



Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

Telephone: 205-424-2984 Website: www.staloyuscc.org

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

Sunday, April 12th, 2026 *Second Sunday of Easter* *Sunday Of the Divine Mercy*

ADMINISTRATOR

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

BOOKKEEPER

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

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

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

CHURCH OFFICE

e-mail: 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:

OUR SICK	
Carl McDaniel Larry Jones Mary Jones Jim Galloway	

HOMEBOUND SICK AND SHUT-IN	
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:

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

APRIL 14 - APRIL 19 († = Deceased)		
Tuesday 12 Noon	April 14	† Angelo Rivera Bayon
Wednesday 12 Noon	April 15	† Marilyn West
Thursday 12 Noon	April 16	(BD) Carol Tate
Friday 12 Noon	April 17	(S) Glenda Geisen
Saturday 4:30pm	April 18	Jordan Snelling
Sunday 9:30am	April 19	Priscilla Winstead

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

GREENE COUNTY MISSION TRIP

The St. Aloysius Men's Club is raising funds for a mission trip to Greene County taking place from April 21 to 26. The funds raised will be used to cover the construction materials and supplies necessary to repair the homes of low-income individuals, people with disabilities, and the elderly. Volunteers are also urgently needed to assist with these home repairs and adaptations (experience not necessary).

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 three 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!

MOTHER OF CHRIST ALTAR GUILD MEETING

The Mother of Christ Altar Guild will meet every second Monday of the month. Next meeting is **Monday, April 13th**, at 11:30 a.m. in the church. For more information, please contact Angie Cacioppo, President (205) 281 1901. All meetings will begin at 11:30 am!

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 26th. 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.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Parish Stewardship 2026				
Sunday, April 5				
Fund	Online Giving	Sunday Collection	Total By Fund	YTD
General Fund	1,308.00	8,200.65	9,508.65	101,042.76
Building Fund	345.00	2,286.65	2,631.65	69,838.89
Parish School of Religion	88.00	30.00	118.00	3,188.14
Total	1,741.00	10,517.30	12,258.30	174,069.79
Total given this week: \$12,258.30				

Sunday, April 12th, 2026

SUNDAY OF THE DIVINE MERCY, 2026

"If He Deserved It, It Would Not Be Mercy"

Today the Church celebrates the Divine Mercy Sunday - a day that reveals not just who God is, but how God looks at you and me. To understand this let me begin with a story.

A man was condemned to death under the rule of Napoleon Bonaparte. His crime was serious. Justice demanded punishment. His mother came and begged Napoleon for mercy. Napoleon replied: "This man does not deserve mercy." And the mother said something unforgettable: "Sir, I know he does not deserve it. If he deserved it, it would not be mercy." Napoleon was struck. And finally, he said: "Then I will have mercy." And he spared her son.

Mercy begins where deserving ends! Mercy is not our 'right.' My dear friends, that one sentence is the heart of today's feast: 'If we deserved it, it would not be mercy.' And that is exactly how God deals with us. Often we think: "I must become better before I go to God." "I must fix my life first." "I am not worthy." But listen carefully: God's mercy does not begin when we become worthy. It begins when we realize: 'we are not worthy.'

That is the difference between justice and mercy. Justice gives what we deserve. Mercy gives what we do not deserve. Today the Lord is not standing before us as a judge with a list of our crimes.... But, He stands before us as MERCY itself.

In today's Gospel, we meet the Risen Jesus appearing to His disciples. And what is the first thing He shows them? He shows them His wounds. And why? Because those wounds are not signs of accusation.... They are the signs of mercy. When Jesus shows His wounds, He is saying: "Yes you failed.... You betrayed me.... you denied me.... you ran away.... but look - I still love you." And then He does something shocking he breathes on them saying: "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven." Think about it. The very disciples who abandoned Him are now given the power to forgive sins. This is mercy!

Now comes Thomas. Thomas doubted, questioned and even refused to believe. And when Jesus comes in, He does not accuse nor reject Thomas.. Instead of judging Thomas He says: "Come. Touch my wounds." This is unbelievable, as Jesus holding Thomas tight to His heart and Thomas falls on his knees saying: "My Lord and my God!" Yes my dear friends the Mercy of God does not push us away. Mercy draws us closer.

Where are we today? Do we still carry the guilt of the past? Are you tired of falling into the same old sins of yours? Do you think: I am not worthy of the Lord? Keep in mind: "God is not saying, come when you are perfect." He is inviting us "Come as You are;" because if you had to deserve it, it would not be Mercy!

On this Divine Mercy Sunday and for the days to come, let's try to confess from the bottom of our heart with St. Thomas "Jesus, I trust in You." And as we beg the Mercy of God, let us try our best to share that mercy with others. Show Mercy to others by forgiving others. Be patient.... Be compassionate.... Let It go.... Because the mercy we receive.... must become the mercy we give.

God is inviting us to go to Him as we are. Do not be haunted by the wrongs of the past. Don't be the victims of the guilt. The merciful Lord is inviting us, come to Him. Because His Mercy is greater than our sin. His love is greater than our past.

"Jesus, I trust in You." Amen

Fr Reju Pynadath Johny

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

April 19th, 2026

Third Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22-33

Psalm: Psalms 16: 1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11

Second: First Peter 1: 17-21

Alleluia: Luke 24: 32

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

April 13 . . . Alejandro Cruz

April 14 . . . John Culver, Alfredo Caraveo

April 15 . . . Donna Wilson, Henry Andrzejewski,
Angel Alcantara

April 16 . . . Will Shourds, Carol Tate, Roger Ballard,
Jackie Higginbotham, Anthony Alesce

April 17 . . . Floyd Doss

April 18 . . . Carl McDaniel

April 19 . . . Joseph Kornegay, Kevin Arellano

Birthday Blessings

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



**Congratulations on your
Wedding Anniversary**



April 16th * **Buster and JoAnne Antonio**

April 17 * **Jacob and Claire Scherzer**