

# *Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish*

751 Academy Drive

*Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276*

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

*E-Mail:* [info@staloysiuscc.org](mailto:info@staloysiuscc.org)      *Website:* [www.staloysiuscc.org](http://www.staloysiuscc.org)

*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      Office: 205 424 2984  
e-mail: [rijupynadath@gmail.com](mailto:rijupynadath@gmail.com)      Cell: 205 829 5933

## **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Ginna Lopez 205 424 2984  
e-mail: [st.aloysius24@outlook.com](mailto:st.aloysius24@outlook.com)

CHURCH OFFICE

e-mail: [info@stalevciuscc.org](mailto:info@stalevciuscc.org) 205.424.2084

#### **USCRANIC COORDINATORS**

**HISpanic COORDINATORS**  
Gabriel Lopez 205 434 7169  
Gabriel Arellano 205 765 2026

WEEKEND ENQUERIMENTO

<b>WEEKEND EUCHARIST</b>	
Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday (English)	9:30 a.m.
Sunday (Spanish)	12:00 p.m.

## WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

**WEEKDAY LECTURIST**  
Monday (Father celebrates the mass privately for your intention)  
Tuesday through Friday 12:00 p.m. Noon

## SUNDAY BULLETIN

**SUNDAY BULLETIN**      Deadline for news 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 Reiu is ready to help with funerals.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

<b>OUR SICK</b>	
Robert Geisen Kathleen Jones Sheila Zito Carl McDaniel	

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

<b>NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS</b>
<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@staloyiuscc.org](mailto:info@staloyiuscc.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	Blake Seidel
Shea Hicks	Brandan Engel
James McKinney	Luke Thomas
Lance Rosser	Joseph R. Chiarella
Gabriel Petix	<u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u>
	Daniel Thomas

Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to [info@staloyiuscc.org](mailto:info@staloyiuscc.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](mailto:fsz321@bellsouth.net).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>SEPTEMBER 9 - SEPTEMBER 14</b>			
(† = 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.

**EUCARISTIC 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](mailto: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 8<sup>th</sup>**, 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 [bmcf3608@bellsouth.net](mailto:bmcf3608@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 8<sup>th</sup>**, 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)

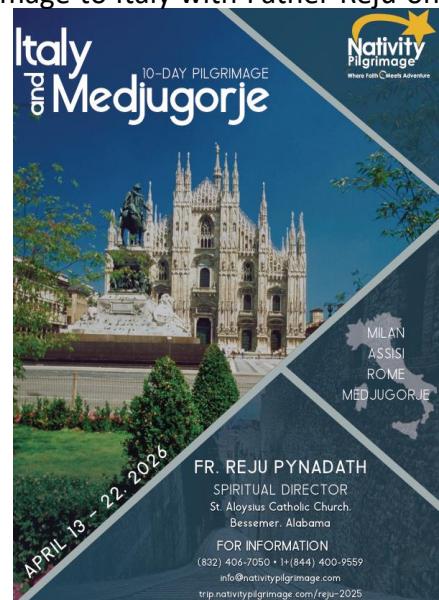
We are pleased to announce that everyone is invited to the Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy with Father Reju on **April 13, 2026**.

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@nativitypilgrimage.com)

[trip.nativitypilgrimage.com/reju-2025](http://trip.nativitypilgrimage.com/reju-2025)