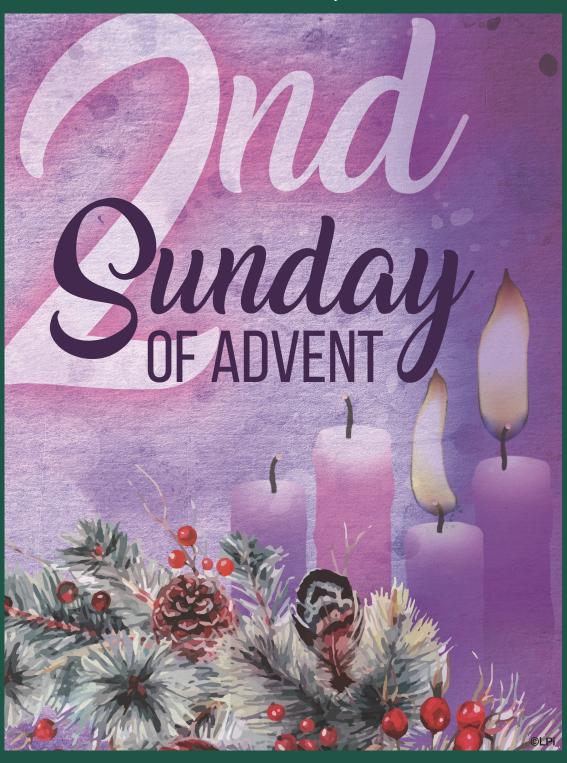


Saint Aidan Parish

Saint Alphonsus & Saint Alexis Churches

December 4, 2022



FROM THE DESK OF FR. DAN

PASTORAL NOTES BY FR. WILL

WHAT'S ADVENT ALL ABOUT?

As the weather turns colder and the world is blasting Christmas music, why is the priest wearing purple and what is Advent all about? Advent comes from the Latin word meaning to come towards. And who are we coming towards? Jesus!

We think about the two comings of Jesus. First we reflect on Christ coming at the end of time, after great tribulations where he will judge us, and for those found worthy, we'll inherit with Him eternal life. Have we thought about the beauty of heaven lately and how amazing it is? Have we felt that longing for something more than this world can offer? If we did, how would we live our lives differently today?

Next we think about Christ coming in Bethlehem, in the manger. As we prepare for that, we also prepare our hearts to receive Him in a new and deeper way than ever before. That's why the priest wears purple, for preparation and penance.

We had a beautiful tradition growing up of having some blessed straw next to the manger. We set up the whole nativity set but the kings, who would arrive on Epiphany in January, and Jesus who had not yet been born. Any time we did a good deed, said an extra prayer, or made a sacrifice, we would add a piece of straw to the manger. That way when it was time to insert Jesus, there would be a place that had already been prepared. However, the bigger reason for all of this wasn't just for the statuette of Jesus, but for the preparation of our hearts. Each good deed, prayer or sacrifice stretched our hearts just a little bit more to give and receive love more deeply, leading up to receiving Christ more deeply on Christmas day than ever before.

That is what we journey towards, a deeper encounter with Christ being born again in the manger of our hearts. The four candles symbolize hope, peace, joy and love as we journey closer to the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on December 25.

So, amid the hustle and bustle of the season, can we take time to pray? What's one extra prayer, sacrifice or good deed we can do each day as we prepare for the coming of the Lord Jesus, not just in Bethlehem, but in the Bethlehem of our hearts?

