

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CATHOLIC CHURCH, LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

In our Gospel for this summertime Sunday Jesus offers a lawyer and us a way to move through life that will keep everything in our lives together.

The Gospel depicts a scene between a scholar of the law and Jesus. The lawyer, wanting to test Jesus, asks what he must do to inherit eternal life. Notice in the dialogue that it is the lawyer, not Jesus, who gives the command in response to his own question. He says: “*You shall love the Lord your God, . . . and your neighbor as yourself.*” Love functions as a means to an end for him, revealing that he is concerned about his own eternal future.

After Jesus approves his answer, the lawyer still shows that he is only concerned about himself, asking “*Who is my neighbor?*” He wants to know so that he can treat that person properly so that he (the lawyer) can gain eternal life. As Luke tells us, “*he wished to justify himself.*”

The lawyer’s self-absorption leads Jesus to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan. What we might not have realized about this parable is the relationship of the question Jesus asks the lawyer to the question about the identity of his neighbor that the lawyer asked: “*Which of the three . . . was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?*” Jesus says the real question with which love is concerned is not “*who is our neighbor?*”, but rather, “*who lives like a neighbor?*”

Jesus is inviting the lawyer to look beyond any self concern because love is primarily directed towards others. There are examples of these two outlooks in the three figures in the parable who have an opportunity to aid the victim. A priest and a Levite see the man but pass by. They have sacrificial duties that would be jeopardized if they were to come into contact with a dead body. There would have to be a period of purification before they could resume their duties. They cannot be certain if the injured person is dead or alive. Luke describes him as “*half-dead.*” So, they are careful for themselves. The Samaritan who helps him is moved, though, by compassion. This leads him to the selfless care that is the hallmark of love.

As with the Samaritan, so, too, must it be for all who follow Christ, for you and for me. God’s love, God’s compassion must move in and through us, crossing any and all boundaries we have created so as to reach out to any and all who are in need. As the commandment asserts to love God is to love neighbor, which is to love God.

Peace,
Fr. John

Worship

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, July 13 12:15pm	St. Henry Mary Jane Scully Patricia Ann Norris
Wednesday, July 14: 8:30am	Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin James B. Russell, Jr. James C. Raley, Jr.
Thursday, July 15: 12:15pm	St. Bonaventure, bishop & doctor of the church Margaret Stolmeier Massey Connelly
Friday, July 16: 8:30am	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Edith Norris Marie Bassford.
Saturday, July 17: 7:30am 5:00pm	John & Joan Dakes Biggie Connelly J. C. Norris
Sunday, July 18: 8:00am 11:00am	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mary Magdaline Dyson Mary Edith Wood Parishioners of St. Aloysius

Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound of our Parish Community: Let us remember in prayer: Francis Abell, P.J. Aldridge, Paul Bolden, Mary Agnes Buckler, Wanda Butler, Mary Alice Brennason, Mary Agnes Burroughs, Bill Chubb, Robert Cooper, Richard Edwards, Susan Fenwick, Molly Guy, Margaret Johnson, Mary Catherine Kane, Denise Lacey, Agnes Long, Loretta Norris, Jerry Price, Richard Russell, Sr., Meredith Taggart and Donna Walker.

Welcome the Little Children

As a parish family, we rejoice with the following families who have had their children baptized this year:
Chet and Kristen Wathen and their son Kenneth Samuel;
John and Laurie Parris and their son Pace Banks; Leonard and Nicole Wathen and their son Joel Ignatius; Scott and Heather Stockslager and their son Joseph Scott; Lamont Hill and Ronika Stewart and their daughter Paula Ja’Mese;
Robert and Jill Springer and their son Benjamin Joseph;
Kevin and Harmony Ferris and their daughter Caroline; Fred Graham and Michele Cacko and their daughter Regan Marie; and Walter and Jody Cacko and their son Gabriel Dominic.

