



## **Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984 Fax: 205-426-5753

E-Mail: [staloyusius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyusius@bellsouth.net) Website: [www.staloyusiuscc.org](http://www.staloyusiuscc.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.)

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Rev. Reju Pynadath Johny Office: 205-424-2984

Cell: 205-829-5933

(e-mail: [rjupynadath@gmail.com](mailto:rjupynadath@gmail.com))

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Mrs. Stephanie Gerson 205-424-2984

(e-mail: [staloyusiusre@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyusiusre@bellsouth.net))

### **HISPANIC DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Mrs. Patricia Rector 205-568-5747

(e-mail: [wprec4639@icloud.com](mailto:wprec4639@icloud.com))

### **DIRECTOR of MUSIC**

Position to Be Filled

### **CHURCH SECRETARY**

Mrs. Judy Cacioppo 205-424-2984

(e-mail: [staloyusius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyusius@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.; 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. (Spanish)

### **WEEKDAY EUCHARIST**

Monday and Tuesday 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday through 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.

## GOSPEL REFLECTIONS: LUKE 15:1-3; 11-32

### ❖ LOVE THE SINNER/ HATE SIN ❖

■ The story of the prodigal son is considered to be the most famous short story the world has ever heard so far. We might have heard this as a story of ‘prodigal father’ (God) who is lavish in his mercy and forgiveness.

■ The word “prodigal” means “wastefully extravagant” or “lavishly wasteful.” The focal point of the story is the younger son. He demands the share of his father’s estate.

#### The Inheritance for Jews

■ Among the early Hebrews, custom decided that the next of kin should enter upon the possessions of the estate of a deceased person. The first-born son usually assumed the headship of the family and succeeded to the control of the family property. Each of the sons of the deceased receives an equal share of the estate of his father or mother, except the first-born son of the father, who receives a double share.

■ So in the law and in tradition the inheritance is awarded only with the death of the father. But here the younger one demands his share, thereby he affirms that ‘his father is dead!’ He wanted his share of his father’s estate. He is demanding something for which he did not work at all. He is not even ready to wait for that! As we saw last week (the story of the privileged fig tree in the vineyard), this younger son is given whatever he demanded. Nothing was his right/due as the father is still alive!

#### Mind of the Father

■ Every action has an opposite reaction. Whatever you throw into the sea will come back to the beach! So this father allows the freedom of his younger son. But the father knows that his son will be back one day and so he’s eagerly waiting for the son.

#### Me and the Younger Son

■ The new generation of our times, including Christian, thinks that “Freedom is Everything” even freedom from God and from so-called religions. The most modern secular and social media are propagating that ‘individuals’ should be self-dependent, self-sufficient, and self-reliant. Even God should be out of the scene.

■ We know that this thinking independently of God is just the beginning of backsliding. It pulls us away from God. And the more we struggle to satisfy ourselves, the more we will sink into degrading personal

conditions. Yes, of course, we have to be free, we have to think differently and independently, but there are no excuses for thinking independently of God.

■ God the Father is eagerly waiting for us to come back. He is lavish in mercy and forgiveness. As we repent and come back there will be excessive celebrations in Heaven. We are enjoying the richness and provisions given by God the Father. We didn’t merit it. Come back to the Father. He respects our freedom and free will. And so will never invade into our world. We have to come back as we went away from Him.

■ See sin through the eyes of mercy; hear pridefulness with ears of compassion. Be lavishly forgiving and welcoming. Hate the sin, but always love the sinner and be merciful to him. May the merciful God, the Father, love you all. Amen.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**March 26 – April 3**

(† = Deceased)

Saturday (4:30 p.m.) . . . . . † Sherman & Martha Venz  
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) . . . . . Saint Aloysius Parishioners  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) . . . . . † Paul LaRussa  
Monday (5:30 p.m.) . . . . . † Philip Antonio  
Tuesday (5:30 p.m.) . . . † Lena & Vincent Caltagirone  
Wednesday . . . . . Kathy Evans  
Thursday . . . . . Priscilla Winstead  
Friday . . . . . † Natch & Evelyn “Dell” Russo  
Saturday (4:30 p.m.) . . . . † Mary DiPiazza Gugliotta  
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) . . . . . † Jeanette Laney  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) . . . . Saint Aloysius Parishioners

### SYMPATHY

The Parish Community extends prayerful sympathy to the family of **Patsy “Pat” Gagliano**, who is survived by her husband of 65 years, Pete, children, Carolyn Norris and Larry (Tracy) Gagliano, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and other family members. Please keep this family in your prayers.

### FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK

*April 2:* Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saint Aloysius Parish will celebrate Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 12:00 Noon and 5:30 p.m. (English); 7:00 p.m. (Spanish); and 7:00 p.m. (Indian). On Good Friday, April 15, Stations will be celebrated at Noon and Live Way of the Cross at 2:30 p.m. (Spanish).

