



Our Lady of Sorrows Church

February 7, 2021

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Tim Carlisle wrote a great letter to the parish thanking all for the prayers and cards and food during his nine months of sickness.

For nine months Tim has fought cancer of the blood and kidney problems, and while at St. Vincent's a fall, which broke his femur (thigh bone). He especially thanks the people for their prayers, for he is now in complete remission. Doctors use the word "miracle" and "remarkable." He also mentioned in his letter about the Surrender Novena, which he had made, and admitted that he was in incredible peace over the whole episode. He has a degree of faith that would make most people envious.

Mrs. Renee Williams, OLS 8th Grade teacher, survived the Fultondale tornado, which made her daughter say to her that weekend, "Mom, we probably all should have been dead." At 10:30 p.m. her husband asked his wife to get out of bed and go with him and the two daughters to the storm shelter in the basement because of a tornado warning. We all have seen pictures on television and the newspaper of how Fultondale was levelled flat with mother earth, and some parts of the William's house were under the earth. Yes, their house was actually blown into the basement and her family was trapped. For twenty minutes all four, together, shouted for help. The two daughters were injured, but nothing was broken (but close to it). With nothing but the clothes on their backs they sat in the rain and tried to "wake up" to the awesome reality.

Again, one seldom sees such great faith in a protecting God, as was expressed by Mrs. Williams. No "poor me" thoughts. Only thoughts of gratitude to God that no one was seriously injured.

As God plays the game of life with us humans, He puts us to the test more than once in a lifetime, a test of our faith and a strong belief of His protective care. Yes, the reality of God in our lives.

This past Wednesday, we read the Gospel of St. Mark at Mass, about Jesus speaking in the synagogue in his hometown. People were amazed, but then began to think: It did not make sense. Jesus was a carpenter's son. Mary, they knew as His mother. Then they turned against Him in spite of the wisdom of His words and the multiple reports of His miracles. He said to them that a prophet was honored, except in his own town. Then, He would not work any huge miracles there, only curing a few sick people. The Scriptures say that He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The atheist starts with the premise that there is no God and then tries to explain away the order and design of the human body, with its respiratory system, its digestive system, its circulatory system, and reproductive system. Like all this order and design came about by chance. God makes the rules, and He gives all the reasons to believe and expects us to make that act of the will of consent to what has been revealed.

When Peter asked Jesus if he (Peter) could also walk on water, as Jesus was doing, Jesus said, "Come." Peter put one, then the other leg over the gunwale of the boat and was walking on water. He then began to sink and called on Jesus to help. Jesus reached out and caught him and said, "Why did you doubt? You of little faith."

There are as many degrees of faith as there are people, and how we admire people of great faith, such as Tim and Renee!

The RCIA Class is alive and well. We simply need a few more people interested in the faith to attend. It is not too late to join. You would be most welcome. This Monday, February 8, we will have our first IN-PERSON session.

Please wear a mask. No food will be served to avoid close socializing. The size of the Parish Hall, with only 12 coming, hardly gives the virus a chance. So, don't worry about the Coronavirus. The Hall is sanitized daily. Please come if halfway interested.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller

Bishop Raica has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation through Sunday, March 14, the 4th Sunday of Lent. We will continue to livestream Masses. The moral obligation of keeping the Lord's Day holy remains, even for those who use the dispensation and do not attend Mass.



Monday, Feb. 8	Debbie White Lee Maniscalco
Tuesday, Feb. 9	Lillie Rumore & family Special Intention Delores Milazzo Hicks
Wednesday, Feb. 10	Sp. Int. Charles & Christy Grelier Special Intention Thomas Chancey Wingo
Thursday, Feb. 11	Souls in Purgatory Special Intention Jake Monte Lena Carruba
Friday, Feb. 12	Special Intention Sp. Int. Caroline Saia
Saturday, Feb. 13	Sp. Int. Bill & Debbie Barranco Donors to OLS School Foundation Josephine Sicola Dean Romano, Sr.
Sunday, Feb. 14	People of Parish Frank D'Agro Joseph & Jackie Milazzo



