

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN

FOR

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2009

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – AUGUST 23 , 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

Web Page Address: 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.



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

Diocese Victim Assistance Hotline..... 1-888-808-1235

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)

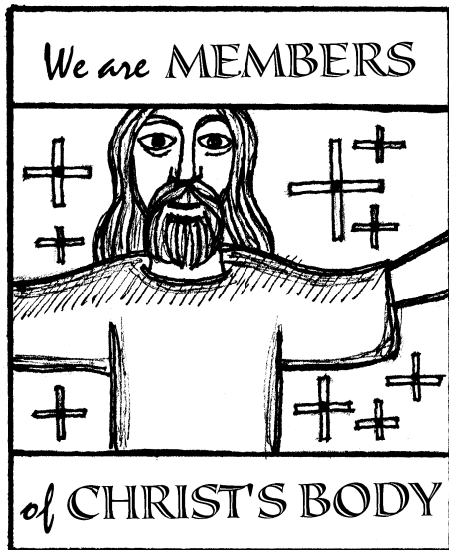
(724) 274-2547

CCD & Youth Min. - Karen Mueller

Social Services - Cathy Moxie

Music Director/Organist – Vickie Roof

CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
PITTSBURGH
ALLEGHENY
VALLEY DEANERY



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“WHERE WOULD WE GO”

Today's Gospel contains the last reference to Chapter VI of Saint John's Gospel, in which Jesus insists that he is the true bread that came down from heaven, and that unless we eat his flesh and drink his blood we will have no life in us. When people complain that it doesn't make sense, and some listeners no longer walk with Jesus, the Lord asks the Apostles, "Will you leave me too?" Peter says (for himself and for all of us), "Lord, where would we go? You have the words of eternal life."

The late Pope John Paul II, in his Encyclical Letter about the Holy Eucharist, encourages us to cultivate in our hearts a constant desire for the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The so-called practice of "spiritual communion," in which you ask the Lord to enter your heart is an opportunity for union with God at times when you cannot receive the Sacrament. It is not a substitute, however.

Other traditional ways of increasing our devotion to the Holy Eucharist are:

1. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is "a priceless treasure" and a "wellspring of grace." It prolongs and increases the fruits of our communion. It provides an opportunity to express our gratitude and love.
2. Observation of the one-hour fast before receiving communion is a preparation for reception of the sacrament. Before Mass, contemplate with awe and wonder the mystery that will unfold in the Eucharist.
3. Participate in the Mass by listening carefully to the words during the Liturgy of the Word and

the Liturgy of the Eucharist, by responding enthusiastically, and by singing with the congregation.

4. Always demonstrate the utmost respect and reverence when receiving the Eucharist. Take time after receiving communion for a few moments of private prayer and thanksgiving.
5. Carry the Eucharist in your hearts when you leave the church as an instrument of Christ's love. Share with others the many ways in which the Eucharist touches your life.

*Come then, good Shepherd, bread divine
Still show to us thy mercy sign;
Oh, feed us, still keep us thine;
So we may see thy glories shine
In fields of immortality.
O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,
Our present food, our future rest,
Come, make us each thy chosen guest,
Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.*

-- Saint Thomas Aquinas

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, AUGUST 24 – St. Bartholomew, Apostle
8:00 AM Leah Zilla

TUESDAY, AUGUST 25 -- St. Louis of France
8:00 AM Helen Pascarella

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26 – Weekday Celebration
(21ST Week in Ordinary Time)
8:00 AM Stella M. Clowes

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27 – No Mass scheduled for today

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28 – St. Augustine
8:00 AM Sophia Dzik

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29 – No Mass on Saturday morning
5:00 PM [For Sunday] Luigi Mazzoli (Anniv.)

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 30 – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Stephan Mikus (Birthday/Anniv.)
11:00 AM For all Parishioners, Liv. & Dec.

NOTE: Looking ahead – on **Labor Day, Monday, September 7**, we will have a Mass at 9:00 AM.

REST IN PEACE -- The parish family of Saint Alphonsus wishes to extend their sympathy to the family of Raymond Sharkins. Please remember the deceased and his family in your prayers.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sister Pierre Dembinski, R.S.M., of the Erie, PA Sisters of Mercy. Sister Pierre, who served our parish as head of our Social Services for many years is celebrating her 60TH Anniversary of her profession as a Sister of Mercy. Her Community in Erie will have a celebration for her on the 19TH of September. We congratulate and thank Sister Pierre for her service to the Church and to our parish.

If you would like to get in touch with Sister Pierre, her address is:

Sr. Pierre Dembinski, R.S.M.
444 E. Grandview Blvd.
Erie, PA 16504

CONGRATULATIONS TO baby **Olivia Ann Phillips**, daughter of Lance Eaton and Leslie (Hallam) Phillips, who will be baptized in our Church next Sunday, August 30, after the 11:00 AM Sunday Mass. Welcome to the family of God.

