

MAY 17, 2026 | THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD , 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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 & 12:30pm

Nursery provided next door in Visitation Hall for the 8:00am & 11:00am 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



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Parish Picnic Today
at the Parish Hall
after the
11:00am Mass

**Please bring a
dessert to share!**

Financial Contributions

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

May 9/10

Weekly Church Support.....	\$21,880
Holy Family.....	\$420
JPII High School.....	\$260
Building Fund.....	\$4,415

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Pastor's Note

Dear Parish Family,

Today we celebrate the great Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. After His resurrection, Jesus returned to the Father, but He did not abandon His disciples. Instead, He entrusted them with a mission: to continue His work in the world. The Ascension reminds us that we too are called to be witnesses of Christ in our families, workplaces, and parish community. As we await the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, let us pray for renewed faith, courage, and joy in living our Christian vocation.

Today is also our Parish Picnic! I warmly invite everyone to come, participate, and enjoy this beautiful day of fellowship and community. We will also have our Ministry Fair, where you can learn more about the many ministries that serve our parish family. Every parishioner has gifts and talents to share. I encourage you to prayerfully consider joining one of our ministries and becoming more actively involved in the life of our parish. A special word of thanks to our Parish Pastoral Council members and all the volunteers who are working hard to make this event successful and enjoyable for everyone.

I would also like to thank our Buildings and Grounds Ministry for their wonderful work in preparing a new room for our Food Pantry Ministry. This improvement will greatly help us continue our outreach to those in need in our community.

Beginning this month, our parish ministries will take turns volunteering to manage our Gazebo area for one month at a time. This month, our Food Pantry Ministry has generously accepted the responsibility. Thank you for your spirit of service and dedication.

Starting this week, I am adding a new section to my bulletin note called "Family Tip." These will be simple and practical suggestions to strengthen Catholic family life.

Family Tip 1: Make Your Home Catholic: Since we are Catholics living in our homes, let our homes also reflect our faith. Place a crucifix, a statue, or a picture of the Sacred Heart, or the Blessed Virgin Mary, or the Holy Family in the main living room or hall of your home. In a beautiful way, this "baptizes" your home and reminds everyone who enters that Christ is the center of your family life. If you want your Pastor to come and bless your home, I am happy to do that, you may contact the office to schedule it, or you can see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. We will be in touch with you.

May God bless you and your families abundantly.

Fr Jose

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.

May 17– May 24 For the intentions of:
Sun Mr.&Mrs. Matthew Wagner
Mon Mr.&Mrs. Randy Waldron
Tues Mr.&Mrs. Willaim Wall
Wed Ms. Emily Waller
Thurs Mr.&Mrs. Allen Watkins
Fri Mr.&Mrs. William Watson
Sat Mr. Hunter Webster
Sun Mrs. Jennifer West

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of May 17, 2026

Sun: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20 **The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day**

Mon: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33 **St. John I, Pope and Martyr**

Tues: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

Wed: Acts 20:28-38/ Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19 **St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest**

Thurs: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26 **St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs**

Fri: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19 **St. Rita of Cascia, Religious**

Sat: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Enrollment for Pre-K – 12th Grade Faith Formation Classes is Now Open for the 2026-2027 School Year!

Register Students Online by scanning the QR code



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

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.

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

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, Timothy Payne, Buddy Rogers, Lisa Downard, Seraphina Newquist, and Paul Torrey.

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





**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
FR. JOSE!
MAY 19**

All are invited to the
St. Mary of the Visitation Parish
Picnic **TODAY**,
at the Parish Hall, 12:15pm.

Our Parish Council will be serving
hamburgers, hot dogs, and chips.
Please bring a dessert to share!

SMV Ministries will also be represented
and this will be a good opportunity to talk
with representatives of the various
ministries and sign up with you time and
talents!

Cursillo Weekends for Men and Women
will be held at St. Bernard Abbey in
Cullman, AL.

-Men's Cursillo Weekend:

August 13-16, 2026

-Women's Cursillo Weekend:

April 8-11, 2027

If you have been considering Cursillo as
the next step in your spiritual journey,
now is the time! Contact Linda Schaaf
at lschaaf325@gmail.com

*The Cursillo Movement is a recognized charism
of the Catholic Church founded on small
friendship groups.*



**World Communications Day
Blessing for Communications**

Dear Jesus, On this World
Communications Day, bless each of us
as we communicate, whether by
conversation, email, text, post, letter, or
phone. May our words bring peace,
comfort, healing, promise, joy, and love.
May we bring your blessing wherever
we go. Amen.

Calling all High Schoolers

Knights of Columbus Council
#4080 is sponsoring a HS retreat
for rising 9-12th graders at
Franciscan University. Only \$125
from June 25-28th. Email
thomas@CitizenSoldierLaw.com
for all inquiries. Please visit the
Youth Ministry table at the Parish
Picnic for more details.

The food pantry is requesting the
following items: Chef Boyardee; pasta,
pasta sauce; ramen noodles; peanut
butter and jelly; fruit cups; canned
fruit; canned chicken, meat, and
tuna; and cereal. Thank you for your
generous donations.

**Scan the QR code to see
our Amazon Wish List. Or
type: [https://linktr.ee/
smvpantry](https://linktr.ee/smvpantry)**



End of Year and Graduation

Mass and Reception

Thursday, June 4

5:30 Mass

6:30 Potluck Reception Dance

*Saint Mary of the Visitation
Church and Parish Center*

Who is Invited? Homeschool families who have
survived another year, graduating seniors and their
families, folks interested in homeschooling, folks
looking for connection/community, people that want
to support and be around homeschool families.

Need more info? Want to help? Sign up your senior?
Contact Jackie, catholicendersons@gmail.com

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE**

Saturday, May 16

5:30pm | Mr. & Mrs. Ben Hagopian (I)

7:00am | Into the Breach (TH)

10:00am | Food Pantry Meeting (TH)

Sunday, May 17

8:00am | † Juan Ramon Arevalo

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

12:15pm | Parish Picnic (PH)

11:00am | For the Parish

12:30pm | † Theodore Sercel

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Tuesday, May 19

8:00am | Jeffrey & Heather Davis (I)

Wednesday, May 20

8:00am | † Elizabeth Kathleen Palmer

6:00pm | St. Veronica Blanket (TH)

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

Thursday, May 21

8:00am | Rev. Rick Chenault (I)

6:00pm | Men of St. Joseph (HFR)

Friday, May 22

8:00am | Mira Kruja (I)

8:30am | Coffee Social (VH)

Saturday, May 23

5:30pm | † Bea & Charles Albright

Sunday, May 24

8:00am | For the Parish

11:00am | Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am | † Kenneth Huber

12:30pm | † Theodore Sercel

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

(C) Church, (HFR) Holy Family Room, (O) Office,
(TH) Treacy Hall, (VH) Visitation Hall

**Don't forget to submit
your recipes for the
cookbook the Knights of
Columbus are putting
together. The forms are
available in the office
or in the weekly
announcements email.**

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.