

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2011**

EPIPHANY -- JANUARY 2, 2011

# 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.



*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 usually not held on Thursdays and never on Saturday morning.

**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

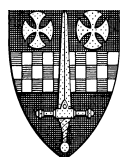
**LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES** (school building side entrance)

(724) 274-2547

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

**Social Services** - Cathy Moxie

**Music Director/Organist** – Vickie Roof

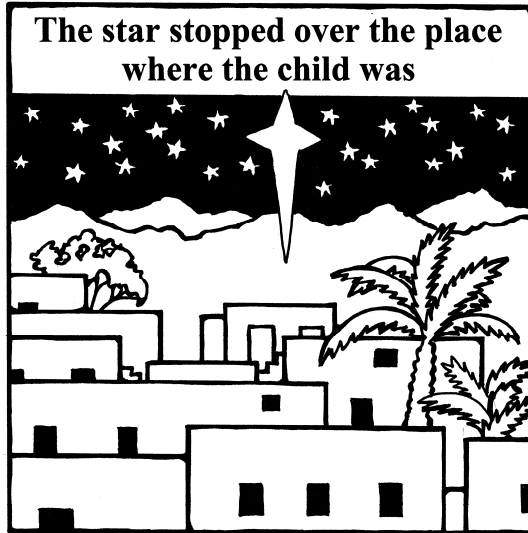


**New Parishioners:** We welcome new parishioners whether newly moved into the area or those who have fallen off through inactivity. Welcome! Register by calling or coming to the parish office. Become an active, attending and supporting member of the parish. And please let us know if you move away or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



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Epiphany, which we celebrate today, is Greek meaning "Manifestation" or "Showing Forth." In today's Feast, the Church emphasizes the fact that Jesus came among us, not to "hide," but to be "found." But he can be found only by those who are open to God's truth and to his revelation. If we pre-determine what God has to be like, if we set up the rules for his coming and are not open to God's plan, it is possible that we, too, will miss Christ when he appears in our time and in our lives.

The "wise" men in the Epiphany story are wise because they were willing to be led by the star. They, even though "Kings," were willing to get off their "high horses" ("high camels"?) and let the star of God's light lead them to where Jesus was. They were also wise because they went to learn from Jesus, and not to snuff out the light and kill Jesus, as the evil King Herod planned to do.

The wise men also represent the pagans, "outsiders," who ordinarily would not be thought very highly of by the Jewish leaders. And yet it was these outsiders who became the insiders, while the chief priests, scribes, elders and all the other "know-it-alls" who should have known better were left out in the cold. Thus, the saying, "The last shall be first and the first shall be last," was verified in their case.

As we rejoice today in the Manifestation or Epiphany of Jesus, let us thank God for showing us the light of his Son. But let us also be humble enough to let Jesus lead us through the troubles of this life so that we can someday see him face to face and be happy with him forever. Let us, as did the wise men, return to our homes, but by another way – changed people, all for the better, because we have followed the star and have seen the light.

-- Fr. Saladna

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, JANUARY 3** – Christmas Weekday

8:00 AM John Romeo

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 4** – Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

8:00 AM Michael J. Faith

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5** – St. John Neumann

8:00 AM Joseph Puskar, Sr.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 6** – No Mass scheduled for today

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 7** – Christmas Weekday

8:00 AM 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary:  
Marsha (Sherrieb) and Tom Etzrodt  
Actual Date: December 27.  
Congratulations

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 8** – No Mass on Saturday morning

5:00 PM [For Sunday] For all Parishioners,  
Liv. & Dec.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9** – Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM Anna H. Grebb  
11:00 AM Rose Sokol

**THIS SUNDAY (JANUARY 2) MARKS THE END OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.**

**REST IN PEACE** -- The parish family of Saint Alphonsus wishes to extend their deepest sympathy to the families of Steve Bobonich and Cheryl Mainwaring. Please remember the deceased and their families in your prayers.

