



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. Adelmo P. Dunge, 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 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, JUNE 9, 2019
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019 — WEEKDAY

6:45 AM St. Aloysius Parishioners & Their Families
8:30 AM Paul Gentile—req. Cousin, Carmen

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2019 — ST. BARNABAS, APOSTLE

6:45 AM Happy repose of the soul of Aloisius J. Oczek—req. Family
8:30 AM Rick Haberman (Anniversary)—req. Mary Ann Wetter

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019 — WEEKDAY

6:45 AM Estate of Leo & Evelyn Smith
8:30 AM Frank Martin— req. The Littlefield Sisters

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2019 — ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

6:45 AM For the repose of Sister Mary Thaddeus Pogorzala—req. Sisters of St. Aloysius Convent
8:30 AM Dorothy Paella— req. Frank Hepp

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019 — WEEKDAY

6:45 AM For the military & their families—req. Friends from St. Al's
8:30 AM Albert G. & Lillian Duke—req. A Friend

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019 — WEEKDAY, BVM

8:30 AM Carmela & Dominic Trigilio (100th Anniversary of her birth & his death)—req. Family
5:00 PM Daniel T. Kirst—req. Bernard Wojtkowski, Jr.

SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 2019 — THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

9:00 AM Joseph Ducato—req. Children
11:00 AM Gilbert & Bernice Aloysius (Anniversary)—req. Family
5:00 PM Eugene & Loraine Wallmeyer—req. Son, Kenneth

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: Henry Panek

WEEKLY STATISTICS

Weekly Collection \$4,299.00 (Last Year: \$4,886.00)
Weekly Attendance 317 People



Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him." - Jn 14:23

Readings for the week of June 9, 2019

Monday: Gen 3:9-15 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
Tuesday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [cf. 2b]/Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 8, 9 [cf. 9c]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15--4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 5:20-26
Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 116:10-11, 15-16, 17-18 [17a]/Mt 5:27-32
Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Mt 5:33-37
Next Sunday: Prv 8:22-31/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2a]/Rom 5:1-5/Jn 16:12-15

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: The season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, taken from the Gospel of John, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. This reading reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." As he breathes the Holy Spirit upon them, Jesus sends his disciples to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. This reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are washed clean from sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God in forgiving sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people. - reflection prepared by parishioner, John Fahey

IN THE WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: The liturgy invites us to open our mind and our heart to the gift of the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus promised on several occasions to his disciples: the first and most important gift that he obtained for us with his Resurrection. In promising the Holy Spirit, Jesus defines him as "another Counselor", which means Paraclete, Advocate, Intercessor, in other words, the One who helps us, protects us, is at our side on the journey of life and in the struggle for good and that against evil. Jesus says "another Counselor" because He is the first, He himself, who became flesh precisely to take our human condition upon himself and free it from the slavery of sin. Moreover, the Holy Spirit plays a role in teaching and remembrance. Teaching and remembrance. Jesus told us: "the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you". The Holy Spirit does not bring a different teaching, but renders alive and brings into effect the teaching of Jesus, so that the passage of time may neither erase nor diminish it. The Holy Spirit instills this teaching in our heart, helps us to internalize it, making it become a part of us, flesh of our flesh. At the same time, he prepares our heart to be truly capable of receiving the words and example of the Lord. Every time the word of Jesus is received with joy in our heart, this is the work of the Holy Spirit.

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST, SAINT PETER'S SQUARE,
SUNDAY, 15 MAY 2016

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Our Children's Liturgy of the Word has concluded for this school year and will resume in September. Thanks to wonderful Catechists and Mentors – like Hal and Nancy, Sandy, Marcia, Ashley – this ministry helps the youngest members of our parish family to understand the Word of God and helps them put the Sunday Scripture Readings into practice in their lives. When you see the smiles on the faces of the children when they return to church you have a sense that the seeds of God's Holy Word have been planted in their minds and hearts and they sense they are loved deeply and tenderly by God. Thanks to our Catechists, parents and all members of our parish community for creating an atmosphere where the Word of God can be understood and lived by the children of our parish.

