



Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984 Fax: 205-426-0089

E-Mail: info@staloyusiuscc.org

Website: www.staloyusiuscc.org

Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 10:00 am – Noon

Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (closed for lunch, Noon – 12:30 pm)

Sunday, September 7th, 2025

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Reju Pynadath Johny

e-mail: rijupynadath@gmail.com

Office: 205 424 2984

Cell: 205 829 5933

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Ginna Lopez

e-mail: st.aloyusius24@outlook.com

205 424 2984

CHURCH OFFICE

e-mail: info@staloyusiuscc.org

205 424 2984

HISPANIC COORDINATORS

Gabriel Lopez

Gabriel Arellano

205 434 7169

205 765 2936

WEEKEND EUCHARIST

Saturday

Sunday (English)

Sunday (Spanish)

4:30 p.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

Monday (Father celebrates the mass privately for your intention)

Tuesday through Friday

12:00 p.m. Noon

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Deadline for new items

Tuesday 3:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

For more info contact the Church Office for Baptismal Preparation English & Hispanic Coordinator for Spanish Baptism.

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30-4:00 p.m. (or before and after daily Mass except Sunday)

SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE

Couples planning marriage must meet with Father Reju at least six months before your proposed date. Weddings will not be performed after 2:00 p.m. or before 6:30 p.m. on Saturdays.

SACRAMENT of ANOINTING of the SICK

The Church recommends this sacrament to all who are seriously ill or in danger of death. Please call the Church Office.

FUNERALS

In order to secure the services of a priest or the use of the Church, it is necessary to contact the Church Office *before* making arrangements with a funeral home. Father Reju is ready to help with funerals.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

| OUR SICK | |
|---|--|
| Robert Geisen Kathleen Jones Sheila Zito Carl McDaniel | |

| HOMEBOUND SICK AND SHUT-IN | |
|--|---|
| Nancy Franklin Robert Wilson Sue Nielsen Robert Vincent | John V. Jones Jr. Meredith Jones Dot Herald Johana Findley |

| NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS | |
|---|--|
| <u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u> Rudy Cooper Jean Sullivan | |

If you need any assistance for the spiritual needs of the sick or shut-in, or know someone who is well enough to be removed from this list, please contact the Church Office at (205) 424 2984, or email to: info@staloyuscc.org

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Pray for our military who are deployed throughout the world to fight for the freedom and security of our country, including:

| <u>AIR FORCE</u> | <u>ARMY</u> |
|--|---|
| Daniel K. Hicks Shea Hicks James McKinney Lance Rosser Gabriel Petix | Blake Seidel Brandan Engel Luke Thomas Joseph R. Chiarella |
| | <u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u> |
| | Daniel Thomas |

Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to info@staloyuscc.org with the names of the military personnel and their branch of service to be placed on or removed from this prayer list.

E-MAIL PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer is powerful and we need all the prayer warriors that we can get. Sheila Zito e-mails prayer requests for the parish, Mother of Christ Altar Guild, and the Choir. If any parishioner has a prayer request or wishes to be notified of other people's requests, contact Sheila at fsz321@bellsouth.net.

MASS INTENTIONS

| SEPTEMBER 9 - SEPTEMBER 14 († = Deceased) | | | |
|---|---------|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Tuesday | 12 Noon | September 9 | † John Kirk |
| Wednesday | 12 Noon | September 10 | † Eugenia Batts |
| Thursday | 12 Noon | September 11 | (BD) Aaron Gavin |
| Friday | 12 Noon | September 12 | Alice Sloan |
| Saturday | 4:30pm | September 13 | † Rosalee Mareno Pocopanni |
| Sunday | 9:30am | September 14 | † Rita Minor |

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE: MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are received weekly during office hours by phone, mail or in the office. You can also register on **Online Giving App** or website and request Mass Intention, under Mass Stipends.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on Tuesdays through Fridays at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to pray before mass begins. Confessions can also be heard during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or after daily Mass. No confessions will be heard on Sundays.

