

The Catholic Church of **St. Alphonus**

Founded 1959



www.stalsmn.org

En español página 6

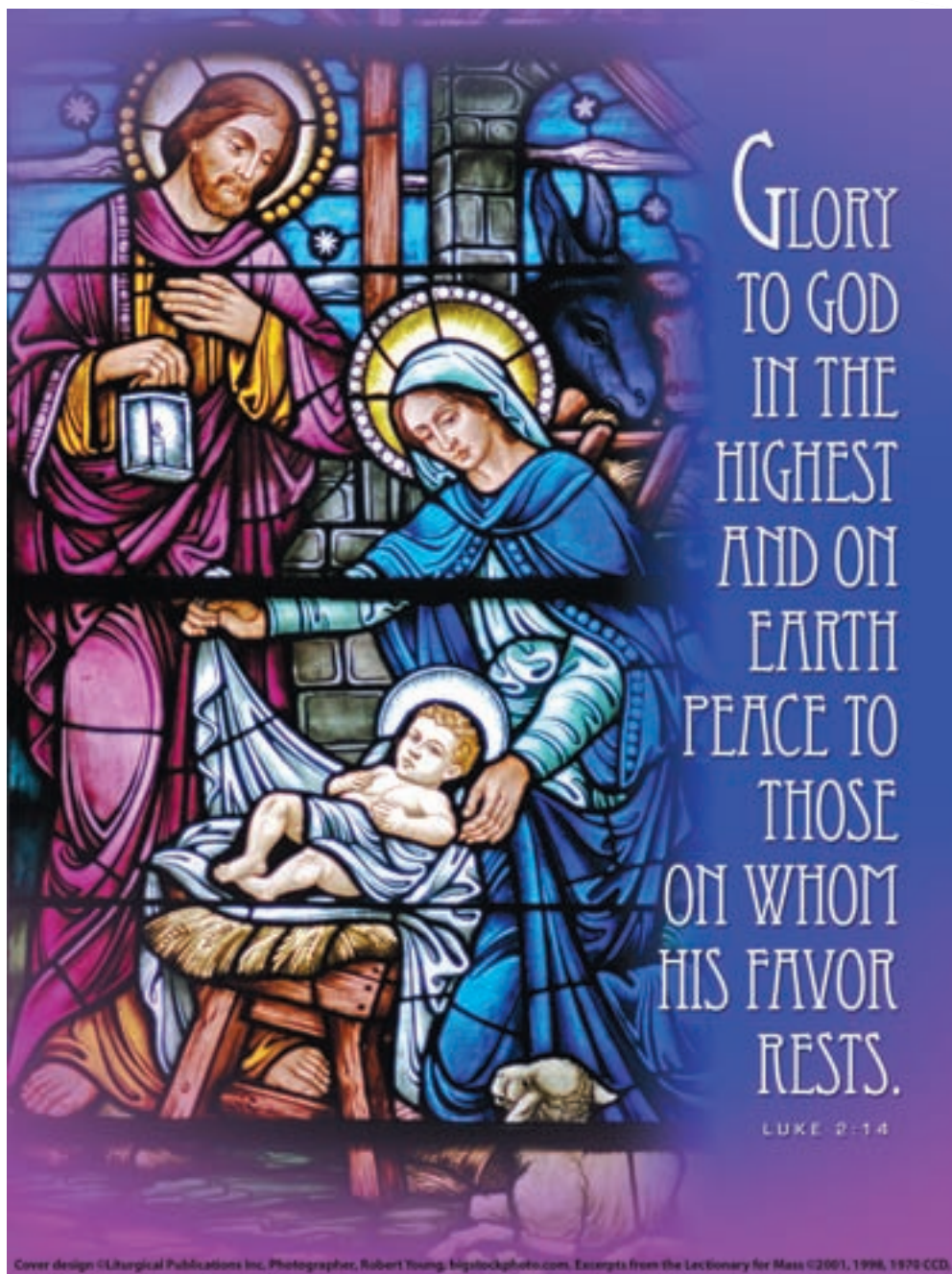
Parish Mission Statement

St. Alphonus is a Roman Catholic Community providing a spiritual home for people of diverse ages, ethnicity and economic status.

As a Christian community, we seek to welcome all individuals and families to grow in faith and express it.

