

ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN

FOR

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2009

TRINITY SUNDAY – JUNE 7, 2009

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

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)

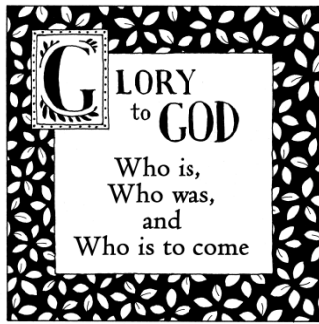
(724) 274-2547

CCD & Youth Min. - Karen Mueller

Social Services - Cathy Moxie

Music Director/Organist – Vickie Roof

CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
PITTSBURGH
ALLEGHENY
VALLEY DEANERY



"I do not call you servants. No, I call you my friends, for servants do not know what their master is about." This statement of Jesus to his apostles and friends sums up the meaning of today's feast, celebrating our belief in the Most Holy Trinity. We take

Jesus' word and his authority and through him we come to believe that God is not just one person, but rather a trinity of divine persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three persons are different from each other, and yet they are equally God, and thus God is Three in Persons and yet just one in Nature.

The fact that we know this truth is testimony to how much God loves us. He has taken us into his confidence and revealed the mystery of his very own life. Even though we cannot understand how the Trinity can be, the very fact that we know of its existence is testimony to the fact that God cares about us and wants us to be close to him. If the Jews in the Old Testament could boast of the fact that God had revealed himself to them by saying, "What other nation is there with a God like our God?," how much more can we boast of the love of the Most Holy Trinity which has revealed itself to us through the testimony of Jesus, the coming of the Holy Spirit and the creative wonder of God the Father.

Even though we cannot and never will be able to fathom the mystery of the Trinity, even when we see God face to face in the beatific vision, we should be honored that God has allowed us to come into his house, as it were, and see what he is like. Just as a young lady honors her boy friend by taking him home and letting him meet her parents and family, so Jesus honors us by taking us into his home and letting us meet his Father and their Holy Spirit.

Many people make fun of the Holy Trinity (and of us who believe it) because, they say, "It doesn't make sense." No, it does not make sense, for we are not able to understand it nor could we have ever imagined it or dreamed it up on our own. But faith means the acceptance of things that do not necessarily make sense. Faith is the acceptance of the testimony of another, and that other, for us, is Jesus Christ. We accept the Holy Trinity because Jesus, whom we trust above all things and in all things, has taught it to us. May we cling with all our heart, mind and soul to this wonderful teaching, by which we have been admitted into the inner sanctum of God himself.

-- Father Saladna

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JUNE 8 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Mario Colonna

TUESDAY, JUNE 9 -- St. Ephraem

8:00 AM Suzanne Millen

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM Nancy Lochrane

THURSDAY, JUNE 11 – No Mass scheduled for today

FRIDAY, JUNE 12 – Weekday Celebration

8:00 AM 51ST Wedding Anniversary:

Jim and Rose Oravitz

SATURDAY, JUNE 13 – No Mass on Saturday morning

5:00 PM [For Sunday] Joseph A. Kushner

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 14 – Corpus Christi (The Body of Christ)

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

11:00 AM Ray J. Davis

REST IN PEACE -- The parish family of Saint Alphonsus wishes to extend their deepest sympathy to the families of Mario Colonna and Betty Poset. Please remember the deceased and their families in your prayers.

CORPUS CHRISTI CELEBRATION

Next Sunday, June 14, is the Feast of Corpus Christi (The Body of Christ). This special day puts the focus on our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, given as true bread which came down from heaven, food for our souls.

