St. Aloysius Gonzaga PARISH COMMUNITY

157 Cleveland Drive, Cheektowaga, New York 14215

Web Site: stalschurch.com

Rectory Fax: 837-5703 Convent: 834-1889

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. Adelmo P. Dunghe, SJ Rev. James L. Dugan, SJ

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:

To be Determined

Finance Committee Chairperson: Thomas Gaulin * 833-1715

Eucharistic Adoration Director: Frank Guglielmo * 832-1519

Pro-Life Coordinators Contact:Rose Fera

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 unchurched 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.

St. Aloysius Page Two

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019 — ST. CHARLES LWANGA

6:45 AM St. Aloysius Parishioners & Their Families

8:30 AM William Popadick (Anniversary)—req. Family

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019 — EASTER WEEKDAY

Sylvia Boggan—req. Timmel Family 6:45 AM

Msgr. Matt Wendzikowski & deceased members of the 8:30 AM Wendzikowski Family

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019 — ŠT. BONIFACE

6:45 AM For the military & their families—req. Friends of St. Al's 8:30 AM John & Vincenette Keuter—req. Sr. Eleanor O'Brien

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2019 — EASTER WEEKDAY, ST. NORBERT

6:45 AM Dominic Mancini—req. Janyce & Michael Phelps

8:30 AM Loraine Wallmeyer—reg. Tom Franczyk

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2019 — EASTER WEEKDAY

6:45 AM For the repose of the souls of SM Christelle Butrymowicz & SM Benita DePace—req. Sisters of St. Aloysius Convent 8:30 AM All Souls

SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019 — EASTER WEEKDAY

8:30 AM Edward Wutz, Grandfather—req. Allen Richter 5:00 PM Charles Trapp—req. Trapp Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019 — PENTECOST SUNDAY

9:00 AM Rick Haberman—req. Patty Haberman

11:00 AM Mary F. Quirk (Anniversary)—req. Tom & Sandy Whissel

5:00 PM John Hino—req. Mullen Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Mary Davis, Loretta Phillips, Dorothy Hensen, Barbara Ross, Andrew Hashimi, William Bystrak, Andrew Richesin, Sarah Nelson, Dorothy Coyne, 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, Rose Oehler, Robert Clinch, Vivian Kurylo, Rylin Boncore, 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, Anne Stepien, Alaina Drzyzga, Kim Paul, Rose Causley, Noah Curr, Eric G., Joe Weber, Bob Butters, Charles Ferella, Mary O'Farrell, and all our parishioners in Nursing Homes.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED: Mary Ann Blesnuk

WEEKLY STATISTICS

"I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one." - Jn 17:22-23a



Readings for the week of June 2, 2019

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-3 Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a Tuesday: Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn

17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn

17:20-26

Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19 Friday: Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [cf.7b]/Jn

Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/

Jn 7:37-39

Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [12]/Ex 19:3-8a, 16 -20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 55, 56 [52b] or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/ Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/JI 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39. Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

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; Bingo games start at 1:00 PM. Prizes total \$1,800+.

REFLECTING ON THE WORD OF GOD: On the seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the 17th chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' Farewell Discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. The whole of this chapter is a prayer of Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. At the end of this prayer, Jesus and his disciples depart for the garden, and Jesus is arrested. Several important themes appear in this prayer of Jesus. First, Jesus' prayer reaffirms the complete union between Jesus and the Father. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus has been presented as the one who pre-existed with the Father and as the one sent by the Father to do his work on earth. In today's reading, we hear Jesus ask that the unity he experiences with the Father be extended to all who believe in him. He prays that we be one with each other, with him, and with the Father. We are reminded that Christ is the source of Christian unity. Through Christ, we are united with one another and with God our Father.

- reflection prepared by parishioner, John Fahey

IN THE WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: Today we are celebrating the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven, which occurred 40 days after Easter. Before departing from his friends, Jesus, referring to the event of his death and Resurrection, said to them: "You are witnesses of these things". In other words the disciples, the Apostles, were witnesses of the death and Resurrection of Christ, on that day, also of the Ascension of Christ. In fact, after seeing their Lord ascend into heaven, the disciples returned to the city as witnesses joyfully proclaiming to all the new life which comes from the Crucified and Risen One, in whose name "repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached to all nations". This is the witness born not only with words but with everyday life - the witness that every Sunday should flow from our churches so as to enter during the week into homes, offices, schools, meeting and recreational places, hospitals, prisons, homes for the elderly, in places crowded with immigrants, in the peripheries of the city.... We must bear this witness every week: Christ is with us: Jesus rose to heaven, he is with us: Christ lives! Jesus assured us that in this proclamation and in this witness we shall be "clothed with power from on high", that is, with the power of the Holy Spirit. Here is the secret to this mission: the presence among us of the Risen Lord, who with the gift of the Holy Spirit, continues to open our minds and our hearts, to proclaim his love and his mercy even in the most resistant areas of our cities. The Holy Spirit is the true artisan of the multiform witness that the Church and every baptized person renders in the world. Therefore, we must never neglect to meditate in prayer in order to praise God and invoke the gift of the Holy Spirit. This week, which leads us to the Feast of Pentecost, let us remain spiritually in the Upper Room, together with the Virgin Mary, to receive the Holy Spirit.

