

Third Sunday of Advent

LIGHT TWO PURPLE CANDLES AND
THE PINK CANDLE ON YOUR ADVENT WREATH

JOY

12/15 PONDER: WHAT BRINGS ME JOY?	12/16 CALL A FAMILY MEMBER	12/17 REACH OUT TO A PERSON YOU MISS
12/18 SHARE A JOY-FILLED MEMORY	12/19 SING A SONG THAT BRINGS YOU JOY	12/20 WHERE CAN I SPREAD JOY TODAY? DO IT!

CATHEDRAL CULTURAL SERIES *presents*

LESSONS AND CAROLS

CATHEDRAL OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

DECEMBER 21 AT 4 PM

FEATURING THE CATHEDRAL CHOIR, ARCHDIOCESAN
YOUTH CHOIR, AND ARCHDIOCESAN SINGERS

Free and open to the public.

Ask Father Anything!

Here is your opportunity to ask Fr. Sal about our faith or how it works in our day-to-day lives. Your questions will be featured in his monthly article! Email Fr. Sal at palazzolo.sal@aod.org or drop a note in the collection basket. It’s a great way for us to know our faith and one another!



Over 1,000 hot meals served through breakfast ministries, street outreach, community meals, and pop-up grills
More than 1,200 cups of hot coffee and cocoa shared with neighbors seeking warmth and community
10 student-led pop-up grills hosted by Catholic Central, Brother Rice, and BuildOn—bringing fresh meals, joy, and service to the streets
Hundreds of bowls of hot soup served during outreach to keep neighbors warm through colder nights
275+ winter essentials distributed—including coats, gloves, hats, scarves, and warm socks
100+ hygiene kits shared to restore dignity and confidence
20+ neighbors cared for through dental checkups and our Faith Community Nurses Station, receiving blood pressure checks, medication support, and health conversations
25 low-income seniors participating in our Seniors for Health Advocacy Resources and Education conversations
Over 120 Thanksgiving turkeys distributed through our multiple Turkey Drops, ensuring neighbors could celebrate with dignity
More than 150 hot Thanksgiving dinners served with warmth, prayer, and a spirit of community
Countless prayer moments, spiritual conversations, and one-on-one encounters, reminding neighbors they are seen, known, and loved by God.

We are in need of winter essentials—coats, gloves, hats, blankets, socks, and hand warmers—to help our neighbors stay safe and warm in the months ahead.

To donate or volunteer, visit stalloysiusdetroit.com/neighborhood-services or email schultz.michael@aod.org.

Movie Night with the DCCM

Join us on **December 20th** for a festive evening at the cinema as Detroit Catholic Campus Ministry hosts **Movie Night with DCCM!** We’ll gather at **Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit** at **6:00 pm** for a warm reception featuring **heavy hors d’oeuvres, drinks, and great conversation**. Afterward, we’ll move into the newly renovated seminary auditorium for a special screening of **It’s A Wonderful Life** on the big screen. Thru-out the evening **Fr. Matt Hood** and **Fr. Brian Meldrum** will be recording their podcast **'Cinema Verbi'** live for all to enjoy—offering reflections to carry into your Christmas season. **This event is free and open to all ages, with a suggested donation of \$20.** Go to <https://detroitcatholiccampusministry.org/movie> to save your seat!

StAloysiusDetroit.com
(313) 237-5810

ST. ALOYSIUS

1234 Washington Blvd.
Detroit, MI 48226

EVERYBODY’S CHURCH IN DOWNTOWN DETROIT

Deacon on Duty- Fear Not

Before sitting down to write this article, I made a cup of tea. On the paper tab attached to the tea bag was, “The worst enemy we have is our own fear.” I laughed, because earlier in the day as I was contemplating what to write, I was thinking about President Roosevelt’s famous quote, “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” I never quite understood what the president meant by that until the days and weeks after September 11, 2001. What I finally grasped during those dark days following the attacks was how fear can paralyze, and it is that paralysis we should fear.

