

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009**

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – APRIL 26, 2009

# *Saint Alphonsus*

## Roman Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

750 Pittsburgh Street • Springdale, PA • 15144

Phone: 724-274-5084 • Fax: 724-274-7035 • e-mail: [stalphonsus@verizon.net](mailto:stalphonsus@verizon.net)

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

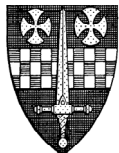
**LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES** (school building side entrance)

(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

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY  
VALLEY DEANERY



### SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

On this Third Sunday in Easter time we are given an insight into the practical goal of the Resurrection and the preaching of the Apostles and the Early Church. The "Good News" that Jesus rose from the dead and conquered sin is not just some speculative notion, which is aimed only at the intellect. No, the Apostles are sent out to tell the whole world that now people are called to a new life, to be born again in Baptism, to reform their lives, to seek the things that are above, to be new creatures.

Today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles has St. Peter telling the people of Jerusalem, "Reform your lives! Turn to God, that your sins may be wiped away." In the second reading for today's Mass, John, in his first letter, tells us that "The man who claims, 'I have known Jesus' without keeping his commandments is a liar, and in such a one there is no truth.'" And in the gospel today, Jesus tells his disciples, "Penance for the remission of sins is to be preached to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of this."

Thus, 2000 years ago when Jesus rose from the dead, the Apostles asked the world, "What are you going to do about it?" And they ask us, today, to respond to this intervention of Almighty God into our own world and our lives. What are we going to do about the Resurrection? Are we just going to "accept it" as some truth, to be believed but not necessarily acted upon? Or are we going to let it have a real effect in our lives and turn to Christ and seek the things that are above?

The Second Vatican Council tells us that there can be no separation between believing and doing. Acceptance of revelation is not merely the receiving of doctrine from above but, even more, the acknowledgement and love of the one who reveals. In fact, the most important element in this exchange between God and creatures is the loving Father who reveals, even more than what he tells us.

As "Easter People," may we all believe the Good News and turn to God so that our sins may be wiped away.

-- Fr. Saladna

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, APRIL 27** – Easter Weekday  
8:00 AM Nancy Lochrane

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28** --- Easter Weekday  
8:00 AM Carol Tabacheck

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29** – St. Catherine of Siena  
8:00 AM George Jaros

**THURSDAY, APRIL 30** -- No Mass scheduled for Today

**FRIDAY, MAY 1** – St. Joseph the Worker  
8:00 AM Delta Casasent

**SATURDAY, MAY 2** – No Mass on Saturday morning  
2:00 PM Wedding Mass: Sara C. Camerota and Richard J. McMahon  
5:00 PM [For Sunday] Michael Mikus (Birthday)

**NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 3** – Fourth Sunday of Easter  
8:00 AM For all Parishioners, Liv. & Dec.  
11:00 AM John and Catherine Jancech Family



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** – On Sunday, May 17, we will have five young children admitted to Holy Communion for the first time. The Mass of First Communion will be the regular Sunday 11:00 AM Mass. Following is a list of the candidates:

*Andrew Alese  
Isaac Kern  
Colleen Marsili  
Sarah Plunkett  
Kaitlyn Thompson*

**CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES** to our Sara Christine Camerota who will be married to Richard Joseph McMahon of St. Batholomew Church, Penn Hills, on Saturday, May 2, at 2:00 PM in our Church. May Jesus, on whom their married life will be built, grant them long life and happiness.

**REST IN PEACE** -- The parish family of Saint Alphonsus wishes to extend their deepest sympathy to the family of Sophia Dzik. Please remember the deceased and her family in your prayers.

## Exploring a New Means of Pastoral Governance for the Diocese of Pittsburgh

*At the direction of Bishop Zubik, the Diocese of Pittsburgh has been exploring a regional vicariate structure to assist the Bishop in his pastoral governance and to replace the deanery structure. This would be done through the appointment of "Regional Vicars." They would represent the Bishop to parishes and assist him in administration, pastoral planning and liturgical events at the parish level. They would also help to communicate parish needs and concerns to the Bishop. The Bishop has formed an Ad Hoc Committee on Regional Vicariates made up of members of diocesan administration, priests, deacons and lay leaders to study this issue. He introduced the topic for consultation with the priests at this fall's deanery meetings and a further consultation will take place at the upcoming deanery meetings which concluded in March. The following may be helpful in understanding the proposed change.*

### Why is this change in diocesan governance being considered?

The basic purpose is to embrace what the Bishop has called for in his first pastoral letter, "The Church Alive!" The Bishop's goal is to grow the Church of Pittsburgh and to encourage excitement about the faith at the parish level. A primary goal of "The Church Alive!" is to establish a closer service relationship between the Bishop and his pastoral administration and the parishes. This new form of governance would: □ Facilitate a more cooperative effort among parishes, clusters of parishes and other faith communities in the Diocese.

- Strengthen the Bishop's connection with the life of the parishes.
- Allow appropriate decisions to be made at the regional level.
- Improve parishes' contact with the Office of the Bishop, through the Regional Vicar.
- Enhance the exchange of information and services between central administration and parishes.

The fundamental goal is meet the basic challenge of "The Church Alive!": that we more clearly see ourselves as a Servant Church.

### What is a "Regional Vicar"?

A Regional Vicar is a qualified priest with pastoral and administrative experience appointed by the Bishop to oversee a specific region of the Diocese. He assists the Bishop in the exercise of his pastoral office in that region and represents the Bishop on a daily basis to the clergy, religious and laity. This assignment entails full time responsibilities. The Regional Vicar represents the Bishop to the parishes in issues of

administration, parish planning and sacramental life within their regions, and vice versa.