SAINT ALOYSIUS ROSARY GROUP

A group of parishioners (men and women) will now meet on **WEDNESDAY at 11:30 AM during adoration** to pray the Rosary. Everyone who wants to pray the Rosary is welcome.

FIRE OF THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

The Lord has blessed each of us abundantly by giving us the gift of His Holy Spirit. Come learn how He desires to work in your life every day. The group meets **every Thursday** of the month (**except the 2nd Thursday**) in the Church at **6:30 p.m.** Come join us in prayer and worship and release your gifts of the Holy Spirit! All are welcome. For more information, please contact Kathy Tortorice at (205) 531-0930 or kathytortorice@gmail.com.

ALOYSIUS CHOIR PRACTICES

The Choir started back to practice on **Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm** at the church. Anyone interested in joining the choir can contact Paula Clowdus (205) 382 0845, or any choir member.

Make a Joyful Noise

SAINT ALOYSIUS PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As Catholic Christians and members of the Parish Family of Saint Aloysius Catholic Church, we are committed:

- To provide all our members (adults and youth) opportunities for spiritual development through worship, prayer, religious education and social interaction.
- To spread the Word of God and support our Parish Family with the gifts He has given us by using our time, talent, and treasure to His glory.
- To strive continually to witness our faith as we journey toward the future that God has promised those who accept His Word.
- To reach out to the larger community of the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama and the world.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Charles Ellis, President
Vickie Gavin, Vice Chairperson
Michael Tomberlin, Secretary
Charles Tortorice
Phillip Galloway
Kellie Whitson
Eddie Blanco
Oliver Lopez
Ginna Lopez

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Gloria McDaniel, Chairperson
Mike Snelling, Vice Chairperson
Ray Mernaugh, Secretary

MINISTRIES CONTACT PERSON

Mother of Christ Altar Guild
Angie Cacioppo (205) 281 1901
Holy Family Altar Guild
Kellie Whitson (205) 296 3390
Knights of Columbus
Anthony Rupert (205) 428 6600

Men's Society

Charles Ellis (205) 365 5896
Jim Galloway (205) 516 1645

Music Ministry

Paula Clowdus (205) 382 0845

MOTHER OF CHRIST ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Next meeting is **Monday September 8th**, at 11:30 a.m. in the church. For more information, please contact Angie Cacioppo, President (205) 281 1901, or email to Bernadette McFerrin, Secretary at bmc3608@bellsouth.net

HOLY FAMILY ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Holy Family Altar Guild will meet on Monday, September 15th, at 6:00 p.m. For any information you can contact Kellie Whitson, President (205) 296 3390.

SAINT ALOYSIUS MEN'S SOCIETY

The Saint Aloysius Men's Society will meet **every second Monday** of the month. Next meeting is **Monday September 8th**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the church. All men of the parish are welcome. For more information, please call Charles Ellis, President (205) 365 5896, or Jim Galloway, Vice President (205) 516 1645.

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY FROM ST. ALOYSIUS CHURCH (NEW DATES)

We are pleased to announce that everyone is invited to the Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy with Father Reju on **April 13, 2026.**

**Last day to reserve
your seats:
December 30, 2025.**

(Easter: April 5, 2026)

For More Info call:
(832) 406-7050, or
1-844-400-9559,

Email:
info@nativitypilgrimage.com,

Website:
<https://trip.nativitypilgrimage.com/reju-2025>



PARISH STEWARDSHIP

| Parish Stewardship 2025 | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|
| Sunday - August 31 | | | | |
| Fund | Online Giving | Sunday Collection | Total By Fund | YTD |
| General Fund | 596.00 | 7,346.25 | 7,942.25 | 221,235.73 |
| Building Fund | 100.00 | 180.00 | 280.00 | 65,963.51 |
| Parish School of Religion | 0.00 | 50.00 | 50.00 | 11,387.41 |
| Total | 696.00 | 7,576.25 | 8,272.25 | 298,586.65 |
| Total given this week: \$8,272.25 | | | | |

Sunday, September 7th, 2025

From the Gospel according to LUKE 14:25-33

TO GO TO HEAVEN: 'KEEP JESUS FIRST'

Today's Gospel is speaking about the cost of discipleship. The opening verse says, 'great crowds were traveling with him.' Jesus makes clear difference between the 'crowd' and the 'disciple.' Crowd is a group of anonymous people. To be a member of a crowd does not cost you any.

