



## **Saint Aloysius Catholic Church**

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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

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

**MAY 21<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

### **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

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

#### **HISPANIC COORDINATORS**

Gabriel Lopez 205 434 7169  
Gabriel Arellano 205 765 2936

#### **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 through Friday 12:00 p.m. Noon  
Next Week May 28<sup>th</sup> we have English Mass at 9:30a.m., Indian Mass at 11:15 a.m., and Spanish mass at 1:00 p.m.

#### **SACRAMENT of BAPTISM**

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

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**OUR SICK**

Frank Zito	Sue Brooks
Len Gavin	Don Jones
Jerry Ragusa	Kellie Whitson
Terri Embry	Len Gavin
Larry	Jeff Brown
Mary Lee	David Sanders
Cecil Brooks	Hap Purnell

**HOMEBOUND SICK AND SHUT-IN**

Bernardine Chiarella	Dot Herald
Nancy Franklin	Ramona Pitesa
Robert Wilson	Charlene Mareno
Sue Nielsen	Caroline Tamburello
Robert Vincent	Steve Tate
John V. Jones Jr.	Marilyn West
Meredith Jones	

*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).*

**NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS**

<u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u>	<u>Plantation Manor</u>
Rudy Cooper	Claudia Charme
Jean Sullivan	Kathryn Szafransky
<u>Baron House</u>	
Nella Glovetti	

**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>ARMY</u></b>
Daniel K. Hicks	Blake Seidel
Shea Hicks	Brandan Engel
James McKinney	Luke Thomas
Lance Rosser	Joseph R. Chiarella
Gabriel Petix	Jose Emmanuel Garcia
<b><u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u></b>	
Daniel Thomas	
Dulce Rivera	

*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.*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**May 22<sup>th</sup> - May 28<sup>th</sup>**

(† = Deceased)

Monday (Private mass)	May 22 <sup>th</sup>	Joe & Caroline Gallagher and Family
Tuesday 12:00 Noon	May 23 <sup>th</sup>	† Mary Vernon Gentle Rsm
Wednesday 12 Noon	May 24 <sup>th</sup>	† Marian Campbell
Thursday 12:00 Noon	May 25 <sup>th</sup>	Vickie Gavin
Friday 12:00 Noon	May 26 <sup>th</sup>	† All Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 4:30pm	May 27 <sup>th</sup>	† Sherman & Martha Venz
Sunday 8:30am	May 28 <sup>th</sup>	† Ronnie George
11:00am		† Katy Evans

**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 it into 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 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.

**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 [kahytortorice@gmail.com](mailto:kahytortorice@gmail.com).

### 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 available email address.

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



### 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.

### MINISTRIES CONTACT PERSON

#### Mother of Christ Altar Guild

Diane McDowell (205) 491 7931

#### Holy Family Altar Guild

Heather Lawley (205) 410 3757

#### Knights of Columbus

Anthony Rupert (205) 428 6600

#### Men's Society

Charles Ellis (205) 365 5896

#### Music Ministry

Paula Clowdus (205) 382 0845

### SUNDAY MASS CHANGE

The Parish Pastoral Council has revised the **Sunday Mass** schedules. ***Starting June 4<sup>th</sup>***, the first mass will be at 8:30 a.m. and the second mass at **10:00 a.m.** Spanish mass will be at 12:00 Noon.

### WEEKLY MASS CHANGE

The daily mass times have changed to **12:00 p.m. (Noon), Tuesday through Friday.** Adoration will precede the mass and will be held at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday.

### MARIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2023 annual conference of the Mariological Society of America (MSA) will take place on **Tuesday, May 23** at the *Benedictine Sister Retreat Center* in the Sacred Heart Monastery in Cullman, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The conference will continue Wednesday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Thursday, May 24, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Friday, May 26, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The retreat center is located at 916 Convent Road, Northeast. To register online, visit <https://forms.gle/jYHgh5KLK87B3tBZ7>. For more information, visit [mariologicalsociety.com](http://mariologicalsociety.com).

**Next Week May 28<sup>th</sup> we have English Mass at 9:30a.m., Indian Mass at 11:15 a.m., and Spanish mass at 1:00 p.m.**

**MAY 21<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

**THE ASCENCION OF THE LORD**

**Mt 28:16-20. WALK WITH THE LORD**

Jesus came down from heaven to share in our human life, in all our trials, sufferings and joys. Today He ascends into heaven so that we can follow him. "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God." St Athanasius. Therefore the Ascension of the Lord guarantees our own Ascension to heaven.

Mt 28:17 "When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted." These disciples represent me. I experience the miraculous presence and protection of my Lord in different ways and at different moments of my life. Though I experience Him, almost all the time I doubt Him. Whenever I pray, I am not that sure, whether my Lord will answer me!

Doubt is a weakness, a drawback. But the response of the Lord to that doubting disciples is awesome. He empowers them with the Holy Spirit. He recruits the doubting disciples as His ambassadors, witnesses. Though I doubt my Lord, He trusts me! He is such a wonderful God.

Mt 28:20 "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." This is the most empowering verse in the Bible. My Lord will be with me, who is weak and tempted always, at all the moments of my life. He is my Power.

Ascension guarantees heaven to me under one condition. We have to observe whatever the Lord has commanded us. Rom 13:8 "The one who loves another has fulfilled the law." So just by loving other human person we become heirs of heaven.