We affirm Christ's presence in all people and value service, giving, worship, and education in all forms.

We strive to be the vibrant body of Christ in all its parts, energizing and evangelizing both ourselves and others.



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DECEMBER 27, 2009 | FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



From the Pastor's Desk

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Today is the Feast of the Holy Family: Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. Most of us would probably not put that label "holy" on our own families. But it is in our families that we first learned the ways of faith and were taught the basic Christian values of love and forgiveness. Our "parents are our first teachers in the ways of faith" as the instruction states in the liturgy of Baptism.

There are no perfect families, no perfect parents, and no perfect children. We are human beings who strive to do the best we can with what we have been given. I hope that we would be tolerant of our faults and limitations. Rather than bemoan our shortcomings as family members, let us acknowledge the gifts and talents of one another and encourage their growth.

Sometimes we put such high expectations upon ourselves, do not meet them for whatever reasons, and then transfer our guilt to others and blame them for our shortcomings. And thus begins a vicious circle of negative behavior. It seems that a healthier approach would be to honor the goodness of each family member, acknowledge our differences, and celebrate our growing together for the well-being of the family. We are in this together and God has blessed us with this family.....mother, father, brother, sister. We can fret about what we don't have in comparison to others (bigger house, fancier car, etc.) and so never enjoy who we really are as this family.

May we see our richness and beauty and believe that every family is truly a "holy family."

All of the above remarks can also be applied to our "Parish Family of St. Alphonsus." May we bless every member of our families and be grateful for each other.

May God bless all our families!

Joyfully,
Fr. Pat, CSsR

Mass Intentions for this Week

A † before a name indicates the person is deceased.

Monday, December 28

7:00 AM † Don, Carmel & Tom Kempton
8:30 AM † Bro. Dietrich Reinhart

Tuesday, December 29

7:00 AM † Beatrice Ruegemer
8:30 AM † Mary Ann Student & David Chatelaine

Wednesday, December 30

7:00 AM For the Parishioners of St. Alphonsus
8:30 AM † Gene Ascher

Thursday, December 31

7:00 AM † Dick Kellington
8:30 AM † Richard Zwack
6:00 PM † Connie Kaczmarczyk

Friday, January 1

7:00 AM † Nguyeh, Huynh, Lex Grandparents
8:30 AM Tuan & Kim Anh Huynh

Saturday, January 2

8:00 AM † Jim Bothum
5:00 PM † Tom Doyle

Sunday, January 3—Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 AM For the Parishioners of St. Alphonsus
8:30 AM † Irene Turbitt
10:30 AM † Smahila Fillie
12:30 PM Intentions of the Day
5:30 PM † Alice Eskierka

Have a Blessed New Year!

Liturgical Ministers for Next Week

Holy Day—Mary Mother of God

Thursday, December 31 6:00 PM

Lectors Peggy Gilsdorf & Andrew Eromobor
Cantor Bill Miller
Accompanist Carol Vickery

Friday, January 1, 8:30 am

Lectors Jim Hibbs & Jackie Skilondz
Cantor Mary Ann Marschall
Accompanist Kathy Drew

Friday, January 1, 10:30

Lectors Anna Hardy-Brown & Melissa Dubuque
Cantor Tony Meyer
Accompanist Kathy Drew

Jan. 2 & 3—Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 5:00 PM

Lectors Loretta Jerome & Ray Kroll
Cantor Elaine McLane
Accompanist Kathy Drew

Sunday 7:00 AM

Lectors Gerald Hunt & Philomene Attipou
Cantor Jean Olson
Accompanist Carol Vickery

Sunday 8:30 AM

Lectors Rick Christensen & Michelle Buechner
Cantor Ed Dziedzic
Accompanist Beth Kirsch

Sunday 10:30 AM

Lectors Chuck Calhoun & Sarah Bennek
Cantor Ken Shallbetter
Accompanist Anthony Vella

Sunday 5:30 PM

Lectors Judy Catton & Katie Batiste
Music Youth Praise Band

A Redemptorist Community

7025 Halifax Ave.
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429
(763) 561.5100
Latino oficina (763) 503.3326
www.stalsmn.org
Email: parishoffice@stalsmn.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday
5:00 PM
Sunday
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM,
12:30 PM (in Spanish)
and 5:30 PM

Holy Days As Announced

Weekdays Mon-Fri

7:00 AM & 8:30 AM
6:00 PM (During Lent)

Saturday morning

8:00 AM

Confessions

Saturday 4:00-5:00 PM

Parish Staff

763.561.5100

Pastor

Rev. Pat Grile, C.Ss.R.

