

St. Alphonsus Parish

Wexford, PA

201 Church Road
Wexford, PA 15090

Parish Founded in 1840
School Established 1889

**NEW YEAR'S DAY
FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

January 1-3, 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.

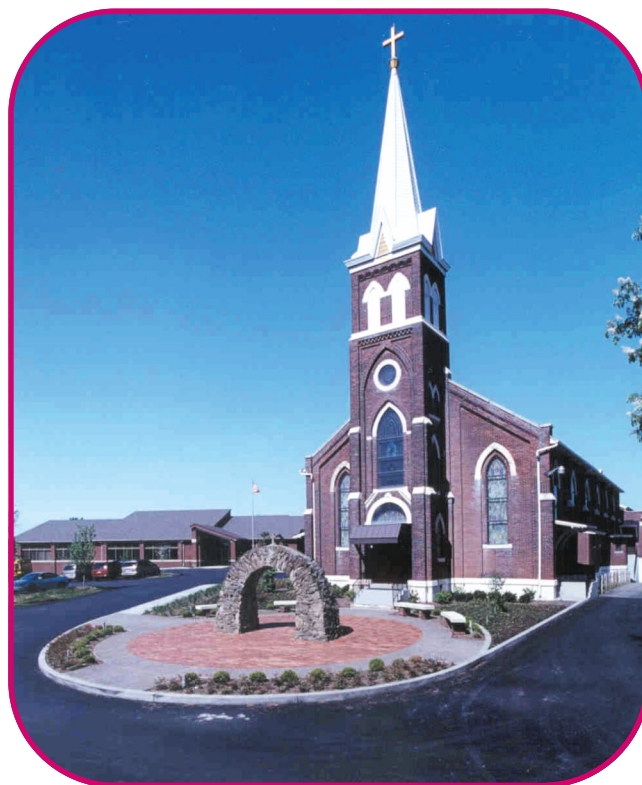


Photo By Ray Thompson

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.

January 1, 2010

SOLEMNITY OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
THE MOTHER OF GOD



And Mary kept all these things,
reflecting on them
in her heart.

—Luke 2:19

THE EPIPHANY
OF THE LORD

JANUARY 3, 2010



The Magi were overjoyed
at seeing the star,
and on entering the house
they saw the Child
with Mary His Mother.

—Matthew 2:10



The Epiphany of the Lord is the celebration of receiving the Gift of the Light of Jesus' birth among us. The Prophet Isaiah says today: "You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow."

The Feast of Epiphany has been celebrated as the feast of Jesus' Incarnation and Manifestation since the third century **in the East**. However, the **Western Empire** adapted the date of Jesus' Birth to be celebrated at the Winter Solstice (December 25) after Emperor Constantine was converted to Christianity at the beginning of the fourth century.

As a result, from both of these traditions, East and West, the whole Universal Church benefits from the extension of time of this Christmas-Epiphany Season.

GRATITUDE FOR CHRISTMAS PARISH BLESSINGS

Father Peter Murphy and Father Andrew Fischer extend our gratitude as well as the gratitude of the whole parish to all those who brighten up our liturgies during this Christmas Season.

Our music ministry of the adult choir, the folk choir, the teen musicians and singers, the young student singers, the cantors and the bell choir, all with their dedication and hours of practice, have led us in the glorious joy of the hymns of praise.

The lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, and servers, by their presence and ministry, united all in the bond of love which is the Eucharist.

Thank you

Thank you for the **generous contribution** gifts in the Christmas offerings for (1) our parish, (2) **Christmas Charities for Children and Youth** (which is applied to the quota for our Parish Share), and (3) our **Building Fund debt**.

Since this bulletin was printed earlier, the totals of the Christmas envelope offerings and last Sunday will be published next week.

PERSONAL THANKS FROM YOUR PRIESTS

We thank you especially for the gifts of baked goods, candies, and treats that you brought to the rectory and for your personal cards, Mass novenas, and gifts to each one of us.

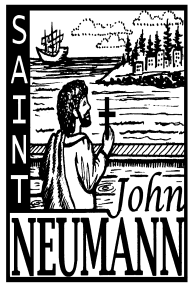
NEW YEAR'S DAY AND EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - January 1-3

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Father Andrew teaches several classes around the diocese on Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, where he uses the fronts of Christmas cards.

