

JANUARY 25, 2026 | 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 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

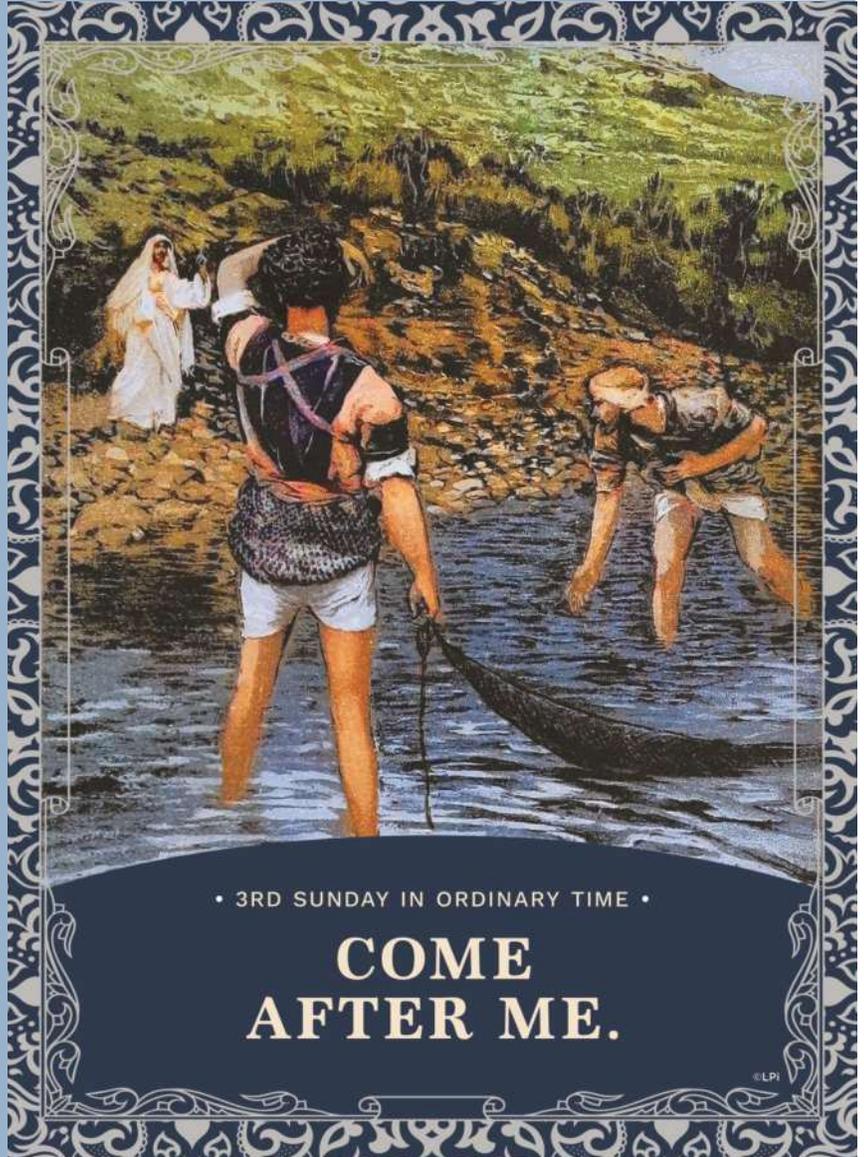
Mon-Thu 8:30am-3:30pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm

After hours spiritual emergency: 256.384.8758

Contact Us

222 Jefferson St. N
Huntsville, AL 35801

256.536.6349/www.smvparish.com



We will have Communion Services Tues-Fri at 8:00 AM for the remainder of January. Confessions on Saturdays only from 4:00-5:00 PM.

Financial Contributions

Weekly Operating Expenses: **\$20,119**

Due to an early bulletin submission financial contributions for January 17/18 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.

Drop Your Nets and Be Free

There are times I wish I had no obligations. ...No bills. No commitments. No problems. Freedom!

Life doesn't work like that, however. When Jesus came along and asked some fishermen to drop their nets and follow him, they did just that. Wow! In some ways, they experienced true freedom. That is what Jesus offers all of us. Yet, true freedom looks quite different than my dream scenario.

In living in the true freedom that Jesus offers, there are things we must do and places we must go. That is because freedom only exists in following God's will, not our own. We are called to be and called to give ourselves completely to God without reservations. We always have the free will to not respond to His call, but we will find that a negative answer may complicate our lives even further. God's path for us calls on us to give freely of what we have been given. Saying no to that call means we carry the weight of those gifts. We were never meant to keep them. The path of God's will may seem long and winding, but it is the one that leads us into that sunset. It is the way to true freedom.

— 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.

Jan 25-Feb 1 For the intentions of:

- Sun** Mr. Cole Sargent
- Mon** Mr. J. Ray Satterfield
- Tues** Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Sauter
- Wed** Mr. & Mrs. Caleb Sautter
- Thurs** Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schaaf
- Fri** Mr. & Mrs. Richard Schaefer
- Sat** Mrs. Susanne Schaefer
- Sun** Mr. & Mrs. William Schilleci

Weekly Readings & Observances—Week of January 25

Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

Monday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30 **Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops**

Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

St. Angela Merici, Virgin

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

St. John Bosco, Priest

Patience, Explained! In treating others with a spirit of patience, said Pope Francis, we "look at them ... with God's gaze, knowing how to distinguish their faces from their faults."

