

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN

FOR

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2009

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 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

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)

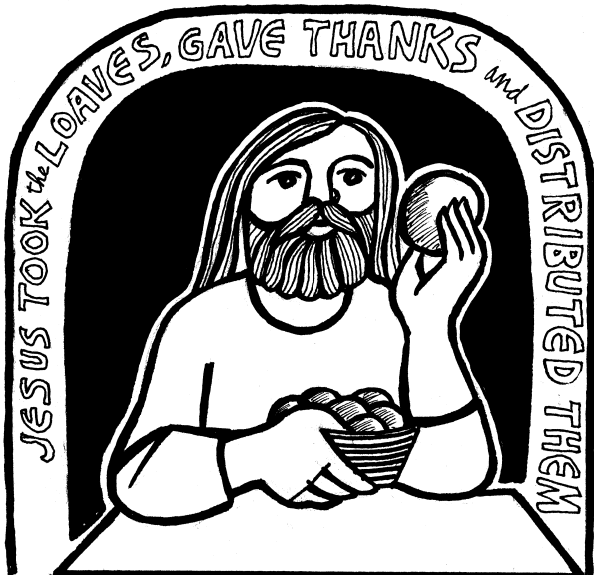
(724) 274-2547

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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Today's Gospel passage tells about a miracle, a very famous miracle – that of Jesus feeding thousands of people in a deserted place, though they probably got no dessert. In reporting this miracle, Saint John dwells not so much on the obvious, but tries to demonstrate the symbolism and true wonder of the event. This is the fact that the Lord asks them first to bring what they have, to do their best with their own means first. And when the surprise feast is finished, he even tells his disciples to gather up the crusts so nothing will go to waste.

In this miracle, as in all the miracles reported in the New Testament, the key element is faith and trust. Jesus is able and willing to go to bat for those who really believe in him. And believing in him means sticking our neck out for him, trusting in him and only in him in a difficult situation. In real faith, there is no "back-up," no falling back on our own resources in case God cannot deliver. There can be no faith when we have even the slightest doubt about Jesus' ability and his care. There is no such thing as "part-faith"—fifty percent Jesus and fifty percent ourselves. What makes the Lord absolutely delighted is to see people empty themselves completely from hope in their own ability and to throw themselves on his mercy. It is at this point that the Lord delivers.

This is why and how the Lord tests the Apostle Philip before he works the miracle of the loaves and fish. He "teases" him by asking, "Where shall we buy bread for all these people to eat?" Andrew adds to the hopelessness by remarking, "A young lad here has some bread and fish, but what good is that?" Only when they survey the situation and agree that there is no natural solution does the Lord provide his supernatural solution.

In doing so, Jesus uses the little they have. His power makes their little look good. His love makes that little do wonders. And so it is with us, if we do our very best using all the gifts and talent God gives us and then realize that we alone are not enough and call upon the help of the Lord we will never fail.

- Fr. Saladna

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JULY 27 – Weekday Celebration (17th Week in Ordinary Time)

8:00 AM Paul Knurek and John Sevcik
Families

TUESDAY, JULY 28 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Rev. George Jurica

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29 – St. Martha

8:00 AM Deborah Strama Mann

THURSDAY, JULY 30 – No Mass scheduled for today

FRIDAY, JULY 31 – St. Ignatius of Loyola

8:00 AM Andrew Oravec

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 – St. Alphonsus

9:00 AM

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

NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 2 – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Mary Colon (Anniv.)

11:00 AM Romano Vergerio

Thank You

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FROM OUR VISITING MISSIONARY

Dear Fr. George,

I know Sister Natalie sent you a thank you note but I wanted to thank you myself.

Your hospitality was warm and welcoming and made me feel much at home.

Your congregation, when I looked up from the pulpit, smiled at me so many times I felt very welcomed.

The Mission Helpers and I will always be praying for all of you.

Gratefully,

Sr. Nancy Barshick

ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2009

ON OUR PARISH GROUNDS



The picnic will begin at 2 PM and end at 8 PM. There will **NOT** be a special picnic Mass on Picnic Day: our Masses will all be

in our Church, according to our normal Sunday schedule. Dinner at the picnic will be from 4 to 6 PM.



SCHEDULE

2:00 PM Earliest arrival time – Welcome!

ACTIVITIES THRU THE DAY:

Games – Children and Adults
Balloon Toss, Bingo, Cards

4:00--6:00 PM Dinner – Church Hall

6:00--8:00 PM Bingo and Games

Hamburgers/Hot Dogs/Beverages

provided by the Parish

Families asked to bring covered dish (salad, veggie, or dessert) and big spoon for serving. Bring to Church Social Hall.

