

DECEMBER 7, 2025 | 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



St. Mary of the Visitation

Catholic Parish—Huntsville, Alabama

Diocesan Pilgrimage Site for the Jubilee of Hope 2025

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

Holy Hour of Adoration & Benediction

1st Thursdays | 7:00pm

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

second sunday of ADVENT



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Save the Date

Dec 8: Holy Day of Obligation
Masses at 8am & 6pm

Dec 12: 6:30pm Mass followed by
Adoration

Dec 13: Penance Service
10am–Noon

Dec 14: Advent Giving Tree Gifts Due

Dec 24: Masses at 4:30pm, 7pm
and Midnight (Lessons & Carols at
4pm & 11:30pm)

Dec 25: Mass at 10am

Financial Contribution

Weekly Operating Expenses:

November 22/23 & 29/30

Weekly Church Support.....\$31,283

Holy Family.....\$469

JPII High School.....\$209

**Thank you for your generosity and
continued support!**

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

Prayer for Advent – Peace

Come, Lord Jesus!

Bring your peace to our world. Inspire reconciliation, heal divisions, bind wounds, rewrite scripts. You are the Prince of Peace, bring that light into every space.

Amen. ©LPi

How Much Is Enough? I've got some great news for some of you: Jesus Christ doesn't care what name you bear. He doesn't care where you were born, and he doesn't care what your family tree looks like. He doesn't care where you grew up or where you went to school.

I've also got some bad news for some of you: See above.

It's so easy to take our salvation for granted. The mercy of God makes it so. Look at John the Baptist — he was pouring water on everybody who wanted it. Everybody but one group: those who expected it. Those who thought it was a given because of who they were, because of what they were. Those who had no intention of doing the work of repentance.

Sometimes, because God is so faithful, we make the mistake of forgetting that He is also just.

I am baptized, we think. I made my First Communion, and I was Confirmed. That's enough.

I went to Catholic school. I know all the Ten Commandments and I can tell you anything you want to know about the Popes. That's enough.

I'm on parish council. I put money in the basket, and I volunteer. That's enough.

None of it is enough. It would never be enough. And before we look upon the Pharisees and Sadducees with too much judgment, we need to remember: the work of repentance is ongoing. It is a process that we must commit to within ourselves, continuously.

God is the missing element to this equation. He is the one who raises children to Abraham from the stones. If we rely only on our own abilities, our own merits, our own offerings, it will never be enough.

— 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.

Dec 7-Dec 14 For the intentions of:

Sun Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Prado
Mon Mr. & Mrs. George Preussel
Tues Mr. Matthew Pritchett
Wed Mr. & Mrs. Gary Quintero
Thurs Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Rafferty
Fri Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Ragucci
Sat Ms. Andrea Ramos
Sun Ms. Ramona Ramos

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of December 7

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12 **2nd Sunday of Advent**

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14 **St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatatzin**

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 **Our Lady of Loreto**

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15 **St. Damasus I, Pope**

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47 **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13 **St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

Faith Formation

Pray with us!

The 4th grade class asks you to join them in praying for peace, that God will comfort those living in areas of war and violence, and that by His Grace people will be inspired to end the fighting.



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.

Monthly Newsletter

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

Weekly Emails

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

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, Ann Geist, Gerard Drumm, Linda Daniel, Terri Powers, Dana Hammer, Jim Bodine, Caroline Lindsey, and Dev Flynn

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





**Monday,
December 8
Holy Day
of Obligation.
Masses are at
8am and 6pm.**

Fr. Bill Kelly will celebrate our 6pm Mass. This is the 5th anniversary of his retirement and he will be moving soon to Milwaukee, WI.

St. Raphael Ministry — Our next activity will be on Saturday, December 13th. We'll start with the 5:30pm Mass and then walk the Tinsel Trail in downtown Huntsville followed by dinner at one of the downtown restaurants. For more information, please contact Kora at kora33@att.net.

The Food Pantry There will be pantry members by the Advent Giving Tree to help with the tree tags, and one in the Narthex to take monetary donations, at each Mass. We ask that you wait until a member is available to take tree tag information. All gifts need to be turned in by December 14th.

We hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving! We need a few everyday items for the pantry: peanut butter, jelly; pasta sauce; ramen noodles. Thank you for your support and donations!



Ladies of the parish, you're invited to our **Paint Night Christmas Party** for our **Women's Ministry** meeting on Tuesday, December 9th at 6:30 pm in the Fr. Treacy room. Join us for an unforgettable evening of fun, fellowship, and painting. Art by Candy will provide everything needed for our night out. There is a \$30 fee, which includes the supplies to create your 8x10 painting to take home. To reserve your spot and make a prepayment for this fun event, please contact Liz Montgomery at 281-705-6697 or elizabeth35758@gmail.com. We're looking forward to hearing from you and hope you'll join us for our ladies' night out!

Parish Christmas Social

In lieu of our Christmas Dinner this year (which we have to forgo due to ongoing renovations at the Parish Hall) we will have a Christmas Social at the gazebo **TODAY**, Sunday, December 7 after each Mass. Please stop and enjoy sweets, hot cocoa, coffee, and fellowship!

Our Christmas Flower Memorial Offering

is a way to remember our deceased and to honor living individuals. Your donations to the Memorial supports our Christmas decorating. Special flower envelopes are in the pew holders and your monthly packet. Please turn in your Christmas Flower Offering no later than December 14 for names of your loved ones to appear in the Christmas bulletin. Please print names legibly.

**THANK
YOU**

to all who donated goodies to the Bake Sale and to all who bought goodies! Over \$800 was raised for our Education Award.
Thank you Ladies Sodality for coordinating!

Memorial Brick Prayer Garden

We have 6 bricks still available. Once all the bricks are in place our Prayer Garden will be sealed. Thank you to all who have donated!

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 6

5:30pm | † James Wall, III

Sunday, December 7

8am | For the Parish

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)

11am | † Roger Crampton

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Parish Christmas Social (at the Gazebo after both Masses)

Monday, December 8

8am | For all Mothers

6pm | For the Parish

7pm | St. Jerome Book Club (VH)

Tuesday, December 9

8am | † Maria Ramirez

6pm | Life in Faith (VH)

6pm | Finance Council (O)

6:30pm | Women's Ministry (TH)

Wednesday, December 10

8am | Anthony Venckus (I)

10am | Pray & Play (TH)

6pm | Parish Pastoral Council (TH)

Thursday, December 11

8am | † Gertie Venckus

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

Friday, December 12

8am | Judith Martinez Pantaleon (I)

8:30am | Coffee Social (VH)

6pm | The Light Ahead (TH)

6:30pm | For the Parish

7pm | Adoration

Saturday, December 13

10am-Noon | Advent Penance Service

5:30pm | † Manuel Corona

5:30pm | St. Raphael Ministry – Mass & Off

Campus Activity (contact Kora at

kora33@att.net)

Sunday, December 14

8am | † Bud Shatzer

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)

11am | 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)

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.