Pray  
for  
the  
Deceased

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## Thank You

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**THANK YOU VERY MUCH** – A thousand thanks to all of you who made our celebration of Christmas so wonderful and inspirational. We can never mention all of you who cleaned the Church, decorated it, served as liturgical ministers and musicians, ushers, etc., etc. We are especially grateful to the members of our Boy Scout Troop #504 who were a terrific help in getting the Church ready. Also, thanks to all who sent gifts, prayers, cards and greetings, and to the entire congregation who manifested their gratitude to Christ by supporting His Church through their regular and special envelope collections. May the good Lord bless and reward you all, and may you all have a truly blessed and holy new year 2011.

**CCD CLASSES AND BABY JESUS SCHOOL** class resume next Sunday (January 9). Baby Jesus School is held every Sunday during the 11:00 AM Mass.

**SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE LADIES OF CHARITY** – also thank you for your assistance to the poor, hungry, lonely and sick through your donations for “Turkey Vouchers” and the Christmas Gift Tag Tree. Money donations were made to the Food Bank of the Lower Valley, and more than 175 gifts from our parish alone were given at Christmas through your generosity.

**LADIES OF CHARITY** have a meeting tomorrow, Monday, January 3, at 7:00 PM in the Liguori Center.



**HOLD THIS DATE! FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2011**

The Silver Ring Thing – Catholic Edition is coming to Seton LaSalle High School. Bring your friends, bring your parents and come learn about respecting yourself! The Silver Ring Thing is a High Tech, High Energy Performance that explores the many benefits of remaining abstinent until marriage. Cost for the event is \$20, which includes a “Promise” ring. For more information call Mrs. Mueller at 412-828-3007 or email at: themuellers@comcast.net. Registration forms and permission slips are always found in the Activity Room.

**THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** statewide sweepstakes program (COAL) to raise money for their state-wide scholarship fund, announces the sixteen winners whose names were drawn on December 10<sup>TH</sup>. There were three winners from our area. They were: North Hills Council #4029 – 1<sup>ST</sup> Prize (2011 Ford Focus 4 Door Sedan), Wallace Zielinski, Monongahela – 15<sup>TH</sup> Prize (Canon Digital Camera) and John Roperti, Beaver Falls – 16<sup>TH</sup> Prize (Sears 24” Snow Blower). Springdale Council #5021 thanks you for making this program a big success.

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

The date we know as January 6 was established as the solstice in Egypt in 1996 BC, but the Egyptian calendar lost a full day every 128 years. Twenty centuries later the actual solstice had migrated to December 25. People still kept January 6 for the solstice celebration, but December 25, matching nicely with the Roman pagan feast of the Unconquered Sun, launched an extended solstice holiday. By the time of the early church, the whole period of twelve days was celebrated just about everywhere.

Christians began to celebrate Christ as the true light of the world in four themes: the Nativity, the manifestation to the Gentiles, the baptism of the Lord, and the wedding feast at Cana. That was entirely too much for one day to handle. A twelve-day season was ready to be adapted, so Christians borrowed from the pagan calendar for their own season of light. Thus early Christian celebrations of the Christmas season extended from one date for the solstice, December 25, to the older date, January 6. The darkest time in the Northern Hemisphere could now be filled with the Christian observance of the arrival of the Light of the World.

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



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**THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM**

The unfolding of the story of the Incarnation continues today as the Church celebrates the Epiphany. The tale of the magi from the East is one of the most fascinating in all of scripture. It has much to teach us about what we can come to expect, even in circumstances and places that may seem insignificant or small. Bethlehem was a tiny town, what we might refer to today as a town without even one stop light. Yet it is over this seemingly insignificant place that the guiding star stops in its own search for the place where the Savior would be born. Too often we fail to recognize the fact that the star of Bethlehem comes to rest in our everyday lives, where we can experience God’s presence, manifested in ever new ways. Epiphany calls us to shake off our stupor and recognize the One who comes to save us.

**Your Ministry of Support**

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish for Sunday, December 19, 2010

Offertory, .....	\$4,505.28
Parish Share .....	\$1,295.00

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

The special **second collection today** (January 2) is the monthly collection for **Capital Improvements** to our own Parish. We thank you for your kind and generous support of Saint Alphonsus Church.