



Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984

Fax: 205-426-5753

E-Mail: staloyusius@bellsouth.net

Website: 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.)

February 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ADMINISTRATOR

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

Cell: 205-829-5933

(e-mail: rjupynadath@gmail.com)

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mrs. Stephanie Gerson 205-424-2984

(e-mail: staloyusiusre@bellsouth.net)

HISPANIC DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Mrs. Patricia Rector 205-568-5747

(e-mail: wprec4639@icloud.com)

DIRECTOR of MUSIC

Position to Be Filled

CHURCH SECRETARY

Mrs. Judy Cacioppo 205-424-2984

(e-mail: staloyusius@bellsouth.net)

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Randy Clowdus 205-540-1394

(e-mail: rclowdus@bham.rr.com)

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Jim Keyes 205-910-8178

(e-mail: 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 No Mass

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 6:39-45

❖ REQUIREMENTS OF DISCIPLESHIP ❖

■ A Christian is the one who follows Christ. Thus, every Christian is a disciple of Christ. In today’s Gospel, Jesus the Master is making it clear as to what all should be the qualifications of His disciples.

■ In the first part, Jesus is speaking about the ‘sight’ His disciples ought to have. First and foremost, they should be well aware of his/her own sinfulness. When you point one finger to the other, the other three fingers are automatically and naturally pointed to yourself. So in order to correct the other, you may have to correct yourself.

■ There is an illness called Jaundice. If you have Jaundice, your skin and even eyesight will become yellow in color. Whatever you look at, it will appear to be yellow. So it is not that the object is yellow, but your eyes are infected with Jaundice. The same way if you have a plank in your eye, you cannot but see splinters everywhere!

■ The parables of ‘blind man leading the blind,’ ‘wooden beam in your eyes,’ and ‘tree is known by its fruit,’ all these point to one important fact of ‘SINCERITY.’ The root of the English word ‘sincerity’ is the Latin word ‘sincera.’ In ancient Italy when sculptors brought their statues for sale, it was thoroughly inspected and given the certification “SINCERA.” It means that the statue is uninjured; it is whole; no cracks on it, etc. Wax was used to repair cracks. So SINCERA certification guarantees a statue is without cracks and without wax.

■ In today’s Gospel, Jesus also teaches us you should be SINCERE. Your personality should be without cracks and without masks or wax!

■ If you are not able to look to others and find some goodness in them to be appreciated, to be praised, then it is a clear sign that you need to look in to see what is hampering you.

■ The point that Jesus is making is not that ‘you should not correct others.’ But rather, first be sincere, correct yourself, and be compassionate towards others. Fr. Tony De Mello used to say, “When I change, my whole world changes” and “Attitude is everything” (my attitude).

■ Jesus speaks of two of our physical activities: sight and speech. Both come from inside. It throws light on your inner/real personality. So learn from the Master—Jesus Christ—and produce the fruits of goodness. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

February 26 – March 6

(† = Deceased)

Saturday (4:30 p.m.) † Sherman & Martha Venz
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) Saint Aloysius Parishioners
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) † Patrick Joseph Kinney, Sr.
Monday No Mass
Tuesday (5:30 p.m.) † Marian Campbell

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday (8:30 a.m.) † Philip Antonio
Wednesday (6:30 p.m.) Debra Mead Ray
Wednesday (8:00 p.m. Spanish) Parishioners
Thursday † Joe Osment
Friday † Hortensia Alfonso
Saturday (4:30 p.m.) Rose Wilson
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) † Vera Jo Mundi
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) Saint Aloysius Parishioners

FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK

March 3: Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin
March 4: Saint Casimir

✠ CHANGE IN MASS TIMES ✠

Update: During Lent, we will have Mass on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. with “The Wild Goose” video series following.

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 (English), 1:00 p.m. (Spanish), and Live Way of the Cross at 2:30 p.m. (Spanish).

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.

CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME

Congratulations and welcome to **Arnold John Scherzer**, son of Jacob and Claire (Kinney) Scherzer, who was baptized on February 19.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

March 6 – 1st Sunday of Lent

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

	Last Week	Online Giving	Year-to- Date
Offertory	\$4,936.30	\$2,751.00	\$60,261.56
Building Fund	\$ 105.00	\$ 285.00	\$ 5,379.50

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.

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. 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

Adeline Costabile

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

Nursing & Retirement Homes, & Assisted Living

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

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.

SECOND COLLECTION—NEXT WEEKEND

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

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, March 5 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 kathytortorice@gmail.com.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The **Parish Pastoral Council** will meet on Monday, March 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.

"THE WILD GOOSE" IS COMING

Beginning on Tuesday, February 22 at 6:00 p.m. following our 5:30 p.m. Mass, the first segment of "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. If you would prefer to see this series in your own home, an online presentation will be shown beginning Monday, February 28 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please email mhbear1@gmail.com.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

Our Tuesday night Adult Education Class will resume in May due to our hosting "The Wild Goose" video series on Tuesdays following our 5:30 p.m. Mass.

V.I.P. MASS

Saint Aloysius Parish celebrates a Mass for special people (V.I.P.) on the second Saturday of each month (March 12) at Noon. This Liturgy is for those who are uncomfortable attending a weekend Mass due to COVID-19 concerns. Face masks must be worn, social distancing will be observed, and hand sanitizer will be available. Feel free to invite others who do not attend our parish. If you need a ride, please call the Church Office.

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

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.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSIONS

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on 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.

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!!

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.

CHORAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

A Lenten choral journey of the Stations of the Cross featuring the diocesan choir will be presented on Friday, March 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul (2120 3rd Avenue North in Birmingham). All are welcome.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Does gardening and spring planting give you or your spouse a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you lovingly planted the seeds of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will give you the "gardening tools" you need to help your marriage grow and blossom. The next Weekend is scheduled on March 25—27 at Saint Bernard Abbey in Cullman. For more information or to register, please visit www.wwme.org or call Frank and Kathryn Wessling at 205-530-3607.

MORNING OF REFLECTION WITH BISHOP BAKER

It is a privilege to pray for our priests! Seven Sisters Apostolate and Bishop Emeritus Robert Baker will host a Morning of Reflection on Saturday, March 26 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul (2120 3rd Avenue North in Birmingham). Seven Sisters Apostolate has a mission to pray for individual priests in small groups of only seven. Each woman chooses a different day of the week and offers one Holy Hour. Thus, the priest receives a Holy Hour every day. It is a blessing for the priest and the intercessor. All Seven Sisters and any women who are interested are welcome to attend and learn more about the value of these hours. For more information, please contact Coby Soeherman at 205-835-1792 or sevensistersbirmingham@gmail.com.

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.

PONTIFICAL SERVERS

The *Pontifical Servers* consists of a group of well-trained young men (8th 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. 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: **Cash Management Specialist, Accountant, Donation Processing Specialist, Program Scheduling Assistant, Application Support Specialist, Printing and Mailing Supervisor, IT Support Technician (tier 1), Non-Linear Editor, Safety and Security Officer, Bilingual Viewer Services Representative, Customer Service Representative, and Groundskeeper.** Job requirements can be viewed at www.ewtn.com. E-mail cover letter, salary requirements, and résumé to humanresources@ewtn.com.

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 8th-11th 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 or 205-612-6111.

THANK YOU

Bobby and Elizabeth Williams thanks everyone for the cards, warm wishes, and prayers in honor of their 70th Wedding Anniversary. “We miss seeing our Saint Aloysius family!”

