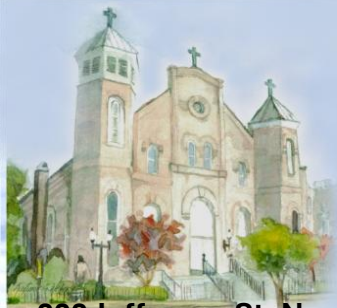


OCTOBER 4, 2026 | FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



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

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 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

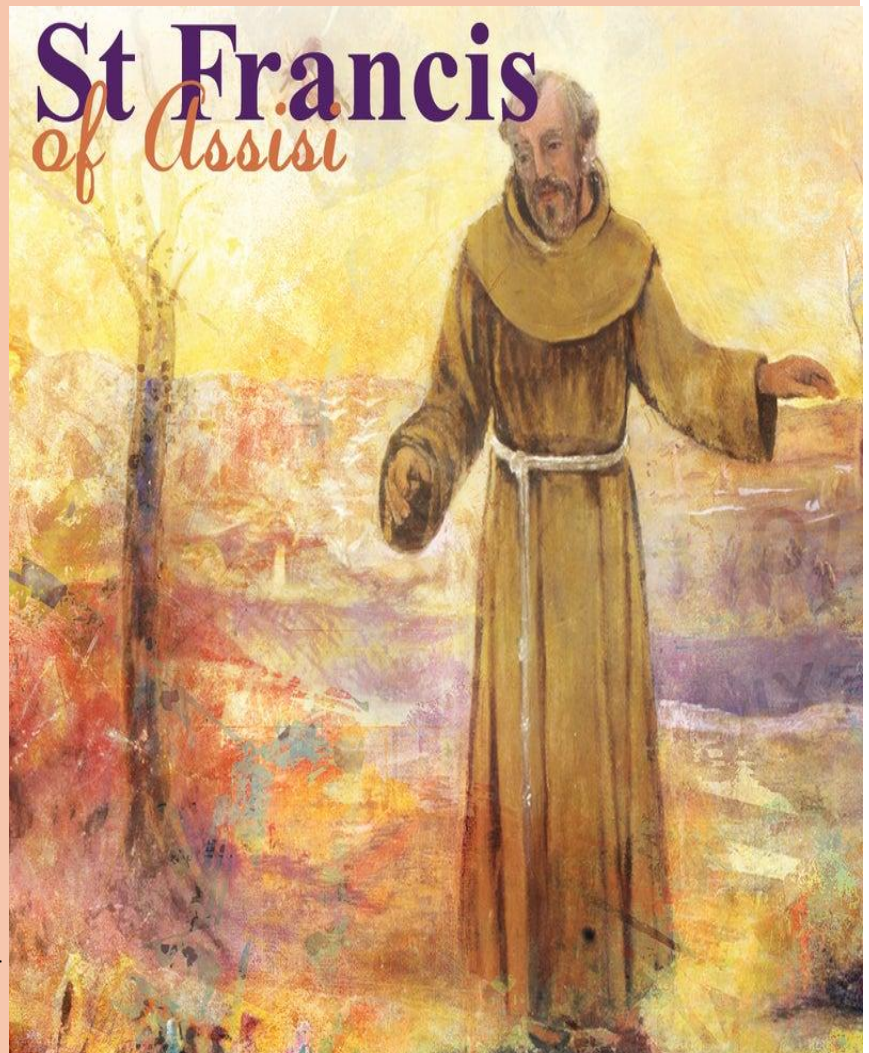
After hours spiritual emergency: 256.384.8758

Contact Us

222 Jefferson St. N

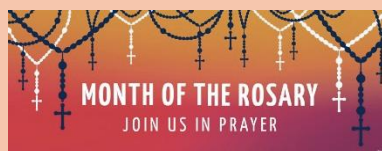
Huntsville, AL 35801

256.536.6349/www.smvparish.com



Save the Date

Oct 7: Rosary for World Rosary
Day at 7pm in the church



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

September 19-20 & 26-27

Weekly Church Support.....\$33,617

Holy Family School.....\$367

JPII High School.....\$165

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 Sunday, with the special permission of our Bishop, we celebrate the **Feast of St. Francis of Assisi** instead of the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us: *"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."* (Mt 11:28). St. Francis lived these words with remarkable simplicity. He found joy not in possessions or power, but in following Christ, caring for creation, and serving others with a humble heart.

After our 12:30 PM Mass today, around **1:15 PM**, we will have the **Blessing of Pets**. May St. Francis remind us to recognize God's goodness in all creation and to care for His creatures with gratitude and love.

Today is also **Respect Life Sunday**. I offer my sincere gratitude to our **Pro-Life Ministry** for their faithful witness and dedication to protecting and cherishing every human life. May we always remember that every person is created in the image and likeness of God and deserves dignity, love, and protection.

October is traditionally dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**. On **October 7, the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary**, we will celebrate **World Rosary Day** with a beautiful multilingual Rosary in the evening. Throughout this month, we will also pray the Rosary every day after Mass.

I encourage every family to make the Rosary a special part of your home. Begin your family prayer with the Rosary. Perhaps decorate a statue or image of the Blessed Virgin Mary in your home. Let our children especially see that October is truly a Marian month—a time to come closer to Mary and, through her, closer to Jesus.

Family Tip: Discuss one virtue each week at dinner. Choose a virtue such as kindness, patience, honesty, gratitude, or forgiveness, and talk together about how you can practice it during the week.

May Mary, Our Lady of the Rosary, lead our families ever closer to her Son.

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.



