

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN FOR
SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2010**

SAINT ALPHONSUS LIGUORI – AUGUST 1, 2010

Saint Alphonsus

Roman Catholic Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

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Web Page Address: www.stalphonsuschurch.com

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

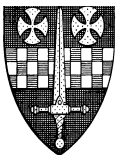
LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES (school building side entrance)

(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

One's life



does not consist of possessions

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ABRAHAM, OUR FATHER IN FAITH

In the Eucharistic Prayers at Mass we call Abraham "Our Father in Faith." True faith means more than accepting something in our minds. It means trusting another person (the Person of the Almighty) and giving ourselves totally into his hands. This is what Abraham, our "Father in Faith," did in his whole life, when he was called by God. This is why Abraham is praised by the author of the Letter to the Hebrews.

Listen to these wonderful words which praise our "Father in Faith" –

Brothers and sisters: faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen. Because of it the ancients were well attested.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; he went out, not knowing where he was to go. By faith he sojourned in the Promised Land as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs of the same promise; for he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and maker is God. By faith he received power to generate, even though he was past the normal age – and Sarah herself was sterile – for he thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy. So it was that there came forth from one man, himself as good as dead, descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sands on the seashore.

All these died in faith. They did not receive what had been promised but saw it and greeted it from afar and acknowledged themselves to be strangers and aliens on earth, for those who speak thus show that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land from which they had come, they would have had opportunity to return. But now they desire a better homeland, a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

By faith Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was ready to offer his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac descendants shall bear your name," He reasoned that God was able to rise even from the dead, and he received Isaac back as a symbol. (Hebrews 11, 1-2, 8-19)

-- Fr. Saladna

Mass Intentions



SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, AUGUST 2 – Weekday Celebration (18th Week in Ordinary Time)

8:00 AM James D. Petrarca

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3 -- Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM August Jursa

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 – St. John Vianney

8:00 AM Clair H. Faith

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5 -- No Mass scheduled for today

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6 – Transfiguration of the Lord

8:00 AM Domenica "Minnie" Mazzoli (Birthday)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7 – No Mass on Saturday morning

2:00 PM Wedding Mass: Christina Hanulik Blaha and Michael J. Micholas

5:00 PM [For Sunday] Bill Stanley (Birthday)

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 8 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM For all Parishioners, Liv. & Dec.

11:00 AM Andrew R. Urik (Anniv.)

SPECIAL LITURGY TODAY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 1 –

Since August 1 is the Feast Day of our Parish Patron, Saint Alphonsus de Liguori, Bishop and Doctor, our Liturgical Celebration will not be that for the eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, but rather for a "Bishop and Doctor" (Great Teacher) of the Church.

GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATION – The Diocese of Pittsburgh is again planning its annual Golden Wedding celebration for the couples who have been married 50 years. This year’s celebration will take place on Sunday, October 3, 2010 with a Mass at 3 PM at St. Paul Cathedral. Bishop Zubik will be the celebrant. A reception will follow in the lower hall of the Cathedral.

Any couple who has celebrated or will celebrate their 50TH Wedding Anniversary during 2010 is asked to submit their name, address and phone number to the parish as soon as possible. The parish will then forward the information to the Diocesan Office. Feel free to mail, fax or email your response. Each couple, in return, will receive a personal invitation to the celebration from the Bishop.

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CCD TEACHERS’ MEETING – Sunday, August 22, at 9 AM in the Liguori Center.

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THE FRIENDS OF JESUS: A NEW BOOK FOR CHILDREN BY THE POPE

VATICAN CITY, 22 JUL 2010 - "The Friends of Jesus" is the title of a new book for children by Benedict XVI in which he recounts the story of the twelve Apostles and St. Paul.

The book, forty-eight pages long and illustrated by the Italian artist Franco Vignazia, has been published by the publishing house "Piccola Casa Editrice". It brings together a number of passages from the Pope’s catecheses in his Wednesday general audiences, according to the "Osservatore Romano" newspaper.

The prologue is by the Spanish priest Fr. Julian Carron, president of the Fraternity of Communion and Liberation.

