



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

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

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.

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, JANUARY 13, 2019
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019 — WEEKDAY

8:30 AM St. Aloysius Parishioners & Their Families

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2019 — WEEKDAY

8:30 AM Estate of Leo J. & Evelyn Smith (or Communion Service)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2019 — WEEKDAY

8:30 AM For the Military & Their Families—req. Friends from St. Al's

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2019 — ST. ANTHONY, ABBOT

8:30 AM Arthur Cross—req. Mel Saile

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2019 — WEEKDAY

8:30 AM Repose of the soul of Joan M. Freiert

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019 — WEEKDAY (BVM)

8:30 AM Pauline Lynch (Anniversary)—req. Family
 5:00 PM Jennifer Lynne Clark (Anniversary)—req. Family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2019 — SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM Leo Smith—req. Family
 11:00 AM Joe & Dorothy Ducato—req. Robert & Rose Fera & Family
 5:00 PM All Souls

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, 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, Marilyn Fiegel, Ken Schuh, Maureen Boncore, Esther Curtin, Felix Mayer, Loraine Wallmeyer, Evangelina St. John, Anne Stepin, Rosemary Causley, Alaina Drzyzga, Kim Paul, and all our parishioners in Nursing Homes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Joseph Neilson

WEEKLY STATISTICS

Weekly Collection \$7,508.00 (Last Year: \$4,678.00)
 Weekly Attendance 371 People



After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

Readings for the week of January 13, 2019

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/ Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
 Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20
 Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
 Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

REFLECTING ON THE WORD OF GOD: The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, it was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. The Evangelists Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. Compare this to Matthew's Gospel in which the voice from heaven speaks to everyone. In Luke, however, the Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus during his time of prayer after his baptism. Through his Gospel, Luke will show Jesus to be a person of prayer who withdraws regularly from the crowds and his disciples to pray to his Father. The baptism of Jesus is considered a manifestation of God in Jesus, another "epiphany." On this, the last day of the Christmas season, our Gospel reveals to us Jesus' relation to God: the son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son.
 - Reflection prepared by parishioner, John Fahey

IN THE WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: On this Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus, and we gratefully recall our Baptism. In this event is the passing from the baptism of John the Baptist, symbolized by water, to the Baptism of Jesus "with the Holy Spirit and with fire". Indeed, the Holy Spirit is the principal artisan in Christian Baptism: it is he who burns and destroys original sin, restoring to the baptized the beauty of divine grace; it is he who frees us from the dominion of darkness, namely sin, and transfers us to the kingdom of light, namely love, truth and peace: this is the kingdom of light. The Holy Spirit, received for the first time on the day of our Baptism, opens our heart to the Truth, to all Truth. The Spirit impels our life on the challenging but joyful path of charity and solidarity toward our brothers and sisters. The Spirit gives us the tenderness of divine forgiveness and permeates us with the invincible power of the Father's mercy. Let us not forget that the Holy Spirit is a living presence in those who welcome him, he prays in us and fills us with spiritual joy. May the Virgin Mary, first Disciple of her Son Jesus, help us to live our Baptism with joy and apostolic zeal, welcoming each day the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes us Children of God.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD,
 SAINT PETER'S SQUARE, 10 JANUARY 2016

ORDINARY TIME: After our celebrations of Advent and Christmas, we are back into what the Church calls "Ordinary Time". You can tell this by the green vestments worn at Mass. But, for us, as followers of Jesus there really is nothing "ordinary" about how we are to live. To walk in the footsteps of Jesus, to put the Word of God into action in our lives, to defend the sacredness of human life, to serve the poor and needy, to be people of Hope – this is an *extra-ordinary* way of living and loving and serving to which we have been called as disciples of Jesus.

We cannot speak of Ordinary Time without speaking of Sunday. The every seven-day celebration of the Lord's Day is the basic structure upon which the Church Year is built. Ordinary Time, the celebration of Sunday, is the identifying mark of the Christian community which comes together, remembering that on this first day of the week the Lord of Life was raised up and creation at last came to its completion. And there is nothing "ordinary" at all about our gathering to celebrate the Lord's Day. The Word heard is no ordinary word – but the Word of God. The food and drink shared is nothing ordinary – but the very Body and Blood of Christ. The people gathered are no ordinary people – but followers of Jesus, given new life thru Baptism. All of this extraordinary!!! Then we are sent from Sunday Liturgy to live an extraordinary life – to announce the Gospel and to glorify God by our lives.

