



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
July 8, 2018

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Thanks: Those of us who prayed for great weather for the festival should still be thanking God that the rain held up. It poured 60 seconds after the last winner of the raffle drawing was called.

I visited all the places of entertainment and food. The first place was the Trash & Treasure sites. The line started at 4:30 a.m. Wednesday morning. The policy only allows maximum capacity in the gym, and as the early entries were satisfied and left, only then did the lines begin to move into the gym. No shoe store in Birmingham had as many shoes on racks and on display, as seen as one walked into the gym.

Crowds: People lined up all around the Parish Hall for the succulent barbeque, and when they tasted it, claimed it was worth the wait. We had two counters of servers, and people like Michelle Alesce, Vicki Mitchell, Carla Eltz, and Michele Gentry worked constantly and with speed, forming two counters of food to keep the lines moving. With the food sales starting the day before, we ran out of the almost 4 tons of barbeque by 1 p.m. I think this is the first time we even ran out of printed tickets for the raffles.

Dunking Booth: I like to pay tribute to the Mayor of Homewood, a friend of many years. He comes every year and volunteers for the tough job, sitting above a tank of water, waiting for the contestants to hit the bullseye, and down he goes. Usually, the enemies of the person in the cage would buy endless tickets and aim to see the victim fall. When I saw the operation at the Wednesday festival, he had no enemies. Children were buying tickets to study the "cause and effect" relationship of hitting the bullseye. Thanks so much, Mayor, for your participation in our festival!

T.V. Coverage: Chad Gentry, the Grand Knight, was seen on Channel 6, 13, and 42 by 11 a.m., advertising the festival. Each year the crowds of people snowball in number, and this was the 69th year! The crowds were so great that at times I found myself talking to three people at the same time, whether it was the idea that people from the parish wanted to talk and sort of check in with the pastor to be marked present, or those from out of town and out of the parish wanted to know if I still remembered them.

Friendliness is one of the hallmarks of Christianity, and it was not just the friendliness to me, but all those masses of people who were friendly with each other. Barbara Mahwinney, again, a former member of OLS, lives in Chelsea and stated that she started coming to the festival in 1950 and never misses one.

Melanie and her troupe of workers outdid themselves in the gym, and people outdid themselves with the donations. Our maintenance people (2) who usually work on the 4th were "no shows." John Tighe said that John Tombrello walked endlessly with garbage bags to the dumpsters. People and cars would not allow passage of a vehicle.

Some of the priests, such as Fr. Alex and Fr. Jerabek, showed up. Other pastors came and so did Knights from other parishes, asking our Knights how they manage to draw such a crowd for such a well-organized festival. One of our Knights gave this response: "You are 69 years too late!"

Clean up: When the downpour came and rushed people to their cars and home, I am sure the workers collapsed at home. I went into the Parish Hall when all had left and thought it looked like a war zone. All the hot serving plates and remnants of food for so many hundreds were still there. Two worker warriors, John Tighe and Chris Ragusa, were still in the kitchen, looking a little half dead from work, trying to clean a few things so that the cleaning crew would not be too discouraged when they first walked in.

Congratulations to all the winners, the most important prize being the Ernie Eltz Service Award. This was won by Mr. Roger McLaughlin, who served the parish as president of the school board in the 1980's and has worked continuously since 1991 investing our money for the OLS School Foundation. He has doubled the millions we invested since 1991 and more. Remember, the school building belongs to the PSR on Sundays. We could not do without it for all of our children, and the foundation keeps the building maintained. Roger has worked as a volunteer for 26 years straight.

Many thanks to Teresa Pitts Flynn, who ran the Catholic information booth, as well as organized the tours through the church during the hours of the festival.

The donations, the crowds, the necessary workers, and the Grace of God all contributed to the fantastic success and left me with the impression that we outdid ourselves and topped even last year with the huge success.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Friday at 9 AM (With a Partner)

Friday at 11 AM (With a Partner)

Friday at 9 PM (With a 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.

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

Life Teen High School

July 11: Movie Night and Open Gym! Join us in the FLC from 6-9 p.m.

July 16-20: We will have a group of 40 at Camp Hidden Lake – a powerful Catholic camp run by LifeTeen. Please pray for our students to have a true encounter with Jesus!

July 25: Paintball! Waiver required to play: <http://www.paintballisgood.com>. Cost is \$20. Meet at 3:30 p.m.; return at 8:30 p.m.

Edge Middle School

July 20-21: Please **RSVP no later than Monday, July 16th** for a spot at our Edge Lock-In in the FLC! Our theme is Heart of God. We will begin at 7 p.m. Friday night (please eat dinner before you come) and finish at 7 a.m. Saturday morning. Cost is free. This event is open to rising 6th-9th graders.

August 1: Join us at Alabama Splash Adventure! Please RSVP by July 23rd for a ticket. Chaperones and drivers needed! Cost is \$5 per person. Bring your own lunch money.



Monday, July 9	Sp. Int. Anna Bonner Sp. Int. Marianne DeJohn/Vic DeJohn Joseph Schilleci
Tuesday, July 10	Michael Cannova Sp. Int. Anthony J. & Charlotte Rumore Concetta Romano
Wednesday, July 11	Special Intention Diana Cusimano Fontana Lena Carruba
Thursday, July 12	Special Intention Claude Dirgo Joseph Schilleci
Friday, July 13	Ralph Ferguson Sp. Int. Carl & Bonnie Barranco Josephine Sicola
Saturday, July 14	Walter Cooney Sp. Int. Kris & Dan Flemming Joseph Schilleci
Sunday, July 15	Frances Wingo McMahon/ People of the Parish Peter & Anna LaDart Virginia Priola



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

Our Lady of Grace will meet for their July summer luncheon at the Metro Diner in Vestavia at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, July 10. Please join us!



REGISTRATION for PSR now Open!

PSR Faith Formation classes for children and youth
ages 3 years to 18 years
opens **July 10th** for the 2018-2019 program year.

Classes begin August 19, 2018.
Visit www.olspsr.com

PSR (Parish School of Religion) is for all children not attending Catholic school from ages 3-18! Preparation for Confirmation and First Communion for those not attending Catholic school is through our Faith Formation classes.

Faith Formation Rocks!

HELP, WE NEED SOMEBODY,
HELP, NOT JUST ANYBODY,
HELP, YOU KNOW WE NEED SOMEONE
HELP!!!!!!!



Help is definitely needed! What are you waiting for? Come join the band of faith sharers and become a Catechist! It's fantastically fun and faith filled. We cannot do His work without YOU! We are looking for Grades: K4, K4, 1, 3, 4, 7th and 8th. Please prayerfully consider this ministry!

If you have questions, or are interested, Please call Suzanne 205-871-1431 or email dre@ourladyofsorrows.com