



St. Aloysius Gonzaga

PARISH COMMUNITY

157 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga, New York 14215

Web Site: stalschurch.com

Rectory:..... 833-1715 Religious Education Office: ... 836-9657

Rectory Fax:..... 837-5703 Convent: 834-1889

Rectory E-Mail: .. stalschurch@aol.com Parish Hall: 836-4617

MISSION STATEMENT

Our goal, our purpose, is threefold:

- (1) to proclaim the saving mission of Jesus Christ through word and sacrament to the people of St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish and to strengthen them as a Catholic Church Community;
- (2) to reach out and proclaim the good news to the un-baptized, the un-churched and the inactive; and
- (3) to impact our principles and beliefs upon the community in which we live.

St. Aloysius Gonzaga
1568 – 1591
Patron Saint of Youth

St. Aloysius Gonzaga is shown carrying a victim of the Roman plague. He eventually succumbed to the illness himself, dying at the age of twenty-three. He is seen in the Jesuit habit, which he donned, having left the royal courts and riches of his family castle.

PARISH LEADERSHIP

Pastor:

Rev. Peter J. Popadick

Weekend Assistants:

Rev. Martin X. Moleski, SJ

Rev. Msgr. Matt Wendzikowski

Parish Trustees:

Thomas L. Franczyk (Business Manager)

Richard W. Jauch

Pastoral Care/Parish Outreach Coordinator:

Sister Maryann Kolb, SSJ * 833-1715

Music Ministry/Choir Director:

Lee Peters * 207-0430

Religious Education/RCIA Coordinator:

Robert Rybarczyk * 688-1380

Web Master:

John Fahey * 510-6798

Evangelization Committee Coordinator:

John McMahon * 833-3454

Parish Council Contact:

Paul & Donna Lewis * 834-8493

Finance Committee Chairperson:

Thomas Gaulin * 833-1715

Eucharistic Adoration Director:

Frank Guglielmo * 832-1519

Pro-Life Coordinators Contact:

Rose Fera & John Tomasello

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sundays: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Vigil of Holydays: 5:00 p.m.

Holydays: 6:45 and 8:30 a.m., 12:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Monday thru Friday: 6:45 and 8:30 a.m. Saturdays: 8:30 a.m.



Confessions: Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.; anytime upon request

Devotions & Prayer:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Mon.-Fri., 1:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Novena to St. Anthony & St. Theresa: Tuesday before 6:45 a.m. Mass

Stations of the Cross: Fridays of Lent, 7:00 p.m.

Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Baptisms: During or after Sunday Masses; Parents are expected to complete Baptism Training Program.

Marriages: Registered couples should contact the Rectory six months in advance and are expected to complete the Pre-Cana Program.

Care of the Sick: The pastoral care of the sick and homebound is a priority of our parish ministers. Please notify the rectory immediately if someone is hospitalized, enters a health care facility or is in need of the Sacrament of the Sick or the Eucharist brought to the home.

Letters of Recommendation: Those chosen to be Godparents at Baptism or Sponsors at Confirmation are to be role models in the practice of the Catholic Faith. Therefore, those seeking a Letter of Recommendation are expected to attend Mass regularly, live according to Gospel Values, be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, and be generous in their service of others.

Parish Registration: New parishioners are always welcome within the Community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga. Members of the Evangelization Committee meet with new parishioners, sharing with them information on our parish and inviting the new parishioners to become actively involved in the faith life and ministerial opportunities of our parish.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018 — WEEKDAY

6:45 AM St. Aloysius Parishioners & Their Families
 8:30 AM Father David Peter—req. Family & Friends

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2018 — WEEKDAY

6:45 AM Estate of Leo & Evelyn Smith
 8:30 AM Estate of Grace E. & James R. Kerr

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2018 — THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6:45 AM For the Military & Their Families—req. Friends from St. Al's
 8:30 AM Estate of Dorothy & Harry Dahlheimer

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2018 — ST. CECILIA, THANKSGIVING DAY

6:45 AM Deceased Members of the Siuda & McMahon Families—req. Family
 9:00 AM Richard E. Dunge—req. nephew, Father Adelmo's intention
 Paul Meissner—req. Margie (Father Peter's intention)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2018 — WEEKDAY, ST. CLEMENT I, ST. COLUMBAN, BLESSED MIGUEL AGUSTIN PRO

6:45 AM All Souls
 8:30 AM Repose of the soul of Joan M. Friert

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2018 — ST. ANDREW DUNG-LAC

8:30 AM Repose of the soul of Peter Reibel—req. Tom & Sandy Whissel
 5:00 PM Jeanette Mathes—req. Alex Kornacki