In our First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah this weekend we hear, “Be strong, fear not!” Throughout the New Testament Jesus tells his followers to not be afraid, or “fear not” 70 or so times, and for good reason. Recall how the apostles locked themselves in the upper room after Jesus’ crucifixion, out of fear. Imagine if they continued to live in fear after Jesus’ resurrection. Imagine if the apostles withdrew from society out of fear after St. Stephen was stoned to death. Chances are there wouldn’t be Christ’s church, there wouldn’t be the Archdiocese of Detroit, and there wouldn’t be St Aloysius if the apostles allowed fear to paralyze them.

As we prepare for the two-year restructuring efforts for our archdiocese, we have much to contemplate that could cause us to fear. Sadly, our present reality is: fewer people in general are Catholic, fewer still faithfully attend Mass regularly, and even fewer encourage young men to be open to the vocation of the priesthood. This has brought us to this point where we are today: too few priests, too few parishioners, and more church buildings than necessary. Short of a miraculous influx of new parishioners, new priests, and funds there will be church closings. So, we embark on a restructuring effort with some uncertainty and fear. What we cannot do is allow this fear to paralyze us, individually, as a parish, as an archdiocese, such that we end up doing nothing.

Rather than remain in our own upper room with the door locked out of fear, we can open ourselves up to the Holy Spirit. We can pray individually and collectively. We can, as we heard in the Second Reading, be patient, make our hearts firm, refrain from complaining, and take an active part in the process as it unfolds.

But there is something else we can do. We can reflect the glory of Jesus in our daily lives. We can share the good news of salvation and eternal life with others just as the apostles did through word and deed. We can live our faith true to the teachings of the Church. We can do this in ways that people will ask why we are so joyful, why we don’t let evil prevail, why we continually give of ourselves to those in need, why we are welcoming. We can live our lives like the early Christians, which appealed to many more despite the persecution the Church faced at the time. And in doing so, those folks around us will want what we have – a personal relationship with Jesus.

There are many challenges in the coming years. But just as the servants heeded the words of our Blessed Mother Mary at Cana, “Do as he (Jesus) says,” let us do just that, and “fear not.”

In the peace of Christ,
Deacon Mike

PRAY FOR PEACE

✝

LIVE IN PEACE

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 14, 2025

ST. ALOYSIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

1234 Washington Boulevard ~ Detroit 48226
Our Lady of the Rosary ~5930 Woodward ~Detroit 48202
Parish Office (313) 237-5810 staloysiusdetroit.com

Very Rev. Salvatore Palazzolo JCL, KCHS
Priest In Solidum
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Very Rev. John Maksym, JD, JCL
Old St. Mary's Priest In Solidum
maksym.john@aod.org

Very Rev. John (J.J.) Mech
Moderator~Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Priest In Solidum

Rev. Matthew Hood
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Detroit Catholic Campus Ministry
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OUR MISSION STATEMENT
We, the spiritual family of St. Aloysius honor and value the diversity of our community. Through our worship of God, we joyfully commit ourselves to imitate the Good Shepherd. We serve our brothers and sisters when we comfort the lost, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and welcome the stranger. Our service is rooted in our experience of God's love, which calls us to be the Good News of Jesus in the downtown Detroit community.

ST. ALOYSIUS WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday 5:00pm & Sunday 10:00am
Pray the Rosary on Sunday at 9:35am

ST. ALOYSIUS WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Monday thru Friday 12:15pm
CHURCH OPEN Mon-Fri from 11:15am-1:30pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
Every Thursday *before* Mass 11:45am-12:15pm
Every third Monday of the month from 7:00-8:00pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Monday thru Friday - 11:45am-12:05pm
Saturday 4:15-4:45pm Sunday 9:15am-9:45am

OLD ST. MARY'S MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00pm (Confession), 5:30pm (Mass)

Sunday Mass
8:30am, 11:30am
Daily Mass
Monday thru Friday at 12:15pm

OUR LADY of the ROSARY MASS SCHEDULE
Daily Mass
Monday-Thursday, 5:30pm Friday at 12:30pm
Confession Monday-Thursday 5:00pm-5:20pm
Adoration Monday -Thursday 4:30pm-5:30pm

