

DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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

Nursery provided next door in Treacy 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. Joy Thomas Nellissery, PhD

frjoy@smvparish.org

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.com*

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: 256.384.3741

Contact Us

222 Jefferson St. N
Huntsville, AL 35801
256.536.6349

Entering from Washington Street
Parking Lot Gate Code 222



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
- Jn 1:26-27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Financial Contribution

Weekly Operating Expenses: **\$14,470**

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the Financial contributions for December 10th will be included in the next Bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

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

Save the Date

December 20: Waiting In Darkness, An Evening of Song, Organ, & O Antiphons, 7:00pm

Dec 21: Adoration, O Come Let Us Adore, 7:00pm

Dec 23: Decorating the Church for Christmas, 9:30am

Jan 1: Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Prayer, Worship, Ministry

02

Leadership Team of Visitation

Finance Council Chair

Ben Boles | bolestv@gmail.com | 256-651-5690

Pastoral Council Chair

Brian Mitchell | pastoralcouncil@smvparish.org

Liturgy Council Chair

Jackie Henderson | cjadk@aol.com

Formation Commission Chair

Mike Janssen | mjj032753@gmail.com | 256-603-0634

Hospitality Commission Chair

Ed Poniatowski | skibert@aol.com | 256-426-8874

Prayer Commission Chair

Connie Eimer | ronandcon2u@comcast.net

Service Commission Chair

Manfred Segewitz | manfseg@gmail.com | 256-527-2278

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.

Sanctuary Lamp

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.

- Sun** Mr. & Mrs. Luca Latini
- Mon** Mr. John Lauren
- Tue** Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Lavelle
- Wed** Mr. & Mrs. Jordan Lawson
- Thu** Mr. Humbert Lemaire
- Fri** Dr. Kathleen Leonard
- Sat** Mr. Bobby Leslie
- Sun** Mr. & Mrs. Cooper Lewis



Dec 17–Dec 24 For the intentions of:

Prayer Commission

Altar Flower Ministry

Greg Jones | mistertolson@gmail.com | 256-651-2505

Altar Servers

Karen Vandiver | jcvandiver@ieeee.org

Altar Linen Ministry

Nancy Downard | nancydownard64@gmail.com

Candle Light (Devotional) Ministry

Ron Eimer | ronandcon2u@comcast.net

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Billy Wilson | billyraywilson@gmail.com | 256-508-6079

Mary's Hand

Arrange the Hymnals and book mark them

Fill oils for altar candles and clean pews

Cristina Benzenhafer | 256-652-9362

Ministry of the Word (Lectors)

Erin Boles | erindacy@icloud.com | 256-603-6781

Music Ministry

LoraLee Fontenot | lcculber@gmail.com

Jackie Henderson | cjadk@aol.com

Prayer Warriors

SMV Office | smvparish@smvparish.com | 256-536-6349

Rosary Prayer Group

Karen Vandiver | jcvandiver@ieeee.org

Rosary Making Ministry

Jed Park | jedpark66@gmail.com

Sacristan Ministry

Connie Eimer | ronandcon2u@comcast.net

Ushers

Robert Smith | Estate60@outlook.com

WEEKLY READINGS & OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sun: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24 /Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

3rd Sunday of Advent

Mon Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tues: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wed: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thurs: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45 **St. Peter**

Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Fri: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Sat: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66 **St. John of Kanty,**

Priest

Faith Formation

Wanted: Youth ages 5-18 for the

2023 Christmas Eve Youth Choir

that will lead Lessons & Carols before the 4:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve. Readers preferred, but non-readers may join with older siblings. For questions, contact Jackie Henderson at 251-602-6963
Scan the QR code to sign up!



Pray with us!

The 7th graders are requesting parishioners continue to intercede in prayer on behalf of the souls currently in purgatory, and also for the souls that are going to pass away each day.

Online Giving

Contributions can be made through our website: smvparish.org by selecting the secure "Donate" button located at the top of the page. Please call the office if you have questions or for more information.

Nursery

Our nursery for preschool-aged children is open during the 8 & 11am Masses. It is located next door to the church in Treacy Hall.

