

OCTOBER 11, 2026 | 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



222 Jefferson St. N

St. Mary of the Visitation

Catholic Parish—Huntsville, Alabama

Oldest Catholic Parish in North Alabama—Established 1861



Parish Hall
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

First Fridays

8:00am Mass & Anointing; 6:30pm Mass & Adoration

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jose Raphy Ambooken

frjosea@gmail.com

Deacon: Dn. Jeff Montgomery

jeffmontgomery35758@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Jennifer Kilroy | smv.kilroy@gmail.com

Bookkeeper

Lynne Greco | finance@smvparish.org

Office Manager

Lois Lindsey | smvparish@smvparish.org

Ministries Coordinator

PJ Clawson | 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 any time.

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



Save the Date

Nov 8: 8am Mass will honor veterans. Reception will follow.

Dec 5: 1pm Parish Christmas Dinner

Dec 5: 4pm Visit to Ave Maria Grotto



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

Financial Contributions

Weekly Operating Expenses: \$20,119

October 3–4, 2026

Weekly Church Support.....\$27,808

Holy Family School.....\$645

JPII High School.....\$45

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Pastor's Note

Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate the **28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**. In the Gospel, Jesus gives us the beautiful parable of the wedding banquet (Mt 22:1-10). The invitation to the banquet is extended to everyone. God continually invites us to share in the joy of His Kingdom. The question is: **How do we respond to His invitation?** Every Sunday, the Eucharist is an invitation to come to the Lord, to be nourished by His Word and Body, and to renew our relationship with Him. May we never take this invitation for granted.

October is a month filled with meaningful celebrations and opportunities for prayer. **October 12 is Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day.** May we remember with gratitude and respect the people, cultures, and histories connected with our nation.

On **October 15**, we celebrate the feast of **St. Teresa of Jesus**, a great mystic, and Doctor of the Church, who reminds us to seek God in prayer and to make our hearts a dwelling place for Him. On October 17, we celebrate **St. Ignatius of Antioch**, a courageous bishop and martyr who gave his life for Christ and for the unity of the Church.

Next Sunday, October 18, is **World Mission Sunday**. Let us pray for missionaries throughout the world and support the Church's mission of bringing the Gospel to every nation.

From **October 12-15**, the priests of our Diocese will gather in Cullman for our annual retreat. There will be no daily Mass during these days; instead, Communion Services will be offered. I humbly ask you to **pray for all the priests of our Diocese, and especially for me**, that this retreat may renew and strengthen us in our ministry.

Last Sunday, we had a beautiful **Blessing of Pets** for the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Around 40 dogs, two birds, and one cat received the blessing. Thank you to everyone who came with their beloved pets and for your generous donations to the Huntsville City Animal Shelter.

Family Tip #19: Make a Family Gratitude List. Take a few moments together each week to name the things for which your family is grateful. Gratitude opens our hearts to recognize God's blessings.

May God bless you and your families!

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 during office hours and say a prayer.



Oct 11-18 For the intentions of:
 Sun: Mrs. Laura Cadotte
 Mon: Ms. Justina Caldas
 Tues: Mr. & Mrs. John Calvarese
 Wed: Mr. Carlos Campos
 Thurs: Mr. Mateo Canabal
 Fri: Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Cantin
 Sat: Mr. & Mrs. Louis Carillo
 Sun: Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Carr

Readings for the week of October 11, 2026

Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:42-46
Thursday: Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 11:47-54
Friday: Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday: Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 12:8-12

Observances for the week of October 4, 2026

Sunday: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time; **Monday:** Columbus Day; Indigenous Peoples' Day; **Wednesday:** St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr; **Thursday:** St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; **Friday:** St. Hedwig, Religious; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

AT HOME FAITH FORMATION RESOURCE

DID YOU KNOW that as a member of St. Mary of the Visitation you have free access to *thousands* of Catholic studies, movies, cartoons, audio dramas, eBooks, and talks? It's true. Powered by the Augustine Institute, Formed.org has something for everyone from toddlers to adults, and through our parish subscription this resource is completely **FREE** for you to access!

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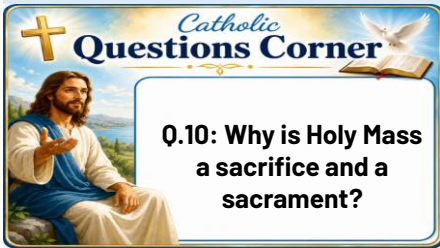
Our Nursery for preschool-aged children is open in Visitation Hall (at the ramp) during the 8 & 11am Masses. We are presently in need of help for the 11am Mass. This is a paid position. Please contact the office if interested.

Altar Flowers for this weekend were donated by Joni Mersman in memory of her mother, JoAnn Davidson.



