

**ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CATHOLIC CHURCH, LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND**

**Worship**

**Mass Intentions**

**Tuesday, Jan. 19:**

12:15pm Mary Jane Scully  
Della Louise Buchanan

**Wednesday, Jan. 20: St. Fabian, pope & martyr &**

**St. Sebastian, martyr**

7:30am Mary Catherine Bell

**Thursday, Jan. 21: St. Agnes, virgin & martyr**

12:15 Braulio Villanueva  
R. Courtney Good

**Friday, Jan. 22: St. Vincent, deacon & martyr**

8:30am Evelyn Martin  
Hugh Dalton Sterling

**Saturday, Jan. 23:**

7:30am Kathy Albert  
James A Bell Longmore, Jr.

5:00pm Joseph P. Wilkinson, Jr.

**Sunday, Jan. 24: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00am Parishioners of St. Aloysius  
11:00am Edgar & Elyse Stellway

**Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound of our Parish**

**Community:** Let us remember in prayer: Wanda Butler, Gerald Campbell, Mary Carrigg, Judy Cates, Sharon Catron, Bill Chubb, Fran & Ray Dicus, Mary Dyson, Susan Fenwick, Pat Gibson, Denise Lacey, Charles Latham, Agnes Long, Jim O'Brien, Isabelle Raley, Jim Raley, Amy Saul, Agatha Stokel, and Donna Walker.

**Weekday Mass Change: Wednesday January 20<sup>th</sup>:** Due to meetings at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center this Wednesday, Mass will be celebrated at 7:30am. Thank you.

**Born to Eternal Life:** St. Aloysius extends our prayerful condolences to the families of Mary Jane Scully, Kitty Radford and Julia Thron, all of whom passed away recently. May the angels lead them to paradise; may the martyrs come and welcome them to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem; and may the peace of Christ which is beyond all understanding give their families comfort, peace and consolation.

**Parish Mission**

Mark your calendars. Reserve Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> through Wednesday February 24<sup>th</sup> for our Annual Parish Lenten Mission. Father Jude Winkler, OFM, Conv., nationally known author and retreat leader will lead our Mission this year. More information on the Mission will follow in later bulletins.

**Scout Sunday**

The Boy Scouts of America celebrate the month of February as the Anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scout program by Lord Baden Powell in England. Scout Sunday was added to the scout celebration around the middle 1940s. The Scout Sunday tradition was started to help people in church become aware of Scouting, and to allow Scouts to live out parts of what is pledged each week.

The Boy Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent" and boys of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God". The Girl Scout Promise, which includes "to serve God", is the way Girl Scouts agree to act every day toward one another and other people. These values strengthen youth character in their family, community and faith.

This year's Scout Sunday Mass will be celebrated February 7<sup>th</sup> during the 8 am Mass. Members of the parish registered in Scouting (girls, boys and adults) are invited to participate wearing their Scout uniform. If you are interested in participating, please contact Matt Allen at 301-997-0014 or at [allenmjbj@hotmail.com](mailto:allenmjbj@hotmail.com). Please note that there will be a brief rehearsal for the Mass on Saturday morning, February 6<sup>th</sup>.



**HOSPITALIZED**

**Please notify the Parish Office when a loved one is hospitalized:** Caring for the sick is an important ministry here at St. Aloysius. In this ministry the Church prays for the sick, visits the sick and provides the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Please remember to call us so that visits may be arranged and prayers offered.

**Vocation Cross**

Devotion to the Vocation Cross involves a designated parish household receiving the cross at Mass and taking the cross home for one week and praying for a few minutes every day for the gift of vocations to the priesthood and religious life from our parish. The cross is given to at one of the three weekend Masses after Communion and it is asked that it be returned to the rectory by Saturday morning.

