



St. Aloysius Gonzaga Catholic Church

22800 Washington Street ✕ PO Box 310 ✕ Leonardtown, MD 20650

Rectory (301) 475-8064 ✕ Fax (301) 475-8762

NEW PARISHIONERS... St. Aloysius extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for prayer, worship, or instruction. If you are new to the area or returning home to the Church, we invite you to register and make St. Aloysius your parish. Registration forms can be obtained at the church, on our website, or by calling the rectory.

FIND A SMALL GROUP... Find Small Group Faith Formation opportunities in our area for both adults and high school teens by visiting www.ConnectStMarys.com.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)... RCIA is the process of welcoming new members to the Catholic Church. It is intended for adults who have never been baptized or for adults who have been baptized Christian and now wish to practice the faith in the Catholic tradition. It is an ongoing process of formation, catechesis and liturgical rites. Anyone interested is asked to call the rectory to discuss the process.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM... Parents are asked to call the parish office to register for the Baptismal Preparation Meeting and for the baptism of their child. Parents are expected to be participating members of the parish.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE... Couples seeking to be married in the Church are to make arrangements with the pastor six months to one year in advance of their intended wedding date, in order to allow time for marriage preparation. At least one of the engaged should be a registered and practicing member of the parish.

ANointing OF THE SICK... The Sacrament of the Sick is for the spiritual comfort, strength and healing of the ill. If there is a need for the sacrament in your family or household, please contact the rectory as soon as possible.

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL... Pre-K-8th Grade. If interested, please contact Mrs. Helen Bowles in the school office Monday through Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm, 301-475-9795 for space availability.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION... Pre-K-8th Grade, 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, 9:15 AM to 10:30 AM, during the school year. To register please contact Leonard Wathen at the Rectory or visit the parish website.

February 11, 2018

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am and 11:00 am
Daily: 12:15 pm Tuesday & Thursday
8:30 am Wednesday & Friday
7:30 am Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES:

As Announced inside the Bulletin.

FIRST FRIDAYS: Masses at 9:00 am (September through June) and 7:00 pm. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10:00 am till 6:45 pm followed by Benediction.

Confessions from 6:00 - 6:30 pm.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Thursday: 11:30-12 Noon
Saturday: 3:30-4:30 pm

STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. David W. Beaubien, ext. 14
Deacon.....Deacon Joe Vavrus
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper.....Denise Becher, ext.10
Receptionist/Bulletin EditorLauren Carney, ext.11
Religious Education/Youth Ministry.....Leonard Wathen, ext.16
Maintenance.....Wally Bowles
Principal, Father Andrew White SchoolHeather Francisco
Secretary, FAW School.....Helen Bowles

RECTORY HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8 am-4 pm
Friday 9 am-3 pm



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Scripture Corner

MIRACLES IN THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

Miracles play an important role in the work of Jesus. Those healing narratives form a large part of the Gospel material. The healing of the leper in today's Gospel (Mark 1: 40 – 45) reflects a theology about sickness found in the Old Testament. Illness was seen to be the result of sin. Jesus makes it clear that that is not always the case. In the Gospel of John Jesus says concerning the blind man: "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him." (Jn 9: 3)

A leper is cured in today's Gospel. He already has faith in our Lord: "If you wish, you can make me clean." (vs. 40) Christ wants people to come to faith in him as a result of his miracles, to see him as sent by God with a Gospel message.

One of the effects of leprosy was isolation from the community. The lepers were to cry out, "Unclean, unclean." (Leviticus 13: 45) Even touching a leper, as Jesus did, made one unclean. The great mercy of Christ brought him to reach out to this vulnerable man despite the regulations! Our Lord did ask the leper to follow the Old Testament prescriptions, reporting to a priest to be declared clean. (Leviticus 13: 1 – 14: 57)

Despite Jesus' strong words to the man who had been cured, "See that you tell no one anything" (vs. 44) (the Messianic Secret), the man in his enthusiasm spread the good news about his healing. This made it "impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly." (vs. 45) He wanted to be seen mainly as proclaiming the Good News, not as a healer. The healings were important to verify his Gospel message.

Mark's first chapter has a wonderful ending. "People kept coming to him from everywhere." (vs. 45) This suggests a comment on the Bible's division into chapters and verses. You cannot make a point about the interpretation of Scripture texts on that division since it is not an original part of Sacred Scripture. In the thirteenth century Stephen Langton (Archbishop of Canterbury) made the division into chapters and in the sixteenth century Robert Estienne made the division into verses. By and large they did a very good job. Today's ending of Mark 1 is a great example.