- Immaculate Conception This week we celebrate The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Thursday, December 8, a holy day of obligation. Please see the article on page 6 for the Mass times.
- Happy Birthday To My Mom her birthday is December 5. Growing up our favorite family tradition was celebrating St. Nicholas Day as it was the day after my mom's birthday. Hope your Christmas stockings are filled with advent joy!
- Update On My Dad and My Niece Emily Both are doing well and are out of the hospital.
 Continued prayers are greatly appreciated.
- St. Alexis Old Church Update Since August our maintenance staff has been working to remove all items from the old church. During the construction phase, a portion of the ceiling tile fell. We made an insurance claim and it was determined that the remaining ceiling tile was unsafe. We therefore had the maintenance staff remove the remaining ceiling tiles. At this point, we will be working with the Parish Finance Council to make a plan to renovate this space in a phased approach. More information will be forthcoming.
- who have made contributions to the appeal for the new furnace at Saint Alphonsus. The response to the need was amazing and we have reached our goal. I am especially grateful to one family who made a considerable donation that covered a large portion of the costs. The furnace was being replaced this past week and will take a few more days. The update to this system was long overdue, and the new furnace will be much more efficient. Thank you all.



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Parish News & Events
Faith Formation
Parish and Staff Contacts

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Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 4 / Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday (Vigil)

4:00 pm 50th Wedding Anniversary of Steven & Nancy

Reid / Family

Sunday

7:30 am Living & Deceased Members of Saint Aidan Parish

9:30 am † Marie Stadlman / Mary Evers

10:00 am † Thomas M. Clogan / Gabrielle Morreale

11:30 am † Mario & Reno Gentile / Paula & Dave DiNardo

5:00 pm † Michael Karapandi / James Petri

Monday, December 5 / Advent Weekday

Tuesday, December 6 / Advent Weekday

8:00 am † John & Estelle Repa / Gesmond Family

Wednesday, December 7 / Saint Ambrose

8:00 am † In Honor of Henry Mueller / Sarah Zlockie 12:00 pm † Lisa Marie McCourt / Dennis McCourt

4:00 pm Vigil: † Deceased Members of Parry/Cantwell

Families / Bob & Rita Parry

Thursday, December 8 / Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Living & Deceased Members of Saint Aidan Parish 9:00 am School Mass: † Joseph Brashear / Carmella &

Larry Farrell

12:00 pm † Andrew Posey / Posey Family 7:00 pm † Theresa M. Pegher / Connie Fill

Friday, December 9 / Advent Weekday

8:00 am + Clair Brehm / Pasqualucci Family

12:00 pm † Gertrude Nash / Joe & Carolyn Augustine

Saturday, December 10 / Advent Weekday

8:00 am † Mark Brandon / Jack & Marilyn Schuler

Vigil: Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm + George J. Kavinsky / MaryBeth Kavinsky Family

Sunday, December 11 / Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 am † Joseph Brashear / Carmella & Larry Farrell

9:30 am † In Honor of Jason Antonette / Sarah Zlockie

10:00 am † Ralph Altman / Family

11:30 am Living & Deceased Members of Saint Aidan Parish

5:00 pm † Jim Bevington / Mihm Family

St. Alexis

St. Alphonsus

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

St. Aidan Parish wishes to extend sympathy to those who mourn the loss of a loved one, especially:

Patricia L. Gurcak

May the choirs of angels welcome her, and may she find eternal rest.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 4 Youth Group	1 Youth Room	6:00 pm	
Monday, December 5			
Eucharistic Adoration			
Confession	St. Alphonsus		
CMF Aquilla Talk	BFSA Cafe.		
Young Adults	Youth Room	6:30 pm	
Tuesday, December 6			
Small Group	Conf. Room	9:00 am	
Adult Bible Study	Youth Room	6:00 pm	
RCIA	Conf. Room	6:30 pm	
Wednesday, December 7			
Faith Formation	Church	5:30 pm	
Thursday, December 8			
Small Group		7:00 pm	
Friday, December 9			
Eucharistic Adoration	St. Alexis	8:30 am	
Endow Meeting	Library	10:00 am	
Saturday, December 10			
Confession	St. Alexis	11:15 am	
Sunday, December 11			
Family Program		11:00 am	
Baptism	St. Alexis	11:15 am	
Youth Group	Youth Room	6:00 pm	
Divine Mercy Rosary Monday - Saturday at 8:45 am at St. Alexis Church.			