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

April 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Philippians 3:8-14  
John 8:1-11

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

	Last Week	Online Giving	Year-to- Date
Offertory	\$4,086.70	\$2,547.00	\$92,473.36
Building Fund	\$ 16.00	\$ 210.00	\$38,080.12

**SAINT ALOYSIUS MUSIC: A FEW NOTES**

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Masses will be spoken for the time being. Please follow along in the missalette for the Mass of Renewal in order to read aloud the Kyrie; Gloria; Holy, Holy; The Mystery of Faith; The Great Amen; and the Lamb of God. Due to our shortage of cantors at present, this seems a practical solution. As we continue to progress toward more normalcy, our hope is we will have additional cantors and choir members. Many thanks to our present cantors who are so diligent and generous. Please consider joining in music: choir, cantor or accompanist.

**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.staloyuscc.org](http://www.staloyuscc.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**

**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 Allison	Rev. Len Gavin	Debbie Rupert
JoAnne Antonio	Ronnie George	MaryAnna Schilleci
Myra Antonio	John V. Jones, Jr.	Stanley Szafransky
Ann Baker	Meredith Jones	Steve Tate
George Bratton	Dixie Lenseigne	Powell Thompson
Adeline Costabile	Ginger Russo	Irene Tutton
Kathy Evans	Mosley	Marilyn West
Jim & Nancy Franklin		

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

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

*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  
Secretary (position to be filled)  
Micha McMeans  
Phillip Galloway  
Patricia Rector  
Vickie Gavin  
Chris Waits

### **PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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

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

The second collection next weekend will be the monthly Building and Grounds Fund collection.

### **MAKE LENT OFFERINGS ONLINE**

It is encouraging to see both new and familiar faces at our worship services. Many of you already support the parish with your time, talent, and financial contributions throughout the year. But greater seasonal participation is always welcome. Please consider our electronic giving program. We accept donations made from your bank account and a credit card or debit card. It also takes just a few minutes to set up a recurring giving plan. To learn more, go to [www.staloyuscc.org](http://www.staloyuscc.org) and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy. We thank you for supporting our parish!

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

He gave His whole life for us. Can we give one hour a month for Him? Our parish's monthly Eucharistic Adoration will be on Saturday, April 2 from 4:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. A sign-up list will be in the sanctuary to keep a record of who is attending Adoration and at what hour. For more information, please contact Kathy Tortorice at 205-531-0930 or [kahytortorice@gmail.com](mailto:kahytortorice@gmail.com).

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The **Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Monday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.

### **V.I.P. MASS**

Due to low attendance, we will no longer offer a monthly V.I.P. Mass on the second Saturday of each month. Thank you for participating over the last several months.

### **BOOKLETS**

Way of the Cross booklets are available on the table in the Narthex. The booklets are for use at home when a parishioner is unable to attend Stations of the Cross or wishes to meditate on them during the week.

### **HISPANIC COMMUNITY**

Our parish's Hispanic Community is selling certain food items after our weekend Masses: tamales, tacos, etc. The money that is collected will be used for the following purposes: 1. Religious Education – "We have over 100 children in our Catechism Class." 2. The purpose of acting out the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday – "Fifty people are participating for this life drama." 3. To donate some money to the church.

### **HELP NEEDED MAKING ROSARIES**

Parishioner Gloria McDaniel makes knotted cord Rosaries and needs help making them. She will supply all materials and teach you how to make them. This is a special ministry. She has a deadline and needs your help. To volunteer, please text or call Gloria at 205-515-5307.

### **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.



***Pray More Rosaries***

### **“THE WILD GOOSE” VIDEO SERIES**

On Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. following our 5:30 p.m. Mass, “The Wild Goose” video series will be shown with discussion afterwards.

The Wild Goose is what the Holy Spirit is called in Ireland and this program can help you revitalize your spiritual side. For more information, please email [mhbear1@gmail.com](mailto:mhbear1@gmail.com).

### **FAITH FORMATION / SACRAMENTAL PREP.**

Faith Formation Classes, for students in grades 1-8 who are attending schools other than Catholic schools, are on Sunday mornings from 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. in the School. Sacramental Prep. Classes for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will also be held during this time.

### **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 [kahytortorice@gmail.com](mailto:kahytortorice@gmail.com).

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on Mondays and Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m., and 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.

### **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS NEEDED**

Ascension Saint Vincent’s is in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (Eucharistic Ministers) to serve the hospitalized Catholic community. If you are interested in serving, please contact Deacon Phil Boettcher, Chaplain, at 205-939-7689 or [Philip.boettcher@ascension.org](mailto:Philip.boettcher@ascension.org).

### **EWTN NETWORK**

EWTN Network brings you great Holy Week and Easter programming on TV, radio, internet, and now on your smart phone! Join EWTN Global Catholic Network in remembering Christ’s love for us through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection. During Holy Week and Easter, EWTN brings you special programming and LIVE Easter Masses from Rome, the U.S., and much more! Find your local EWTN TV or radio station by visiting [www.ewtn.com/tv/channel-finder/](http://www.ewtn.com/tv/channel-finder/) or [www.ewtn.com/radio/affiliates-map](http://www.ewtn.com/radio/affiliates-map).