Weekend Mass
Saturday at 9am, Sunday at 5:30pm

Weekly Budget \$ 4,528
December 7, 2025 *See next week*

New Mailing Address for the Parish

As many of you know, our parish office is now located at the Chancery at 12 State Street. We have a satellite office in the lower level of the church as well. To correspond with us **by mail**, our new address is:

St. Aloysius Church
PO Box 44350
Detroit, MI 48244

Mass Intentions and Readings

Monday **December 15, 2025**
12:15pm **The Vandenboom family**
Readings Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday **December 16, 2025**
12:15pm **Madeleine George**
Requested by Granny & Jah
Readings Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday **December 17, 2025**
12:15pm **†Mary K Allison**
Requested by Mike & Karen Allison
Readings Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday **December 18, 2025**
12:15pm **† Joseph Pyszynski**
Requested by Mike & Karen Allison
Readings Jer 23:5-8/Mt 8:11-25

Friday **December 19, 2025**
12:15pm **† John Wilczynski**
Requested by Fr. Sal
Readings Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday **December 20, 2025**
(Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38)

5:00pm **The Vandenboom family**
Readings Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Sunday **December 21, 2025**

10:00am **Sophie Cormier**
Requested by Beth Allison
† Leonida Galang
Requested by Paul Galang
Readings Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Pray for Our Friends

Elena Centeio-Smith
Ricardo & Marietta Martinez
Kenny Butler
Sylvia Gonzalez
Matt Gumbel
Alberta Mathis
Eric & Rachel Makarewicz
Mallory & Ryan
Timothy
Geraldine Biffle-Faulkner
Jendayi Issa
Patrina Frierson
Ron Joe
Helen Tillerson
Carrie F.
Patricia Hayes
Andrea Piggott

Ann Disser
Sylvia Baker
Ever Jean
Tim Bowdell
John Prior
Marjorie Peake
Randolph Jackson
Cindy Ianni
Tony & Mervet Farida
Phillip King
Curtis Hogan, Jr
Orlando Eigner
Wendy Price
Ross Brandon
Tom Schrems
Dennis Samoray
Robert Wray

Tim Trepkowski
Brain Kitz
Anthony Bell
John R Biffle
Lilley Bates
Joe Littman
Angela Coel
Darroll Jenkins
Herman Jenkins
Regina Roussel
Antoinette Marshall
Jeff Stephenson
Rosalind (Ashford) Holmes
Barbara I.
Arthur Page
Kathy S.
Raymond Biffle
Robert McFadden

December Events

Backpack Ministry volunteer after 10:00am Mass on Sundays. Help us pray and distribute food & essentials to our brothers and sisters in need in the area. See Michael after Mass to get involved. The team is typically back by 11:30am.

Sunday, December 14th (Extraordinary Minsters of Holy Communion EMHC)- **Liturgical Ministry Training** after 10:00am Mass. Contact Jimmy if you plan on attending or have any questions- 313-309-1263, oleary.jimmy@aod.org.

Tuesday, December 16th- Holy Hour 7:00pm-8:00pm in church. **Our Holy Hours will now be on the Third Tuesday of the Month.

Saturday, December 20th- 10:00am **Backpack Ministry.** Help us pray and distribute food & essentials to our brothers and sisters in need in the area. Meet *in the church*. No signup required! Contact Michael with any questions schultz.michael@aod.org.

Sunday, December 21st- No Sandwich-making after 10:00am Mass. It will resume in January.
Sunday, December 21st- Help us *decorate for Christmas* after 10:00am Mass.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Eve: 4:00pm Mass/Christmas Day: 10:00am Mass
New Year's Eve: 4:00pm Mass/New Year's Day: 10:00am Mass

Parish offices closed from December 24 to January 4, 2026.



MEZZANINE RAILING PROJECT

There is still time to give to our #GivingTuesday Railing Project.

We're coming together to fund necessary updates to our mezzanine area. **We need to install railings that will keep our choir and parishioners safe and preserve the beauty of our worship space.** Drop off a check in the collection basket, cash in a labeled envelope, or online with Giving Tuesday in the notes! <https://www.osvhub.com/staloysiusdetroit/giving/funds/donations>
Thank you ahead of time for your generosity.