

JANUARY 18, 2026 | 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



St. Mary of the Visitation

Catholic Parish—Huntsville, Alabama

Oldest Catholic Parish in North Alabama—Established 1861



Parish Center
220 Lincoln St.

Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass: Tuesday—Friday 8:00am

Weekend Mass

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 11:00am

Nursery provided next door in Visitation Hall for both Sunday Masses.

Confession

Tuesday-Friday 7:30am

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm

Or by appointment

Mass & Adoration

1st Fridays | 6:30pm

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jose Raphy Ambooken

frjosea@gmail.com

Deacon: Dn. Jeff Montgomery

jeffmontgomery35758@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Jennifer Kilroy | *jennifer.kilroy@gmail.com*

Bookkeeper

Lynne Greco | *finance@smvparish.org*

Office Manager

Lois Lindsey | *smvparish@smvparish.org*

Ministries Coordinator

Cherie Miller | *ministries.smv@gmail.com*

Sacraments

Matrimony | Contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date.

Infant Baptism | Class for parents, required only once; by appointment; before or after birth of baby.

Anointing of the Sick | First Friday after Mass or can be scheduled at anytime.

Our Mission

As the oldest Catholic community in northern Alabama, we welcome all to be empowered by the Holy Spirit, to love God, and follow Jesus Christ through faith, worship, and witness.

Office Hours

Mon-Thu 8:30am-3:30pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

After hours spiritual emergency: 256.384.8758

Contact Us

222 Jefferson St. N
Huntsville, AL 35801

256.536.6349/www.smvparish.com



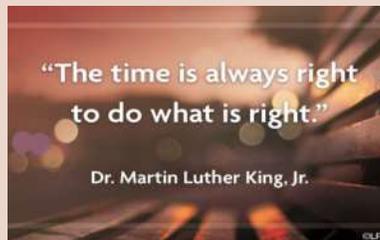
2nd Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME



John testified further, saying, "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon him. I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God." - Jn 1:32-34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

We will have **Communion Services** at 8am, Tues-Fri, for the remainder of January. Confessions on Saturdays from 4:00-5:00 PM.



"The time is always right to do what is right."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Financial Contributions

Weekly Operating Expenses: **\$20,119**

January 10/11, 2026

Weekly Church Support.....\$20,728
Holy Family..... \$35
JPII High School..... \$10

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

For information on how to donate online, see page 2 of the bulletin.

Day of Prayer for the

LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

January 22, 2026

Dear God,
You gave us all the gift of life. Help us to protect this sacred gift for the most vulnerable — the unborn children You have created in love. Be our strength as we spread a message of hope and life, give us Your eyes to view every circumstance with charity, Your endurance in the field, Your compassion in our words. Amen. ©LPi

Play That One Again

How many times have you sung the church song, "Here I Am, Lord"? If you grew up Catholic and are around my age (still 50!), the answer is more than you can count. The song that quotes various verses of Scripture is sung using guitar, piano, or organ, by cantors and choirs, in traditional and modern churches. It is truly a Catholic greatest hit of the modern Church. The question is how many times when singing the refrain have you really taken to heart what you were singing.

"Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." Like the biblical figure Samuel, we are responding to the call of God by asking for clarification that we are indeed the one being called. We then follow up the question with a profound statement: "I will go if You lead me." It is profound because we are pledging to our God that we are willing to go wherever He wants. We are accepting the challenge put forth in the U.S. Bishops' pastoral letter, "Stewardship: A Disciple's Response," to become mature disciples who respond to the call of Jesus Christ regardless of the cost. We have sung this pledge repeatedly for many years.

We never have any idea what God will call us to do and where to go. Sometimes the request can ask us for quite a lot. Hopefully, we respond like a mature disciple. If not, maybe we should reflect more the next time this song is played. The melody will not allow for the words, "I will see if I am busy and then decide to go if you lead me." Then again, I don't want to sing that to God, the source of all life anyway. Do you?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

Parish Registration—If you are 18 years of age or older, attend Visitation on a regular basis and have not registered, please register at the parish. The registration form is on our website or pick up a form on the buffet in the narthex. Any changes to your information can also be made on the form.

Online Giving—Contributions can be made through our website: smvparish.com by selecting the secure "Donate" button located in the menu. For more information call the office at 256-536-6349.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn each day for the intentions of one of our parish families. If possible, please stop by the church on your day and say a prayer.

Jan 18-Jan 25 For the intentions of:

- Sun** Mrs. Diane Sachs
- Mon** Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Salazar
- Tues** Ms. Bette Salmon
- Wed** Mrs. Mary Samaniego
- Thurs** Mr. & Mrs. John Sanders
- Fri** Ms. Patricia Santoro
- Sat** Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Santschi
- Sun** Mr. Cole Sargent

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of January 18

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

Martin Luther King Day

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19

St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

A Prayer for Safe Travels for Fr. Jose

Lord, please send your angels to watch over Father Jose during his trip. Keep him safe from all harm and sheltered in Your loving arms. Guide his path and grant him wisdom and discernment as he journeys. Protect him from any danger or illness, and bring him home safely when the journey is complete. Amen.

Faith Formation

Pray with us!



Our Confirmation Class asks you to join them in praying for teachers, first responders and health care workers, that God will give them guidance and peace.