### **RETREATS**

The Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat in Fort Mitchell, Alabama will hold several upcoming retreats:

- *Spending the Day in the Desert with Jesus:* March 30, led by Father Stephen J. Giorno, S.T.
- *Encountering the Divine in the Beauty Around Us:* April 1—3, led by Sister Terry Bretthauer
- *Annual Men’s Retreat—Gospel of Luke:* April 29—May 1, led by Father Guy Wilson, S.T.
- *Healing Retreats:* September 2—4, led by Father Matt Linn

For more information or to register, please call 1-334-855-4474 or visit [www.msbt.org/btsr](http://www.msbt.org/btsr).

### **NAZARETH HOUSE APOSTOLATE**

Nazareth House, a diocesan apostolate with persons having intellectual and development disabilities, is a program of religious education, liturgy and advocacy found throughout the diocese. Nazareth House is recruiting current Catholic 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> graders to serve as teachers/catechists for children and adults with intellectual disabilities in its Saturday morning program for the 2022-2023 school year. Earn approximately 80 community service hours; college admissions notice this unique volunteer work.

The program is held at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic School (2 Xavier Circle in Birmingham) and catechists must commit to most Saturday mornings (10:00 a.m. until Noon) during the school year calendar. For more information, please contact Sarah Houser at [sawisely@gmail.com](mailto:sawisely@gmail.com) or 205-612-6111.

### **38<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BLOOMIN' FESTIVAL**

Tradition is a way of life at Saint Bernard! Help keep the tradition alive by attending the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Bloomin' Festival Arts and Crafts Fair on April 23—24 on the beautiful grounds of Saint Bernard Prep. School in Cullman. Everything from pottery and ceramics, to stained glass, woodwork, birdhouses, jewelry, clothing, dolls, brooms, fresh ground cornmeal and grits, to funnel cakes, kettle corn, roasted almonds, fudge, cookies, and *Saint Bernard's Best* bread will be available. The world-famous Ave Maria Grotto will have reduced admission (\$4.00 per person) for the entire weekend. Prizes will be given away at the conclusion of the Festival. Admission is \$7.00 per person at the gate. For more information, please visit [www.bloominfestival.com](http://www.bloominfestival.com).

### **PONTIFICAL SERVERS**

The *Pontifical Servers* consists of a group of well-trained young men (8<sup>th</sup> grade through college age) who serve at those sacred liturgies and other ceremonies at which the bishop presides, both in the Cathedral of Saint Paul and throughout the diocese. With the recommendation of their pastors, new servers are invited to register at [www.bhmdiocese.org/pontifical-altar-servers](http://www.bhmdiocese.org/pontifical-altar-servers). More information about the group as well as training and fraternal opportunities can be found on the same website.

### **JOB OPENINGS AT EWTN**

EWTN is searching for qualified candidates for the following positions in Irondale: **Benefits Specialist, Administrative Assistant (National Catholic Register), Cash Management Specialist, Accountant, Legacy Giving Assistant, Donation Processing Specialist, Application Support Specialist, Printing and Mailing Supervisor, Program Scheduling Assistant, IT Support Technician (Tier 1), IT Support Technician (Tier 2), Senior Network and Systems Administrator, Safety and Security Officer, Bilingual Viewer Services Representative, Customer Service Representative, Groundskeeper, Custodian, and Maintenance Technician.** Job requirements can be viewed at [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com). E-mail cover letter, salary requirements, and résumé to [humanresources@ewtn.com](mailto:humanresources@ewtn.com).

### **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.S. Intelligence**

Daniel Thomas

#### **Army**

Joseph R. Chiarella

Zach Edmonds

Blake Seidel

#### **Air Force**

Daniel K. Hicks

Shea Hicks

James McKinney

Lance Rosser

Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to [staloysius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysius@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 the following couples who are celebrating their Wedding Anniversaries:

March 28..... Carl and Angie Herring

April 1..... Bruce and Lisa Jones

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

March 27..... Rick Albright, Jim Franklin,

..... Barbara Etling, Olivea Velazquez

March 28.....Kristen Reid, Patrick Blanco,

..DeAnna Sealtiel, Stephen Lenseigne, Matteo Barajas,

.....Lorraine Taylor, Randy Coffindaffer

March 29..... Rose Hogg, Kaylin Farias-Barajas,

.....Sophia Kopecki, Marshal Shoemaker

March 30.....Jackson McCoy, John Hart Turner,

.....Ray Mernaugh, Frank Thrailkill

March 31.....Mason Hicks, Michelle Bradley,

.....Tim Walker

April 1..... Bruce Jones, Alexander Wickman,

..... Gael Farias Barajas