

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

**Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Theme: *Following Jesus calls us to risk and not always take the easy road.*

When someone asks Jesus how many will be saved, he answers by using the image of the narrow door. Those who do not remain faithful to him will be left outside. Jesus is warning people of faith not to take their salvation for granted. He reminds us that we are not to judge others as "worthy" of the kingdom or not. Our human judgment is faulty. We only see so much. God sees the entire person, heart and soul, past, present, and future. Some who seem to be "last" ("losers" in our current slang) may well be "first" with God. And some we look up to as "first" (the winners in our world) may turn out to be "last" in the kingdom. We just don't know. And where others are with God is really not our concern. The question is: where do YOU want to be with God? How can YOU stay close to Jesus? Just because we worship every weekend or every other weekend, we cannot assume that we can squeeze through the narrow door. We may be surprised to discover that some who seem less worthy will enter the kingdom before us.

**Reading I:** Isaiah 66:18-21

People will gather in God's name from all the nations

**Reading II:** Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

Your trials in life bring you strength.

**Gospel:** Luke 13:22-30

Some who are last will be first, and some who are first will be last

**Question for Children:**

How do you show that you are a follower of Jesus?

**Questions for Teens:**

Jesus tells us that being His disciple will not be easy. Of all the things that Jesus tells us about the way that we are to live our lives, what is the hardest thing for you to do? Why?

**Questions for Adults:**

As you wrestle with today's Gospel, what signs do you see in your own life that you are "with God"?

**Next Sunday's Gospel, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

**Luke 14:1,7-14**



**Worship**

**Mass Intentions**

**Tuesday, Aug. 24:** *St. Bartholomew, apostle*  
12:15pm  
Massey Connelly  
Mary Jane Scully

**Wednesday, Aug. 25:** *St. Louis of France & St. Joseph Calasanz, priest*  
8:30am  
James C. Raley, Jr.  
Myrtle Posten

**Thursday, Aug. 26:**  
12:15pm  
Rosanne Haines  
Mary Cecilia Pope

**Friday, Aug. 27:** *St. Monica*  
8:30am  
Joseph Pilitt  
Glenn Edward Lawrence

**Saturday, Aug. 28:** *St. Augustine, bishop and doctor of the Church*  
7:30am  
Edith Norris  
George M. Beavan  
5:00pm  
Ann & Paul Pilitt  
Steve Fenwick

**Sunday, Aug. 29:** *22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
8:00am  
Charles & Mary Davis  
11:00am  
Parishioners of St. Aloysius

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

**Community:** Let us remember in prayer: Dorothy Able, P.J. Aldridge, Sheerie Breeden, Mary Agnes Buckler, Wanda Butler, Mary Alice Brennason, Mary Agnes Burroughs, Bill Chubb, Susan Fenwick, Margaret Johnson, Denise Lacey, Agnes Long, Ellen Mattingly, Melvin Pilkerton, Jerry Price, Richard Russell, Sr., Sam Spalding Jr., Starr Stauffer, Agnes Stokel, Meredith Taggart and Donna Walker.

**Weekday Mass Parking:** The first week of school always sees more car riders as parents help their children transition to a new school year. Therefore, due to the early dismissal of school this Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, anyone attending the 12:15 pm Masses is asked to please park their car on the grass at the far side of the rectory. This will help to alleviate any traffic problems in the parking lot and in front of the church. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Sunday and Daily Mass Readings:** Interested in finding the texts for the Sunday and weekday Mass online? Go to [www.usccb.org/nab/](http://www.usccb.org/nab/)

## TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### ATTENTION, Music Ministry: The Next 300 Years

Singers, musicians and accompanists needed! We are seeking vocalists, drummers, bass guitarists and guitar players, piano players, organists and more. There is a role for all interested in encouraging the assembly's song!

Thank you to all the **cantors, psalmists and accompanists** who have led us this year and this summer. More help is needed - please consider serving in these very important ministries!

**Grateful Hearts**, the adult choir, will come together in song after a summer break. Interested vocalists and musicians can join for a season, or for the year. *Save the date: Wednesday, August 25, from 7:30-9:00 PM* in the church for the first rehearsal.

**Spirit Singers**, grades 3-8, invites new members! *Save the dates: Thursday, August 26 or Friday, August 27* in the church for auditions. *First rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 1, 4:00-5:00 PM.*

**Cross Generation**, for high school music leaders, will begin rehearsals in September.

For inquiries, to join a choir, or to serve as a cantor psalmists, accompanist or instrumentalist, please mail Abby Sweeney, Director of Music Ministries, at [sweeney@metrocast.net](mailto:sweeney@metrocast.net).

