

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2010**

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER — APRIL 11, 2010

# *Saint Alphonsus*

## Roman Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

750 Pittsburgh Street • Springdale, PA • 15144

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Web Page Address: [www.stalphonsuschurch.com](http://www.stalphonsuschurch.com)

Administrator: Rev. George E. Saladna, S.T.L., S.S.L.

Weekend Assistant: Rev. James P. McDonough, S.T.L., J.C.L



*Parish Established September 9, 1901*

*Church Dedicated September 5, 1926*

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**SUNDAY MASS:** Sat. 5:00 P.M. and Sun. Morn. at 8:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

**WEEKDAY:** Mass held in Chapel next to Church. See bulletin each week or call Rectory for schedule of the 8:00 A.M. Mass which is not held every day (never on Sat morn).

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION:** these days vary in time and obligation from year to year. See bulletin or call Rectory each time for details.

**CONFESSIONS:** Sat. from 3:30 to 4:30, and anytime by appointment.

**MARRIAGE, BAPTISM:** call parish office (six months before marriage).

**COMMUNION CALLS AND OTHER SERVICES:** call office for information.

### PARISH OFFICES & STAFF

**ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER (RECTORY:** former Convent building)

(724) 274-5084

Marsha Etzrodt, Secretary

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Thur.: 8 to 4, Fri.: 8 to Noon

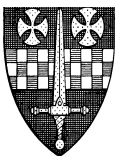
**LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES** (school building side entrance)

(724) 274-2547

**CCD & Youth Min.** - Karen Mueller

**Social Services** - Cathy Moxie

**Music Director/Organist** – Vickie Roof



**New Parishioners:** We welcome new parishioners whether newly moved into the area or those who have fallen off through inactivity. Welcome! Register by calling or coming to the parish office. Become an active, attending and supporting member of the parish. And please let us know if you move away or have your telephone or address changed. Thank you.

**Church Hall Telephone:** ..... (724) 274-2547

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline** ..... 1-888-808-1235

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
PITTSBURGH  
VICARIATE  
NO. 4

Blessed are those who



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Today, on this first Sunday after Easter (also called the "Second Sunday of Easter"), we are reminded that **EVERY** Sunday is a "little Easter." Put another way, we could say that Easter is the "Mother of all Sundays." Easter is the Lord's Day, the day He triumphed over his enemies, the day he conquered the evil one, the day he defeated death and sin.

It is no wonder that we celebrate on Sunday, for it is the holiest day of the week, just as Easter is the Holiest day of the year. It is strange that we even have a "law" that people must come to Mass on Sundays. You would think that every believer would want to be present for Sunday Mass, law or no law.

On this particular Sunday, we are told about the episode of "doubting Thomas." Of all the apostles, he was the only one not present when the Risen Lord appeared to the group. Had he taken their word that Jesus was truly risen and that they had seen him, he could forever have had the name, "Believing Thomas." But, reflecting the attitude of a lot of so-called "believers," Thomas had to see for himself. He wanted to touch and feel, to see and hear. He wanted to know, because he would not trust his brothers who were telling him that Jesus had been in the room, that he was truly alive. We often say that "seeing is believing." But seeing is **NOT** believing. You can only believe when you do **NOT** see. Thomas had this chance, but he blew it, and now he is called "doubting Thomas."

Thomas' doubts were not wasted, though, for, in a sense, he doubts for everyone who would doubt in later times. His doubts might be our doubts, and the resolution of his doubts will suffice to ease our own anxiety. In showing himself to Thomas in a special way, Jesus is also showing himself to us. In asking Thomas to become a believer, Jesus is also asking us to become believers: to trust and have confidence in the words and reports of the apostles. The proofs which Jesus gave to Thomas are given once and for all, for all people of all times in every place. When we

are tempted to doubt, we just have to read about Thomas, and our minds, like his, will be put at ease. God loves nothing more than people who are willing to entrust themselves to Him, to his Apostles and to His Church. Today we ask the Lord, "Dear Lord, make us better believers."

-- Fr. Saladna

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### SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

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**MONDAY, APRIL 12** – Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Michael Pascarella (Anniv.)

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13** – Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Andrew Susa

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14** – Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Denise Horwatt

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15** -- No Mass scheduled for today

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16** – Easter Weekday

8:00 AM Michael Landis (Anniv.)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17** – No Mass on Saturday morning

5:00 PM [For Sunday] Fred Chesaro

**NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 18** – Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Mike, Donna, and Kate Werries

11:00 AM For all Parishioners, Liv. & Dec.

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to our five First Holy Communion candidates who will receive the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of the Lord at today's 11:00 AM Mass. Parents are again reminded of their great responsibility to give the good example the young children need to remain faithful to the Sacraments which draw us all closer to Jesus.