Joyce Cunningham, Carmela Yeakle, Ronnie Williams, Carolyn Jefferson, Bob Doyle, Donald Taccone, Ellen Scalise, Tom James, Mike Skellie, Harriet Dupree, Alan Pizzitola, Kenny Skellie



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Let your light shine and give God praise! Hiding your light doesn't serve anyone. Where will you choose to "glow?" (Matthew 5:13-16)
For Church and world leaders, may they be lights to shine forth the goodness of God.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will meet on Saturday, February 20, at 10 a.m. All are welcome to join us for an hour of prayer, Rosary, Adoration, and Holy Mass. Fr. Vimal will be with us to lead us in prayers for our country and the world. For more information, contact Angela Kolar at 205-991-9554. "Pray, Hope, and Don't Worry!" Padre Pio...pray for us!

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 desperately need items to help keep people warm: hats, coats, mittens, gloves, scarves, sweaters, etc.** 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?

LifeTeen High School

Sunday, Feb. 7: CORE Team will be delivering care packages today from 1-4 p.m. to bring some joy to your teens! Please not that Life Teen will not meet tonight.

Wednesday, February 9: Co-ed "Unleashed" small group at 7 p.m. in the youth room. Dinner will be provided. This 6-week study focuses on HOPE. All are welcome!

SAVE THE DATE: March 6, will be a service retreat day for high schoolers with *Food for Our Journey!*

EDGE Middle School

Sunday, Feb. 7: Please join us for an Edge Social Night "Putt-Putt Edge!" Instead of Super Bowling this year, we will try Super Putting. So, come show off your skills! Dinner starts at 7 p.m., pick-up is at 8:30 p.m. Meet in the Assembly Hall. Masks required!

For complete calendars, check out www.olsyouth.com.

Ladies Bible Study

All ladies of the parish are invited for Bible Study on Tuesdays, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon in the Family Life Center. We are a group of Christian ladies learning and having fun with each other. Join us and learn more about the Word of God. Contact Mary Ann Graeve at 205-908-2728. Space is limited.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is now having **LIVE Online Weekend Experiences!** Unlock the power of your relationship with new ways to do the "I do." Renew the romance and live your best life in love. Learn to become the best version of yourselves together! Alabama's next **VIRTUAL WEEKEND IS MARCH 19-21 on Zoom Meeting.** You can get more information or register online at www.ALFL-wwme.org or by calling Sean and Angie Murray at **205-530-3607.**

Prayer for our Nation

God our Father, giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for your glory and dwell among your people.

Send your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death." Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.
Amen.

Find Out Why Our Families Love Us



OUR LADY OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

OPEN ENROLLMENT

2021-2022 | Wee-Kindergarten-8th Grades



**Growing our children in knowledge and faith...
Experience the Difference!**

- SACS/AdvancED (now Cognia) Accredited and National Catholic Educational Association Member
- Earned recognition as a Common Sense Media School - dedicated to helping students think critically and use technology responsibly to learn, create, and participate
- Interactive whiteboards, Chromebooks, and iPad carts ... available to all students
- Comprehensive Academic Curriculum including Spanish, Art, Computer, and Music
- Daily Prayer and Religion Instruction
- Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Instruction for 3K-6th Grades
- Weekly School Liturgies
- Student Leadership Opportunities for Grades 5th-8th
- Competitive Athletics
- After School Enrichment Opportunities
- After School Care for Wee-K4 through 8th Grades

Educating Young Minds in Grades 3K-8th

To learn how you can empower your child's future with an affordable Catholic education,
call (205) 879-3237.

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Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School



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VOTE FOR OLS!

FAVORITE PRIVATE SCHOOL



www.birminghamparent.com/vote

Cast your vote online through April 23rd

VOTING ENDS AT MIDNIGHT ON APRIL 23, 2021

Look for the family favorites award winners in the June 2021 issue of Birmingham Parent. You must vote in at least 20 categories for your vote to count, and if you wish to be entered in the random drawing, we must receive your complete contact info. Information may be shared with prize sponsors.



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