Let us pray for these families as they follow the command and accept the promise that God gave when He said, “Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Altar Server trip to Kings Dominion: Altar Servers, don't forget our annual trip to Kings Dominion this month. The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, July 28th. Please contact Mr. Wathen at 301-475-8064, ext. 16 or at lwather@saintalloysiuschurch.org to confirm that you'll be attending. Parents, chaperones are needed, too. If you can assist us that day please contact Leonard as soon as possible.

A Reminder to EMCs, Lectors and Altar Servers: With the arrival of summer comes vacations and many of us will be leaving town for some well deserved rest and relaxation. Prior to departing, please review the Ministry Schedule. If you are assigned to a ministry during your vacation, please remember to secure a substitute to replace you. Also, please keep in mind our dress code when ministering at the altar. Shorts, jeans, t-shirts or flip-flops are not allowed. Thank you.

Sick or Hospitalized?

Caring for the sick is a very important ministry of the Church. In this ministry the Church prays for the sick, visits the sick, provides the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and Viaticum (one's last Communion) if a person is dying. In order to ensure that no one who is sick will be neglected, we are asking that a family member notify the parish office as soon as possible when a family member is sick, hospitalized or homebound. To notify, pray, visit and anoint is an essential part of the healing process, and every one in the parish can be a part of this vital caring ministry by simply picking up the phone. Hospital information can be left on either Fr. John's line (ext. 14) or on Denise Becher's line, the parish secretary (ext. 10).

Sunday and Daily Mass Readings: Interested in finding the texts for the Sunday and weekday Mass online? Go to www.usccb.org/nab/

Stewardship

Due to early submission of the bulletin to our publishers, contributions for the weekend of July 3/4 will be noted in the bulletin for July 17/18.

2nd Collection Next Weekend: Our 2nd Collection for the weekend of July 17/18 is for the Summer Appeal. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

Patron of the Week: Café des Artistes. Please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

Please Note: When preparing your contribution envelopes, please remember to record your contribution amount on the space provided on the front of the envelope. Doing this makes the job of our volunteer offertory counters much easier. It also ensures that your donation is recorded appropriately for your year-end tax reporting. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Parish Life & Evangelization

Meals for Friends...

...is looking for volunteers and recipients! Are you or someone you know recovering from a hospital stay/surgery, grieving the loss of a loved one, or welcoming the arrival of a new baby? Meals for Friends is here to support our parishioners and community members. To request meals or become a volunteer you can contact: Jody Cacko 301-904-2362 jacacko@msn.com or Mary Jo Geisz 240-538-6207 mary.jo.geisz@comcast.net

300th Anniversary Memorabilia

We still have available in the rectory memorabilia to commemorate our 300th Anniversary. Available for purchase is the painting of the church by local artist George McWilliams, as well as glass etchings of the church and key rings.

Prints by George McWilliams, ready for framing and numbered, are \$45.00.

Glass etchings with stands are \$20.00.

Key rings sell for \$5.00

If you pay by check, please make the check payable to *St. Aloysius Church.*

Check out our Website: If you haven't had the opportunity, make sure to visit our website, www.saintalloysiuschurch.org to view pictures from our 300th Anniversary celebration. New pictures are being added regularly.

300th Anniversary Pictures: If you took pictures during any of our 300th Anniversary events last weekend, we would enjoy receiving copies of them and adding them to our website. You can either drop them at the rectory or e-mail them to our webmaster, Jamie Thomas at jamie@jamiethomas.com Thank you.

Summer Office Hours: Summer office hours for the rectory are now in effect. Please note that summer office hours are M-Th 9 am till 4 pm and 9 am till 3 pm on Fridays. Regular office hours will resume on Monday, August 30th.

Religious Education, Youth Ministry & School

Religious Education Registration for 2010-2011:

Registration for the 2010-2011 religious education year is currently taking place. Registration forms can be obtained from our website, www.saintalloysiuschurch.org or by calling the rectory (301-475-8064, ext. 16). The registration fee must accompany the registration form, along with a certificate of baptism if this is your child's first year in faith formation. Religious Education classes meet on Sunday mornings, beginning September 12th from 9:15 – 10:30 am. For questions or inquiries, contact Leonard Wathen at the phone number above or by e-mailing him at lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BEING A CATECHIST?