LIVE-STREAM MASSES

<u>saintaidanparish.org/livestream</u> or <u>facebook.com/saintaidanparish</u>.

- 8:00 am Monday Friday
- 10:00 am Sunday

LISTEN FROM YOUR CAR

89.5 FM radio - St. Alexis Church parking lot 4:00 pm Saturday 10:00 am Sunday

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration from 12:30 pm to 7:00 pm every Monday in St. Alphonsus Church. All are invited and encouraged to spend time in Jesus' Eucharistic presence! To sign up for 30 minutes or longer, call the parish office at 724-935-4343 or sign up online at saintaidanparish.org/adoration.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF **DECEMBER 4, 2022**

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/

Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12. Monday:

13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac,

11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and

10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/

Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/ Friday:

Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b,

15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/

Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

We pray with special love and concern for all those members of our Parish families of Saint Aidan who are ill or infirmed, asking the Lord for his consoling grace to heal those in need.

Rachel Brocka Harper Mruk Jeanne Bukauskas Gay Mullen Ray Bukauskas John Mullen James Chvala Fr. Peter Murphy

George "Murph" Neelan Robert Couture Briana Oliphant Don & Diane Depp

Bonnie Dollin **Emily Olup** Julie Ewell Pat

Tom Pendel Pat Fabiano

Bernadette Pruchnic Nancy Greer Hahn Family Mary Grace Roos Renee Hartle Shirley Schuff Bella Sciara Richard Hirsch Adam Sirianni Finley Leona Huff

Lois Jencka Helen Sonson Joan Jones Paul Spence Janice Spowal Lois Leahy Bethany Lesczynski **Brooke Sturgis**

Steve Takacs Linda Lorraine Long Bud Van Ryn Jean Mack Amber VanVickle Ann Magill Abby Vavro Mary Maloney Doug Ventura

Marian Mancino Loretta Ventura Liz McArdle David Zappa Virginia McLaughlin Bob Zolnowski

Jack Mihalacki

To add the name of a loved one or parishioner to the prayer list, please contact the parish office at 724-935-4343

LIFE TEEN MINISTRY

Life Teen December 4 - pizza, fun, and discussion

Fearless: Break the chains of fear, LifeTeen depression, anxiety. These are chains that bind us. Jesus tells us in 2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses. so that Christ's power may rest on me." Break your chain!! There is power in the name of Jesus!!

Jesus, it is hard to face what we cannot control. especially when it hurts. We surrender these times where we have felt helpless and abandoned to you. We ask you to be strong for us in the times we are weak. We know that you can make beauty out of ashes, and we remember that as we say: God is still good.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation students will celebrate the Advent season and grow in understanding of what the second coming is and how to prepare for it. We will be visiting the homeless downtown for Christmas gift giving as well. Blankets were made for the Wexford House and the homebound as well as the Sisters of Mercy.

Young Adult Ministry

December 5: Advent season; Christ Our Hope What do the four weeks of Advent represent? The four Sundays preceding Christmas, which is when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, are recognized for four virtues. The candles on the Advent wreath symbolize hope, love, joy and peace. Join us in the youth room at 6:30 pm ... dinner will be provided.

Land of Peace and Bethlehem Christian Families mission would like to express humble appreciation to you for your generosity during our visit the weekend of November 26/27. The sales of the olive wood carvings received a total amount of \$5,145. Please remember that the parishioners of Saint Aidan Parish are included in our prayers.. Thank you for your support in helping us and our brothers and sisters in Christ with compassion, dignity and respect especially in these difficult times. May you enjoy God's many glorious blessings!

Roni Salsa

MIKE AQUILINA - AUTHOR & SPEAKER DECEMBER 5

Please join us on **Monday, December 5** for a special presentation by Mike Aquilina, who co-authored *How Christianity Saved Civilization* ... *And Must Do So Again*. Mike will outline a list of ideals as a call to action, to give you some concrete things you can do to get involved in changing the world (again). Mike's talk will be followed by a Q & A discussion. Program is from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the cafeteria at Blessed Francis Seelos Academy. All are welcome (and bring a friend). Sponsored by Men's Fellowship. For more info contact the parish office at 724-935-4343 or cmf@saintaidanparish.org.

