

Reflections of a Country Priest



Happy Thanksgiving everyone! This coming Thursday our nation takes time to give thanks. Everytime we gather to celebrate Mass we are giving thanks, that is what "Eucharist" means. We came across a quote that really gives one cause to pause and think. It states: "What if you woke up today with only the things you thanked God for yesterday?" Let us be like that one leper out of the ten who came back and gave thanks to God.

With the Thanksgiving spirit in mind, we will have Mass at St. Alphonsus on Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. and then at 9:00 a.m. at St. Joseph. The collection for both of those Masses will be given to our needy fund.

Please be on the lookout for our Advent mailing that has details of all the opportunities we are offering during the Advent season. Also, please note that in that mailing your family census information is included. Please check over all the information to make sure it is correct or if there is anything missing. Any adult children, who are not in college, should have a separate registration form. Please drop the completed forms in the collection basket or send to the office. Any questions, please give the office a call.

Finally, we are adopting a seminarian. Zac Brown is in his 1st year of theology at the North American College in Rome, Italy. Zac's home parish is Our Lady of Hope in Attica. By adopting Zac, we will keep him in our prayers, send notes of support as well as some care packages. Please let me know if you would like to assist with this worthy endeavor.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Fr. Ron

St. Joseph School Annual Fund Drive
Begins This Week!

In advance we thank you for your support!

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SAINTS
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Office Address: 66 Chapel Street, Monroeville, OH 44847

Phone: 419-465-4142 Email: st.alphonsus.st.joseph.office@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Ronald A. Schock
419-465-4142
fatherronschock@gmail.com

Deacon: Michael L. Wasiniak
419-668-5623

Office Coordinator: Cherri Schaffer
419-465-4142

SA Facilities Mgr: Catherine Raftery
419-668-5030

Bookkeeper: Mary Ivory
419-465-4142

Confessions: 4:00pm Saturdays before the
5pm Mass; during holy half hours prior to
each daily Mass and by appointment.

Marriage: Please call the parish office, and
provide at least six months' notice for prep

Baptism: Call the parish office to schedule

Anointing of the Sick: Please call parish office
or have a family member to call timely.

Communion to the Shut Ins: Call parish office.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults):
Interested in joining the Church? Please call
the parish office for details.

Office Hours: M—F 9:00am - 3:30pm
Bulletin deadline 1pm Monday

PSR Directors: Deacon Mike Wasiniak
Diane Wasiniak
419-668-5623
419-512-1713
nurse21853@aol.com

RCIA Coordinators: Theresa Fries
Charlie Nay
419-465-4142

SJ School Principal: Dave McDowell
419-465-2625
dmcdowell@msjcs.org

SJS Admin. Asst: Amanda Dixon
419-465-2625
sjs@msjcs.org

SA & SJ website: stalphonsus-stjoseph.org

Historic SA Website: historicstalphonsus.org

Prayer Chain : Joanne Miller (SJ) 419-660-9049
Catherine Raftery (SA) 419-668-5030

Mission Statement: We are a Eucharistic
people, dedicated to enabling each other to
grow spiritually and serve the needs of our
families, parishes and community by using
our time, talent, and treasure to pass on the
best of our Catholic traditions.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. Nov 21 The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary
4:00 PM (SJ) Confession
5:00 PM (SJ) Edmond Martin, Charles Fitch,
Russell Stang
55th Wedding Anniv. Vince & Maryann Schaffer

Sun. Nov 22— Our Lord Jesus, King of the Universe
8:00 AM (SJ) Alf Schafer, Dec’d of Gravenhorst Family,
Arden Miller, Arthur Schlachter, Karl &
Lavina Powley, Helen Didion
9:30 AM (SA) Sylvia Manders, Angela Schlotterer,
Doris Schaffer, George Moehlman

Mon. Nov 23— Weekday — No Mass

Tues. Nov 24— St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions
6:15 PM (SA) Silent Adoration/Confession
7:00 PM (SA) SA & SJ Deceased Parishioners

Wed. Nov 25— Thanksgiving Eve
7:00PM (SA) Betty Wise
Please note Thanksgiving Eve Mass at SA on Wednesday