So remember: when you see the green, we are indeed in Ordinary Time of the Church's year. But Ordinary Time is not very "ordinary" at all. It is blessed days when all followers of Jesus are to grow in wisdom, age and grace...and that, my dear friends, is extraordinary.

DAILY MASS THIS WEEK: Because Father Peter will be away this week there will be only one Mass each morning at 8:30AM. Two morning Masses – 6:45AM and 8:30AM – will resume on Monday, January 21st. In case of inclement weather or the inability of the Celebrant to arrive at our Church, it may be necessary to have a Communion Service instead of the scheduled Mass. Your understanding, should this occur, is very much appreciated.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "The language that God hears best is the silent language of love."
 – St. John of the Cross

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU...went to Confession?

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+.

CATHOLIC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Pope Francis said the reason he wrote his Apostolic Exhortation, *Rejoice and Be Glad*, was “to repropose the call to holiness in a practical way for our time, with all its risks, challenges and opportunities, for the Lord has chosen each one of us to be holy...”

In Chapter 3, Pope Francis discusses the Beatitudes teaching us that living the Beatitudes is a simple path to holiness for absolutely everyone. Our Holy Father then goes on to write: “the Beatitudes are not easy to live out; any attempt to do so will be viewed negatively, regarded with suspicion, and met with ridicule.” (#91)

Our Catholic Book Discussion Group will meet on Thursday, January 24, at 7PM in the rectory. Members will come together to discuss the Beatitudes and to learn from Pope Francis how the Beatitudes help all of us grow in holiness and grace. Before the meeting, a Discussion Outline will be available. Try to read Chapter 3, “In the Light of the Master”, paragraphs 63-109, before the discussion. Copies of the Apostolic Exhortation are still available at the rectory (free!). Make participating in our parish Catholic Book Discussion Group one of your new year’s resolutions. All are invited.

TRAUTENBERG LIBRARY: Now that we have celebrated Christmas and begun the journey of a New Year of Grace, you may have a little more time to spend a winter evening curled up with a good book or watching a quality DVD. Our Trautenberg Library has an outstanding collection of books, periodicals and publications on a wide variety of topics: the Bible, Spirituality and Prayer, the Lives of the Saints, contemporary moral issues, the Sacraments and worship. There are DVDs by Matthew Kelly and Bishop Robert Barron. There is a large collection from EWTN recording the talks and messages of Mother Angelica. Also, tapes of the old Bishop Sheen Programs. There is a whole shelf of books for children that parents and children could read and discuss together.

More than ever a “good Catholic” must be an “informed Catholic”. Our Trautenberg Library helps you become both “good” and “informed”. Visit our Library – deepen your Faith and understanding of the Teachings of our Catholic Church. The Trautenberg Library is located behind the statue of St. Aloysius Gonzaga and is open whenever the Church is open for the use of our parishioners and friends.

SUPPORTING EACH OTHER: We all live in the secular world. We spend time every day with friends, coworkers and even family who do not share our faith beliefs. But things are different once we enter the doors of Saint Aloysius Church. An author recently defined a parish as “a place where we support each other’s faith”. What did the author mean by this statement? We support each other’s faith when we attend Mass together and see our fellow parishioners who are gathered for the exact same reason we are, to show our love and devotion to the Lord. We support each other’s faith when we make time for a chat after Mass. We support each other’s faith when we serve in a parish ministry, sharing our time and talents for the good of each other. We support each other’s faith when we attend a parish social activity, showing our commitment to celebration together. We support each other’s faith when we join in prayer in both the good times and the difficult ones. How blessed it is to have each other for support on our journey to become the Body of Christ on this earth!

SPRING PROGRAMS AT THE SEMINARY: Christ the King Seminary is offering a variety of Spring Programs: Continuing Education Classes, Ministry Leadership Courses, Retreat, Spiritual Direction and workshops, and even long distance learning opportunities. Some of the courses offered this spring are the Gospel of St. John, Pastoral Care of the Sick, Introduction to Thomas Aquinas, Catholicism and World Religions. Many courses are offered both at the Seminary in East Aurora and at parishes throughout the Diocese thru long-distance learning.

