NEW PARISHIONERS... St. Aloysius extends a warm welcome to all who are joining us for prayer, worship, or instruction. If you are new to the area or returning home to the Church, we invite you to register and make St. Aloysius your parish. Registration forms can be obtained at the church, on our website, or by calling the rectory.

FIND A SMALL GROUP... Find Small Group Faith Formation opportunities in our area for both adults and high school teens by visiting www.ConnectStMarys.com.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)... RCIA is the process of welcoming new members to the Catholic Church. It is intended for adults who have never been baptized or for adults who have been baptized Christian and now wish to practice the faith in the Catholic tradition. It is an ongoing process of formation, catechesis and liturgical rites. Anyone interested is asked to call the rectory to discuss the process.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM... Parents are asked to call the parish office to register for the Baptismal Preparation Meeting and for the baptism of their child. Parents are expected to be participating members of the parish.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE... Couples seeking to be married in the Church are to make arrangements with the pastor six months to one year in advance of their intended wedding date, in order to allow time for marriage preparation. At least one of the engaged should be a registered and practicing member of the parish.

ANointing of the Sick... The Sacrament of the Sick is for the spiritual comfort, strength and healing of the ill. If there is a need for the sacrament in your family or household, please contact the rectory as soon as possible.

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL... Pre-K-8th Grade. If interested, please contact Mrs. Helen Bowles in the school office Monday through Friday 8:00am - 3:00pm, 301-475-9795 for space availability.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION... Pre-K-8th Grade, 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, 9:15 AM to 10:30 AM, during the school year. To register please contact Leonard Wathen at the Rectory or visit the parish website.

December 9, 2018
Second Sunday of Advent

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday:      5:00 pm
Sunday:       8:00 am and 11:00 am
Daily:        12:15 pm Tuesday & Thursday
              8:30 am Wednesday & Friday
              7:30 am Saturday

HOLY DAY MASSES:
As Announced inside the Bulletin.

FIRST FRIDAYS: (September through June) Masses at 9:00 am and 7:00 pm. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10:00 am till 6:45 pm followed by Benediction. Confessions from 6:00 - 6:30 pm.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Thursday: 11:30-12 Noon
Saturday: 11:30-12 Noon

STAFF
Pastor................................................Rev. David W. Beaubien, ext. 14
Deacon......................................................Deacon Joe Vavrus
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper............Denise Becher, ext.10
Receptionist/Bulletin Editor...............Lauren Carney, ext.11
Religious Education/Youth Ministry....Leonard Wathen, ext.16
Maintenance.............................................Wally Bowles
Principal, Father Andrew White School ..Heather Francisco
Secretary, FAW School......................Helen Bowles

RECTORY HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8 am-4 pm
                            Friday 9 am-3 pm

www.SaintAloysiusChurch.org
www.facebook.com/stalloysius20650
www.twi/g415er.com/stalloysius20650
ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA CATHOLIC CHURCH, LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

**Scripture Corner**

**ISAIAH AND THE BAPTIST**

Today’s liturgy has great advice for all followers of Jesus for the Advent season. The prophet Isaiah says in today’s Gospel (Luke 3: 1–6): “Prepare the way of the Lord.” (vs. 4). That is the Church’s purpose for the season of Advent, that all should prepare the way of the Lord. Christ will come on Christmas morning, but will also come in glory at the end of time. If we prepare the way of the Lord by our conduct, we are ready for both comings of Jesus. These important words of preparing the way are found in all four Gospels – a clear sign of their importance in the eyes of Jesus and his Church.

John the Baptist is proclaiming “a Baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” (vs. 3) People who approached John for baptism committed themselves to preparing the way of the Lord. The Baptist says that repentance was the way to prepare. “Repentance” in the Greek is metanoia, which means literally “change of mind.” In this context it could be translated as a “change of heart.” Every Christian is being asked to be Christ-centered, not self-centered! Our Lord will often note that to be Christ-centered, his followers must have love of God and love of neighbor – all neighbors!

Luke wrote his Gospel to show that Christ is the savior of all, especially the poor and the sinful. The evangelist finds the universal theme in the last words of Isaiah: “All flesh shall see the salvation of God.” (Luke 3: 6/ Isaiah 40: 5)

Luke also has a great concern for history. He sets the coming of the Messiah in the midst of world history. He refers to Tiberius Caesar of Rome, to Pontius Pilate, the governor of Judea. He also mentions Herod of Galilee, Philip and Lysanias. The evangelist also mentions that at the beginning of Christ’s ministry the high priests, Annas and Caiaphas, were the religious leaders in the Holy Land.