Redemptorist Pastoral Staff

Rev. Bill Bueche, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Brian Gilles, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Brian Johnson, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Wil Lowery, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Thomas Pham, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Joseph Stenger, C.Ss.R.
Rev. Martin Stillmock, C.Ss.R.

Permanent Deacons

Deacon David Holst
Deacon John Winkelman

Administrator

David R. Johnson
503.3344
djatstals@hotmail.com

Parish School Principal

Robert E. Terry
763.561.5101

Religious Education Staff

Barbara Walhood
503.3340
Jon Q. Heyer
503.3342

Youth Ministry Coordinator

Teresa Rousseau
503.3349

Bilingual Pastoral Assistant

Michael DePass
503.3326

Director of Music

Mary Raeker
503.3322

Holy Day of Obligation January 1

Masses for the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God will be Thursday, December 31 at 6:00 PM and Friday January 1 at 8:30 and 10:30 AM.

Adoration

Come any time, but we do need people to fill the following hours regularly: Sunday 3 AM; Monday 2AM and 4AM; Tuesday 5AM; Thursday 1AM, 2AM, 3AM, 4AM; Friday 10AM, 7PM; Saturday 1AM, 2AM, 1PM, 4PM, 6PM, 7PM. If you have any questions, please call Gerri at 763.494.3163

St. Al's School Alumni & Parents

The grant writing committee would like to borrow yearbooks prior to 1977 or from 1977-1979. Please call Rick 763. 424.5585 or Denise Muehlburg 763.315.9375.

St. Alphonsus Kindergarten

Registration for the 2010—2011 School year is now open to all parishioners. For a tour or further information call 763.561.5101.

Altar Servers

The winter/spring serving schedule is now available. Please stop by the Vesting Room to pick up your copy.

2010 Winter Bible Study Parables of the Kingdom, Part 2

The St. Alphonsus Parish Bible Study will continue "Parables of the Kingdom – Part 2" in January and February 2010. This study focuses on the parables unique to Matthew, and those developed by Luke. The parables offer a glimpse into the kingdom of God and invite us to think in new and fresh ways. You can choose to attend this 6-week session on Thursday mornings or Sunday evenings. Home study includes reading from the commentary booklet and workbook questions. Returning participants please remember to bring your Commentary Book from the Fall Study.

Thursdays 9:15 AM-11:15 AM January 21 thru February 25, 2010, in the CSSR Hall.
or

Sundays 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

January 24 thru February 28, 2010,
in the Faith Formation Bldg.

The cost of materials is \$7.50 payable at the first session of Bible Study. Register by calling Rose Gordon at 763.566.4193, or Carol Alm at 763.566.4297. Please register early.

Parish Events

December 27 January 1	Special Education Party Holy Day Mary, Mother of God
January 2	Children's Ministry Party
January 3	Latino Ministry
January 4	Virtus Training
January 5	Latino Baptism Prep
January 7	English Baptism Class
January 9	Spanish Baptism
January 9-10	Blood Pressure Checks
January 10	Friendship Sunday
January 10	Parent-Teen Retreat
January 12	Youth Volunteer Training
January 12	Cribbage Tournament
January 19	Branch Meal
January 20	Faith Form. Prayer Service
January 21	Winter Bible Study (Thurs)
January 21	St. Al's Seniors
January 23	Faith Form. Prayer Service
January 24	Winter Bible Study (Sun PM)
January 26	Sharing & Caring Meal
January 27	First Reconciliation
January 30	First Reconciliation
January 30	Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner
February 1	CCW Quarterly Meeting

Year for Priests

In support of, thanksgiving for, and in appreciation of priests, all women are invited to offer a day of prayer at St. Anne's House of Prayer for Women. Thursday, Friday and Saturday each week from 9:30—3:30 PM. Call Patricia at 763.512.1279 for more info.

