



## **Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984

Fax: 205-426-5753

E-Mail: [staloysius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysius@bellsouth.net)

Website: [www.staloysiuscc.org](http://www.staloysiuscc.org)

Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (closed for lunch, Noon – 12:30 p.m.)

September 5, 2021

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Rev. Reju Pynadath Johny      Office: 205-424-2984  
Cell: 205-829-5933

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Mrs. Stephanie Gerson      205-424-2984  
(e-mail: [staloysiusre@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysiusre@bellsouth.net))

### **DIRECTOR of MUSIC**

Mr. Tim Tipton      (texts & calls) 205-706-9500  
(e-mail: [staloysius4music@gmail.com](mailto:staloysius4music@gmail.com))

### **CHURCH SECRETARY**

Mrs. Judy Cacioppo      205-424-2984  
(e-mail: [staloysius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysius@bellsouth.net))

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. Randy Clowdus      205-540-1394  
(e-mail: [rclowdus@bham.rr.com](mailto:rclowdus@bham.rr.com))

### **PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. Jim Keyes      205-910-8178  
(e-mail: [jim@keyesausmankeyes.com](mailto:jim@keyesausmankeyes.com))

### **HOLY DAYS**

Please check Parish Bulletin

### **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.

### **WEEKEND EUCHARIST**

Saturday	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

### **WEEKDAY EUCHARIST**

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday	8:30 a.m.

### **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

Deadline for new items      Tuesday 3:00 p.m.

### **SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION**

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

### **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.

### **SACRAMENT of BAPTISM**

Please contact Stephanie Gerson in the Church Office for Baptismal Preparation.

### **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.

## **THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH**

### **Memorare to Saint Joseph**

O God, who by Thy ineffable Providence did vouchsafe  
to choose Blessed Joseph for the spouse of  
Thy most holy mother,  
grant we beseech Thee, that he whom we venerate  
as our protector on earth  
may be our intercessor in Heaven. Amen

### **GOSPEL REFLECTIONS: MARK 7:31-37**

#### **Healing the Deaf and Mute**

■ There is a man who is deaf and mute. He might not have known Jesus as he cannot hear or speak. So he was taken to Jesus by the 'community.' Individualistic approach to God is not the perfect Christian way. The disabled and the crippled (the suffering ones) are brought to Christ by we, the community.

■ Having brought him to Jesus, that community is praying for him. They are interceding for the suffering one. The needy one is silent though, Jesus is listening to the prayer of the faithful. We should be praying for others.

■ Christian means "one who is in community." No One-Man-Show is encouraged by Jesus. Be in relatedness and be concerned about the need of the other person.

■ In the crowd, that man was not able to experience God. So Jesus took him off by Himself away from the crowd. Luke 19:4 speaks of the dwarf Zacchaeus that "so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus." So you may not be able to have God experience being in the crowd. You have to step forward; may have to run ahead. Yes, you have to take a step further in your prayer/spiritual life if you want to have God experience.

■ Jesus touched that man on ears and tongue. When you are desperate, feel loneliness, rejectedness...it's then Jesus takes you to Himself. Compassionately He touches you and He expresses His love and mercy for you. So in your struggles and troubles, don't be disheartened, for Jesus is waiting for you.

■ "He has done everything well," is the certification of the crowd for Jesus. This same Jesus is alive in each and every one of us. Is the Jesus operative in us? What do others say about us? Every moment of life we have to think, "if it were Jesus in my place, what/how He would have acted?" Be another Jesus. Especially being

compassionate to other people. Then you also will have the same certification!

■ This "Ephphatha" prayer is there in our Catholic baptism. We receive Holy Communion; and so we are duty-bound to untie the tongues of others. We are to listen to others. You should forgive the other so that he/she may feel the freedom. We have to give the other freedom in life; we have to be with them compassionately.

