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 22, 2019
Fourth 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. Exposure 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: 3:30-4:30 pm

STAFF
Pastor..................................................Rev. David W. Beaubien, ext. 14
Deacon.....................................................Deacon Joseph Vavrus
Parish Secretary/Bookkeeper..................Denise Becher, ext.10
Receptionist/Bulletin Editor .................Lauren Carney, ext.11
Religious Education/Youth Ministry.......Leonard Wathen, ext.16
Coordinator of Music.............................Beth Domingue
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
Scripture Corner

JOSEPH AND THE ANGEL OF THE LORD

The “angel of the Lord” comes to Joseph as he is struggling with the pregnancy of Mary. “Angel of the Lord” is often used in the Old Testament for God communicating with individuals. The concerns of Joseph are removed by these words, “It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her.” (Matthew 1:20) Today’s Gospel (Matthew 1:18-24), not only reassures Joseph, but also has three very important titles for the child of Mary.

The first of these titles is “Son of David.” This title of our Lord owes to Joseph who is of the family of David. A foster-father gives the title of his family to a child just as a natural father does. The importance of this title can be seen in the opening verse of Matthew’s Gospel, “The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” (1:1) In the Old Testament we read, “The Lord swore an oath to David in truth, he will never turn back from it: your own offspring I will set upon your throne.” (Psalm 132:11)

The second special title for the child of Mary is “Emmanuel!” Both in talking to Joseph here (1:21) and in talking to Mary, the angel insists upon the name “Jesus.” (Luke 1:26-33) “Jesus” is the Hebrew name for Yahweh—God. The second title includes the fact that Jesus is David’s heir. “Jesus” both in talking to Joseph here (1:21) and in talking to Mary, the angel insists upon the name “Jesus.” (Luke 1:26-33) “Jesus” is the Hebrew name for Yahweh—God. The second title includes the fact that Jesus is David’s heir.

“Emmanuel” is the third title found in today’s Gospel. Here, as often throughout his Gospel, Matthew uses a very important quotation from the Old Testament. This text indicates that Jesus is the continuation, the perfection of the Old Covenant (1:22-23). In today’s first reading the prophet Isaiah gives a sign to an obstinate Ahaz, “The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.” (7:14) Matthew adds to the quote the fact that “Emmanuel” means “God is with us.” In the verses of today’s Gospel, the child of Mary and Joseph is identified as the Son of David, the Savior (Jesus) and also the Son of God (Emmanuel)!

~Msgr. Ralph J. Kuehner

Table: PRAYER & WORSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MASS INTENTIONS this WEEK</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, Dec. 24:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Christmas Eve</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>No Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Mary Catherine Mileto</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Scott Mattingly</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 pm</td>
<td><strong>Pro populo</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, Dec. 25:</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Nativity of the Lord</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Camalier Family</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, Dec. 26:</strong></td>
<td><strong>St. Stephen, The First Martyr</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>Bobby, Manning, &amp; Bernie Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, Dec. 27:</strong></td>
<td><strong>St. John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Steven Fenwick</td>
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<td><strong>Saturday, Dec. 28:</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</strong></td>
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<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Sylvia Jean Alvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Toribio Domingo, Jr.</td>
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<td><strong>Sunday, December 29:</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td><strong>Pro populo</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>For our Families</td>
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</tbody>
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A note on the re-installation of the altar rail gates

The gates, which may have been brought in from Baltimore when the present church was constructed, had already seen many years of use. Subsequently, they were removed from our altar rail in the mid-1970’s and had been in storage in the basement. On arriving at St. Aloysius, I noticed what a remarkable and historic work of art they were and decided to have them eventually re-plated and re-installed. The medallions in the center of each gate feature the traditional JHS, the first three letters of the name Jesus in the Greek alphabet, an iconographical detail important to the Jesuits, who were founders of the parishes in St. Mary’s County. The original marble toppers, which were very heavy, were replaced by wooden pieces of the same shape and will be painted soon to match the altar rail. Since the sanctuary represents the place of the Holy of Holies, altar gates have traditionally signified the entrance to heaven, through which we have been given access by the Precious Blood of Christ. I am particularly thankful for the discerning eyes of those who planned and built our present church, and I hope you are, too! ~Fr. David
EVANGELIZATION & PARISH LIFE

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS
Volunteers are needed to help decorate our church for Christmas. Decorating will take place this Sunday, December 22 at 1:00pm and Monday, December 23 at 9:00am. If you can help either day, please join us.

