



St. Alphonsus

Wheeling, WV

**“All those who will ever pray here
in any trial whatsoever will be consoled.”**

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24
Christmas Eve Mass 5:30 pm

December 25
Christmas Day Mass- 9:00 am

December 30
Parish Christmas Party 6:30 pm

Parochial Vicar:

Rev. Joseph Sebastian

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues & Thurs 8:30 am – 12:30

2111 Market Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 232- 4353

Email:

office@stalswheeling.org

Website:

www.stalswheeling.org



Mass Schedule

Sunday	9:00 am
Tues, Thur & Fri	8:00 am
Wednesday	6:00 pm
Saturday	5:30 pm

Reconciliation:

Sat 4:30 -5:00 pm
Sun: 8:30 -8:50 am (or by appointment)

Baptisms, Marriage and Anointing of the Sick:

Contact the Parish Office

The Offertory Report

December 17

Envelopes = \$ 1832

Loose= \$807

Votive Candles= \$60

Mass Attendance

5:30 pm— 73

9:00 am—65

Minster Schedule

December 30 and 31

Readers:

Sat.- J. Brensinger

Sun.- T. Mathes

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Sat.- J. Brensinger

L. DeGasperi

J. Vidonic

Sun.- P. Holt

M. Bohlman

J. Brensinger

January 1

Readers:

Mon. - T. Mathes

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Sun (24) - J. Brensinger

L. DeGasperis

P. Holt

The Christian Mother's Ladies' Guild News

We had a lovely turn-out for our Christmas Dinner.
Our next Monthly Mass in which all members are asked to attend
and sit together will be **Saturday, January 21**

Greetings! This is going to be my first Christmas in the USA. I wonder...how will it be? I am dreaming of a white Christmas with snow-covered landscapes and freezing cold temperatures. Whenever Christmas comes, my memories return to its various delightful images such as cribs, stars, Christmas trees, Santa Claus, carol singing, Christmas cakes, greeting cards and Christmas gifts, but we know that Christmas is about Jesus. Jesus is coming to live with us. During the Christmas season we should visit the crib again and again. We need to visit and visit the crib. St. Francis of Assisi set up the first creche on Christmas Eve 1223 in the town of Greccio which has become part and parcel of our present day Christmas celebration. By preparing that tradition, St. Francis gave us a beautiful insight so that what we can see and touch can give us the message to our mind better than only what we hear. Experience this message for yourself by visiting a creche, striving to do 2 particular things:

First, have interior silence. The Incarnation took place in Bethlehem; the word became flesh among us. He came in silence. All in silence. God speaks to us in silence, and His messages to us are also received in silence. All in silence. This Christmas let us find some time to visit the crib by yourself alone away from the world of noise and disturbances. Be there with the Infant in the manger. This silence will work wonders. In this interior silence, you will be able to see the smile of the baby Jesus, and hear the cry and whispering of the Child in your heart, and you will be enriched by His peace and joy.

And 2. Have an active participation in the liturgy. We are not passive spectators at the Christmas liturgies, each of us are called to be fully aware of what we are celebrating, and relate that to our own life. In the Mass, God is with us, and God is for us!

2000 years ago, that first Silent Night, that holy night that's what mother Mary did. She silently pondered and actively kept all those things in her heart. May Mary help us to do the same. May your days be merry and bright, and may your Christmas sparkle with moments of love, laughter, and cherished memories. I wish you a beautiful, white Christmas filled with warmth and joy!

Love,
Fr. Joseph Sebastian

**O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel!**

SECOND COLLECTION:

**January 14, 2024: Catholic Near East Welfare Association for
the Holy Land. Make checks payable to St. Alphonsus.
Memo line: CNEWA**

Office of Safe Environment

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 888-352-6513. To report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 304-233-0880.

Mass Intentions

Saturday	12/23	5:30 pm	People of the Parish	
Sunday	12/24	9:00 am 5:30 pm	Kasunic Family + People of the Parish	Rebecca Kasunic
Monday	12/25	9:00 am	People of the Parish	
Tuesday	12/26	8:00 am	Floridea Provenzana +	Marge Klemm
Wednesday	12/27	6:00 pm	Harold McClain +	Marge Klemm
Thursday	12/28	8:00 am	Jane Murray +	Regine Jannette
Friday	12/29	8:00 am	Frank and Frances Wojcik	A friend
Saturday	12/30	5:30 pm	Joseph Tomczyk- Birthday	His family
Sunday`	12/31	9:00 am	People of the Parish	

Epiphany Water Blessing:

Join us on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 11:00 am. Families should bring a jug or other container of plain water and a container of salt to be specially blessed and used in your home during 2024. We will also have blessed chalk for families to take home for your house blessing on Epiphany. The ceremony will take approximately 45 minutes. Plan to participate in the potluck lunch afterward if you are able!

Christmas Eve Ministers:

Lector– M. Sofka and P. Holt
EM: Judy, Paul, Mark

Christmas Day Ministers:

Lector– T. Mathes
EM: Judy, Lynn, Phyllis

Greetings from the Parish Office!

This week's cover photo is our own lovely Nativity Set in state of anticipation of the Precious Baby as this Sunday is primarily the 4th Sunday of Advent, but also Christmas Eve. From all of us at St. Alphonsus: we pray that you will open your heart with joy to receive a generous measure of God's abundant graces today for a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

The parish office will be closed formally as will the diocese until January 2. However, if you are in need of assistance, you may leave a message through phone or email, or call the number on the message of the answering machine if you have an urgent matter.

Please pray for:

Continuous Care: J.W. Evans and B. Heller

Mt. St. Joseph: Sr. Ann Marie Cole

Peterson: D. Moore and G. Weithie,

Morgantown: Leah Reinhardt

*At home: L. Griffin, B. Blazier, M.K. Heller, N. Klamut, J. Gavarkavich,
B. & H. Henry, Donald Henning, Roberta Henning, Roxanne Geleski,
Bob Comer, & Dorothy Jagaczewski, Charlotte Jacovetty*

*Dates in our
2024 Mass Intention
Book are available!
Suggested stipend per
intention is \$10.*



Called to Know, Love and Serve the Lord

Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY, December 24

Mass @ 9:00 am

Third Sunday of Advent

Jesse Tree Devotion: Elizabeth Luke 1: 24-57

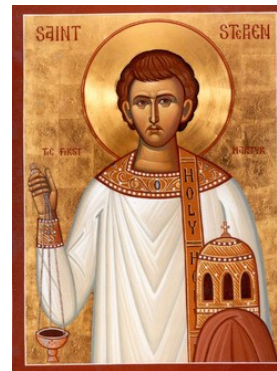
MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Mass @ 9:00 am

Merry Christmas!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Mass @ 8:00 am



***St. Stephen,
First Christian
Martyr
5- 34 AD***

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Mass @ 6:00 pm

W/ Adoration until 7 pm

***St. John,
the Evangelist***



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

Mass @ 8:00 am

The Holy Innocents

30-40 infants under the age of 2 years old in Bethlehem killed at the order of King Herod as he hoped to kill the baby Jesus.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29

Mass @ 8:00 am

***St. Thomas Becket
(1118-1170)
Archbishop and Martyr***

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30

Mass @ 5:30 pm

St. Alphonsus Christmas Party!

Columbia Hall
Dinner and Entertainment by Faire May
6:30 pm