SUMMERFEST: Can we count on your help to make our 2019 Summerfest – Sunday, June 30th, Noon to 6PM. on parish grounds – a great success? Summerfest Leadership asks you for your time and talent to set up, take down and staff a booth or raffle. Donations for our Theme Baskets, donations of soda, water and "adult" beverage are a great way to help. Additional *Welcome to Summer Raffle Tickets* (\$3000 in cash prizes) are available in the rectory, as are Dinner with the Pastor Raffle Tickets. BBQ Dinners – Chicken or Ribs – can be purchased at the rectory. If you can help in any way, just call Kathie or Mary at the rectory.

FATHER DIGIULIO'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY: Our former Pastor and wonderful friend, Father Richard DiGiulio, celebrates his 50th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ this year. Father Richard invites his friends and former parishioners from St. Al's to a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. John the Baptist Church in Alden on Sunday, June 30th, at 1PM. (Don't worry – go to the Mass of Thanksgiving and then stop by at our Summerfest.) Imagine the number of Masses Father has prayed, the confessions heard, the Baptisms celebrated, the Communion distributed – over these past 50 years! The Community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga extends prayerful congratulations to Father DiGiulio on his Golden Anniversary of Ordination – and we thank him for so generously sharing his Priesthood with all of us here at St. Aloysius Gonzaga. Ad multos annos!

FEAST OF ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA: As a parish we will celebrate the Feast of our patron saint, St. Aloysius Gonzaga, on Thursday, June 20th. We will begin with prayer at the outdoor shrine of St. Aloysius Gonzaga at 7PM. We will process into Church for Holy Mass. Immediately after Mass we will continue to celebrate the Feast of St. Aloysius with our traditional strawberry ice cream/short cake social in our school cafeteria. It is a wonderful way to honor St. Aloysius and to welcome summer.

The women can always use a few extra hands shucking the fresh strawberries, arranging the cafeteria and serving the food and beverages. If able to help, just call Kathie or Mary at the rectory and let us know your availability. Invite family and friends, former parishioners, next door neighbors and graduates of our school to “come Home” and celebrate with us the feast of our patron saint.

Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, pray for us!

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: Last Saturday – June 1st – the Parish Finance Committee, chaired by Tom Gaulin, met in the rectory for almost two hours to review the present financial status of our parish and to continue to monitor the wise use of the financial resources our parishioners and friends entrust to our care. Among the items on the agenda were expenditures financed by our Upon This Rock parish rebate (thus far the rebate is over \$60,800.00), obligations to the Diocese of Buffalo, staff salaries, the significant decline in our weekly offertory collection, the possible sale of a small parcel of land owned by the parish in Colden, NY. A matter of serious concern for the Finance Committee was that our offertory collections for this year are over \$13,000.00 less than last year. As a result of this, the parish is behind in our payments to the Diocese for the insurance on our buildings and properties (over \$30,000).

The constant mantra of the members of the committee was gratitude to our most faithful and generous parishioners and friends of St. Aloysius Gonzaga for their support of our parish – spiritually, pastorally and financially. There is that wise, old Latin adage – *Deus providebit* – translated, “God will provide”. God has provided for our parish family spiritually and fiscally in the past. We are confident that God will continue to provide for us as we journey into the future because we are blessed here at St. Al's with faith filled and generous people. *Deus providebit*.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL: Our Catholic Charities Appeal/Bishop's Fund for the Faith Drive – our efforts to bring Hope to our neighbors in need – continues until the end of June. Parish Appeal Co-chairs, Colleen and Jean, are very pleased to report that as of June 5th our parishioners and friends have contributed \$44,616 (*unofficially*) to this year's Appeal. What a great sign this is of the desire of our parishioners and friends to see the face of Jesus on all who come to us for love and help and of our efforts to bring Hope to all in physical, social, spiritual or psychological need.

