



## **Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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

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

Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 9:00 am – Noon

Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm (closed for lunch, Noon – 12:30 pm)

**JANUARY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

### **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

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

#### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Mrs. Patricia Rector 205-568-5747  
(e-mail: [staloyusre@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyusre@bellsouth.net))

#### **CHURCH OFFICE**

(e-mail: [staloyus@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloyus@bellsouth.net)) 205-424-2984

#### **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  
Father celebrates his mass privately for your intention.  
Tuesday 5:30 p.m.  
Wednesday through Friday 8:30 a.m.

#### **SACRAMENT of BAPTISM**

Please contact Patricia Rector in the Church Office for Baptismal Preparation (English & Spanish).

#### **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 Reju is ready to help with funerals.

#### **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

Deadline for new items

Tuesday 3:00 p.m.

office (205)424-2984 or email at [staloysius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysius@bellsouth.net).

**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, Chairperson  
 Vickie Gavin, Vice Chairperson  
 Michael Tomberlin, Secretary  
 Gabriel Lopez  
 Phillip Galloway  
 Eddie Blanco  
 Kelly Whitson  
 Yolanda Ruiz

**PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Gloria McDaniel, Chairperson  
 Mike Snelling, Vice Chairperson  
 Ray Mernaugh, Secretary

**ONLINE GIVING LINK**

You can make your contribution at [www.osvhub.com](http://www.osvhub.com). Scan from your smart phone for our Online Giving link. This requires you to have an email address available.

You can also give via Text Message to (205)708-0221. Please call the office for assistance.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAITH FORMATION**

RCIA and Faith formation class meets on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. at the church. For questions, please call the

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

<b>OUR SICK</b>	
Mary Micastrro Mabel Sagrario Dot Herald	Charlene Mareno Thomas Hammett

<b>HOMEBOUND SICK AND SHUT-IN</b>	
Jim & Nancy Franklin Robert Wilson Sue Nielsen Robert Vincent John V. Jones Jr. Meredith Jones Marilyn West	Ginger Russo Mosley Ramona Pitesa Charlene Mareno Stanley Szafransky Caroline Tamburello Steve Tate Powell Thompson

*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: [staloysius@bellsouth.com](mailto:staloysius@bellsouth.com).*

<b>NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS</b>	
<u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u> Rudy Cooper Jean Sullivan	<u>Plantation Manor</u> Claudia Charme

**MILITARY PRAYER LIST**

Pray for our military who are deployed throughout the world to fight for the freedom and security of our country, including:

<b><u>Air Force</u></b>	<b><u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u></b>
Blake Seidel Daniel K. Hicks Shea Hicks James McKinney Lance Rosser Gabriel Petix Michael Tortorice	Daniel Thomas Dulce Rivera
	<b><u>ARMY</u></b>
	Joseph R. Chiarella Zach Edmonds Jose Emmanuel Garcia

*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 the*

*military personnel and their branch of service to be placed on or removed from this prayer list.*

Monday (Private mass)	Jan 9	† Mary Lia Kilgore
Monday (Private mass)	Jan 9	† Davene Lovoy
Tuesday 5:30 pm	Jan 10	Rose Wilson
Tuesday 5:30 pm	Jan 10	Sandra Dempsey
Wednesday 8:30 am	Jan 11	† Ronnie George
Wednesday 8:30 am	Jan 11	† Ronnie George
Thursday 8:30 am	Jan 12	Carl Addison
Thursday 8:30 am	Jan 12	Carly Smart
Friday 8:30 am	Jan 13	† All Souls in Purgatory
Friday 8:30 am	Jan 13	Priscilla Winstead
Saturday 4:30 pm	Jan 14	† Sandra LaRussa
Sunday 8:30 am	Jan 15	† Kathy Evans
Sunday 11:00 am	Jan 15	Len Gavin
Sunday 1:00 pm	Jan 15	† Candelaria Perez JoAnne Lape

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**January 9<sup>th</sup> – January 15<sup>th</sup>**

(† = Deceased)

**NOTE FROM THE OFFICE: MASS INTENTIONS**

Mass intentions are received weekly during office hours by phone, email or by completing an office form and dropping your offer in the Narthex drop box.

**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 children's offertory envelope 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.

**SAINT ALOYSIUS CHOIR PRACTICES**

Choir practice is every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m. at the church. The choir also meets at 10:00 a.m. on

Sundays in the Day Chapel. If you are not able to join the choir, please sing joyfully from your seat in the pew.

