

DECEMBER 28, 2025 | FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY



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

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



Bam / Judith Martinez
Pantaleon (I)

THE HOLY FAMILY

“Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt.” - Mt 2:14

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

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Save the Date

Jan 1: The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation—Masses at 8am & 6pm

Jan 4: Conclusion of Jubilee Year after the 11 AM Mass

Financial Contributions

Weekly Operating Expenses: **\$17,325**

Due to an early bulletin submission financial contributions for December 20/21 will be included in the next bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity and continue support!

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

PASTOR'S NOTE

Dear Parish Family,
I hope you and your loved ones had a blessed and joyful Christmas. As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph today, I invite you to pause and reflect: did Jesus truly take birth in our life and in our family this Christmas? Beyond the lights, gifts, and gatherings, Christmas finds its deepest meaning when Christ is welcomed into our hearts, our homes, and our daily relationships. The Holy Family reminds us that holiness is lived in ordinary family life—with faith, love, patience, sacrifice, and trust in God.

I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents for our Christmas liturgies, decorations, music, hospitality, and many behind-the-scenes activities. Your generosity and dedication made our celebration of the Lord's birth prayerful and beautiful. May the Baby Jesus bless you and your families abundantly for all that you have done for our parish.

As this year comes to an end, we stand at a sacred threshold—looking back with gratitude and looking forward with hope. Let us thank God for the many blessings we received this past year and welcome the New Year with hearts open to God's grace. May the coming year be filled with faith, peace, healing, and renewed commitment to Christ.

Please note some important dates ahead. On Thursday, January 1, we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM. On Friday, January 2, the First Friday, we have added an evening Mass at 6:30 PM, followed by Eucharistic Adoration.

Next weekend, on January 4, the Feast of the Epiphany, we will conclude the Jubilee Year after the 8:00 AM Mass. Let us thank God that our diocese selected our church as one of the diocesan pilgrim sites. Many faithful visited our parish and received the Jubilee indulgence—what a beautiful grace for our community.

Finally, I will be on my annual vacation from January 1 to January 30, during which I will officiate a baptism and a wedding in my family. I kindly ask for your prayers. I will remain reachable by email. For any needs, please contact the parish office, who will keep me informed, or reach out to Deacon Jeff for any spiritual emergency.

May the Holy Family bless and protect your families today and always. Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year!

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.

Dec 28—Jan 5 For the intentions of:

Sun Mr. & Mrs. Michael Ring
Mon Ms. Letitia Rios
Tues Ms. Michele Rivard
Wed Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Rivard
Thurs Mr. Ryan Riviere
Fri Mr. Andrew Robbins
Sat Mr. & Mrs. Steven Robbins
Sun Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Roberts

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of December 28

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

The Holy Family

Monday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18 **St. Sylvester I, Pope; New Year's Eve**

Thursday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21 **Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day, World Day of Peace**

Friday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28 **Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church**

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34 **The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

A Prayer for Safe Travels for Father 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.



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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



Holy Day of Obligation

JANUARY 1ST

**WE CELEBRATE
MARY, MOTHER
OF GOD**

Masses at 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

Newly Baptized

John Thomas Carter
December 17, 2026
Jack Matthew Klug
December 21, 2026

First Friday Masses

January 2
8:00 AM followed by Anointing
Join us afterwards for a lite breakfast
and fellowship in Visitation Hall.

6:30 PM followed by Adoration &
Confession

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 27

5:30pm | † Abbott Marcus Voss

Sunday, December 28

8am | For the Parish

No Youth/Adult Faith Formation, OCIA, or
Nazareth House

11am | † Donald & Barbara Ann Davis

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Tuesday, December 30

8am | Fr. Joy Nelliserry (I)

Wednesday, December 31

8:00am | † Renee Stanley

Thursday, January 1

8:00am | For the Parish

6:00pm | Fr. Jose Ambooken (I)

Friday, January 2

8:00am | † Robert Smith

First Friday Lite Breakfast (VH)

6:30pm | Sue Rebitts (I)

Saturday, January 3

5:30pm | † Steve Montgomery

Sunday, January 4

8:00am | For the Parish

Conclusion of Jubilee year after 8am Mass
No Youth/Adult Faith Formation or Nazareth
House

9:30am | OCIA (TH)

11:00am | † Ann Mitchell

11:00am | Young Professionals Brunch (TH)

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)

The **Parish Pastoral Council** is
accepting nominations for new members
of the council. If you know of anyone
(including yourself) who would make a
good council member please fill out a
nomination form. Forms are located in
the back of the church. Please return
completed forms to the office or place in
a contribution basket by January 11.

Artificial Christmas Trees – The Knights of Columbus are accepting
donations of any size artificial tree or garland, lights functioning or not. Drop off
at the red shed in the Parish Hall parking lot any day between Dec 29 thru Jan 15.
We are getting an early start on our 2026 Christmas with St. Nick / Santa Claus
event!

Baby Bottle Boomerang to be
hosted by the Catholic Daughters to
benefit the Huntsville Pregnancy
Resource Center. Empty bottles will be
distributed after weekend Masses on
January 3-4 and January 10-11. Please
return filled bottles after any weekend
Mass throughout January. Thank you for
your generosity and support of life!



Women's Ministry

All ladies of the parish
are invited to the
Women's Ministry
meeting on **Tuesday,
January 13, 2026** to
hear Guest Speaker,
Karin Beck, a professional organizer
with Karin's Clutter Control. Karin is
passionate about organizing and
decluttering homes and businesses.
She will share her faith-filled story of
how she started her professional
organizing business. Karin loves
repurposing items, creating
designated spaces, and maintaining
order. She will offer helpful tips on how
she assists families in bringing order to
their homes through decluttering,
repurposing, and organizing. **Join us
at 6:30 pm in the Fr. Treacy Hall.**

For more information, contact
Liz Montgomery at
281-705-6697 or
elizabeth35758@gmail.com.



55+
Come enjoy a little Winter Wonderland
Friday, January 16, 5:00 pm
Fr. Treacy Hall
Soup and Salad Potluck
Please bring your favorite soup,
salad, or dessert to share.
Drinks provided.

The Food Pantry would like to recognize the following donors for their very
generous "food drive" donations to our pantry: The Avenue, Burn Boot Camp of
Jones Valley, and Primrose Day Care Centers of Madison. Thank you so much!

The food pantry is requesting the following items for this coming week: peanut
butter or cheese crackers; and jelly. Have a safe and Happy New Year everyone.

**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.**

**Happy
New Year!**

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In memory of
Don & Spence Moore

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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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