As part of the commitment of St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish to Adult Faith Formation, the Parish will most willingly sponsor any parishioners who wish to participate, providing tuition and fees to those who enroll. A brochure describing all the opportunities for growth in Faith at the Seminary this spring can be found in the Trautenberg Library. For more information, contact the Seminary at 716-655-7091 or speak with Father Peter.

SPIRITUAL UP-LIFT PACKET: Feeling a little bit down or discouraged after the hectic pace of Christmas, New Year and all the rest? Are you looking for some ways to cope while down or just some help? You might want to contact our Diocesan Family Life Ministry for a free Spiritual Uplift packet full of practical, easy to use resources, prayers and ideas for help. For more information or to obtain the free packet, call 716-847-2210 or email familylife@buffalodiocese.org.

ST. AL’S HOLY NAME SOCIETY: All men of the parish are invited to join our Holy Name members for their monthly Mass this Wednesday, January 16th at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast to follow at Milo’s on Main Street in Williamsville. Plan to attend and bring a friend. Breakfast cost is only \$10 with the Holy Name Society covering the difference in the bill.

ANNUAL REPORT – LEGION OF MARY: A small group of parishioners from Infant of Prague Parish and St. Aloysius Gonzaga Parish continue the work and ministries of the Legion of Mary in our area of the Diocese. Members of the Legion of Mary commit themselves to a holy life through their devotion to Mary and also to spread the Gospel as part of their mission to evangelize the world.

In their annual Report, the members of the Legion tell us that in this past year they have made 252 visits to hospitals, the homebound and those in health facilities. They have brought the Eucharist to 717 people who were unable to attend Mass. The members of the Legion also ministered at Wende Correctional Facility and witnessed to the sacredness of life peacefully praying at an abortion clinic. The Legion members also provided transportation for the elderly who otherwise would not have been able to participate in Mass. Also, at various venues that include the Summerfest at St. Al’s, they have distributed over 2700 religious articles – rosaries, medals, prayer cards.

These are just some of the activities highlighted in the annual Report of our Legion of Mary. What a remarkable record of service! What an effective program of evangelization! Our prayerful congratulations to the members of the Legion of Mary for all they do to spread the Good News of Jesus and to enhance devotion to Mary. The Legion of Mary is always looking for new members – active and associate members. If you would like more information on the activities and ministries of the Legion of Mary, just give the rectory a call and you will be put into contact with an active member of the Legion.

ST. ALS ON THE WEB: We live in a connected world. Just a few years ago personal computers, email and the internet were just starting to make their presence felt in our lives. These days a significant portion of our work and play has moved to the online realm. The outward face of our parish has adopted accordingly with St. Aloysius having a significant presence in the online world these days.

Our website, stalschurch.com receives an average of 20 visits a day, or about 7,300 visits per year. These 20 visitors then look at an average of 2.5 pages on each visit, for a total view of our individual website pages of 18,250 per year. Our 5 most popular website pages are Bulletins, Events, From Msgr. Popadick, Schedules and Book Club.

In addition to our website, our Facebook Page is also a popular place. We place about 10 posts per week on it, the most consistent being the daily Gospel reading accompanied by a compatible image, often a photo from our own parish community. Our Facebook Page reaches an average of 228 folks per day, or over 83,000 people during the course of the year. Another prominent outward facing view of our parish.

Lastly, our parish is registered as a site on Google, meaning people who “Google” us find an enhanced welcome with additional information provided before they even move to their search results. Google tells us that our parish shows up in searches over 45,000 times per year, with the most common results being folks going to our website, asking for directions, or calling.

So, with over 18,000 website page visits, 83,000 Facebook views and 45,000 Google search results it is an impressive blessing on how we are able to continue to share our faith in the modern world.