~Msgr. Ralph J. Kuehner

FASTING & ABSTINENCE for LENT

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence from meat for those age 18—59. Seafood is permitted. In addition, Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence for those age 14 and up. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal.

(If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully in and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.)

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS this WEEK

Tuesday, Feb. 13:

12:15 pm

Emilio Balmaceda

Wednesday, Feb. 14:

9:00 am

Ash Wednesday

Pro populo

12:15 pm

Pro populo

7:00 pm

Pro populo

Thursday, Feb. 15:

12:15 pm

Mary & Howard Spalding

Friday, Feb. 16:

8:30 am

Rev. John S. Mattingly

Saturday, Feb. 17:

7:30 am

The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

5:00 pm

Nolan Scully

Sunday, Feb. 18:

8:00 am

First Sunday of Lent

11:00 am

Pro populo

John W. Duchesne

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER the Sick and Homebound in our Community: John Barnett, Dorothy Anne Blackwell, Walter M. Bowman, Judy Brown, Teresa Cusic, Charles Davis, Sr., Frances Duke, Jan Esler, George Guy, Warren Guy, Jr., Howard Hensley, St. Clair Hill, John Holly, Kimberly Johnson, Paula Kidwell, Juliann Leginze, Kelly McCleaf Karwacki, Max Long, George Nelson, Margaret Nelson, Frances Quade, Allan Stevenson, Mary Agnes Stewart, Ed Stokel, Richard & Sally Tomkinson, Stephanie Vallandingham.

BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: The community of St. Aloysius would like to extend our condolences to the family of Barbara Tobin, who passed away recently. May the angels lead her into paradise; may the martyrs come and welcome her to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem; and may the peace of Christ which is beyond all understanding give her family comfort and peace.

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS: As a companion for prayer during the season of Lent the parish is once again offering *The Little Black Book*. These pocket size books help us spend six minutes each day in meditation on the Passion according to St. Mark. *The Little Black Book* is available in the vestibule with voluntary \$1 donation to offset the cost.

FRIDAY NIGHT APOLOGETICS: The next topic: "Defending the Blessed Virgin Mary." Classes will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Lexington Park from 6:30 - 8:00 pm, on Friday, February 16, led by Ken Scheiber, faculty member at St. Mary's Ryken.

EVANGELIZATION & PARISH LIFE



THE GIFT: A LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE

Lent starts this Wednesday, February 14th. How about getting a gift rather than giving something up?

We are inviting you to mark your calendars now to receive **The GIFT: A Life in the Spirit Course**. This is an inspiring and

practical series aimed at people of all ages to help them encounter the Holy Spirit and empower them to share their faith. The 6 sessions will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm and will include dinner. The GIFT series begins on Wednesday, February 21st. A \$10 donation for the book is recommended. Register at www.saintalloysiuschurch.org under the News feed, **The GIFT sign up**. For more information, contact Deb Vavrus at 240-317-5332 or davavrus@msn.com.

Intercessory Prayer Group

Make time for prayer this Lent. Our prayer group will meet every Thursday, after Mass at 1:00 pm in the church's St. Lawrence room, starting February 15th. Fliers available in the vestibule of the church.

PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

Please take a moment today to stop by the "Vocations Tree" in the St. Aloysius niche, where you'll see cards for each of the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Washington. Please choose one or more cards and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent. Make it a beautiful offering to the Lord this Lent to pray for those whom He calls to give their lives in service of His Church in our archdiocese.

VOCATIONS CROSS

and message from

the Serra Club of Southern Maryland

What is a Sister? A Sister lives in a religious community that follows a constantly renewed tradition, patterned on the life and teaching of the founder of the community. The work she generally does will depend upon the ministries of that community as influenced by the needs of the Church and its people—for example: teaching, social work, administration, nursing, peace and justice ministry, etc.

Does the lifestyle of a Sister sound attractive to you? Contact the diocesan vocation office for more information.

Let us invoke the intercession of St. Junipero Serra for priestly and religious vocations and pray this week with Carolyn Trossbach, who has the Vocations Cross!

The Kalnasy Concert Series presents
Marathon Recital Day sponsored by the Music Teachers Association of Southern Maryland (MTASM).

Saturday, February 17, at St. Aloysius.

Recitals begin at 9:00 AM, and each 45 minute recital starts on the hour.

Last recital starts at 2:00 PM.

Talented youth and teen vocalists, instrumentalists and pianists will perform.



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STEWARDSHIP

SHARING OUR TREASURE

Weekly Offertory Contributions

Feb. 3/4

1st Collection

2nd Collection: School Support

Offertory Basket: \$ 6,368.00 Offertory Basket: \$ 1,546.00

Direct Debit: \$ 4,248.00 Direct Debit: \$ 497.00

Total: \$10,616.00 Total: \$ 2,043.00

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND will be for the **Utility Fund/Fuel**.