"One upon a time there was a small group of men who, one day two thousand years ago, met a young man who walked the roads of Galilee. Each had his own job and family but, in an instant, their lives changed. They were called Andrew and John, Peter, Matthew, Thomas, etc. They were twelve and we know them today as the 'Apostles'. ... In Jerusalem at that time everyone knew that they were Jesus' 'friends'. ... Later they were joined by St. Paul ... who from being a persecutor of Christians became the greatest witness to Jesus", writes Fr. Carron.

Fr. Carron likewise explains that in this work Benedict XVI "takes us by the hand and accompanies us as we discover who Jesus' first companions were, how they met Him and were conquered by Him to the point that they never abandoned Him".

- Vatican Information Service

AN INVITATION TO SIGHTSEEING IN NORTH SIDE PITTSBURGH

Sunday afternoon, August 29, 2010

We are thinking of having a nice Sunday afternoon bus trip to "Old Allegheny," North Side Pittsburgh, for a Mass in St. Anthony Chapel, Troy Hill, a tour of the Chapel, and ending with a dinner at Max’s Old Allegheny Tavern on Suismon Street at the foot of Troy Hill.

The Date: August 29
Bus leaves here around 1:00 PM
Returns here around 6:00 PM
Sunday Mass at 1:30 PM in St. Anthony’s Chapel

Tour: 2:30-3:30 PM
Dinner: 4:00 PM at Max’s Restaurant

Reservations must be made by Sunday, August 8. Cost per person: \$30.00 (round-trip bus and dinner). Space is limited due to bus and tavern limits.

If not enough are interested, reservations will be refunded.

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SIGHTSEEING IN NORTH SIDE PITTSBURGH

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Number of Reservations _____

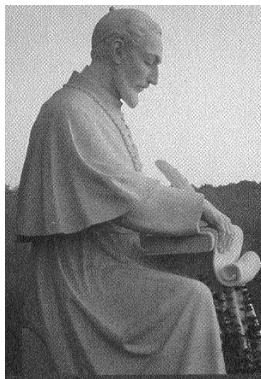
Please drop this off at the Parish House or drop in the collection basket. Enclose check to St. Alphonsus Church for \$30.00

Your Ministry of Support
Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish
For Sunday, July 25, 2010

Offertory	\$3,914.00
Parish Share	\$450.00

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH IN YOUR WILL

THE SECOND COLLECTION TODAY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, IS THE MONTHLY COLLECTION (first Sunday) collection for Capital Improvements. We thank you.



TODAY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, IS THE FEAST OF ST. ALPHONSUS, PATRON OF OUR PARISH

St. Alphonsus de Liguori, Bishop of Sant'Agata Dei Goti, Doctor of the Church, and Founder of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (the Redemptorists). Born: 1696, entered into eternal life: 1787 (at age 90)

Our patron Saint was a Neapolitan, born near Naples, Italy in 1696 of Don Joseph de' Liguori, Captain of the Royal Navy, and Donna Anna Cavalieri. His father put him under tutors at an early age and at the age of 16 he was declared a doctor of civil and also of canon (church) law. It is said that in eight years of practice of law he never lost a case.

When Alphonsus was 21 his father wanted to arrange a marriage for him, but it never came to anything. In his young life, the future saint became a bit slack in religious practice, and developed an affection for "society life" and fashionable amusements, but he had the grace and good will to avoid serious sin. In the year 1723, at age 27, he made a private resolution never to marry.

While visiting the sick in a hospital for incurables he twice heard an interior voice telling him to "leave the world and give yourself to me." As a result he left the practice of law, began the study of theology, and, in 1726 at age 30 was ordained to the priesthood. For the next two years he was engaged in missionary work throughout the Kingdom of Naples (the southern third of what is now Italy). The early 18TH century was a time of pompous oratory and florid verbosity in the pulpit – a fruit of the Renaissance out of control – and of rigorism in the confessional – a fruit of Jansenism. St. Alphonsus repudiated both of these extreme characteristics, steering a course of moderation. "I have never preached a sermon which the poorest old woman in the congregation could not understand," he said. And he treated his penitents as souls to be saved rather than as criminals to be punished or frightened. He is said never to have refused absolution to a penitent.

