

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN

FOR

SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2011

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 3, 2011

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

Rev. Kenneth E. Kezmarsky, Pastor



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 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

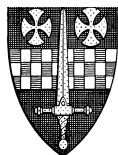
LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES (school building side entrance)

(724) 274-2547

CCD & Youth Min. - Karen Mueller

Social Services - Cathy Moxie

Music Director/Organist – Vickie Roof

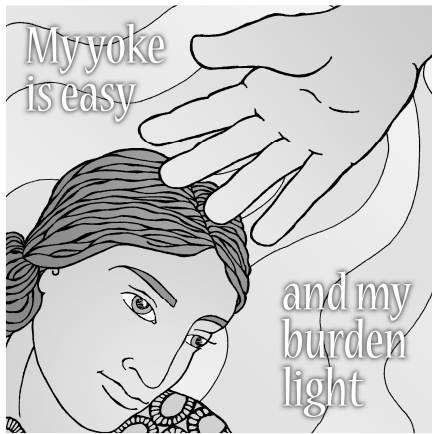


New Parishioners: We welcome new parishioners whether newly moved into the area or those who have fallen off through inactivity. Welcome! Register by calling or coming to the parish office. Become an active, attending and supporting member of the parish. And please let us know if you move away or have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

The Humble

This month, we in the United States celebrate our Independence Day. Perhaps during the celebration one may hear all or part of the poem inscribed on the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free ... Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me ..." Interestingly, these words echo those of Jesus in today's Gospel. Both speak of welcoming the humble.

Comment

People of Jesus' day expected to see leaders as a notch or two above the common folk. They were accustomed to thinking of military leaders as people who wore stately uniforms with jewels and medals of precious value, rode the best horses, and drove the shiniest chariots. But Jesus, known for his use of opposites in order to convey a message, denied the norm and rode the colt of a donkey. This move pointed to the peacefulness of the kingdom he promised to rule. Throughout time, it has been hard for people to understand a different view from the norm, but eventually we will come to know that the reign Jesus promises is nothing like what we've experienced on earth.

It is difficult for people to shift their thinking. It's especially tough for those who know too much—those who have been educated in a belief system filled with rules, idiosyncrasies, and misconceptions. Brainwashed and stubborn, set in their ways, there were people of Jesus' time who refused to reshape their thinking. They were not open to any news of a kingdom they could not understand. Their closed-mindedness caused the truth to be hidden from them.

On the other hand, Jesus tells of those who, like a child, have not learned so much. Their minds are open and able to be shaped by the truth. It is these people who accept Jesus' teachings. They are open and welcoming enough to understand the good news.

Paul tells us more about that kingdom. Even though it remains a mystery to us, it is clear that we must die first in order to live with Christ in his kingdom. The death we must undergo is a death that will relieve us of our burdens and labor-filled lives.

Jesus himself promises us rest from those burdens. Further along in today's Gospel, Jesus tells us his yoke is easy and his burden light.

Reflection

Sometimes it seems that the more material possessions we have the more we are a slave to them. Think of your car. If it's an old beater, it takes just enough maintenance to keep it running. It requires minimal insurance, not much soap and polish, and theft protection is unnecessary. But, if you just purchased a car that cost more than your first house, you can bet it will be in a garage, insured extensively, equipped with anti-theft devices, and cleaned and polished often. Easier than any of this would be to ride a horse ... or a donkey colt.

Zechariah shows us that the king will come victoriously in peace riding humbly on a donkey colt. He has no need to flaunt his greatness. As a matter of fact, this king will do away with all that the world has come to know as greatness. He will do away with chariots and war horses.

So what does it mean for us to serve this king? He demands one thing of us: love. We must love God, our neighbors, and our enemies. This is not a crushingly heavy load for those with humble hearts. Jesus gives us a yoke of constraint, but also gives us the grace to carry it. We are never alone with the burden of Jesus.