Disciple is a member of inner circle, specially chosen by Jesus. Being a disciple would cost you heavily. It is all about keeping Jesus at the very first place in our lives. The choice is ours.

Lk 14:26 Says; to become a disciple of Jesus one has to "hate" himself and all other family members. Mt 22:39 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." And Mt 5:44 "Love your enemies." These sayings of Jesus seem to contradict with today's Gospel!

The Greek root word used here for "HATE" is 'miseo.' This word 'Miseo' does not mean a 'wrathful emotion!' This root word means "to love less." In Genesis 29:30 in English we read "Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah." And in 29:31 "When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved...." Old Testament was originally written in Hebrew and later was translated into Greek. In the Greek translation the word used in this context is 'miseo.' So, the meaning of the word 'Miseo' here is "love less or prefer"

Let us see the parallel text in Mat 10:37 "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." To be a disciple of Jesus I should be loving myself and everyone else less than I love Jesus himself. I should prefer Jesus than anyone and anything else.

The disciple is supposed to carry his own cross and follow Jesus. Bearing cross leads to internal transformation, which then results in external changes.

We should renounce the power of possessions over us. To be a disciple and to follow Jesus I must prioritize all my relations. Both the analogies of the cost of building the tower and going for war tell us about the need to prioritize our values and relations. 'I should hate myself' means to say, 'I should refuse to keep myself at first place;' and i should not let myself be possessed by anything or anyone more than by Jesus Himself.

To go to heaven, I should love Jesus the more; I should prefer him than anything else and should be loving myself and everything else less than loving Jesus.

God may help us by his grace to renounce our possessions and relations for the sake of heaven!

Amen

Father Reju Pynadath J.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

14 September 2025, Sunday

Exaltation of the Holy Cross Feast

1st Reading Numbers 21: 4b-9

Psalms 78: 1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38

Second Philippians 2: 6-11

Gospel John 3: 13-17

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

We celebrate those who are present, and we remember in prayer those who have gone ahead ☩.

September 8 . . . Robert Coates, Scott Woods, Nancy Callahan, Jan Nordblom

September 9 . . . Martha Herring, Nicholas Cagle, Denise Antonio

September 11 . . . Joe Russo, Nataly Perez

September 12 . . . Tre Smith

September 13 . . . Linda Maloy, Judson Driscoll, Gary Williams, Darwin Valle

September 14 . . . Martha Hamrick, Angie Cacioppo, Angelina Canul, Cruz Martin

DONOR INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS (FUNERALS ONLY)

Starting this month forward we will be collecting information for Donations given to the church for deceased loved ones especially when want to let the family members know we have showed our love for them through our donations. This is why we have decided to make a donor information list so we can make sure everyone gets notified about your donations. We will be requiring this information from everyone that donates:

- Donors name to be notified, address, phone #, amount donated, if check we will need check #, and lastly what should the donation be used for.
- Names of individuals to be memorialized.
- Family/ Relatives names to be notified of donation and address.

This will be a great help since we want to make sure everyone gets notified about every contribution made to our loved ones. Thank you and blessings.

Italy and Medjugorje

10-DAY PILGRIMAGE



MILAN
ASSISI
ROME
MEDJUGORJE

APRIL 13 – 22, 2026

FR. REJU PYNADATH

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR
St. Aloysius Catholic Church.
Bessemer, Alabama

FOR INFORMATION

(832) 406-7050 • 1+(844) 400-9559

info@nativitypilgrimage.com

trip.nativitypilgrimage.com/reju-2025