

**ST. ALPHONSUS CHURCH BULLETIN**

**FOR**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2009**

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 13, 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](mailto:stalphonsus@verizon.net)

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.

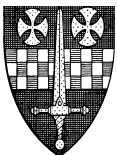
**WEEKDAY:** Mass held in Chapel next to Church. See bulletin each week or call Rectory for schedule of the 8:00 A.M. Mass which is not held every day (never on Sat morn).

**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.



**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)

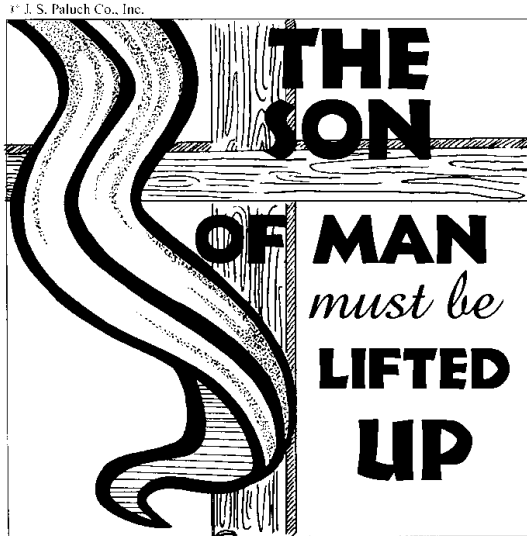
(724) 274-2547

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

**Social Services** - Cathy Moxie

**Music Director/Organist** – Vickie Roof

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
PITTSBURGH  
ALLEGHENY  
VALLEY DEANERY



### EXALTATION OF THE CROSS

Tomorrow, September 14, we celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross of Jesus.

The cross is lifted up (exalted) and praised because it is through his passion and death (and resurrection from the dead) that Jesus accomplishes our salvation. We were children of sin, living in the valley of tears, subject to death and helpless when God sent his only Son who willingly and lovingly took on our human nature and through it offered himself as a ransom for us.

Not long ago we celebrated the feast of the Polish priest-martyr, Father Maximilian Kolbe, who volunteered to take the place in a Nazi death camp of a young father of many children who was scheduled to be executed. He willingly died in the man's place, and in doing so he imitated Jesus who did the same thing for all of us, when he was lifted up on the cross and paid for our salvation with his own blood.

For Christians, the cross is a sign of victory. Even though crucifixion was a horrible death penalty (not even allowed for Roman citizens) Jesus made it a sign of hope for those who unite their suffering with the Lord. At the Easter Vigil we proclaim that he who conquered us by the tree (the devil, who tempted our first parents to eat the forbidden fruit from the tree in the garden), was defeated by the tree (the tree from which the cross of Christ was fashioned).

Some people want Christ without the cross. Some people are shocked and scandalized when they see the body of Christ crucified hanging on the crosses in our Churches and buildings. But what good is the cross without Christ? These people want heaven cheap, with no price to pay. This was the attitude of the thief on Calvary who rebuked Jesus hanging next to him. He told Christ to "save yourself. Get off the cross, and

save us, too." The "good" (and wise) thief saw the beauty of the cross – his own and the one on which Jesus died next to him. His only request of Jesus was that he would "remember me when you come into your Kingdom."

Think of how many times we make the "Sign of the Cross" every day: before all prayers, before meals, before many undertakings, etc. We should pray for the grace to appreciate the beauty of the cross whose sign we trace so often over our bodies, the sign made beautiful by the death of Christ. His death is our life, and the Cross which we exalt today is the instrument by which we will be joined to him forever.

-- Fr. Saladna

## Mass Schedule

---

### SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

---

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 AM Clair H. Faith

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 -- Our Lady of Sorrows

8:00 AM Jim Carroll (Birthday)

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 – SS Cornelius and Cyprian

8:00 AM Leah Zilla

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 – No Mass scheduled for today

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18– Weekday Celebration (24<sup>TH</sup> Week)

8:00 AM Michael Landis (Birthday)

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 – No Mass on Saturday morning

2:00 PM Wedding Mass – Gary Kern and Ami Jo Gall

5:00 PM [For Sunday] Agnes Urik (Anniv.)

#### NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

11:00 AM Maryellen and George Simpson (Birthday)

**RCIA PROGRAM –**

- Are you searching for a church to call your own?
- Do you struggle with questions about life-death-suffering-hope-forgiveness-love-God?
- Ever wonder why Catholics worship the way they do?
- Do you have questions about what we really believe?

Look no further. If you are not Catholic, but are curious about the Church, or have a friend or family member who may be interested, or perhaps have some misconceptions about the church. All are welcome. For more information, call the Parish Office at 724-274-5084.