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JULY 4 – Weekday Celebration (Fourth of July)

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

TUESDAY, JULY 5 -- Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Deceased members of the Skripets Family

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Ray and Rita Mickelic

THURSDAY, JULY 7 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Mary Desmone

FRIDAY, JULY 8 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Helen Pascarella

NEXT SATURDAY, JULY 9 – No Mass on Saturday morning

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

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 10 – Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM Betty Basilone (Anniv.)

11:00 AM Francis Mosovsky

PASTOR’S NOTES:

Happy 4TH of July weekend to everyone.

Once again we celebrate our nation’s freedom, and yet we cannot forget the countless men and women in our military who offered their lives so that we can enjoy our freedom. We must thank them again for their service and sacrifice as well as thank their families who still suffer without their loved ones. May God continue to bless us and our country as we enjoy our freedom and those who fight to protect it.

Fr. Ken

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JULY 4TH.

THE DIOCESAN DEPARTMENT FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION invites all **CATECHISTS** and **YOUTH MINISTERS** to attend a workshop to prepare for teaching the changes in the Roman Missal on Wednesday, August 17. Two opportunities to attend are available: a morning session (9:00 AM – 12:30 PM) at St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Pittsburgh or an evening session (6:00 – 9:00 PM) at St. Richard Parish, Gibsonia. Training will include discussion of the Roman Missal by national speaker Ken Doran and pull out sessions detailing catechesis for specific age groups (K-Grade 3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8). If you are interested in attending, please contact the Parish Office no later than August 3. Space is limited. Childcare and transportation can be arranged as needed.



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A SUMMER OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL PARISH YOUTHS IN GRADES 7 THROUGH 12: Please join us as we visit and pray the rosary with the residents of Amber Woods on Thursday, July 14 and Thursday, July 28 at 10:00 AM. For additional information and permission forms, please contact Mrs. Moxie at 724-274-2547.



REST IN PEACE – The parish family of Saint Alphonsus wishes to extend their deepest sympathy to the family of Constance Kiste. Please remember the deceased and her family in your prayers.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Thank you for the following donations to the St. Alphonsus Memorial Fund:

IN MEMORY OF ROSE MARIE HALL by Paul and Erma Jean Lutz; Fran and Cathy Moxie; Dorothy Boyle.

IN MEMORY OF CONSTANCE KISTE by Dorothy Boyle.

IN MEMORY OF BERNARD LITTERINI by Dorothy Boyle.

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET PEARSON by Gerry and Bob Tomayko; Buddy and Paula Holmes; Anna Mae DeSantis; Josephine Zurisko; Dorothy Boyle.

IN MEMORY OF REV. GEORGE E. SALADNA by Dave and Carol Finley; Dorothy Boyle; Loretta Carroll; Robert Mainwaring.

A BENEFIT FOR PITTSBURGH DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS – Saturday, August 20, at the Highland Country Club. Luncheon, Door Prizes, Raffles, Chinese Auction and Card Playing. Donation: \$25. Doors open at 11:30 AM. Sponsored by the Pittsburgh Diocesan Committee of Catholic Daughters of the Americas. Reservations by August 13. Call Lisa at 412-824-1032.

Your Ministry of Support

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish For Sunday, June 26, 2011

Offertory	\$4,094.83
Parish Share	\$470.00
Peter’s Pence Collection.....	\$1,066.00

The second collection at all Masses this weekend, Sunday, July 3, will be the monthly collection for Capital Improvements to our parish. We thank you for your support of our Church and other worthy causes.



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ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 31, 2011

ON OUR PARISH GROUNDS



The picnic will begin at 2 PM and end at 8 PM. Dinner at the picnic will be from 4 to 6 PM.

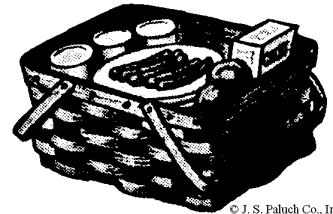
SCHEDULE

2:00 PM Earliest arrival time
Welcome!
Games – Children and Adults
Balloon Toss, Bingo, Cards
Fun for All!!