### What does a Regional Vicar do?

The Bishop determines the areas of direct responsibility for the Regional Vicars based on the needs of the local Diocese. The Bishop, in other words, will determine the final "job description," but only after a very wide consultation among pastoral staff, priests, parish leadership and the laity as a whole. In general, it could be expected that within his region a vicar will:

- Coordinate pastoral care
- Determine parish and regional pastoral needs
- Serve as the administrative representative of the Bishop
- Promote collaboration among parishes
- Resolve collaboration among parishes
- Resolve problems
- Visit local parishes regularly and help in local decision-making

Regional Vicariates would afford parishes greater local autonomy by working with a vicar who knows them well. It will also mean that some pastoral administration tasks could be eliminated, turned over to the Regional Vicars, or returned to the parishes.

### Does this mean that diocesan pastoral administration would be decentralized?

The basic functions served by pastoral administration will need to be continued, either at the diocesan level or through the Regional Vicars. As part of the planning for this change, pastoral administration secretariats, department heads and staff have been reviewing all tasks and responsibilities. However, there is no intention to

re-create all the functions of pastoral administration through “mini chanceries” on the vicariate level. While certain tasks and responsibilities that are currently part of pastoral administration could be decentralized, pastoral administration will remain vitally necessary to assist the Regional Vicars in their responsibilities while continuing those tasks that must be performed at the diocesan level. New tasks and new responsibilities for diocesan pastoral administration will develop as well to assist the Regional Vicars.

### **How many Regional Vicars will be appointed?**

That is being studied as part of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Regional Vicariates. It is considered unlikely, however, that there would be more than five Regional Vicars or fewer than three.

### **Does the Regional Vicar have to be a bishop?**

It is not required that he be a bishop, but it is required that he be a priest. The authority of a Regional Vicar derives directly from Canon Law by virtue of his appointment by the diocesan bishop. He possesses the same general authority in his region as a vicar general does for the entire diocese. That authority exists only as long as the term of his appointment.

### **Is this something new in the Church?**

Vicariates developed for the universal Church from the Second Vatican Council and subsequent Church instructions, including the 2004 *Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops*. There are a number of archdioceses/dioceses throughout the United States which already adopt this type of governance.

### **Is there timetable on this change in the Diocese?**

Many details have to be worked out and much consultation has to take place before this can be implemented. However, the Bishop has asked that we be ready if at all possible to put this in place by October 2009.

**SPECIAL MAY DEVOTIONS** – In the month of May (beginning next Sunday) we will pay tribute to Mary, the Mother of Jesus and the Mother of the Church, at our Sunday Masses, with a “mini-devotion” at the Prayer of the Faithful, as follows:

- May 3 - Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- May 10 - St. Alphonsus’ Prayer of Consecration to the Blessed Mother
- May 17 - Giving the Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to First Communion Candidates at the 11:00 AM Mass
- May 24 - The Holy Rosary: Fifth Decade of The Glorious Mysteries – the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven
- May 31 - The “Memorare”

### **LOOKING AHEAD:**

- **Parishioner High School Seniors’ Mass and Breakfast** – Sunday, May 31 (8:00 AM Mass).
- **Declaration of Intention to Receive the Sacrament of Confirmation** by our current eighth grade candidates – Sunday (Pentecost), May 31, at 11:00 AM Mass.

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING** – next Sunday, May 3, 9:15 AM, in the Liguori Center.

**SPRING SWEEPSTAKES** – The May Sweepstakes tickets have been mailed out to those on our sweepstakes list. If you would like to be added and receive the mailing for MAY and DECEMBER just let us know and you will get the information. Deadline for entering the May Sweepstakes is tomorrow, Monday, April 27.

**BABY JESUS SCHOOL** – Sunday mornings during the 11:00 AM Mass. We will try to have Baby Jesus School EVERY SUNDAY. This service, provided by our dedicated mothers, is a type of babysitting program, taking care of infants and toddlers while parents attend the 11:00 AM Mass.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** – The April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 26, at 7:30 PM.



**Alleluia!  
Christ  
is  
risen!**

© J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

**HYMN**

Christ is risen from the dead,  
Risen as he truly said:  
Praise the Lord with grateful voice,  
Bless his name, rejoice, rejoice!

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Angels clad in snowy white,  
Coming from the realms of light.  
Bid us sing with grateful voice,  
Bid us all: rejoice, rejoice!

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Man was but a slave before,  
Man is free for evermore;  
Heaven and earth, with grateful voice,  
Bid us all: rejoice, rejoice!

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

**Mary, Queen of the Angels**

*Most Holy Mother, Queen of the Angels  
We ask you to watch over us and protect us.  
Send from God His Holy Angels and Archangels,  
to guide and defend Your children in need  
wherever they may be.*

**ABOUT-TO-BE-BORN BABY  
TALKS WITH GOD**

A baby asked God, "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?" God said, "Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

The child further inquired, "But tell me, here in heaven I don't have to do anything but sing and smile to be happy." God said, "Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you. And you will feel your angel's love and be very happy."

Again the child asked, "And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language?" God said, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."

"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?" God said, "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."

"Who will protect me?" God said, "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking their life."

But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore." God said, "Your angel will always talk to you about Me and will teach you the way to come back to Me, even though I will always be next to you."

At that moment there was much peace in Heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name." God said, "You will simply call her, 'Mom'."

-Author Unknown

**BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA** – Holy Family Church, Creighton, May 3, 2-5 PM. Donation of \$20 includes lunch and 25 chances to win a variety of theme baskets. For tickets call Donna at 724-265-2793 or Dee at 724-224-9495.

**Your Ministry of Support**

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish  
For Sunday, April 19, 2009

Offertory .....\$3,882.00  
Parish Share .....\$2,042.00