CONGRATULATIONS to our Lay Ecclesial Ministers, who together with those from all other parishes in the Diocese, will be honored on Sunday, August 30, by Bishop Zubik at a special Mass in Saint Paul Cathedral. Our ministry leaders are:

Social Services - Cathy Moxie
Religious Education – Karen Mueller
Music Ministry – Vickie Roof
Administration – Marsha Etzrodt

We are indebted to them and all those who hold ministries in our Parish, serving the people and honoring the Lord, whether they are major or minor ministries, whether staff or volunteers, whether specially recognized or not: all to the honor and glory of God and the good of his people.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – tomorrow, Monday, August 24, in the Church Hall at 7:00 PM. Everyone welcome. Be on time.

CCD REGISTRATION FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR. Our CCD program begins on Catechetical Sunday, September 20. CCD classes are offered in our School Building in the time period between our two Sunday morning Masses, from 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM.

Our CCD classes are held for registered parish students from grades 1 through 8 (Kindergarten, if enough students; or, if parents wish, Kindergarten students can be put in with First Graders). Students must be pre-registered. We will register students in the following way:

1. **STUDENTS WHO WERE HERE LAST YEAR AND WHO WILL BE COMING BACK.** You will have received in the mail a registration form for each student, together with a schedule of classes for the school year, and some general information about CCD and registration. The deadline for registering is September 11TH.
2. **NEW STUDENTS.** Those who were too young last year or who are newly registered in our parish. Parents of these students must call the Parish Office to arrange for registration.

Please get this registration done now since we need to know exactly how many students we will have, and thus be able to prepare adequately.

ATTENTION ALL CCD TEACHERS! Catechetical Sunday is just around the corner (Sunday, September 20TH). We will have our start-up meeting on Sunday, August 30, after the 8 AM Mass (around 9:00 AM). It is a very important meeting to discuss our upcoming CCD year. Please plan to attend. Kindly RSVP for this meeting to Karen Mueller at 412-828-3007, so we know to expect you.

ATTENTION ALL PARISH YOUTH. The St. Alphonsus Catholic Youth Ministry year will be kicking off on Sunday, September 13. Meet us at the 11:00 AM Mass (we'll sit together in the marked pews) and join us for a cookout on the Liguori Center lawn after Mass. We have some good food and good fun with great friends. Please join us at this meeting and help plan our social, service and spiritual activities for the year. If you have any questions, please call Karen Mueller at 412-828-3007 or David and Jeannine McCutcheon at 724-274-8987.

IMPORTANT YOUNG PEOPLE’S NEWS ABOUT SOME COMING EVENTS

- 1. **ALIVE AGAIN**, Saturday, September 12, 2 PM – 10 PM. Join us at St. Benedict the Abbott in McMurray for **Alive Again**, an event of hope for teens and young adults. This is day dedicated to the youth and young adults of Pittsburgh and the surrounding area. The day will include breakout sessions, Mass celebrated by Bishop Zubik, and a concert by Matt Maher and his band. For more information, please contact Mrs. Mueller at 412-841-2017.
- 2. **SEE YOU AT THE POLE** – Wednesday, September 23, 2009, Springdale High School – 7 AM; Colfax Upper Elementary School – 8 AM; Acmetonia Primary School – 8 AM. See You at the Pole is all about prayer. It’s about young people coming together, laying aside all labels and groups for one day, to connect with God in prayer and to connect with fellow Christians in unity.

We will join hundreds of thousands of students throughout the world; gathering at this day at this time, praying for their school, their friends, their families, and their world. Join your generation. Gather at your school flagpole to pray on Wednesday, September 23rd. For more information, visit www.syatp.com.

- 3. **ATTENTION: ALL 9-12 GRADE STUDENTS.** The Diocese of Pittsburgh is sponsoring an overnight retreat at Camp Guysuta in Sharpsburg. Missionaries in Training will teach us how to become true disciples of Christ. Learn how to integrate the gift of service into your life. Follow the example of Jesus and become a true servant-leader.

The retreat will be held October 10-11, 2009. Cost is \$75.00. This fee includes overnight accommodations, meals and access to challenge course initiative games, low course elements, high course elements and climbing/rappelling tower. Call Mrs. Mueller (412-841-2017) if you are interested in attending.

