

St. Alphonsus Parish

Wexford, PA

201 Church Road
Wexford, PA 15090

Parish Founded in 1840
School Established 1889

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2010

PARISH PRIESTS

Father Peter P. Murphy, *Pastor*
Father Andrew C. Fischer, *Parochial Vicar*

ST. ALPHONSUS SCHOOL

Pre School to Eighth Grade
Sister Mariella Bradley, *RSM, Principal*

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD Kindergarten to Eighth Grade
Youth Ministry - Adult Religious Education
Sacramental Preparation
Louis Bosco, *Program Manager for Religious Education*

YOUTH MINISTRY

Lisa Feraco & Mike Shipe

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) AND CHILDREN (RCIC)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Mary Heagy, *Director of Liturgical Music & Choir*
John and Lynn DeNisi, *Directors of Folk Choir*
Nancy Barnes, *Organist*

PHONE NUMBERS (area code 724)

Parish Office (Rectory) 724-935-1151
Fax 724-934-3788
Dept. of Religious Education-CCD... 724-935-1160
St. Alphonsus School 724-935-1152
School Fax.....724-935-1110
Cafeteria.....724-935-9893

WEB-SITES

St. Alphonsus Parishstals.org
St. Alphonsus Schoolstals.org
Diocese of Pittsburgh diopitt.org

PARISH E-MAIL stalphonsus@zoominternet.net

SCHOOL E-MAIL stals@zoominternet.net

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Tuesday 4:00 p.m.

Our Parish Mission Statement

The faith family of St. Alphonsus enjoys a rich heritage and historic tradition supported by Catholic education. Nourished by the Eucharist and strengthened by the Scriptures, our purpose is to learn and share our faith with each other through each generation. We are committed to prayer, service, and building the Kingdom of God through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We seek to create a vibrant spirit of generosity and evangelization throughout our church and community by inviting and empowering all to use their treasures and talents.

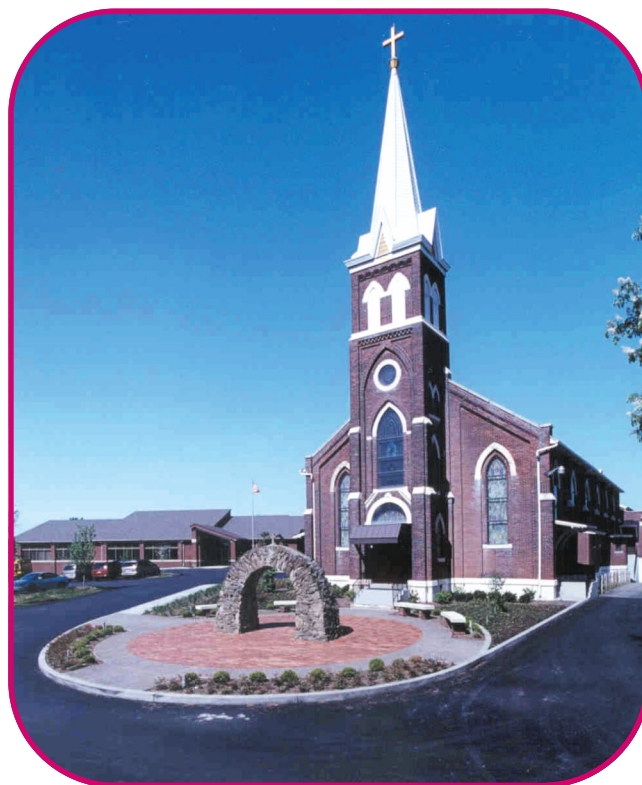


Photo By Ray Thompson

TIMES OF SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:15 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday thru Friday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m.
Saturday Morning: 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday afternoon 12:00 Noon to 12:30 p.m.
Saturday evening 6:00 p.m. after Mass

INFANT BAPTISM

Sunday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. by personal appointment. Parents, please make arrangements for Baptism preparation class before the baby is born.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

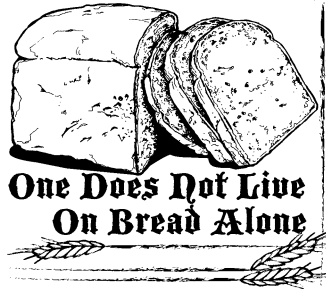
All Adults and children who are interested in being received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church should contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Notification of intention to marry must be given six months in advance.

First Sunday
of Lent

February 21, 2010



“You shall worship
the Lord, your God,
and Him alone
shall you serve.”
—Luke 4:8



THE SEASON OF LENT ALL STARTED AS
A TIME FOR CATECHUMENS TO PREPARE FOR BAPTISM

Lent began in the early centuries of the church as a preparation time of penance for those preparing to be received into the Church with the Sacrament of Baptism at Easter. The Lenten Season was later extended to the whole Church as people became interested in joining the catechumens in prayer, fasting, and penance to prepare to renew their own Baptismal life of faith at Easter as well.

This special step in the journey of faith for the catechumens of our parish that our parishioners witness at our **10:00a.m. Mass this Sunday morning**, is part of the renewal of the ancient rites of the liturgy of the Church. At this Mass, we are **sending our parish catechumens along with our candidates for Full Church Communion** and their sponsors to Bishop David Zubik at St. Paul Cathedral to be **officially enrolled** for Reception into the Church at our parish Easter Vigil Mass.

This **Rite of Election** at the Cathedral this Sunday at 3:00p.m. welcomes catechumens and candidates from throughout our diocese. There will be another Rite of Election celebrated by the bishop next Sunday for the rest of our diocese—so large is this group of candidates and sponsors each year.



