



# *Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish*

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984 Website: [www.staloyuscc.org](http://www.staloyuscc.org)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 am – Noon (closed for lunch), 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

## Sunday, April 26th, 2026

## *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

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

### **BOOKKEEPER**

Jennifer Richardson (256) 443 4407  
Email: [finance@staloyuscc.org](mailto:finance@staloyuscc.org)

### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Ginna Lopez (205) 424 2984  
e-mail: [st.aloyus24@outlook.com](mailto:st.aloyus24@outlook.com)

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

e-mail: [info@staloyuscc.org](mailto:info@staloyuscc.org) (205) 424 2984

### **HISPANIC COORDINATORS**

Gabriel Lopez (205) 434 7169  
Gabriel Arellano (205) 765 2936

### **WEEKEND EUCHARIST**

Saturday 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday (English) 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday (Spanish) 12:00 p.m.

### **WEEKDAY EUCHARIST**

Monday (Father celebrates the mass privately for your intention)  
Tuesday through Friday 12:00 p.m. Noon

### **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.

### **SUNDAY BULLETIN**

Deadline for new items

Tuesday 3:00 p.m.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

| <b>OUR SICK</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| Carl McDaniel<br>Larry Jones<br>Mary Jones<br>Jim Galloway |  |

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

| <b>NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES<br/>/ ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS</b> |  |
|---|--|
| <u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u><br>Rudy Cooper<br>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](mailto: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:

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

*Call the Church Office at 205-424-2984 or send an e-mail to [info@staloyuscc.org](mailto: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](mailto:fsz321@bellsouth.net).

**MASS INTENTIONS**

| <b>APRIL 28 – MAY 3</b><br>(† = Deceased) |          |                                 |
|---|----------|---------------------------------|
| Tuesday 12 Noon                           | April 28 | † Kathy Whited                  |
| Wednesday 12 Noon                         | April 29 | (S) Charles Tortorice           |
| Thursday 12 Noon                          | April 30 | NO MASS                         |
| Friday 12 Noon                            | May 1    | (BD) Carl McDaniel              |
| Saturday 4:30pm                           | May 2    | † C.B. Snelling<br>† Mary Curry |
| Sunday 9:30am                             | May 3    | Frances Sanders                 |

**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](mailto: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

### **LET US APPRECIATE FR. REJU...**

Fr Reju Pynadath Johny has been our pastor for the past five years. He has done his best to help us grow as one family of God's children, and we now joyfully see and enjoy the good fruits of his dedicated service.

**Fr. Reju will be leaving us on May 9th.** So, he will be serving us for two more weekends before his departure.

Let us be grateful to him and appreciate all the hard work he has done for our community.

If anyone would like to offer him a gift, you may do so personally in his name as "Fr. Reju Pynadath Johny," or you may present it to the church with a note "For Fr. Reju."

***Thank you all for your love and support  
for Fr. Reju. God bless you all!***

**We are pleased to share the updated contact information for Fr. Reju Pynadath in India:**

Pynadath House  
Karoor. P. O. Cell phone: +919 74 560 3863  
Chalaky, Pin: 680697  
Kerala, India e-mail: [rijupynadath@gmail.com](mailto:rijupynadath@gmail.com)

### **WORDS OF SYMPATHY**

The Parish Community extends its prayers and condolences to the family of ***Kathy Whited***, a former parishioner of St. Aloysius, who passed away last Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to send a Mass card or a card of condolence to the family, you may send it to her sister Mary Ann Gross; her address is: 6085 SW 52 Ter., Lake Butler, FL 32054.

*Please keep this family in your prayers.*

Also, our Parish Community extends prayerful sympathy to the family of ***Ruth Nadine Rupert***, of Bessemer, AL, passed on April 13, 2026, at the age of 96. Ruth was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother to her family.

*She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.*

*Please keep Anthony Rupert's family in your prayers.*

Also, our Parish Community extends prayerful sympathy to the family of ***Mary Curry***. We say goodbye to Mary Ruth Curry of Hueytown, Alabama, whose vibrant spirit touched the lives of many. Mary Ruth left this world on April 14, 2026, at the age of 69.

*Please keep Johnny Curry's family in your prayers.*

### **PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

| <b>Parish Stewardship 2026</b>           |                      |                          |                      |                   |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Sunday, April 19</b>                  |                      |                          |                      |                   |
| <b>Fund</b>                              | <b>Online Giving</b> | <b>Sunday Collection</b> | <b>Total By Fund</b> | <b>YTD</b>        |
| General Fund                             | 1,524.00             | 4,110.58                 | 5,634.58             | 114,025.71        |
| Building Fund                            | 735.00               | 105.00                   | 840.00               | 86,859.89         |
| Parish School of Religion                | 60.00                | 885.65                   | 945.65               | 4,336.79          |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>2,319.00</b>      | <b>5,101.23</b>          | <b>7,420.23</b>      | <b>205,022.39</b> |
| Total given this week: <b>\$7,420.23</b> |                      |                          |                      |                   |

**Sunday, April 26th, 2026**

**THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

**Gospel: John 10: 1-10**

If we ask Jesus: "What do you say about yourself?", the answer would be today's Gospel. He is the Good shepherd and the gate. There is something deeply comforting in the image Jesus gives us today - the image of the Good Shepherd. It is not just a beautiful picture meant to inspire us; it is a reality that people of His time understood very well.

During those days in Palestine the shepherds did not keep sheep for a short time. They did not raise them typically just to be sold or slaughtered. Sheep were raised not for meat. Instead, they kept them for their wool, which meant the sheep stayed with the shepherd for years and years. Day after day, season after season, something beautiful happened. The shepherd begins to know each sheep, not as a number but almost like a person, by name!. In turn the sheep began to recognize the shepherd - not just expressions but his voice!