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

**September 4 – 12**

(† = Deceased)

Saturday (4:30 p.m.) ..... Mary Curry  
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) ..... † Greg Brooks  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) ..... Saint Aloysius Parishioners

#### **Labor Day**

Monday ..... No Mass  
Tuesday (5:30 p.m.) ..... Marian Campbell  
Wednesday ..... † Norman Cacciatore  
Thursday ..... † Bernard LaRussa  
Friday ..... † Virginia Guarino  
Saturday (4:30 p.m.) ..... † Margaret Blake  
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) ..... † Pat Lambert  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) ..... Saint Aloysius Parishioners

### **FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK**

*September 8:* The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*September 9:* Saint Peter Claver, Priest

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSIONS**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays through Fridays at 8:00 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.

### **CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED**

The Church Offices will be closed on Monday, September 6 in observance of Labor Day.



### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

September 12 – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:4c-9a

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

### **PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

	Last Week	Online Giving	Year-to- Date
Offertory	\$4,066.00	\$2,053.00	\$289,517.54
Building Fund	\$ 102.06	\$ 75.00	\$ 48,335.17

### **SAINT ALOYSIUS MUSIC: A FEW NOTES**

Choir rehearsals will be every Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the Church. If you have not been in a choir for a while or ever, come give it a spin! See any choir member, cantor, or Tim Tipton if you have any questions. Your presence and voice will be welcomed!

Tim Tipton, Director of Music (205-706-9500 \*texts and calls\* or [music.staloyisus@gmail.com](mailto:music.staloyisus@gmail.com))

### **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).

### **CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY ENVELOPES**

Saint Aloysius Parish offers boxed children's offertory envelopes for those families who wish them. They are available after the weekend Masses in the Ministries Office or during the week in the Church Office. Please sign the list by the number of the box that you receive so we can properly credit the children who contribute.

### **PARISH WEBSITE**

The weekly bulletin, monthly calendar, Online Giving link, religious education information, etc. are accessible on our parish website at [www.staloyisuscc.org](http://www.staloyisuscc.org). Scan from your smart phone for our Online Giving link:



You can also give via Text Message to 205-708-0221.

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN**

#### **Recently Discharged From Hospital**

Ronnie George

#### **Sick and Shut-in**

This list is intended for homebound members of Saint Aloysius Parish. Those from our parish recently discharged from the hospital will be listed for two weeks. Individuals outside our parish community may be placed on this list for a two-week period only. All the sick are remembered weekly in our General Intercessions.

Eddie & Penny Allison Myra Antonio Ann Baker Barbara Bridges Marian Campbell Nancy Franklin	Rev. Len Gavin John V. Jones, Jr. Meredith Jones Ricky Lockhart Ginger Russo Mosley Debbie Rupert	MaryAnna Schilleci Stanley Szafransky Steve Tate Powell Thompson Irene Tutton Suzanne Wannemuehler Rose Wilson
---	---	---

#### **Nursing & Retirement Homes, & Assisted Living**

<u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u> Rudy Cooper Jean Sullivan	<u>Plantation Manor</u> Claudia Charme
---	---

*If you are or you know of someone on the shut-in list who's well enough to be removed from this list, please call the Church Office.*

#### **NURSING HOME AND ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS**

If any parishioner knows of a nursing home or assisted living resident who is Catholic and is not on the above list, please call the Church Office.

#### **VISITING HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES, AND HOMES**

Father Reju would be happy to visit the sick in hospitals and nursing homes if the person or family requests a visit. Father will also visit parishioners in their home with communion or hear confessions. Call the Church Office to schedule an appointment.

#### **SICK, SHUT-IN, AND NURSING HOME RESIDENTS**

If a lay minister is not visiting you on a regular basis, please call the Church Office so we can make the proper arrangements.

### **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**

Randy Clowdus, Chairperson  
Eddie Blanco, Vice Chairperson  
Felicia Boyd, Secretary  
Micha McMeans  
Phillip Galloway  
Patricia Rector  
Vickie Gavin  
Chris Waits

### **PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Jim Keyes, Chairperson  
Mike Snelling, Vice Chairperson  
Sharon Weathers, Secretary

### **THANK YOU**

**Matthew West**, our organist at Saturday evening Masses, is leaving Saint Aloysius Parish effective September 11. Matthew has faithfully served as a talented organist for the last 12 years and will be greatly missed. Thank you for your dedication and we wish you the very best!