Music by DJ Clem Lovasik

Reservations necessary for proper planning. Please return reservation form before Thursday, August 6.

Yes, we plan to attend the Parish Picnic on Sunday, August 9

NAME _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS _____

NUMBER OF CHILDREN _____
(list ages)

Please drop this slip in the basket, or bring it or mail it to the Parish House by Thursday, August 6.



tomorrow, Monday, July 27, in the Church Hall at 7:00 PM.

PLANNING MEETING FOR THE PICNIC -- Cathy Moxie (724-274-2547) is Chairlady for the Picnic. A planning meeting for the picnic is scheduled for

Prizes (“White Elephant”) for the Bingo can be brought to the Church vestibule (wrap them in newspaper). “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure.”



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS, GUARDIANS AND FRIENDS OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL AGED PARISHIONERS: The Youth Ministry program is in need of your ideas, enthusiasm and support in providing great social, service and spiritual opportunities for our young people in high school. We have established a skeleton schedule and are looking to include guest speakers, project helpers, social project chaperones and drivers. We need you! If you are interested in helping out please attend a brief meeting today Sunday, July 26 after the 8 AM Mass in the Liguori Center.

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, November 8, 2009 with a Mass at 3:00 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 2009 is asked to submit their name, address and phone number to the pastor, as soon as possible. He will then forward the names from the parish to the Diocesan Office for Family Life and Catechesis and the Bishop will send the couple a special invitation.

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IMPORTANT MESSAGE!

“PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN” PROGRAM

We are grateful to all our workers and volunteers in ministry who are cooperating with the Protocol of the American Bishops (and our own Diocese) in registering, clearing and instructing all those who have even minimum with minors as they exercise their roles in the church.

We are almost finished in the task of making sure that everyone is on board and has touched “all the bases” in following the program.

However, in spite of our best efforts to not only notify everyone but also to help them, there are 27 prospective ministers who still have some little requirement to follow.

We are sending you a letter (or have already sent it) to notify you of anything that is still missing in your safe environment file. Please pay attention to the notification and finish what is still missing. Thanks again.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2009

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANKS to all who made our VBS a great success. We did not have many kids, but those who did come had a great time, thanks to Mrs. Mueller, Youth Director and CCD Director, and her great staff of volunteers (adults and young people).

Listed below are those who “graduated from this year’s VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Andrew Alese	Madison Fitzgerald
Matthew Alese	Morgan Fitzgerald
Alexis Arce	Andrew Haus
Alyssa Arce	Makayla Haus
Victoria Calhoun	Matthew Haus
Jimmy Dugan	Taylor Hunkele
Kelly Dugan	Dominique Knauer
Caitlin Fitzgerald	Brogan McCutcheon
Connor Fitzgerald	Elena McCutcheon
John Fitzgerald	Marina McCutcheon

STAFF: Karen Mueller, Cindy Sutorka, Erica Sutorka, Shawn Fitzgerald and Heather Fitzgerald.

Special thanks to:

Sharon Arce for the wonderful cake.

Katie Dugan and Elise Fitzgerald for helping out.

All the parents and friends who made our Friday party so much fun!

CCD NEWS – CCD classes for 2009-2010 will begin on Catechetical Sunday, September 20. Classes are for parishioner children in grades 1-8. We have no pre-school. We will have a Kindergarten group if we have enough, otherwise Kindergarten children are welcome to be part of Grade 1 if parents so desire. There will soon be more news in the bulletin about registration for CCD. Obviously, it is expected that by “parishioner children,” we mean families who are serious about the obligation of attending and bringing children to Mass on Sundays. Keep reading the bulletin for all news about our CCD program.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS COMING IN AUGUST - “Entertainment” coupon/discount books will be offered again for sale by our Parish Social Services. Price will again be \$20. They will arrive in August, and notice will be placed in the bulletin. These books offer great savings and also make fine gifts. Keep looking in the bulletin for more information as it becomes available.

DIFFERENT DRUG PROBLEM

The other day, someone at a store in our town read that a Methamphetamine lab had been found in an old farmhouse in the adjoining county and he asked me a rhetorical question. “Why didn’t we have a drug problem when you and I were growing up?”

I replied, I had a drug problem when I was young: I was drug to church on Sunday morning. I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions and community socials no matter the weather.

I was drug by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn’t put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.

