



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
March 19, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Lent means PENANCE, and penance means getting closer to God. We probably will not get any closer to God the rest of our lives than during the season of Lent.

Important reminder: The best penance is the one God gives us, our duty, according to our state in life. Doesn't this remind us of the man who is so polite to people in the work place, comes home and never gives that, at least once a day, compliment to his wife, or she to him?

What about the student who neglects the homework or does a half-way job on it and watches T.V. instead? It is not that the student does not give up T.V. It is that the student does not do one's duty, according to his/her state in life, to the best of one's ability, whereby he/she has missed the most acceptable penance for the Lord.

Fiftieth anniversaries are the most popular for married couples, for priestly ordinations and even for the establishment of a diocese. On June 28, 2019, our Birmingham diocese will celebrate 50 years of existence. So, in two years, on June 28, 2019, we will have a Eucharistic Congress, which is a largely attended public Mass at the Convention Center downtown, with a renown, outside of the diocese speaker on the subject of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The first bishop of Birmingham was Bishop Vath, the second was Bishop Boland, the third, living and so active, is the "retired bishop" Foley, and our present bishop, the fourth, who by Canon Law will have to submit his resignation in 2019, since he will turn 75, the required retirement age for a bishop.

With a little over two years to go, our zealous Bishop Baker wants to push Evangelization, reminding all of us, by virtue of our baptism, that we should be "missionaries".

Bishop Baker would like to see more small prayer groups, and Scripture-studying groups, and greater devotion to the Eucharist, with more reaching out to non-churchgoers.

As you read this as a member of OLS, we can all be proud of the spiritual life of this parish. It already has what the bishop wants: so many small prayer and Scripture studying groups. We seem to have, consecutively, one of the largest RCIA groups in the diocese each year. The attendance at three daily Masses during Lent is astounding. We have zealous lay leaders in the various guilds of the Sodality, the very active Knights of Columbus, and our three choirs (though we could use more for the 10 a.m. choir). We have such an active scouting program and American Heritage Girls (spin-off from the Girl Scouts). We also have zealous teachers in the Parish School of Religion, as well as in our OLS School and our two daycare programs (MDO and CCLC). Our youth programs are at an all-time high. We also have an Atrium program second to none.

The most outstanding program, next to all the Mass attendance, is Perpetual Adoration in the beautiful Chapel of Our Savior. For over half of the 50 years of this diocese, we have had adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist around the clock, by over 300 committed people who adore Jesus in the Sacred Host around the clock.

We lead all other churches in the K of C blood drives, having donated another 52 units this past Sunday. We lead in the Catholic Charities drive, and the number of social outreaches are too numerous to mention.

Our bishop has asked for maximum effort for the next two years approaching the 50th Anniversary. For a parish like OLS, the challenge is not to give up on our enormous commitment, but to continue and, if possible, to grow.

Every Catholic Needs some SPIRITUAL READING. We keep ordering the *WORD AMONG US* for this purpose. On occasion,

when certain books become available, they are for you to take home and read. The recent book *EVERYONE NEEDS TO FORGIVE SOMEONE* is our selection for this month. It narrates 12 people who had more to forgive than most of us will ever have. They did it by the grace of God and finally found the peace of Christ in doing it. We are putting out 500 more copies this weekend for your Lenten reading.

Next month we will be putting out copies of *CATHOLIC ANSWERS FOR TEENS and Others*. It is written for the youth, who are the largest group of those tempted to lose the faith. They need to know the reasons behind their faith.

With prayers and blessings,
Fr. Muller

P.S. Congratulations to our senior high youth ministers, Ginny and Eric Dooley on their newborn son. Also, congratulations to Carol Wiget, Middle School Youth Minister, and her husband, Paul, who also have a new baby boy.



Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday of Lent at 7 p.m.



Vivian Bonamy, Jeanne Wright, Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie, Melanie Gilchrist, Charlie Kai Wadsworth

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Monday at 9 AM (With Partner)

Tuesday at 1 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.