The prophet Baruch in today’s first reading (5: 1–9) declares, “Rise up, Jerusalem, stand upon the heights,” (vs. 5) to welcome the exiles home. “God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with the mercy and justice that are his.” (vs. 9) Also in the second reading (Philippians 1: 4–6. 8–11), Saint Paul encourages the Philippian to prepare the way of the Lord by an increase in love and knowledge that they “may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.” (vs. 10) Paul is referring to the Second Coming of Jesus, but his words can also prepare us for the coming of our Lord on Christmas day.

~Msgr. Ralph J. Kuehner

**PRAYER & WORSHIP**

**MASS INTENTIONS this WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mass Time</th>
<th>Intention</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 11</td>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>St. Damasus I, Pope College Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 12</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Our Lady of Guadalupe Thomas I. “Poke” Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 13</td>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>St. Lucy, Virgin &amp; Martyr Barbara Russell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 14</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>St. John of the Cross, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church Rev. Francis G. Burch, S.J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 15</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>William “Melvin” Pilkerton, Jr. Charles D. Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 16</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Third Sunday of Advent Pro populo</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Liberato Caday</td>
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**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

The Sick and Homebound in our Community: John Barnett, Walter M. Bowman, Timothy Butler, Teresa Cusic, Brenda Davis, Charles Davis Sr., Irene Dixon, Frances Duke, George Guy, Warren Guy, Jr., Howard Hensley, John Holly, Deb Johnson, John Kaeton, Mary Catherine Kane, Paula Kidwell, Mary Catherine Kohut, Juliann Leginze, Max Long, Florence “Flo” Michalski, George Nelson, Margaret Nelson, Jermaine Perry, Claudia Queen, Cindy Sally, Kim Simmons, Mary Agnes Stewart, Steven Tomaszewski, Richard & Sally Tomkinison, Nena Underwood, Michael Utzig, Stephanie Vallandingham.

**BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE:** The community of St. Aloysius would like to extend our condolences to the family of Bruce Burroughs, who passed away recently. May the angels lead him into paradise; may the martyrs come and welcome him to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem; and may the peace of Christ which is beyond all understanding give his family comfort and peace.

**RESPECT LIFE**

**WORD OF LIFE:** Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother. Not sure how to help or what to say? Learn ten tips at www.usccb.org/support-her.
EVANGELIZATION & PARISH LIFE

2nd Sunday of Advent Prayer
Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
St. Mary’s county Catholic parishes will be holding a
combined Penance Service at Immaculate Heart of Mary
Church in Lexington Park on Monday, December 17, at
7:00 pm.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS
Volunteers are needed to help decorate our church for
Christmas. Decorating will take place on Saturday,
December 22 at 9:00 am and on Sunday, December 23 at
1:00 pm. If you can help either day, please add your name
and phone number on the sheet located in the vestibule of
the church.

Join our parish for BEST ADVENT EVER, a free email
program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow
down and focus on what matters most during the busy
holiday season. Each day of Advent, you’ll receive an email with…
* Short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt, Matthew
  Kelly, and the Dynamic Catholic team.
* Practical tips for your everyday life
* Real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey
To sign up, visit BestAdventEver.com/Christmas18

SAVE THE DATE
This year’s Volunteer Thank-You dinner will be held on
Saturday, February 9, 2019. Please note the later date
change. Invitations and more information to come.

The Kalnasy Concert Series presents
YOUTH MUSICIANS IN CONCERT

Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019 at 3:00 PM at St. Aloysius
All are invited to an afternoon of beautiful piano and
instrumental music of the season performed by our very
talented high school accompanists and instrumentalists!!!!
For more information contact keyofgmh@gmail.com.

ADORATION 101

How to Make a Holy Hour
Be present to the One who is present
“So, you could not stay awake with me for
even an hour? Be on guard, and pray that you
may not undergo the test.” Mt 26:40-41

There are different ways to “watch one hour” with the Lord.
One of the most powerful and fruitful ways is to spend an
hour in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We call this
a Holy Hour because it is an hour spent in the presence of
the Holy Eucharist: Christ, Himself, the One who alone is
Holy.

VOCATIONS CROSS
Let us invoke the intercession of St. Junípero Serra
for priestly and religious vocations and pray this week
with the Carney Family, who has the Vocations Cross!