Thurs. Nov 26 —Thanksgiving Day
9:00AM (SJ) SA & SJ Deceased Parishioners
Please note Thanksgiving Day Mass at SJ on Thursday

Fri. Nov 27— Weekday
7:15 AM (SJ) Silent Adoration/Confession
8:00 AM (SJ) SA & SJ Deceased Parisioners

Sat. Nov 28 - Weekday
4:00 PM (SJ) Confession
5:00 PM (SJ) George & Rita McMahon, Alice Bores,
Leroy Bauer, Florence Betchman &
her 3 Sisters

Sun. Nov 29— 1st Sunday of Advent
8:00 AM (SJ) Sylvester, Freda & Michael Morman,
James O’Neill, Hieb & Agnes Morman,
Rose Grenzebach

CONTRIBUTIONS—November 15—St. Alphonsus	
Offertory	2,409.00
Weekly Budget	2,690.00
Under Budget	(281.00)
YTD Over	10,702.59
Other donations: Children-24.50, Vigil Lights-15, Needy Fund-20, All Saints-15, Human Dev-110.	

CONTRIBUTIONS—November 15—St. Joseph	
Offertory	3,395.72
Weekly Budget	3,880.00
Under Budget	(484.28)
YTD Over	6,350.75
Other: Children-2, Bldg/Maint-81, Fuel-70, StVdP-120, School Support-421, 50/50—70, All Saints-20, All Souls-25, Thanksgiving-25, Human Dev-241, Christmas Flowers-5, Cemetery Endowment-25.	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, November 28— 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph
L Judi Bollenbacher
U Jeff Clark, Ted Kluding, Roddy Holland
CU Cayden/Caleb Dixon
EM John Miller, Betty Schafer, Charlene Bauer,
Carol Martin, Brent Bollenbacher
S Dale Cherry, Ben & Zeb Schafer

Sunday, November 29—8:00a.m.—St. Joseph
L Jackie Schafer
U Dave Schafer, Kevin & Elaine Stieber
CU Jacob Fries
EM Theresa Fries, Barb Good, Marilyn &
Richard Palmer, Geri Myers, Chris Raftery-C

S Macy & Lexy Schafer, Kevin Brown
Sunday, November 29— 9:30 a.m. —St. Alphonsus
L David & Jackie Reed
U Tom Ott, Jim Schindley, Jim Pheiffer,
Dave Barman
CU Kiptyn Kamann
EM Catherine, Pat Schaffer, Bob & Alice Crist,
David & Jackie Reed, Vicki Schaffer
S Ryan & Cayla Sowders
G Marty & Gary Long

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS Nov 29-Sheila Meikle

COUNTERS – November 23 Alice & Bob Crist,
Catherine, Mary Dreschel, Carol Martin.

K of C Club Winners \$50: Larry Hinckley
\$25: Bernadette Stang, Bryan Daugherty

Please pray for Gert Reer and Pauline Jones who were both buried this past week. May they be eternally with our Lord Jesus and rest in peace.

Congratulations to Vince and Maryann Schaffer who are celebrating 55 years of Marriage! God Bless & Happy Anniversary!

Holiday Shopping is made easy with St. Joseph Scrip cards. There will be no SCRIP orders placed next week November 23rd, due to the short week but there is a great supply available for cash and carry during school office hours. We now have Texas Roadhouse available with a generous 7.74% rebate. Regular weekly orders will resume Monday, November 30th.

SJS 3rd Annual Harvest Moon Results Income: Tickets & Extra Meals-15,193, donations-1,151, side bets-200, auc-tion proceeds-1,365, beer sales-408, 2nd chance raffle-255, instant bingo-684. Expenses: Prizes & ticket costs-3,004, Meal cost-2,669.11, beer costs-309.86, instant bingo costs-200. Profit 2015=\$13,073.03 (profit 2014=\$12,129.29).

PARISH CALENDAR

Finance Meeting At St. Alphonsus Tuesday, Nov 24th 7:30pm after Mass in the small hall.

Monday, November 30— SA & SJ Pictorial Planning Meeting 5pm —Rectory

Wednesday, Dec 2 —Pastoral Council Meeting 6:30pm til 8pm—Rectory.

