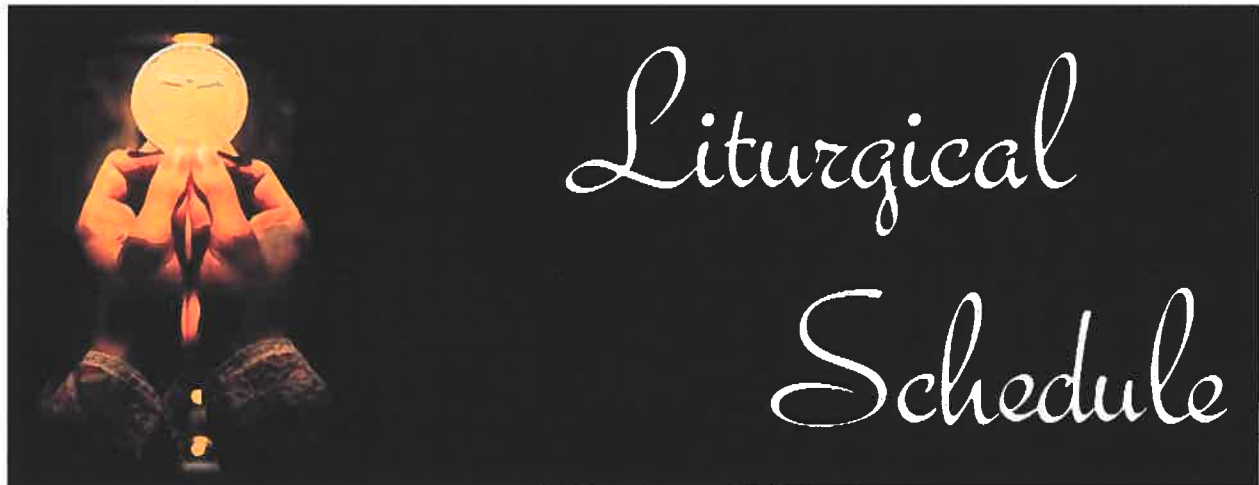




## **St. Barnabas Catholic Church**



### **Liturgical schedule this weekend, September 12-13:**

#### **Saturday, September 12:**

- Drive Through Confession 1-3pm at St. Barnabas (Fr Paul Asih)
- Communion Service 4pm at Our Lady of Lourdes (Fr Paul Asih)

#### **Sunday, Sept 13:**

- Sunday Mass 9am in the Church (Fr Patrick Cullen)

**\*Face Masks are required to attend Sunday Mass. Please keep social distancing between families.**

**Even though the dispensation has been extended until November 22, 2020. If you feel safe enough to be attending non-church social events, please make your way back to confession and mass for the sacraments. We miss you.**

**If you or a family member are in need of anointing or need a priest, please call the church office.**



## Spiritual Exercise for this week:

Let us pray

**O my God, relying on your almighty power and infinite mercy and promises, I hope to obtain pardon for my sins, the help of your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.**

As we discussed in our previous exercise, Faith is happiness in the mind. It brings to the mind of man the possibility of being with God forever in heaven, the beatific vision. Faith opens the door of our hearts to hope. **Faith** tells us that God is ready to assist us to attain what will make us truly happy. **Hope** is happiness in the heart. We are happy in our heart when we either possess the object of our love through our own efforts or through the assistance of someone else. Hope is a theological virtue meaning it has God as its object. We rely on God's goodness to possess God, Himself. So the divine goodness of God is both the cause and the ultimate object of our hope. We hope to attain the vision of God by our faith and trust in His goodness. Since the object of hope is good, then hope is a virtue in the will of man. Hope moves the will of man to the pursuit of God, Himself. When hope is based on faith and inspired by love, hope can certainly make us happy. What makes us happy is faith in God's goodness leading us to know that God is ready and willing to lead us to happiness.