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**BABY JESUS SCHOOL** will continue to be held every Sunday morning during the 11:00 AM Mass. A free babysitting service for infants and toddlers where your kiddies will be cared for by loving moms, it enables the kids to have some fun and gives you a break so you can attend the 11:00 AM Mass without distractions.

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**A MILLION THANKS** to all of our parishioners and friends of St. Alphonsus Church for the dedication and love you manifested on the day before Easter Sunday in getting things cleaned up, decorated, fixed. We have too many to name, from the Boy Scouts to the smallest kid, who came to lend a hand. May Jesus our Risen Lord reward you all for your work in his name and his honor, as we celebrated his resurrection from the dead. Thank you, thank you, thank you. ALLELUIA ("Praise the Lord!")

**2010 ANNUAL ADULT LECTURE SERIES  
DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010 – 7:30 PM – St. Paul Seminary Auditorium.**

**“Responding to the Call to Holiness with the Wisdom of the Saints”** -- given by speaker Ralph Martin. Ralph Martin is the Director of Graduate Theology Programs in Evangelization and an assistant professor of theology at Sacred Heart Major Seminary in the Archdiocese of Detroit. He is also president of Renewal Ministries ([www.renewalministries.net](http://www.renewalministries.net)), an organization devoted to Catholic renewal and evangelization. Renewal Ministries is the sponsor of “The Choices We Face,” a widely viewed weekly Catholic television and radio program distributed throughout the world, and engages in a wide variety of mission work in more than 27 countries. He is the author of a number of books, the most recent being *The Fulfillment of All Desire: A Guidebook for the Journey to God Based on the Wisdom of the Saints*.

**THE MONTH OF APRIL** is the month when our parishioners are called on to volunteer at the VA Hospital in Aspinwall to help patients get to Sunday Mass. Call Liz Yanni at 724-274-6860 for more information.

**MINING MEMORIES** – There will be a program and dinner held on Friday, April 23, at Futules Harmor House. The program begins at 6 PM with dinner at 6:30 PM. Tickets: \$15. For more information call Helen Kuhar at 724-274-8307 or Donna “Cookie” Porter at 412-828-1228.

**LOWER ALLEGHENY MEALS ON WHEELS** – Through April 30, 2010, Lower Allegheny Valley Meals on Wheels has an opportunity to have monetary donations proportionately matched by the Feinstein Foundation which serves to end world hunger. Donations are tax-free and checks should be made out to L.A.V. The contributions may be mailed directly to Meals on Wheels, 600 Pittsburgh Street, Springdale, Pa 15144.

**2010 PARISH SHARE PROGRAM**

We are grateful to our parishioners and friends for the way you are responding to the annual Parish Share Program appeal. It always amazes me how while we do not have a super-large number of parishioners we seem to have a great number of generous givers, to the parish, the diocese and the universal church (missions, etc.).

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**SIGNS AND WONDERS**

People long for “a sure thing,” concrete proof that they can see and touch. The healing of the sick, as in today’s reading from Acts, is surely concrete proof of divine action. But just as Jesus, when he healed the sick, wanted people to see more than the immediate healing of ailments, so, too, Peter and the apostles are given the gift of healing the sick to lead the people to God. There is more to illness than the body; Peter and the apostles, and indeed all in ministry today, are charged with the healing of souls. That’s where we must make a leap of faith, because we can’t see or touch the healing of souls, but we must know it in our hearts. We do not see, yet we must believe.

The second reading, from Revelation, draws on many images that resonate with those familiar with the Hebrew Scriptures. The author has a vision of heaven, a vision given only to him, and he is commanded to testify to Jesus Christ, the risen Lord who now dwells in heaven, who has conquered death and sin for all time. We are called in faith to believe his testimony. We do not see, yet we must believe.

**BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND HAVE BELIEVED**

John’s Gospel today places us with the disciples, behind a locked door, hiding, whimpering, fearful. Yet Jesus Christ comes to us, because Jesus knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows that we have the ability to spread the word of salvation, to be the church of Christ on earth. So he comes and bestows on us the great power of the Holy Spirit, the power that will build the church, the power that will spread the word. But not everyone was there, not everyone believes. Thomas needs more; he needs concrete proof. So Jesus comes back, because Thomas needs to see him. Jesus loves Thomas, and invites him to deepen his faith. So, too, Jesus Christ invites all of us to a deeper faith. Some of us may need miracles or signs and wonders to believe. But many of us have been given the gift of faith without the need to see for ourselves. Let us help each other come to deeper faith in the resurrected Lord.

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**Your Ministry of Support**

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010

Offeritory .....	\$13,583.75
Parish Share .....	\$1,120.00
Holy Land Collection .....	\$790.00

**PLEASE REMEMBER SAINT ALPHONSUS CHURCH IN YOUR WILL**