**MOTHER OF CHRIST ALTAR GUILD MEETING**

The Mother of Christ Altar Guild meeting date has changed. The next meeting will be on Monday January 16, at 6:00p.m. in the church. Note the date change from January 9.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

*We celebrate those who are present, and we remember in prayer those who have gone ahead †.*

- January 9 . . . . . Judy Cacioppo, Brooke Patterson, Janie Martinez, Marisol Arellano
- January 10 . . . . . Jason McDonald, Susan Agan, Chris Franklin, Kim McCoy
- January 11 . . . . . Allen Antonio, Zac Whitson, Diane Thomas
- January 12 . . . . . Devin Thompson, Megan Epperson
- January 13 . . . . . Charles Torrorice, Deb Bailey, Amanda Catherine McCullough
- January 14 . . . . . Devon-Grace Boyd, Greg Herring, Michael Woods

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

- January 12 . . . . . Anthony and Debbie Rupert
- January 13 . . . . . Adan and Xochitl Vences

**FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK**

- January 8<sup>th</sup> – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD OF GOD
- January 9<sup>th</sup> – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD OF GOD

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held 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.

**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 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).

**SAINT ALOYSIUS ROSARY GROUP**

A group of parishioners (men and women) meet on Thursdays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Day Chapel to pray the Rosary. Anyone who wants to pray the Rosary is invited.

### **JANUARY 8. MT 2:1-12**

#### **BE PREPARED TO TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE.**

Traditionally It is believed that the Magi took 12 days to reach the Manger in Bethlehem after Christmas. Thus, we have the epiphany on January the 6th. But in the United States and some other countries it is celebrated on the Sunday after 1st January so that more people can participate.

Epiphany comes from the Greek word meaning 'to reveal', and thus we have Jesus 'revealed to the world' as Christ or the Savior of the world. Epiphany means the 'appearance' or 'manifestation' of Christ to the Nations. The three Wise Men adorned Jesus were gentiles. Therefore, Epiphany means revelation of Christ to the world.

CCC 528: Epiphany is the manifestation of Jesus as the Messiah/ Christ and as the Savior of the world. This great feast celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the Magi, Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan, and the wedding feast at Cana.

Traditions identify the three wise men from the East as Balthasar from Arabia, Melchior from Persia and Caspar from India. It also teaches us what gifts each of them brought, such as Balthazar Myrrh, Melchior gold and Caspar frankincense.

We have Old Testament prophecies regarding epiphany. Isaiah 60: 6 "A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord". Psalm 72: 10-11 "May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render Him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Sheba bring gifts! May all Kings fall before him, all Nations serve him!"

Pope Francis in his message says "it is not enough to know where Jesus was born, as the scribes did, if we do not go there. It is not enough to know that Jesus was born, like Herod, if we do not encounter Him. The Magi do not remain glued to their plans but are prepared to take other routes. They go to the Lord not to receive, but to give. Let us ask ourselves this question: at Christmas did we bring gifts to Jesus?!"

The Magi were guided by Nature to the Manger. Romans 1:20 "Ever since the creation of the world his eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been understood and seen through the things he has made". What is our response to the created world and created beauty? Do they guide us to the Creator God or to some fantasies?

The Magi were never stuck to their own plans but always left the space for divine guidance. And so, they were ready to take a different route. When willed by God are we ready to take different routes/ different courses of action?

Let us open our eyes to the revelations of Creator God in and around us. Allow Nature to take us to its Creator. Be always ready to follow the plan of God, to change your plans.

God may Guide us all in His own ways.

Amen.

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

*January 15 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*1st Reading Isaiah 49:3, 5-6*

*Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10*

*2nd Reading Corinthians 1:1-3*

*Gospel John 1:29-34*

### **EWTN IS HIRING FOR MANY POSITIONS IN IRONDALE**

Combine your faith and career at EWTN! We have the various positions available.

For more information on job requirements, go to <https://www.ewtn.com/employment>. Please email cover letter, salary requirements and resume to [humanresources@ewtn.com](mailto:humanresources@ewtn.com)

### **ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MASS**

Annual Respect Life Mass and Witness for Life Bishop Raica will celebrate the annual Respect Life Mass at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Saturday, January 14 beginning at 9 a.m. A prayer vigil and a witness for life will take place following the Mass at 10:45 a.m. at the Birmingham Planned Parenthood location, 1019 1st Avenue, North.

For more information, please visit: [birminghammarchforlife.com](http://birminghammarchforlife.com) or call 205-447-8796.

### **NO FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED**

Please do not bring any kind of food or drinks into the Sanctuary. Dropped candy, chewing gum, crackers, cereal, and stains on the carpet have occurred. Do your best to respect God's House and the work of others who clean it and please keep it that way. Everyone thanks you!

### **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

Invites all married couples to Renew the Romance, revitalize your Marriage, communicate more Openly, Find Deeper Intimacy, Focus on Your Spouse and Share the Joy with the One You Love by attending the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a 44 hour getaway for married couples where they can focus on each other. If you would like to recall the shared hopes and dreams you had during your initial romance phase in your relationship, you'll appreciate your time together on the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend in the diocese of Birmingham is scheduled on

March 10-12, 2023, at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman.  
You can get more information or register online at [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or by calling Frank and Kathryn Wessling at 205-530-3607.