PATRON OF THE WEEK: Tom Hodges Auto Sales/Service. If in need please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

LOOKING FOR A CONVENIENT WAY TO HELP WITH OUR PARISH OFFERTORY? Please consider **Direct Debit**. The parish has an established program with our bank for electronic funds transfers. All transactions are done electronically, debiting your bank account automatically for the amount which you have agreed to in writing. This program is voluntary and includes electronic transfers for both the first collection offertory as well as the special second collections.

RELIGIOUS ED & YOUTH MINISTRY

Family of Faith Update – This month, in lieu of our regularly scheduled Community Gathering, families are asked to choose a family service activity for Lent. Although your family may choose any service activity, consider joining us on February 18 at 1:30 PM at St. Mary's Nursing Center as we sing patriotic songs for residents in honor of President's Day. Space is limited, so RSVP at staloyuschurch.eventbrite.com.

Catholic Relief Services Operation Rice Bowl materials were distributed at our Community Gathering on January 21. Be sure to pick up a rice bowl if you'd like to support those in need here and abroad this Lent.

RESPECT LIFE

WORD OF LIFE: "The Church affirms the inviolable dignity of every person, regardless of the duration or extent of the person's incapacity or dependence. Nothing diminishes the unchangeable dignity and sanctity of a person's life, or the obligation to protect and care for it."

OUR BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

THE RIGHT CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR YOU

The Archdiocese of Washington Catholic schools launched a new campaign—**The Right Catholic School for You: A Faith-Based Education that Lasts a Lifetime**. The campaign includes a new website, www.adwcatholicschools.org, and is designed to raise awareness of the value of a Catholic school education. One of the most important gifts in the life of a child is an excellent education, one that is grounded in the knowledge of the Church's authentic faith, allowing one to live a full, happy life in communion with Christ. The foundation students gain in Catholic schools promotes lifelong learning—transforming their possibilities for the future.

Father Andrew White, SJ School is a community of faith where families, faculty and staff, and clergy join together to help every child succeed, where learning takes place within a close-knit community, and where rigorous academic programs are grounded in Catholic values. To discover how Father Andrew White, SJ School could be the "Right Catholic School For You" visit the school website, www.fatherandrewwhite.org, and plan to attend the Open House scheduled for Sunday, February 25th from 12:00-1:00pm. Come meet the dedicated and caring staff and find out how our students are "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, Living our Faith."

COMMUNITY

2018 CARDINAL'S APPEAL

Special appreciation to all who are pledging or contributing this year to the Appeal, this most important effort guided by our archbishop Cardinal Wuerl!

The Cardinal's Appeal not only funds the ministries of the Archdiocese that touch the life of all of our parishes. For example, Catholic Charities assists us in reaching out to the needy in our immediate area. The four seminarians from our parish are funded by the Appeal in their preparations for the priesthood.

As in the past years, the theme of the Appeal is, "**Seek First the Kingdom of God.**" --Matthew 6:33. As we seek first the Kingdom of God, we have the capability of helping it to be present in our lives and in the lives of those around us through our works of charity, our works of love, our works of love and compassion. Contributions to the Cardinal's Appeal offer each of us the opportunity to respond to the needs of others by enabling ministries and services that touch thousands of lives.

Please prayerfully consider a generous pledge to the 2018 Cardinal's Appeal!

Drive-Thru Seafood Dinner at St. Mary's Fairgrounds – Friday's during Lent

St. Mary's 4H Archery is hosting a seafood dinner fundraiser. The drive-thru seafood dinner will be at the St. Mary's Fairgrounds on Friday's from February 16th – March 30th. Time is from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. Cost is \$10 per dinner. Menu includes for each dinner: fish, shrimp, clam strips, fries, hush puppies and applesauce. No substitutions. For more information contact the Third District Optimist at criscokid41@yahoo.com or (301) 904-0799.

Camp Maria Retreat Center is hosting a Women's Lenten Retreat Program on Friday, March 2 through Sunday, March 4. Journey with Sarah, "Mother of Faith, wife of Abraham and mother of Isaac". Sarah has much to teach us. Sunday Mass is included. This is a 2 night/3 day retreat with overnight accommodations.

Sister Marian Stenken, a Sister of Charity of Nazareth from Louisville, Ky., will lead the retreat. Cost \$165. Registration and retreat fees are due by Thursday February 22, 2018. Mail to: Camp Maria Retreat Center 41290 Camp Maria Rd, Leonardtown, MD 20650. If you have further questions, contact Ann Kovalcik, Director at director@campmaria.org or 301-475-8330.

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