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 staloyusius@bellsouth.net with the names of people and their branch of service to be placed on or removed from this prayer list.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

- February 27. Roger Hannah, Will Jones, Victoria Flores Merced
- February 28. Amanda McCullough, Ethan Jones, Sendi Mendez
- March 1. Farrah McCullough, Brooklyn Butler, Kristie Graham Love
- March 2. Johanna Findley, Claudia Wickman, Jessica Nunez
- March 3. Ann Squires, Mike Bailey, Ofelia Herrera, Will Galvez
- March 4. Susan Dempsey, Layla Boolos, Stephen Tramell
- March 5. Ian Smart, Adam Doss

HOW MANY DAYS ARE IN LENT?

Lent is a time of preparation for the death of Christ on Good Friday and His Resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is a period of 40 days of repentance, with prayer, fasting and abstinence, and confession.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 46 days before Easter Sunday, but is only 40 days long. How is that? Christ's original disciples, who were Jewish, grew up with the idea that the Sabbath—the day of worship and of rest—was Saturday, the 7th day of the week, since the account of creation in Genesis says that God rested on the 7th day.

Christ rose from the dead, however, on Sunday, the 1st day of the week, and the early Christians, starting with the apostles (those original disciples), saw Christ's Resurrection as a new creation, and so they transferred the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday.

Since all Sundays—and not simply Easter Sunday—were days to celebrate Christ's Resurrection, Christians were forbidden to fast and do other forms of penance on those days. Therefore, when the Church expanded the period of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter from a few days to 40 days (to mirror Christ's fasting in the desert before He began His public ministry), Sundays could not be included in the count.

Thus, in order for Lent to include 40 days on which fasting could occur, it had to be expanded to 6 full weeks (with 6 days of fasting in each week) plus 4 extra days—Ash Wednesday and the Thursday, Friday, and Saturday that follow it. Six times 6 is 36, plus 4 equals 40. And that's how we arrive at the 40 days of Lent!



LENTEN FISH FRIDAYS

March 4 and 11

Serving From 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
In Cafeteria

MENU

Catfish, French Fries, Coleslaw,
Hush Puppies, & Drinks

Take-outs Available

😊 NO CHARGE 😊

Donations Greatly Appreciated

Cooked and Hosted by Saint Aloysius Men's Society



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

February 21, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pope Francis has challenged us to *“Be Shepherds..., in the midst of your people like Jesus the Good Shepherd.”*

The Black and Indian Mission Collection has for the last 137 years, changed the landscape of evangelization and education efforts for Native Americans, Alaskan Americans and African Americans throughout the United States. Our financial support of the Collection is the mechanism that affects the Church’s evangelization efforts.

Historically, evangelization efforts by Churches and schools among African Americans, Native Americans, Eskimo and Aleut communities, are funded by the Collection’s grant awards, which are instrumental in the building of their Christian communities and sharing the joy of knowing Christ. Your support has helped educate African American and Native American seminarians for priestly service to our Catholic communities.

In our diocese, this fund provides monetary support to seven parishes, five schools, and four diocesan ministries each year from the national mission collection.

Education is fundamental in changing the mores and morals of a society. Your monetary assistance provides opportunities for a solid Catholic education in our Indian and Black Catholic mission schools, allows the purchase of catechetical materials and bibles, and provides for the formation of lay leadership, to name just a few ways the collection supports evangelization.

On March 5 & 6 all will be asked to participate in the Black and Indian Mission Collection. Together we build up the Church and announce the Good News of Jesus Christ. I ask everyone in our diocese to make a sacrificial gift to the 2022 Black and Indian Mission Collection. Your generosity to this collection reflects the depths of your faith and your willingness to help our brothers and sisters in need; it is an opportunity to evangelize and further the missionary cause of bringing the Gospel to our African American and Native American family.

I am extremely grateful for your generous charity and your continued support of this mission of faith and hope.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Steven J. Raica
Bishop of Birmingham in Alabama

Dear Fathers and Colleagues – Please share this information with your parishioners the weekend of February 26 & 27. The collection will take place the following weekend, March 5 & 6.