



## *Our Lady of Sorrows Church*

September 12, 2021

*From the Pastor's Desk*

My Dear People,

One of the most important concepts in our Catholic Faith concerns receiving the LAST RITES. So, what are the "Last Rites"? The Last Rites are simply the last time a person receives Jesus before dying:

1. The Eucharist, if a person is able to receive;
2. The Anointing of the Sick (In this sacrament, Jesus touches people with healing when they are sick);
3. The Pope's special blessing.

The Apostolic Blessing given by any priest to a dying Catholic, who is sorry for past sins and has no attachment to sin, carries with it God's indulgence administered through the Church. The mercy of God given by the Church forgives any temporal punishment due to sin (purgatory, as we say).

The sacraments of the Eucharist and the Anointing of the Sick are received many times in a person's life, even though there is no danger of death. But, at the time of death, if a person receives the anointing, it is considered part of the Last Rites.

When the Anointing of the Sick is given to one so sick that he or she is dying, we call this "The Last Anointing" (Extreme Unction). Unfortunately, many who are seriously sick, but not dying, do not want the priest to anoint them because they fear it will turn into "The Last Rites."

I asked to be anointed before going into knee surgery. The Anointing of the Sick does several things:

- (a) It forgives sin.
- (b) It prays for health to the body.
- (c) It gives a person strength in time of sickness.
- (d) It carries with it a degree of indulgence, depending on a person's disposition.

Once a year, at the VIP Masses, Jane DeMeis arranges for a couple of priests to anoint the senior citizens. Jimmy Stewart said:

"After sixty-five, it is patch, patch, patch."

Even mental disturbance can qualify for "sick." In the epistle of St. James, chapter five, it says:

"If anyone is sick among you, let them bring in the presbyter of the church, who will anoint him with oil. The prayer of faith will save the sick person; and he be in sin, the sin will be forgiven him."

The Scriptures never say one must be dying, only sick. But if one is dying, one is obviously "sick," and with the spiritual merits of Jesus touching us with this anointing, how beneficial is this sacrament when one is close to death. The biggest mistake is to think that if one is anointed by the priest, the priest is sending that person into the next world. This "cause and effect" thinking is completely untrue. If anything, it is the opposite, since one of the effects of the sacrament is to pray for health to the body.

The formula the priest uses in anointing never mentions death. The priest anoints and says:

“By this holy anointing and His most loving mercy, may God grant you the gifts of the Holy Spirit; and may He who forgives sin, save you and raise you up.”

If one is truly near death’s door, to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, if one can, a day or two before standing before the Lord for a verdict, is a most happy thought. We actually use the words “Viaticum,” which means “with you on the way.”

No wonder our daily prayer, as Catholics, should be to receive all three of the “Last Rites.” If one cannot receive the Eucharist because one cannot swallow, the other two aspects of the Last Rites are still “The Last Rites,” and priests will get up in the middle of the night, if called, to attend a Catholic who is dying to give that person the Anointing of the Sick and the Apostolic Blessing.

We need to pray daily for the Last Rites when the greatest day of our life comes.

With prayers and blessings,  
Father Muller

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**First Friday Devotions are held on the first Friday of every month at 6 a.m.**

**First Saturday Devotions are held on the first Saturday of every month at 7:15 a.m.**

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Miles Huffstutler, Stephanie Murdock, Carmela Yeakle, Mary Jane Noto, Carolyn Wright, Bob Doyle, Donald Taccone, Ellen Scalise, Tom James, Mike Skellie, Harriet Dupree, Alan Pizzitola, Kenny Skellie



### *Mass Intentions*

Monday, Sept. 13	Special Intention Josephine Sicola Joe Rumore
Tuesday, Sept. 14	Ellen Noker Sally Shamp Sp. Int. Mr. & Mrs. Daniel McCormick
Wednesday, Sept. 15	Special Intention Will Garvis Sp. Int. Bill & Debbie Barranco & family
Thursday, Sept. 16	Joseph Schillaci Michael Emeh Phillip Rumore
Friday, Sept. 17	Special Intention Anna George Anthony & Roy Gagliano
Saturday, Sept. 18	Donors to OLS School Foundation Frank Beuerlein Sp. Int. Bill & Debbie Barranco & family
Sunday, Sept. 19	People of Parish Dan Trotman Sp. Int. Anthony & Charlotte Rumore