This Week From Dave

Parish Administrator David Johnson



Dear Parish Community,

Parish facility rental fees will be increasing effective January first. Fees have remained steady for the last three years. During this time period the cost of just about everything has increased. The new rates apply to the use of the CSSR Hall, the kitchen and school cafeteria. Those who book the hall before January first and make the required deposit for use in 2010 will be charged the current rates. Stop by the parish office for a copy of the new rates if you are considering using parish facilities. Please keep in mind that St. Alphonsus does not employ facility staff to clean up after your activity and all renters are expected to leave the hall clean and orderly for the next user.

God bless and Happy New Year!
Dave

Parish Phone Numbers

Parish Office	763.561.5100
Fax	763.561.0336
Email	parishoffice@stalsmn.org

Parish Office Hours

Mon-Thurs	8:30-8:00 PM
Friday	8:30-4:00 PM
Saturday	8:30-7:00 PM
Sunday	8:00-1:00 PM

Business Office

763.503.3389

School

763.561.5101

Parish Health Ministry

Message Line 763.503.3331

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Open 24 hrs. every day

Parish Trustees

Randy Pearce 612.886.1800
Lynne Wyffels 763.315.3432

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Council meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at the Parish Office. Parishioners are welcome to contact a council member if you wish to include an item on the agenda. Council Meeting Minutes are available at the Parish Office.

Dave Muehlberg, Chair
763.315.9375

Bob Byrnes	612.490.3790
Gerie Fischer	566.3222
Katherine Hibbs	561.6796
Brian Johnson	425.6418
Joe McCue	493.5754
Mike Rose	493.5158
Kami Schmitz	425.8735
Ryan Snee	566-8583
Luz Zagal	612.889.2658

Finance Commission

Ed Daley, Chair
763.566.5232

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Religious Education Classes

The first semester was completed before Christmas, and the 2nd Semester Begins:

Pre K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade	Sunday January 10	10:30—11:30 AM
2nd through 6th grades	Wednesday, January 13	6:30—8:00 PM OR
	Saturday, January 16	9:30—11:00 AM
9th Grade	Wednesday, January 13	6:30—8:00 PM
Foundations of Faith	Wednesday, January 13	6:30—8:00 PM OR
	Saturday, January 16,	9:30—11:00 AM

Have a Joyful New Year!

Youth Praise Band Is Back – We Need YOU!!

We are desperately **seeking an accompanist** or a couple of accompanist who would be available regularly to assist the youth praise band in rehearsals and in leading worship at Mass. We need YOU to continue on worshipping. Without an accompanist we may be forced to discontinue the Youth Praise Band. Please help us!!

Call Teresa for more info. 763-503-3349!

St. Al's Leadership Team

The next meeting of the SALT team is Wednesday, January 6th, from 6:30 – 8 or so pm in the Youth Room. Have a great holiday break and we will resume in 2010. If you have any questions or concerns, call Teresa at 763-503-3349.

Latino Youth Group

Latino Youth Group meets every other Sunday from 2-4 pm in the Youth Room of the church. Join us for fellowship and fun! Anyone in Jr. or Sr. High School (Grades 7 – 12) is welcome to come. English speaking or Spanish speaking who cares, just come for fun!! Our next youth group is, December 27th. For more information call Michael DePass, Bilingual Pastoral Associate at 763-503-3326 or Teresa Rousseau Coordinator of Youth Ministry at 763-503-3349. And just a reminder – All Are Welcome!!

Snowtubing – January 17th

The snow is here for awhile, so lets play in it! Join us on Sunday, January 17, 2008, for a fun day of snowtubing. This day is open to all Jr. High, Sr. High, and Young Adults. We will be heading to Eko Backen for an afternoon of snowtubing, hot chocolate and fun!! The cost for bus rental and hot chocolate is \$20. We will leave St. Al's parking lot at 2:30 pm and return at 8 pm. Registration deadline is Wednesday, January 14th and forms are available in the Parish Offices. Call Teresa for more information – 763-503-3349!!!

Jr. High Lock-in!

