

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009**

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – OCTOBER 18, 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](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

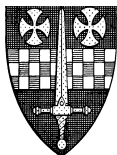
**LIGUORI CENTER OFFICES** (school building side entrance)

(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

**Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline** ..... 1-888-808-1235

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
PITTSBURGH  
VICARIATE  
NO. 4

*The Son of Man  
came to serve*



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What a contrast we see between the first reading of today's Mass (from Isaiah, Ch. 53) and the Gospel (Mark, Ch. 10). Isaiah portrays a Messiah who was "crushed in infirmity, gives his life for sins of others, will suffer affliction and bear guilt." On the other hand, St. Mark tells of the Apostles' ambition and lust for glory and power, when he relates the request of James and John who ask Jesus to sit at Jesus' right and left hand when he goes into his glory. One could wonder if they ever heard anything Jesus said. How could they miss the point? How could they fail to realize that he did not come to establish his own kingdom here?

We should be able to understand their weakness, for we have it in ourselves. We talk about being servants, about being humble, about becoming like little children, and it sounds so wonderful. But at the same time we are looking for praise and credit and honor and glory. Let someone forget to thank us or recognize us or honor us and we go into a tailspin. And it kills us to see someone else get honor and credit and thanks, as though somehow it takes something away from us.

The most difficult thing to fathom about Almighty God is that he doesn't act like the "All-Mighty." If anyone could ever throw his weight around, you'd think it would be God. But God did not come to rule by power, by oppression, by dominating us. He came instead to love us and to give the great example of humility. And we have to meditate on it every day – God came to serve us, not to rule us. How can **WE** expect to be served and waited on? Who do we think we are?

Jesus tells James and John and all the others that whoever wants to be first must serve the needs of all. Our Holy Father uses the title "Servant of the Servants of God." He knows what it's like to be "on top." Yes, he knows that it really means that he is on the bottom, holding up the whole structure, at the beck and call of everyone, with rarely a moment to himself. If we could only realize what Jesus' call to glory means for us! It means that we will have to drink from the same cup of pain and suffering and serve our neighbors.

-- Father Saladna

## SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19** – North American Martyrs  
8:00 AM Nancy Lochrane

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20** -- St. Paul of the Cross  
8:00 AM Edmond Kovich

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21** – Weekday Celebration (29<sup>TH</sup> Week)  
8:00 AM Paul Onufer

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22** -- **No Mass scheduled for today**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23** – St. John of Capistrano  
8:00 AM Bill Hurley (Birthday)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24** – **No Mass on Saturday morning**  
2:00 PM Wedding Mass – Melissa Scott and Donald Boak  
5:00 PM [For Sunday] For all Parishioners, Liv. & Dec.

**NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25** – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 AM Peter Ortoleva  
11:00 AM Michael Pascarella

*"Let us, then, pray with all fervor for this peace which our divine Redeemer came to bring us. May He banish from the souls of men whatever might endanger peace. May He transform all men into witnesses of truth, justice and brotherly love."*

*Pope John XXIII  
Pacem in Terris*

Pray For  
The Dead



**OUR BELOVED DEAD** – We think and pray for them all the time, but in a very special way on **ALL SOULS DAY** (November 2) and throughout the month of

November. We have a special book, inscribed "**OUR BELOVED DEAD**," in the Church lobby, and we ask you to sign the names of your deceased relatives, friends, neighbors and parishioners whom you wish to be remembered on All Souls Day and throughout the month of November. This book will be found in the Lobby and will remain there through the end of November.

**GOING TO THE HOSPITAL FOR SCHEDULED SURGERY?** It is fitting to be prepared not only physically, but also spiritually. Call Father if you would like to receive the Sacraments before you go to the hospital. Hospital stays are now brief and busy, but we can offer the Sacraments of Penance, Communion and Anointing of the Sick here, before you, "report for duty."

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK AT HOME** and unable to attend Mass are invited to call the Rectory to arrange to receive Holy Communion at home. Also, people who are having major surgery and who know of this in advance should be anointed. Fr. Saladna will be happy to arrange for this to be done either in our own Church or at your home, since hospital stays are so brief and so hectic that it is almost impossible at times to have this done in the hospital with due privacy.

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**WE ARE NOW** taking Mass Intentions for the coming year. If you have special intentions which you would like to schedule on a specific date, get a form in the Activity Room or at the Parish House and fill in the information. Directions are found on the form. Marsha (724-274-5084) will let you know what is available, etc. This is ESPECIALLY true if you have a very special date you would like to commemorate with a Mass, like a 25<sup>TH</sup> or 50<sup>TH</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Remember, with regard to the dates: first come, first served.

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**THE VERY FIRST PEW IN THE CHURCH, ON EITHER SIDE**, is reserved for the handicapped and elderly who have a difficult time kneeling and standing. Occupying the first pew (ON BOTH SIDES) they have a better view of the altar and are able to receive Communion from the front without having to move out of the pew. Thank you for respecting the needs of the handicapped and helping to provide for their comfort while attending Mass. (Eucharistic Ministers can sit anywhere in the church, and are able to come up to the Altar at Communion time. There is no real need for the Eucharistic Ministers to sit together or to be up front from the beginning).