### Stewardship

#### Summer Appeal continues moving ahead

Our annual Summer Appeal continues to do well. To date we have raised \$14,584.21 leaving us \$415.79 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. The *Appeal* runs through Labor Day, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### Sharing our Treasure: Weekly Offertory Contributions

Aug. 14/15, 2010

Aug. 16/17, 2009

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: \$8,779.50

1<sup>st</sup> Collection: \$8,527.51

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Catholic Communication- \$1,606.50

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Weekend:** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for the weekend of August 28/29 is for Latin America. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.

**Patron of the Week: Richard (Dick) Buckler, Realtor.**

Please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

### 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:*

[dantoni@adw.org](mailto:dantoni@adw.org).

### Parish Life & Evangelization

#### Welcome to our Newcomers!

St. Aloysius extends a warm welcome to all who are new to our family of faith. We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us. If you would like to register, please stop in the rectory office during the week or call 301-475-8064.

You may also pick up a registration form in the church vestibule from one of our ushers or download it from our website [www.saintaloyiuschurch.org](http://www.saintaloyiuschurch.org).

**Pro-Life Meeting:** A reminder to members of the parish's Pro-Life Committee of their meeting this Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the rectory. Newcomers are always welcome.

#### 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@saintaloyiuschurch.org](mailto:lwathen@saintaloyiuschurch.org)

**Are we fulfilling the Mission Christ entrusted to us?** A reminder that the evangelization meeting with Fr. Frank DiSiano is this Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the school

## 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 21<sup>st</sup>. 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](mailto:jdakes@saintalloysiuschurch.org) or [lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org](mailto:lwathen@saintalloysiuschurch.org) If you would like to learn more about RCIA. Remember nothing happens until you take the first step of faith.

*Are you being called to a deeper walk of Faith? Is God calling you to something more, a greater involvement in the life of the Church?* Then make it a point to drop in at our annual Ministry Fair on the Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>. The fair offers an excellent opportunity to learn about the many ways you can respond to God's call and share your time and talent through participation in the many ministries of our parish: Worship, Education, Faith Formation and Evangelization, Family and Vocation, Parish Life, Social Concerns, and Youth.

### Religious Education, Youth Ministry & School

**Welcome Back FAW Students:** St. Aloysius & Father Andrew White School welcome back our students this Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope you had a great summer, and we pray that as you begin this new school year you will take every opportunity offered to grow in your relationship with God and the Church while growing in wisdom and knowledge.

**Adopt-a-Student Program:** Every year there are families who want to give their children the gift of Catholic education, but they struggle with the tuition cost. These Catholic families could use your help! If you are able to offer any portion of a tuition for a child in our school, please contact your pastor or Mrs. Maloney at 301-475-9795. The names of the recipients and donors are anonymous. Your gift would be greatly appreciated and you will make a difference.

**Children's Religious Education** begins Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 9:15 to 10:30 am. There is a parent orientation on the first day. It is not too late to register – forms can be downloaded at the parish website. Please turn in registration forms before the first day of class.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Do you wish that you knew more about the Bible and the things that Jesus and the Apostles did back in the first century? Do you have a hunger for God but are unsure of how to become closer to Him? Do you strive to be a person who is known for spiritual knowledge? Our daytime, evening and Sunday Bible studies meet weekly and dig into the Scriptures at a grass roots level. Small Group Bible Studies will be resuming in the fall, and now is the time to sign up. The following are scheduled:

- *The Great Adventure Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* – Wednesdays, 7 – 9 PM, beginning 9/8, call Cece Price (301-475-2265)
- *The Gospel of Matthew: The King and His Kingdom* – Sundays, 9:15 to 10:30 AM, beginning 9/19, in FAW Library (contact Cece Price)
- *The Gospel of Matthew: The King and His Kingdom* – Thursdays, 1:00 to 2:30 PM, beginning 9/16, in Rectory (contact Leonard Wathen)
- *That Man is You! The Revelation of the Father* (Men's Bible Study) – Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 AM, beginning 9/16, in KofC Hall (contact Leonard Wathen)

**For Your Marriage: An initiative of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops** When is the last time that you took a pulse check for your marriage? The recently updated website of the USCCB - [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org) - now includes marriage news, daily marriage tips, spiritual quotes, book reviews, blogs for all stages of marriage and much more in a revised, user friendly format. Visit the site today for a look at your marriage.

### Community

**Sunday Concert:** The Southern Maryland Community Gospel Choir will perform its "*Praise Is What We Do!*" Concert here at St. Aloysius on Sunday August 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. All are invited to attend this free concert. The SMCGC is a non denominational gospel choir whose members include Redmond and Dionne Saul. This concert assists in fulfilling the choir's mission to glorify and praise God through music. Newcomers are always welcome to attend practice on Monday nights at 7:00 pm here at St. Aloysius.

**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. Visit [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us) or [www.mdcathcon.org](http://www.mdcathcon.org), or call the Maryland State Board of Elections at 1-800-222-8683 to learn more.