SAÍNT PETER'S SQUARE, **SUNDAY, 8 MAY 2016**

ORDINATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD: This Saturday (June 1st) our Most Reverend Bishop, +Richard J. Malone, ordained eight men to the Priesthood in St. Joseph Cathedral for the service of the Church of Buffalo. The entire Diocese of Buffalo joins Bishop Malone in prayerful thanksgiving to God for the Gift of 8 new Priests. This is the first time in over 30 years that so many men were ordained Priests in one year.

Pray for our newly ordained Priests that they serve the People of God with the mind and heart of Jesus Himself - to use the words of Pope Francis that they are so close to their people that they "smell like the sheep." As you read the stories of these 8 new Priests in our diocesan newspaper, you will become aware of the diversity of their backgrounds some of the newly ordained are from Africa, Poland and the Philippines. This means the Priests serving throughout Western New York will be more and more "international priests" - born in one diocese but called to serve in the Diocese of Buffalo.

Read about the newly ordained Priests in the Western New York Catholic. Pray for the newly ordained and all the Priests of the Church of Buffalo, especially during these difficult and challenging times. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send more workers into the vineyard so that the Gospel will be preached and the Catholic Community is strengthened. May God bless the newly ordained Priests of the Diocese of Buffalo and all our Priests.

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LISTENING SESSIONS WITH BISHOP MALONE: Beginning in June, Bishop Richard Malone will participate in a series of "listening sessions" throughout the Diocese of Buffalo. The purpose of these listening sessions is to give the Bishop the opportunity to hear the concerns of the people as we journey through the sexual abuse crisis and to hear the recommendations of the people for future initiatives regarding pastoral care, spiritual care and ministry. Recognizing the importance of the input and empowerment of the laity working in collaboration with their pastors, these listening sessions are an opportunity to create constructive partnerships, receive feedback, and formulate next steps to address the efforts of the clergy sexual abuse crisis and other matters of concern.

The first two listening sessions are: Saturday, June 8, 9:30 to 11:30AM, at St. Gregory the Great Parish Ministry Center, Williamsville, and Saturday, June 22, 9:30 to 11:30AM, at Prince of Peace Parish, St. Leo site, Niagara Falls.

All are invited to participate in one or more of these listening sessions with Bishop Malone.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS COLLECTION: We live in a world of instant communication. Both Pope Francis and Bishop Malone have strongly encouraged us to use the social media to spread the Good News of the Gospel - to share with the world the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Next weekend the annual Catholic Communications Campaign (CCC) will be taken up in the Diocese of Buffalo. This collection connects people with Christ in the United States and in developing countries around the world through the internet, television, radio, and print media. One-half of the money collected here stays in the Diocese of Buffalo to enhance our own diocesan efforts to spread the Gospel. Please consider supporting the Catholic Communications Campaign so that the mandate of Jesus, given on the mountain if the Ascension, to bring the Gospel to the ends of the earth may become more a reality in our day and age.

STATUE OF THE BLESSED MOTHER: The beautiful statue of the Blessed Mother that enhances our Marian Garden was restored and repainted during the winter months by parishioner-artist, Colleen McMahon. Mary has now returned to her garden where she invites us to sit on the bench and pray the Rosary or to add to our day a few minutes of silent prayer or reflection. Our gratitude is extended to Colleen for so beautifully restoring the statue of Mary.

<u>CATHOLIC CHARITIES</u>: Bringing Hope to our neighbors in need – be the neighbor needing food and guidance or be the neighbor needing an awareness of the Presence of God – is one of the central messages of the Gospel. It is truly loving our neighbor as ourselves. That is why these words so fittingly describe what our Catholic Charities Appeal and the Bishop's Fund for the Faith do for our neighbor in need.

Because the number of people throughout Western New York living without Hope, once again you are asked to participate in these annual Appeals. Catholic Charities brings Hope to people in need of food and shelter, guidance and healing, education and skills. The Bishop's Fund for the Faith brings the Presence of the Church to people in need on college campuses and in health care facilities, young and old, people of different races, languages and cultures. Bishop Malone has assured us that all funds collected will be used only for the ministries of Catholic Charities and the Fund for the Faith.

As of Wednesday (May 29) our participation in the Appeal/Fund is as follows:

YEAR	AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED	# OF DONORS	AVE. GIFT
2019	\$44,324.00	203	\$218.34
2018	\$51,678.00	233	\$222.00
2017	\$44.297.81	223	\$198.64

If you have not had an opportunity to contribute to this year's Campaign and are able to do so, please bring your donation to the rectory as soon as possible. Join us in bringing Hope to our neighbors in need. There is really only one reason for donating this year – we see Jesus in disguise when we meet our neighbor in need.