**VOTIVE LIGHTS**

Beginning this Sunday we are asking that you deposit \$3.00 in the votive light box when you light one of the candles. We are using a better glass which costs more, glass that is needed to provide better safety from fire. Even though these new candles are somewhat shorter and thus do not burn as long, they are easier to light. When you use the votive candles, please be careful with the matches and do not drop the match sticks in the candle. We thank you for your cooperation.

**ENTERTAINMENT DISCOUNT/COUPON BOOKS** for 2010 are being sold by the Parish Social Services (Ladies of Charity). These books offer great savings at all kinds of restaurants, stores and various businesses, and they make great gifts (for Christmas, or anytime). 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.

**WALK FOR HUNGER –** The Lower Valley Food Bank will hold the annual **WALK FOR HUNGER** event on Saturday, September 19. Walkers will meet at the Springdale Boro Building on School Street at 9:45 AM and walk three miles to the Cheswick Shopping Center and back. Donations to this worthy cause can be made to any of the walkers as they proceed through our community. The Food Bank’s Mission is to help end hunger and increase opportunities for families to meet their nutritional needs with health and dignity. Applications can be obtained from the parish office during business hours. If you have any questions about the Food Bank or the Walk for Hunger, please call 724-274-0867.

**SIXTY-SIXTH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC ROSARY MARCH**

**Theme:** That Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, leads us to Jesus through our prayer of the Rosary.

**When:** Sunday, October 4

**Where:** Epiphany Church  
(108 Centre Avenue, Uptown Pittsburgh)

**1:30 PM** – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Followed by Procession with the Blessed Sacrament and Statue of Our Lady of Fatima from Epiphany Church to Saint Mary of Mercy Church

Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament  
Crowning of Our Lady

Dessert and Coffee in Lawless Hall

**Church of Pittsburgh – Please Come!**

For those who cannot process, there will be recitation of the Rosary, while the marchers are en route, at Saint Mary of Mercy Church, 202 Stanwix Street at 2:15 PM

**Your Ministry of Support**

Thank you for your offerings to Saint Alphonsus Parish  
For Sunday, September 6, 2009

Offertory .....	\$5,247.63
Parish Share .....	\$387.00

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH IN YOUR WILL**

**The special second collection this weekend is the annual collection for the Bishop’s Education Fund.** This fund is to aid needy children to make payments for tuition in Catholic Elementary School. Grants from this fund which average a few hundred dollars a school year are made to children whose families can demonstrate true hardship.

We thank you for your kindness in helping the Bishop’s Education Fund, and for all your support of the Church and its programs.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO Gary Kern and Ami Jo Gall** who will be married in our Church next Saturday, September 19 at a Mass beginning at 2:00 PM.



### CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

**NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20,** is "CATECHETICAL SUNDAY," the opening day for the new Religious Education School year. We honor and thank all those involved in any way in providing religious education to our young people, and we urge parents to follow up this teaching, especially by giving the good example children need in forming good habits of prayer and attendance at Mass. Students, parents and teachers are all urged to attend next Sunday's 8:00 AM Mass.

**ATTENTION ALL PARISH YOUTH.** The St. Alphonsus Catholic Youth Ministry year will be kicking off today, Sunday, September 13. Meet us at the 11:00 AM Mass (we'll sit together in the marked pews) and join us for a cookout on the Liguori Center lawn after Mass. We will have some good food and good fun with great friends. Please join us at this meeting and help plan our social, service and spiritual activities for the year. If you have any questions, please call Karen Mueller at 412-828-3007 or David and Jeannine McCutcheon at 724-274-8987.

**PLEASE!** What we wear to Church should be decent and modest. Beach wear is definitely a no, no. Recently pPeople were truly scandalized by the attire of some young ladies who were old enough to know better than to dress with barely any covering. Parents, how about some adult supervision. Thank you.

**DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY'S 43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR** will be held on Sunday, September 20 from 1 PM to 3 PM in the A. J. Palumbo Center. High school juniors and seniors can meet with representatives from over 150 of the best colleges and universities in the country. Questions? Call Duquesne's Office of Admissions at 412-396-6222.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FATHER DAVID EMERY COUNCIL 5021 COAL (CHANCE OF A LIFETIME) SCHOLARSHIP SWEEPSTAKES

Tickets will be sold by members after all Masses on September 27<sup>th</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$1.00 each or a book of 8 tickets for \$7.00. \$70,000 in prizes will be given away. You will have 16 chances to win.