Sunday, Dec 6th Make It Bake It Take It at St. Alphonsus Social Hall. High School invited to help!

Sunday, Dec. 6th – The “Laudato Si” discussion group will be meeting at St. Joseph Hall at 10:45 (after the 9:30 Mass). We will be discussing the first 3 chapter of the encyclical “Laudato Si” or “On Care for our com-mon home”. New members are always welcome.

The “Laudato Si”...”On Care of Our Common Home” encyclical has been the topic of discussion for parishioners from both parishes since August. In an effort to increase awareness on how each individual can make a difference in controlling pollution, waste and being less of a throwaway culture, we will high-light weekly questions for family discussion as well as publish suggestions for recycling and/or conserving resources.

Question 1: Where have you seen harm inflicted on sister Earth? Have you in any way contributed to that harm?

Suggestion: Evaluate your water waste: Have you drained your water hose and turned off outside faucets for the winter? Do you run faucets full blast as you brush your teeth or rinse dishes? Do you take 2 hour showers☺? How else can you conserve this precious gift? “Praise the Lord for sister water”.

St. Alphonsus Greeters, Server and Ushers ministry schedules for 2016 will be processed in the next few weeks. If you would like to be added to any of these ministries or would prefer to be removed please contact Rose Perry, 419-465-2698 or rosp@frontier.com no later than Dec. 7th.

Ministry Volunteers needed for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Mary Mother of God — If you can help please let Sue or Rose know at SA and Cherri at SJ.

Save the Date: December 10th— The Ladies of St. Alphonsus will be doing a dinner for the Huron County Township Trustees for approximately 125 people. We will need homemade pies and some assistance in the kitchen. If you can help contact Arlene Krupp or Diane Wasiniak.

The PROJECT BETHLEHEM tree will be displayed in the back of St. Alphonsus Church. Parishioners from both parishes are encouraged to participate. Martha at Catholic Charities shared that they have had an influx of senior referrals from the courts. Many of these elderly people have either been in abusive situations or have no living relatives to assist with their care and money man-agement. So a majority of our Christmas tags will in fact be for those individuals rather than children. In the spirit of Christmas giving let’s make this Christmas special for them. Keep in mind you do not have to purchase their en-tire list. They are simply suggestions. It is also possible for 2 or more families to share one Christmas tag. Gifts should be returned to the back of St. Alphonsus with tags securely taped, no later than Dec. 13th as they deliver the gifts between Dec. 14-18.

AREA EVENTS

A Fish Fry @ the American Legion in Monroeville held every Friday 11a-1p & 5:30- 8pm

Sunday, Dec. 6th—American Legion Breakfast in Monroeville 8am—1130am

Smorgasbord Menu -Breakfast with Santa—December 6th at St. Gaspar Hall Bellevue 9am-12noon. Bake Sale & Raffles. Benefit for their library.

TDCCW Christmas Tea— Sunday, December 6th 2-4pm Hosted by: St. Ignatius Altar Rosary, 212 N. Stadi-um Rd., Oregon, Ohio 43616. Please RSVP by nov. 24th to Jan Peacock @ 419-691-5332 / birdtwo@bex.net

Our Lady of the Pines December Events:(Retreats) go to olprc@pinesretreat.org or call Program Coordinator Maris-sa Mills 419-332-6522 .More info in back of both churches.

Senior Enrichment Services for 16 years has been provid-ing donated gifts to our county senior citizens who do not have families to share the holidays. They are accepting new unwrapped gifts appropriate for homebound seniors or monetary donations —please mark in memo Home-bound Senior Gifts. Mail check or deliver gifts to Senior Enrichment Services, 130 Shady Lane, Norwalk, OH 44857 . They would like to receive the gifts by Dec. 3rd. Thank you!

Masses for Your Loved Ones at St. Alphonsus and St. Joseph Churches: As we come to the close of Novem-ber , the month we remember those souls who have gone before us, we invite you to call the parish office if you would like to have a Mass Offered for your loved one now or any time. May They Rest In Peace. Also, it is very nice when someone from the deceased person’s family brings up the offertory gifts at the weekend Masses. If you would like to do this just pick up the pink rose at St. Joseph or tell Catherine or the greeters at St. Alphonsus.