Altar Flowers may be donated in memory or honor of a loved one or to mark a special occasion. Contact the office for more information.

For a list of our ministries visit our website at www.smvparish.com or pick up a Guide to Ministries in the church narthex.

Prayer Requests Jeannie Calvarese, Skye Grant, Darrel & Diane Kaiser, Pat Hicks, Holly Cooney, Noah Hebert, Theresa Marlowe, Sherry Goyer, Debbie Porges, Pam Hardy, George Bury, Joan Smith, Gerard Drumm, Linda Daniel, Terri Powers, Dana Hammer, Jim Bodine, Caroline Lindsey, Dev Flynn, Anne Geist, and Evan Shackelford.

Have A Prayer Request Or Need A Pastoral Visit?
Contact us for a prayer request 256.536.6349





Choir Help Wanted! Our Sunday 11:00 AM Mass needs volunteers! Practices are bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM. **Contact: Rebecca Whited at rebecca.whited@gmail.com for more information.**

WOMEN'S CURSILLO ... Looking to grow your faith and love of Jesus? The Cursillo Movement offers the method, tools and support needed to live a fuller, more vibrant Christian life. The next Women's weekend will be held March 12-15, 2026, at St. Bernard's Abbey in Cullman. For more information text Linda Schaaf at 256-541-2687 or email her at LSchaaf325@gmail.com

Veterans "Coming Home" Retreat: A day of spiritual reflection for adults

When: Saturday January 24, 2026, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Where: Holy Spirit Catholic Church Parish Life Center

Where do you go to unpack the duffle bag of experiences that were part of your military experience? All veterans, spouses and their adult family members are welcome for reflection on the gifts and burdens of having served. Whether you served in any of our military components: full time, national guard or reserves; whether you are currently serving, recently discharged or back in civilian life for many years, this is a day of healing, hope, and sharing with others who understand your story. Open to all faith traditions. There is no cost for attendees. Attendance is limited to 20. Contact the below for more information.

To Register use the QR Code or contact:

John Durant (256) 604-6030, johndurant8005@gmail.com

Deacon Lee Heckman (256) 714-7027, lee.g.heckman@gmail.com



Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 17

5:30pm | For the Parish

Sunday, January 18

8:00am | † Robert Smith

9:30am | Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am | Confirmation Class (VH)

9:30am | HSA (Bridal Suite)

9:30am | Adult Faith Formation (HFR)

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am | † Robert Rees

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Monday, January 19

7pm | St. Jerome Book Club (VH)

Tuesday, January 20

8am | Communion Service

Wednesday, January 21

8am | Communion Service

6pm | St. Veronica Blanket Ministry (TH)

6:30pm | St. Michael Ministry (VH)

Thursday, January 22

8am | Communion Service

6pm | Men of St. Joseph (HFR)

Friday, January 23

8am | Communion Service

8:30am | Coffee Social (VH)

Saturday, January 24

5:30pm | † Steve Montgomery

Sunday, January 25

8:00am | † Jess Jones

9:30am | Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am | Confirmation Class (VH)

9:30am | HSA (Bridal Suite)

9:30am | Adult Faith Formation (HFR)

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am | For the Parish

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

(C) Church, **(HFR)** Holy Family Room, **(O)** Office, **(PH)** Parish Hall, **(TH)** Treacy Hall, **(VH)** Visitation Hall (at courtyard ramp)



Baby Bottle Boomerang

Please return your filled bottles after any weekend Mass throughout January. Thank you for your generosity and support of life!

The **Food Pantry** is in need of the following items: peanut butter or cheese crackers; canned fruit; fruit cups; peanut butter, jelly; pasta sauce; ramen noodles. Thank you for your continued support and donations.

Scan the QR code to see our Pantry's Amazon Wish List.

Or type in:

<https://linktr.ee/smvpantry>



Weekly Emails

are sent to registered parishioners every Wednesday listing upcoming events for the week and other announcements.

Monthly Newsletter

Please send announcements for next month's newsletter to: visitationnews@gmail.com by the 15th of each month.

Our **Church Directory** is available to view on your computer or smartphone! Instant Church Directory—the program we use to build our church directory—has a member website. You can access this website by scanning this QR code or following this link — <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com> Create your account by entering the primary email listed on your parish registration and following the directions on-screen.



Our Nursery for preschool-aged children is open in Visitation Hall (at the ramp) during the 8 & 11am Masses.



Active membership at the Visitation is usually determined by: registration at the parish for at least six months; attendance at Mass every weekend; use of your financial stewardship envelopes or enrollment in On-line Giving or active involvement in parish ministries. Active membership status is required to serve on Parish Councils, as Commission Chairs, or to have parishioner status at local Catholic Schools.

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In memory of
Don & Spence Moore



Huntsville Area Catholics
If you're looking for schedules, announcements & information for all the area parishes.
VISIT - Facebook.com/HuntsvilleCatholics

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Cristina von Spakovsky, MA, ALC, NCC
Therapist at Catholic Family Services
cvpakovsky@bhmdiocese.org
256-536-0073

Therapist at CFS working with ages 5 and older who are struggling with any of life's difficulties. Contact me today if you are looking for healing and support!

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