- 4. **WORLD YOUTH DAY, GATEWAY CLIPPER CRUISE**, November 1, 2009, 6 PM – 9:30 PM. It’s that time again! A celebration of prayer, dinner, music, dancing and lots of fun on the Gateway Clipper’s finest boats cruising Pittsburgh’s Three Rivers. The cost of this evening is \$25.00. Permission slips and reservation forms are now available in the Activity Room. This cruise fills up quickly. Boat assignments are through a lottery system. So that we are guaranteed a great spot, all reservation forms are due by Sunday, September 6, 2009. Let’s pack the boat. For additional information, please contact Mrs. Mueller at 412-841-2017.
- 5. **ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (GRADES 6-8) AND YOUR PARENTS.** The Middle School Faith Rally will be held at Bishop Canevin High School on Friday, November 6, 2009. Come and join others from across the Diocese of Pittsburgh in this fun and exciting evening. Hold this date. More details to follow.

(Please keep this schedule of events for future reference. This will not be repeated again)

RCIA PROGRAM –

- Are you searching for a church to call your own?
- Do you struggle with questions about life-death-suffering-hope-forgiveness-love-God?
- Ever wonder why Catholics worship the way they do?
- Do you have questions about what we really believe?

Look no further. If you are not Catholic, but are curious about the Church, or have a friend or family member who may be interested, or perhaps have some misconceptions about the church. All are welcome. For more information, call the Parish Office at 724-274-5084.

Your Ministry of Support	
Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish For Sunday, August 16, 2009	
Offertory	\$4,872.00
Parish Share	\$1,082.00
PLEASE REMEMBER ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH IN YOUR WILL	

ENTERTAINMENT DISCOUNT/COUPON BOOKS for 2010 are being sold by the Parish Social Services (Ladies of Charity). These books offer great savings at all kinds of restaurants, stores and various businesses, and they make great gifts (for Christmas, or anytime). They are available at \$20 after Sunday Mass in the Activity Room, or at the Parish House during office hours. There is a limited number for sale this year, so if you are really interested it would be wise to get them early. Proceeds from the sale go toward the works of the Ladies of Charity.

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL – St. Joseph Catholic Church, Cabot presents their Annual Fall Festival on Sunday, September 13. Enjoy their famous dinners – mouth-watering Barbecue Chicken Dinners cooked over an open pit or their delicious Ham Dinners with all the trimmings. Serving from 11 AM to 6 PM. Take outs available. Adults: \$9.00. Children (10 and under): \$5.00. Other attractions include musical entertainment, the Country Store's hand-crafted items, homemade jams, jellies and other goodies; Children's Games, Bingo, Chuck-a-Luck. For more information call 724-352-2149.

ROAST PORK DINNER – St. Januarius Church, Renton Road in Plum, is having its Annual Roast Pork Dinner on Sunday, September 13, from 1 PM to 6 PM. Cost: \$9.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children 12 and under. Take-out available call 412-793-9788. There will be a Chinese Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Bake Sale and Bingo. For more information call 412-793-4439.

You Can Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. For confidential information about or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on September 25 - 27 call 412-277-3434 or visit the web site at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

WALK FOR HUNGER – The Lower Valley Food Bank will hold the annual WALK FOR HUNGER event on Saturday, September 19. Walkers will meet at the Springdale Boro Building on School Street at 9:45 AM and walk three miles to the Cheswick Shopping Center and back. Donations to this worthy cause can be made to any of the walkers as they proceed through our community. The Food Bank's Mission is to help end hunger and increase opportunities for families to meet their nutritional needs with health and dignity. Applications can be obtained from the parish office during business hours. If you have any questions about the Food Bank or the Walk for Hunger, please call 724-274-0867.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

This is the height of vacation season, but as anyone who has ever been to Rome in the summer knows, no time to visit there! The city is sweltering, and in a pre-air-conditioned world long ago, Romans figured out that they needed a break in the surrounding hills. Even the pope clears out. His destination is usually Castelgandolfo, a lovely little hill town southeast of Rome, overlooking a tranquil lake. It has been a papal possession since about 1600, and in 1929, when most of the papal states were finally lost, the papal dwelling was given "extraterritorial rights," meaning that it is an extension of Vatican City and not under Italian rule. The Vatican observatory maintained telescopes here for decades, far from the glare of the city lights of Rome, but although the observatory offices remain here year round, the telescopes are in Arizona. Pope Benedict spends less time here than his predecessors, favoring his homeland or the Italian Alps. Clearly, he believes that there is a spiritual side to vacations. A few years ago, he remarked that vacations provide amusement and diversion, and also the chance to be renewed physically and spiritually.

Vacations can help us visit friends and relatives, and revive "those human contacts that the pace of our lives keeps us from cultivating." The pope needs a break, and so do you. Vacation comes from a word meaning to empty oneself. There's still time to clear the calendar for at least one golden summer day even if you don't have a personal castle in the hills!

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.