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2018 — OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

9:00 AM Lillian E. Heigl (Anniversary)—req. Melvin P. Ledger
 11:00 AM Dorothy Ducato—req. Family
 5:00 PM Msgr. Matt Wendzikowski—req. James & Sharon Kulach

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Mary Davis, Loretta Phillips, Dorothy Hensen, Barbara Ross, Andrew Hashimi, William Bystrak, Andrew Richesin, Lisa Blount, Sarah Nelson, Rene Meyer, Linda Lempner, Dorothy Coyne, Chris Christopher, Maureen Michaels, Dottie Besant, Janice Kerber, Karen Mitchell, Al Stritzel, John Dedloff, Barbara Kelly, Susan Hilburger, Stacey Grant-Littleton, John & Lori Mento, Paulette Adams, Flora Perez, Susan Duquin, Theresa McKibbin, Anne Dyson, Lina Kujawski, Ruth Vaught, Mary Ellen Kern, Paul Pronti, Nancy Hoffman, Rose Oehler, Robert Clinch, Vivian Kurylo, Rylin Boncore, Linda Mento, Charlotte Braun, Timothy Martin, Harry Flynn, Elaine Luparello, Mary and Ferd Philipps, Joshua Rudnicki, Marilyn Roof, John Gatti, Dominic Palmeri, Ashley Kern, Thomas Martin, Louis Augello, Sue Hartke, Nick Ball, John Halper, Luvena Moore, Eileen Somogye, David, Joy Berry, Father Michael Uebler, Hal Lane, John Albarella, Mary Ann Talarico, Joseph Craddock, Davina Kollaranska, Tom Noonan, Marilyn Fiegel, Ken Schuh, Maureen Boncore, Esther Curtin, Felix Mayer, Loraine Wallmeyer, and all our parishioners in Nursing Homes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Deceased Priests, Sisters and Deacons who once served here at St. Aloysius Gonzaga and those whose names are written on our Memorial Card and All Souls Day envelopes

"Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." - Mk 13:30-32



Readings for the Week of November 18, 2018

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Heb 10:11-14, 18/Mk 13:24-32
 Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Rv 2:17]/Lk 18:35-43
 Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [Rv 3:21]/Lk 19:1-10
 Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [1b]/Lk 19:11-28
 Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [Rv 5:10]/Lk 19:41-44
 Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 [103a]/Lk 19:45-48
 Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 [1b]/Lk 20:27-40
 Next Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

FRIDAY BINGO: We begin at 7:30 PM in the school; doors open at 6:15 PM. Prizes total \$3,000. Games are all paper. Assigned workers are asked to report by 6:30 PM.

SATURDAY BINGO: Doors open at noon; Casino Bingo begins at 12:30 PM & Bingo games start at 1:00 PM. Prizes total \$1,800+.

REFLECTING ON THE WORD OF GOD: This Sunday is the second to last Sunday of our liturgical year. As we approach the end of the Church year, our Gospel invites us to consider Jesus' predictions and teaching about the end of the world. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers his disciples signs to look for that will indicate that the coming of the Son of Man is near. His words and images draw upon Old Testament imagery, especially images found in the Book of Daniel. Next, Jesus offers the lesson of the fig tree, a parable that teaches that if one knows how to read the signs, one can be prepared for the end times. Jesus also teaches, however, that no one knows when the end time will come, except the Father. Jesus' words are not spoken to frighten his disciples, nor should they frighten us. Rather, they are offered to prepare us for the changes we will experience during our lifetimes and at the end times. Our consolation and hope is found in the lasting nature of Jesus' words and God's never-ending love for us.

- Reflection prepared by parishioner, John Fahey

IN THE WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: Our final goal is the encounter with the Risen Lord. I would like to ask how many of you think about this. "There will be a day in which I meet the Lord face to face". And this is our goal: the encounter. We do not await a time or a place, but we are going to encounter a person: Jesus. Thus the problem is not "when" these premonitory signs of the last days will occur, but rather our being prepared. Neither is it about knowing "how" these things will happen, but instead "how" we have to act today, in awaiting these things. We are called to live the present, building our future with serenity and trust in God. The parable of the fig tree that sprouts, as a sign of the approaching summer, teaches that the perspective of the end doesn't distract us from the present life, but rather brings us to look at our current days with an outlook of hope. This virtue of hope that is so hard to live. The smallest but strongest of the virtues. And our hope has a face: the face of the Risen Lord, who comes "with great power and glory", which will manifest his love, crucified and transfigured in the Resurrection. The triumph of Jesus at the end of time will be the triumph of the Cross, the demonstration that the sacrifice of oneself for love of neighbor, in imitation of Christ, is the only victorious power, the only stable point in the midst of the upheavals and tragedies of the world.