Prayer Requests Dawn Drumm, Jennifer Michael, Jeannie Calvarese, Skye Grant, Darrel & Diane Kaiser, Pat Hicks, Holly Cooney, Noah Hebert, Theresa Marlowe, Sherry Goyer, Debbie Porges, Pam Hardy, Linda Daniel, Terri Powers, Caroline Lindsey, Dev Flynn, Timothy Payne, Seraphina Newquist, Paul Torrey, Donald Roseman, Lessie Jones, Garrett Lindquist, and George Bury.





St. Jerome's Book Club

Welcome Fall! It's time to start the next book for St. Jerome's Book Club! We will meet on Mondays, starting October 19th at 7p.m. in Visitation Hall.

We will be reading "Communism and the Conscience of the West" by Blessed Archbishop Fulton Sheen.

For decades, this book has been recognized as the finest book ever written by a Catholic on the subject of communism. Sheen explains the problems with society stemming from socialism and communism, which continue to infect universities and political discourse today. This timeless book exposes communism's defects, its attitude toward the family, the decline of historical liberalism, and the rise of the anti-religious spirit that pervades our world. For anyone seeking to understand one of the greatest threats to the Faith and our world, Communism and the Conscience of the West will be your guide.

I will have a few books for purchase, or you can buy an electronic copy.

Call/text if you have any questions: LuAnn @ 256-426-8898. Hope to see YOU starting October 19th at 7pm in Visitation Hall! Thank you!



Newly Baptized
October 4th, 2026
Olivia Rose Garcia

Introducing the St. Martin of Tours Ministry

Many who honor veterans on November 11th are unaware that Veterans Day was chosen (as were several other European peace treaties throughout history) to fall on the feast day of St. Martin of Tours, patron saint of soldiers. That is no coincidence — it is an invitation. Born in Hungary, St. Martin was drafted into the Roman army at fifteen. It was during his service that he encountered a freezing beggar and, moved with compassion, tore his military cloak in two and gave the beggar half — and that night, he dreamed that Jesus was wearing it. St. Martin is not only the patron saint of soldiers, but also of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps, which has a medal in his name. His life speaks directly to the heart of every man and woman who has worn a uniform — and to every person who wants to serve those who have.

St. Mary of the Visitation is proud to launch the St. Martin of Tours Ministry — dedicated to walking beside the veterans and active-duty military members in our parish and community through prayer, fellowship, practical support, and the sacraments.

Initial Meeting: Thursday, 10/15, 6:00pm, Fr. Treacy Hall.

Current Contact: Steve Plonka,
plon2@aol.com, 256-631-7853

Whether you are a veteran yourself, a military family member, or simply someone called to serve those who served — this ministry welcomes you.

Please RSVP by COB 10/13/26 with name and number of attendees so we may plan for the meeting. Light refreshments will be served.

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 10

5:30pm † Pat Schwanke

Sunday, October 11

8:00am † Greg James Pfister

9:30am Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am OCIA (TH)

9:30am Adult Faith Formation (VH)

11:30am Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am † Billy Wilson

12:30pm For the Parish

Noon-1:00pm Food Distribution

Tuesday, October 13

8:00am † Torres-Cancel Family

6:00pm Life in Faith

Wednesday, October 14

8:00am † Bea & Charles Albright

5:30pm OCIA Dinner; 6pm OCIA (TH)

6:00pm Knights of Columbus (PH)

6:00pm Parish Pastoral Council (TH)

Thursday, October 15

8:00am † Janice Greer

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

6-7pm St. Martin of Tours Ministry (TH)

NO 6pm Women's Ministry

Friday, October 16

8:00am Lee Anne McElroy (I)

8:30am Coffee Social (VH)

5:00pm 55+ (PH)

Saturday, October 17

7-8am Into the Breach (PH)

10:00am Food Pantry (TH)

5:30pm Steve & Fran Venckus (I)

Sunday, October 18

8:00am † Sr. Terence, CMC

9:30am Youth Faith Formation (PH)

9:30am OCIA (TH)

9:30am Adult Faith Formation (VH)

11:30am Nazareth House (HFR)

11:00am † Billy Wilson

12:30pm 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

The **Food Pantry** is requesting the following items: pasta sauce; canned chicken, & meat; canned fruit; fruit cups; applesauce; jelly; soups; Chef Boyardee; Vienna sausages; Hamburger Helper; and cereal (any sizes). Thank you for your very generous donations.



Scan the QR code to see our Amazon Wish List. Or type:
<https://linktr.ee/smvpantry>



FIFTY-FIVE PLUS (55+)
OCTOBERFEST
Friday, October 16th
5:00pm at the Parish Hall
Bratwurst and Drinks Provided
Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.



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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