



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.

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

7 days a week: 6:30-7:30 AM and PM

FIRST FRIDAYS: Mass at 8:30 am

FIRST SATURDAYS: Mass at 7:30 am, Holy Hour till 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

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

STAFF

Pastor.....Rev. David W. Beaubien, ext. 14
Deacon.....Deacon Joseph Vavrus
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper.....Denise Becher, ext.10
Receptionist/Bulletin EditorJennifer Bicknell, ext.11
Religious Education/Youth Ministry.....Leonard Wathen, ext.16
Coordinator of Music.....Beth Domingue
Maintenance.....Robert Barger
Principal, Father Andrew White SchoolJanet Szoeh
Secretary, FAW School.....Helen Bowles

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



www.SaintAloysiusChurch.org
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PASTOR'S CORNER

Listening for the Spirit

Luke 3:10-18

Last month on November 17, we had an afternoon and evening Listening Session as part of our parish's involvement in the Universal Synod going on. The Synod, called by Pope Francis to address the theme of Communion, Participation and Mission, seeks to assess how well we are listening to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our communal faith lives. The notes taken during the parish sessions are presently being collated and will soon be distilled into a brief summary document by our Synod team and submitted to the Archdiocese. In addition, we would like to make available to you a parish report on the input received during the Listening Sessions.

The main challenge of the Synod process has been in fulfilling an aspect on which Pope Francis over the years has placed great emphasis, namely, that of including the voices of the marginalized, those who for various reasons have been on the boundaries of regular faith practice. Unfortunately, a formal listening session offers a less-than-ideal opportunity to hear these particular voices. Elsewhere in casual conversation with such individuals, one might hear about the circumstances that have kept them from a more regular participation. For those otherwise able, a cause that may figure prominently of late is the risk of incurring or transmitting Covid infection, despite the wide availability of vaccines. Others may see Sunday worship as simply outweighed by other priorities. Regarding some who might want a relaxing of Church teaching on faith and morals, one wonders whether such a change would enhance the priority of faith for them and bring them back. Although the Synod is not about changing teaching on faith and morals or restructuring the Church, at least we are being encouraged to listen always with care and compassion to those who voice where they are in the faith.

As he announced the coming of the Messiah, John the Baptist had an opportunity to listen to and speak with many, among them the marginalized, who came from all over. The crowds included tax collectors and soldiers. Many in the crowd, especially the poor, were not capable of adequately fulfilling religious precepts. Tax collectors were despised for their collaboration with the oppressing authorities, as were the soldiers. Yet they asked, "What should we do?" (vs. 10) In brief, he instructed them to engage in good works and be fair and just in their dealings.

Always gratifying is the experience of meeting those inquiring about a deeper participation in faith

life. Through the Order of Christian Initiation, we work with them to provide the same close encounter with Jesus, who "will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (vs. 16) This experience is offered not in so dramatic a way as did John the Baptist, but the reality is the same. "He preached good news to the people" (vs. 18), and so do we. Wherever the sacramental life of the Church is practiced—many times ignored, forgotten about, hidden behind closed doors, or in strikingly open ways visible to vast numbers in beautiful ceremonies—the kingdom of God has come among us, and we are sharers in it.

Especially in this touching and inspiring season of Advent, take the opportunity to invite someone you know back to a fuller practice of the faith!

~Fr. David

PRAYER & WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS this WEEK

Tuesday, Dec. 14:	St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church Ernest D. Pfeiff
12:15 pm	
Wednesday, Dec. 15:	Joseph F. Hancock
8:30 am	
Thursday, Dec. 16	Dave Foggo
12:15 pm	
Friday, Dec. 17:	Theresa Marie Meinert
8:30 am	
Saturday, Dec. 18:	Filomena Florendo Evelyn Worrell
7:30 am	
5:00 pm	
Sunday, December 19:	Fourth Sunday of Advent Robert & Mary Lillian Miedzinski
8:00 am	
11:00 am	<i>Pro populo</i>

PLEASE REMEMBER  **ADVENT**  **IN PRAYER**
HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE.

the Sick and Homebound in our Community: Jeanne Bean, Wally Bowles, Brandon Bowman, Michael Brooks, Timothy Butler, Wanda Butler, Charles Davis Sr., George Guy, Jay McCleaf, Jake Meerman, George Nelson and Rebecca Swales.



BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: The community of St. Aloysius would like to extend our condolences to the family of **Deacon Chester G. Chen**, from the Archdiocese of Washington, who died recently. May the angels lead him into paradise; may the martyrs come and welcome him to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem; and may the peace of Christ which is beyond all understanding give his family comfort and consolation.

TO BUY a Missalette, please call the rectory- \$8.

EVANGELIZATION & PARISH LIFE



Join us for DAILY AM and PM Holy Hours for adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament and silent prayer in the Sacred Heart Chapel. 7 days a week: 6:30-7:30 AM and PM Come for all or a portion of the hour as your time allows.

MORNING PRAYER on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 AM in the Sacred Heart Chapel.

When attending Sunday or daily Masses in person, we urge all to follow the safety guidelines. Guidelines are posted on the Archdiocesan website www.adw.org.

FLOCKNOTE- To receive email and/or text updates from St. Aloysius Church, please visit our website at www.saintaloyuschurch.org, and sign up for Flocknote. Scroll down to bottom of home page under Receive Flocknote Updates.

MONDAY NIGHT APOLOGETICS -7:00-8:30pm in the parish hall at St. Francis Xavier Church, The Topic will be: "Predestination vs. Determinism" For more info., email: Kenneth.scheiber@smrhs.org or Fr. Ryan Pineda at pinedar@adw.org. Also available through the St. Francis Xavier Facebook Live page: https://www.facebook.com/stfrancisxavierchurchmd



UNBOUND PRAYERS The Gospel promises us peace, but we so often find ourselves bound by feelings of anxiety, fear, guilt, hopelessness, and shame. Unbound Ministry is a safe, confidential, and effective prayer ministry to help us to respond more fully to the Gospel using five simple keys. To learn more or to sign up for an appointment with a trained Unbound team visit www.saintaloyuschurch.org/unbound



BRICK FUNDRAISER Honor a loved one

Details: \$250 per brick, 3 lines of personalization, up to 15 letters/space per line. Order forms can be found in the vestibule or at our website www.saintaloyuschurch.org. For questions, call the rectory at 301-475-8064.

RELIGIOUS ED & YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Teens are invited to two upcoming retreats: MOUNT 2000, a three day weekend retreat February 11th to 13th at Mount St. Mary's University and Seminary CAMP HIDDEN LAKE, a weeklong Lifeteen summer camp in Northern Georgia, from June 26th to July 2nd Registration and details for both can be found at https://saintaloyuschurch.org/youth. Register before December 15 for an early registration discount!



FAMILY OF FAITH CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM For 2021-22 Registration and info, visit: https://www.saintaloyuschurch.org/familyoffaith

STEWARDSHIP

ONLINE GIVING PORTAL: http://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/staloyusius

SHARING OUR TREASURE

Weekly Offertory Contributions-December 4/5

1st Collection 2nd Collection: Flowers Offertory Basket: \$ 5,133.00 Offertory Basket: \$ 1,544.00 Direct Debit: \$ 10,223.00 Total (w/ Nov. \$ 15,356.00 online giving)

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK will be for our School Support.

PATRON OF THE WEEK: Brinsfield Funeral Home- If in need, please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

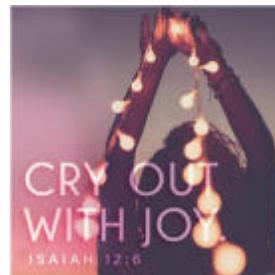
FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL

COOKIES WITH SANTA & SANTA SHOP- Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus will be making a special visit to Father Andrew White School TODAY, Sunday, December 12th from 9am-11am for an International Christmas! Cookies, coffee and a hot chocolate bar - Crafts and games for all ages - Santa Shop open for children to shop for gifts (each gift is \$3) - SCRIP gift card sales - Meet Santa and take a photo! Admission is \$5 per child 12 and under. Please wear a mask inside the building at all times, except when you're seated to enjoy the cookies! We look forward to spreading Christmas cheer with you!

ARE YOU HANDY? Practice the virtue of stewardship by helping with some repairs at Father Andrew White School. If you can assist with repairing floor tiles, creating a picnic table patio area, fixing a leaky roof, installing fencing, or other odds and ends, please contact the office at 301-475-9795.