If you have not as of yet contributed to the diocesan Catholic Charities Appeal/Fund for the Faith, and now find yourself able to do so, please make sure your gift reaches the rectory as soon as possible. Our parish goal for this year's Appeal is \$48,400.85. If everyone able contributes to this year's Appeal, it should be possible not just to meet our goal but to substantially exceed it - that would be just wonderful because the number of neighbors living without Hope continues to increase dramatically. Remember: Bishop Malone has assured us that all funds collected will be used only for the ministries supported by Catholic Charities and the Fund for the Faith. Through the heavenly intercession of Saint Faustina, may our Appeals be successful this year in our parish and throughout Western New York.

EAGLE SCOUT: With great joy and pride the community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga extends congratulations and prayers to Luke Masna who became an Eagle Scout last Sunday during a program in our school gymnasium. Luke was one of five young men who became Eagle Scouts during the ceremony. Luke is a senior at Maryvale High School, a scholar-athlete. He will attend college in Rochester. Now he is an Eagle Scout who will use his talents, gifts and faith in the service of others. The entire parish shares the pride of Luke's parents, Christopher and Mary Beth, and his brother, Matthew. Scouting prepares young men and women to assume active roles of leadership, responsibility and service within our Churches and the wider community. St. Al's Parish is so proud that one of these new servant-leaders is now Eagle Scout Luke Masna!

2019 GRADUATES: The Community of St. Aloysius Gonzaga wishes to acknowledge the young people of our parish family graduating from elementary and high schools, colleges and universities this spring. It is wonderful to celebrate the academic achievements of our children, youth and young adults. If a member of your family (or even a former parishioner you know about) is graduating this year, please make sure this Information Form is returned to the rectory at your convenience.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____
SCHOOL: _____
DEGREE EARNED: _____
HONORS OR RECOGNITIONS RECEIVED: _____
OTHER INFORMATION: _____
FUTURE PLANS: _____

As our graduates complete their studies and journey into the future, we assure them of our prayers and just know that with their education – as well as with their Faith and Love – they will make a difference in our Church and our world.

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN: Last week, Father Peter received a phone call from a friend in Hong Kong. He told Father Peter that because he can never reach him by phone, he follows life at St. Al's by visiting our Facebook. Pope Francis and Bishop Malone post a daily message on our webpage. Bishop Barron and Matthew Kelly both offer a daily reflection on the Gospel. Father Pribek visits us regularly. We live in a world of instant communication. Besides radio, television and the printed media, we must use the “social media” to proclaim the Gospel and to spread the Good News of Jesus.

That is the purpose of the annual collection for Catholic Communications – to enable the Church to use all the media available to spread the Good News of Jesus. *There will be only ONE collection – so please place your donation in the regular collection basket.*

CATHOLIC BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP: Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Rejoice and Be Glad*, writes that every community/ every parish is called to create “a God-enlightened space in which to experience the hidden presence of the Risen Lord.” Members of our Catholic Book Discussion Group will use this message of Pope Francis as our jump off for the June meeting as we ask ourselves is St. Al's the kind of community that creates space where the Risen Christ can be found. If “yes”, then describe how; if “no”, then let us all know how and why we fail.

Book Discussion Group will take place on Thursday, June 27th, at 7PM in the rectory. We will finish the Apostolic Exhortation by reading Chapter 5, “Spiritual Combat, Vigilance and Discernment”. But we will begin by examining the question: “Are we here at SAG ‘a God-enlightened space’ where we find God everywhere and where we see God in everyone?”

It should be a very interesting discussion. All are invited.

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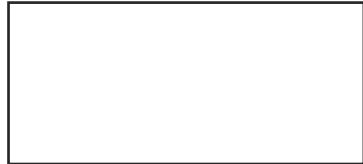
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