



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
September 24, 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

The question was asked of me, for what intentions do we pray the rosary before the 7:30 a.m. daily Mass? The answer is that we pray for religious vocations. We are all familiar with the vocation to the married life and to the single life, but vocations to the religious life are a special call by God to serve others by our prayers and services in different ways.

Jonathan Gagnon, son of Gary and Laney of our parish, has answered a call to the religious life right after high school. He left for St. Bernard monastery last Sunday and was officially received by the Abbot into the state of being a postulate for six months. After the six months he will be a novice for a year, living the life of the monks and then making three year vows to remain at St. Bernard as a monk, studying for the priesthood. Then there lies before him eight more years of studies in college, with a minor in philosophy, then four years of theology. For his college and theology as a monk, he will probably be sent to a Benedictine college and major seminary.

Yes, I did encourage him to think about our diocese, which greatly needs native vocations (we would be crippled considerably without the priests from India and Africa). The ideal is that each country supply its own vocations.

When Jonathan persisted in his thoughts about being a monk at St. Bernard, I could not encourage him enough. When St. Bernard had a minor seminary, high school and first two years of college, I was there from 1947 to 1951. I would not take anything for the academic and spiritual training those good monks imparted to me.

There is absolutely no substitute for great Catholic parents who keep their children focused on God and His Church. Most vocations come from children seeing their parents practicing the faith.

We are so grateful to the Benedictines in Cullman for coming twice a year to help with a communal penance service, supplying us with some confessors (Don't worry, Gary and Laney, if sometime in future history you come to confession during Advent or Lent here, we will warn you if your son is in one of the confessionals)!

Keep praying for vocations and for priests and religious. There are only seven studying now for the diocese, and three of these are still in college facing six years more of education. Chuck Deering, Jr., is our one OLS seminarian facing five more years in the seminary. Bo Lovell is soon to enter the seminary. Keep praying for vocations, because the Lord tells us to pray to send labors into His vineyard. I, personally, still "live off the prayers of others."

Blood Drive: Since OLS is tops in so many areas, it is not surprising that, last Sunday, we topped our goal of giving 48 units of blood by giving 63 units. This is a project of the Knights of Columbus, and the Knight in charge of blood drives is John Corso, who spoke at all the Masses begging some people, who can, to give their blood. The Red Cross was extremely pleased with this gift from people at OLS. One year, when they gave awards to the churches who gave, we received the top award for the amount given. Today, we would still qualify for such an award.

Catholic Charities: A million thanks for your pledge to Catholic Charities and to our parish. If you have not turned in your Catholic Charities pledge card, drop it in the collection or please mail!!

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller



Monday, Sept. 25	Special Intention Anthony Ross Dolly Barranco
Tuesday, Sept. 26	Special Intention Dolly Barranco Will Barry
Wednesday, Sept. 27	Special Intention Sam McDavid Dolly Barranco
Thursday, Sept. 28	Sp. Int. Rose Smaha Sam McDavid Lena Lucia
Friday, Sept. 29	Robert Charles Bell Sp. Int. Ann Marie Smith Sam McDavid
Saturday, Sept. 30	OLS School Foundation Donors Anthony Ross Michael Zarichnak
Sunday, Oct. 1	People of the Parish Virginia Bostany Walter Swift

The R.C.I.A. Class begins Monday, October 2. Please join us in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m. for dinner. The class begins at 6:30. This class is for anyone who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith. If you know someone who might be interested, invite them!

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Thursday at 10:00 AM (With Partner)

Thursday at 3:00 PM (With Partner)

Friday at 6:00 PM (With Partner)

Friday at 10:00 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 3:00 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 4:00 PM (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.



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

Everyone is invited to join us at Adult Education on Sunday, October 1. Our speaker will be Erin Holt. Her topic is *Youth in the Church*. The gathering begins in the **Parish Hall** at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m.

V.I.P. will be held Tuesday, October 3. Mass begins at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo. Come join your friends and neighbors for faith, fellowship and fun.

What's Goin on In High School Youth Group?

Sunday, Sept. 24: Faith Formation at 10 a.m.: *What Does the church Teach about Evolution?* Life Teen at 7 p.m. with special guest speaker, Birmingham Seminarian Daniel Sessions!

March for Life sign-ups will close on October 1! Please consider joining us for this pro-life pilgrimage to D.C.! For more details about our youth program, contact ginny@olsyouth.com.

Here's the Scoop on MID Youth Group!

Sunday, Sept. 24: Join us for "To the Races!", an Edge Social Picnic! Let's grow in community with some fun games, including Gaga Ball. Dinner starts at 7 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

Brooklere Pharmacy will be at the Learning Center to give **FLU AND PNEUMONIA SHOTS** to any adults who are interested on Tuesday, September 26, from 7:30 - 8:45 a.m. Do not take if allergic to eggs; if pregnant ask doctor. ACCEPTED INSURANCES: Blue Cross, Medicare, VIVA, and Health Springs. CASH OR CHECK are accepted (make check payable to Brooklere Pharmacy). Call Brooklere Pharmacy @ 674-1400 with any questions. Please call Learning Center if interested @ 380-2646. Leave message with phone number if no answer.

A Men's Cursillo Weekend has been scheduled for October 5-8, in Cullman. Similar to a retreat, this four day spiritual experience encourages participants to strengthen their faith, prayer life and relationship with God. For more information, email Bill Lang at bill.lang@pchresorts.com. The next women's Cursillo weekend will be in the spring.

A huge thank you to all who came to celebrate Our Lady of Sorrows Day!! A special thank you to Fr. Balta for leading the congregation in prayer. Thank you to Bo Lovell for serving and preparing the Church, Adrienne Price and all members of our choirs (Deborah Garcia, Marie Brewer, Jonathan Murphy-Directors), and Sasha Naylor for the beautiful music meditation. A special thank you to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild for preparing and serving the delicious dinner and decorating the Parish Hall: Donna Bahakel, Leslie Bentley, Angie Dunston, Alida Dwyer, Brenda Matherne, Alexandra Naylor, Boni Remke, Mary Rupinski, and Judy Trant. Thank you to Sasha Naylor for organizing and coordinating this celebration. Hope to see all members of our parish dedicated to Our Blessed Mother next year!

Attention College Students! Alabama Awakening is a retreat for college-aged young adults run by students, for students. We seek to help each other grow in knowledge and love of our faith over a weekend retreat. Students from across the south have attended Alabama Awakening. Consider joining us at our next retreat on October 13-15, at St. Bernard Abbey for a weekend of fun, fellowship, sacraments, and true Catholic community. For more information and to register go to www.alabamaawakening.org.

REBUILDING: A DIVORCE AND GRIEF RECOVERY GROUP. Have you tried a divorce recovery group and still feel alone...afraid...lost? Let us help. You might be surprised to hear about our unique group. We won't tell you what to expect from divorce, what to do, how to feel or when the pain will stop. What we will do is provide a safe, confidential setting with people who have been exactly where you are and have survived. Literally hundreds in the Birmingham area have experienced the healing touch of this group. Our next 10 week session begins Tuesday, October 3, at 6 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Go to www.ourrebuilding.org or call 205 969-0062 for more information. Look at this website and give us a call. Leave a message and we will return your call.

The Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign kicks off with a Candlelight Vigil on September 27, at 6:30 p.m. at Planned Parenthood. Please come pray with us to permanently close PP, protection for the unborn, and help for women in crisis pregnancies. Go to register at 40daysforlife.com/Birmingham to be a part of this very important outreach.