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**ENTERTAINMENT DISCOUNT/COUPON BOOKS** for 2010 are being sold by the Parish Social Services (Ladies of Charity). They are available at \$20 after Sunday Mass in the Activity Room, or at the Parish House during office hours. There is a limited number for sale this year, so if you are really interested it would be wise to get them early. Proceeds from the sale go toward the works of the Ladies of Charity.

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**TENTH ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY SERVICE** at Burket-Truby Funeral Home, Oakmont, November 7, 8:30 AM. Guest speaker will be Pat McCarthy, a former Narcotic's Agent for the PA Attorney General Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 412-828-3535.

**THE CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION**  
of the Diocese of Pittsburgh

*Cordially invites you, your family and friends  
to attend the groundbreaking for the*  
**OUR LADY OF HOPE CHAPEL MAUSOLEUM**  
*at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Cemetery  
1898 Bakerstown Road  
Tarentum, PA*

**Sunday, November 1, 2009**  
**2:00 PM**  
**(Not a Mass)**

**ST. GERARD MAJELLA, C.Ss.R.**  
**Patron Saint of Expectant Mothers**

The most famous miracle-worker of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, St. Gerard Majella, C.Ss.R., is the patron saint of expectant mothers.

He was born April 6, 1726 in Muro, a little town south of Naples, Italy. He was apprenticed as a tailor. Of the money he made, he would give a third of it to his mother, a third in alms to the poor, and the rest in stipends for Masses for the souls in purgatory.

At 23, Gerard left home and joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer as a lay brother. St. Alphonsus Liguori, C.Ss.R., founder of the Redemptorists, realized the young man's sanctity and shortened his novitiate (time of training).

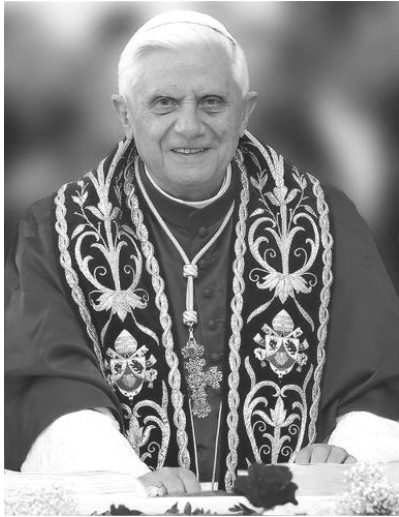
Gerard experienced the gifts of ecstatic flight, bilocation, prophecy, and infused knowledge. On one occasion, he read the troubled conscience of an archbishop with such accuracy that the prelate repented of his ways and completely reformed his life.

His reputation for holiness was well known. Several communities of nuns received him as their spiritual director. He was also a spiritual advisor to priests. Brother Gerard possessed a deep love for the poor with a concern and compassion similar to that of a mother for her children. His great charity earned him the title of "Father of the Poor."

St. Gerard died of tuberculosis on October 16, 1755 at the age of twenty-nine. He predicted the day and hour of his death.

-- from the Redemptorist Fathers, Sept./Oct. Newsletter

(St. Alphonsus Liguori, our Patron Saint, is the Founder of the Redemptorists. St. Gerard Majella Church is located across the river from us, in Verona, and was found by Father Fran Lackner, formerly assistant pastor at our parish).



### WORDS FROM POPE BENEDICT:

#### *Be faithful to the marriage vocation*

My thoughts now go to all Christian spouses: I thank the Lord with them for the gift of the Sacrament of Marriage, and I urge them to remain faithful to their vocation in every season of life, "in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health", as they promised in the sacramental rite.

Conscious of the grace they have received, may Christian husbands and wives build a family open to life and capable of facing united the many complex challenges of our time. Today, there is a special need for their witness. There is a need for families that do not let themselves be swept away by modern cultural currents inspired by hedonism and relativism, and which are ready instead to carry out their mission in the Church and in society with generous dedication. The Christian family can only fulfill this mission if it is supported by divine grace. It is therefore necessary for Christian couples to pray tirelessly and to persevere in their daily efforts to maintain the commitments they assumed on their wedding day.

I invoke upon all families, especially those in difficulty, the motherly protection of Our Lady and of her husband Joseph. Mary, Queen of the family, pray for us.

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### DIRECTIONS

To get to heaven turn right and keep straight.

- Anonymous

**LANCASTER COUNTY, PA** presented by Our Lady of Victory Church – December 1-2, 2009. Sight and Sound Millennium Theatre's "Miracle of Christmas", National Centre for St. Padre Pio and Mass celebrated by Father Al Zapf at the Most Blessed Sacrament Church in Bally, PA. Travel aboard a deluxe highway touring motor coach to Lancaster, PA., heart of the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. Enjoy the wonderful musical production, *The Miracle of Christmas*. Following breakfast the next morning we depart Lancaster County for a stop at the neighboring town of Bally at the lovely historic Church of the Most Blessed Sacrament for Mass (10:00 AM) celebrated by Father Al Zapf. Travel on to Barto and the National Centre for St. Padre Pio, nestled on 50 beautiful acres in eastern Pennsylvania. For fares and details, call 724-274-8575 or get a brochure in our Activity Room.

