



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
January 1, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

**Breaking News:** Our Lady of Sorrows School was on the front page of last Sunday's *Birmingham News*, with the headline being a quote from 8<sup>th</sup> Grader, J. T. Weisberg: "JESUS WAS BORN AND SAVED ALL OF US FROM OUR SINS." He was interviewed by the religious editor, Greg Garrison, who stayed at the school for the musical Nativity pageant, and he also pictured, for the front page, a stream of angels (kindergarten students from the school).

The Church tells us not to rush through the Christmas season, but to cherish it for a couple of weeks. Today is the Octave of the birthday of Jesus. We consider the birth of Jesus today from the humanity point of view, His human mother.

The term Mother of God came during the threat of the Aranian heresy, which in the first two centuries questioned the divinity of Jesus. The council of Nicea irrevocably proclaimed the mystery of Jesus, completely God and completely man. Another council emphasized this by calling Mary the Mother of God.

Walking in and seeing the church so magnificently decorated on Christmas Day, we were all shocked with the beauty bespeaking the message of the birth of Jesus. One lady came out of Mass and said we ought to pray for all those who worked for days on the decorations. Another lady told me that it sent her the message of the beauty of Jesus and the reality of His birth made her cry. So many thanks to John Martinez and his assistants, Ann Bruno, Mary Claire Brouillette, John Tombrello and helpers for the great job.

I found this short prayer which perfectly fits the theme of prolonging the feast of Christmas:

Heavenly Father, help us to long remember the birth of Jesus,

that we may long share in the **song** of the angels,

that we may long share in the **joy** of the shepherds,

that we may long share in the **worship** of the wise men.

Today is the beginning of a new year, which we welcome with optimism in spite of a troubled humanity. We think of this as the traditional time to make resolutions. I like to think of the resolutions in connection with our appreciation of the birth of the Savior, which we still celebrate today. For us Christians, these resolutions should be a recommitment to the Lord.

The OLS tithing drive was a great success for those 542 who made the commitment, and for those who didn't, it could hardly be a success. Compared to last year we are missing 100 pledge cards, but we are very close to our goal.

I cannot praise and thank enough those who turned in their pledge cards. Only God can thank you adequately. However, in my own frail way, know that your commitment is essential and most appreciated.

With prayers and blessings,  
Father Muller

P.S. While the nativity scene tells more visibly of the birth of Jesus, the very beautiful Chrismon tree requires the time to study the various monograms of Jesus depicting different aspects of His life. Thanks to those who, yearly, put up this tree.



Jeanne Wright, Vita D'Amico,  
Mary Ann Huie, Kenneth  
Huie, Melanie Gilchrist,  
Charlie Kai Wadsworth, Pete  
Rouveyrol

**First Friday Devotions** will be held on  
Friday, January 6, at 6:30 a.m.

**First Saturday Devotions** will be held on  
Saturday, January 7, at 7:15 a.m.



*Mass Intentions*

Monday, Jan. 2	Special Intention Betty LaSusa Walter Cooney
Tuesday, Jan. 3	Special Intention Patrick Baker
Wednesday, Jan. 4	Special Intention Josephine Russo & Marie Winningham Sp. Int. Lillie Rumore
Thursday, Jan. 5	Special Intention Patrick Baker Matteo D'Agro
Friday, Jan. 6	Kathleen Herald Josephine Russo & Marie Winningham Ross J. Rumore
Saturday, Jan. 7	Donors to OLS School Foundation Teresa George Patrick Baker
Sunday, Jan. 8	People of the Parish Elizabeth Guercio Patrick Baker

**CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed  
Adorers for:

**Tuesday at Noon (With Partner)**

**Tuesday at 1 PM (With Partner)**

**Tuesday at 4 PM (With Partner)**

**Saturday at 9:00 AM (With Partner)**

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each  
hour. These are the hours needed, but do  
select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at  
871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.  
"Our Lady of the Most Blessed Sacrament  
help us to spread the glory of Your Son  
through Perpetual Adoration."

*St. Pope John Paul II, Eucharistic Adoration*  
Jeanne Wright, Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie,  
Kenneth Huie, Melanie Gilchrist, Charlie Kai  
Wadsworth, Pete Rouveyrol

**Everyone is welcome to attend *Adult  
Education: Encounter and Evangelize*** on  
Sunday January 8. Our speaker will be Peter  
Ann Ryan. Her topic is *Magnificat*. The  
gathering begins in the Parish Hall 9:45 a.m.  
with fellowship and light refreshments. The  
class begins at 10 a.m.

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

Start the New Year with a gift for yourself and  
your child...a deeper relationship with Jesus  
the Good Shepherd. We invite all  
parishioners to an adult Catechesis of the  
Good Shepherd (Atrium) training on Friday,  
January 13, from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. In this  
course we will explore children's relationships  
to God, the prayer life of children, and lessons  
from the Bible and the Mass which aid in  
children's spiritual development. For more  
information, please email  
mariswimberly@gmail.com. Catechesis of  
the Good Shepherd is an approach to  
religious formation based on the work of  
Maria Montessori.

**Our Lady of Peace Guild** will meet in the  
Sodality Room at 12 noon on Monday,  
January 2. Our guest speaker will be Fr.  
Wilfred. Remember to bring your sandwich;  
drinks and dessert will be provided. All  
women of the parish are welcome.

**St. Ann's Guild** will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 4, at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All are welcome. Please RSVP to Paula Gasser at 807-6072.

### What's Goin on In High School Youth Group?

**January 8:** Faith Formation at 10 a.m. with the Matthew Kelly series. We'll start a brand new LifeNight series at 7 p.m. – this week we will focus on Jesus' Presence in the Sacraments.

**Wed. Jan. 11:** Pizza and Prayer at 7 p.m. Food, prayer, fun and open gym!

March for Life meeting for ALL attending with OLS (including chaperones) at 6:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall. Please make an effort to be there!

Learn how you can get involved at [www.olsyouth.com](http://www.olsyouth.com).

### **December Bridge Winners:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Dolores Madden
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Lil Bruzzese
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Margaret White

**Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat** is offering a Women's Retreat on January 20-22, entitled "**This Will Be Remembered for Her**". The focus of the retreat will be on how Jesus defends the woman who prepared him for burial, as well as other stories of women in Scripture who are images of what it means to be a disciple. The retreat begins with registration at 7 p.m. (Eastern Time) on Friday and concludes with dinner at noon on Sunday. For more information call 334-855-4474.

### **REBUILDING: A DIVORCE AND GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP**

This is a group designed to assist in grief recovery for the divorced, widowed and separated of this community. **REBUILDING** is an interdenominational program and all are welcome. Meetings are held in the Family Life Center Assembly Hall at Our Lady of Sorrows. The next 10 week session begins on **Tuesday, January 10, 2017**. Meetings are from 6:00 till 8:30 pm. Cost for the 10 week session is \$25.00. No pre-registration is required. For more information call **205 969-0062**. Leave a message and we will return your call. Website: [www.ourrebuilding.org](http://www.ourrebuilding.org)



### **Our Lady of Sorrows**

**Catholic School** cordially invites you to our OPEN HOUSE for prospective students and their families on Sunday, January 29, between 2 and 4 p.m. Join us any

time during these hours, meet our teachers and staff, tour our school and discover our faith-enriched community for learning. Applications will be available in the school foyer and on the school website, [olsschool.com](http://olsschool.com), beginning January 29, 2017. Application deadline is February 10. Applications do not roll over from year to year. If you were on a waiting list for 2016, you must re-apply for 2017. Please call 879-3237 if you need further information.

**The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 2.**