**Please pray for Vocations this week with the Family of Chris and Abby Sweeney.**

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Stewardship

#### Sharing Our Treasure: Weekly Offertory Contributions

January 9/10, 2010                      January 10/11, 2009  
1<sup>st</sup> Collection: \$9,169.00              1<sup>st</sup> Collection: \$7,981.50  
2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Building Fund - \$1,720.00

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Weekend:** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the weekend of Jan.23/24 is for the Archdiocesan Assessment. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

**Patron of the Week: Town Cleaners.** Please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

**Note Correction:** Omitted on the Christmas Flower Donations Insert : Flowers donated in memory of Francis DeSales Mattingly and Philip K. Mattingly, given by Ellen Mattingly.

### 2010 ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL BEGINS

*"I will give you thanks, O Lord."  
(Psalm 138:1)*

Many of our parishioners have received a mailing this week from Archbishop Wuerl asking that you make a pledge to the 2010 *Archbishop's Appeal*.

The Appeal not only funds the operations of the archdiocese, it funds services that are of great help to parish ministries. This year, the theme of the Appeal is, *"I will give you thanks, O Lord."* Clearly, we have many reasons to give thanks to God for all He has given us. Our contributions to our parish and our archdiocese multiply the thanks that we give to our God by enabling ministries and services that touch thousands of lives.

Please prayerfully consider a pledge to the 2010 Archbishop's Appeal.

### Parish Life & Evangelization

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday:** Please note that our parish offices will be closed on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> in observance of the federal holiday marking the birthday of slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr.

**March for Life 2010:** St. Aloysius Pro-Life Committee is sponsoring a bus to the Right to Life March on Friday, January 22, 2010. We invite you to spend a day of fellowship with your family and friends as we once again "march" the streets of our Nation's Capital to stand for life. A sign up sheet is in the vestibule of the church for you to reserve a space on the bus. We are asking for a donation of \$10 per person to reserve your space on the bus. If you would like further information concerning the March, please contact Chris Guy at 301-475-2166 or Fr. John at 301-475-8064

### What is an Annulment?

There has been much misinformation circulated about marriage annulments. Much of it is based on misconceptions, misunderstandings and ignorance. Unfortunately that misinformation has prevented many a Catholic from participating in the sacramental life of the Church. The Church teaches that the Sacrament of Marriage, by its very nature, is ordered towards the good of the spouses as well as towards the procreation and education of children. It is during the marriage ceremony when a couple exchanges their vows that the Sacrament of Marriage officially begins. The Church also presumes that all marriages of all other faiths to be valid until proven otherwise. An annulment is granted only when an essential component of the sacramental consent is found to be missing, when something in the spiritual relationship between the man and woman is found to be lacking. An annulment does not mean that "in the eyes of God, it was not a marriage," nor does an annulment mean that the marriage "never existed." After all, the couple wed, lived together and possibly had children. They have a "history" as husband and wife. It also does not mean that children born of the marriage are illegitimate

That statement cannot be farther from the truth. The main effect of an annulment is that the former marriage no longer has legal recognition or standing in the community of the Catholic Church and, generally, that the parties are now free to marry again in the Church if they so choose. If you have any questions regarding an annulment or would like to learn more about the process, then you are invited to join Fr. Michael King, JCD, on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 from 7:00 pm till 8:30 pm in the library at Father Andrew White School to learn about and ask questions regarding the annulment process. Fr. King will explain the Church's teaching regarding marriage and divorce as well as help any individual wishing to seek an annulment. Please note as well, that divorced and civilly remarried Catholics are still a part of the Church, loved by the Church, and loved by Christ. The snow date for this presentation will be Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

**Church Bathrooms:** Recently the two bathrooms in the church have been found to be in deplorable conditions following the weekend Masses. In one situation, if not two, it appears that deliberate vandalism took place, one of which – in the girls' bathroom - could have caused harm to someone using the bathroom at a later time. We do not know who choose these actions, but we are asking everyone to be considerate of one another and to remember that where you are. We are also asking parents to please accompany children to the bathroom. Thank you.