FR. DAN'S ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE

Join us on Thursday, December 15 for a photo presentation of Fr. Dan's pilgrimage to Rome and beyond. Learn about Assisi, Rome, Padre Pio, Pope Francis and more as we unpack this wonderful journey and see the Roman part of our Roman Catholic Faith come alive. Blessed Francis Seelos Academy cafeteria at 7:00 pm.

ST. ALEXIS COMMEMORATIVE PHOTO BOOKS

There are only 30 St. Alexis Commemorative Photo Books left. If you would like to order one for \$85, go to saintaidanparish.org/saintalexisbook. If you would prefer to pay by check, please stop by the parish office Monday - Thursday between the hours of 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

All bulletin submissions should be emailed to our bulletin editor, Lisa Walsh, at bulletin@saintaidanparish.org. 10 days prior to the publication date of the bulletin that you would like it to appear in. Listed below are the early deadlines due to the Christmas holiday:

Articles for the **12/18/22 bulletin** need to be submitted by noon on Tuesday, 12/6/22
Articles for the **12/25/22 bulletin** need to be submitted by noon on Tuesday, 12/13/22
Articles for the **1/1/23 bulletin** need to be submitted by noon on Monday, 12/19/22
Articles for the **1/8/23** bulletin need to be submitted by noon on Thursday, 12/29/22

Submissions are to be limited to 100 words or less.

All submissions are subject to review. A submission does not guarantee publication.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 12/5 Mike Aquilina Presentation
 Sponsored by Men's Fellowship
 6:00 pm BFSA Cafeteria
- 12/8 Immaculate Conception
 A Holy Day of Obligation
 Vigil Mass 12/7 4:00 pm St. Alexis
 8:00 am Mass St. Alexis
 12:00 pm Mass St. Alphonsus
 7:00 pm St. Alphonsus
- 12/14 The Light Is On For You Confessions 1:00 - 3:00 pm - St. Alexis 6:00 - 9:00 pm - St. Alexis & St. Alphonsus
- 12/15 Fr. Dan's Italian Pilgrimage 7:00 pm BFSA Cafeteria
- 12/19 Penance Service 7:00 - 8:30 pm - St. Alexis

HELP NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS

We are looking for help to decorate the sanctuary at St. Alexis for Christmas. If you are able to assist, please contact Jenna Shanahan at 724-935-4343 ext. 221 or jshanahan@saintaidanparish.org.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with decorating St. Alphonsus Church for Christmas. Decorating will take place on Sunday, December 18 following the 11:30 am Mass.

Rolls: Pumpkin, Nut, Apricot, Raspberry & Apple Walnut \$14.00 Cookie Tray Small \$40.00 (4dz) Lg \$60.00 (7dz)

Pies: Pumpkin, Chocolate, Banana, Oreo & Chunky Monkey \$13.00



Order Deadline December 14



Cookie Platters: Lights, Holly, Poinsettia & Wreath \$30.00









Text me for a complete list of cookies that are available per dz

Delivery Weekend Dec 20,21 & 22

Portion of the proceeds go to St. Aidan Parish - Wexford Payment: enmo @Cathy-Opiela Cash or Check

or sooner if needed for that holiday party!

Email or text order to: 412-352-1278 cathylangopiela@gmail.com



Saint Aidan Parish Sharing Tree & Kentucky Mission



REMINDER

If you forgot to bring your gifts to any of the Masses this weekend, please bring them to the cafeteria in the religious education building by 1:00 pm Sunday, December 4 as they are being sorted and delivered in the afternoon!! Thank you most kindly as your gifts will be greatly appreciated by all the different organizations and people that we help. Have a Merry Christmas that is abundant in Christ's blessings!!