“Perpetual Adoration extends its influence far beyond the individual adorers, touching their homes and families, and reaching out to the parish community and beyond.” (*Blessed Pope Paul VI 1891-1978*)

ATTENTION COMMITTED ADORERS:

Fr. Michael Doody from Leeds, United Kingdom, is hoping to start Perpetual Adoration in his diocese. He asked Fr. Muller if our Committed Adorers would provide him with testimonies, miracles, and blessings they have received from committing to a Holy Hour once a week in Our Lord’s Eucharistic Presence. Over the past 24 years we have all had some astounding miracles, both small and large. Please feel free to share Our Lord’s blessings in the journal provided, either hand written or typed, and put them in the Miracles box in the Chapel kitchen. God bless you.



Monday, March 20	Lena Lucia Anthony Ross Ed Meloy
Tuesday, March 21	Special Intention Sp. Int. Jonathan & Holly Hooks Kenneth Huie
Wednesday, March 22	Special Intention Bill Kelly John Milazzo
Thursday, March 23	Sp. Int. Josie Davis Bill Kelly Virginia Cherre
Friday, March 24	Special Intention Norman Naccari Sp. Int. Philip & Diane Zicarelli & family
Saturday, March 25	Donors to OLS School Foundation Sp. Int. Charles & Allison Rumore & family
Sunday, March 26	Anthony Ross People of the Parish Norman Naccari Virginia Cherre

**Adult Ed. will not meet March 26 or April 2.
We will resume class on April 9.**

Attention Parishioners: Due to the lack of a daily newspaper in Birmingham, it has been difficult to know when deaths in our parish family occur. OLS will now have an email notification system to alert you to deaths within our parish. We may later extend this notification system to include the closing of the Church and Chapel due to inclement weather, etc. This email will have no reply option available; it is for your information only. If you would like to receive this notification, please submit your name and email address to ols@ourladyofsorrows.com. Please contact Fran Robertson at 822-1142 with any questions.

The Elementary Children's Ministry invites all 1st – 5th graders to the UAB v. Alabama baseball game on Tuesday, March 21, at Regions Field. The game begins at 6:30 p.m. You **MUST** RSVP your family tickets for this event by noon on Monday, March 20. **ONLY** families that RSVP will be issued tickets. Please include your participating 1st-5th graders, parents and siblings in your RSVP count to Chi Ranieri at ecm@ourladyofsorrows.com.

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

March 19: Edge Night on the Creation of Man: The Final Creation. Please join us from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

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

March 19: Faith Formation at 10 a.m.: Discussing the importance of "Relationships" and where we can find accountability in Christ, our faith, and our friends! (pg. 109-113 in your Decision Point book). Life Night and dinner at 7 p.m.: "Grateful Beggar", a Life Night on St. Francis & the religious life.

Find out more about our youth program on olsyouth.com.

OLS Habitat for Humanity *Building on Faith Work Day* is Saturday, April 1, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. OLS and other parishes are coming together to build a Habitat home in honor of Pope Francis. OLS has committed \$5000 and 25 volunteers to help Sonja Cole build her home. No skills required; anyone 14 years old and older can participate and you can come for as little as 4 hours. We need volunteers. To sign up, contact Adam Morel at adam@morellawfirm.com or 903-2562.

DON'T GIVE UP *Chocolate* for LENT! Do something LIFE CHANGING. Sign up for FREE at BestLentEver.com.

Dynamic Catholic



**Vacation Bible
School
June 12th-16th**

Volunteers needed now (especially adults):

Adult volunteers

- Decorations- Before VBS
- Building Robots and rockets from Recycled material - **call Suzanne for more info - 871-1431**
- Crew Leaders- no teaching required
- Clean up Crew- Friday after VBS is over

Volunteer Perks:

Free Nursery and Children attend free!

**Jr. Volunteers
(rising 5th graders and up)**

- where we need you

Sign up at

www.ourladyofsorrowpsr.com