



Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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

E-Mail: info@staloyuscc.org

Website: www.staloyuscc.org

Office Hours: Monday and Friday, 10:00 am – Noon

Tuesday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (closed for lunch, Noon – 12:30 pm)

Sunday, October 19th, 2025

Twenty- Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Reju Pynadath Johny

e-mail: rijupynadath@gmail.com

Office: 205 424 2984

Cell: 205 829 5933

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Ginna Lopez

e-mail: st.aloyus24@outlook.com

205 424 2984

CHURCH OFFICE

e-mail: info@staloyuscc.org

205 424 2984

HISPANIC COORDINATORS

Gabriel Lopez

Gabriel Arellano

205 434 7169

205 765 2936

WEEKEND EUCHARIST

Saturday

Sunday (English)

Sunday (Spanish)

4:30 p.m.

9:30 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST

Monday (Father celebrates the mass privately for your intention)

Tuesday through Friday

12:00 p.m. Noon

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Deadline for new items

Tuesday 3:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM

For more info contact the Church Office for Baptismal Preparation English & Hispanic Coordinator for Spanish Baptism.

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

OUR SICK
Kathleen Jones Sheila Zito Carl McDaniel Larry Jones Sam Morris

<i>HOMEBOUND SICK AND SHUT-IN</i>	
Nancy Franklin Robert Wilson Sue Nielsen Robert Vincent	John V. Jones Jr. Meredith Jones Dot Herald Johana Findley

NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS
<u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u> Rudy Cooper Jean Sullivan

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: info@staloyuscc.org

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

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

<u>AIR FORCE</u>	<u>ARMY</u>
Daniel K. Hicks Shea Hicks James McKinney Lance Rosser Gabriel Petix	Blake Seidel Brandan Engel Luke Thomas Joseph R. Chiarella
	<u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u>
	Daniel Thomas

Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to info@staloyuscc.org with the names of the military personnel and their branch of service to be placed on or removed from this prayer list.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

OCTOBER 21 - OCTOBER 26 († = Deceased)			
Tuesday 12 Noon	October 21	*NO MASS*	
Wednesday 12 Noon	October 22	*NO MASS*	
Thursday 12 Noon	October 23	*NO MASS*	
Friday 12 Noon	October 24	*NO MASS*	
Saturday 4:30pm	October 25	† Rita Minor (S) Gloria McDaniel	
Sunday 9:30am	October 26	† Bernard LaRussa (BD) Joy Pinto	

NO WEEKDAYS MASS

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE: MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions are received weekly during office hours by phone, mail or in the office. You can also register on **Online Giving App** or website and request Mass Intention, under Mass Stipends.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held on Tuesdays through Fridays at 11:30 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.

SAINT ALOYSIUS ROSARY GROUP

A group of parishioners (men and women) will now meet on **WEDNESDAY at 11:30 AM during adoration** to pray the Rosary. Everyone who wants to pray the Rosary is welcome.

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 **6:30 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.

ALOYSIUS CHOIR PRACTICES

The Choir started back to practice on **Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm** at the church. Anyone interested in joining the choir can contact Paula Clowdus (205) 382 0845, or any choir member.

Make a Joyful Noise

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, President
Vickie Gavin, Vice Chairperson
Michael Tomberlin, Secretary
Charles Tortorice
Phillip Galloway
Kellie Whitson
Eddie Blanco
Oliver Lopez
Ginna Lopez

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

MINISTRIES CONTACT PERSON

Mother of Christ Altar Guild
Angie Cacioppo (205) 281 1901

Holy Family Altar Guild
Kellie Whitson (205) 296 3390

Knights of Columbus
Anthony Rupert (205) 428 6600

Men's Society
Charles Ellis (205) 365 5896
Jim Galloway (205) 516 1645

Music Ministry
Paula Clowdus (205) 382 0845

October 19, 2025

World Mission Sunday: October 19, 2025

Today is World Mission Sunday!

Today, every parish across the globe joins together for the only worldwide collection mandated by Canon Law—World Mission Sunday. Your generosity today supports the Pope's missions in more than 1,124 territories where the Church is young or struggling.

