

ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CATHOLIC CHURCH, LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

A Word from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday I mentioned that life is short and that often we waste what precious time we have. This Sunday's Gospel is another reminder of the fact that life is fragile and fleeting, and more often than not we pay little or no attention to the reality that one day we will die, carrying on as if we will live forever, behaving like the unfaithful servant in the third of three short parables that make up this weekend's Gospel. Yet as the second parable also reminds us, if we truly embrace the spirit of the Gospel, we will always be conscious of the brevity of life and live our days in joyful anticipation of the life to come.

God has entrusted to each of us our own gifts, talents and blessings not for our own uses and aims but to selflessly and lovingly use for the benefit of others, without counting the cost or demanding a return. The faithful disciple will lovingly use whatever he or she possesses to bring God's reign of hope, justice and compassion to reality in our day and age.

Leadership/discipleship is not a matter of exercising power to intimidate others or enrich one's own situation; leadership/discipleship is the ability to inspire and make it possible for others to do what is right, just and good. A Christ-like life is, first and foremost, centered in an attitude of service to those around us.

May we be like the faithful servant in today's Gospel and live in anticipation of Christ's return, live in anticipation of the life to come by serving one another out of love.

Peace,
Fr. John

Please Pray for the Sick and Homebound of our Parish Community: Let us remember in prayer: P.J. Aldridge, Sheerie Breeden, Mary Agnes Buckler, Wanda Butler, Mary Alice Brennason, Mary Agnes Burroughs, Bill Chubb, Susan Fenwick, Margaret Johnson, Mary Catherine Kane, Denise Lacey, Agnes Long, Ellen Mattingly, Marilyn Penyak, Melvin Pilkerton, Jerry Price, Richard Russell, Sr., Sam Spalding Jr., Meredith Taggart and Donna Walker.

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

Southern MD Liturgical Musicians Meeting, Friday, August 13, 7-9pm at the home of Ann Duchesne. Featured topics will be Reflections on the 2010 National Association of Pastoral Musicians National Convention to all Catholic parish music directors and liturgical musicians. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Ann at 301-475-6915 by Monday, August 9, for directions and to reserve your place.

Worship

Mass Intentions

Tuesday: Aug. 10: *St. Lawrence, deacon & martyr*
12:15pm James B. Russell, Jr.
Myrtle Posten

Wednesday, Aug. 11: *St. Clare, virgin*
8:30am Glenn Edward Lawrence
Massey Connelly

Thursday, Aug. 12: *St. Jane Frances de Chantall, religious*
12:15pm James & Elizabeth Mattingly

Friday, Aug. 13: *St. Pontian, pope & martyr*
St. Hippolytus, priest & martyr
8:30am Mary Ann Taylor
Mary Jane Scully

Saturday, Aug. 14: *St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest & martyr*
7:30am Mary Catherine Bell
James M. Raley

5:00pm Joseph & Alma Wathen

Sunday, Aug. 15: *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
8:00am Thomas I. "Poke" Norris
Rev. Christopher O'Brien, S.J.

11:00am Parishioners of St. Aloysius

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. Jim Hoffman, the parish's Vocations Liaison is in the process of calling all homes that signed up to have the Vocation Cross in their home to schedule your week.

Please pray for Vocations this week with the Family of Bruce & Georgia Harvey.

Stewardship

Sharing our Treasure: Weekly Offertory Contributions
July 31, Aug. 1, 2010 **Aug. 2/3, 2009**
1st Collection: \$8,246.00 1st Collection: \$7,819.50
2nd Collection: Father Andrew White-\$1,678.00

2nd Collection Next Weekend: Our 2nd Collection for the weekend of August 14/15 is for Catholic Communication. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

Patron of the Week: Brinsfield Funeral Homes. 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.

Summer Appeal off to a Great Start

Thanks to the generosity of so many our annual Summer Appeal is off to a fantastic start. In just two weeks we have raised \$12,090.08 leaving us \$2,909.92 to go to meet our goal of \$15,000.00. Thank you to everyone who has generously responded to date. To those who have not had a chance to respond, this year's summer's *Appeal* donations have been designated for the creation of a Marian Prayer Garden on a parcel of land between the church and the rectory. The Prayer Garden is a joint effort between the parish and the Eagle Scout project of Dakota Allen, one of our high school youth, a lector and altar server. Please help us with the creation of the Prayer Garden in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. *Appeal* envelopes have been sent to all parishioners.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Your Church has been there for you throughout your lifetime; you can be there for your Church's future. 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. Bequests permit you to make a gift without any loss of comfort or security during your lifetime, while allowing you to take advantage of estate tax savings. To request more information from the Planned Giving Office, please call Edward J. D'Antoni at (301) 853-4573 or e-mail: dantonie@adv.org.

