



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
January 22, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Homewood is one of the safest places for homes, offices and stores in the Birmingham metropolitan area. However, there are always exceptions. We experienced the exception last Sunday when a thief came into the back of the church at the 8:30 a.m. Mass and stole the purse of one of our parishioners. She left the purse in the pew and went to receive Communion. Further details are this: The culprit took the cash and dropped the purse in the Roebuck area. Someone picked up the purse and turned it into the local police, who called the parishioner.

Unfortunately, criminals like to return to the scene of a successful heist and try for another success. Since we can't trace the identity of the thief, I would suggest that a woman leave her purse in a non-visible place in her locked car and take only the car keys with her. It is easier to carry keys with one when one enters the line for Communion than to carry the purse along, though one lady did tell me she carries the purse with her when she goes to St. Paul's, our downtown Cathedral, for Mass.

Next week we start Catholic Schools Week and last Tuesday evening I was, again, reminded of the huge spiritual value of our Catholic schools. Heather (Britton) McGuire went to John Carroll as a non-Catholic, then later took instructions in the Catholic Faith. She and her Episcopalian husband have their child, Zoe, at OLS School and the girl loves the school so much that she could not wait for the end of the Christmas holidays to go back to school! What a tribute to the school (and to Zoe). I learned this from her father who, this past Tuesday, was the only one to show for the pre-baptismal instruction for Zoe's

younger brother. All I could think about Patrick McGuire's sole presence at the "meeting" was the *providence* of God. If the other couple had come, or even if his wife had come, I would not have had the opportunity to interest him, for an hour, in taking instructions on Monday nights in the RCIA Class.

Patrick comes to Mass, on occasion, with his wife. He does not presently attend the Episcopal Church and has shown interest in the Catholic faith. We keep CD's of the talks that were missed, and it is easy for one to come in late and catch up listening to the CD's if one is prepared to come to Sunday Mass.

Many thanks to John Corso, who is the Knight of Columbus in charge of the blood drives. Many thanks to the 75 people who offered to give blood. Some were not able to give, so the total of 67 units was still record-breaking and keeps us on top of the various churches that have blood drives. I used to give blood at every drive until I hit that age barrier when, with the responsibility of two or three public Masses and a possible baptism, it really showed me how weak I could get from missing a single unit of blood.

Many thanks to you if you have ever or still give blood. Ask a surgeon, who will tell you that another's blood has, on many occasions, saved other people's lives and/or helped the recovery faster. Thanks to the Knights for cooking and serving all those breakfasts.

With prayers and blessings,  
Father Muller



Monday, Jan. 23	Mary Ann Pappas Shay McNamee Fred Guarino
Tuesday, Jan. 24	Special Intention Trey Smith Fred Guarino
Wednesday, Jan. 25	Special Intention Mitchell Spears Shay McNamee
Thursday, Jan. 26	Special Intention Shay McNamee Dan Rice
Friday, Jan. 27	Pat Baker Jerry Blackmon
Saturday, Jan. 28	Donors to OLS School Foundation Sp. Int. Marc & Donna Ayers Enola Glenn
Sunday, Jan. 29	People of the Parish Sp. Int. Nap & Sandra Barranco & family Ed Meloy



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

### **CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

**Sunday at Noon (With a Partner)**

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

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

**Saturday at 11:00 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.

“Therefore, I say, Come, all of you, to Christ. He is the bread of life. Come to Christ and you will never be hungry again.” *Pope St. John Paul II*

**Everyone is welcome to attend *Adult Education: Encounter and Evangelize*** on Sunday January 29. Our speaker will be Teresa Pitts Flynn. Her topic is *Building and Using Wealth*. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments. The class begins at 10 a.m.

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

**January 22:** Faith Formation at 10 a.m. focusing on Matthew Kelly's Decision Point "The Prayer Process." How do you pray? LifeNight series and dinner at 7 p.m. Dinner, games and a talk on the Sacraments of Initiation!

Please pray for our group of 43 as they stand up for life in Washington, D.C. on January 25-29, at the March for Life!

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

### **Here's the Scoop on EDGE Youth Group!**

**January 22:** Our first Edge Night will help the teens understand the twofold meaning of faith as personally responding and believing in God and what He revealed, as well as believing and following the teachings of the Catholic Church. Meet in the Assembly Hall at 7 p.m. for dinner!

**Mark your calendars!** We are having another Stop Hunger Now event on Sunday, February 26. Parents are encouraged to attend with their teens so we can package as many meals as possible. Pizza will be served in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m. Meal packaging will take place in the Assembly Hall. More details to come.



**Save the Date:**  
**OLS Vacation**  
**Bible School**  
**June 12th-16th**  
**9 a.m.-12 p.m.**



**You are invited!!**

Have you ever considered sending your child to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School? Now is a great time to find out how you can empower your child's future with an

affordable Catholic education! Please join us for our OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, January 29, between 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at 1720 Oxmoor Road in Homewood. New students and their families have the opportunity to personally meet our outstanding teachers and staff, tour our accredited school, and discover our faith-enriched community of learning. Beginning January 29, applications will be available online at [olsschool.com](http://olsschool.com). If you were placed on a waiting list from last year, you must re-apply for 2017. For more information, please call the school office at (205) 879-3237. *Growing Our Children in knowledge and faith...Experience the Difference!*



**Please join the Altar Sodality** for a Rosary on Thursday, Feb 2, at 8:20 am in the Parish Hall. We would love to have a crowd! All are welcome.

**An Interfaith Trialogue Celebrating Mutual Respect and Kindness:** A priest, a rabbi and an imam will explore their common heritage as children of Abraham in a public forum at Prince of Peach Catholic Church on Thursday, January 26, at 7 p.m. Rev. Ray Dunmyer of St. Thomas Catholic Church,

Rabbi Jonathan Miller of Temple Emanu-El, and Dr. Sameh Asal of BIS Hoover Crescent Islamic Center are the panelists. Please RSVP to [mike.brown@popcatholic.org](mailto:mike.brown@popcatholic.org) or call 822-9125 to reserve your seat.

**The Italian American Heritage Society** will host a Casino Night on Saturday, February 4, at the Bessemer Civic Center, 1130 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tables will be open from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The donation is \$30 per person, which includes food, slots, blackjack and dice tables. Many prizes will be up for auction. For tickets and more information, call Joe Lovoy at 477-9443, Don Meadows at 621-7862, or Leon Chiarella at 967-0143.

**First Light** is a shelter for homeless women and children located in the heart of downtown Birmingham. It offers the only emergency shelter accepting homeless women with children 24 hours a day. Volunteering at First Light can be a deeply gratifying experience. We often hear how our volunteers get so much more than they give. Our Lady of Sorrows works with the shelter approximately 14 days a year. If you would like to volunteer to provide food or service for the shelter, please send your email address to [leslie@flanaganllc.net](mailto:leslie@flanaganllc.net). Thank you!

**The Annual Men's Retreat, Men of Faith: Reflections of Christ** will be held at Blessed Trinity Shrine Retreat on February 17-19. Msgr. Charles Troncale will be the presenter. There will be time for prayer, liturgy, confession, sharing, socializing and enjoying the natural gifts of God at Holy Trinity. The retreat begins with registration at 7 p.m. (Eastern Time) on Friday, February 17, and concludes with dinner at noon on Sunday. For more information call 334-855-4474.