

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sympathy is expressed to the Thornton Family on the passing of Thomas Thornton. May his soul rest with Our Lord.

The Ladies' Altar Society will meet this Tuesday, January 14th, at 10 am in the church library. All ladies are welcome!

Children's Church begins next Sunday, January 19th. Leanna Brooks and Carol Mecke will lead the children to the Parish House before the First Reading (for the duration of the Readings, Gospel & Homily). It is for children ages 4-7 grades 4K-1st only who are not actively participating in 2nd grade First Communion preparation classes. There will be a brief discussion of the readings, activity and coloring sheet which follow the theme of the weekly Gospel reading that will be handed out for the children to color. Carmelo Parasiliti will walk to the parish house at 10:30am to help bring the children back. If anyone is interested in being a substitute please contact the church office or Melanie Connolly.

How To Obtain A Plenary Indulgence Handout during the 2025 Jubilee Year are in the back of Church for pickup and posted to our website.

2024 Contribution statements have been finalized. If you requested a statement last year, a copy has been mailed/email. If would like to receive your statement or have any questions please call/email Mary Jo.

Baby Shower for Elaine Smith is January 26th from 1-3pm in the Parish House. All ladies are welcome to attend. She is registered on Amazon.

Cookbooks are still available in the Church Office. Less than 50 books are left. Books are \$20 each with 450 recipes! We will not be order additional books so get one while they last!

2025 Calendars should arrive anytime - they'll be in the back of Church when they arrive.

St Blaise and Blessing of Throats will be after the February 1-2nd weekend Masses.

Friendly reminder to please silence/turn off phones before Mass starts and to enter and leave Church quietly and respectfully!

Bulletin Announcement Insert are posted to our website weekly. They are listed under the 'Publications' tab and on the 'Bulletin Inserts. The insert will not show up when you view the bulletin. This insert is not part of our bulletin contract and is printed in house.

Priesthood Discernment Weekend - The Office of Vocations is hosting a Priesthood Discernment Weekend at Casa Maria Retreat Center in Birmingham on Friday-Sunday, February 7-9th. Father Andrew Gutierrez, Chair of Pastoral Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, will lead this weekend of prayer, talks, and fellowship for men discerning a call to priesthood. Father Wyman Vintson, Vicar for Vocations, will be present to answer questions about discernment, the application process, and seminary life. This weekend experience is for men ages 18-35. The event is free, but registration is required. Please visit bhmdiocese.org/vocations to register.



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ACTIVITY DIRECTOR NOTES

Youth Mass with Fr Dominic has been postponed to due weather.

Soup Kitchen next Sat., 1/18/25. If you would like to help serve, call or text Donna 256 577-1607. A box for soup kitchen snacks and canned items will be in vestibule of church. Donations are appreciated. Call Donna if you would like to help serve.

Coffee and doughnuts next weekend, Jan. 18/19 after each mass. Call Donna if you can help serve.

Feb 2, Souper Sandwich Sunday after 10 am mass, gym. Enjoy a bowl of chili, sandwich and drink. Afterwards stay for Bonus Bingo, Heads or Tails, and coverall. Cost is \$15. Proceeds go toward continued renovations/ improvements of buildings/ church.

Souper Bowl weekend 2/8, 2/9, Fill a Truck weekend. Each year CYO collects canned goods/ cash on the same weekend as Super Bowl. This nationwide effort gives back locally to what they collect. 1/2 of proceeds will go to Loaves and Fishes and half to our local St. Vincent de Paul in Florence.

Feb. 15, Sat. 4pm: Valentine meal for married couples, widows and widowers. Mark your calendar.

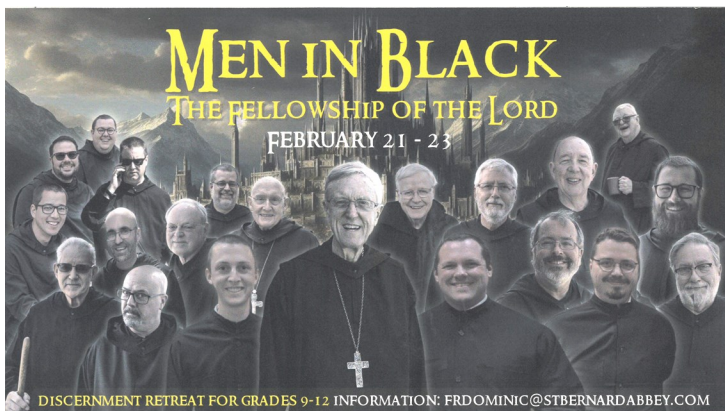
Feb. 23: Bowling on this date with youth and church family. Save the date.

Mar.4, Fat Tuesday, 5 pm games and snacks in gym. Bring sandwiches or snacks to share and games before we have Ash Wednesday

Can You Find It? Immaculate Conception Window? Why wearing blue, 12 stars around Mary, child like angels?


Submitted by Donna Peters, contact Donna for more info at 256-577-1607.

Answers: This window is the first stained glass window on the left side, west side of church. Mary wearing blue symbolizes purity, royalty, divinity, and protection. 12 stars around Mary signify the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles who represent the entire church. Child like angels are cherubs carrying Mary into Heaven.



Interested in learning about and experiencing monastic life? Join Father Dominic Lee, O.S.B. at St Bernard Abbey for a weekend. Weekend highlights include prayer time, Mass, social and recreational activities, talks, Liturgy of the Hours, and learning about the monastic life.

When: February 21-23, 2025 **Where:** Saint Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL **Cost:** Free **Requirements:** Be a Catholic high school-age male student open to learning about the monastic life. **Lodging:** Free stay at the Abbey Retreat Center with private room and bath. Qualified adults will also reside in the Retreat Center. **Registration Form:** Form is posted to St Michael's website under the bulletin publications tab - or call the Church Office. **Deadline:** February 6, 2025 **More details:** Contact Fr Dominic by email at frdominic@stbernardabbey.com



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM *in* ALABAMA
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The CHOOSE Act Application Is Open through April 7, 2025!

Qualifying students who enroll in or currently attend Diocese of Birmingham Catholic schools can receive **up to \$7,000** a year for tuition, certain fees, and other eligible expenses.

To Complete the Application:

Visit: <https://chooseact.alabama.gov>

Have:

- **Student's birth certificate**
- **Proof of Alabama residency**
 - Must match the physical address listed on the application.
 - Examples include a recent tax return, state driver's license, state issued ID, utility bill, voter registration card, mortgage statement, rental or lease agreement
- **Proof of Income**
 - Examples include the most recent federal or state tax return record, Form W-2 or 1099, Social Security statement, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits statement.

Eligibility for 2025-2026 and 2026-2027*

- Students whose family's adjusted gross income from the preceding tax year does not exceed 300% of the poverty level
- 500 awards for students with special needs
- Dependents of active-duty service members who are zoned for a priority school

Eligibility for 2027-2028 and Beyond*

- All families can apply regardless of adjusted gross income
- 500 awards for students with special needs
- Dependents of active-duty service members who are zoned for a priority school

*Priority given to previously participating students and their siblings

Please note: **Students who currently receive a scholarship through AAA are not eligible for an ESA**

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

CSO@bhmdioocese.org

www.bhmdioocese.org/schools

205-838-8303