However, sometimes our faith in God's goodness can falter leading us to sin. The two sins against hope are presumption and despair. Presumption is caused by pride. This happens when we hope to obtain heaven when we know that the way we are living offends God and does not repent. An example of this is "once saved always saved." This false belief is that as long as I accept Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior I can do whatever I want and I will still go to heaven. It is necessary to accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior and equally necessary is that we live like we have accepted Jesus as our Lord and Savior by trying to please Him and do what He asks of us. Jesus said to us in the Gospels "if you love me you will keep my commandments." We hope in God's mercy when we repent of our sins and trust that He understands that we are truly sorry for our sins and want to receive from Jesus the grace to never sin again. He loves us and wants to forgive us and help us to avoid sin in the future. As bad as presumption is a worse sin is the sin of despair. Despair is the false belief that we can commit a sin so bad or so many sins that God cannot forgive us. We lose both faith and hope in God's goodness. Saint Padre Pio once had a man in the confessional who was so very disturbed by the grave sins he had committed that Saint Padre Pio reminded the man of the infinite mercy of God and said to

him "my son God's mercy is infinitely greater than your malice." We can NEVER out sin God's love and mercy. He appeared to Saint Faustina to tell us of His greatest attribute: His mercy. She wrote down what He said about His great mercy in a book called the Diary of Divine Mercy.

God also gives us a gift of the Holy Spirit to help us to trust in His great goodness and love; this is the gift of fear of the Lord which helps to make our hope perfect. There are two kinds of the Fear of God. One is servile fear that turns to God only because he fears being punished by God. The Fear of God that is a gift of the Holy Spirit is filial fear that is we love God as a beloved son or daughter and we fear offending God because we know how much He loves us so we also love Him and do not want to do anything that offends Him. Scripture teaches us that the Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. The gift of wisdom begins with Faith because it is through faith that we know the truth about God and His goodness. Once we know the truth about God and His love for us we love Him in return by our actions. For the more we love God less we think of ourselves and fear punishment and the more we think of how we can love and please God. This gives us a greater knowledge of how truly awesome God is and we love Him more and, therefore, have more confidence that we will not only escape punishment but also possess God forever in heaven.

Let us examine how much we love and trust God. Do I allow the thoughts of my sins to discourage me and cause me to lose trust in God's goodness? Do I wonder sometimes if God has really forgiven me? Do I sometimes do something I know is wrong with the idea, "Well, I can always go to confession later?" When I do think this way do I confess the sin of presumption? Do I avoid telling sins to a priest in confession because I am ashamed of my sins? Is the real reason I am sorry for sins because I fear punishment or because I love God and am so sorry I offended Him? It is important to know that even if you are only afraid of punishment that is good enough to go to confession and have your sins forgiven, this is imperfect sorrow for sin but God is so good He forgives our sins even when we are confessing them because we are afraid of punishment. It is better, however, to confess our sins because we know how much God loves us and we are so sorry we have offended Him who has loved us so much. Let us give our sins, all of them to God, and trust in His love for us and seek to love Him more and more every day.

Let us conclude this exercise with a Divine Mercy Chaplet. Trusting in the great mercy of God which as Saint Padre Pio would say is "infinitely greater than our malice." JESUS I TRUST IN YOU!

In the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Sister Rita Marie, SsEW

## **Remember in your prayers:**

### **Sick:**

Rosemary Steinmetz, George Fabijanic, Sherry Short, Ellen Justice, Tommy and Margo Lemonis, Pat Cornelius, James David Petruzella, Alex Burse, Kathleen Faucett, Phyllis Collins, Jack Tyler

### **Homebound:**

Barbara Dietrich, Ethel Wilson, Angel Wright, Anne Loring, Rosemary Oddo, Margaret Mangina, Madeline White, Coley Gorham, Rita Spencer, Marge LaRose,

"Jack" John Johnson, "Joy" Pamela Goolsby, Jon Hill, Jack Tyler, Georgianna Mareno

**Deceased:**

Mike Renda, Nita Rose, Joe Mangione, Jonathan Hurst, Frank Smeraglia Tuomah Sahawneh, Tony Graveman, Janice Tyler, Maria Alejandra Aguilar Espino, John Clifton Quinn, Roger Chang, Jeremiah Schaefer, Betty Bishop, Joe Musso

**Deepest condolences to the following families and may eternal rest be granted to their loved ones:**

**The Micae Vū Vǎn San Family (father of Father Douglas Vu)**

**The Kay Shaw Family (long time parishioner of St. Barnabas)**

**The Rosemary Steinmetz Family (Johnny & Linda Sahawneh's Grandmother)**

**The Mike Renda Family (David Renda & Rosemary Gagliano's brother)**

**The Nita Rose Family (Jennifer and Phil Rose's mother)**

**The Joe Mangione Family (Joe Mangione, a long time parishioner that was homebound)**

**Message from Fr. Vu:**

I have received many emails, texts, and messages. I am very grateful, but cannot respond to everyone at this time. My family and I are very thankful for all of your thoughts and prayers. Please continue to keep my father and my family in your prayers and pray for safe travels for everyone coming to the visitation and funeral in Mobile.

