



Saint Aloysius Catholic Parish

751 Academy Drive

Bessemer, Alabama 35022-5276

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

E-Mail: info@staloyusiuscc.org

Website: www.staloyusiuscc.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, December 14th, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

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.aloyusius24@outlook.com

205 424 2984

CHURCH OFFICE

e-mail: info@staloyusiuscc.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:

<i>OUR SICK</i>
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

<i>NURSING / RETIREMENT HOMES / ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS</i>
<i><u>The Oaks on Parkwood</u></i> 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

DECEMBER 16th - DECEMBER 21th († = Deceased)		
Tuesday 12 Noon	December 16	NO MASS
Wednesday 12 Noon	December 17	† Joseph Giardina
Thursday 12 Noon	December 18	(BD) Dillon Casey
Friday 12 Noon	December 19	† Dot Keyes
Saturday 4:30pm	December 20	† Ira Cobb Sr.
Sunday 9:30am	December 21	† Rita Minor

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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, December 20th

Advent Confession Day

Talk with a priest from EWTN at **2:00PM**

Confessions will be from **2:30pm** through 6:00pm.

Sunday, December 21st

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT 2025

A time 'to wait with faith, to watch with love, and to hope with courage'. On Nov. 20, the bishop recorded the sixty-third installment of his Grace & Peace video series, reflecting on the season of Advent.

To read the bishop's remarks, please go to:

<https://onevoicebhm.org/advent-2025>

WOMEN OF GRACE

Be Set Free:
Healing the Wounded Heart

January 9-10, 2026
St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church
Birmingham, Alabama

Seminars,
Prayer,
Adoration
& Music



Johnette Benkovic Williams, Danielle Rose
and Arise Worship Ministry



ARISE
WORSHIP MINISTRY

WOMEN
of GRACE

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Parish Stewardship 2025				
Sunday, Dec. 7				
Fund	Online Giving	Sunday Collection	Total By Fund	YTD
General Fund	1,039.00	4,681.50	5,720.50	316,755.79
Building Fund	645.00	11,924.50	12,569.50	93,869.76
Parish School of Religion	0.00	85.00	85.00	21,342.51
Total	1,684.00	16,691.00	18,375.00	431,968.06
Total given this week: \$18,375.00				

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent 2025

From the Gospel according to Matthew 11: 2-11
GAUDETE; REJOICE SUNDAY.

We are still waiting for Christmas. Last Sunday we meditated upon the point that the Lord is coming, He is ever coming. When we have ears to hear and eyes to see, and thereby recognize the Lord coming to us, then we have Christmas. This 'process of recognizing' the Lord coming to us is Advent. And therefore, we concluded: 'Life is Advent.'

The most important virtue of Advent is patience. Patience is not about waiting. Waiting is, almost always, a situation which leaves us with no choice, but you must wait! So, patience is not the virtue directly involved in waiting itself. Patience is all about the ATTITUDE while waiting. All the 'waiting' are for some good. We should learn the hard lesson: 'waiting could be for something positive.' While waiting, we could be excited, positive, eager, or even desperate and without any hope! Patience is all about the positive attitude one can have while waiting.

Does John the baptizer know Jesus? Lk 1:36 says that Mary and Elizabeth were relatives. John and Jesus were first cousins. So, we can rightly conclude that from the early childhood onwards, both Jesus and John knew each other. Mt 3:13 speaks about Jesus' baptism by John in the River Jordan. They were cousin brothers and were able to read each other's hearts.

Now, it is this cousin brother who casts doubt on Jesus! Mt 2:6 "Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." This points to the attitude of John towards Jesus. Even in our lives we might have gone through the same experiences of the most trusted person in our lives casting doubt on us. We might have been heartbroken when our own best, intimate friend/relative, one who can read our hearts, casts doubt on us. It would be the worst painful experience. How should we respond to such a situation or to that person?

Jesus' response is amazing. His response is seen in verses 7 through verse 14, where Jesus speaks so high of John! Verse 14 Jesus bears witness about John the baptizer "he is Elijah, the one who is to come." Again, in verse 11 "Among those born of the women there has been none greater than John the Baptist." Yes, Jesus' response to John the Baptist is highly positive. Uplifting John the Baptist, Jesus places him on the top of the humanity. This is the basic talent we need to be "Rejoicing" every moment

of our life. And this kind of positive attitude will help us to reinstate all the broken relations.

Advent is life. Advent means our ever-continuing efforts to recognize Jesus in our day today relationships. Let us be attentive to each other. Let us open our eyes and ears that we may see and hear and thereby recognize Jesus. Let us keep the positive attitude/ hope while we are waiting for the Lord.

May the Lord Jesus help us all to rejoice every moment of our life, Amen.

Father Reju Pynadath J.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

December 21st, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading Isaiah 7: 10-14

Psalms 24: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

Second Romans 1: 1-7

Alleluia: Matthew 1: 23

Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

December 15 . . . Paula Walker Johnson

December 16 . . . Debbie Rupert, Sharon McCaffrey

December 17 . . . Jordan Antonio, Natalie Rodriguez,

December 18 . . . Charlie Baker, Mason McCullough,

Dr. Dillon Casey, Kahy Murphy

December 20 . . . Geoff Bull, Catherine Dickinson

December 21 . . . Vicki Kreitner



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



**Congratulations on your
Wedding Anniversary**



December 20 * **Gabriel Lopez & Yadira Hurtado**



"With a warm embrace, St. Aloysius Church wishes you a Merry Christmas! May your hearts be filled with the joy of Christmas and your homes with peace and happiness."



LITURGY OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24th

4:00PM English Mass

(Beginning with Carols at 3:30PM with Saint Aloysius Choir).

7:30PM Spanish Mass

Christmas Day

The Nativity of the Lord Solemnity

Thursday, December 25th

(Holy Day of Obligation)

9:00 a.m. English Mass

10:30 a.m. Spanish Mass

Friday, December 26th - NO MASS

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sunday, December 28th

9:30 AM English Mass

12:00 PM English Mass





LITURGY OF NEW YEAR



New Year's Eve

Wednesday, December 31st

12:00 Noon English Mass

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, January 1, 2026

(Holy day of Obligation)

9:00 AM English Mass

10:30 AM Spanish Mass