**SPAGHETTI DINNER** sponsored by the Lower Valley Food Bank on November 1, 1-5 PM at Our Lady of Victory Church. Adults: \$7.00, children 10 and under: \$4. There will also be raffles for Steeler surprises, Gift Basket Auction and bake sale.

**ST. JOSEPH BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** is sponsoring a 6 week program on "Dealing with Grief," held on 6 consecutive Mondays at 7 PM. Sessions will be held on October 19 & 26, November 2, 9, 16 and 23. Sessions will take place at the St. Joseph Parish Center in New Kensington. The program consists of 6 weekly 2-hour sessions that help people to know what to expect and not to expect during the grieving process. It gives them the opportunity to share with other grieving people who can understand and support them. For more information and to register, please contact Mary Jo Benec at 724-337-8673 or Sister Carol at 724-339-9868.

**RETREAT – TRANSFIGURATION PARISH** – All men and women are welcome to attend a retreat titled "Prayer Beyond Beginning" at Transfiguration Parish in Russellton. Sister Pat Mahoney will lead the retreat focused on the way to a deeper prayer life on Saturday, October 24<sup>TH</sup> beginning with mass at 8:00 AM and continuing until 2 PM. The Rosary Society is sponsoring the retreat and will provide a lunch. Anyone interested in attending, please call Paulette at 724-224-6685 or Bev at 724-265-4579 for reservations.

**TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

**We're All Missionaries**

Do you know the date of your Baptism?

Well, on that day, you became a missionary, called by our Lord to share your faith with those around you – and to be part of the Church's mission to the world.

Jesus Himself, before He returned to the Father, promised His followers the Holy Spirit and charged them with being His "witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

That mission is now addressed to each one of us. We are to support, in prayer and sacrifice, the work of missionaries who bring the "Good News" of Jesus to faraway places – to Africa and Asia, to the Pacific Islands and remote regions of Latin America.

**One Sunday For The Whole World**

Every year, something special happens on the next-to-last Sunday of October – the world unites.

On World Mission Sunday, Catholics of the world unite at Mass to recommit ourselves to our vocation, through Baptism, to be missionaries.

As we pray and respond on World Mission Sunday here at home, we are replicating what is also taking place in every parish and chapel all over the world. Our brothers and sisters in the Missions themselves offer their prayers and sacrifices so that others may come to know Jesus!

World Mission Sunday was established by Pope Pius XI in 1926. He saw the day as a way to "foster understanding of the greatness of the missionary task, encourage zeal among the clergy and the people, and offer an opportunity to make the Society for the Propagation of the Faith ever more widely known and encourage offerings for the missions."

In a world where so much divides us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries! And it provides an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the suffering and the poor in more than 1,150 missions dioceses throughout the Developing World.

- Society for the Propagation of the Faith

**THE SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND IS FOR WORLD MISSION SUNDAY.** United with the Catholics of the world at the Table of the Lord, we recommit ourselves to our vocation, through Baptism, to be missionaries. Our prayers and Eucharistic celebration next Sunday are directed in a special way toward our brothers and sisters throughout the world who are waiting to hear the joyous "Good News" of Jesus. Our offerings, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, will support the work and witness of those who selflessly give up all for the sake of our Lord and His Gospel – the local priests, Religious, and lay catechists who daily provide loving service to the poor and suffering of the Developing World.

**EVENING OF REFLECTION FOR THOSE WHO ARE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED**

– The semi-annual Evening of Reflection for those who are Separated or Divorced, sponsored by the Office for Adult and Family Faith Formation of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, will be offered on Thursday, November 12, from 7-9 PM at the auditorium of St. Paul Seminary, Crafton. The presenter will be Fr. Peter Horton, a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh who is currently involved in campus ministry. His topic is "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People."

Fr. Horton will reflect on Separation and Divorce in the Light of the Garden of Gethsemane and the Garden of Easter. These two pivotal moments in the life of Jesus, the movement of the paschal mystery from the darkness of Gethsemane to the Joy of Easter is a profound mystery of faith that involves deeply felt human emotions, the same emotions we may feel in our journey of separation and divorce and a new beginning filled with hope and joy. Both our disillusionment and our hope are real, the journey is often painful, but the end result is the joy or resurrection.

For further information call 412-456-3160 or familylife@diopitt.org.

<b>Your Ministry of Support</b>	
Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish For Sunday, October 11, 2009	
Offertory .....	\$4,045.50
Parish Share .....	\$971.00
<b>PLEASE REMEMBER ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH IN YOUR WILL</b>	