This year's theme "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples" is a call to embody the love of God, poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (cf. Rom 5:5). Your offering today provides hope where despair too often dominates—through the building of churches, formation of seminarians and religious sisters, healthcare clinics, and Catholic schools.

Thank you for responding with faith, love, and generosity. As Pope Francis told us, "Each of us is a mission on this earth" (Evangelii Gaudium, 273). Together, we share in that mission by ensuring that no one is excluded from the invitation to encounter Christ.

NO WEEKDAY MASS

FATHER REJU'S VACATION

Father Reju will be on vacation for the rest of October. *Remember, while Father Reju is away from the office, there will be **NO WEEKDAY MASSES**.

Saturday and Sunday Masses will be celebrated as usual.

CLEANING DAY

It's that time of the year to spruce the Church for the holidays. Please come Saturday, November 8th, at 8:00AM to polish the pews and wooden furniture and vacuum the pews. Polish, cloths and water provided. Vacuum cleaners with upholstery attachments needed. For more information, please contact Paula Clowdus at (205)382 0845. Thank you.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Parish Stewardship 2025				
Sunday, Oct. 12				
Fund	Online Giving	Sunday Collection	Total By Fund	YTD
General Fund	1,399.00	4,891.50	6,290.50	259,292.03
Building Fund	460.00	155.00	615.00	74,439.76
Parish School of Religion	170.00	964.60	1,134.60	15,454.51
Total	2,029.00	6,011.10	8,040.10	349,186.30
Total given this week: \$8,040.10				

Sunday, October 19th, 2025

From the Gospel according to LUKE 18:1-8.

Let others interfere with your personal freedom!

In today's Gospel Jesus is teaching us the need to pray always and to be persistent in our prayers. To make his point clear Jesus says a parable of unjust judge and a widow demanding justice. This widow was persistent in bothering the unjust judge. In verse 5, this unjust judge gives the reason for granting justice to the widow as to 'keep her away.' She had been interfering with his freedom. In other words, he granted justice with selfishness. His concern was not the widow's due but his own comfort.

We are all free to do or not to do different things in our lives. Every individual has freedom of choice. The unjust judge in the parable also had freedom of choice. But the widow interfered with his freedom of choice and as a result he did something good! Therefore, when someone interferes with our freedom, we need not feel upset. That interference may help us to take a turn for the good.

According to St. Alphonsus de Liguori there are two important dispositions to pray continuously. 1) Be Confident: be confident that no prayer will ever go unanswered. The prayers of the widow were answered for sure. 2) Familiarity with God. We should be able to speak to God like a friend. We could be open to God as a true friend, we may complain to him, we may thank him, we may ask sorry for our failures and sins.

God is my best friend.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta, India experienced profound doubt about the existence of God, though she continued to live and serve according to her faith. Her private letters, revealed after her death, show how she felt spiritual emptiness, what she calls as the "Dark night of the soul." There she speaks of "silence and the emptiness," feeling "no faith," and questioned if her public devotion was just a mask! Despite her inner turmoil, she never stopped her work with the poor or her prayer life. Her perseverance through these doubts is seen as a testament to her deeper faith. These struggles were part of her spiritual journey, a process of purification that could be a part of the path to holiness for many saints.

We all should persevere in our prayer life. Even if we may feel lack of faith or no faith, kind of emptiness, even if we doubt the reality of God Himself, we should force ourselves to Prayer. That persistence would be highly rewarded by the Lord.

Merciful God may answer our prayers, Amen.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

October 20 . . . Isabella Hinton

October 21 . . . Emma Ratcliffe

October 22 . . . Nick Whitson, Zac Bush, Cathy Wittman

October 23 . . . McKenzie Thompson, Sarah Brasfield

October 24 . . . Chris Rogers



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

*Congratulations
on your Wedding Anniversary*

October 20 * **Bobby & Ana Maria Yeager**

WORDS OF SYMPATHY

The parish community expresses its deepest condolences to the family of **Vickie Likis**, one of our church members who passed away last Sunday, September 28th. The Memorial Mass will be on Saturday, November 8th at 2:00pm, visitation 1:30pm.

Please keep this family in your prayers.

