



St. Alphonsus Auction

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FAQ's

Q. Why does St. Alphonsus have an auction?

A. Just like other private schools, the tuition for each child does not cover the true cost of education. Along with other Parents' Club fundraisers and school campaigns, the auction helps to offset the operating budget for our school and your participation is important. The auction is also our biggest party of the year, bringing together alumni, parishioners, friends and parents of children of all ages within the larger community – in support and celebration of St. Alphonsus Parish School.

Q. What happens to the proceeds from the auction?

A. All proceeds from the auction support the annual fundraising goal of the Parents' Club and go directly to the operating budget of St. Alphonsus Parish School. The school uses the funds raised for operating expenses that make many of our programs possible. By supporting the auction, you are providing technology, supporting necessary teaching and staff positions, and contributing to school activities, such as specialized subjects, our S.T.E.M. lab, field trips, art literacy, and other events.

Q. What is the difference between procuring and donating?

A. Procuring involves asking a third party to contribute an item for the auction; donating is contributing an item or cash for the auction from your own resources.

Q. Are there any businesses that I should not contact for a donation?

A. Yes. The auction committee has been hard at work securing sponsorships and donated items. There is a list the Procurement and Sponsorship Teams have been using and would be more than happy to give you some businesses if you wish to contact. Some businesses have agreed to sponsor our event, have generously donated an item, or have declined to participate this year. We ask that you avoid contacting these businesses, unless you have a personal relationship to someone that owns or works there and feel it would be appropriate.

Q. Where and/or How do I log the item I have procured or donated?

A. Fill out the online "Donate Item" form (allows for procured or donated items/cash) on the GreaterGiving website OR turn in a completed Procurement Form or Group Procurement Form to the school office.

Q. What is GreaterGiving and how is it different from our website?

A. GreaterGiving is the online auction site & software that St. Al's has purchased. The website and accompanying software house all our auction information, from item procurement to check-out the night of the auction. Items entered as donations on GreaterGiving generate a receipt for the donor and simultaneously build out the auction catalog. Every school family can have GreaterGiving login credentials and enter their procured items or make a cash donation. Online Admission/Ticket purchases are also done through GreaterGiving. On both our GreaterGiving site and our website, you will find all auction related forms and information specific to the Auction & Gala.

Q. My friends and I are putting together a party for the auction, how do we value it?

A. It should be based on an estimate of the monetary cost to put it on (including the cost of the venue if applicable), not the price you hope it will sell for. *Please be advised, St. Alphonsus Parish School will not make any financial contributions to or otherwise subsidize any group events.* Be sure to turn in a completed Group Procurement Form.

Q. Who is invited to the auction? Can I invite people from outside the St. Alphonsus community?

A. Yes. Invitations are sent to all current parents, all parishioners, all attendees from the past two years, auction sponsors, and other St. Alphonsus friends and supporters. We encourage you to invite friends who are enthusiastic about Catholic education, or those who are interested in supporting our school or attending our school. Grandparents make great auction guests! If you would like us to email an invitation, please let us know.

Q. What happens at the auction?

A. This year will be different due to Covid-19. Our GreaterGiving website will be "live" for a month prior to the event enabling everyone to purchase "Admission" which will grant you access to place bids during our Silent and Live Auction Events. Once you have purchased your "Admission" you will be sent your registration link which you must complete to bid. Remember, this is your personal link and do not share this with others. If friends or family wish to attend our auction, they must purchase their own "Admission". At 8:00 pm, November 28th the Silent Auction portion will begin. We will be closing the Silent Auction portion at 8:00 pm, December 4th. Our LIVE Event will begin at 6:45 pm – 7:30 pm. All guests will also have an opportunity to bid on all LIVE Items and contribute to our St. Al Strong campaign by raising their virtual paddles to pledge their financial support. The live auction lasts until about 7:30 pm.

Q. Is the auction a family event?

A. Yes! This year we are hosting the LIVE Auction Event virtually!

Q. What are class projects?

A. This year each preschool through 8th grade homeroom class is creating a Class Basket with a chosen theme the students and their teachers have decided on. Each student is helping with what items go into their baskets and their teachers will be adding an item(s) that the class has been working on that defines their theme.

Q. I want to bid on something, but I can't attend. Is there still a way to bid?

A. Yes! That is the beauty of the virtual online auction this year! You do not need to be present to bid! You may bid on any of the Silent Items all week and if you will not be able to attend the LIVE portion, make sure you mark the items you wish to bid on as a "Favorite" and you will receive notices via text the updates on that item! All you must do is be logged in on your device and be ready to hit "BID NOW!"

Q. Are my purchases tax-deductible?

A. Amounts paid over the listed value of a package are tax-deductible. Your auction receipt will itemize the price you paid and the value of each package you purchased. Keep this receipt for your tax records.

Q. Will there be anything at the auction that I can afford?

A. Our auction committee works hard to ensure that there are packages with a variety of values. Guests can spend anywhere from \$10 to several thousand dollars. Plus, there are always deals to be had by alert bidders in the silent auction!

Q. How do I learn more about volunteering?

A. We will be posting our needs each week in the Angel's Angle for dates and times.