Today the most important question, do we recognize the voice of our shepherd? We hear so many voices. Voices of fear, voices of doubt, voices telling us we are not enough, we are not qualified, we are not good... In the middle of all that noise, the shepherd speaks gently: "You are mine. Do not be afraid. I am with you."

Those days, the shepherd do not drive the sheep from behind. They did not push them forward, instead they walk ahead. They lead. Walking at the very front, they made sure there is no danger on the way. The sheep are safe not because the path is easy, but because the shepherd is in the front.

This is what Jesus is doing even today for us. He has gone ahead of us. Through suffering, through rejection, even through death itself... When He says, "follow me" He is not sending us into the unknown, but inviting us to walk through the path where He has already been.

The sheep becomes panic quickly. But when they hear the voice of their shepherd, they become calm. Their peace does not come from understanding whatever is happening there, it comes from trusting the one who leads them. Today, we need not have all the answers, need not everything be under control..... Peace in life does not come from knowing everything. It comes from knowing and trusting who is leading us. The Good shepherd is not different He's not far away; He is with us...

Let us listen to His voice. He is calling us not loudly, not forcefully..... but gently, personally, by name!!!. It is a voice that does not condemn but reassures; a voice that does not confuse, but guides; a voice that simply says: "Come; follow me; you are safe with me."

*That Good shepherd made take us to good pastures...*

*Amen.*

*Fr Reju Pynadath Johny*

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:**

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026**

***Fifth Sunday of Easter***

**1st Reading:** Acts 6: 1-7

**Psalm:** Psalms 33: 1-2, 4-5, 18-19

**Second:** First Peter 2: 4-9

**Alleluia:** John 14: 6

**Gospel:** John 14: 1-12

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

April 27 . . . Paula Clowdus

April 28 . . . Carmen Serrano

April 29 . . . Tony Russo

April 30 . . . April Almazan, Gloria Jimenez

May 1 . . . Anthony Schreiber

May 3 . . . John Rozas.



**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**



**Congratulations on your  
Wedding Anniversary**



April 30 \***Jason and Jena Shourds**

**BLESSING OF THE NEW PARISH HALL AND  
FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR FATHER REJU**

With gratitude to God and to all those who have supported our parish community, after months of planning, construction, and prayers, we joyfully announce the Blessing of the New Parish Hall on Sunday, May 3, 2026.

Join us immediately following the 9:30 a.m. Mass, for a special blessing of the Parish Hall.

Also, we invite you to join us, immediately following the 12:00 p.m. Mass, for the special blessing of the Parish Hall.

Immediately following each blessing, we will host a ***Farewell Reception for Father Reju***, thanking him for his dedication to our parish and wishing him every blessing in the journey ahead.

*A money tree will be available if you would like to give Father Reju a monetary farewell gift.*

**FIRST SATURDAY OF ADORATION**

**Saturday May 2nd**, from 4:30 AM – 4:30 PM if you would like to commit to an hour for Eucharistic Adoration, please sign up on the schedule board located in the Narthex. For those who would like to come without signing up are welcome.

## *With a Grateful Heart... bye....*

*I came to St Aloysius Catholic Parish on July the 6th, 2021. I was excited and stressful. But the good Lord guided me in His own ways. Today when I look back, with St Paul, I too can profess, 1 Cor15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am."*

*The school was closed in the year 2018. And from then on, we had to spend \$5457/- per month on the closed down school building! That building has been rented out since the 1st day of July 2022. Besides the \$10,000/- rent per month, the school management also contributes towards HVAC & loan and grounds maintenance, utility bills, insurance, etc.*

*In 2018 our average monthly Revenue was \$38,6400/. In 2021, it was \$42,091/. Where as the average monthly Revenue in the past year 2025, was \$48,523/. When I took over (July 2021) in our savings account we were having \$67,557/- only! In the School (Building Fund) account we had \$287,059/. Thus, I started with a total bank balance of \$354,616/.*

*On 2026 April 15th, we have a Total Bank Balance of \$836,600/. We must pay little more money for the parish hall construction. The Hispanic Community contributed all the kitchen equipment and the Indian Community contributed for all the Table & Chairs needed.*

*Yes, my friends we have grown a lot. Thanks to your generous contributions and that of Knights of Columbus. They helped us for replacing the HVAC units in the Church, Church roof maintenance and they helped us to lay new asphalt in the parking lot etc... We could install new PA system with new Speakers in the Church. We installed new projectors and replaced all the bulbs with LED Lightings in the Sanctuary.*

*We have built a beautiful new rectory for the pastor and at last we have a new Parish Hall for the use of the community. I was just an instrument in the hands of God. St Aloysius is One & Single family amazingly united in their faith. This community has gone ahead in understanding, learning and living the true faith. Every year more members were added to this family through the administration of Sacraments of Christian Initiation on Holy Saturday night. The number of children coming for Catechetical Formation every year, marked as steady growth. This year we had 33 Candidates to receive their Sacraments during Easter Vigil. 31 Children received First Holy Communion and 39 received the Sacrament of Confirmation in this year. Our family is growing by the grace of God and thanks be to God for His marvelous deeds.*

*You all welcomed me into your hearts. You accepted me as I am. You took care of me so far and were always by my side.... I don't have words to thank you enough..... One thing i assure you.... I would be remembering all of you in my Holy Masses and prayers.... God may keep you all good in His Sacred Heart.....*

*Fr Reju Pynadath Johny*



# BLESSING OF THE NEW PARISH HALL AND FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR FR. REJU

 *You're Invited! Our parish family  
has something wonderful to celebrate!* 

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*A money tree will be available if you would like to give Father Reju a monetary farewell gift.*

**Everyone is welcome!**

*Let's fill our new hall with the spirit  
of community from day one!*