Parish Life & Evangelization

Check out our Website: If you haven't had the opportunity to visit our website since our 300th Anniversary, please do so. Our site is www.saintalloysiuschurch.org and on it you will find pictures from our 300th Anniversary Mass, Dinner & Dance, and the burial of our 100 Year Time Capsule.

What is our Mission? Are we a parish that lives the mandate of Christ: "Go and teach all nations" or are we simply a maintenance-oriented community, doing what we have always done without any consideration for spreading the kingdom? *In other words are we an evangelizing community, and if not how can we be or how can we do better?* On **Wednesday, August 11th**, the Evangelization Committee is going to gather at 7 pm in the rectory to discuss that very question with the help of Fr. Frank DiSiano of the Paulist National Catholic Evangelization Association, and we would like to invite anyone in the parish who would like to explore this question to join us. We hope to see you there.

COME ONE, COME ALL ... ANSWER THE RCIA CALL!

Do you have questions about the **Catholic faith**? Do you want a closer walk with God? If you have **never been** baptized in any Christian faith (a Catechumen), **or have** been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to come into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church (a Candidate) **or** you have been baptized Catholic and have not completed all of your sacraments of initiation and wish to walk the full journey to complete your sacraments, **then the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) may be for you!** Through this journey into the Catholic Church you will learn all the parts of the Roman Catholic faith and eventually be baptized, receive Eucharist for the first time or receive adult Confirmation. The starting date for RCIA this year is September 21st. Please call Fr. John at 301-475-8064, ext. 14 or Leonard Wathen at 301-475-8064, ext. 16 or email them at jdakes@saintalloysiuschurch.org or lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org if you would like to learn more about RCIA. Remember nothing happens until you take the first step of fait

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

Focus on Evangelization

Put your evangelistic skills to work by befriending those who will begin their inquiry into the Catholic Church in September.

Make yourself available to our parish RCIA team to sponsor and accompany others in their journey toward the Easter sacraments of initiation. Share what it means to you to be a Christian, a member of the Catholic Church, and an involved parishioner. Invite others to share their hopes, struggles or questions concerning Christianity and Catholicism. Be a friend. Pray for them regularly during this process of inquiry and entry into the Church. Above all, witness to all inquirers and fellow parishioners by the way you live as a true disciple day by day.

For more information on being a sponsor, or other ways to help our parish RCIA team, contact Leonard Wathen at 301-475-8064 or lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org

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

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

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 your child is receiving the Sacraments of Holy Communion for the first time of Confirmation and was not baptized at St. Aloysius. Religious Education for our children meets 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.

Father Andrew White School is open a few hours every day during the summer, typically 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Phone messages are checked regularly (301-475-9795). There are a few openings in our lower grades, kindergarten and grade 1. For information, please call 301-475-9795

Knights of Columbus Altar Server Appreciation Pool Party, Tuesday, August 17th from 7-10pm. Admission is free. For more information call Youth Chairman, Jim Goebel at 240-538-8045.

New Immigration Website: A new website which highlights the Catholic Church's role in the immigration debate for almost a century is now online. The USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB/MRS) has partnered with The Catholic University of America to develop the new online resource. The educational website highlights the role that the U.S. Catholic bishops and the institutional Church in the United States have played on immigration related issues, especially since the early twentieth century. You can view the website, "U.S. Catholic Bishops and Immigration," at http://libraries.cua.edu/achrcua/immigration/immigration_wel.html

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR FAITH?

1. What is original sin?
2. What is a prophet?
3. Name the four reasons Jesus became man.
4. What is a sacrament?
5. What are the Sacraments of Healing?

St. George's Annual Crab Cake Dinner, Sunday, Aug. 15th, 12pm to 5pm. Adults \$23, Children 6-12-\$10, free for children under 6. \$23 all carry-outs.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Theme: *Do not live in fear. Live, and be ready!*

Reading I: Wisdom 18:6-9

You always protect us.

Reading II: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

In faith we believe what we do not see.

Gospel: Luke 12:32-48

We must be ready for God to act in our lives at any time!

Question for Children:

Jesus tells us to always be ready to hear him. What are some ways that he speaks to us?

Questions for Teens:

If Jesus were to knock on your door today and give you a report card on your life as His disciple, what grade would you get? Where would be your areas for improvement?

Question for Adults:

On a daily basis, what are some ways to keep yourself "ready for God to act?" How do you pay attention to God's often-less-than-obvious actions?

Next Sunday's Gospel, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Luke 1:39-56

Answers to "How well do you know your Faith?"

1. The first sin was committed by Adam and Eve. We are born with it; we inherit original sin from them.
2. Someone who teaches us about God; someone who gives witness to the truth about God.
3. To save us; to return God's love and to show us how to return God's love; to teach us about God; to show us how to act as Images of God.
4. An outward (physical) sign, instituted (given to us) by Christ to give grace.
5. Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.