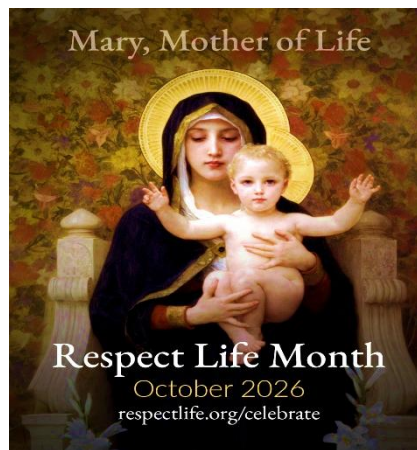
Oct 4-Oct 11 For the intentions of:
 Sun: Mrs. Ann Buffaloe
 Mon: Mr. Randy Buford
 Tues: Ms. Tori Burnett
 Wed: Mr. & Mrs. George Bury
 Thurs: Ms. Claire Byer
 Fri: Mr. Matthew Byers
 Sat: Mr. & Mrs. William Byers
 Sun: Mrs. Laura Cadotte

Readings for the week of October 4, 2026

Sunday: Deut 10:8-9; Ps 16: 1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Gal 6: 14-18; Mt 11: 25-30
Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28

Observances for the week of October 4, 2026

Sun: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday; Feast of St. Francis of Assisi **Mon:** Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest; **Tues:** St. Bruno, Priest; Bl. Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin; **Wed:** Our Lady of the Rosary; **Fri:** St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest



Blessing for Life

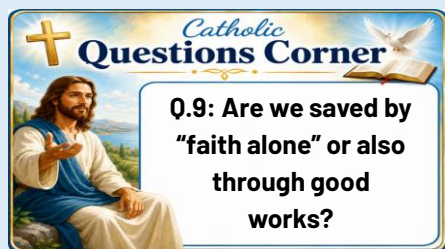
What wonder You have gifted us, Lord, in the blessing of life! May Your name be praised with every movement, every heartbeat, every breath. Protect life in every stage, race, age, ability, creed, and capacity. Pour Your mercy upon us this day, helping us to live deeply and love well.
 Amen ©LPi

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

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.





Come, enjoy a beautiful day of faith, friendship, food, and flowers! Ladies of the parish are invited to our **Women's Ministry Annual Picnic** at the Brosemer Flower Farm! Look for the blue balloons marking the entrance to the Flower Farm.

**Saturday, October 10
10:00 AM**

**Brosemer Flower Farm
3008 Winchester Rd NW
Huntsville, AL 35810**

Bring your lawn chair, rosary, and a side dish or dessert to share, and come ready for a wonderful morning together. Sandwich trays are provided. Our parishioner, Mary Frances Brosemer, will show us the art of creating a beautiful flower arrangement to take home. Come gather with other ladies of the parish, enjoy the beauty of God's creation, pray the Rosary together under the big oak tree, and make memories that will last! We can't wait to see you there. Contact Liz Montgomery at elizabeth35758@gmail.com or 281-705-6697 if you have questions.



**Newly Baptized
September 27
John Basil Xavier Santschi**



In honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Fr. Jose and Dcn. Jeff will bless pets **TODAY** following the 12:30pm Mass (about 1:15pm) in the church courtyard. We invite you to bring a donation for the Huntsville Animal Shelter: cat and dog treats; and/or used towels, blankets, and sheets.

WORLD ROSARY DAY, Oct 7
Please join a multi-language praying of the Rosary on Wednesday, Oct 7 at 7:00pm in the Church. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Eucharist and praying the Rosary in a combination of English, German, French, Spanish, Korean and Malayalam (Fr. Jose's native language in India). Benediction after followed by International Finger Foods in Visitation Hall.

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 3
5:30pm † Otto & Lou Tauffener
Sunday, October 4
8:00am For the Parish
NO 9:30am Youth Faith Formation (PH)
9:30am OCIA (TH)
NO 9:30am Adult Faith Formation (VH)
NO 11:30am Nazareth House (HFR)
11:00am For All Human Life
12:30pm Pro-Life Ministry
Noon-1:00pm Food Distribution
Monday, October 5
6:30pm Pro-Life Ministry (TH)
Tuesday, October 6
8:00am † Elizabeth Kathleen Palmer
5pm Finance Council (O)
6pm Catholic Daughters (TH)
Wednesday, October 7
8:00am † Mary Jane Pfister
10am Pray & Play (TH)
5:30pm OCIA dinner; 6pm Class (TH)
7pm Rosary followed by Benediction (C) with Int'l Finger Foods afterwards (VH)
Thursday, October 8
8:00am † Katie Hoyer
6:00pm Men of St. Joseph (HFR)
6:30pm St. Raphael Ministry (TH)
Friday, October 9
8:00am † Alicea Wells
8:30am Coffee Social (VH)
Saturday, October 10
10am Women's Ministry Picnic at Brosemer Flower Farm
11am Rocket City Regulators (PH)
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
(C) Church, (HFR) Holy Family Room, (O) Office, (PH) Parish Hall, (TH) Treacy Hall, (VH) Visitation Hall

The **Food Pantry** is in need of the following items: cereal (any size); peanut butter; jelly; applesauce; fruit cups; canned vegetables; instant oatmeal; canned meat. The pantry has plenty of cornbread/muffin mix and wants to thank whoever has been supplying us with it. Thank you for your continued support and donations to help stock our shelves.



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



The **Catholic Daughters** invite all women ages 18 and up to join us for A Night to Write and our October Business Meeting, Tuesday, 10/6, at 6pm in Treacy Hall. Bring a finger food to share and join our Sunshine Committee as we write cards for our Seminarians and Postulants of the Birmingham Diocese and any additional cards the Lord may be leading you to send.



****And - our annual Pecan Sales** will start in November after the weekend masses through 11/22!**



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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