This Sunday afternoon - 5:00p.m.
YOUTH GATHERING - in cafeteria
Father Andrew is COOKING!
As Lent begins, join us to find out how to fully experience Lent. Eighth graders are invited.

Monday - 6pm - CCD

Monday - 7:30pm - PASTORAL COUNCIL

Tuesday and Thursday - 6:30pm.
PASSION PLAY PRACTICE
We invite men and high school boys to act as **APOSTLES**.

Thursday - 9:15am - Scripture Study at K of C Hall

Thursday - 7pm - RCIA

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS IN LENT
at 7:00p.m.**

OUR SUCCESSFUL PARISH FRIDAY FISH DINNERS
Fridays in Lent 4:30 TO 7:30PM

Thank you for your wonderful support last year and for the many volunteers we have signed up for this year.

There is a great choice of baked or fried fish or shrimp, choice of soups and vegetables, and baked or fried potatoes.

Thanks to our talented cooks, cheerful servers, and dedicated parishioners behind the scenes.

TAKE OUT DINNERS or single food items - you may call the cafeteria number
After 3:00pm on Friday - 724-935-9893
or - 724-759-8659



**ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT ON ALL FRIDAYS IN LENT
OBLIGES ALL 14 YEARS AND OLDER**

As a general rule, a request for a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence on **Fridays of Lent** will **not be considered** unless some serious reason is present. The attendance at social events, banquets, wedding rehearsals, receptions, or funeral wakes, **is not considered sufficient reason** to request a dispensation.

LENTEN REFLECTION EVENINGS

Looking for a deeper understanding of gospel values and how to live them? The Beatitudes provide rich, but often misunderstood wisdom for Christian living.



We will explore the **Eight Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew** over four (4) Tuesday evenings in Lent. Beginning **March 2**, and continuing through **March 23**, we will meet in the music room from 7:00 until 8:30pm. Please bring a Bible for reference, and feel free to invite a friend.

Leslis Mitros, our parishioner and Head of School at Aquinas Academy, will be the moderator. Please call 724-444-0655 to register, or email LesMitros@Netscape.net

Youth Activities

Summer Mission Trip - July 18-24: We are planning to take 6 teens and 2 adults to Fr. Beiting's Appalachian Mission Center. Please contact us ASAP if interested or for more information. You can also check out www.fatherbeiting.org to learn about this mission and Fr. Beiting.

Adult Volunteers needed! - Has God been calling you to serve His people? Do you like working with youth? Have you considered giving some of your time or talents to the High School youth of St. Al's? If so, we would love to meet with you to discuss your ideas and how you can help us serve the wonderful youth of this parish.

Questions or comments about anything, please contact Lisa/Mike at stalsym@zoominternet.net or Lisa's cell 724-612-4840 or Mike's cell 412-302-0603.

CATHOLIC GRADE SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL ADDED THIS FALL

Our **St. Alphonsus Grade School** last year participated with other Catholic grade schools, St. Alexis and St. Kilian, is forming a Junior-Varsity Team (5th and 6th grades) in the Catholic Grade School League as the **North Pittsburgh Ironmen**.

THIS YEAR WE ARE ADDING A VARSITY TEAM (7th and 8th grades).

Players are needed. Interested families should call Andy Patsy 724-612-8884 or attend an information meeting at St. Kilian cafeteria Tuesday, February 23 at 7pm.

USHERS NEEDED

We especially need ushers at 12:15p.m. Mass on Sundays, on the new side of the church: men or women or husbands and wives together. You do not need to be present at this Mass every week. Please call the rectory or see one of our priests.

MASS INTENTIONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - February 20/21

5:00p.m. **Saturday** - Mary Ann Stack by *M/M Karl Kimmich & Family*

6:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:00a.m. Dorothy Twomey by *Tony & Margaret Chiaro*

10:00a.m. Jack Cuddy by *Ribnick Family*

12:15p.m. Shirley Grosick by *Senita Family*

Monday, February 22 - The Chair of St. Peter

7:00a.m. Helen Keller by *Rich & Pat Miller*

9:00a.m. Paul Staab by *Wife Dolores & Family*

Tuesday, February 23 - Lenten Weekday

7:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

9:00a.m. Bertha Rose Kinsella by *Tarasovich Family*

Wednesday, February 24 - Lenten Weekday

7:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

9:00a.m. Virginia Schilling by *Pat & Coleman McGivern*

Thursday, February 25 - Lenten Weekday

7:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

9:00a.m. Olive Senita by *Anna Senita Baka*

Friday, February 26 - Lenten Weekday

7:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

9:00a.m. Helen Donahue by *Donahue Family*

7:00p.m. **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday, February 27 - Lenten Weekday

9:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - February 27/28

5:00p.m. **Saturday**, Jimmy Montgomery by *Family*

6:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

8:00a.m. Marianne Gebhart by *Patty & Butch Langer*

10:00a.m. Frances Merchock by *Women's Guild*

12:15pm Annette DeMartini by *William & Gayle Glikes*

CHARITY TIME FOR LENT . . .

- Volunteers are needed to become part of a team of **Vigil Companions**. The purpose of this is *that no one dies alone*. Companions sit at the bedside of a dying resident when there is no family to be present at **UPMC Cranberry Place**.
- **Vincentian Home** is looking for **Eucharistic Ministers and volunteers to escort residents to daily Mass and doctor appointments**. Help is also needed for religious programs, activities and trips. Please contact Marleen Dean, Activity Director, at 412-366-5600, Ext. 538 for more information.
- Continue to donate to the needs of the **North Hills Foodbank** by bringing food to our church and placing the food in the baskets at the doors of the church.

Last Sunday's Offertory

Regular Sunday Collection \$ 13,515.40

Thank you