



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 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

ADMINISTRATOR

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

Cell: 205-829-5933

(e-mail: rijupynadath@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 6:27-38

❖ THE GOLDEN RULE ❖

■ Luke 6:31 reads, “Do to others as you would have them do to you.” This is known as The Golden Rule. This is a general principle, but it’s all inclusive. All the laws and regulations could very well be summarized within a single Golden Rule principle.

■ In verse 36, “be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” We can understand two main truths of life here. In general we think ‘mercy’ is a gratuitous gift of God, something granted by God. But I came across a different meaning of mercy as “mercy is defined as NOT granting what one deserves!” In Romans 3:10, “There is no one just, not one.” And 3:23, “all have sinned.” So all humans, without exception, are sinners. In Romans 6:23, “the wages of sin is death.” So what we deserve from God is death, wage of sin. But God NOT leaving us to eternal death/hell is called His Mercy. God instead grants us eternal life (Romans 6:23). When we beg for God’s mercy, we are actually begging God NOT to punish us.

■ In Luke 6:36, “Be merciful just as your Father is merciful.” Whereas Matthew tells the same passage in Matthew 5:48, “Be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Thus we can rightly conclude that the perfection of God consists in His Mercy (not punishing the sinner, not granting the sinner what he deserves, i.e., Death).

■ Jesus is inviting us to perfection. It also means that nobody is perfect yet! Yes, it is a great revelation. Just think of our relationships. We are ready to love the perfect ones. But, in fact, if your partner is perfect, then anybody/everybody will love him/her. You are not a must. You have to be merciful as your Father is. You have to forgive others unconditionally. You should not let the other (may he/she be at fault) be punished. The quality of your mercy depends upon your ability to forgive and accept the other as is.

■ The purpose of ‘mercy’ is to lead the sinner to repentance. God is not punishing you, thereby you may be repentant and change your ways. All the virtues Jesus wants us to practice are aimed at the conversion/repentance of the offender. In other words, we baptized Christians are committed to be merciful; committed to lead others to repentance. Our forgiving mentality can win souls for the Lord. May our merciful God bless you. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

February 19 – 27

(† = Deceased)

Saturday (4:30 p.m.) Saint Aloysius Parishioners
Sunday (8:30 a.m.) Chris Holliday
Sunday (11:00 a.m.) † Martin LaRussa
Monday No Mass
Tuesday (5:30 p.m.) † Vincent Petix
Wednesday † Mrs. Joe Corsentino
Thursday † Maxine Cornelius
Friday † Billy Monte
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.

FEAST DAYS FOR THIS WEEK

February 21: Saint Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

February 22: The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

February 23: Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

CHANGE IN MASS TIMES

During Lent, we will have Mass on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. and on Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m. (instead of 5:30 p.m.).

ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is March 2. The celebration of the Eucharist, with the distribution of ashes, will be held at Saint Aloysius Parish at 8:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. (Spanish).

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).

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEETING

All members of the Knights of Columbus Council #2631 are invited to attend an important meeting this Sunday, February 20 at 3:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria. For more information, please call Joey Ceravolo, Grand Knight, at 205-966-1842.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

February 27 – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 27:4-7

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Luke 6:39-45

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

Adeline Costabile

(Shelby Baptist)

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 | \$5,745.25 | \$3,199.00 | \$52,574.26 |
| Building Fund | \$ 425.00 | \$ 125.00 | \$ 4,989.50 |
| Sch. of Religion | \$ 570.00 | \$ 150.00 | |

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.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 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 |
|---|---|

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.

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. 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.

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.



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

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

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

The **Mother of Christ Altar Guild** will meet on Monday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. Hostesses are Mary Adams, Frances George, Micha McMeans, and Renea Mareno.

SAINT ALOYSIUS MEN'S SOCIETY

The **Saint Aloysius Men's Society** will meet on Monday, February 21 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).

"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.

CALENDAR DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting information in the March calendar is Tuesday, February 22.

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 kahytortorice@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.

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

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!!

DOCUMENTARY ON FATHER JAMES E. COYLE

Faith in the place of fear, perseverance amidst persecution, the courage to combat the rhetoric of the Ku Klux Klan, all describe the character of a Birmingham, Alabama Catholic priest who faced his martyrdom on August 11, 1921, *Father James E. Coyle: Life and Legacy* airs on Thursday, February 24 at 8:30 p.m. on Alabama Public Television. His legacy of courage and compassion from his birthplace in Ireland, to his time as a priest and instructor in Mobile, and his faithful call to serve as Rector of the Cathedral of Saint Paul in Birmingham where he willingly laid down his life, are brought to light in this new documentary. What happened in Birmingham 100 years ago should not be forgotten. Learn more at www.fathercoyle.org.

MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE

On Friday, February 25 a young adult (ages 18-25) Mardi Gras Masquerade dance will be held in the Great Hall at the Cathedral of Saint Paul (2120 3rd Avenue North in Birmingham) from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Music will be provided by The Chekmates. For those interested, a dance class will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please bring an appetizer to share. Attire is semi-formal to formal. For more information, please contact Mary Beth Yaeger at marybethcm@stephenthemartyr.com.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Celebrate this year's Valentine with a gift for the person who loves you, your spouse. Make time for one another by focusing your attention on each other during the next Marriage Encounter Weekend. Step forward during this month of love to a renewed commitment to your spouse. 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.

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.

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 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:

- February 23. Steve and Carol Tate (Happy 59th!!)
- February 24. Robert and Glenda Geisen
- February 25. Eddie and Penny Allison

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

- February 20. Frank Zito, Jocelyn Zamora, Breisy Sherlyn Garcia Araujo, Jared Stoves
- February 21. Rev. Len Gavin, Jay Curry
- February 22. Marin Radice, Judah Metcalf, David Dempsey, Tami Hill
- February 23. Raul Rivera, Elizabeth Rivera, Sammy Mundi, Mia Thomas
- February 24. Sharon Weathers, Bambi Alley, Nancy Perez, Glenda Mernaugh
- February 25. Mike Snelling, Xochitl Lomeli, Pablo Medina