March for Life Washington, DC Friday, January 20, 2023

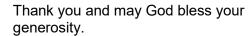
HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

These are the gifts of the Advent season. The gifts you help share here in our community, throughout the year, with your thoughtful stewardship.

Advent is a meaningful time to reflect on your generosity. One special way to give is eGiving. It can simplify your stewardship and provide steady, consistent support to the parish – so we can be ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and those in our community. Your recurring gifts will sustain our parish, even if you need to miss a Sunday service.

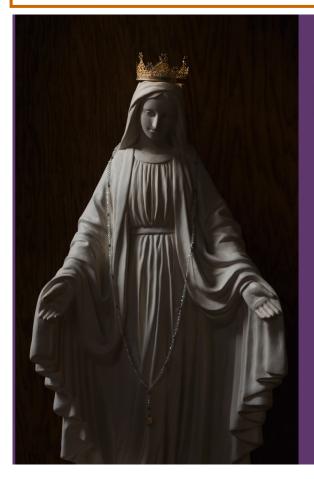
It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up:

- Visit saintaidanparish.org/donate
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757
- Scan the QR code
- Text "Enroll" to 724-932-6440









Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass - December 7 4:00 PM - Saint Alexis

December 8

8:00 AM - Saint Alexis 12:00 PM - Saint Alphonsus 7:00 PM - Saint Alphonsus

FAITH FORMATION

FAITH FORMATION

This week our Wednesday Faith Formation program will celebrate Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception! All children (including CGS) will meet in the church and will be picked up from the church. Next weekend, December 11, our Family Program will meet to celebrate Advent and prepare for Christmas!

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Another Advent prophecy that we share with the children is the prophecy of names: "For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful-Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6) What great names for a little baby! Who could this child be?

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy is now offered at the 9:30 am and 10:00 am Masses for children ages 3-7 who have not yet made their First Communion. We still need your help! We are looking for adult and teen leaders and helpers. Please contact Darcy if you are interested in volunteering at dosby@saintaidanparish.org.

RCIA

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? RCIA is an opportunity to learn and grow in faith with a small, supportive group of fellow seekers. RCIA prepares adults to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion. RCIA meets on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Our topic this week is Mary, the Mother of God! For more information about the RCIA and becoming Catholic, please contact Darcy at dosby@saintaidanparish.org.

BAPTISM

Congratulations on the birth of your baby! If you wish to have your child baptized, please go to https://saintaidanparish.org/baptism to view our guidelines and fill out the information form.

You will need to attend a baptism preparation session if this is your first child, or if it has been four years since you attended a baptism class. **Upcoming date is January 19** at 6:30 pm via Google Meet. Questions? Contact Darcy Osby at dosby@saintaidanparish.org.

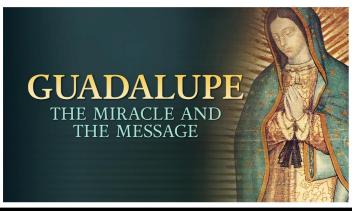


Olivia Electra Nikola, daughter of Chad and Alexis

Henry Cole Greene, son of Justin and Valerie

Layla Faith Jones, daughter of Michael and Kelsey

Abby Marie Ensby, daughter of Geoffrev and Molly





Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

Enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has influenced the conversion of millions of people.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit **formed.org/signup** and select our parish Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.









ADVENT 2022

SAINT AIDAN PARISH

SOLEMN EVENING MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1
6:30 ROSARY, 7PM MASS - ST. ALPHONSUS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

MONDAYS: NOVEMBER 28,
DECEMBER 5 & 12
6:00-6:45 PM - ST. ALPHONSUS

SATURDAYS: DECEMBER 3, 10, & 17 11:15 AM-12:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

CONFESSIONS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14
1:00-3:00 PM - ST, ALEXIS

6:00-9:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS + ST. ALPHONSUS

PENANCE SERVICE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19 7:00-8:30 PM - ST. ALEXIS



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS 4:00 PM - ST. ALPHONSUS 7:00 PM - ST. ALPHONSUS 10:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS

DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY

7:30 AM - ST. ALPHONSUS 9:30 AM - ST. ALPHONSUS 10:00 AM - ST. ALEXIS

DECEMBER 31, NEW YEARS EVE

4:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS
(ANTICIPATED MASS FOR JAN 1)

JANUARY 1, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

7:30 AM - ST. ALPHONSUS 9:30 AM - ST. ALPHONSUS 10:00 AM - ST. ALEXIS 11:30 AM - ST. ALPHONSUS 5:00 PM - ST. ALEXIS





SAINT AIDAN PARISH DIRECTORY

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
10090 Old Perry Highway, Wexford, PA 15090

Phone - 724-935-4343 **Fax** - 724-935-1270

Website: saintaidanparish.org

Offices are open Monday - Thursday from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Staff is also available via phone or email.

STAFF

Pastor - Rev. William D. Wuenschel

www.enschel@saintaidanparish.org ext. 233

Senior Parochial Vicar - Rev. John L. McKenna

fr.john@saintaidanparish.org ext. 224

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Daniel R. Waruszewski fr.dan@saintaidanparish.org ext. 223

Deacon - Rev. Mr. Albert E. Heiles, Jr.

aheiles@diopitt.org

Deacon - Rev. Mr. David McLaughlin deacondave@saintaidanparish.org

Deacon - Rev. Mr. Brett Schurter deaconbrett@saintaidanparish.org

Assistant to the Pastor - Jenna Shanahan

jshanahan@saintaidanparish.org ext. 221

Bookkeeper/Safe Environment Coordinator - Mary King

mking@saintaidanparish.org ext. 212

Director of Faith Formation - Darcy Osby

dosby@saintaidanparish.org ext. 213

Faith Formation Assistant - Paula Green

pgreen@saintaidanparish.org ext. 225

Media Coordinator - Maggie Koroly

Music Director -Lucas Barkley lbarkley@saintaidanparish.org

Music Associate - Mary Heagy

mheagy@saintaidanparish.org **Youth Minister** - Christine Miller

cmiller@saintaidanparish.org ext. 227

Reception - Sr. Linda Kaman, RSM

sr.linda@saintaidanparish.org

Bulletin Editor/Facilities Scheduler - Lisa Walsh

bulletin@saintaidanparish.org ext. 110

Maintenance

Ryan Csupak - maintenance@saintaidanparish.org
Doug Csupak

James Kirkland, custodian - custodian@saintaidanparish.org

Lav Minister Coordinators

Ministry Coordinator - Barb Griffith ministries@saintaidanparish.org Liturgy Coordinator - Beth McLaughlin

sacristans@saintaidanparish.org



Website: seelosacademy.org Phone for K-8 - 724-935-1152 Phone for Pre-K - 724-935-3940

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Saturday

8:00 am - Saint Alexis

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

12:00 pm - Saint Alphonsus

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm - Saint Alexis - broadcast 89.5 FM

Sunday

7:30 am - Saint Alphonsus

9:30 am - Saint Alphonsus

10:00 am - Saint Alexis - live-streamed &

broadcast 89.5 FM

11:30 am - Saint Alphonsus

5:00 pm - Saint Alexis

RECONCILIATION

Monday - 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm - St. Alphonsus Saturday - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm - St. Alexis or by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday

12:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Saint Alphonsus Church

First Friday of the month

after 8:00 am Mass with Benediction at 3:00 pm - Saint Alexis Church. Sign up for Eucharistic Adoration at saintaidanparish.org/adoration

SACRAMENTS

For Baptism, Marriage and Holy Orders questions, please contact the Parish Office and we will put you in touch with the proper staff member.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome you! To become a registered member of the parish family, please visit our website at saintaidanparish.org/register and introduce yourself to us at Mass!

DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE

412-456-3093 (Office) 1-888-808-1235 (Hot Line) PA Child Line - 1-800-932-0313 Call 911 immediately if a child is in danger.