**The True Christmas Spirit...You've Got It!** My family and St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Aloysius Church extends a heartfelt thank you to all who made self-less contributions of their time, talents and treasure to the success of our 6<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas dinner. Over 350 dinners were delivered or served on Christmas Day this year. This event brings together people from all walks of life and allowed those present to fellowship and learn a bit more about our neighbors with whom we otherwise may never had had an opportunity to interact. I, personally, grow more as a Christian each year that I meet the many volunteers and guests who share their day with my family and me. For this opportunity, I thank each and every one of you.

This particular Christmas affected everyone in our society in ways not necessarily felt previously, in light of the current economic state. Christmas time provides a reflective opportunity for many to demonstrate their gratitude for their blessings by giving of themselves to our neighbors who find themselves shut in, lonely, in need of fellowship, a good meal and/or desiring God's grace and mercy. This year, over 100 volunteers from throughout the tri-county area answered the call to share their time and talents to aid in this effort. This dinner is but one way for us to live out the true spirit of Christmas!

A special thank you goes to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class of Father Andrew School who made a sizable donation for proceeds raised from a home-made cookie fundraiser.

Organizations and individuals who do things like this regularly, not just on Christmas, do so with the hopes of illustrating the love that Christ showed us when he made the ultimate sacrifice of Himself. We strive to reach out to our brothers and sisters and to give of ourselves for the benefit of our community;

The Christmas Dinner is an annual event held on Christmas Day at Father Andrew White School in Leonardtown. To obtain more information regarding the Dinner and to find out how you can get involved, please contact St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Aloysius Church at 301-481-2942.

Submitted by Regina Bowman-Goldring, Event Coordinator

**Religious Education, Youth Ministry & School**

***Come One and All!***

Everyone is welcome to visit Father Andrew White S.J. School and see the wonderful things happening in Catholic education today! The staff and students will host visitors during Catholic Schools Week on February 4, 2010 from 9:30 – 11:00 am and we will also host a Sunday Open House on February 21 from 12:00 – 1:30 pm. Registration of new students for the 2010 – 2011 school year will begin on Monday, March 1. At Father Andrew White S.J. School we are "Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, Living Our Faith".

**Are you an adult Catholic who has never been confirmed?** Many baptized Catholics have received their First Holy Communion, but "missed" Confirmation because they were away from the Church or did not feel ready as adolescents. *It's not too late.* Each year, adult Catholics from throughout the Archdiocese of Washington prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation at their parishes and then gather at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle in D.C. on the Feast of Pentecost to be confirmed by the Archbishop. If you are an adult who is interested in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2010, please contact Leonard Wathen, Director of Religious Education at 301-475-8064, ext 16 or at [lwathen@saintaloychurch.org](mailto:lwathen@saintaloychurch.org)

**Parents of Confirmation Candidates** are reminded that there is a mandatory meeting on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, from 9:15 to 10:30 am, at Father Andrew White School.

**Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*Theme: Grace is God's free Gift to Us.*

**Reading I:** Isaiah 62:1-5

God rejoices over you!

**Reading II:** 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

It is the same Spirit who gives different gifts to each.

**Gospel:** John 2:1-11

Jesus' first miracle at a wedding in Cana.

**Question for Children:**

What is one special gift that God has given to you to share with your friends and classmates?

**Question for Teens:**

Jesus got his start in ministry through the urging of his mother. Who urges you to pray, go to Church, and do good works?

**Question for Adults:**

God fills each of us with grace and gifts. What is one grace or gift that you have shared with your family, friends or co-workers?

**Next Sunday's Gospel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in ordinary Time:**

**Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21**

**Don't Forget to Save the Date:**  
**Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010: 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass with Archbishop Wuerl – 5:00 pm**  
**followed by our Anniversary Dinner at the LVFD.**

***Leaving a bequest in your will to the Church, your Parish or School allows you to leave your legacy to an institution that has meant so much to you and thousands of others.***