Join St. Al's and several area churches for an all-night faith community lock-in! This event is open to youth in grades 6 – 9! The date for this fun event is Friday, January 22nd, 2010 starting at 10:00 PM (registration begins at 9:30) and ending at 6:00 am on Saturday, January 23rd. Activities will include swimming, DJ dance, ice skating, open teen center, great music, karaoke, open gym, movies, food & more! Cost for entire evening is \$20.00. Please bring a non-perishable food item to helps us stock the local food shelves. Registration deadline is Sunday, January 17th!! Forms available at parish office. For more information call Teresa at 763-503-3349!!

•Barb Walhood – 763.503.3340, •Jon Heyer – 763.503.3342,
•Teresa Rousseau – 764.503.3349, •Michael DePass, en Español – 763.503.3326

Sacramental Information

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 4:00 - 5:15 PM

Confesiones

Todos los Domingos 30 minutos antes de la misa en Español.

Baptisms

A program for both parents is offered before the baptism of a child. Call the parish office for the date of the program and to register.

Bautismo

Pláticas Bautismales el 1^o Martes de cada mes a las 7:00 PM. Llamar para reservar su lugar 763.503.3326

Bodas

Contactar Padre Bill 763.503.3313

Weddings

Please contact the parish office at least six months prior to your anticipated wedding date.

Rosary

After the 8:30 AM daily Mass Please join us!

Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesday after 8:30 AM Mass

Prayer Request Box

A box to receive special prayer requests is located by the Baptistry. These requests will be remembered during the daily rosary.

St. Alphonsus Endowment Fund

Please contact the parish office for more information on how to donate to the Endowment which provides long term support for the parish.

St. Alphonsus School Endowment Fund

Brochures are available at the parish office, or on our web site www.stalsmn.com

Happy Anniversary!
May God continue to bless the marriage of
John and Irene LaHaie—60 years
December 22,

The CCW Invites all Parishioners

to join us in Show our appreciation to the St. Al's priests on Sunday, Jan. 10th during and after the 10:30 Mass. Stop by after the 10:30 Mass to chat with the priests, sign the "Thank You" banner and enjoy donuts and coffee.



St. Al's Student Volunteer Project – Thank You!

Thank you to everyone that stopped by the Cub Foods North store on December 22nd while our students were bagging groceries for donations. Thank you for your generous donations and for acknowledging the great job our wonderful student volunteers did!

Another Example of Kids Doing Good Things

Recently, it was brought to Mr. Terry's attention that several of our students went out of their way to genuinely help the adults who put on the Fall Festival Dinner and Dance, back in November. In our effort to recognize the good things that the kids do, we'd like to thank the following young ladies: Julia Goman, Nichole Jasicki, Maddie Kroehler, Sarah Moraczewski, Emily Rose, Missy Rose, Michaela Schmitz, and Kourtney Shermoen,

Marketing Committee Is Seeking New Members

Our St. Alphonsus School Marketing Committee is seeking some new people who would like to help project our school image. Our first meeting for the year is scheduled for Tuesday, January 5th, at 6:30pm in the teachers' lounge. If interested, please call the school office at 763-561-5101 in advance or just stop in on the 5th.

Spotlight on Savings – Kemps®

Kemps® products include milk, cottage cheese and sour cream. Turn in the entire rinsed milk lid with the label attached or the clipped proof of purchase where indicated. The proof of purchase for cottage cheese and sour cream can be located on the side of the product – just clip along the dotted line and turn in for credit. For a complete listing of products to save pick up a flier at the drop off locations.



Happy New Year!

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy & Safe New Year!



Help Shopping for Groceries

Sometimes health or weather hinder a senior citizen getting the nutritious groceries they need. If you or a loved one is in need of a grocery delivery service, please contact Store To Door at 651-642-1892, or visit our website: www.storetodoor.org.

Volunteers Needed

Store To Door is in need of volunteer shoppers and order takers. Shop for customer orders in the morning on weekdays or take customer orders over the phone from your own home and enter them in online (can be done, daytime, evening or weekend!) Contact Molly at the above number for information.

Catholic Single Adults Club 21+

All single Catholics, 21 and older, are invited to our annual Christmas Dinner/Dance Saturday Jan. 2. Social Hour and Dinner begins at 5:30, Dance at 8:00 PM. The cost for both is \$20, or \$10 for just the dance. Reservation deadline is Dec. 18. Call Carl at 651.603.1412.

