



## ***Saint Aloysius Catholic Church***

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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

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

**APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023**

### ***PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION***

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Rev. Reju Pynadath Johny Office: 205 424 2984

Cell: 205 829 5933

(e-mail: [rjupynadath@gmail.com](mailto:rjupynadath@gmail.com))

#### **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DIRECTOR of RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Mrs. Patricia Rector 205 568 5747

(e-mail: [staloysiusre@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysiusre@bellsouth.net))

#### **CHURCH OFFICE**

(e-mail: [staloysius@bellsouth.net](mailto:staloysius@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

#### **SACRAMENT of BAPTISM**

Please contact Patricia Rector in the Church Office for Baptismal Preparation (English & 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	
Cecil Brooks	Hap Purnell
Sue Brooks	Mary Catherine
Don Jones	Angie Cacciopo
Kellie Whitson	Levi Wade
Len Gavin	Myra Antonio
Jeff Brown	JoAnne Antonio
David Sanders	Mary Micastro

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.	Powell Thompson
Meredith Jones	Marilyn West

*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> Rudy Cooper Jean Sullivan	<u>Plantation Manor</u> Claudia Charme 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:

<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 Jose Emmanuel Garcia
<u>U.S. INTELLIGENCE</u>	
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**

April 3 <sup>rd</sup> – April 9 <sup>th</sup> († = Deceased)		
Monday (Private mass)	April 3	Mayra Barajas Sandra Dempsey
Tuesday 12:00 Noon	April 4	† Betty Pilato † Austin Chaney
Wednesday 12:00 Noon	April 5	† Virginia Eriksen † Marian Campbell

**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 your offer in 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 envelope 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 [kathytortorice@gmail.com](mailto:kathytortorice@gmail.com).

**MOTHER OF CHRIST ALTAR GUILD MEETING**

The Mother of Christ Altar Guild will meet on Monday, April 10 2023, at **5:30p.m.** in the church.

**Fr. Reju's Visa Renewal**

Fr Reju will be going to India to get his R1 Visa renewed. He will be leaving on April 25<sup>th</sup> and be back on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **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 email address available.

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.

### **PLEASE WELCOME AND PRAY FOR THE CATECHUMENS AND CANDIDATES**

We have 6 candidates/catechumens from the English Community. They will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil Service at 7:00pm. We have 13 candidates/catechumens from the Spanish Community. They will receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation at the Spanish Easter Vigil Service at 9:00pm.

Let us welcome all of them to the St Aloysius Family; appreciate and congratulate the hard work of the RCIA team.

### **CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME**

Congratulations and welcome to Sadie Rose Woods, child of Michael Woods and Tylor Shourds, who were baptized on March 26, 2023.

### **HOLY WEEK OF PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING**

***Prayer:** pray to seek God's will in our own lives.*

***Fasting:** Good Friday: a day of obligatory fasting and abstinence.*

***Almsgiving:** This Holy Week let us focus more intently on "almsgiving."*

### **THANKS FOR MAKING PALM CROSSES**

Thank you to the people who came to collaborate making the palm crosses:

Rose Wilson  
Elizabeth Vazquez  
Delia Davila  
Maria Alvarado  
Crystal Rivera V  
Priscilla Winstead  
Bernadette McFerrin  
Beth Russo  
Louise Harris

### **DEVINE MERCY FEAST**

This year we would like to celebrate the great Feast of Divine Mercy on April 16th, the weekend following Easter. The 9 days Novena will start on Good Friday. On April 16th Sunday, 1:00pm we have Festival Mass in Spanish followed by procession with Divine Mercy Image. Following the Procession, at 3:00pm we will have the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service with Adoration (Bilingual).

All are welcome. Lord have Mercy! Amen

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023**

## **Invitation to Walk along the Way of Cross**

On this Palm Sunday we are invited to follow the footsteps of our Lord as He is on the way to Calvary with the heavy cross on His shoulders.

As we walk after Jesus, meditating on His passion, today we know that everything happened just according to the plan of God! It teaches us that whenever we have to carry the cross (Our Sufferings) that also is according to the plan of God. And so we have to trust God!

On that way of the cross Simon carried the cross of Jesus and Jesus was walking by his side! So whenever we are carrying the cross keep in mind, our Lord is walking by our side; we are not all alone. If we are carrying the cross with the Lord then He will lead us to Resurrection.

Mother Mary accompanied her son on his way. We have to seek the company of Blessed Mother as we share the cross of her son. It is her presence and support that help us to carry the heavy burdens of our lives.

