

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2008**

HOLY FAMILY – DECEMBER 28, 2008

# 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

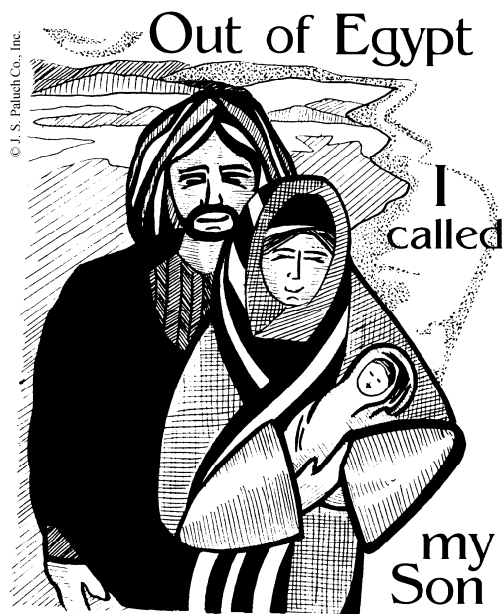
**Music Director/Organist** – Vickie Roof



**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

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY  
VALLEY DEANERY



Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth. By this feast we emphasize the human nature of Christ. He was not only what he always was and always had to be – Son of the Eternal Father and the Second Person of the Holy Trinity – but he was also Son of Mary, born of a woman, born under the Law, a man like us in all things except sin.

Jesus came not only to take on our flesh but to live in his human flesh, in his human nature, as we do: in a family setting. Truly, it was a remarkable family: the God-Man was the child in the family; a perfect, sinless woman was the Mother; and a self-effacing “just man,” Joseph, was head of the family and the foster-father of Christ.

And the wonder of it all is that **IN SPITE OF WHAT AND WHO** those persons were they still remained a “hidden, normal, average, routine” family. No one would have suspected that they were so special until Jesus would come out and make his debut. Yet, this Holy Family was so “average” that the neighbors laughed when Jesus got up in his own synagogue at Nazareth and told them that prophecies of old were being fulfilled in him.

God chose to live in a family setting to teach us how important we are to him and how precious and sacred families are to be. Even though ours, like the Holy Family of Nazareth, might not be very spectacular, the family we live in and come from is the means which Almighty God chooses to teach us the meaning and the beauty of life.

Our faith requires us not only to believe that Jesus was God, but also that he is truly human. And because he is human, he wills that his Church, by which humans can communicate with the Almighty, must also be

human. The lesson of the Holy Family for us is to appreciate the little things of life, to realize how precious we are in the sight of God, how he is pleased with us when we perform the duties of our state of life. We don't have to be “high and mighty” to make God happy. The one who really is “high and mighty” came among us as our brother in the flesh to teach us the value of being “poor and lowly.”

-- Fr. Saladna

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 29** – St. Thomas Becket

8:00 AM Carmen Ciamacco

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30** – 6<sup>th</sup> Day in Christmas Octave

8:00 AM Stella Pawlak

### THE FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



MARY, MOTHER of GOD

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31** – [For Thursday]

5:00 PM Mary Catherine Teckmeyer

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 1**

8:00 AM Agnes Urik

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

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 2** – No Mass scheduled for today

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 3** -- No Mass on Saturday morning

5:00 PM [For Sunday] Joseph Parise

**NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 4** – Epiphany of Our Lord

8:00 AM Anna H. Grebb

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

**CCD AND BABY JESUS SCHOOL** – CCD classes and Baby Jesus School will be **OFF** until Sunday, January 11, 2009.

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE** – Yearly boxed sets of envelopes for use by little children and young people can be found in the Activity Room. Little kids like to feel they belong and are important, and so they are. A good way to show this is for them to have their own envelopes and to learn that every little bit helps. God does not measure the amount, but rather the good heart and good will. Thus, these envelopes are not intended as moneymakers, but as a teaching tool. They should be taught to take a penny or nickel or whatever from their own piggy bank, and give something each week, as do the “big people.”

Take these envelopes from the Activity Room. No need to write names or numbers from the box, for we do not record these donations. They are recorded in the book of the one who loves the little children and who encourages them to come to him, Jesus himself.

**2009 CHURCH CALENDARS** have been provided to our parishioners by the **JARVIE FUNERAL HOME**. They are found in the lobbies of the Church. Please help yourselves. Our thanks to Mr. Jarvie for the many fine things he does for our parish.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** for all those who are required to attend an “In-Service” presentation of “**AWARENESS TRAINING FOR PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN.**”

This 3 hour presentation will be held in our **CHURCH HALL** on Sunday, January 18, 2009, from 12 Noon to 3 PM.

If you have questions, call Karen at 724-274-2547 or Marsha at 724-274-5084.

**ST. ALPHONSUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
750 Pittsburgh Street  
Springdale, PA 15144  
  
**Telephone: 724-274-5084**  
  
**Rev. George E. Saladna, Pastor**

**WHY PEOPLE GO TO CHURCH**

An unknown writer offered the following analysis of why some people attend church:

- Some go to church to take a walk.
- Some go there to laugh and talk.
- Some go there to meet a friend.
- Some go there their time to spend.
- Some go there to meet a lover.
- Some go there a fault to cover.
- Some go there for speculation.
- Some go there for observation.
- Some go there to doze and nod.
- The wise go there to worship God.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**SPRINGDALE HIGH SCHOOL PROM FASHION SHOW**—“Ocean’s 09”, Sunday, January 25 at 2 PM in the Marshall Auditorium. Advance tickets: \$5 each, tickets at the door/\$6 each. Chinese Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Bake Sale. For advance tickets please call Caitlin at 724-274-5888. Sponsored by the Springdale High School Prom Committee.

**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY** is celebrated the weekend of February 7-8, 2009. There will be a diocesan celebration of World Marriage day on Saturday, February 7, 2009, at St. Maurice Parish, Forest Hills. It will begin with Mass at 5:00 PM in the Church with Bishop David Zubik as the presider and homilist. Following Mass there will be a wine and cheese reception in the parish hall. A presentation by Mike Clark of Channel 4 News will follow. Donation is \$10/couple. To register please call the Office for Family Life and Catechesis at 412-456-3160.

**Your Ministry of Support**  
Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish  
For Sunday, December 21, 2008

Offertory . . . . .	\$4,780.75
Parish Share . . . . .	\$1,122.00

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

**THE SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION** next Sunday, January 4, the first Sunday of the month, will be the monthly collection for Capital Improvements to our parish and also to help pay our pledge for renovations and improvements to Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland. We thank you, as always, for your kind and generous support of St. Alphonsus Parish and the Diocese of Pittsburgh.