



# St. Alphonsus

Wheeling, WV

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

*December 31, 2023*

## Calendar

December 30  
*Parish Christmas Party*

January 7,  
*Epiphany of the Lord*

## 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](mailto:office@stalswheeling.org)

## Website:

[www.stalswheeling.org](http://www.stalswheeling.org)



## Mass Schedule

<i>Sunday</i>	9:00 am
<i>Tues, Thur &amp; Fri</i>	8:00 am
<i>Wednesday</i>	6:00 pm
<i>Saturday</i>	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

(No report due to holiday  
Printing)

Envelopes =

Loose=

Votive Candles=

### Mass Attendance

5:30 pm—

9:00 am—

## Minster Schedule

January 6 and 7

### Readers:

Sat.- *M. Turner*

Sun.- *P. Romanek*

### Extraordinary Ministers

### of Holy Communion:

Sat.- *J. Brensinger*

*L. DeGasperis*

*J. Vidonic*

Sun.- *P. Holt*

*M. Bohlman*

*M. Pusz*

For to us  
a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government  
will be on His shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting  
Father, Prince of Peace.



## 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**

### HOME SWEET HOME— A HOLY FAMILY

We see around the world sometimes people are born without eyes, some without ears or nose, some born without hands or legs, but no one comes into the world without a family. Thank God for your own lovely family. Mary and Joseph lived as ordinary people in the town of Nazareth. When Jesus came into their lives, they were an extraordinary family, a Holy Family. In Jon 1:14 we read, "the word became flesh and dwelt among us." The Incarnate Son of God came to live with us, and to stay ever with us. He will come again in glory. Are you ready to welcome Him? If you prepare a place for Jesus and welcome Him into your family, His very presence will make yours a Holy Family, too. Christmas is a time for us to make sure that we have not lost the presence of our Lord in our families.

Once Mary and Joseph were greatly upset and worried when they lost the boy Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem. When they discovered He was missing they made up their minds to go back to the Temple and there after 3 days of searching, they found Him in the Temple. If Jesus' presence is missing in our life, let us do the same as Mary and Joseph. Go to Him at the Church and invite Him into be with our family again.

In today's world, the family has a great role to play. There is a saying, "If the family is good then the society and the world at large becomes good. And if the family is not good, then the rest of the world will not be good."

Let us renew our families and be a good example for our children. So many young people are confused and have no direction. It is in our daily homelife that we must teach them and pray with them. Some families put too much emphasis on entertainments, being fashionable, or eating and drinking to excess. These should not be the primary values we pass on to our children and grandchildren. A good family is one that fosters love, support and understanding. A Holy Family goes a step further... they have the unseen guest always with them....God Almighty! Let the newly born and the young in your family experience God in your family. Adorn your home this New Year with some holy articles to remind everyone there of the presence of God— maybe a crucifix, picture of the Sacred Heart or Mother Mary. You could leave your Holy Bible out in a place it can be read often. Make a fresh start for 2024!

Love,  
Fr. Joseph Sebastian

### SECOND COLLECTION:

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

### 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

<b>Saturday</b>	12/30	5:30 pm	<b>Joseph Tomczyk- Birthday</b>	His Family
<b>Sunday</b>	12/31	9:00 am	<b>People of the Parish</b>	
<b>Monday</b>	1/1	9:00 am	<b>People of the Parish</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	1/2	8:00 am	<b>Mary Rose Reed +</b>	Maureen Hill
<b>Wednesday</b>	1/3	6:00 pm	<b>Nicholas &amp; Nimnoom Ghaphery</b>	Family
<b>Thursday</b>	1/4	8:00 am	<i>Celebrant's Intention</i>	
<b>Friday</b>	1/5	8:00 am	<b>St. Alphonsus Mass Association</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	1/6	5:30 pm	<b>Mary Rose Reed +</b>	Maureen Hill
<b>Sunday`</b>	1/7	9:00 am	<b>People of the Parish</b>	

### Epiphany Water Blessing:

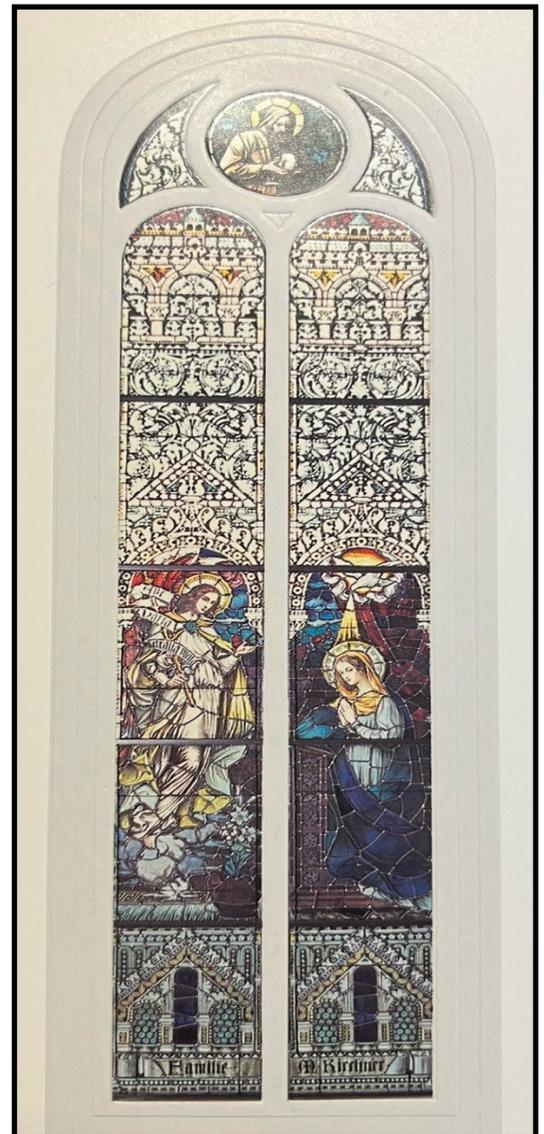
Join us on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 11:00 am. Families should bring a jug or other container of plain water and a container of salt to be specially blessed and used in your home during 2024. We will also have blessed chalk for families to take home for your house blessing on Epiphany. The ceremony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

### Greetings from the Parish Office!

*This week's cover photo is our Infant of Prague statue that adorns Mary's Altar. He is dressed in His birthday finery so that as St. Alphonsus teaches, we might be so attracted to his tender heart which confined Himself to all of the inconveniences and hardships of infant dependency while having full reason of mind, power of spirit and divinity of nature. He offers us joy and peace if only we would place our trust and cares in Him as faithful and prayerful people- Children of God. ...the merriest of Christmas Seasons to you!*

### 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*



**Called to Know, Love and Serve the Lord**  
**Weekly Calendar**

**SUNDAY, December 31**

**Mass @ 9:00 am**  
***The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph***

**MONDAY, JANUARY 1**

**Mass 9: 00 am**

***Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God***

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 2**

**Mass @ 8:00 am**

***Sts. Basil the Great  
And  
Gregory Nazianzen***

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**

**Mass @ 6:00 pm**  
**W/ Adoration until 7 pm**

***The Most Holy Name of Jesus***

***Bible Study 7 pm***

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 4**

**Mass @ 8:00 am**

***St. Elizabeth Ann Seton***

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 5**

**Mass @ 8:00 am**

**First Friday!**

***St. John Neumann***

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6**

**Mass @ 5:30 pm**

***Blessing of Epiphany Water***  
**11: 00 am**