"Not my will, but thy will be done!" Yes, Love leaves space for the loved one. If we really love God our Father, we have to leave a space for Him. In our sufferings we could be saying 'Oh God' my Love, not my will, but Thy will be done!. Amen.

### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

***April 9th The Resurrection of the Lord***

***1st Reading Acts 10,34a.37-43***

***Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23***

***2nd Reading Colossians 3:1-4***

***Gospel John 20:1-9***

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

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

April 3 ..... Pete Gagliano

April 4 ..... Jessica Esqueda

April 6 ..... Jerrie Salvago, Rulph Dougil,  
Guillermina Herrera

April 7 ..... Kim Cagle, Samuel Harper

April 8 ..... Bryson Clifton, Victor Flores,  
Guadalupe Nunez

April 9 ..... Taylor Ryan

### **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

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

April 9 ..... Rafael and Yolanda Farias

### **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 **11:30a.m. to 12:00p.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.

### **WORDS OF SYMPATHY**

The Parish Community extends prayerful sympathy to the family of Thomas T. Hammett (Mr. Terry), who is survived by his wife, Susie Arguello Hammett, children, grandchildren, and other family members.

### **WEEKLY MASS CHANGE**

The daily mass times changed to noon **12:00pm, Tuesday through Friday.** Adoration will precede the mass and will be held from 11:30 a.m. Tuesday through Friday.



## GREAT NEWS

Rejoice and thank God St Aloysius... we received the written permission to go ahead with the construction of the St Aloysius Parish Hall, from the Bishop's office. Parish Hall will be built next to the Church and close by the soccer field. It will be a total of 4000/sq. ft. area. Once we get the "Building Permit" we plan to complete it in six months.

We have already opened a new Building Fund account. Please designate all your donations / contributions to "Building Fund" and it all will be Tax Free.







## The DIVINE MERCY IMAGE

The Divine Mercy image is a depiction of Jesus based on a vision that Saint Faustina had in 1931. According to the vision the image of Jesus was to be drawn as raising his right hand in blessing and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which pour forth two rays; one red and one white (translucent). The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: Red for the blood of Jesus which is the life of souls and Pale for the water which justifies souls. The whole image is symbolic of Charity, Forgiveness and Love of God referred to as the fountain of Mercy. The image was to have a depiction "Jesus, I trust in you!" on it.

"My daughter, tell the whole world about my inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of my tender Mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of my Mercy" (Diary, No.699)

"I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the First Sunday after Easter; and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it." (Diary No. 341) "The first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy... By means of this image I will grant many graces to souls" (Diary No 742) Among other things, it offers a Plenary Indulgence.

"I am giving you three ways of performing Mercy to your neighbors: the first -by DEED, the second -by WORD, the third -by PRAYER; these three levels cover the full scope of Mercy, and it is an unshakable evidence that a soul loves Me. By this a soul glorifies and pays reverence to my Mercy" (Diary, No. 742)

About the Divine Mercy, Pope St John Paul II said that it's "the Easter gift that the church receives from the Risen Christ and offers to humanity." It is a gift that God has given out of love for all of us.

### WHY 3:00 P.M.?

"I remind you, My daughter, that as often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke it's omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment Mercy was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking; it was the hour of Grace for the whole world - Mercy triumphed over justice". (Diary 1320)



# Easter Triduum



## **HOLY THURSDAY (Washing of Feet):**

Thursday, **April 6<sup>th</sup>** 6:00 p.m. (English)  
8:00 pm (Spanish)

*Adoration to follow the 6:00 pm Mass in the Day Chapel  
and ending at 6:00 am Friday*



## **GOOD FRIDAY (Veneration of the Cross):**

Friday, **April 7<sup>th</sup>**:  
Church Offices Close at 12:00 Noon  
Stations at 12:00 Noon (English)

Liturgical Service: 1:00 pm (Spanish)  
2:30pm Live Way of the Cross (Spanish)  
Liturgical Service 5:00 pm (English)



## **EASTER VIGIL: Rite of Reception**

(Blessing of Holy Water and Candles)

Saturday, **April 8<sup>th</sup>**: 7:00 p.m. (English)  
Saturday, **April 8<sup>th</sup>**: 9:00 p.m. (Spanish)



## **EASTER SUNDAY:**

Sunday, **April 9<sup>th</sup>**:  
9:00 a.m. English  
10:00 a.m. *Easter Egg Hunt, all kids are welcome.*  
11:00 a.m. Spanish