Prayer Requests

Claudia McCoy, Liam Cook, Viola Cucullu, Anna Fowler, Jeannie Calvarese, Skye Grant, Darrel & Diane Kaiser, Lynn Schneider, Pat Hicks, Holly Cooney, Ben Geist, Marilyn Plonka, Jim Wall, Noah Hebert, Theresa Marlowe, Milton Mantler

Altar flowers are in celebration of Jessica Berube & Jeffrey Winghart Married December 16, 2023



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



Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council, which meets monthly and assists the pastor in parish affairs, will have rotational vacancies. Please consider serving your parish. You may nominate yourself or a fellow parishioner. Those nominated must meet the active membership requirements at SMV as listed at the bottom of this page. Nomination forms are in the narthex and on our website and **can be placed in the collection TODAY or returned to the church office no later than Friday, December 22 by noon.**

Church Decorating Begins Today



Volunteers are needed after the 11:00 am Mass today to transport the manger pieces from the Parish Hall to the church and to put it together and place the trees and figures.

The rest of the decorating, to include putting up trees and ornaments and window décor will be on Saturday, December 23, at 9:30am. Please come if you are able!

A big **THANK YOU** to the Parish Pastoral Council for a delicious parish Christmas dinner and to their families and the volunteers who helped make the dinner a success!



End of Year Giving Note

Current federal law allows tax-free charitable donations from your IRA. If you have an IRA and you're 70 1/2 years old, you can make a "tax-reducing" gift today through an IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution. It helps you and it helps us! It can lower your taxable income, count towards your required minimum distribution*, and help further the work and mission of our parish. Your plan administrator will set this up for you and the amount that you specify will be transferred directly to our parish, either through a direct deposit or through a broker-issued bank check. Thank you to the parish families who have already selected this method of giving! Please call or email the Parish Finance Office, 256-536-6349 or finance@smvparish.org and we can help you get started.

***Be sure to consult with your tax or legal professional to learn how current IRS regulations apply to your situation.**

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: 4:30pm & Midnight
Christmas Day: 10:00am
Music begins 30 minutes before each Mass.



Nursery Open for Christmas Masses

The nursery will be open Christmas Eve for the 4:30pm Mass and Christmas Day for the 10:00am Mass.

This Week's Schedule &

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16

5:30pm | For the Parish
 6:45 | Christmas Choir Practice

Sunday, December 17

8:00am | † Teresa Roling Wilser
 9:15am | RCIA (TH)
 11:00am | † Ina Jenkins
 Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution
 NO Adult or Youth Faith Formation

Monday, December 18

7:00pm | Book Club (VH)

Tuesday, December 19

8:00am | Emma Wilson (I)
 6:00pm | Building & Grounds (TH)
 6:00pm | Pickleball (PH)

Wednesday, December 20

8:00am | † Ron & Sarah Teepool
 9:00am | Childrens' Music Rehearsal (TH)
 11:00am | Bible Study (VH)
 6:00pm | RC Flying Group (PH)
 6:30pm | St. Michael Ministry (TH)
 7:00pm | Bible Study (VH)
 7:00pm | Waiting in Darkness

Thursday, December 21

8:00am | † JC Vandiver
 9:00am | Childrens' Music Rehearsal (TH)
 6:00-8:00pm | Pickleball (PH)
 7:00pm | Adoration & Confession

Friday, December 22

8:00 am | † Bea Albright
 8:30am | Coffee Social (VH)
 9:00am | Childrens' Music Rehearsal (TH)

Saturday, December 23

9:00am | Childrens' Music Rehearsal (TH&C)
 5:30pm | Paul & Cindy May & Family (I)

Sunday, December 24

8:00am | For the Parish
 9:15 | Childrens' Music Rehearsal
 11:00am | Chad Wall (I)
 4:30pm | For All the Children
 Midnight | For All the Parents
 Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution
 NO Adult/Youth Faith Formation or RCIA
 (O) Office, (TH) Treacy Hall, (PH) Parish Hall
 (VH) Visitation Hall (at courtyard ramp), (C) Church

Waiting in Darkness An evening of song, organ, and O Antiphons, Dec 20, 7:00pm

O Come, Let Us Adore

An opportunity to sit with our Lord. Thursday, December 21, at 7:00pm. Confession is available.

An Important Reminder About Year-End Giving

If you plan to send your donation by mail, it must be postmarked by December 31, 2023, to count for 2023. Collections postmarked after December 31st won't be counted towards 2023 giving. Thank you for your support of our parish.

Christmas Choirs

Christmas is coming & the choirs need you! Consider joining the choir for one of our Christmas liturgies.

For more information contact Jackie Henderson at 251-602-6963.

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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www.4lpi.com/careers


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