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 16, 2018
Third 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/staloysius20650
www.twitter.com/staloysius20650
JOYFULLY AWAITING THE MESSIAH’S COMING!

The key theme in the Infancy Narrative of Luke is Joy! That theme is found in the readings this Sunday. The prophet Zephaniah in today’s first reading (Zephaniah 3: 14–18) calls out, “Shout for joy, O Daughter Zion. Sing joyfully, Israel!...The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior.” (vss. 14, 17) In the second reading (Philippians 4: 4–7) Saint Paul tells his converts in Philippi, “Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!” (vs. 4)

In today’s Gospel (Luke 3: 10–18) John the Baptist is highlighted. He gives very practical advice to the people. He encourages all to practice love of neighbor, especially to the poor and needy: “Even tax collectors came to him to be baptized.” (vs. 12) John asked that the recipients of his baptism should become “God–centered.” For the tax collectors that meant honesty in their financial dealings. The soldiers are told to avoid using their power to intimidate people, avoid false accusations and be content with their wages. Notice that the Baptist does not ask for anything heroic; he just wants basically good conduct.

The strong reason for joy today is found the John’s Messianic teaching. The Jewish people had been waiting for the Messiah since the time of King David. The prophet Nathan speaking for Yahweh told David, “I will raise up your offspring after you … and I will establish his royal throne forever.” (2 Samuel 7: 12–13) At the time of our Lord this expectation was so strong that the favorite title for Messiah was “Son of David.” This promise is fulfilled in the words of Gabriel to Mary, “The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father.” (Luke 1: 32)

Many of the people at that time believed that the Baptist was also the Messiah. John foretold that “one mightier than I is coming...He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” (Luke 3: 16) John is teaching that the Messiah’s baptism would purify, refine and unite the recipient with Jesus. The belief that John was the Messiah was so strong that the last words of the Baptist in the Gospel of John are, “He must increase; I must decrease.” (John 3: 30)

~Msgr. Ralph J. Kuehner

Prayer & Worship

MASS INTENTIONS this WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 18</td>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>Joseph “J.F.” Long</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 19</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Benjamin “Alfred” Knott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 20</td>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>William &amp; Mary Ida Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Dec. 21</td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>St. Peter Canisius, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, Dec. 22</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Msgr. Richard J. Smola, Former Pastor, 32nd Anniversary of death</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 23</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Bobby, Manning, &amp; Bernie Norris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, December 23</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Pro Populo</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER the Sick and Homebound in our Community:


BORN TO ETERNAL LIFE: The community of St. Aloysius would like to extend our condolences to the family of Paul S. Combs, 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: “In 1531, when the indigenous peoples of Mexico were subjugated and the practice of human sacrifice was still a recent memory, the Mother of God appeared to St. Juan Diego as a pregnant native woman, now known as Our Lady of Guadalupe.
She sent him with miraculous flowers in his cloak to tell the bishop to build a church where people could receive her Son and her loving, tender care. When St. Juan Diego opened the cloak before the bishop, an image of Our Lady was revealed that remains to this day. The chapel was quickly built, millions embraced Christianity, and the Church increased its protection of the indigenous peoples.”
**EVANGELIZATION & PARISH LIFE**

**3rd Sunday of Advent Prayer**

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation, and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, 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 with opportunity for individual confessions with visiting priests.

**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.

**CHRISTMAS OFFICE SCHEDULE**

In celebration of Christmas and the New Year our parish offices will close at noon on Monday, December 24th and Monday, December 31st. Offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 25th, Wednesday, December 26th, and Tuesday, January 1st. On behalf of the entire parish staff we wish all in our community a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy and holy New Year.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Children’s Tableau - 4:30 pm  
December 24th Christmas Eve - 5 pm, Children’s Mass  
December 24th Christmas Eve - 7:30 pm, Vigil Mass  
Musical Prelude - 10:30 pm  
December 24th Christmas Eve Mass - 11:00 pm  
December 25th Christmas Day Mass - 9:30 am

**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.

**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 make a Holy Hour: you can pray, alone or with others, before Jesus in the Tabernacle; or you can pray in the presence of the exposed Blessed Sacrament, privately or at a public service led by a priest or deacon.

**VOCATIONS CROSS**

Let us invoke the intercession of St. Junípero Serra for priestly and religious vocations and pray this week with Ceci and Jim Hoffman, who have the Vocations Cross!

**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.

**STEWARDSHIP**

**SHARING OUR TREASURE**

Weekly Offertory Contributions  
December 8/9, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Collection:</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Collection: Christmas Flowers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND** will be for the Archdiocesan Assessment.

**PATRON OF THE WEEK:** Dunkin’ Donuts. If in need please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.
ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

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 this 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

Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections

Christmas Concert & Cookies for Sale: Come on over to Father Andrew White School on Sunday, Dec. 16th to prepare your heart for Christ as you listen to our students sing Christmas songs. The annual Christmas Pageant will begin at 2pm, but plan to arrive early to save your seats. While you are waiting, you may go to the 8th grade classroom to participate in the Cookie Walk. FAW’s National Junior Honor Society and the 8th grade class is hosting this event to benefit children affected by the Camp Fire in California. Thank you for joining them as they practice this month’s virtue of generosity.

COMMUNITY

Seeking Host Family for Foreign Exchange Student
Youth For Understanding USA, the non-profit cultural exchange organization, is sponsoring a student from China who will be attending St. Mary’s Ryken beginning in January, and is searching for a suitable host family. Compensation is provided. The student is a 15 year old male. If interested or for more information, please contact Manager of Program Development, Tammi Ainsfield, at 202-774-5285.

SURRENDERING THE SECRET
Care Net Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland presents a Bible study designed to heal the heartbreak of abortion. Abortion is not a secret anymore; it is freely discussed in our society. Despite this openness, many women have pain and experiences that they don’t feel comfortable telling anyone. Surrendering the Secret allows women who need help to connect with women who can help. You don’t have to be alone. There is hope. There is help. The next class begins in January. To sign up or for more information contact Care Net Pregnancy Center of Southern Maryland at 410-326-6866 or sts@carenetsomd.org.

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RELIBIOUS 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 this Sunday, 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 http://www.saintaloysiuschurch.org/mount-2000.

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