So recycle and bring the fronts only to the containers in church/school.

OUR "PARISH SAINT"



Especially of interest to our parish is **St. John Neumann** (Feast Day, Tuesday, January 5) who was born in Bohemia in 1911, and came to work among the missionary Redemptorists of Pittsburgh.

After our St. Alphonsus Church was dedicated on July 19, 1840, Father Neumann celebrated Mass and the sacraments in our parish later in the year 1840, and during 1841. In 1852, he would become Bishop of Philadelphia and made **the Catholic School an integral part of every parish in his diocese**. This would become the norm in every diocese in our young American country, thanks to the Religious Sisters who came from Europe, and our native-born young women who would enter Religious Life to teach children.

Our school students of St. Alphonsus will gather for Mass at 9:00a.m. on Tuesday on these same grounds that St. John Neumann celebrated Mass.



Monday - 6p.m. - CCD

Tuesday - 7p.m.- RCIA

Thursday - 9:15a.m. - Scripture Study at K of C Hall

Thursday - 7p.m. - RCIA

Next Sunday, Jan. 10 - Collection for March for Life after Mass (for lapel pins & wrist bands)

Next Sunday - Donut Social after 10:00a.m. Mass

Next Sunday - 5p.m. - Youth Meeting - cafeteria

Schedule of Events

CONFIRMATION RETREAT FOR ALL CANDIDATES
at Gilmory Center (near Pittsburgh Airport)
on Sunday, January 17
Buses leave here at 9:15a.m.(return at 3p.m.)

MARCH FOR LIFE to Washington, D.C.
Friday, January 22 - Bus leaves our church at 6:00a.m. Call the rectory for reservations.

MASS INTENTIONS

**NEW YEAR'S DAY - Feast of Mary, Mother of God-
December 31/January 1**

Thursday - Eve Mass - 5:00p.m. - Officer Michael
Crawshaw *by Pampiks Family*

8:00a.m. - Morning - Dorothea Nolan *by Steve
& Sue Regan & Family*

10:00a.m. - Morning - Gloria Kasarda *by Joe &
Nancy Cummings*

12:15p.m. - Morning - Dolores Kestner & James
Musich *by Kestner Family*

**Saturday, January 2 - SS. Basil & Gregory
Nazianzen**

9:00a.m. Michael Rogala *by Family*

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - January 2/3

5:00p.m. Saturday, Bill Windisch *by John & Lynn
DeNisi & Family*

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

8:00a.m. Vincent & Ann Pegher *by Mike & Marian
Delisi*

10:00a.m. Olive Senita *by Theresa Pegher*

12:15p.m. Maureen Frey *by Tom & Rose Marie
Zurick*

Monday January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

7:00a.m. Mary Piscitelli *by Mary Norris*

9:00a.m. Ed Elsesser *by Virginia Cole Family*

Tuesday, January 5 - St. John Neumann

7:00a.m. Genevieve Santoro *by Daughter*

9:00a.m. Helen Drury *by Dan & Diane Cole*

Wednesday, January 6 - Blessed Andre Bessette

7:00a.m. Richard "Dick" Pfendler *by Noonan-
Arena Family*

9:00a.m. Mary Metz *by Jo Labrise*

Thursday, January 7 - St. Raymond

7:00a.m. Sr. Roberta Bradley *by Sr. Mariella*

9:00a.m. Adolph Young *by Wife*

Friday, January 8 - Sr. Raymond of Penafort

7:00a.m. Lydia Haberstroh *by Family*

9:00a.m. Julia Serbiski *by Stanley Rusin, and Tina*

Saturday, January 9 - Christmas Weekday

9:00a.m. Rosemarie and Mrs. Alfonso Liguori *by
Ray Vincent*

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - January 9/10

5:00p.m. Saturday, Francis Trant *by Nicholas Family*

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

8:00a.m. Special Intention

10:00a.m. Steve Plocki *by St. Alphonsus Choir*

12:15p.m. Ben Schur *by Family*



St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (Feast Day on January 4) is the first natural-born American citizen canonized a saint. Born in 1774, married, a mother of 5, a widow, she became a Catholic and founded the American Sisters of Charity, and then Mother Seton started the first school for Catholic students and the first free schools in America for the education of children.