THANK YOU

The family of **James Robert Geisen Jr.**, would like to express our deep appreciation for the mass cards, thoughts, and prayers over the past month and during this time of grief. We appreciate all of you who attended the service. Robert is home in heaven now with no pain or suffering. *Glenda Geisen.*

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is an enrichment for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. It is also for priests and religious who want to strengthen their relationships with their church communities.



**WorldWide
Marriage
Encounter**

**Married Couples and Priests
"Live Your Best Life in Love"**

Enrich and Renew your Sacramental relationship by attending a Marriage Encounter Experience, a retreat where you will learn the tools to restore communication, renew your commitment, and rekindle the Joy of your Sacrament!

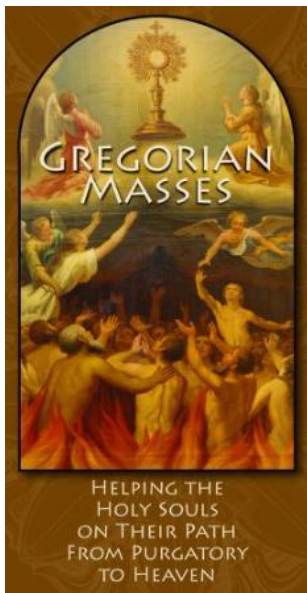
It is the perfect gift for your spouse on this Thanksgiving

Join us NOVEMBER 14-16, 2025
at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, Alabama

For more info: wwme.org
or Call: Frank & Kathryn 205-530-3607

<https://wwme.org/>

GREGORIAN MASS FOR THE DECEASED



Gregorian Masses are a series of 30 Holy Masses traditionally offered on 30 consecutive days, for one individual soul. The custom of offering Gregorian Masses for a particular individual soul recognizes that few people are immediately ready for heaven after death, and that, through the infinite intercessory power of Christ's sacrifice, made present in the Holy Mass, a soul can be continually perfected in grace and enabled to enter finally, into the union with the most Holy Trinity our God, in heaven.

Gregorian Masses take their name from St. Gregory the Great who was the Pope from 590 to 604. Pope Gregory himself recorded an event in his Fourth Book Of Dialogues as follows. A monk in the monastery of Saint Andrew in Rome, named Justus, confessed on his deathbed to hiding three gold coins. This was violation of vow of poverty. As a severe lesson, pope Gregory forbade the other monks from visiting Justus's deathbed and ordered him to be buried in the monastery's garbage dump along with the money. However, pope Gregory later took pity on the monk's soul and ordered that Masses be offered for him for 30 consecutive days. At the end of the 30th Mass, the deceased appeared to one of his fellow monks and announced that he had been delivered from the flames of purgatory. From this incident the tradition of Gregorian Mass was begun.

If anyone would like to request for a Gregorian Mass,
you can contact Fr Reju personally.



WHY DO WE OFFER MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD?

The ancient Jewish people believed in the efficacy of prayers and sacrifices offered for the deceased. 2 Maccabees 12:46 "It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." 12:43 "He (Judas, the Army Captain) send twelve thousand drachms of silver to Jerusalem for sacrifice to be offered for the sins of the dead."

Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that when we offer a Mass Intention for the deceased we are not merely "remembering" them - we are uniting their souls to the supreme sacrifice of Christ on the cross. CCC 1367 "The sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist (Holy Mass) are one single sacrifice." We all could be enjoying the goodness of the hard work of our ancestors. By offering Mass Intentions, we continue to exercise charity toward our departed brothers, sisters and ancestors aiding their purification and hastening their entrance into heaven.

No prayer or act of devotion equals the value of the Holy Mass. When we offer a Mass Intention for someone who has died, we are giving them the most perfect gift possible - the presence and merits of Christ Himself. Saint Jerome said: "The souls of the departed are relieved by the prayers of the Holy Church and by the sacrifice of the Holy Mass." Saint Monica, before her death, told her son Saint Augustine: "Lay this body anywhere, only this I beg of you, that you remember me at the Altar of the Lord." Thus, we see that, offering the Mass Intentions for the deceased had been a practice of the very ancient Church. Pope Benedict XVI once said, "When we pray for the dead in the Eucharistic celebration, we ask that they may be purified by the love of God and be admitted to the eternal banquet of heaven."

You are welcome to offer the Mass Intentions for the deceased in the Office.

You can do it online also. All those names could be kept on the Altar throughout the month of November.

