



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
December 15, 2019

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

I find it almost unbelievable that some people will use our parish, claim to be a member, and will not contribute to the support of the parish. Someone has to pay the employees, the utility bills and the multiple other expenses. It is simply wrong to have the mentality, "Let George do it." A football coach will be the first to say that winning is a "team effort." Every single member must contribute. Nick Saban spoke to the parishioners of St. Francis in Tuscaloosa about their drive to raise money for a new church. He told them that the whole parish needs to contribute. He believes in a team effort. No parish should rely on just a few generous souls for support. We all need to give to God even more than God needs our money.

Today is tithing Sunday. The procession to the altar is so impressive and meaningful. Everyone who is receiving an income should contribute something. If you miss the procession for any reason, please mail your pledge to the office or put it in the collection next Sunday.

The tithing card is a pledge to God, a pledge that says, "Everything I have comes from You, and I believe this. In gratitude, I will give back a tenth of it to you, God, with 5% to the parish." It means we will trust in His continued blessings. It means that we love Him with the proof that we are willing to sacrifice for Him.

The fundamental question of our lives is: Who is most important in our lives? Is it any secret that God tells us He is number one? Consider the great commandment:

"Love God with all your heart,
all your mind, all your soul
and all your strength...."

Today we come face to face with God asking for the first part of what we earn. I have yet to

hear those who do this say afterward," I really missed it." Somehow, we don't miss it; and the blessings are multifold.

The frightening statement by Jesus concerning Judas was that it would have been better had Judas not been born. Judas sold Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. He lost trust in Jesus. He trusted more in money. The word is GREED. We are all tempted in various degrees. Those least tempted are those of us who tithe.

The grace of God is so strong, and so many at OLS respond to God's call to support His Church. May you continue to engage yourselves in responding and receiving the opening of the "floodgates of God's blessings in abundance."

Thanks on behalf of our benevolent God to those who have been so generous this past year in supporting the parish. It allows us to serve so many people and guide them in the direction of God.

Keep the spirit of Advent and look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with joy and gratitude.

Let there be Nativity Scenes all over in order to keep Christ in Christmas. Our own Nativity Scene in front of the Church is not "hired out", but fashioned and erected by our resident designers: John Tombrello, Joe Alesce, Pat Rupinski, Mary Rupinski, Jeannie Wade, Mike Millican, and Larry Johnson. Keep viewing these scenes of the birth of the Savior and keep saying, "Thank you, Jesus, a million times."

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller



Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie,
Charlie Kai Wadsworth,
Melanie Gilchrist, Kennie
Skellie, Buddy DiChiara

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Friday at 10:00 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 3:00 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.

Advent Mission

Fr. Daniel Gagnon will be at OLS on Monday, December 16 through Wednesday, December 18. Fr. Gagnon is a missionary priest with the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He is in great demand around the world and has given retreats in 50 countries, bringing the love of Christ wherever he goes. Fr. Gagnon will lead us in reflections on "Preparing our hearts to receive the fullness of Jesus." The Advent Mission will begin on Monday, December 18, at 6 p.m. and conclude on Wednesday, December 18, with the **Penance Service** at 7 p.m. Childcare is available. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

The Advent Penance Service is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, at 7 p.m. in the Church. We will have 8 priests hearing confessions. Please join us.

An Advent Rosary will be prayed on **Wednesday, December 18, at 9:30 a.m.** in the church. **Benediction** will follow the Rosary. **All members of the parish** are invited to participate. Please bring your family members and friends. The Rosary will be led by the OLS Altar Sodality.



Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec. 16	Special Intention Sam Raine, Jr. Paul Benjamin
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Special Intention Lena Lucia Billie Marchetta
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Special Intention Sp. Int. Dan & Kris Fleming Sp. Int. Pete Hanna
Thursday, Dec. 19	Special Intention Donald Tucker Lena Lucia
Friday, Dec. 20	Special Intention John Milan Sp. Int. Lee Lowther
Saturday, Dec. 21	Joe Naro Anthony Smeraglia Joseph & Kathleen Milan
Sunday, Dec. 22	People of the Parish Special Intention Mike Zarichnak

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

Check out olsyouth.com for our complete Spring schedules!

Life Teen High School

Sunday, Dec. 15: Faith Formation at 10 a.m.: trivia review! Tacky Advent Party at 7 p.m. Dress in your festive attire! Consider helping EDGE with their night of service by bringing coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, or scarves to donate to those in need.

Wednesday, December 18: We encourage you to bring your family to the Penance Service tonight at 7 p.m. in the Church.

Edge Middle School

Sunday, December 15: In lieu of a Christmas party, Edge will be participating in a special night of service for the Birmingham community. Please bring gently used or new coats, sweaters, winter hats, gloves, and scarves to donate.

Annual Respect Life Mass and March

Saturday, January 18, 2020

Respect Life Mass with Bishop Baker

9:00 AM – Cathedral of St. Paul

Birmingham Rally and March for Life - 10:45 AM

Brother Bryan Park · 22nd Street South at 10th Avenue, Birmingham, AL

www.BirminghamMarchforLife.org

- 205-447-8796

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Saturday, December 21, at 10 a.m. Together we pray the Rosary, have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and celebrate Holy Mass. Our patron saint, Padre Pio, spent his life in prayer and once said, "What the world needs now is PRAYER!" Won't you join us? For more information, contact Angela Kolar at 205-991-9554.

Bible Study

Jeff Cavins, from Ascension Press writes, "The Bible is the heart of our Catholic Faith — and our relationship with God. It is the living Word of God, where our Father meets us and lovingly speaks to us. Reading the Bible should bring us closer to Christ, but understanding the bible is not always easy. Many people have tried time and again to prayerfully read Scripture, but they get frustrated because they just don't get it." If you can identify with this situation, consider joining a Bible study. We will begin an 11-week study of the Letter of James on Thursday, January 16, at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Subsequence meetings will also be at 7 p.m. on Thursday's in the parish hall. The Letter of James presents practical wisdom for living a life of wholehearted devotion to God in the midst of our daily trails and struggles. Since study material must be order registration is required. Please register by sending an email to kentgraeve@gmail.com. For additional information or questions call 205-999-3474.

All are welcome to come to this month's ARISE night led by Fr. Daniel Gagnon on December 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center gym. These monthly healing services consist of Eucharistic adoration, praise and worship music, benediction, confessions and personal prayer. Come and bring a friend!

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve (Tuesday)

4 p.m. (Church, Parish Hall, Assembly Hall) –
Nursery Provided

6:00 p.m. (Church)

9:00 p.m. (Church)

12:00 Midnight (Church)

Christmas Day (Wednesday)

10:00 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

6:00 p.m.

New Year's Eve (Tuesday)

6:00 p.m.

New Year's Day (Wednesday)

7:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

6:00 p.m.