For Single 50's +

Ham Dinner at St Joseph's Parish Center 8701 36th Ave N, New Hope on Sunday, December 27th at 5 PM Socializing, 6 PM Dinner and 7 PM Holiday Sing-A-Long with Dee Ries. Cost: \$10.00. Questions - Call Diane 763.439.5940.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat For Healing After Abortion

If you are suffering from an abortion, experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat on January 8-10, 2010 in the Twin Cities area. For more information or registration contact Nancy at rvr-nancy@usfamily.net or 952-882-2072. Additional information can also

Financial Stewardship December 12 & 13, 2009

	Weekly	Year to Date
Actual	\$30,510	\$688,896
Budgeted	\$24,708	\$660,905
Variance	\$5,802	\$27,991

For Debt Reduction \$919

Thank you for your generosity!

Readings for the Week of December 27, 2009

Sunday
Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28 / Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24
Lk 2:41-52
Monday
1 Jn 1:5—2:2 / Mt 2:13-18
Tuesday
1 Jn 2:3-11 / Lk 2:22-35
Wednesday
1 Jn 2:12-17 / Lk 2:36-40
Thursday
1 Jn 2:18-21 / Jn 1:1-18
Friday
Nm 6:22-27 / Gal 4:4-7
Lk 2:16-21
Saturday
1 Jn 2:22-28 / Jn 1:19-28
Next Sunday
Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
Mt 2:1-12

Please Pray for the Sick

Peter (Jerry) Uchanski,
Brother of Marie Tromiczak

God's Comfort for:

Those who have lost loved ones at this festive time of year and are grieving.

Those who are suffering serious illness, and their families.

Pray for Our Service Men and Women

Marine WO4
Dennis R. Johnson;
AF Reserves
Bobby Manning;
Army Captain **Rob Hewitt;**
Army Spec. 4
Christopher Holst;
Four nephews of
Deacon Dave and Jackie Holst

Wedding Banns

January 16
Dina Gonzales & Avila-Ramos

NOTICIAS DE NUESTRA COMUNIDAD

La Navidad comienza en las vísperas de la Nochebuena y termina con las vísperas de la fiesta del Bautismo del Señor. El 25 de Diciembre proclamamos: "Hoy es nacido nuestro Salvador, el Señor, del Dios que se hace hombre. Tanto nos amó Dios que nos dio a su único Hijo para que fuera uno con nosotros, morar entre nosotros y demostrarnos cómo vivir en aquel amor. Vino para traer la paz, para remendar las divisiones, dar fin a todo dolor y llevarnos dentro de su luz eterna.

Así que celebramos el don de su amor. Llenamos de luces hermosas la larga oscuridad de la temporada. Cantamos villancicos y comemos manjares deliciosos. Alrededor de los árboles festivos -¡árboles dentro de nuestras propias casas!- intercambiamos regalos unos con los otros porque Dios nos ha dado tantos regalos buenos a nosotros y abrimos nuestras casas a huéspedes porque Dios nos ha abierto los cielos a nosotros.

La Cena de Caná

Un evento tan especial para todas las parejas – casadas o no. Damos la oportunidad renovar sus votos matrimoniales, aprender de la importancia del Sacramento de Matrimonio, disfrutar una cena deliciosa, y pasar la noche bailando. Es algo muy especial que se puede hacer para la persona más importante en su vida. Será **sábado, el 13 de febrero** empezando con una **Misa**. Es necesario comprar sus boletos antes del evento. Para mayor información llame al 763.503.3326.

Chequeo de Presión de Sangre

Hay chequeos de presión de sangre el segundo domingo de cada mes inmediatamente después de la Misa de 12:30 PM en el cuartito del pasillo principal. Es de gratis y para todos.

Clases de Catecismo

No hay clases en la semana de La Navidad ni las dos semanas después. Clases empiezan otra vez el miércoles, 13 de enero o el sábado, 16 de enero.

Clases de Educación Religiosa para Niños

Si su niño(a) **ya** hizo su Primera Comunión, se puede inscribir ahora al Programa de Educación Religiosa que empieza el día 13 o el día 16 de enero. El curso consiste de una clase cada semana de enero a abril. Ofrecemos clases los miércoles de 6:30 a 8:00 PM o los sábados de 9:30 a 11:00 AM. Todos los niños deberían de continuar estudiando Nuestra Fe cada año hasta el grado 10 cuando comienza el Programa de Confirmación. Favor de llamarnos lo más pronto posible al 763.503.3326.