Our parish will join together with Holy Martyrs, Tarentum, for Corpus Christi. The great tradition of the "Sawdust Carpets" will be continued (the only parish in the United States which observes Corpus Christi in this special way): sidewalk mosaics, made of various colors of sawdust, portray religious symbols appropriate for the Feast. Our parishioners, under the direction of Ms. Monica Zalepa, are planning to do some of the "carpets." Call Monica (724-274-5069) if you are interested in participating – it is great fun for the kids. The work on the carpets begins around 8:00 AM, and culminates with the Special Devotions beginning at 4:00 PM when services are held inside Holy Martyrs Church and include a procession with the Blessed Sacrament through the driveways and parking lots on which the mosaics have been arranged. Thus, Jesus is given the "red carpet treatment." We hope to see our parishioners there on Sunday afternoon, June 14. The services at 4:00 PM will not include a Mass. We follow our regular Sunday schedule of Masses here at St. Alphonsus that morning.

**A BEAUTIFUL PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT --
"THE SEQUENCE" FROM THE PENTECOST
MASS**

Come, Holy Spirit, come!
And from your celestial home
Shed a ray of light divine!

Come, Father of the poor!
Come, source of all our store!
Come, within our bosoms shine!

You, of comforters the best;
You, the soul's most welcome guest;
Sweet refreshment here below;

In our labor, rest most sweet;
Grateful coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

O most blessed Light divine,
Shine within these hearts of thine,
And our inmost being fill!

Where you are not, man has naught,
Nothing good in deed or thought,
Nothing free from taint of ill.

Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away;

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.

On the faithful, who adore
And confess you, evermore
In your sevenfold gift descend;

Give then virtue's sure reward;
Give them your salvation, Lord;
Give them joys that never end. Amen. Alleluia.

VISITING MISSIONARY FOR THIS SUMMER

Our visiting missionary this year will be a representative of the Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart. Sister Nancy Barshick has chosen the weekend of July 11/12. She will speak at all our Masses that weekend, describing the work of her community, and making her appeal. We look forward to welcoming her in July.

**BRANDON CHAMBERLAIN,
THE JOHN CHALLIS MEMORIAL AWARD WINNER,
ANNOUNCED BY WPIAL BASEBALL COACHES
ASSOCIATION**

The WPIAL Baseball Coaches Association (WBCA) announced the first recipient of the John Challis Memorial Award. Brandon Chamberlain, a senior at Springdale High School, is the recipient of the first annual John Challis Memorial Award. Brandon will be honored at the WBCA's Awards Banquet on June 12, at the Hilton Garden Inn at Southpointe. Congratulations Brandon!

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS:

ATTENTION ALL 9TH – 12TH GRADERS: CYES 2009 Service Charge, June 22-25, 2009. Applications are available for this summer's service charge now! The mission of a charge is to train young people to be leaders. Training is educational and experiential – educational because youth attend agency orientations and training sessions; experiential because youth participate in community service. This summer's service charge is centered out of North Catholic High School Center. Hurry and register – there are only 25 available spaces. Register now! Call Mrs. Mueller for application forms at 412-828-3007.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS: BE NOT AFRAID, Surviving Young Adult Transitions. A retreat for recent high school graduates will be sponsored by the Department of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at Gilmary Retreat Center, August 7 through August 9, 2009. This is your chance to gather with others to celebrate your recent high school graduation and to prepare for the future. Register now! Space is limited! Call Mrs. Mueller for applications forms at 412-828-3007.

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 7-12: Please join St. Alphonsus Youth Ministry and the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh at PNC Park on Friday, August 21 for Catholic Youth Ministry Night at PNC Park. Tickets are \$10.00 (Section 331/Rows E-P). The Pirates are giving away 1979 Gold Pill Box Caps and there will be "dollar dogs" during the game! The tailgate party begins at 4 PM in the RED 6 LOT off General Robinson Street. Invite your family and friends. Hold this date! If enough people attend, we will order a bus. Ticket ordering information to come.

LOOKING AHEAD:

- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** – in our school building, five days: Monday through Friday, July 6-10, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM.
- **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – tomorrow evening, June 8, 7 PM.

“PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN”

**URGENT MESSAGE
FOR PARISH MINISTERS**

In previous bulletins we outlined the status of our work to be done in order to comply with the American Bishops’ Charter for the “Protection of God’s Children.”

We are obliged to follow guidelines established by the Bishops (including our own) to help us protect minors from abuse. These guidelines establish norms to be followed by all those who serve the church in any capacity, not just clergy and men and women religious.

We have sent a letter to everyone engaged in these parish ministries who have not yet completed their registrations, or clearances, or attendance at workshops. This letter indicates what has yet to be done to complete our files, so that all our ministers will be in full compliance when the parish is audited in a few weeks.

Anyone who receives a personal letter indicating what is still missing in their file must come to a meeting today, Sunday, June 7, to be given assistance, instructions, clarification, etc. This special meeting will be held in our Liguori Center today, Sunday, June 7, at 12:00 Noon.

It is urgent that those who receive the notice attend this meeting, so that we can finish this work and be able to say that everyone who has a ministry of any kind in the Church has been properly instructed and cleared. It is presumed that everyone will welcome such a process, for it means that we are doing our best to make sure, as far as humanly possible, that our children are protected from harm while they are under our care and supervision.

Today, Sunday, June 7, at 12:00 Noon, in the Liguori Center. For all those receiving notice that work has yet to be done toward their individual certification for ministry.

HOLY SPIRIT MAKES THE CHURCH MORE THAN A HUMANITARIAN AGENCY, POPE TEACHES

Vatican City, May 31, 2009 / 10:54 am After celebrating the Mass of Pentecost in St. Peter’s Basilica, Pope Benedict XVI addressed a crowd of at least 30,000 people gathered in St. Peter’s Square. The Holy Father told the faithful that the Holy Spirit is the “soul” of the Church and that without the Holy Spirit, the Church would only be a “humanitarian agency.”

“In truth many regard the Church in this way because

they observe it from outside the viewpoint of the Faith,” Pope Benedict explained. “Yet in reality, its true nature and its real historic presence has ceaselessly been guided and formed by the Holy Spirit and by the Lord.”

“The Church is a living body, whose vitality is, exactly the fruit of the invisible, Divine Spirit.”

The Pope recalled that this year, the Solemnity of Pentecost falls on the day on which the universal Church celebrates the visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, May 31, and inspired by this coincidence, he spoke of the youth of Mary and of the Church. “The young Mary, who is carrying Christ in her womb, forgets herself to run to the aid of others. She is a wonderful icon for the Church in the perennial youth of the Holy Spirit, the Missionary Church of the Word Incarnate, called to bring it to the world and witness it particularly through charity,” the Pope reflected.

“Let us invoke the intercession of Mary, most Holy, so the Church of our time may be continually strengthened by the Holy Spirit,” he urged.

The Pope also prayed for those Christians who are being persecuted, saying, “May the ecclesial communities who suffer persecution for Christ feel the comforting presence of the Paraclete, so that by participating in the Lord’s suffering they may receive in abundance the Spirit of Glory.”

Following the Regina Coeli prayer, the Pontiff spoke of the young people of Italy’s Abruzzo region who will mark a regional Youth Day soon. “In communion with the young people of that land that was badly hit by the earthquake (last month),” he said, “we ask the Risen Christ to send upon them his Spirit of consolation and of hope.”

- VIS and Catholic News Agency

Your Ministry of Support

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish
For Sunday, May 31, 2009

Offertory \$4,786.87
Parish Share \$390.00

The **special second collection** today, Sunday, June 7, will be the monthly collection for repairs and improvements to our Church. We thank you for your kind and generous support of St. Alphonsus Parish.

MAY SWEEPSTAKES NEWS – Thanks to all who participated in the May Sweepstakes which concluded last week. Your ticket purchase benefited many Catholic institutions: parishes, schools, etc., in this operation run by the Capuchin Fathers. So, thanks again to all. Congratulations to the winners, and we'll be back again in December.