JOB OPPORTUNITY- FAWs is seeking aftercare staff for the remainder of 2021-22 school year. Applicants must be over 18 years of age, available 3-5 days per week from 2:45-5:30pm. The position pay is \$20/hour. For more information, or to submit a resume, please email: fawslibrary@fatherandrewwhite.org



ST. VINCENT de PAUL



THE ANGEL TREE Please return all gifts and food cards by the 11:00 am Mass today, Sunday, Dec. 12th.

SCRIP CARDS— Father Andrew White School is selling Scrip cards. Forms are available in the foyer.

Before you go Christmas shopping for items and/or food cards, consider purchasing a scrip card for the store(s) you plan to use for your shopping needs.



Thank you for your generous support of our parish food pantry!

The next **MONTHLY OPEN FOOD PANTRY** will be on Saturday, December 18th, from 9AM-11AM, We will collect food after all Masses, Community Sunday weekend, Dec. 18/19th.

For more information, please contact the SVdP at 301-481-2942 or svdp@saintaloysiuschurch.org

COMMUNITY



FIND THE PERFECT GIFT

Happy Gaudete

(or Rejoice) Sunday! As we receive the perfect gift of Jesus at Mass we are filled with a joy that demands to be shared. **This Advent challenge yourself to share the Perfect Gift of Jesus with someone in our life who may be searching for meaning or friendship.** Invite your family and friends to our parish Advent and Christmas community celebrations, so that together we may grow closer to the source of all joy: Jesus Christ. *To find Advent and Christmas resources, volunteer opportunities, and reflections, visit FindthePerfectGift.org*



BEAR HUGS FOR HEALING- delivers stuffed bears to hospitalized children during the holidays.

To give a sick child a bear hug this Christmas, please **drop off** your donated bears by **December 14** at **Heavenly Presents**. Due to health and safety concerns, donated bears must be **newly purchased** and delivered in their original packing with store tags attached. Thank you for your support.



WOMEN'S NIGHT OF REFLECTION

with Fr. Larry Swink on **Tuesday, December 14th** at St. Cecilia's in St. Mary's City. **7PM.**

"Got Hope? – It's Unshakeable!" *We invite all women to come and be strengthened in the virtue of hope.* Evening includes Eucharistic Adoration, talk, Confession, and healing prayers.

THE AARP FOUNDATION TAX-AIDE PROGRAM

is in need of volunteers to prepare tax returns free of charge. *Training will be provided to volunteers for IRS certification.* Contact Dana Davis, St. Mary's Co. District Coordinator, at 301-863-2561 or davisdj@comcast.net

VIRTUAL HOLIDAY BAKE SALE- Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Dept Fundraiser



Bids will open **Tuesday, December 21** starting at 2:00 PM and close Wednesday, December 22 at 2:00 PM All items to start with a minimum bid of \$25.

Contact Lynn Brady 240-538-2503 with questions or to contribute baked items



WE ARE GRATEFUL for your continual support of Catholic Charities. **THANK YOU** For

upcoming volunteer opportunities. See our **Holiday Projects**-Catholic Charities programs (including St. Maria's Meals, Coat Drive 2021, Mona Farms and SHARE).

Visit our website: <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/> The projects will take place until January. If you have any questions, email: volunteer@cc-dc.org

QUEEN OF HEARTS LVRSA Fundraiser

Place: Action Lounge and Billiards, 25470 Point Lookout Rd., Leonardtown

Time: **Ticket Sales Start at 4pm**, last sale at 7:45pm, drawing at 8pm.

Dates: **Every Thursday**

Thank you for your support to the LVRSA.



"AT THE WELL" MINISTRY



Immaculate Heart of Mary Church offers twelve-week sessions using a program called "Surviving Divorce." We meet on **Sunday evenings from 6:00-7:30p.m., Beginning Jan 16th.** Material is faithful to Catholic teachings and features such experts as

Fr. Donald Calloway, Fr. Mitch Pacwa and Christopher West. *A donation of \$25 is requested to cover the cost of the workbook, but can be waived based on financial need. For more information and to register, please contact Judith Gwynn at atthewell@ihmrc.org*

RETREAT FOR SURVIVORS OF ABUSE - As the Church continues to minister to all survivors of abuse, the **Archdiocese of Washington** is sponsoring a **women's retreat February 18-20**, an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information, call Deborah McDonald at 301-853-4466.

HAVING a problem with alcohol?

AA can help you! To find out more about the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous, go to www.somdintergroup.org or call **1-800-492-0209**



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