



Our Lady of Sorrows Church

July 5, 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

The Coronavirus has turned human life upside down in this country, as well as other countries. Here in Alabama, it seems we have not peeked with the number of cases, and they tell us that the worst is still to come. So many in this country are so careful with the 6-foot social distancing, wearing masks, and the frequent washing of hands, but there are many who think they are invincible. If we could just convince ourselves of the reality of this fast spreading virus and see the great opportunity and obligation to charity towards others.

It is very difficult not to socialize after Mass since we are such a friendly parish. People complain to me that there are many after Masses in close friendships, standing so close. Maybe they are all members of one family and know others don't have the virus. An enormous number have not been tested. Yet, the countries that are making progress (and our country is hardly in that group) abide on every aspect of the norms given to us by the health experts. I will be checking the numbers at the 10 and 11:30 a.m. Masses to see if we should engage some outside priests to help us with Masses in the Parish Hall for those two unusually crowded Masses.

Every one of us, without exception, should be praying daily for an end to this scourge, for it has so many negative effects in so many ways.

The 4th of July Festival: While we all will reflect on the freedoms we enjoy in this country, especially in these days and times, freedom isn't free. Again, we need to pray for peace and religious freedom all over the world.

The Ernie Eltz Service Award was given to Bo Lovell, who lives a life of service in so many different areas. Most of us know to follow Jesus, we must be servants to others. Bo has served the PSR program and Youth Ministry, streams the daily Masses for the homebound, as well three Sunday Liturgies on the weekend. Bo serves the three priests here in so many different ways, especially taking us to the hospitals to visit the critically ill when parking is next to impossible. I have recently turned over the scheduling of the daytime hours of Adoration to Bo, and we hope to restart this in two weeks during daytime hours. This means calling some 300 people to research their disposition and commitment.

The Knights of Columbus Council 4304 has risen to the challenge of cooking 4 tons of barbeque meat, and hopefully this will be a service to the many who see the 4th at OLS as the BARBEQUE DAY. Yes, there are the usual many raffle ticket winners. The Knights will not pass up some way to celebrate the 71st year of the OLS 4th of July Festival.

Thanks so much for the many prayers for my recent serious eye surgery to save my left eye. It was basically putting a hole in the eye and a drainage tube to drain the excessive fluid out of the eye so that the blood vessel that feeds and nourishes the eye can let the blood enter. That is so the eye cells don't simply die and kill the optic nerve. This is a 2-3 week recovery, but the surgeon claimed a great success. Thanks so much for those prayers.

I plead again: Let us all pray for the discovery of the vaccine that will protect us from coronavirus.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller



Mass Intentions

Monday, July 6	Special Intention James T. Holt, Jr. Marie Cerniglia
Tuesday, July 7	Special Intention Sp. Int. Tim Carlisle Vincenzia & Pasquale Cerniglia
Wednesday, July 8	Special Intention Norma Purdy Gina Fontana
Thursday, July 9	Randall Dixon Sp. Int. Mary Holt Sp. Int. Anna McDavid
Friday, July 10	Special Intention Sp. Int. Tim Carlisle Sp. Int. Katherine McDavid
Saturday, July 11	Donors to OLS School Foundation Lena Carruba Diana Cusimano Fontana
Sunday, July 12	People of the Parish Melanie Gilchrist Claude Dirgo



Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie,
Charlie Kai Wadsworth,
Kennie Skellie, Buddy
DiChiara., Alan Pizzitola,
David Johnstone, Edward
Thornton, John Coleman, Tim

Carlisle, Tom James, Martha Masucci,
Debbie White, Ann LaRussa, Mike Skellie,
Lillie Higgins, Harriet Dupree, Claudia
Tombrello

Food for Our Journey update:

"We are serving almost 700 meals a day, seven days a week. The OLS food drive every Wednesday is vital to our ability to serve the homeless and food insecure in our community. We are handing out close to 700 bottles of water a day, so we really need water. Also, we are getting constant requests for socks and masks. If you have clean, gently-used or new socks, we need them. If anyone has access to masks of any kind, we would love to have them. We thank all of you who have donated so far and look forward to seeing all of you who can donate every Wednesday (drop offs accepted from 9 -10:30 a.m.) in the parish parking lot."

Christine Golab, Assistant Executive Director

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

Life Teen High School

Rising freshman, you are invited to all events with high school! Make sure to get on the email list and follow @olsyouth on Instagram for details!

Community Nights: Join us every Thursday in Homewood Park from 6-7:30 p.m. for dinner, games, and discussion. Hand sanitizer will be provided, and social distancing is necessary.

Edge Middle School

Sunday, July 5th: Meet us at Patriot Park at **3 p.m.** located at [710 Oak Grove Rd](http://710OakGroveRd.com), West Homewood for Summer Kick-Off! Join us for Chosen and Sent, an Edge Night on Evangelization! Please wear a mask and follow social distancing. Email msyouthminister@ourladyofsorrows.com to let us know you are coming! Consider bringing a gift of baby wipes and/or diapers for our expecting Core member, Casey!

Monday-Thursday: Join us for "Catch Up With Carol" at 4 p.m. on our Instagram @olsedge for a daily dose of truth, beauty, and goodness!

Let's celebrate the 4th of July by praising and thanking God for this country and God's protection on it and us. We have had another week of unrest, isolation, and insecurity in our land, with no end in sight. So, what are you going to hang onto? Money? A job? Health? Churches are somewhat opened, and iPhones, etc. are working well for communication and work. There is so much information, but so much of it not the truth. What's your life support? 1) Listen and learn His Word (Hebrews 4:12). It is alive and active and the ULTIMATE TRUTH. 2) Praise and worship HIM, for He has promised to be with you always (Matthew 28:20). 3) Come to Bible Study on Tuesday mornings from 10 a.m. – 12 noon beginning in September. See you there.
Mary Ann Graeve