



## **Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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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.)

January 2, 2022

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

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

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Mrs. Stephanie Gerson 205-424-2984  
(e-mail: [staloysiusre@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysiusre@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: [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: [jjim@keyesausmankeyes.com](mailto:jjim@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 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:**

**❖ MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD AND THE EPIPHANY OF CHRIST ❖**

■ In Luke 2:21, "After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and He was called Jesus." This is the eighth day (The Octave Day) after Christmas. The eight days following Christmas are called Octave Days. Today we celebrate the circumcision of Jesus (CCC 527). It was Jewish tradition to circumcise the boys on the eighth day of their birth. Circumcision of Jesus is the sign of His incorporation into Abraham's descendants and into the 'people of covenant.' It shows Jesus's submission to the Law.

Mary is the Mother of Jesus.

Jesus is really the God.

Therefore Mary is the Mother of God.

■ This is the logical conclusion and so this day we celebrate the major feast of Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. In Luke 1:43, it is Elizabeth who professes Mary as "the Mother of my Lord" for the first time ever. And in verse 45 Elizabeth gives the reason for this title as it is because of Mary's faith in God. So it is more apt to say Mary is the Mother of God because of her faith in God.

■ So we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary as the Holy Mother of God, we are also given the possibility to rise up to her position. We receive Holy Communion and believe the Word of God (Bible). Thereby we can be equals to Blessed Mother of God. Do we have her faith? Combined with that, circumcision of Jesus teaches us to be obedient to the Law of God.

■ On this Sunday we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'Epiphany' means manifestation/revelation. Today for us this feast signifies:

- Manifestation of Jesus as Messiah (the expected Christ).
- Jesus as the Son of God.
- Jesus is the Savior of the World.
- It is the revelation of God and revelation of God's love in Jesus.

■ The manifestation of Jesus as the 'Son of God' and the 'Savior of the World' is done in three situations mainly as follows (CCC 528):

- Adoration of Jesus by the wise men (Magi) from the East.
- Baptism of Jesus at the River Jordan.
- And wedding feast at Cana in Galilee.

■ Magi (the three wise men) are the representatives of pagan religions. They adored Jesus as the Son of God and as the Savior of the World. Thus, this revelation is for the entire universe. Jesus is the Savior of the Universe.

■ Do we accept Jesus as our Savior and our God? Do we really believe as the Mother of God and the Magi believed? Even today God manifests His wish and plan for us in manifold ways. It needs your faith and spiritual vision to understand these divine revelations of the time.

■ With the intercession of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior may bless you abundantly and may protect you from all dangers throughout the New Year 2022.

■ God bless. Amen.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**January 1 – 9**

(† = Deceased)

**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

Saturday (4:30 p.m.) . . . . . † Debra Albright  
Saturday (7:00 p.m. Spanish). . . . . Parishioners

Sunday (8:30 a.m.). . . . . Saint Aloysius Parishioners  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.). . . . . Mary Ann Simonetti  
Monday. . . . . No Mass (Father Reju out of town)  
Tuesday. . . . . No Mass (Father Reju out of town)  
Wednesday. . . . . No Mass (Father Reju out of town)  
Thursday. . . . . No Mass (Father Reju out of town)  
Friday (6:30 p.m.). . . Mr. & Mrs. Robbie Miller & Family  
Saturday (4:30 p.m.) . . . . . Tony & Judy Cacioppo  
Sunday (8:30 a.m.). . . . . Mary Adams  
Sunday (11:00 a.m.). . . . . Saint Aloysius Parishioners

**FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK**

- January 2:* The Epiphany of the Lord
- January 3:* The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- January 4:* Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- January 5:* Saint John Neumann, Bishop
- January 6:* Saint André Bessette, Religious
- January 7:* Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

January 9 – The Baptism of the Lord  
Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7  
Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

**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.

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

	Last Week	Online Giving	Year-to- Date
Offertory	\$3,470.40	\$1,208.00	\$438,814.21
Building Fund	\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 58,497.42
Christmas	\$7,566.00	\$ 810.00	

**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.

Mary Adams	Jim & Nancy	Debbie Rupert
Eddie & Penny	Franklin	MaryAnna Schilleci
Allison	Rev. Len Gavin	Stanley Szafransky
JoAnne Antonio	Ronnie George	Steve Tate
Myra Antonio	John V. Jones, Jr.	Powell Thompson
Ann Baker	Meredith Jones	Irene Tutten
George Bratton	Ginger Russo	Rose Wilson
Kathy Evans	Mosley	Marilyn West

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

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

**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).

*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.*

**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.

**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.

**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:

**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.



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

**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!!**

Thank you for participating in our “Home for the Holidays” cleaning supplies and toiletries drive for the Sisters in Greene County. Your overwhelming support was greatly appreciated and really helped their community in rural Alabama. We look forward to hosting more projects such as these in the future.

*Holy Family Altar Guild*

### **WELCOME**

The Saint Aloysius Parish Community welcomes the following as new members: **Donna Wilson; Urias Gonzalez and Hermelinda Ramirez** and children, **Naomi, Crystal, and Yatziri.**

### **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 annual Envelope Mailing Cost collection. This collection helps to offset our cost of mailing monthly envelopes to parishioners. The suggested donation is \$10.00 per family.

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

*There will be no Classes on January 2, due to the holidays. Classes will resume next Sunday, January 9.* 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.

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

*Due to the first Saturday of January being a holiday, our parish’s monthly Eucharistic Adoration will be moved to January 8 from 4:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.* He gave His whole life for us. Can we give one hour a month for Him? 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 [kathytortorice@gmail.com](mailto:kathytortorice@gmail.com).

### **COFFEE AND DONUTS**

Coffee and Donuts will be served one Sunday a month after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Narthex. This month it will be next Sunday, January 9. Come join us!

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

Our parish’s monthly V.I.P. Mass will not be celebrated in January. It will resume in February.

### **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***

**ALTAR GUILD MEETING**

The **Mother of Christ Altar Guild** will meet on Monday, January 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Hostesses are Shirley Artale, Kimberly Hunter, and Sunny Richards.

**SAINT ALOYSIUS MEN'S SOCIETY**

The **Saint Aloysius Men's Society** will meet on Monday, January 10 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).

**ADULT EDUCATION CLASS**

*Adult Education Class will resume on Tuesday, January 11.* This class is for anyone who wants to more fully understand the Catholic Church and its teachings. For more information, please contact Father Reju in the Church Office.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSIONS**

*There will be no Exposition this week, due to Father Reju being out of town.* Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on Tuesdays 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.

**NO FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED**

Please do not bring food or drinks of any kind into the sanctuary. Dropped crackers, chips, cereal, chewing gum, and stains on the carpet from drinks have occurred. And make sure to not leave your face mask in the pews. Do your best to respect God's House by keeping it clean. Everyone thanks you!!

**PRAYER VIGIL AND WITNESS FOR LIFE**

Could you not watch with Me for one hour? CEC for Life, United for Life, and Birmingham March for Life are once again hosting the Prayer Vigil and Witness for Life on Saturday, January 15 at 10:45 a.m. at Planned Parenthood (1019 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North in Birmingham). The March will take place rain, snow, or shine. Bring your family and friends! For more information, please visit [www.birminghammarchforlife.com](http://www.birminghammarchforlife.com) or call 205-447-8796.

**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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

January 2. . . . .Trey Alley

January 4. . . Curtis Stoves, Sheila Zito, Juanita Martinez

January 5. . . . . Shelley Ryan

January 6. . . . . Ronny Vann, Nina Jones, Caleb Colburn

January 8. . . . . Kathy Tortorice



The Epiphany of the Lord