ANGELUS, SAINT PETER'S SQUARE,
 SUNDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2015

THANKSGIVING DAY GREETINGS: As we prayerfully reflect upon all the wonderful ways that God blesses our lives each and every day, Father Adelmo Dunge and Father Marty Moleski from Rome and Father Jim Pribek from Creighton University, all our Sisters: Sister Maryann, Sister Elizabeth, Sisters Lorette, Edmund, Kevin and Marcine, Sisters Bette, Eleanor and Dorothy, our Rectory and Parish Staffs - Kathie, Mary, Tom, Dino, Lee, Bob and Jim - all join Father Peter in thanking YOU for being the great community of Faith and Service you are and for so generously ministering with us as we spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. You are a true Gift of God - you are Grace and Blessing. We thank God for each and every one of you in the best way we know how - by lifting you up in our prayer during Holy Mass and our personal prayer throughout the day.

We must know how to say "Thank You!" Our days are filled with the gifts the Lord showers on us. If we were in the habit of taking stock of them, at night we should be like "a queen/king for the day," dazzled and happy with so many blessings. We should then be grateful to God, secure because he gives us everything, joyful because we know that every day he will renew his gifts.

So we pray: "Thank you for being there, Lord, for taking me seriously, for gathering my gifts in your hands to offer them to your Father. Thank you, Lord. Thank you."

A Blessed and Holy Thanksgiving to all! Our Masses on Thanksgiving Day are at 6:45AM and 9:00AM. There is no better way to begin Thanksgiving Day than Holy Mass.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU... actually thanked your family and friends for the love they share with you?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM: Our Religious Education Program continues to bring our youth and their parents/families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. Lots of great things are happening! Bob Rybarczyk, with guitar in hand, led the youngest children, dressed in costumes for All Saints Day, throughout the school singing “When the Saints go marching in.”! Parish representatives from the different organizations and ministries spoke to the parents of our Religious Education Children about the various opportunities available to become more involved in the life of our parish. The presentations were very well received resulting in many parents indicating a desire to get more involved in our parish community. Tina Boyd has taken on the ministry as the new Catechist for the 8th, 9th and 10th Grade students. We are deeply grateful for Tina for her willingness to share her faith in Jesus and her love of the Church with our high school youth.

Please keep all those involved in our Religious Education Program in your prayers. That everyone – youth, parents, families, catechists, administration – all grow in wisdom, age and grace this year.

FINANCE COMMITTEE AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: Tom Franczyk, our parish business manager, has completed the annual Financial Report which is submitted to the Diocese of Buffalo and also completed the Financial Report that will be inserted into the bulletin very soon. These reports are now being shared with the members of the Parish Finance Committee for their review and approval before sent to the Diocese and given to our parishioners.

Parish Leadership has tentatively set Sunday, December 2nd, immediately following the 11 AM Mass for our town meeting. At this Town Meeting our Financial Report will be reviewed, as well as all other areas of parish life will be open for discussion. There are many things to be discussed – perhaps you may even have questions on the sexual abuse crisis in our Diocese and in the United States – so please mark the Town Meeting in your personal schedule and make an effort to be present. More information will be forthcoming.

BLUE STAR MOTHERS: An organization of women, the Blue Star Mothers, collects items for Christmas Care Packages that are sent to the women and men in our military serving around the world. Among the items collected are personal items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorants, shampoos, snacks such as hard candy, trail mixes, nuts, peanut butter, and miscellaneous items such as crossword puzzle books, playing cards and current paperback books. The Blue Star Mothers are featured in the November issue of our Diocesan Catholic Newspaper (page 29) which is still available as you leave Mass this weekend.

A large box has been placed at the main entrance to our Church along with additional information on what items are needed to make a Christmas Care Package. Your kindness could help bring joy and hope to our military personnel building peace around the globe at Christmas. Donations are accepted until November 25th. More information: Teri at 866-8061.

NOVEMBER MINISTRY SCHEDULE: The November Ministry Schedule – Celebrants, Confessors and Homilists – has been posted in our church and school buildings. Again, this is done with the hope that if parishioners and friends find a particular Priest helpful on their personal spiritual journey – by the manner in which a Priest celebrates Mass, by his insights into the Word of God during the homily, by his pastoral advice in the confessional – you may be able to adapt your schedule to the parish schedule. Again, please note that a visiting Priest is again scheduled to hear Confessions once during the month. This is to assist a person who may find it easier and more helpful to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance with a visiting Priest. Please thank any visiting Priests for so generously sharing their Priestly Ministry with all of us here at St. Aloysius Gonzaga.