4:00-6:00 PM Dinner – Church Hall

6:00-8:00 PM Bingo and Games

Entrée and Beverages provided by the Parish
*Families asked to bring covered dish
(salad, veggie, or dessert) and
Big spoon for serving. Bring to Church Hall.*



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PICNIC PLANNING MEETING – Monday, July 11th, 7 PM in the Church Hall.

NEEDED: If you have any White Elephant items that you would like to donate for the Parish Picnic, please wrap them and drop them off at the Parish House. **Volunteers** are needed and most welcome. Call Cathy Moxie at 724-274-2547.

Reservations necessary for proper planning.

Yes, we plan to attend the Parish Picnic on
Sunday, July 31

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 Wednesday, July 27.



HOLD THE DATES! – Summer is here and Vacation Bible School is just around the corner. We are looking for adult and teen volunteers to help with music, crafts,

snacks and lessons. This year's theme is **God's Kids Pray! H.O.P.E. World Tour**. We invite children, ages 2-12, to discover that God is listening wherever they pray. In fact, that's what H.O.P.E. stands for – *HEAR OUR PRAYERS EVERYWHERE*. **Vacation Bible School will be held from Monday, July 25TH through Friday, July 29TH, 6-8 PM in the St. Alphonsus Liguori Center.** Information flyers and registration forms can be found in the Activity Room. For additional information, please call the Parish Office at 724-274-5084.

GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATION – The Catholic 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 9, 2011 beginning with a Mass at 2:00 PM at St. Paul Cathedral. Bishop Zubik will be the celebrant. A reception will follow in the lower hall at the Cathedral.

If you are a parishioner celebrating your 50TH wedding anniversary in 2011, and would be interested in attending the celebration along with the other jubilant couples, please call the rectory or drop a note in the weekly collection basket no later than August 7TH. Invitations will be sent out after responses have been received.

SHARE THE BURDEN

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). These words of our Savior seem to be in stark contrast to the previous chapter from the same Gospel, when we were told that if we do not take up our crosses, we are not worthy of Christ. Connecting these two messages might help us on our faith journeys. Being a follower of Christ surely means that we must embrace the cross, in its mystery of both suffering and triumph. This is something that we need not do alone, for the burden is often too heavy for us to carry by ourselves. Who, then, do we turn to? We can turn to the Body of Christ—the community of disciples gathered for worship. When we find the burden too heavy, let us remember that we can share that burden with our Christian sisters and brothers, who can help bring us rest.

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ODE TO THE FLAG

Our Nation's Flag is a stirring sight
As it flutters proudly in the breeze
Its colors of blue, red and white
Mean so much to you and me
Red stands for courage and hardiness
The white means innocence and purity
Blue for justice, perseverance and vigilance
In its promise to keep us free.

This banner stands for a bountiful land
Its government, people, and ideals,
The stripes from the thirteen colonies stand,
Its symbolism is very real.
Each State now is represented
By a star of white on blue
President Washington first presented
The American Flag to You.

Many brave men and women have fought and died
To protect it from dishonor and disgrace.
Wives have mourned and mothers have cried
So we could remain...the United States.
The sight of this Banner brings a feeling of joy
Of courage, pride and freedom to all.
A symbol of our nation in all its glory,
On the moon Old Glory stands tall.

- Linda Sheehan Cunningham

YOU WILL FIND REST

The promise of Jesus is good news indeed. God has hidden the knowledge of the reign of God from the learned and the wise, those who say that the poor are responsible for their own plight, and that nothing can be done for them. Jesus turns such human wisdom on its head, proclaiming instead that God works differently. We are poor in spirit if we follow Jesus in lifting the yoke of the law and slavery to the flesh, freeing the burdened of their crushing load. It may cost our economy some of its profits, but we can believe that our burdens will also be lifted and our work made light. What seems impossible to the learned is known to the humble. When we rest in Christ, laying down the burden of our preoccupation with “things,” we can rejoice with all people at the coming of our meek and humble Lord, who brings holy rest to an anxious and materialistic world.

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