



*Our Lady of Sorrows Church*  
January 6, 2019

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

**EPIPHANY:** In the past, we celebrated the Feast of the Epiphany on January 6, but because this is such a great feast and not everyone gets to Mass during the week for a great feast day, this feast is transferred to the Sunday closest to the 6<sup>th</sup> of January. BINGO – this Sunday is the 6<sup>th</sup> and the Feast of the Epiphany. Because of the greatness of the feast, there is an octave attached to it; for eight days the daily Masses are labeled individual days after the Epiphany.

Why is this feast so important to us? Salvation was promised first to the Jews. St. Paul writes to the Ephesians that he had a special revelation that, though it was not known in other generations, we gentiles are co-heirs, co-partners with the Jews in God's plan that we should have perfect happiness after this life. When the three wise men came from gentile territory by the invitation of God and the star, this was the Epiphany – manifestation of the Savior to the gentile world!

As we celebrate this feast, we emphasize God's **gift** to invite us along with the Israelites into heaven. Secondly, we look at the example of the wise men, coming from the gentile world, with their struggle traveling in danger and in hardship to come "to see Jesus." We take a lesson from them and know that to "see Jesus" is a struggle, and we too are willing to make the effort to "see our Savior" every day of our lives.

**NEW YEAR:** A holy, happy, healthy New Year to each of you. We have completed another year of our lives on this earth, and since the purpose of life is to glorify God, we thank Him for 2018, during which we had 365 days to praise and thank Him for the blessings, the opportunities and health this past year. We need to emphasize the blessings. Any sickness and financial setbacks pale in comparison to the blessings of receiving Jesus in the Eucharist and His promise of perfect happiness of heaven.

I told a lady last year how much I admired her because she had been a successful member of AA for two years. I said, "You have great will power." She said, "**I do not.**" That's why I joined AA. We make our resolutions not to drink and put it in the hands of God, telling Him how much help He has to give us weak-willed people." God and the fellow members of AA keep us sober.

Great idea! Let us keep identifying our resolutions and putting them in the hands of God for help.

**Tithing Drive:** We have received 567 pledge cards, which means almost 2/3 of our parish have still not turned in a pledge. Our budget is a little over \$2 million, and we need everyone to participate in order to reach our goal. Please turn in your pledge card, either in the offertory basket or to the Church Office.

With prayers and blessings,

Father Muller

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**CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

- Monday at 9 PM (Share with Partner)**
- Tuesday at 8 AM (Share with Partner)**
- Tuesday at 1 PM (Share with Partner)**
- Wednesday at 9 AM (Share with Partner)**
- Friday at 1 PM (Share 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.



*Mass Intentions*

Monday, Jan. 7	Special Intention Sp. Int. Robbie Yeager Joseph Alfano
Tuesday, Jan. 8	Josephine Russo & Marie Winningham Sam Salerno Jesse Beaudry
Wednesday, Jan. 9	Special Intention Betty Hollis Joseph Alfano
Thursday, Jan. 10	Josephine Russo & Marie Winningham Sp. Int. Fr. Gerald Holloway Mary Dirgo
Friday, Jan. 11	Jeff Butterfield Lena Carruba Sp. Int. Randall Dixon
Saturday, Jan. 12	Donors to OLS School Foundation Donald Taccone Frank Beuerlein
Sunday, Jan. 13	People of Parish Josephine Sicola Joseph Alfano



Jeanette Gutkowski, Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie, Charlie Kai Wadsworth, Margie Cole

**Everyone is invited to attend Adult Education** on Sunday, January 6, for *Bible Basics I: The Old Testament*. Kent Graeve and Frances Smith will present. 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. Childcare is available in the nursery.

**Please join Our Lady of Fatima Guild** on Thursday, January 10, at 10:45 a.m. We will meet in the Sodality Room to work on Baptism bibs and enjoy a lunch together. Interested in joining us? Contact Jane O'Brien at 937-4099.

**St. Ann's Guild** will meet the **SECOND** Wednesday of the month in January, 2019. This is a change. We normally meet the first Wednesday. The doors of the Assembly Hall of the Family Life center will open at 10 a.m. for fellowship and Rosary, followed by our business meeting, which begins at 10:30 a.m. Father Franklin will be our guest speaker beginning at 11 and lunch at 11:45 am To reply for lunch please email co-chair Mary Jo Huffstutler at [beach4emma@icloud.com](mailto:beach4emma@icloud.com) or call/text 205 835-7401.



**The Knights of Columbus** will be holding a Blood Drive next Sunday, January 13, in the Parish Hall from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. They will be cooking a hot breakfast for all donors and their families. The American Red Cross continues to face shortages of the most needed blood types. We hope to see you there.

## What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

**Saturday, Jan.12:** Catholic Youth on a Mission continues giving back. We will meet at 7:30 a.m. to carpool to St. Stephen's for Mass and the Birmingham March for Life, followed by an afternoon of service and Catholic Social Teaching discussion. This event is open to all 6-12th graders. Parents welcome! Please RSVP to [youthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com](mailto:youthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com).

### **Life Teen High School**

**Sunday, Jan. 12:** Spring Kick Off! Join us at 7 p.m. as we compete with "Tonight Show Games".

**Wednesday, Jan. 9:** 7pm: Pro-Life Poster Party! All high schoolers are invited to make posters for the upcoming March for Life.

Looking Ahead: Mar 24-30, Junior/Senior Mission Trip to Abbeville, LA with Family Missions Company over Spring Break. Contact [ginny@olsyouth.com](mailto:ginny@olsyouth.com) for details.

### **Edge Middle School**

**Sunday, Jan. 6:** "Thou Shall Not Have Fun." Join us for Edge Spring Kick-Off! We will introduce our new theme on Morality, "Thou Shall." Meet from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

**Edge** is seeking new Core Team members this spring! Please contact [msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com](mailto:msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com) for more information.

**The Annual Respect Life Mass and March**, led by Bishop Baker, will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 9 a.m. The Birmingham Rally and **March for Life** will begin at 10:45 a.m. at Brother Bryan Park. For more information go to [www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com](http://www.BirminghamMarchforLife.com) or call 205-447-8796.

## NEW! OLS Online Adult PRS Program

Mark your calendar for **Wednesday, January 23, 2019 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.** That's right, folks! You can learn about your faith from the comfort of your home, in your jammies, without makeup, and even on a bad hair day. If you have a computer and Internet access, that's all you need.

Education is essential in our journey of faith to enrich our knowledge and help in the places where our Catholic lives intersect with the larger challenges of the world on a day-to-day basis.

Register at **no cost** by sending your email address to [OLSforAdults@gmail.com](mailto:OLSforAdults@gmail.com) or texting it to 205.563.2210. You will receive a web-invitation by email thereafter.

We hope you can join us!

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**The Italian American Heritage Society** will host a Casino Night on Saturday, February 9, at the Bessemer Civic Center. Doors open at 6 p.m. and tables will be open from 6:30 – 9:30. Donation is \$30 per person, which includes food, blackjack tables, dice tables and slots. You may also purchase a chance to win up to \$10,000 and there will be many items for silent auction. CASH BAR too. For tickets and more information please call Joe Lovoy at 230-1127 or 477-9443 or Leon Chiarella at 967-0143 or 999-8570.

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