#### SIXTEEN GRAND PRIZES:

1. 2010 Toyota Yaris 3-Door Liftback
2. 2010 Hyundai Accent 3-Door Liftback
3. CIE Irish Tour 10 Day
4. National Parks and Canyon 13 Days
5. Golden West Adventure 14 Days
6. Riviera Maya All Inclusive 7 Nights
7. Puerto Vallarta All Inclusive 7 Nights
8. Eastern Caribbean Cruise 7 Nights
9. Branson Bus Tour 7 Nights
10. Disney World Vacation 7 Nights
11. Las Vegas 4 Days with \$500
12. Bermuda Cruise 7 Day (Phila)
13. 50" Plasma HD Television
14. Laptop Computer
15. Canon Digital Camera
16. Sears 24" Snowblower

Money earned will be donated to the K of C College Scholarship Fund.

---

**DRAWING: December 8, 2009 – 8:30 PM**  
**ST. THERESE HALL, ANDERSON AND UPSAL**  
**STREETS, PHILADLEPHIA, PA**

---

**EWTN PROGRAM SCHEDULE** – The Fall/Winter edition of the EWTN Program Highlights is available in the Activity Room.

#### WHY IS IT...

If you cross the North Korean border illegally you get 12 years hard labor

But if you cross the U.S. border illegally you get a driver's license, social security card, welfare, food stamps and free health care?

Is this a great country or what?

**LISTENING AND RESPONDING**

There are three interwoven themes in today's readings: listening to God, faith vs. good works, and losing our life in order to find it. How are they related?

The Suffering Servant of Isaiah undergoes much distress and ridicule, but is able to bear it because he has listened to the promptings of God day after day. The psalm tells us that God listens, too. God hears our prayers for help and is always ready to save us. As our faith deepens, so does our desire to do the works of justice and charity that build up the reign of God. God directs our actions in ways we often cannot see, and we don't always see the results. We are called upon in faith to trust that what we do is enough, and that willingness to listen to God's promptings will lead us in the right way.

© Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

**CHRISTIANS MUST BE A SIGN OF THE LIVING GOD**

VATICAN CITY, 6 SEP 2009 - This morning the Pope travelled by helicopter from Castelgandolfo to Viterbo, "the city of Popes", where, at 10.15 a.m., he presided at a Eucharistic concelebration in the city's Valle Faul in the presence of some 10,000 people.

Before reaching Valle Faul, the Holy Father paused in piazza San Lorenzo where he blessed the new bronze doors of the cathedral, the work of the Italian sculptor Roberto Ippolito. He then visited the Palazzo dei Papi and the Hall of the Conclave, where Pope Gregory X was elected in 1271.

In his homily the Pope commented on the episode from the Gospel of St. Mark in which Jesus heals a deaf man. "In this 'sign'", he said, "we see Jesus' ardent desire to overcome man's solitude and isolation, the result of his egotism, and to give rise to a 'new humanity', a humanity that listens, a humanity of the word, of dialogue, of communication, of communion. A 'good' humanity, ... with no discrimination or exclusion, ... that the world may become 'a place of true brotherhood' for everyone".

Addressing some remarks to the Church in Viterbo, Benedict XVI identified one particular pastoral priority: "education in the faith, as a search, as Christian initiation, as life in Christ. ... This experience involves parishes, families and various associations. Catechists and all other educators are called to show commitment and to make their contribution to schools, ... and in particular to Catholic schools". In this context he invited

the faithful to follow the model of "authentic pioneers of education in the faith" such as St. Rosa Venerini (1656-1728), "a true groundbreaker of female schooling in Italy" and St. Lucia Filippini (1672-1732) who, with the help of the Venerable Cardinal Marco Antonio Barbarigo (1640-1706), founded the 'Pious Matrons".

"Alongside education is witness of the faith", the Pope went on. "Faith, St. Paul wrote, becomes effective through love. It is in this perspective that the charitable activity of the Church takes form: her initiatives and her actions are signs of the faith and love of God, Who is Love". In this context the Holy Father noted how in Viterbo "the voluntary sector is flowering and must be boosted, both on the personal level and in associations. In Caritas", he added, "it has its driving force and educator".

Finally the Pope mentioned another aspect of pastoral activity in the diocese of Viterbo: "awareness of the signs of God. ... Listening to His Word and discerning His signs must", he said, "be the concern of all Christians and of each community. And the most immediate of the signs of God is certainly attention to one's neighbor".

"As Vatican Council II says, each Christian 'must stand before the world as a witness to the resurrection and life of the Lord Jesus and a symbol of the living God'. This must apply primarily to the priest whom Christ has chosen entirely for Himself. During this Year for Priests pray more intensely for priests and seminarians ... that they may be faithful to their vocation! Likewise all consecrated persons and all the baptized must be signs of the living God".

Turning then to address lay people, the young and families, the Holy Father said "do not be afraid to live and bear witness to the faith in the various areas of society, in the varied circumstances of human existence".

"The periods of history come and go", he concluded, "social contexts change, but the Christian vocation to live the Gospel in solidarity with the human family does not vary or go out of fashion. This is social commitment, this is the service appropriate to political activity, this is integral human development".

- Vatican Information Service