

St. Alphonsus Parish

Wexford, PA

201 Church Road
Wexford, PA 15090

Parish Founded in 1840
School Established 1889

The Nativity of the Lord
December 25, 2011

PARISH PRIESTS

Father Peter P. Murphy, *Pastor*
Father Robert W. Fleckenstein, *Parochial Vicar*

DEACON

Mr. Albert E. Heiles Jr.

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 - www.soulym.org

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
Fax724-934-3788
Dept. of Religious Education-**CCD** ...724-935-1160
St. Alphonsus School724-935-1152
School Fax.....724-935-1110

DIOCESAN VICTIMS HOTLINE.....888-808-1235

WEB-SITES: Parish..... stals.org
School stals.org
Diocese 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.



THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH

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.

Christmas 2011

**A Blessed Christmas
to the Parishioners
of St. Alphonsus Parish**
*from Father Peter Murphy
from Father Rob Fleckenstein*



Christmas Season

We thank you, our many parishioners who have given yourselves as a gift of service to the parish. We also thank you for your prayers and personal encouragement to us, your priests, as well as your generosity of kindness toward us this Christmas.

Our prayer for you is for happiness and joy as you gather with your families this Christmas and gather together with us in worship.

Our Christmas church decorations enhance our worship during this Christmas Season which extends to January 9, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Thank you to all who helped to decorate our church with the beauty of the color and symbols of Christmas joy.

THE OCTAVE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS

This week is an extension of the Christmas celebration of the Manifestation of Jesus' Incarnation and Birth into the world.

Monday
December
26
The Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr who gave witness to the ongoing life and Resurrection that the Newborn Savior promises to us.
**THIS IS ALSO THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS
ONE MASS TODAY AT 10:00a.m.**

Tuesday
December
27
The Feast of St. John the Apostle and Evangelist
The Gospel of John proclaims the Coming of Jesus as "The Word made Flesh," and as the "Light" coming into the world overcoming the darkness.

Wednesday
December
28
The Feast of the Holy Innocents recalls the martyrdom of those innocent children born at the time of Jesus' birth, and the evil that the Newborn King has come into the world to overcome.

Thursday
December
29
Fifth Day In the Octave of Christmas
The Gospel recounts the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple.

Friday
December
30
The Feast of the Holy Family
Jesus was born into the world and grew in a relationship with His Family:"The Child grew and became strong, filled with the wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him."

Saturday
December
31
The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas
On this last day of the year, the Beginning of the Gospel of John is proclaimed.

Sunday
January
1
**The Octave Day of Christmas
Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**
**FOR THIS NEW YEAR'S DAY,
THERE IS NO 6:00a.m. MASS.**

Nativity of the Lord - December 24/25

CHURCH LITURGICAL CALENDARS

Please take one of the **liturgical calendars** home with you. These calendars feature the images of the **American saints of the Catholic Church, including St. John Neumann**, who ministered to the people of St. Alphonsus Parish in 1840-41.

The calendar includes the **parish schedule of Masses and confessions**. This parish calendar is given to us courtesy of George A. Thomas Funeral Home.

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT MISSION

Sister Kathleen Weigand, OSB, director of **St. Vincent Mission in David, Kentucky**, sends us a thank you letter:

"Wow, what a 'sleigh full' of gifts that Glenn (Craig) and Al (Fill) delivered from St. Alphonsus . . . clothing, coats, toys, books, shoes, household items, and more."

Sister adds a postscript: "Wonderful! All the items were needed, especially the shoes."

St. Vincent Mission is located at 6369 Highway 404, Box 232, David, KY 41616. Web: stvincentmission.org.

Youth Activities

NEXT SOUL Night -Saturday Night Life-Jan. 7, 2012- Bowling after the 5pm Mass!

Teen Leaders Needed - Confirmation Retreat is January 7th - We are looking high school teen leaders to help with this important day. Contact Lisa/Mike for more details.

March For Life - Monday, January 23rd - Buses, food, Rally, March, Mass at the National Shrine, what more could you want???
Register by January 3rd. Details and forms at www.SOULym.org.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

(The days between Christmas Day and Epiphany)

Composed by English Catholics forbidden to practice their faith, the *12 Days of Christmas* was used to instruct children about the faith of the Church-

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 Partridge: | The one, true God |
| 2 Turtle Doves: | Old and New Testaments |
| 3 French Hens: | Three Persons of the Trinity |
| 4 Calling Birds: | 4 Gospels |
| 5 Golden Rings: | 5 Books of the Pentateuch |
| 6 Geese a-laying: | 6 days of creation |
| 7 Swans a-swimming: | 7 gifts of Holy Spirit/Sacraments |
| 8 Maids a-milking: | 8 beatitudes |
| 9 Ladies dancing: | 9 fruits of the Holy Spirit |
| 10 Lords a-leaping: | 10 commandments |
| 11 Pipers Piping: | 11 faithful apostles |
| 12 Drummers Drumming: | 12 points of doctrine of Apostles' Creed |

MASS INTENTIONS

CHRISTMAS - December 24/25

4:00p.m. **Sat. Eve.** Angela, Theresa & John Mazzaresse Family

7:30p.m. **Sat. Eve.** James Baierle *by McCarthy Family*

10:00a.m. **Sat. Eve.** Antonio DeChellis *by Feath Family*

8:00a.m. **Sunday** Ann & Vince Pegher *by Family*

10:00a.m. **Sunday** Olive Senita *by Family*

12:15a.m. **Sunday** Ed Scurci *by Family*

Monday, December 26 - St. Stephen

CIVIC HOLIDAY OF CHRISTMAS

10:00a.m. Jimmy Montgomery *by Family*

Dec'd Parents of George & Kathleen Lyons

Tuesday, December 27 - St. John the Apostle

7:00a.m. Julie Ketterlee *by Dave Brudy*

9:00a.m. Vincent & Michael DiStazio *by Family*

Wednesday, December 28 - Holy Innocents

7:00a.m. George & Blanche Boll *by Estate*

9:00a.m. Al Pegher *by Wife & Family*

Thursday, December 29-Octave Day of Christmas

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

9:00a.m. Catherine Fredericks *by Fran & Rich Korenich*

Friday, December 30 - Holy Family of

Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

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

9:00a.m. Brian Terence Connolly *by Rich Rodgers*

Saturday, December 31 - Octave Day of Christmas

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

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOTHER, MOTHER OF GOD, - December 31/January 1

5:00p.m. Saturday-Frances Merchok *by Carolyn & Joseph Augustine*

NO 6:00a.m. MASS

8:00a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

10:00a.m. Vince Cannon *by Gertrude Stiger*

12:15p.m. Shirley Grosick *by Dave Brudy*

HOW ABOUT THE GIFT OF TIME WITH GOD AT ST. ALPHONSUS' ANNUAL RETREAT? St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center

WOMEN - January 13 - 15, 2012

MEN - January 20 - 22, 2012

For information and/or questions, please call Mark Prybyl and Eileen Minnock - 724-776-0876
Joyce Ley - 724-010-4817
George Payne 412-367-4624

Registration/Deposit to St. Paul of the Cross 412-381-7676
or

www.catholic-church.org/stpaulsretreatcenter

Join us for an unforgettable weekend!