"Rushing and impatience are enemies of spiritual life," he continued. "God is love, and those who love do not tire, they are not irascible; they do not give ultimatums. God is patient, God knows how to wait."

Patience is sometimes referred to as being "annexed" to the moral virtue of fortitude. In practicing patience, we bear any kind of suffering for a greater good. St. Thomas Aquinas describes patience as a means to "safeguard the good of reason against sorrow, lest reason give way to sorrow" (Sum. II-II, 136, Art. 1).

The virtue of patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22), and as Christians who have received the Holy Spirit we are called to "be patient in tribulation" (Romans 12:12) and to "preach the message (of Christ) ... with great patience" (2 Timothy 4:2).

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A Prayer for Safe Travels for Fr. 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.

Faith Formation

Pray with us!



Please join our Confirmation students this week in praying for the Pope and clergy, that they may lead the Church with wisdom, honor and dignity.



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, Gerard Drumm, Linda Daniel, Terri Powers, Dana Hammer, Jim Bodine, Caroline Lindsey, Dev Flynn, Anne Geist, and Evan Shackelford.

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





Choir Help Wanted! Our Sunday 11:00 AM Mass needs volunteers! Practices are bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM. **Contact: Rebecca Whited at rebecca.whited@gmail.com for more information.**

Weekly Schedule & Intentions

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR UPDATES TO THIS SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 24

5:30pm | † Steve Montgomery

Sunday, January 25

8:00am | † Jess Jones

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)

11:00am | † For the Parish

Noon-1:00pm | Food Distribution

Monday, January 26

3:30pm | Quilting Club (VH)

7:00pm | St. Jerome Book Club (VH)

Tuesday, January 27

8:00am | Communion Service

Wednesday, January 28

8:00am | Communion Service

10:00am | Pray & Play (TH)

6:30pm | St. Lawrence Ministry (VH)

Thursday, January 29

8:00am | Communion Service

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

Friday, January 30

8:00am | Communion Service

8:30am | Coffee Social (VH)

Saturday, January 31

5:30pm | † Jacki Ann Reynolds

Sunday, February 1

8:00am | 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)

11:00am | † Mike Zenone

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)



WOMEN'S CURSILLO

... Looking to grow your faith and love of Jesus? The Cursillo Movement offers the method, tools and support needed to live a fuller, more vibrant Christian life. The next Women's weekend will be held March 12-15, 2026, at St. Bernard's Abbey in Cullman. For more information text **Linda Schaaf at 256-541-2687 or email her at LSchaaf325@gmail.com**

Women's Ministry: Historical Tour and Wine & Cheese Social

Ladies of the parish, you are invited to join us for a unique experience as part of our Women's Ministry. Mark your calendars for **Thursday, February 19th, at 6:00 pm**, when we embark on a historical tour of St. Mary of the Visitation Church, followed by a Wine & Cheese Social. Parishioner Mikel Petty will guide us on this journey, offering an insightful and in-depth exploration of the church's rich beginnings, its beautiful architectural details, and the significance it holds within our community's history. As a cherished landmark in Huntsville, St. Mary of the Visitation Church stands as a testament to our Catholic heritage, and it is also proudly listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Please gather in the narthex of the church to begin the tour at 6:00 pm. **For more information, please contact Liz Montgomery at elizabeth35758@gmail.com.**

Baby Bottle Boomerang Please return your filled bottles to the purple boxes in the narthex and at the side door after any weekend Mass throughout January. Donations made by check can receive a receipt from the HPRC. Thank you for your generosity and support of life!

Our Nursery

for preschool-aged children is open in Visitation Hall (at the ramp) during the 8 & 11am Masses.

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.

Weekly Emails

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

Monthly Newsletter

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

The **Food Pantry** is requesting the following items: peanut butter, jelly; canned fruit; fruit cups; peanut butter or cheese crackers; ramen noodles; pasta sauce; Hamburger Helper. Thank you for your generous donations.

Scan the QR code to see our Pantry's Amazon Wish List.

Or type in:

<https://linktr.ee/smvpantry>



Our **Church Directory** is available to view on your computer or smartphone! Instant Church Directory—the program we use to build our church directory—has a member website. You can access this website by scanning this QR code or following this link — <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com> Create your account by entering the primary email listed on your parish registration and following the directions on-screen.



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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In memory of
Don & Spence
Moore



Huntsville Area Catholics
If you're looking for schedules, announcements & information for all the area parishes.
VISIT - Facebook.com/HuntsvilleCatholics

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Cristina von Spakovsky, MA, ALC, NCC
Therapist at Catholic Family Services
cvpakovskiy@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!

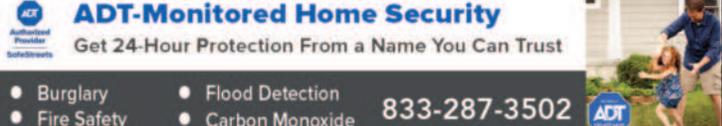
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