GRATITUDE TO OUR GUARDIAN ANGELS HOME-SCHOOL FAMILIES: A special word of gratitude is extended to the families of the Guardian Angels Home-School Cooperative for their very kind gift of \$2117.00 to our Fall Share Our Harvest Appeal. The families have told Parish Leadership that this is one way they show their appreciation for allowing them to use our school building on Tuesdays and for the warm welcome they receive from parishioners when they join us for Mass and other events. The gift from Guardian Angels will help provide Advent Journey Packets for parishioners and friends, as well as help us meet the heavier expenses of utilities and snow removal as we begin winter. May God fill all the homes and families of the Guardian Angels Home-School Program with deep faith and great peace.

GRATITUDE TO SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH: Publicly Sister Maryann and Father Peter, on behalf of the community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga, wish to thank Sister Jean Marie, President, and the Sisters of St. Joseph for their most generous donation of \$2000.00 to our Food Pantry here at St. Al’s. Each year the Sisters share the proceeds from their Oktoberfest with various charities – and once again our Food Pantry is a beneficiary of their goodness. This most generous gift will be most helpful as we prepare to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinner Bags for 75 families for both celebrations.

WANTED/NEEDED – PART TIME MAINTENANCE PERSON: After over 19 years serving as our part-time maintenance person, Jim Banas has informed Father Peter that he desires to retire in order to spend more time with his wife and family. Publicly we wish to thank Jim for his long and dedicated service to our parish community. As Father Peter told Jim, he never asked Jim to do anything that Jim did not respond willingly, promptly and professionally.

The parish is now seeking a part-time maintenance person who would assist Dino, our maintenance person, in the care and upkeep of our parish property and buildings. The position would be about 8 to 10 hours a week – time schedule and days of employment are negotiable. Those interested should have a general knowledge of care for buildings and property, as well as a genuine desire to assist all who gather for meetings, recreation and other events here at St. Al’s.

If interested in applying for the position and to review a job description, please contact Tom Franczyk, our Parish Business Manager, or Father Peter. The parish hopes to have this position filled by January 1, 2019.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY: Holy Name Society monthly Mass and Breakfast is set for this Wednesday, November 21st. All men of the parish are invited to join us for the 8:30 am Mass to be followed with breakfast at Milo’s Restaurant on Main Street in Williamsville. Breakfast cost is \$10 with the Holy Name Society covering the remainder of the bill.

CATHOLIC BOOK DISCUSSION CLUB: What dies Pope Francis mean when he writes in Chapter Two of his Apostolic Exhortation, *Rejoice and Be Glad*: “Grace...does not make us superhuman at once...it takes hold of us and transforms us progressively...”...and...”God is full of surprises.”

You are invited to join our Catholic Book Discussion Group on **Monday, November 26th**, (notice date change!) in the rectory at 7PM. If possible, re-read Chapter Two and spend some time reflecting on the questions found on the Discussion Outline available in the rectory and our Trautenberg Library. All are welcomed.

CHRISTMAS FAIR – DONATION WEEKEND: This is **Donation Weekend** for our annual Christmas Fair. Christmas Fair Leadership will be in the gymnasium and CYO Room to receive any prizes, donations, raffle tickets, baskets you wish to donate to help assure the success of this year’s Fair. And, of course, all donations may be dropped off at the Rectory at your convenience any time before the Fair.

Our 75th Annual Christmas Fair takes place on Saturday, December 1st, from Noon to 6PM in our school building. Please do your part to help make it a success by volunteering your time and talents to set up and take down, to staff a booth, to run a raffle, to wait on tables, to build Theme Baskets, to bake for the Bakery Shoppe, to welcome all our visitors and guests. Just call the rectory or call Cookie (894-6432) to let us know how you can help for a few hours on Fair day.

If you need more raffle tickets, stop by the rectory or take them from the front of the church. Make sure you invite family and friends, neighbors and co-workers, former parishioners and graduates of our school, total strangers to stop and visit our Fair. Anticipating your usual positive response, all the Christmas Fair Leadership joins Father Peter in thanking you for your help to make this Fair one of the most successful in our parish history.

WORDS OF LIFE: “Those who die in God’s grace and friendship live forever with Christ. Heaven is a true and lasting relationship with God that is beyond all earthly description and understanding.”

– the Catholic Bishops of the United States

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: “Laughter is the beginning of Prayer.”
- Reinhold Niebuhr

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