### **BISHOP'S DISASTER FUND**

The Diocese of Birmingham is accepting donations to help those affected by the earthquake in Haiti and the recent flooding in Tennessee. Donations are accepted online using the link to [Bishop's Disaster Fund](http://www.bhmdiocese.org) ([www.bhmdiocese.org](http://www.bhmdiocese.org)) or send a check to the Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama, P.O. Box 12047, Birmingham, AL 35202-2047; note on your check Haiti or Bishop's Disaster Fund.

### **INDIAN/ORIENTAL MASS**

Father Reju will celebrate an Indian/Oriental Mass at Saint Aloysius on Saturday, September 18 at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome to attend to see what an Indian Mass is like!

### **SECOND COLLECTION—THIS WEEKEND**

The second collection this weekend is the monthly Building and Grounds Fund collection.

### **SECOND COLLECTION—NEXT WEEKEND**

The second collection next weekend will be the monthly Parish School of Religion collection. Funds from this collection will take care of costs associated with Faith Formation classes in addition to ensuring our former school buildings are maintained for future use.

### **ALTAR GUILD MEETINGS**

**CORRECTION:** The **Mother of Christ Altar Guild** will NOT meet in September as was printed in last weekend's bulletin. We apologize for the confusion.

The **Holy Family Altar Guild** will meet on Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call Heather Lawley at 205-410-3759.

### **SAINT ALOYSIUS MEN'S SOCIETY**

The **Saint Aloysius Men's Society** will meet on Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria. 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).

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The **Knights of Columbus Council #2631** will not meet in September.

### **LADIES ROSARY GROUP**

A group for ladies of the parish meets on Thursdays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Day Chapel to pray the Rosary.

### **COFFEE AND DONUTS**

Coffee and Donuts will not be served until further notice.

**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. Our Fire of the Spirit Prayer Group meets every Thursday of the month (except second Thursday) in the Church at 7:00 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).

**RETREATS**

The Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Fort Mitchell, Alabama will resume offering in-person retreats again in the Fall:

- *Beginning Again, A Blessed Lunch:* September 18, Fellowship and Wisdom for Living with Sister Gail Lambert, M.S.B.T.
- *Rosary Pilgrimage to the Grotto—For Our Nation and World Peace:* October 3
- *Living Abundantly: Reducing Stress and Living Well:* October 20, led by Father Mike Kerin

For more information or to register, please contact Sister Gail Lambert, M.S.B.T. at 1-334-855-4474 or [btsr@msbt.org](mailto:btsr@msbt.org).

**MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL**

Saint George the Great Martyr Melkite Parish (425 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South in Birmingham) invites all to their 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on September 23—25 from 10:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. The festival will also have drive-thru from 11:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. In addition to delicious homemade food and pastries, church tours will be conducted throughout the day until 8:00 p.m. Vendors include a variety of handmade crafts, Byzantine icons, olive wood items from the Holy Land, and more. Ten percent of proceeds will benefit local and diocesan charities. For more information, please visit [www.saintgeorgeonline.org](http://www.saintgeorgeonline.org) or on Facebook.

**WORLD MISSION YOUTH FAIR**

The diocesan Office for the Society of the Propagation of the Faith will host a World Mission Youth Fair at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville on Saturday, October 23. The event is for youth in grades 5-8 and will include food, games, and a raffle. The fair will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude with the 4:00 p.m. World Mission Sunday Vigil Mass celebrated by Bishop Steven Raica. For more information, please contact Christina Wright at [propfaith@bhmdiocese.org](mailto:propfaith@bhmdiocese.org) or 205-332-9072.