IT’S TAX TIME AGAIN: We record amounts received in the weekly envelopes, so that parishioners can request a statement for tax purposes. The form below can be placed in the Sunday collection basket, or dropped off or mailed to the Rectory, to receive a statement of the amount we recorded from envelopes submitted in 2018. Allow several weeks for our response, as we get many requests. To help speed our response, include your *envelope number* as this is how the data are accessed in our computer. Your envelope number is the 4-digit number appearing just above and to the left of your name.

<p align="center">REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT OF SUNDAY-ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTION –TOTAL</p> <p>Weekly-Envelope Number: _____</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Telephone No: _____</p>
--

Law Office of **Carmen J. Gentile**
 Elder Law- Wills- Estate Planning
716-380-1621
 Ready to Assist You With Your Legal Needs

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
 With a home security system monitored by A.U.I. professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may qualify you for a Homeowners Insurance discount.
CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501
 HOME SECURITY TEAM
 AUTHORIZED DEALER

WAGNER MONUMENTS
 Monuments, Markers, Urns
 Vases, Cemetery Lettering
892-5505
 2953 GENESEE STREET • Between Harlem & Union

PARISHESonline
 Largest online directory of Catholic Churches
NEVER MISS A BULLETIN!
 Sign up to have our bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com

Morgante Chiropractic
 Anthony V. Morgante, DC
 Theresa M. Morgante, DC
Chiropractic Care PLUS...
 Spinal Decompression • Cold Laser Therapy
 Full Chiropractic Services
 1660 Kensington Ave. (near Century Rd.)
716-833-2960

TONY'S TAKE OUT PIZZA
 \$1.00 Off Large Pizza
 With this ad **833-1700**
 WE DELIVER
 3680 Harlem near Cleveland Drive



THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE
 Call LPi at **1.800.477.4574** for more information.

THE Original PANCAKE HOUSE
 5479 Main St.
634-5515

FREDDIE'S PLUMBING SERVICE INC.
 Residential Installations and Repairs
 Back Up Sump Pump Specialist
 Serving WNY Since 1909
FRED CLABO 631-5513 or 895-3614

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME
ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE
 Contact **Chris Reeves** to place an ad today!
creeves@4LPi.com or **(800) 477-4574 x6206**

catholicmatch
 New York
 CatholicMatch.com/NY

"If your driving is good our rates are better"
TLC Brokerage
 P.A.G. Agency Inc.
 Call Paul Grande: **(716) 835-3221**
www.tlcbrokerage.net
 Low Low Rates — We Shop For you
 Home — Auto — Boats — Rentals — Cycles

LACROSS MONUMENTS
 2609 GENESEE ST. • 896-4654
 MONUMENTS • MARKERS • GRANITE VASES
 CEMETERY LETTERING • STATUARY • PLAQUES
 GRANITE BENCHES • SHRINES • WALKWAYS

Vinyl Tile • Linoleum
 Ceramic Tile • Hardwood
Mario & Son
 Tile & Linoleum Co., Inc.
 2755 Harlem Rd. • Cheektowaga • **894-3298**
 2850 Transit Rd. • West Seneca • **671-2380**

LPi WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

Ritter & Sentry Plumbing & Heating Svc.
 "Servicing Erie County Since 1909"
 Your Complete Plumbing Service
 • Kitchen & Bath Remodeling • Hot Water Tanks • Sump Pumps • Underground Sewer & Waterline Installation & Repair
 "Radio-Dispatched Trucks"
894-4181 or 894-6266
 1053 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga, NY 14211
10% Discount with this Ad

When buying or selling Real Estate,
 Call **Joe Sorrentino**
 The Name You Know and Trust!
716-568-0355
716-998-5637 Cell Phone
 Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker
 St Aloysius Graduate!

CARL B. KUSTELL
 KUSTELL LAW GROUP, LLP
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW
 (716) 837-1515 • FAX: (716) 837-0090
 1660 KENSINGTON AVE., BUFFALO
 E-MAIL: CKUSTELL@KUSTELL.COM

SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

Honoring Over 129 Years of Faith, Family and Friends Pre-Planning • Medicaid Needs • Cremation
THE DIETRICH FUNERAL HOME, INC.
 2480 Kensington Ave., Amherst, NY 14226 • 839-2818 • www.TheDietrichFuneralHome.com
 A Million Questions? One Answer.