<u>MAGNIFICAT</u> – <u>SPIRITUALITY</u> <u>FOR</u> <u>WOMEN</u>: Magnificat Ministry invites all women to a morning of praise, prayer and testimony to help women experience the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. The morning program takes place on Saturday, June 15th, at the Millennium Hotel, Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, beginning at 9 AM. Guest speaker is Eileen Benthal, a certified professional coach, writer and national speaker. For more information, call Maureen Wilson at 716-683-2290 or visit <u>www.facebook.com/magnificatbuffalo</u>.

Once again, the parish will most eagerly sponsor any women who wish to participate in this Magnificat Event.

PLANTING OF FLOWERS: Weather permitting – this Saturday (June 1) - the soil was prepared for the planting of our summer flowers. Next Saturday (June 8) the actual planting of the flowers will take place. To prepare the entrance to the Church building, the Respect Life Garden, the St. Francis Garden, the St. Aloysius Garden, the Crucifix Shrine and the Garden of Mary is really a lot of work! But – as the saying goes – many hands make light work.

If you could help, even for an hour or two, on either or both days (or the alternate dates if weather does not cooperate), it would be deeply appreciated. This is the kind of thing families can do together. Planting will start immediately after 8:30AM Mass. Doughnuts, juice, coffee, water will be available. Bring your own shovel, rake, gardening tools if they are handy.

So many people complement our parish for the beauty our gardens add to our neighborhood. Very often you see people sitting on the benches reading and thinking – because the flowers are just wonderful to see. We actually create a little "Garden of Eden" on Cleveland Drive. If you wish to make a donation to help purchase the summer flowers, just make sure an envelope marked "Summer Flowers" reaches the rectory in an appropriate manner.

SUMMERFEST: Sunday – June 30th – is quickly approaching. It is the day of the annual St. Al's Summerfest - Noon to 6PM – on our parish grounds. But there is a lot to get done before June 30th! Your help in making this Summerfest a success would be greatly appreciated. So could you: Donate a beverage, sell a few more raffle tickets, help create Theme Baskets, try your luck at the Dinner with the Pastor Raffle, decide what to bake for our Bakery Shoppe, plan on purchasing something from our Arts and Crafts vendors, volunteer to help serve the food, buy your pre-event tickets for the BBQ – chicken (\$12) and ribs (\$13), commit yourself to staff a booth for an hour or two? One of the nice parts of our Summerfest is the people who help make it a success – socially for those who attend and financially for the good of the parish and our ministries.

Tickets for the BBQ dinners are now available at the rectory. Raffle tickets and other donations can be dropped in the collection basket or at the rectory doors. Dinner with the Pastor Raffle is also available at the rectory.

Please know of the gratitude of Ron and Cookie (Summerfest Chairs), the Summerfest Leaders and Father Peter for all we will do together to make this year's Summerfest a great success. (P.S. Don't forget to invite former parishioners, graduates of our school, your neighbors and coworkers to stop by St. Al's on June 30th for a great BBQ, awesome Theme Baskets and good fun.)

DOORS OF THE CHURCH: In the "good old days", Al Timmel, Ted Ziobro, Art Wahler and a group of retired men would see a job that needed to be done and just do it! One of those jobs was refinishing the six wooden doors of our Church periodically. But those days are gone – and the doors have been seriously neglected. So you may have noticed our painters stripping, varnishing and coating the doors of our Church, restoring them to their original beauty.

In the Catholic *Book of Blessings*, there is actually a formal blessing and ceremony centering on the doors of the church. One of the prayers of that Blessing is: "Let us pray fervently to the Lord that all who enter the Church through these doors in order to hear the word of God and celebrate the sacraments may heed the voice of Christ: it is Christ who gives himself to us as the true door to eternal life...He is the Good Shepherd; he is the door through which those who follow him enter and are safe, go in and out, and find pasture."

The cost of restoring the church doors will be absorbed once again from the funds returned to the parish through our participation in the Upon This Rock Campaign. So, again, deep gratitude to all who participated in the Upon This Rock Campaign and all those who are faithfully fulfilling their pledges. It is obvious we could not make such major improvements without the funds from this campaign.

Grant that all who enter St. Aloysius Gonzaga Church through these doors will persevere in the teaching of the apostles, in the breaking of the bread, and in unceasing prayer, and so be built into the heavenly Jerusalem.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY: All men of the parish are cordially invited to attend the Holy Name Society Men's Picnic on Friday, June 7th in the parish grotto (between the rectory and the church). The picnic begins at 5:00 p.m., with dinner being served at 6:00 p.m. The cost is still only \$12, and includes hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, snacks and liquid refreshments. There will be drawings for some prizes and probably a card game or two will follow dinner. So that we can make sure we have enough food and drinks for everyone, please call Dick Jauch @ 834-3127, Tom Franczyk @ 812-7253, or the Rectory at 833-1715.



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