We may doubt our Lord, but, He has made us His witnesses. We have to proclaim our faith. Proclamation or witnessing is made through life. One has to proclaim the good news to oneself. We should have a transformed life, which loves other human person unconditionally. Then through our life we should be models to the others.

Always follow the footsteps of the Lord. He has gone ahead of us. Following Him we can reach heaven. God May guide us all. Amen.

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

***May 28<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday***

***1st Reading Acts 2,1-11***

***Psalm 66: 1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20***

***2nd Reading 1Cor 12,3b-7.12-13***

***Gospel John 20,19-23***

**THE ASCENCION OF THE LORD (MAY 21TH)**

The Ascension is a liturgical Solemnity celebrated by all the Christian Churches. It falls on the fortieth day after Easter Sunday.

The Ascension of Jesus is a significant event in the Christian faith. As he ascended into heaven, his disciples watched in awe, wondering what would come next. Jesus left them with a command to be his witnesses, spreading the message of salvation to all around them. This command was not only for the disciples but for all believers throughout history, including us today.

The Holy Spirit plays a central role in the Christian faith, empowering and guiding every believer. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to his disciples, and he continues to guide and empower us today. The Holy Spirit is not limited to personal transformation, but also equips us to carry out God's mission in the world. It gives us the strength, wisdom, and gifts we need to serve others, proclaim the gospel message, and work for justice and peace.

The promise of Christ's return is a central aspect of the Christian belief, bringing hope and joy to believers. Throughout the New Testament, Christ's return is described as a glorious event that will bring about the final judgment and the establishment of God's eternal kingdom. As believers, we eagerly anticipate Christ's return, knowing that our actions and choices in this life impact our eternal destiny.

**Prayer**

Lord Jesus,

You who in your ascension  
filled the Eleven with joy,  
make us worthy of that same joy  
through your prayer and your mercy.

Lord Jesus,

You who in your ascension  
bore our fragile humanity into heaven  
and opened for us the way that leads to Heaven,  
fill us with the joy of serenity and peace.

Lord Jesus,

You who by ascending into heaven  
clothed us with the gift of the Holy Spirit,  
make us your witnesses in our daily lives  
telling of the joy of your Mercy.

(Prayer by Father Andrea Vena)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

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

- May 22 . . . . . Glenda Geisen, Falencia Marshall,  
Valery Herrera
- May 23 . . . . . Rinda Stanley, Lisa Jones,  
Malkia Mugoya
- May 24 . . . . . Joseph Gerson, Marcus Mareno,  
Cayden McCormick, Alison Cruz, Lorenzo Perez
- May 25 . . . . . Nicole Wickman, Betty Rozas
- May 26 . . . . . Madison Contreras
- May 27 . . . . . Larry Jones, Amy Russo,  
Rose Tesney
- May 28 . . . . . Erin Weber, Hermelinda Ramirez

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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

- May 24 . . . . . Peter and Cassie Scafaru

## SAINT ALOYSIUS CHOIR PRACTICES

Choir practice is **every Wednesday** night at **6:00 p.m.** in 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 pews.

## SAINT ALOYSIUS ROSARY GROUP

A group of parishioners (men and women) meet on **Thursdays** during Adoration from **11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** to pray the Rosary. Anyone who wants to pray the Rosary is invited.

## 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.

*Eucharistic adoration is a moment of intimacy, trust  
and friendship with God; we remember that his  
presence is the fruit of the love he has for us. It is the  
right time to renew our purpose to be holy and to  
respond generously to God's love.*

## IAHS Essay Deadline Near

If you plan to apply for the \$500 Scholarship given by the Italian American Heritage Society, the due date is very near. To be accepted, your essay must be postmarked no later than May 31, 2022. This is the date the essays are due. Any essay received with a later postmark will not be accepted, but it can be submitted next year. Participate by telling us what your Italian Heritage means to you and meeting the other requirements. See our website at [iahsbham.com](http://iahsbham.com) for the guidelines.

## THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (May 31), celebrates the visit of Mary, the Mother of God, with the child Jesus in her womb, to her cousin Elizabeth. The visit took place when Elizabeth was herself six months' pregnant with the forerunner of Christ, Saint John the Baptist.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all the confirmands who received the Confirmation Sacrament this past Thursday, May 18.

*Christofer Diego Sandoval*

*Daniela Ignacio*

*Raleigh Maldonado*

*Naomi Ramirez*

*Nancy Martin*

*Loe Olvera*

*Alexander Villegas*

*Ariadna Perez*

*Tania Macedo*

*Emilye Salazar*

*Rosa Trejo*

*Heidy Sosa*

*Melany Farias*

*Lashmi Campos Plata*

*Diego de Jesus Hernandez Garcia*

*Oscar Adrian Gonzalez*

*Juan Cristobal Trejo*

*Camila Penalver*

*Christian Herrera*

*Luis Rivera*

*Yasber Gonzalez*

*Jonathan Salazar*



Most Rev. Boshop Pauly Kannookadan,  
Fr Reju's Bishop is visiting us on Sunday  
May 28<sup>th</sup>. He will be celebrating  
the Holy Mass at 9:30 a.m.

As he is coming with mission appeal,  
your generous donations and gifts  
will be highly appreciated.

We will have a reception after  
9:30 a.m. Mass, after this Indian Mass  
at 11:15 a.m., and Spanish Mass  
at 1:00 p.m.