In the year 1732 St. Alphonsus established what is now known as the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, the "Redemptorists." St. Alphonsus is so well known as a moral theologian, for his writings, and for his efforts in founding the Redemptorists, that his eminence as a missionary has been overshadowed; but from 1726 till 1752 he was preaching up and down the Kingdom of Naples, especially in villages and rural settlements, and with the greatest of success. His confessional was always crowded, hardened sinners returned to the healing sacraments in great numbers, enemies were reconciled, family feuds healed, and he established the practice, characteristic of the method of his followers, of returning some months after a mission was closed in order to confirm and consolidate the work.

St. Alphonsus led a life of extraordinary industry: guiding and fostering his new congregation through troubles and opposition, ministering to individual souls, conducting missions all over Naples and Sicily, even finding time to write hymns, compose music and paint pictures. The general opinion of him, voiced by a contemporary priest, "If I were Pope, I would canonize him without further delay!"

When he was 66 years old, Pope Clement XIII made St. Alphonsus the Bishop of a little diocese, Sant' Agata dei Goti, a small place near Naples, between Benevento and Capua. When the messenger from Rome came to announce the appointment, calling "Alphonsus" my "Most Illustrious Lord," St. Alphonsus read it through and handed it back to him saying, "Please do not come back any more with your 'Most Illustrious' nonsense. It would be the death of me." But the Pope would take no refusal, and Alphonsus was consecrated a Bishop. He instituted a reform of his small new diocese (it had only about 30,000 souls). He sent out bands of priests to conduct missions. Alphonsus recommended only two things to them: have simplicity in the pulpit and have charity in the confessional.

In 1767 at age 71 St. Alphonsus was afflicted with terrible rheumatic pains which developed into a sickness from which he was not expected to recover. After a year of this suffering, he recovered, but he was left with a permanent and incurable bending of the neck, familiar from the portraits of him. Finally, in 1775, St. Alphonsus asked Pope Pius VI for permission to resign his Diocese, and the request was granted.

But Alphonsus still had 12 more years to live. He suffered much in his final years, not only physically – old age, crippled, deaf, poor sight – but also from enemies within and without the Church. His new religious community, the Redemptorists, was often misunderstood or envied, and difficulties were encountered in getting the new Rule approved by

either Pope or King. But St. Alphonsus bore all these troubles with utmost patience.

His death came peacefully, finally, on the night of July 31—August 1, 1787, when he was within two months of his 91ST birthday. He was beatified in 1816, canonized in 1839, and declared a “Doctor” (Great Teacher) of the Church in 1871.

We ask our great Patron Saint, “PRAY FOR US!”

 -ABRIDGED from the article on St. Alphonsus from Butler's “Lives of the Saints”, Volume III, edited by H. Thurston, S.J. and Donald Attwater, N. York: P. J. Kennedy and Sons (1956).

ANGELUS: THOSE WHO PRAY ARE NEVER ALONE

VATICAN CITY, 25 JUL 2010 - At midday today, Benedict XVI appeared at the balcony overlooking the inner courtyard of the Apostolic Palace of Castelgandolfo to pray the Angelus with the faithful gathered there.

The Pope commented on today's Gospel reading in which the disciples ask Christ to teach them how to pray. "Jesus raised no objections, He used no strange or esoteric formulae but with great simplicity said: 'When you pray, say: Father ... And he taught them the Our Father'".

"These are the first words of Sacred Scripture we learn as children. They are impressed in the memory, they mould our lives, they accompany us unto our last breath", said Benedict XVI. "This prayer also comprehends and expresses the material and spiritual requirements of human beings. ... And precisely because of our everyday needs and difficulties, Jesus exhorts us forcefully: ... 'Ask and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you'".

"This is not a request for our own desires to be satisfied, but for our friendship with God to be kept alive", the Pope added. "This was the experience of the ancient Desert Fathers, and of contemplative people in all times who, through prayer, became friends of God". In this context he quoted words of St. Teresa of Avila who encouraged her nuns to "beseech God to deliver us from these perils forever and to keep us from all evil! And although our desire for this may not be perfect, let us strive to make the petition. What does it cost us to ask it, since we ask it of One Who is so powerful?"

"Each time we pray the Our Father", the Pope concluded, "our voice mingles with the voice of the Church, because one who prays is never alone. ... May the Virgin Mary help us rediscover the beauty and profundity of Christian prayer".

- Vatican Information Service