In Christ,

Douglas M. Vu,

Pastor





## A FAMILY OF FAITH

*Family Catechesis  
for Our Parish*

**Register for continuing your faith...we need all ages, singles and families to register for Family Catechesis. Please register ASAP.**

**[Click HERE to Register](#)**



**Mass Readings for this weekend:**

# Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Reading 1 SIR 27:30—28:7

Wrath and anger are hateful things,  
yet the sinner hugs them tight.  
The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance,  
for he remembers their sins in detail.  
Forgive your neighbor's injustice;  
then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.  
Could anyone nourish anger against another  
and expect healing from the LORD?  
Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself,  
can he seek pardon for his own sins?  
If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath,  
who will forgive his sins?  
Remember your last days, set enmity aside;  
remember death and decay, and cease from sin!  
Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;  
remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.

## Responsorial Psalm PS103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

**R. (8) The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul;  
and all my being, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.**

He pardons all your iniquities,  
heals all your ills.

He redeems your life from destruction,  
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.**

He will not always chide,  
nor does he keep his wrath forever.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us,  
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he put our transgressions from us.

**R. The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.**

## **Reading 2** [ROM 14:7-9](#)

Brothers and sisters:

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord,  
and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,  
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

## **Alleluia** [JN 13:34](#)

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
love one another as I have loved you.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Gospel** [MT 18:21-35](#)

Peter approached Jesus and asked him,

“Lord, if my brother sins against me,  
how often must I forgive?”

As many as seven times?”

Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.

That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king  
who decided to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began the accounting,  
a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount.

Since he had no way of paying it back,  
his master ordered him to be sold,  
along with his wife, his children, and all his property,  
in payment of the debt.

At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said,  
‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’

Moved with compassion the master of that servant  
let him go and forgave him the loan.

When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants

who owed him a much smaller amount.  
He seized him and started to choke him, demanding,  
'Pay back what you owe.'  
Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him,  
'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'  
But he refused.  
Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison  
until he paid back the debt.  
Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened,  
they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master  
and reported the whole affair.  
His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant!  
I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to.  
Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,  
as I had pity on you?'  
Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers  
until he should pay back the whole debt.  
So will my heavenly Father do to you,  
unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."



### **"Cards & Calls" Volunteers Neded**

Since Covid started, I have made several phone calls or sent greeting cards to our known homebound or "senior" parishioners to see if they need anything, and to let them know they are not forgotten. More volunteers are needed. If you can help, please contact Angie Dailey at the parish office, 205-833-0334, or email [stbarnabasbhm@gmail.com](mailto:stbarnabasbhm@gmail.com)

**Free Produce, Every Friday during September.**





**Free Produce, Every Friday during September.**

**Tomorrow, Friday, September 11 at St. Barnabas**

**9:30 am – 12 pm.**

Free 20 lb box of fresh produce for your family or neighbor.

St. Barnabas Church Activity Building (7921 1st Ave N, B'ham)

Drive thru Pick Up.

Please wear your mask.

Drive down the alley to the Activity Building and we will load your trunk. 9:30 am - 12 pm today.

Thank God for his many blessings! First come, first serve while supplies last. God bless!

Thank you to the many helpers especially Rick and Cathy Hayden.