Nuestra Escuela Primaria

Es tiempo para inscribir a sus niños para Kindergarten del año escolar de 2010-2011 en nuestra escuela primaria de San Alfonso. Si tiene interés, sería mejor llamarnos lo más pronto posible al 763-503.3326. El cupo es limitado.

Rezar el Rosario en Casa

Si necesita alimentación espiritual o el apoyo del Ministerio de Oración. Por favor llamar al teléfono 763-503-3326.

Favor de Traer Donaciones de Comida

Primer domingo de cada mes Estamos colectando comida para los más necesitados. Se puede traer comida en lata, caja, seca, etc. y dejarla en las cajas de las entradas principales de la iglesia. Gracias.

La Banda de Alabanza

Se llama Youth Praise Band y buscamos jóvenes entre los grados de 7° y 12° y jóvenes adultos para cantar, tocar instrumentos y alabar a Dios a través de la música. Los ensayos son los domingos a las 3:30 PM. Llame al 763-503-3349.

El Grupo Juvenil Latino

Nos reunimos 2 o 3 veces cada mes después de la Misa de las 12:30 PM. Jóvenes de los grados 7 a 12 están invitados.

El Grupo Juvenil-Snowtubing

Domingo, el 17 de enero. Todos los jóvenes de grados 7 a 12 están invitados. Les daremos mayor información cuando se acerca la fecha o puede llamar a Teresa a 763-503-3349.

Horario de las Misas

En Español

Domingo—12:30 PM

En Inglés

Sábado: 5:00 PM

Domingo:

7:00 AM, 8:30AM, 10:30 AM,
y 5:30 PM

Días de la semana
(lunes a viernes)

7:00 AM y 8:30 AM
sábado – 8:00 AM

Información De Los Sacramentos

Confesiones:

Todos los domingos 30 minutos antes de la misa en español.

Bautismo

Pláticas Bautismales el 1°
Martes de cada mes a las 7:00
PM. Llamar para reservar su
lugar 763.503.3326

Bodas:

Debe hacer una cita con
Padre Bill.

Confirmación:

Llama la oficina a
763.503.3326.

Unción de los Enfermos:

Llama la oficina a
763.503.3326.

Estamos aquí para servirles.
Paz y alegría en Jesucristo,
Nuestro Salvador,

Padre Bill Bueche,

Ministerio Latino

Michael DePass, Asistente

**Se puede llamarnos a
763.503.3326.**

Year End Tax Donation Tips

The Income Tax Deduction

Gifts of cash as well as stocks, bonds, mutual funds and other assets offer very attractive tax benefits when it comes time to file your income tax return for this year. But only if you take specific action before the end of the calendar year!

Gifts by Check or Cash

Generally if your gifts are in cash, you are allowed to give up to 50% of your "contribution base," which usually equals adjusted gross income. If you exceed 50% of your adjusted gross income in 2009, you are permitted by law to carry over the excess and deduct it over the next five years if you need that long. This feature of the tax law is provided for the donor wishing to make an unusually large gift in any one year.

Gifts of Securities

Appreciated securities are generally deductible at the full present fair market value if you have held them for more than one year. If you hold securities that have different cost bases, donate the lowest cost basis securities. This growth or appreciation since the securities were purchased is not taxable to you; therefore, no capital gains tax will be assessed. Such gifts are deductible up to 30% of your adjusted gross income, and you may carry over any excess not deductible in 2009 to be deducted over the next five years

Gifts of Individual Retirement Account Savings—IRAs and Roth IRAs

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA 2006) allows you — if you are over the age 70 1/2 — to make a charitable distribution **directly** from your IRA or Roth IRA of up to \$100,000 per year without having to report the distribution as income. This special rule is available through December 2009. The charitable distributions are deemed to come first from the taxable portion, if any, of the IRA or Roth IRA.

Individual situations may vary, please consult your individual Tax /Accountant for your specific situation.

Any questions or to setup direct distribution of Stock or IRA's contact Karen Evans in the St. Alphonsus Business Office 763-503-3389. Remember the year end; December 31, 2009 is coming up quickly.