The Most Holy Trinity

PROCESSION AND PERICHORESIS

Neither the term nor the concept "Trinity" appears in the New Testament. Our scriptures do name all three persons and describe some sort of unity of relationship among them, but it remained for following centuries to wrestle with this self-revelation of God. The term "Trinity" appeared about two hundred years into Christianity's existence, as it began to gain a hold and there was more time to reflect (and agree or disagree) upon a more precise understanding. One way the church began to understand the relationship of the persons of the Trinity was through the term "procession." The three persons of the Trinity live in mutual indwelling with each other, and are revealed to people this way. Thus the Son became known through the procession called "filiation" and the Spirit through the procession called "spiration." Another way the Trinity was understood was through *perichoresis* (the "chor" of our "choreography" is in there), in which the three eternal persons of the Trinity dance together in their divine and holy unity.

DANCING AND DWELLING

So what? It is easy to ask this question about obscure theological debates that took place centuries ago. But these definitions were born of the struggles of the faithful to understand how the Trinity lived and worked in their lives, and the fruit of their efforts can benefit us today. Each of us was baptized in the name of and into the Holy Trinity. At that time, the Trinity came to dwell in us, and we began to dwell in the Trinity. At the beginning of the twentieth century, St. Elizabeth of the Holy Trinity (d. 1906) went even further and prayed for the Trinity to be buried in her, that she might be buried in the Trinity. Our relationship with the Trinity, then, can be as deep and profound as our

humanity will allow. And, just as their manifestation or revelation is how we know them, it is when the grace and life of the Trinity are made known through our witness that others see their holiness proceed into the world. It is when we reflect and share the joyous dance of the three persons that their mystery is once again revealed for the life of others.

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WHY DOES THE CHURCH TEACH THAT MARRIAGE IS A SACRAMENT? Because it is sacred.

The Sacraments make Christ present in our midst. Like the other Sacraments, Marriage is not just for the good of individuals or the couple, but also for the community as a whole. The Church teaches that Marriage between two **BAPTIZED** persons is a Sacrament. The Old Testament prophets saw the marriage between a man and a woman as a symbol of the covenant relationship between God and His people. St. Paul writes to the Ephesians that this union is a symbol of the relationship between Christ and the Church. (from the Pittsburgh Catholic, March 31, 2006)

MEMORIAL GIFTS

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

IN MEMORY OF FRED CHESARO by P. J. Guarnero; Peter, Natalie and John Guarnero; Mary A. Desmone; David and Stacy Eber, Ken Gavriity and Megan O'Donnell, David and Jessica Wingenroth, Suzanne Sipp, Nicole Gabriel, Brad Cole and Lisa Ferrence.

IN THANKSGIVING FOR 60 YEARS OF MARRIAGE by Jim and Audrey Fenn.

IN MEMORY OF CLARA GEWAX by Vic Pascarella; Rune and Theresa (Pascarella) Nordhagen; Jim and Janice Dugan.

IN MEMORY OF LORETTA MARTIN by Howard Meyers and Family; Jean and Richard Simmen; Rich and Eileen Miller.

IN MEMORY OF ANDREW ORAVEC by Dorothy Boyle.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL PASCARELLA by Mr. & Mrs. John Strama; Jennie Durkt; Frank and Ann DiFatta; San Romano; Jim and Janice Dugan; Martha Skripets; Dave and Carol Finley; Mr. & Mrs. Ken Premick; Gerry Tomayko; Josephine Zurisko; Eleanor Simoncic; Chenarides Family.

IN MEMORY OF MARY PULLIAM by Dorothy Boyle; Ann Werries and Family; Mr. & Mrs. G. Tomayko; John and Helen Strama; Vic Pascarella; Mr. & Mrs. Nordhagen; Joan Meleski.

IN MEMORY OF ANN RENALDI by Rich and Eileen Adams Miller.