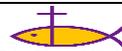
### **CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR**

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

- Sunday at 11 AM (No permanent adorer)**
- Sunday at 12 PM (No permanent adorer)**
- Saturday at 11 PM (No permanent adorer)**
- Thursday at 11 AM (With partner)**
- Friday at 12 AM (No permanent adorer)**

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 Bo Lovell at 205-965-3041 or email us at [olschapel@gmail.com](mailto:olschapel@gmail.com).

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### **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger, and rich in compassion. Are you following in Jesus’ footsteps? Pray for the grace to forgive. (Psalm 103)  
For those who suffer from a hardened heart, may they be touched by the gift of mercy and compassion.

## ***What's Going on in Youth Ministry?***

**Saturday, October 16:** Save the date for our annual Eucharistic Youth Congress at the Shrine in Hanceville. All life is a gift! More details to come.

### **LifeTeen High School**

**Sunday, Sept. 12:** Life Night tonight on the parking deck at 7 p.m.! Join us for dinner, games, a talk, and small groups as we continue our semester with a focus on the Mass. Be sure to bring an outdoor chair!

**Wednesday, Sept. 15:** Book studies are happening in the youth room each week from 6:30-8 p.m. Please note this time is different than last year! We have three small groups and book studies: I Choose the Sky by Emily Wilson, Choosing to See Beauty by Maura Preszler, and Man Enough by Dom Quaglia. Books are provided – just show up!

### **EDGE Middle School**

**Sunday, Sept. 12:** Edge continues our new theme with “The Gateway.” We will learn how to experience the Mass as God’s gift to us and see it as a place where God most fully pours out His grace on us. Meet in the parking lot outside the FLC from 7-8:30 p.m. Bring your own chair!

**Full schedule is available on the website:**  
[www.OLSyouth.com](http://www.OLSyouth.com)

**The Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild** will meet next Tuesday, September 14, at 6 p.m. Please join us in the Assembly Hall of the Family Life Center.

**First Light** is a shelter for Homeless Women and Children located in the heart of downtown Birmingham. It offers the only emergency shelter accepting homeless women with children 24 hours a day. Volunteering at First Light can be a deeply gratifying

experience. We often hear how our volunteers get so much more than they give. Our Lady of Sorrows works with the shelter approximately 14 days a year. If you would like to volunteer to provide food or service for the shelter, please send your email address to Leslie Bentley:

[leslie@flanaganllc.net](mailto:leslie@flanaganllc.net). All food donations can be left at the OLS Mom’s Day Out Nursery. Thank you!



**Due to the continued surge of COVID cases,** and for the wellbeing of all participants, the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend scheduled for **October 15-17, has been**

**changed to VIRTUAL.** You will be able to participate from the comfort of your home. You can get more information or register online at [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or by calling Frank and Kathryn Wessling at [205-530-3607](tel:205-530-3607).

**Middle Eastern Food Festival at Saint George Melkite Catholic Church** celebrates its centennial year in 2021, it also prepares for its 39th Middle Eastern Food Festival scheduled for September 23-25. The Food Festival will take place at Saint George Melkite Catholic Church, near UAB at 425 16th Avenue South. The hours of operation are 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The festival offers a convenient drive through service between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Lunch orders of \$100.00 or more can be delivered to downtown and over the mountain areas on Thursday and Friday. Take advantage of our delivery service! We will gladly deliver to your church, synagogue, or school. For takeout and delivery orders call 492-9621 or email [foodorders@saintgeorgeonline.org](mailto:foodorders@saintgeorgeonline.org). \*Tours of the beautiful Byzantine church will be conducted daily until 8:00 p.m. Schedule a group tour today by contacting us at 205-252-5788. For further information, visit [www.saintgeorgeonline.org](http://www.saintgeorgeonline.org).