I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered a profanity. I was drug out to pull weeds in mom’s garden and flower beds and cockleburs out of dad’s fields. I was drug to the homes of family, friends and neighbors to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow the yard, repair the clothesline, or chop some firewood, and, if my mother had ever known that I took a single dime as a tip for this kindness, she would have drug me back to the woodshed.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behavior in everything

- Submitted by a concerned citizen

ST. ALPHONSUS FEAST DAY (OUR PATRON) – This coming Saturday, August 1.

Saint Alphonsus Liguori was born in 1696, and died at age 90 on August 1, 1787. He was beatified by Pope Pius VII in 1816. On that occasion, the Pope gave this eulogy of St. Alphonsus: “Alphonsus was in God’s hands a sharp arrow, which, discharged against vice, strikes now in one place, now in another, in order to promote the honor of God and the salvation of souls. As a sharp arrow, heated by the fire of love, he has penetrated the hearts of not a few priests, and so inflamed them, that they also left all things and followed their Redeemer. Thus, St. Alphonsus established the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer [the Redemptorists], whose priests have the special duty to preach to the people living scattered in the countrysides. One cannot wonder enough how many enmities he has removed, how many wandering sinners he has led back to the right road and to Christian perfection, by word and example, and by his numerous writings. Besides, he was so devoted an admirer of the Mother of God, that it was always a pleasure to him to praise this sublime Mother and Virgin, and to write about her glories in books filled with holy learning. Bowed down physically with age, labor and very grievous illness, yet mentally strong and ardent, he never ceased to speak and to write about heavenly things till his ninetieth year, when full of joy, he died a saintly death.”

DID YOU KNOW that almost 90% of us make gifts annually? Yet fewer than 7 out of 100 make charitable gifts through a bequest in a will. More startling, in the Diocese of Pittsburgh over the last 10 years fewer than 2% of Catholics buried out of our parishes made bequests to their parishes or schools! Most significant, when people are asked “why have you not included a charity in your estate plans?” the majority respond, “I was never asked.”

It is not about the money. Stewardship is about our personal challenge by Christ to make a difference with the many gifts each of us has received. In Bishop Zubik’s Pastoral Letter, “The Church Sharing,” he reminds us that to be a follower of Christ daily prayer is a necessary but insufficient activity. He points us to the powerful words of Saint James who says that “Faith by itself, if it does not produce good works, is dead.” (James II, 17) As the Bishops of the United States point out in their 1992 pastoral letter on stewardship, individual Christians live their stewardship through gratitude, responsibility, generosity and the willingness to give back with increase.”

When we are able to change the way we speak about fundraising in our Diocese, refocusing our conversations on ways that individual Catholics can leave their personal legacies, then our parishes, schools and the many Catholic ministries throughout our Diocese will experience a veritable tsunami of new support.

- Business Services Newsletter (Diocese of Pittsburgh)

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS?
CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER?
MOVING AWAY?
MOVING INTO THE PARISH?**

Please let us know if there are any changes to our registration information, OR, let us know if you would like to register IN the parish.

NEW PASTORAL VICARIATE REGIONS – Beginning on October 1 of this year, the method of governance in the Diocese of Pittsburgh will change from the DEANERY system to the VICARIATE system. Presently, the Diocese is divided up into 16 Deaneries, each headed by a Dean who reports to the Bishop and Central Administration. Our Deanery is the Allegheny Valley Deanery, with sixteen parishes, from Natrona Heights, along the Allegheny Valley, to Sharpsburg, to Glenshaw, Russellton and Bairdford.

This will change in October, with Deaneries replaced by four Vicariates covering the entire Diocese. Our Vicariate is #4, including all of Lawrence and Butler Counties and our Allegheny Valley area. Our Vicariate will be headed by a Regional Vicar who will report to the Bishop. There will be about 50 parishes in our Vicariate (#4).

Exactly how this works remains to be seen. Time will tell. We hope and pray that our Catholic people will be well-served in the new Vicariate System. It will be interesting to watch it develop, and we will do our best to cooperate with our Bishop and our new “vicariate neighbors.”

WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND –Not long ago a couple called our office to get a copy of their church contributions for the past three years. They need it for the IRS, since they had claimed as deductions their gifts to the parish which they said amounted to thousands of dollars.

Sadly, but not surprisingly, we never heard of them and they never belonged to this parish. “We did not have envelopes nor did we use checks,” they said. We just “threw in cash”. We told them to tell their story to the IRS. They would understand.

Your Ministry of Support

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

Offertory \$3,854.79
Parish Share \$1,341.00