**MILITARY PRAYER LIST**

Please pray for our military that have been deployed around the world to fight for the freedom and security of our country, including:

<u>U.S. Intelligence</u>	<u>Army</u>
Daniel Thomas	Joseph R. Chiarella
	Zach Edmonds
<u>Air Force</u>	Blake Seidel
Daniel K. Hicks	
Shea Hicks	
James McKinney	
Lance Rosser	

Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to [staloyisus@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyisus@bellsouth.net) with the names of people and their branch of service to be placed on or removed from this prayer list.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to **Sam and Caroline Tamburello**, who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversary on September 5.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

September 5. . . . . Frances George, Suzanne Vernon, . . . . . Aaron Gavin  
September 6. . . . . Emilie Medina  
September 7. . . . . Sue Brooks, Nick Lambert, . . . . . Linda Rackley, Mike “Chop” Richards, Ian Blake  
September 8. . . . . Felicia Boyd, Robert Coates, . . . . . Juan Gonzalez, Jr., Scott Woods, . . . . . Nancy Callahan, Jan Nordblom  
September 9. . . . . Martha Herring, Nicholas Cagle, . . . . . Lizbeth Ruz, Julieta Arellano, . . . . . Kimberly Vasquez Alvarez  
September 10. . . . . Adeline Costabile, John Virciglio, . . . . . Judy Clark, Noel Rosas  
September 11. . . . . Eddie Blanco, Joe Russo

**Come Be Served By the  
Saint Aloysius Men's Society  
At Their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Pancake Breakfast**



**Saturday, September 18  
8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.**

**NEW LOCATION: PARISH CAFETERIA  
(Bessemer Applebee's Closed for Renovation)**

**☒ Donations Greatly Appreciated ☒**

**Proceeds benefit Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**



# *Diocese of Birmingham in Alabama*

Post Office Box 12047 (35202-2047)

2121 Third Avenue North

Birmingham, Alabama 35203

205-838-8322

**Office of the Bishop**

## **MEMORANDUM**

FROM: Bishop Steven J. Raica *+ sgn*

RE: Directive regarding COVID / Delta Variant

DATE: August 27, 2021

---

Concerns are being raised regarding the recent uptick in COVID / Delta variant cases throughout the State of Alabama. In fact, most, if not all, ICU beds are at or near capacity in this most recent surge, more than the previous surge, mostly by the non-vaccinated. Health officials are bringing an urgent appeal to take this matter seriously.

In the State of Alabama, vaccinations have sadly lagged well-behind the national average. I echo and agree the words of Pope Francis who explains that a vaccination is an act of “charity toward neighbor”. It is an important step to retard the spread of this pernicious virus. The competent authorities have urged all who can to be vaccinated. This week the Pfizer vaccine was approved by the FDA. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has also vouched for the morality of taking the appropriate vaccination. Thus, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine may be received without moral reservation. For those eligible, taking the vaccination helps everyone.

For those who have chosen not to be vaccinated for personal reasons of conscience concerns, should continue with prophylactic measures to protect themselves, their families, colleagues, and those in their social circles. These measures include, but are not limited to, masking appropriately, maintaining a social distance, quarantining when there’s an exposure, and frequent COVID tests.

The Diocese is not disposed to granting “religious exemptions.” Those who express concerns for conscience reasons should do so on their own initiative after consultation with their primary care physician.

While I am aware that we have not had a viral outbreak in our offices (Thanks be to God!), I nevertheless express my concern for the well-being of our diocesan chancery community as the variant is spiking. I ask that we observe the following protocols beginning Monday, August 30, 2021 until the end of September unless there is an update in the meantime.

- 1) **Wearing masks** while inside our Chancery building, in the corridors and in meetings insofar as possible.  
Masks can be optional in meetings if all parties are vaccinated;
- 2) **Social distancing** insofar as possible;
- 3) **Quarantine / work from home** if you have been exposed.

Those who have not been vaccinated are urged to do so at their earliest convenience, even if they must leave work to do so. If for some reason you cannot be vaccinated, then you should be tested on a regular basis as determined by your physician.

It appears the Delta Variant will peak soon. Let's all play our part to reduce the burden of this infection on our families, our co-workers, our communities. Above all, may we be especially mindful of the doctors and nurses who risk their lives every day providing dedicated, specialized care for those affected.