MONDAY NIGHT APOLOGETICS
There will be no Monday Night Apologetics class during the week of Christmas and New Years. Class will resume on Monday, January 6th with the topic: “Defending the Jesuit Missions to India.”

Rediscover the Simplicity of the Gospel
Sundays, January 12, 19, & 26, 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Join us for The 99 Experience, a springboard for discovering or rediscovering Jesus, growing in identity, purpose, and community. At these powerful evening series, we will come together to learn:
* The answer to the brokenness we experience in our lives
* How to acknowledge and desire God’s love
* How to live a life in community lead by the Holy Spirit

SAVE THE DATE
This year’s Volunteer Thank-You dinner will be held on Saturday, January 25. Invitations and more information to come.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SERIES
Tuesdays: 7:00-9:00 pm, at St. Aloysius hall
January 28 – EQUAL, February 4 – COMMUNICATION,
February 11 – SEXUALITY AND INTIMACY, and
February 18 – THRIVING VS. SURVIVING
Take the time to invest in your marriage by attending a series of enrichment sessions together, hosted by the Office for Family Life. Presented by Rebecca Mullan, M.S, LPC. Register at: mestaloysius.eventbrite.com. For more information: 301.853.4546 or visiblesign@adw.org.

INTERNATIONAL MISSION/ Hurricane Dorian Relief
Join us for our church’s first International Mission, in early February. Roofers, carpenters, and helpers are urgently needed for a humanitarian mission to Green Turtle Cay, Bahamas. 8 days in Paradise to fix houses, make friends, and have your deeds reflect the blessings of our Lord. Transportation and housing provided. Please join us, bring your talents, and help return families to their homes. Contact Dan Guenther for more info: 301-672-1478.

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

CHRISTMAS MASSES
Children’s Tableaux - 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

CHRISTMAS OFFICE SCHEDULE
In celebration of Christmas and the New Year our parish offices will close at noon on Tuesday, December 24th and Tuesday, December 31st. Offices will also be closed on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 25th - 27th, and Wednesday, 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.

IMPROV Your Faith: High School and Middle School teens are invited to “Improv Your Faith,” an evening of faith-filled fun with Fr. Rob Maro, Friday, January 24, from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Father Andrew White School. Before entering the seminary, Fr. Rob, pastor of St. Francis Xavier, taught “Improv,” improvisational acting. Join us to learn a few lessons in improve and grow in faith! Dinner will be provided.

Mount 2000: High School teens are invited to Mount 2000, a weekend Eucharistic retreat at Mount St. Mary's University, from February 7 to 9. For details and to sign up, visit https://www.saintaloysiuschurch.org/mount-2000.

Camp Covecrest: Our parish has secured 18 spots to attend Lifeteen's Camp Covecrest from August 3 to August 8, in Tiger, Georgia! Because a non-refundable $100 deposit is due by October 30 for each of our spots, we need commitments from teens as soon as possible. For details and sign up, visit https://www.saintaloysiuschurch.org/camp-covecrest-2020.
DUE TO EARLY SUBMISSION OF THE BULLETIN TO OUR PUBLISHERS, contributions for the weekend of December 14/15 will be noted in the bulletin for December 29.

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK will be for our Debt Reduction.

PATRON OF THE WEEK: Personalized Touch Catering. If in need please remember to patronize our bulletin sponsors.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL

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 the 11:00 am Mass this Sunday, December 22. For more information regarding this program, please contact Patty Belanger at 301-475-8000 ext. 160 or 301-904-7990.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will NOT be sponsoring the Christmas dinner this year. Our conference will revisit having the dinner next year, Christmas 2020. If you are interested in volunteering or donating to an organization that will sponsor a Christmas dinner this year, contact The Mission in Lexington Park by emailing richard@seekingshelter.com.

FATHER ANDREW WHITE SCHOOL

Father Andrew White School Crusader Connections

Christmas Blessing: As we await our Lord’s birth, may you acquire the virtue of patience. Our hope is truly in the coming of the Lord. May His peace be with us all. We wish you and your family much love and joy this Christmas. God bless you always! Merry Christmas!

Project WARM: FAW is hosting the WARM Program for local homeless adults on December 28th at Camp Maria. Students and their families will be serving dinner and breakfast and doing various activities with the guests. Please pray for all those who are attending this event. We wish a blessed Christmas to all!

COMMITTEE FOR PEACE

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Mary, Queen of Peace, save us all, who have so much trust in you, from wars, hatred, and oppression. Make us all learn to live in peace, and educate ourselves for peace, do what is demanded by justice and respect the rights of every person, so that peace may be firmly established. Amen.