STEWARDSHIP

SHARING OUR TREASURE
Weekly Offertory Contributions
December 1, 2018

1st Collection: 2nd Collection: Retired
Religious Fund
Offertory Basket: $6,545.00 Offertory Basket: $2,991.32
Direct Debit: $4,486.00 Direct Debit: $692.00
Total $11,031.00 Total $3,683.32

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND will be for the
Building Fund.

PATRON OF THE WEEK: David’s Flowers. If in need
please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

RELIGIOUS ED & YOUTH MINISTRY

FAMILY OF FAITH, our family-centered Religious
Education program for age 4 to Grade 8, has begun, but it’s
not too late to register online at our parish website!
December’s theme is “Confirmation”. Our next gathering in
December is on the 16th from 9:15 to 10:30 AM.

MOUNT 2000, a weekend high school retreat at Mount St.
Mary’s University in Emmitsburg, Maryland, is scheduled
for February 8—10, 2019. Registration is opening very
shortly, and any high school teens who would like to attend
are asked to sign up on our parish website at
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

ANGEL TREE
As we prepare for Advent, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society will be sponsoring the ANGEL TREE this year. The Society has obtained names of families within our community that are in need of assistance and will be providing gifts for their children. Each family will receive $75.00 in food cards at a minimum, and each child in the selected families will receive two (2) gifts. There will be two separate angels for each child. The angel will provide suggestions to help you choose an appropriate gift. It is important that all gifts and food cards be returned by the 11:00 am Mass this Sunday, December 9th.

REMEMBER, FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL WILL BE SELLING SCRIP CARDS AFTER MASS EACH WEEKEND. We ask that before you go Christmas shopping for items and/or food cards; consider purchasing a scrip card for the store(s) you plan to use for your shopping needs. That way we help the community and our school! For more information regarding the Angel Tree, please contact Vicki Wenke at 301-373-5420.

Extending our Blessings to the Community
The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Aloysius Church will be sponsoring the 15th Annual Community Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day (Tuesday, December 25) at Father Andrew White School in Leonardtown for those desiring a full meal and fellowship. Dinner is available between 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM in the school hall. Please note the change in time this year.

We would like to deliver dinners to those who are unable to come to the school and are asking your assistance with:
• Names of needy persons or families in our parish community who may desire delivery of dinner
• Volunteers to deliver dinners to the homebound in your parish community (if preferred)
• Donations of items for a white elephant give away table. Items need not be new.
• Volunteers to prepare, set up, make decorations, serve and/or clean up at Father Andrew White School hall.

Anyone wishing to assist with decorations may simply arrive at the hall by 1 pm on Sunday, December 23.

If you have questions, wish to provide information for deliveries, or sign up to volunteer, please contact Regina at SVdP (301-481-2942) or by emailing at svdp@saintaloysiuschurch.org.

We would like delivery reservations or volunteer intentions for Christmas Day made no later than Tuesday, December 18, 2018.

We appreciate your support in this effort to display God’s love and express the true meaning of Christmas!

NURSING CENTER CARING PROGRAM: The SVdP will be collecting items for the residents for St. Mary’s Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Leonardtown. Some item ideas are tissues, lotion, toothpaste, costume jewelry, stationary, slippers, socks, large print books, books on tape, shampoo and cards. A box for the items will be in the vestibule of the church. All items need to be received by 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 16. For more information regarding this program, please contact Patty Belanger at 301-475-8000 ext. 160 or 301-904-7990.

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL

St. Aloysius Cornerstone: Father Andrew White School students were present during the laying of our historical 2018 cornerstone in our new parish building. You can view photos here:
www.saintaloysiuschurch.org/photoalbums/laying-the-cornerstone

The Virtue of Generosity: Our parish school continues to participate in the Virtues in Practice program this year. Each month, the whole school focuses on the same virtue as they hope to grow closer to Jesus by imitating His life and virtues. They also learn more about the saints who exemplify these good habits. This month students and their families are learning about the virtue of generosity. Please join them by modeling how you give without counting the cost during the month of December.

Celebrate Advent: Join our students as they begin "Lighting the Way" to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Students are practicing the virtue of generosity, as they love and care for our neighbors by bringing in donations of pasta, peanut butter and jelly, cereals, and canned vegetables that will help those at the SoMD Food Bank & Outreach Services and the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.

SCRIP Cards: Father Andrew White school is selling gift cards in the vestibule of the church after each Mass. The school purchases gift cards at a discount and sells them at face value. They carry a number of cards in stock, and can order cards from 100s of other retailers. If we don't have what you are looking for, we can order it and have it ready for pick up the following week after Mass. Order forms are available in the vestibule. Please consider purchasing your Angel Tree gift cards from our Scrip Program.