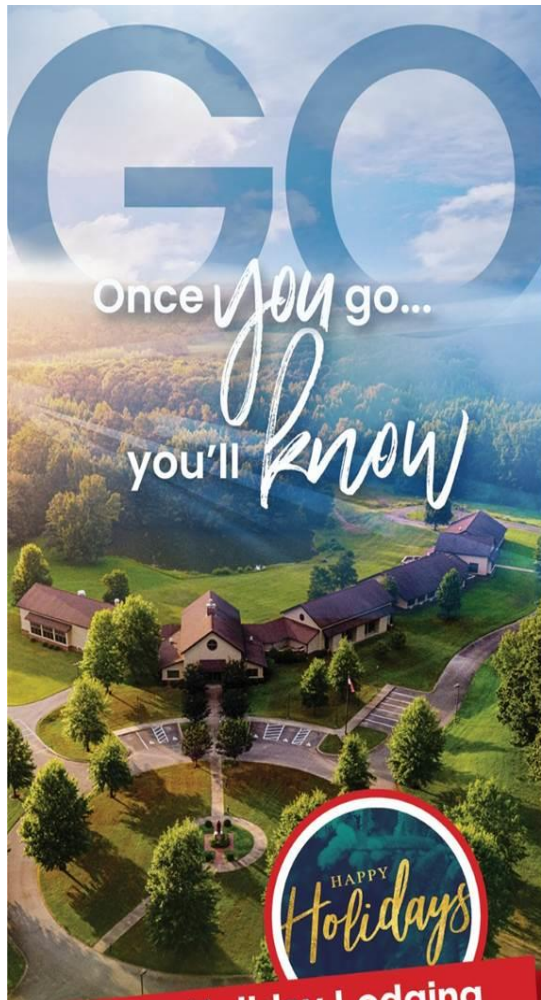
Tuesday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>	Vigil Mass-St Alphonus	4:30 pm
	<i>Christmas Music 30 minutes before Mass</i>	
Wednesday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>	Midnight Mass-St Alphonus	12:00 am
	<i>Christmas Music 30 minutes before Mass</i>	
Wednesday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>	Ave Maria (Fr. Patrick Hirtz)	8:30 am
Wednesday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>	St. John's	10:00 am

***\*\*Note. There Will be NO confessions before Masses for the Nativity of the Lord***

## SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Tuesday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>	St. Alphonus	4:30 pm
Wednesday, New Year's Day	St. Alphonus	9:00 am
Wednesday, New Year's Day	Ave Maria (Fr. Patrick Hirtz)	8:30 am
Wednesday, New Year's Day	St. John's	7:00 pm





**Holiday Lodging**  
 Mon. Nov 25–Sun. Jan 5  
**Need Some Extra Space This Holiday Season?**  
 Find peace and quiet, extra space for your visiting family and friends, and special pricing here at Queen of Peace.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF  
*peace*

Save Your Spot  
 and Register Now!

SCAN to get more information  
 and REGISTER or email:  
[steve.fracchia@olqp.cdom.org](mailto:steve.fracchia@olqp.cdom.org)



[olqpretreats.com](http://olqpretreats.com)



SHARE US with your family and friends!

# Be in the know

## Upcoming Events

### December 2024



DECEMBER Sat. 7

#### Getting More Out of the Mass

Get set for a day packed with Mass explanations, celebration actions, prayers, theology talks, and a teaching Mass with Fr. Al Kirk. Plus, lunch is on us!



DECEMBER Fri. 13–Sun. 15  
**Advent Retreat**

One:One SERIES

Come, break away from the holiday rush. Sleep in heavenly peace. Prepare your heart mind, and stomach during Advent and what lies ahead in the weeks before Christmas.

### January 2025



JANUARY Fri. 10–Sun. 12

One:One SERIES

#### You Go Girl!—Girls Weekend

Relax after the holidays and get ready for 2025! It's a chill weekend for all women. Bring your friends and enjoy good food, downtime, pampering and fun activities. Treat yourself and recharge.



JANUARY Thurs. 23–Thurs. 30

#### A Week of Silence

Join us for a 3-night retreat starting on Thurs. 23, until midday Sun. 26. You're welcome to extend your stay for 1 to 4 more nights and depart on Thurs. 30. Engage in Spiritual Exercises, attend Mass, Adoration, and enjoy personal meditation time.

### February 2025



FEBRUARY Fri. 7–Sun. 9

#### Marriage Preparation Weekend

Planning to tie the knot? Join us for a weekend of prayer, prep, and peace at the "To Be One in Flesh" Marriage Prep Weekend. 3 days/2 nights of talks, small groups, Mass, Confession, and meals



FEBRUARY Fri. 14–Sun. 16

SERIE Uno:Uno

#### Retiro de San Valentín en español

¡Disfruten del tiempo juntos durante el fin de semana del Día de San Valentín! Tendremos Misa, tiempo de oración y reflexiones del Padre Gerald Azike. Actividades adicionales y tiempo de inactividad para estar juntos.