“The apostolic work of the catechist springs from the Sacrament of Baptism through which all believers come to share in the prophetic ministry of Christ and the evangelizing mission of the Church. The call to the ministry of catechist is a vocation, an interior call, the voice of the Holy Spirit.” NDC #54

We are currently in need of a few people who are willing to give their time once a week to bring our young people to a deeper understanding and love of their Catholic Faith. If you would like more information, please contact Leonard Wathen at 301-475-8064 or e-mail him at lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org

Community

Archdiocesan E-Mail Collection: Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ amid the challenges of our society requires the use of new communication technology. In light of this, an archdiocesan email system will be introduced during the coming months. This new system will enable timely communications with parishioners to inform them of the Church’s perspective on current events and media coverage. E-mail addresses will be used only for these special messages and will not be given to anyone else. After addresses are submitted, parishioners will receive a message from the Archdiocese welcoming them to the system and providing a link for them to manage their profile. Parishioners can, if they choose, opt-out at any time. An in-pew registration process took place at all Masses last weekend. If you were not present last weekend and would like to register for archdiocesan e-mail notices, registration cards can be found in the vestibule of the church. Please complete the card and hand it to an usher. Thank you

U.S. Bishops Launch Vocations Website: A new website, www.ForYourVocation.org was recently launched by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in conjunction with the World Day of Prayer for Vocations on April 24. The website has two objectives: to help individuals hear and respond to the call by God to the priesthood or consecrated life, and to educate all Catholics on the importance of encouraging others through prayer and activities to promote vocations. The site offers resources for men and women who may have a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, aids for promoting a vocation-culture within the home, and tools for educators, youth leaders and vocation directors including prayers, videos, best practices, lesson plans and vocation awareness programs.

Spiritual Renewal Retreat: Come and experience a powerful anointing of the Holy Spirit, to be conducted by Brother Thomas Paul on Friday July 30th, 6:30pm to 9:00pm at St. Francis Xavier Parish Hall, Compton. Fliers available in church vestibule.

Register to Vote in Maryland for the 2010 Elections: In order to vote in this Fall’s elections, which will include races for governor, U.S. House and Senate, and the Maryland General Assembly, you must be registered to vote. Basic requirements include being an American citizen, a Maryland resident and at least 18 years of age by the next general election. The deadline to register to vote in Maryland’s primary election is Tuesday, August 24. To learn more visit www.elections.state.md.us or www.mdcathcon.org, or call the MD State Board of Elections at 1-800-222-8683.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: “Go and do the same.”

Jesus was a great storyteller. We can imagine how fascinating his voice and manner must have been when he told the parable of the Good Samaritan to the lawyer who wanted to be saved. And we can imagine how surprised the lawyer must have been when he heard the answer to the question “Who is my neighbor?” My neighbor is not just the person next door or a member of my parish or my racial group. My neighbor is anyone in need, even if he or she seems to be an enemy. Jesus’ parable reveals the true meaning of love of neighbor. It is going out of our way to do everything for someone that we would want done for us.

Reading I: Deuteronomy 30: 10-14

Heed the voice of God.

Reading II: Colossians 1: 15-20

In Christ all things were created.

Gospel: Luke 10: 25-37

Who is my neighbor?

Question for Children:

What is Jesus’ message in today’s Gospel parable? If you truly understand Jesus’ message, how could you carry it out in your school, neighborhood, or parish?

Questions for Teens:

The Samaritan reached out to a stranger and helped him. Who are the strangers who you could reach out and help in the coming week or month? How will you respond?

Questions for Adults:

Jesus tells us today to love God, our neighbor and our self. How will you love God this week? How will you love your neighbor this week? How will you love yourself this week?

Next Sunday’s Gospel, 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Luke 10:38-42

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.