## **Please Continue to Support the Parish Financially**

You can mail your contribution to

St. Barnabas Church

7921 1st Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35206

We encourage you to enroll in our online giving program at

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stbarnabasbhm>

Or you may text to give at 205-850-7921

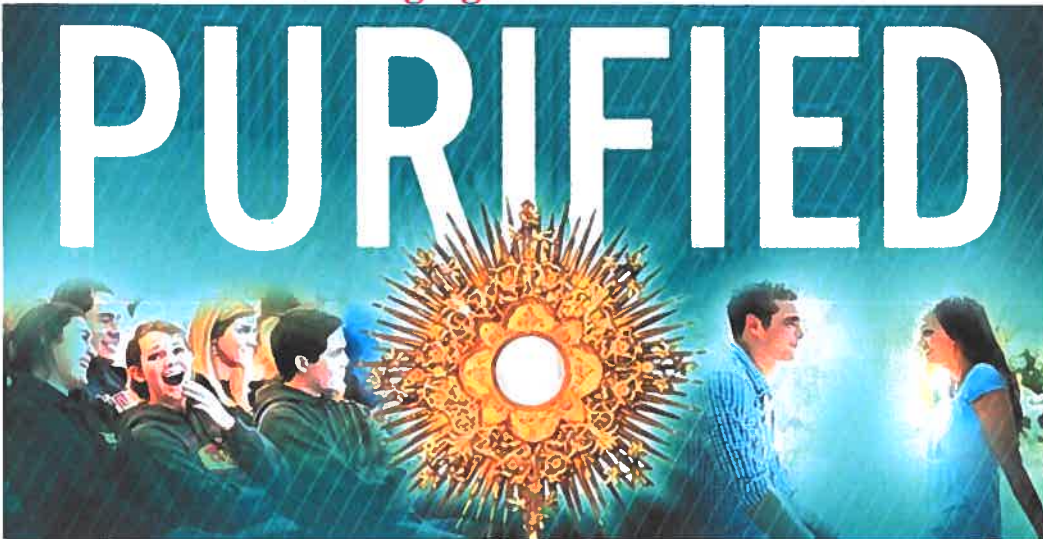
## St. Barnabas Food Pantry



Our pantry shelves are almost completely empty. We are asking for your help in donating any non-perishable food and/or household items. Any item is appreciated. Some high demand household items include: dish and clothes detergent, toilet paper, paper towels, soap and cleaners. When planning your donation, please consider the families and their needs. Meaning, if you bring peanut butter also consider bringing jelly or if you bring noodles, could you please bring pasta or alfredo sauce, etc. We serve many families and like to be able to provide complete meals.

Thank you for your generosity. Items can be left in the church or by the elevator. The pantry is not open to the public because of COVID, but we are taking appointments and serving families who come to our door.

## Purified: A Life-changing Event



**Sunday, September 27, 2020 at 7 PM – 9 PM  
at John Carroll Catholic High School**

Don't miss the opportunity to hear from renowned speaker Jason Evert hosted by the Diocese of Birmingham live at John Carroll High School in Birmingham, Alabama at PURIFIED! **(An event for the family, ages 13+)**

Get answers to life's tough questions about love, dating, and relationships from internationally acclaimed speaker Jason Evert!

Purified brings the whole family together to discover God's plan for love and opens up an opportunity to continue the discussion about this important topic at home, in a healthy and easy way with resources that work. The event includes a talk from Jason where he mixes humor with down-to-earth practicality, making the difficult conversations about love much easier.

## Fishers of Men Dinner



WMMA Presents

*'Fishers of Men' Dinner*

Thursday, October 8, 2020  
6:30pm Doors Open  
7:00pm Presentation

HONOREE: Jim and Joy Pinto

SPEAKER: Damon Owen

**You are invited to dinner with the Guadalupe Radio Network**

***Date - October 8, 2020***

***Location - Rosewood Ballroom, Homewood, Al.***

**<https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=lpfoundation&id=127>**

### **Sponsorship Levels:**

**St. Michael Table** - \$5,000 Includes recognition at the dinner by the emcee, and access codes for each guest for the online 2020 Catholic Marriage Summit.

**St. Raphael Table** - \$2,500 Includes recognition at the dinner by the emcee, and a CD of Damon Owen's talk for each guest.

**St. Gabriel Table** - \$1,500 Includes recognition at the dinner by the emcee.

**"At Home" Access** - \$50 ticket *Includes access to the event livestream to watch in your home with family and friends & a Gift Certificate for a meal from The Fish Market Southside in Birmingham (redeemable anytime, take-home available).*

**Single Seats** - \$100



## Prayer for Upcoming Election (USCCB)



Lord God, as the election approaches,  
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country,  
and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.  
We ask for eyes that are free from blindness  
so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters,  
one and equal in dignity,  
especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.  
We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned,  
Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.  
We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to  
your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment  
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word,  
live your love,  
and keep in the ways of your truth  
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles  
and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ  
and through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**For more information on Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, please visit these sites and see the attachment.**

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<https://www.ewtn.com/vote/>

<https://www.ewtn.com/vote/brief-catechism.asp>

<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/parishes-and-schools/upload/catholics-care-catholics-vote-bulletin-insert.pdf>

<https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>



